

Risk Assessment

Likelihood		
1	Very Low	The risk will only occur in the most exceptional of circumstances
2	Low	The risk is not expected to occur in most circumstances
3	Medium	The risk will occur in some circumstances
4	High	The risk will occur in most circumstances
5	Very High	The risk will occur in just about all circumstances

Impact		
1	Very Low	Minor injury that requires local first aid treatment
2	Low	Recoverable injury or illness that may require treatment at local medical facility; minor psychological impact that can be treated without need for professional psychosocial support
3	Medium	Moderate injury or illness that requires non-urgent hospital treatment or possible relocation; moderate psychological trauma that may require professional psychosocial support
4	High	Life-threatening injury or illness that requires urgent hospital treatment or possible evacuation; severe psychological trauma that requires lengthy professional psychosocial support
5	Very High	Single or multiple deaths

Risk Rating	
NEGLECTIBLE (1-5)	General awareness from travellers; generic travel advice followed
LOW (6-10)	Increased awareness from travellers; generic travel advice followed
MEDIUM (11-15)	Heightened awareness and continual situational awareness. May require application of context-specific risk mitigation measures.
HIGH (16-20)	Priority Concern – will require the application of robust risk mitigation and incident management measures. Requires escalation to senior managers
EXTREME (21-25)	Beyond the School's risk appetite – risk to be avoided entirely or transferred

What are the travel risks?		How will I reduce the risk?	What is the severity of the risk?		
What is it that can harm me? <i>e.g. robbery, state arrest, road traffic accident, kidnap, disease, natural disasters, pickpocketing, harassment, civil unrest, stress etc</i>	How vulnerable I am to it? <i>Think:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Your personal profile Your research topic and methodology Locations where you are travelling to Who you are travelling with 		LIKELIHOOD (1-5)	IMPACT (1-5)	RISK RATING
Detention by immigration services on arrival. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Heightened level of security to counter perceived threats to new government from abroad. Corrupt officials may wish to extort money from those they perceive as vulnerable. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I am a lone, white British traveller from an institute of higher education. This may draw additional scrutiny from security or immigration services. The recent transition of power may have made the immigration services more vigilant or on a higher state of alert. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I will ensure that I have the correct visas and authorisations to visit the country. I will ensure that my local partners know when I am due to arrive so they can be at the airport to meet me and help with any immigration issues. I will identify legal support in the country before I travel and, if I am detained, I will not sign anything without them present. 	Medium (3)	High (4)	Medium (12)

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Confiscation of goods/travel documents. 					
Arrest <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Due to suspicion of foreigners during government transition phase. Due to corruption, may wish to extort money via blackmail 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The subject matter of my research questions the legitimacy of the current government of Zimbabwe. It is possible that by asking these questions I could be at risk of detention by the security forces or possibly accused of espionage. The partner organisation is a well-known critic of the Mugabe regime and by associating with them, I might come under more scrutiny. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If questioned by the authorities, I will remain open and transparent about my purposes – producing a cover story is likely to raise more suspicion or result in harsher treatment if detained. All interviews with stakeholders will be undertaken at locations chosen by my local partners and myself to avoid being targeted by the police. Each location will only be used once. We will travel only with drivers that have been vetted from the local partner organisation. There will be a rigid check in procedure with my local partners. Where check-in is missed this will be escalated to my academic supervisor I will endeavour to keep a low profile at all times; this includes limiting the number of stakeholders that known about my research and applying tight information security controls (e.g. VPN) 	Low (2)	Very High (5)	Low (10)
Crime <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Violent crime: threat to life Opportunist crime: Petty theft of valuables, travel docs. ATM skimming is commonplace 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As a foreigner, I will stand out and be perceived as wealthy. I will be travelling throughout the city of Harare to multiple locations with little opportunity to risk assess them. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> When I am not working, I will restrict myself to my guesthouse, which has a restaurant, working Wifi and exercise facilities. I have set a check in time for 7pm (local time) which means I will be back in my accommodation before nightfall. When I am travelling, I will be accompanied by a local driver who can advise me on the safety and security of our surroundings. I will limit the valuable items I carry with me when I am outside of the guesthouse and leave the rest in a safe. 	Medium (3)	Medium (3)	Low (9)
Road traffic accident <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Poor road maintenance. High accident rate due to unsafe driving practices. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I will be frequently travelling to the field as part of my research. This will need to be by vehicle, as there are no options to fly. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I will only travel in vehicles provided by the partner organisation and driven by their vetted drivers. I will visually inspect vehicles before use to see if there is any visible damage. I will only use vehicles with working seatbelts. I will only travel in a vehicle during daylight hours. 	High (4)	High (4)	High (16)
Harassment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In an attempt to expose vulnerabilities or extort money or valuables. Racism or Sexism Sexual harassment if you are perceived to be 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I am a white British traveller and, due to the history between Zimbabwe and the United Kingdom, I may encounter some resentment or hostility from local people. I may face discrimination or hostility due to my sexual 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I will not engage in any political conversations (outside the remit of my work). I will avoid all protests and demonstrations if they are announced. If I am confronted with this line of argument or enquiry, I will seek to diffuse the situation by explaining that, as a representative of the university, I cannot pass comment on such matters. If asked about my sexuality or personal life, I will respectfully say that it is not considered appropriate for 	Medium (3)	Medium (3)	Low (9)

vulnerable.	orientation as I am aware it is not accepted in this culture.	<p>me to share such intimate details.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If I am asked my personal opinion about any matters such as race relations, sexuality or the roles of the genders, I will remember that it is not the purpose of my visit to address these differences in views and will try to extract myself from the conversation. I will identify from whom I can receive psychosocial support recognising that this may not be possible until I return to the UK. 			
<p>Civil unrest</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> May become a 'target of opportunity' for politically motivated attack. Threat of injury as a bystander; missiles thrown by protesters/anti riot measures by police: baton rounds, water cannon etc. may lead to deterioration of overall security situation in country. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Zimbabwe is in a state of transition and there may be protests or demonstrations against the new government. While I do not think I will be specifically targeted, there may be an increased risk from opportunistic crime. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I will maintain a high level of situational awareness by monitoring local news sources, social media and my local contacts. I will identify places where I can wait out any disturbances (such as my guesthouse and partner offices). I will identify areas outside of the city where I can relocate if the situation deteriorates, (such as partner homes). I will keep a grab bag containing all my essential equipment ready if I need to go to the airport to immediately evacuate. 	Low (2)	High (4)	Low (8)
<p>Medical emergency</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited emergency care facilities in country. May take time to mobilise emergency care via insurers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I have many food allergies that could cause me to go into anaphylactic shock. I will be travelling to remote locations where access to medical facilities capable of treating and diagnosing acute illness or injury is limited. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I will carry an epi-pen with me at all times. I will identify hospitals in Harare that can provide me with the appropriate level of care which I will share with the partner organisation and drivers. I will wear a medic-alert bracelet that explains my allergies. I will only eat food from reputable providers. I will ensure that my insurance covers evacuation. 	High (4)	Very High (5)	High (20)

Contingency Plans

Please indicate measures you would take in the event of a:

<p><i>Medical emergency (e.g. acute injury or illness):</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. There are some private trauma care facilities available in Harare that can be used for stabilisation purposes. I will check with LSE's insurer to determine whether these are accredited or what other medical facilities I would be directed to in the event of a medical emergency. 2. Johannesburg is a 1hr 40 min flight from Harare which has some of the best medical care in Africa, this should be considered the first choice if out of country medical evacuation is required. Regular commercial flights are also available for non-urgent cases. 3. There are good emergency hospitals in Lusaka, Zambia which is a 7-hour drive from Harare if road travel is the only option. I will liaise with my local network to ensure I have access to a vehicle at all times for emergency purposes. 4. LSE will be notified by its insurer should I require any emergency medical treatment 5. I will carry an individual first aid kit with me at all times.
<p><i>Rapid deterioration in the security situation:</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Return to hotel and hibernate until the situation calms. Many hotels in Harare have good security measures including security gates, barriers and guards and this should be confirmed when planning the trip. 2. Contact/consult trusted local partners who will be able to provide local contextual knowledge and/or mobilise resources (vehicles, alternative accommodation) 3. Contact LSE's insurer to assess evacuation options – there are regular flights from Harare to Johannesburg, Gaborone and Lusaka, normally all for under \$500. I will ensure that this amount of cash is kept available on a credit card or withdrawn for emergency purposes. 4. Where commercial flights are not available, I will consult with my local partner to seek support for overland evacuation to Lusaka.
<p><i>Serious safety or security incident that requires additional support:</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Make contact with local partner to determine what immediate support they can provide 2. I will also report this to my academic supervisor who can advise on next course of action. Where the incident is of a serious or critical nature, then my academic supervisor will escalate to the School Management Committee. 3. There is a UK Embassy in Harare that may be able to provide support following a safety or security incident. I will ensure that I am registered with the embassy upon arrival

Authorisation

Academic Supervisor / Line Manager

I agree that this risk assessment accurately reflects the travel risks the traveller may face and that all reasonable steps have been taken to minimise them.

Name:	Signature:	Date:

Traveller

I confirm that the travel risks identified in this form accurately and truly reflect the locations where I am travelling to. I confirm that I have taken all reasonable steps to ensure these travel risks have been minimised in accordance with the School's Overseas Travel Policy.

Name:	Signature:	Date: