

MINISTRY OF DEFENSE ADVISORS (MoDA)
Position Description - VIETNAM: Maritime Domain Awareness (MDA)

Title: Maritime Domain Awareness Advisor
Location: Hanoi, Vietnam
Grade: GS-14/15

COCOM: INDOPACOM
Tour length: 12 to 24 months
Clearance: Secret

Applicants must be DoD Civilians in GS 14/15 pay grades or equivalent to be eligible

Background:

The Department of Defense (DoD) is making a concerted effort to strengthen Southeast Asian regional maritime security and Maritime Domain Awareness (MDA) through the Maritime Security Initiative (MSI) capacity building efforts in Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand, and Vietnam. The Vietnamese Coast Guard (VCG) remains a relatively new and small force and recently celebrated 19 years of service. Through various training engagements it has been noted that the VCG will require assistance to develop a sustainment and maintenance culture (e.g. full life cycle maintenance) as they acquire new equipment. MSI aims to reinforce partners' abilities to sense maritime activity, share that information with other relevant players, and leverage these new and/or enhanced capabilities to contribute to regional security through coordinated multilateral responses. Building partner capacity and interoperability in the maritime space across naval, coast guard, maritime police, and civilian maritime units and agencies will be integral to developing a regional maritime picture that will facilitate maritime domain awareness and help deter provocative conduct, reduce the risk of mishaps and miscalculation, and aid in coordinating humanitarian and disaster response missions. The advisor will help the partner create or improve on existing MDA information sharing protocols and capabilities that strengthen international maritime law enforcement cooperation, combat illicit trafficking and weapons proliferation, and protects critical marine resources.

Specific Tasks:

- Provide insight on Space Based MDA technology to support integration of the technology within the Vietnamese National MDA architecture.
- Support the establishment of a data fusion/C2 (command and control) Center.
- Review existing MDA capabilities and requirements for completeness, accuracy, and applicability, identify potential resource shortfalls, conflicts, gaps, risks, and overlaps, and provide recommendations based on the review.
- Assist with the development of an information and intelligence sharing platform that integrates existing infrastructure and develops interoperability with sensors, vessels, databases, and people to provide a common operational picture internally to relevant partner nation agencies and externally to Indo-Pacific partners.
- Encourage broad interaction among agencies to identify organizations, partnerships, best practices, and other efforts that enhance maritime security through expanded MDA collaboration.
- Improve partner nation organizational capabilities to effectively share information on people, cargo, vessels, infrastructure, natural and man-made disasters, and other potential threats within the maritime domain.
- Assist with the development of organizational maritime information sharing agreements and protocols.

Required Knowledge, Skills and Experience:

- Minimum twelve years of experience in maritime strategy, maritime intelligence, policy, or maritime security matters at the operational and strategic level.

- Background in MDA intelligence support, and MDA programs and policy including precursor engagement activities and agreements required to enable a regional information sharing architecture, e.g. ONI, USCG MIFC, or JIATF.
- Prior experience collecting, analyzing, and integrating information and intelligence from a broad range of sources.
- Experience working with the National Maritime Intelligence Integration Office (NMIO) and Naval Research Laboratories.
- Experience working in service, combatant, and strategic level headquarters, e.g., OPNAV, OSD, Joint Staff, USCG, ONI, and/or COCOM staff.
- Demonstrated communication skills and the ability to work collaboratively with counterparts to help them achieve goals through the provision of quality advice, support, and mentoring.
- Proven success in individual and organizational capacity building and aptitude to share knowledge, mentor and coach others.
- Demonstrated ability to work in an environment with limited resources and to apply innovative and creative solutions to resolve problems.
- Ability to assess diverse bureaucratic/cultural environments and apply out-of-the-box thinking in order to pursue U.S. “Whole of Government” objectives.
- Proven self-starter who can succeed working independently at various organizational levels and with executives/managers/leaders/staffs from multiple functional areas and cultural backgrounds.
- Knowledge of DoD U.S. security cooperation and security assistance programs.

Additional Information:

- Incumbent must be available for detail from their home organization for a period of at least 14 months to include training, preparation and a 12 to 24 month assignment.
- The selected MoDA will conduct a Temporary Change of Station (TCS) move to Hanoi, Vietnam for 12 to 24 months and will receive post differential and Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) while assigned to post. COLA is calculated based on the comparative cost-of-living at the foreign post versus the cost-of-living in Washington DC. COLA is not a direct calculation of base salary multiplied by the COLA percentage, but rather a percentage of spendable income as determined by the Department of State. For more information about COLA, go to:
https://aoprals.state.gov/content.asp?content_id=245&menu_id=74
- This position is eligible to receive Relocation Incentive Pay in accordance with 5 U.S.C. § 5753 and DSCA policy.
- It is incumbent upon the applicant to understand the entitlements when considering applying for this position, and it is recommended that applicants seek guidance from their organization's payroll activity to better understand how the entitlements are calculated and their impact on the applicant's personal income.

HOW TO APPLY

Interested applicants should submit the following:

1. Cover Letter: Summarize how your experience and capabilities align with the requirements
2. Complete, narrative chronological resume
3. Current SF-50: redact SSN and date of birth
4. Supervisor reference(s): required from current supervisor and supervisor from prior deployments to Iraq or Afghanistan
5. Documentation of command/ component approval to deploy

Submit complete application package to the MoDA Program Office email address:

dsca.ncr.bpc.list.moda@mail.mil

Command Approval is required:

Department of the Army Employees: Must submit the endorsement of their command leadership along with an application and their resume to the Assistant G-1 for Civilian Personnel ECW team. Click on the following link and create an account to begin: www.apan.org. After creating the account, download the Request for Deployment (RFD) fillable form and process through chain of command as instructed.

Air Force Employees: Must submit approved AF Expeditionary Civilian application to the AF Expeditionary Civilian team prior to MoDA consideration. The employee is required to obtain WG/CC or equivalent approval, when approved submit application and resume to the AFPC Expeditionary Civilian team at afpc.expeditionarycivilian@us.af.mil for final AF action.

The AFPC team will submit to MoDA for consideration. The application and other information are available at the AF Expeditionary Civilian site:

https://cs2.eis.af.mil/sites/12852/AFKN_Docs/Forms/AllItems.aspx

Navy and US Marine Corps Employees: Click on the following link to the MoDA Application and Command Support Form for DON Employees:

<https://portal.secnav.navy.mil/orgs/MRA/DONHR/OCHRStennis/Expeditionary%20Civilian%20Workforce/Forms/AllItems.aspx>

Submit completed MoDA Application and Command Support Form for DON Employees to the group email inbox: OCHRSTE_EC@navy.mil. Ensure “MoDA” appears in the subject line.

Other DoD Agency Employees: Provide approval memo staffed through your appropriate Deployment Coordinator or agency headquarters.

*If you do not know your agency’s deployment coordinator, contact the MoDA recruiting team:

dsca.ncr.bpc.list.modaprograminfo@mail.mil