



UBC Student Safety Abroad

Global Affairs Canada Level “AVOID NON-ESSENTIAL TRAVEL” SAFETY PLANNING RECORD

Overview

UBC authorizes student travel to countries or regions with a Global Affairs Canada Level “AVOID NON-ESSENTIAL TRAVEL” advisory when:

- the work must be conducted in that place and at that point in time or else there will be significant negative consequences to the student’s academic program;
- the student has demonstrated a high degree of familiarity with the region;
- the student had demonstrated that he/she has taken adequate steps to assess and mitigate risks;
- and the student will have adequate support and guidance in the region.

This Safety Planning Record enables you to document the potential risks that you may encounter in the international location with a Level “AVOID NON-ESSENTIAL TRAVEL” advisory, and to create a plan for mitigating those risks. This document will be reviewed by the UBC faculty or staff member supporting your travel and the Go Global Student Safety Abroad Advisor. The Department Head or the Dean of your Faculty will review this document and decide whether to authorize the proposed travel. You may undertake your travel only when you have gained authorization to travel.

Instructions

Complete this document in consultation with the UBC faculty or staff member overseeing your travel, and then arrange to meet with the Student Safety Abroad Advisor (safety.abroad@ubc.ca). Useful resources for researching the risks associated with this travel include:

- Country report for the location(s) from Global Affairs Canada: www.travel.gc.ca
- US State Department Country profiles: http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/cis/cis_4965.html

Student Information

<i>First Name:</i> Jane	<i>Last Name:</i> Doe
<i>Address:</i> 100 Student Place	
<i>City:</i> Vancouver	<i>Province:</i> BC
<i>Postal Code/ZIP Code:</i> A1A 1A1	<i>Country:</i> Canada
<i>Phone number:</i> 888-888-8888	<i>Email address:</i> ubcstudent@gmail.com

<i>Student Number:</i> 11111111	<i>Faculty:</i> Medicine
<i>Date of Departure:</i> January 6, 2017	<i>Date of Return:</i> February 6, 2017

Faculty/Staff Member Supporting this Travel

Faculty/Staff First Name: John	Faculty/Staff Last Name: Doe
Phone Number: 888-888-8888	Email Address: facultymember@gmail.com
Department/Program: School of Population and Public Health	Faculty: Medicine

Names and departments/units of other faculty members or staff participating in planning for this project:
Click here to enter text.

Travel Details

Country: Uganda
Region: North (Gulu and Amuru Districts)
City (or nearest city): Gulu

Describe any previous experience or background that you have in this region:

Throughout 2008 I lived and worked in setting up a clinic in a remote province of neighboring Burundi during both conflict and post-conflict periods. I frequently traveled for work to both the DRC and Uganda. I have worked at a malaria and primary care clinic and outreach centers near the city of Juba, Uganda, traveled extensively across the region. For the two years prior to the start of my PhD I lived and worked in rural Cameroon, frequently multiple days from the nearest major urban center. During my five years of living and working in Sub-Saharan Africa I have also traveled independently overland through Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, Rwanda, Burundi, and the DRC, and understand the risks one can encounter and ways to mitigate and avoid them. Throughout the region I have worked and liasoned with government and non-governmental organizations as well as military and militia groups.

Describe the range of activities that you will be engaged in during the international activity:

I will be participating in the collection of both qualitative and quantitative data both as part of a larger team and with a translator. This will involve helping as needed with the cold-chain systems for the project and conducting individual interviews with project participants

Summarize your complete travel itinerary, including all locations and dates:

I will be in northern Uganda from January 6-February 6, 2017. I will be based out of the city of Gulu and will travel from there to more remote villages and internally displaced peoples (IDP) camps to engage with study participants.

Are others traveling with you? If yes, please list their names and affiliations (i.e., UBC student, UBC faculty member, student at another Canadian university, etc.):

On certain trips I will be accompanied by my supervisor, Dr. Doe Faculty from the School of Population and Public Health. As I become more situated in my project I will travel back and forth to the country myself, but while there I will be part of the larger research team and will travel in the field with my project assistants and translators.

Academic Necessity of Travel

Is this travel part of a credit-based activity at UBC? If yes, indicate the course/program name and number? :
The work in the Gulu and Amuru districts is the focus of my thesis study at UBC and is thus associated with SPPH 607.

What significant negative consequences to your academic program will occur if you don't complete this international activity now? :

I will be unable to participate in or conclude my thesis research and thus my studies at UBC.

Support and Guidance in the Region

Name of Local Organization with which you are working:
 Makere College of Health Sciences

Contact First Name: N. K.	Contact Last Name: Smithe
Phone Number: 001-888888888	Email Address: localcontact@org.co.ug

Describe the local organization's experience receiving international volunteers/participants and what they do to ensure their safety (e.g., a safe house, secure transportation, etc):

The Makere College of Health Sciences is the main research facility in Northern Uganda and as such is well versed in working with international partners. Further, UBC's School of Medicine has signed an MOU with them recently demonstrating their level of professionalism. I will be leasing a vehicle while in Uganda and will have a driver recommended by the Univeristy. My contact at the local organization will also be assisting me in identifying and hiring translators and research assistants as needed. Through him and my other contacts with local INGOs in the country I will also identify housing for when I am in country.

Describe how the faculty/staff member supporting your travel will provide guidance for travel to this region:

Dr. Faculty has over 20 years of experience working in this region of Northern Uganda and will be providing me with contacts, local knowledge, and on the ground support at points. Through this CHIR funded study, and the partnership with Makere College of Health Sciences I will have access to their infrastructure and support systems.

If the faculty member will not accompany you on this trip, indicate your communication plans:

Click here to enter text.

Risk Assessment and Emergency Planning

List identified hazards associated with activities or environment (i.e., extreme heat or cold, high altitudes, disease, crime, violence, political instability, etc.) and risk management measures planned or taken for eliminating or reducing risks to acceptable levels. Please enter as many as possible. Append additional pages as required.

Hazard	Risk Analysis	Risk Management Plan
Infectious diseases and parasites	The most common infectious disease I will likely be exposed to is malaria.	For malaria, I will be taking anti-malarial drugs (lariam) during the course of my time in country. I have used this drug many times prior and know I suffer no side effects from it. Other infectious diseases are more difficult to plan for and require a general awareness of one's surrounding and overall vigilance. I will have ciprofloxacin for intestinal parasites and will follow good travel habits such as hand washing and treating drinking water. For other issues that may come up, I will, though my MedJet insurance, have access to a 24 hour direct line to specialist

		doctors who can help diagnose and suggest treatment. There are also treatment centers in Gulu and high-level facilities in Kampala.
Banditry	Banditry remains a threat across sub-Saharan Africa.	The threat is often lessened when one goes further from large urban areas such as the capitol of Kampala, which I will be doing. I will also not be traveling by night and will plan my schedule to be at a safe location before sunset each day. By traveling in my own vehicle I will also decrease the likelihood, as public transit vehicles are more often the targets in these situations. Should I encounter the unlikely occurrence of being stopped either in my vehicle or on foot, as I have in my professional life, I will not attempt heroic endeavors and will instead give over my valuables and not create a situation that could escalate.
Unforeseen medical emergency	Broken bones, torn ligaments, can happen anywhere but when they occur in a remote setting they can quickly become more serious.	For this reason I have medical evacuation insurance that covers everything from 24 on call medical advice, to fully staffed medical evacuation flights. As part of my research I will also be working with medical staff from the local university and will thus have quick access to hospital facilities if needed. I am also a trained Wilderness Emergency Medical Technician and travel with a comprehensive medical kit from which I can self treat most wounds in a manner that can see me to a more comprehensive health facility.
Motor Vehicle Accidents	Roads and vehicles are often old and unreliable	For this reason I will be leasing a certified vehicle while conducting my research, which given the region will most likely be a land rover (I have had these before while working in Burundi and know how to fix most aspects of the vehicle which lessens the chance of a major breakdown). I have taken advanced defensive driving courses, which may be of use when I will drive the vehicle (and have international coverage for drivers insurance). While conducting remote field research I will employ a recommended local driver who knows the area and driving styles.
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<p><i>If the safety of your situation changes how will you leave the area? What emergency plans are in place:</i></p> <p>My first priority if the security situation changes will be to find a safe location in the area and further assess the risks associated with evacuation. Often the greatest danger can come from attempting to travel through an unstable region just as a dangerous event is occurring. Then in concert with direction from my advisor, the US embassy, other NGOs working in the region, and the UN, I would make sure my plan ideally included moving within this larger group. Should I be further away from or unable to contact any of these groups I would again first try to identify a safe place to remain</p>		

until contact could be established. By having my own vehicle for the course of the study I will be able to travel safely as needed on my own schedule.

How will you prepare to ensure you can manage the impact of this transition including your well-being and capacity to fully engage in this experience? What do you know about yourself that may make this challenging?:

Having working in this region and field of work most of my professional life, I am not terribly concerned regarding the transition phase into field work. Over the course of my work I have learned that I can tend to fully immerse myself into my work and not allow myself breaks as needed to keep up my energy over the short and long term. Thankfully I have many friends who still work and live in the region who understand this and who I can check in with and visit as needed for rest and relaxation breaks.

What modes of transportation will you use on the ground? :

Private Vehicles

Commercial Carriers (bus, plane, etc.)

Other (please describe): [Click here to enter text.](#)

Signatures and Authorization

Student Name: Jane Doe

Signature of Student:
[Click here to enter text.](#)

Date:
[Click here to enter text.](#)

The UBC Faculty/Staff Member supports this travel

Yes

No

UBC Sponsor Name: Dr. John Doe

Signature of UBC Sponsor:
[Click here to enter text.](#)

Date:
[Click here to enter text.](#)

The Student Safety Abroad Advisor supports this travel

Yes

No

Student Safety Abroad Advisor Name: [Click here to enter text.](#)

Signature of Student Safety Abroad Advisor:
[Click here to enter text.](#)

Date:
[Click here to enter text.](#)

The Head of Unit Approves this travel

Yes

No

Head of Unit Name: [Click here to enter text.](#)

Signature of Head of Unit:
[Click here to enter text.](#)

Date:
[Click here to enter text.](#)

SAMPLE