

**From:** "jeffrey E." <jeevacation@gmail.com>

**To:** [REDACTED] >

**Subject:** Fwd: Suggestions and Specifics

**Date:** Tue, 22 Jul 2014 23:03:43 +0000

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----- Forwarded message -----

From: [REDACTED] >

Date: Tue, Jul 22, 2014 at 6:10 PM

Subject: Suggestions and Specifics

To: "jeevacation@gmail.com" <jeevacation@gmail.com>

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Getting visas will take her some work (just apply for tourist visas and list the name of the hotel as the contact) and since most places in Africa require visas, she will need at a minimum 12 days to get the three visas processed paying rush fees and getting passports fedexed back and forth. Starting on August 8<sup>th</sup> might work out as below. I recommend business class travel (this routing will run about \$10K) since she will be alone since you do have to arrive 3 hours early for flights and these airports are not always the safest – business gets her access to the lounges. Remember it is winter south of the equator so it will be chilly in Zim and South Africa. Best airlines in order of good to bad: South African, Ethiopian, Emirates, British, Kenya. Some of the regional ones are pretty good but not for a solo inexperienced traveler.

[REDACTED]

**Cape Town, South Africa:** Spend a few days watching how an international federation of slumdweller organizations, SDI ([www.sdinet.org](http://www.sdinet.org)) operates and uses resources to build common strategies for poverty alleviation across nearly 35 countries. Important to see how things work in the “back office” (either in Stellenbosch or Mowbray) and evolve into projects in the field. There may or may not be opportunities to visit communities or governments but observing the activities in the office will offer a sense for what goes into project planning, execution and management. They are currently building a digital map that includes information on all of the people and structures in thousands of slums all around the world in a project shared with the Santa Fe Institute. Then spend a day with the team at Project Ishizwe ([www.projectishizwe.com](http://www.projectishizwe.com)) that is working to provide cities with free wifi in slums. View their technical developments as well as participate in discussions surrounding roll out with governments and telecoms around southern Africa. Challenges: resources to help the urban poor are typically channeled through well-known large international organizations and not powerful organizations like this one with on-the-ground presence and nearly 30 years’ experience.

- Flights: Fly into Cape Town (need hotel to arrange transfer from airport)
- Stay: Westin Conference Center for first night then move to Stellenbosch (much safer)

- Duration: [REDACTED]
- Visa on arrival
- Spending money: \$300 = convert at airport to rand

**Harare, Zimbabwe:** Visit with the City of Harare officials and the Zimbabwe Federation of the Urban Poor (ZFUP) to learn more about how they geo-map existing settlements and co-develop housing projects with the communities and city governments. Currently no bilateral or multilateral government donors present in Zimbabwe outside health and emergency assistance. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Challenges: land redistribution issues, service delivery, autocratic government and international sanctions limiting direct assistance.

- Flights: Fly into Harare suggest the South African Airways routing
- Stay: Meikles Hotel Harare (will need for Meikles to arrange for airport transfers)
- Duration: [REDACTED]
- Visa required – 5 days required (3 days rush plus fedex back and forth from DC)
- Spending money: \$200 = use US dollars

**Kampala, Uganda:** Visit the Uganda Slumdweller's Federation (USF) as they negotiate with the government on how to resettle informal communities or formalize and densify their homes in central Kampala. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Finances are not as much of an issue here. Challenges: growth economy causing massive urbanization, resource management

- Flights: Fly into Entebbe, transfer to Kampala (likely have to route through Nairobi, Johannesburg or Addis Ababa)
- Stay: Serena Hotel Kampala (will need Serena to arrange transfer from airport)
- Duration: [REDACTED]
- Visa required – 4 days required (2 day rush plus fedex back and forth)
- Spending money: \$200 USD – convert to shillings at hotel

**Accra, Ghana:** Visit with the civil society groups that are trying to organize communities around their common problems. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]. Habitat for Humanity has tried to assist with building “communities” that are more modern and equitable yet informal settlements continue to be built and allocated around traditional hierarchies. Challenges: all land and natural resources are owned by traditional (tribal) chiefs making official government regulations and laws difficult to enforce, communities do not have a culture of savings but instead depend on patronage which leads to lackluster work ethic and accountability.

- Flights: Fly into Accra (likely have to route through Addis Ababa, Lagos or Nairobi)
- Stay: Labadi Beach Hotel (will need hotel to arrange for transfer from hotel)
- Duration: [REDACTED]

- Visa required – 3 days required (1 day rush plus fedex back and forth from consulate)
- Spending money: \$300 USD – convert to cidi at airport

[REDACTED]

August 8: New York to Cape Town (August 10-12 Cape Town)

August 13: Cape Town to Harare (August 14-15 Harare)

August 16: morning, leave Harare to Johannesburg and spend the night at airport Intercontinental JNB

August 17: Johannesburg to Entebbe (August 18-19 Kampala)

August 20: Kampala to Accra (August 21-22 Accra)

August 23: Accra to New York

[REDACTED]

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