



Diplomatic Security Service in AF Region

49 Regional Security Offices in 44 Countries

Regional Security Officer (RSO): A DSS special agent who is the U.S. senior law enforcement officer in country. The RSO advises the chief of mission on security and law enforcement matters, and manages security programs designed to protect U.S. government personnel, facilities, and information. Within the RSO shop:

- **Deputy and Assistant RSOs:** Assist RSOs with their mission.
- **Security Engineering Officers, Security Technical Specialists, and Seabees:** Install and maintain technical security systems.
- **Marine Security Guards:** Support protection mission and prevent the compromise of national security information and equipment.
- **Local Guard Force:** Assist with physical and virtual security at post.

In 2018, **U.S. Diplomatic Couriers**, based out of **4 regional hubs** delivered more than 5 million pounds of secure cargo in the AF region.

Through the department's **ATA program**, DSS trained **1,821 law enforcement partners**, delivered equipment to **14 partner countries**, and managed **2 ATA** exercises in FY 2018.

15 assistant regional security officer-investigators (ARSO-Is): Work with host nation and U.S. law enforcement officers to investigate visa and passport fraud, and related crimes such as human smuggling and trafficking, identity fraud, and terrorism.

- A cooperative effort between ARSO-I in Addis Ababa, the embassy's consular section, and local police has resulted in over 160 visa fraud arrests over the past two years.
- The ARSO-I team trained **877 security personnel** in the region on how to detect travel document fraud.
- **Foreign Service National Investigators** and **Criminal Fraud Investigators** assist with DSS investigations, and liaising with U.S. and host nation law enforcement officers.

