



Diplomatic Security Service in SCA Region

19 Regional Security Offices in 11 Countries

Regional Security Officer (RSO): A DSS special agent who is the senior U.S. 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** delivered more than 3 million pounds of secure cargo to U.S. missions in the SCA region.

Through the department's **ATA program**, DSS trained **2,907 law enforcement partners** and delivered equipment to **7 partner countries**.

11 assistant regional security officer-investigators (ARSO-Is) and 1 DRSO-I: 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.

- In November 2017, the ARSO-I in Kathmandu, Nepal, partnered with the embassy's Fraud Prevention Unit and Nepali law enforcement

personnel to create a visa fraud detection and deterrence program. Since its inception, the embassy has seen a 30 percent decrease in fraudulent U.S. visa applications.

- The ARSO-I team trained **3,135 security personnel** in the region on how to detect travel document fraud.
- **Foreign Service National Investigators** and **Criminal Fraud Investigators** assist with DSS and ARSO-I investigations, and liaising with host nation law enforcement officers.

