



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE VIRTUAL FELLOWS PROGRAM PROJECT DESCRIPTION



This project seeks a Virtual Fellow to serve as a Researcher with The Political Section of Embassy Djibouti

Fellow Location: The Fellow will serve virtually. Relocation is not required.

Project Name: **Political and Diplomatic Implications of Djibouti's Bilateral Relationships**

Project Description:

The Fellow will support US Embassy Djibouti by researching key, strategic bilateral relationships between Djibouti and other neighboring countries including Ethiopia, Eritrea, Somalia, UAE, and Saudi Arabia. Through conducting this research, the Fellow will support Post in better understanding and reporting on regional dynamics in the Horn of Africa.

Potential Fellow Taskings:

- Analyze open source material to assess the nature of Djibouti's bilateral relationships with several key regional actors
- Compile weekly or monthly news summaries that highlight Djibouti's role in the region as well on the international stage.
- Produce reports examining Djibouti's relationships and assessing the strategic impact of these relationships on the Djiboutian political environment and U.S. interests.
- Communicate regularly with project POC about the scope and direction of the reports.

Program Requirements: The precepts of the Virtual Fellows Program call for Fellows to have a high degree of administrative, professional, or technical

knowledge/experience and a minimum of five years of professional experience that is directly applicable to the assigned task.

Project-specific Knowledge, Skills, or Abilities:

- Education in international relations or diplomatic studies
- Ability to read in French
- Strong research skills
- Knowledge and experience in the Horn of Africa

Other: The Fellow must be a U.S. citizen.

Suitability Determination/Security Clearance:

The Virtual Fellow requires access to OpenNet and must receive a Public Trust determination prior to starting his/her service. The Virtual Fellows Program staff will work with the accepted candidate to obtain the Public Trust determination. (Note: A candidate is NOT required to have a Public Trust determination prior to applying for this project.)

Remuneration:

The Virtual Fellow will be appointed to the federal civil service as an intermittent, unpaid consultant. The Department assumes no responsibility for providing any salary or benefits to the Fellow in connection with participation in the Virtual Fellows Program.