

U.S. Embassy Djibouti

LEED® Certified



The U.S. Embassy in Djibouti, Djibouti is a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED®) Certified building under the LEED for New Construction green building rating system. The Embassy joins an elite group of buildings in Djibouti earning this certification.

Site 9 acres | Project Cost \$147 Million | Occupancy December 2011

Sustainable Sites

The embassy is located in the newly developed Haramous neighborhood of Djibouti. Portions of the site are covered with decorative gravel or native plants minimizing the landscape irrigation needs. Parking is shaded using light colored shade structures to help reflect heat, and reduce urban heat island effect. Pedestrian oriented hardscape surfaces are constructed from light colored concrete to further avoid the urban heat island effect.

Water Efficiency

The building is calculated to use 25% less water than the performance requirements of EPA Act 1992. This is accomplished through the use of waterless urinals, automatic shut-off faucets, and low-flow plumbing fixtures.

All wastewater generated is treated on-site. The cleansed water is reused for irrigation, and ultimately infiltrated, replenishing the groundwater. The entire irrigation demand of this site is met with this non-potable source.

Energy and Atmosphere

The new embassy is projected to reduce energy costs by 23% compared to the calculated baseline costs (ASHRAE 90.1-2004). The building's sunshades and light-colored stone façade reduce solar heat gain. Additionally, the Embassy employs many energy-efficient technologies including solar hot water, LED task lighting, occupancy sensors, electric traction elevators, and variable frequency drives.

Materials and Resources

This facility was built using sustainable materials. Over 20% of base building materials contain recycled content, including rebar, ceiling tiles, gypsum board, flooring, and insulation.

Indoor Environmental Quality

Employees and visitors will benefit from a superior indoor environment. By monitoring CO₂ levels, optimal amounts of fresh air are provided to the occupants. Outside air is filtered with HEPA and carbon filters.

Low-emitting materials were selected to reduce potential off-gassing after installation. Adhesives, sealants, paints, coatings, and furniture systems all contained low quantities of volatile organic compounds.

Architect Integrus Architects

Contractor Caddell Construction Co.

Landscape SPVV Landscape Architects

Civil CH2MHILL

Structural Integrus Architects

MEP MW Consulting Engineers

Commissioning Sebesta Blomberg
