

# U.S. EMBASSY N'DJAMENA, CHAD

## GROUNDBREAKING FACT SHEET

MARCH 2015



Moore Ruble Yudell

**Design Architect** Moore Ruble Yudell Architects & Planners

**Architect of Record** PAGE

**Construction Contractor** BL Harbert International, LLC

**Site** 12 acres

**Total Office Space** 8,800 square meters

**Total Project Budget** \$225 Million

## GENERAL INFORMATION

- The new U.S. Embassy is situated on a 12-acre site in the Chagoua neighborhood, several kilometers southeast of downtown N'Djamena. The site is at the junction of two primary roads, near the Chari River and the Chagoua Bridge connecting Chad to Cameroon.
- The multi-building complex includes a chancery office building, a Marine Security Guard residence, a utility building, a support annex/warehouse, and facilities for the Embassy community.
- The new Embassy campus will provide a secure, modern, and environmentally sustainable platform for diplomacy in N'Djamena.

## DESIGN

- The facilities meet all Department standards for security and life safety, and provide functional office space for Embassy staff, maximizing general flexible work areas within a lean footprint.
- The building's scale, massing, and materials anchor the compound in this prominent, developing location within the city, and foster a sense of community and place.
- The site and building design provide shelter and relief from heat and sand storms, and seasonal rains. A pierced sunscreen shades the building, reducing heat gain, while water features collect and channel storm water in a way that celebrates the rainy season.
- A multi-colored fiber-cement paneling system provides a cost-effective, thermally-efficient, and durable exterior.
- A regionally-relevant color palette carried throughout the compound structures gives the Embassy a visual and cultural connection to the host nation.

- An exterior space provides sufficient space to accommodate representational events.
- New and expanded civil infrastructure within and outside the complex includes new roads, sidewalks, lighting, landscaping, and storm water management.
- A sculpted perimeter wall provides a secure perimeter and a well-lit public gathering space outside the complex, adjacent to the main entry.



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## SUSTAINABILITY

- The project is registered with the U.S. Green Building Council for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED®) certification, and is targeting LEED® Gold certification.
- The energy-efficient building design uses passive strategies, energy-efficient lighting, building controls, renewable energy systems, and HVAC systems projected to decrease energy use by 51%.
- Photovoltaic solar power arrays on-site are designed to offset 15% of the Chancery's energy costs.
- The compound is designed to minimize use of the local domestic water through efficient plumbing fixtures and equipment. All of the facility's wastewater will be treated on-site and used to meet all of the site's irrigation demand.
- The facility is designed to provide a healthy indoor working environment through the use of low-emitting materials, air monitoring and comfort controls, as well as chemical and pollutant source controls.

## CONSTRUCTION

- The project was awarded in early 2014. Construction is currently underway and the project is scheduled for completion in late 2016.
- An estimated 800 workers from the region—largely from Chad—are involved in the construction of the new Embassy.

# ART

- The permanent art collection, curated by the Office of Art in Embassies (AIE), will include works by contemporary American, Chadian-American, and Chadian artists. It will share American artistic achievements while also demonstrating an understanding of and appreciation for Chadian aesthetics and traditions.
- The works will be installed in the main representational spaces of the building, with one or two exterior pieces, to allow for greater visibility and exchange with Chadian audiences.
- The collection will include works of art in a variety of mediums, as well as site-specific commissions.
- The general themes include nature and the environment, the empowerment of women and girls, calligraphy and the written word, and ethnographic works that reflect a synthesis of African design and Arabic calligraphy.



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