Field studies in the EAR
Eastern Branch

Logistical Considerations and Planning

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Magadi and Natron Rift Basins

Field planning in Tanzania and Kenya (GeoPRISMS RIE focus site)

• Immature rifts (3-7 Ma)
• Magma-rich; active volcanoes
• Faulting has migrated to rift center; some activity along border faults
• Historic seismo-magmatic crises (1998 in Magadi; 2007 in Natron)
• Tectono-magmatic interaction
Essential Elements of Field Planning

• Plan ahead! At least 6 months of planning time.

• Start a dialog with local researchers.

• Research permits: start early.

• Field planning: resources; climate trends; working with limited accommodations; immunizations; register with State Dept.; sample collection permits; getting around.

• Broader Impacts: actively involve local researchers in field research and follow-up; local student involvement; time reimbursement; capacity building
Tanzania/Kenya: Local Collaborations

• Potential collaborators at University of Dar es Salaam; Nelson Mandela African Institute of Science and Technology (Arusha); University of Nairobi.

• Develop an MOU (Memorandum of Understanding).

• Involvement in actual research objectives is key; local scientists should not be used for logistical planning only.

• Can assist with organization of permits for temporary import of geophysical equipment.

• Can assist with research permits.
Tanzania: Research Permits

• Research permits from COSTECH (Tanzania Commission for Science and Technology): www.costech.or.tz

• One-year permits, renewable for 2 additional years (w. fee).

• $300 per person (2013 rate) + $50 application fee.

• Residence permit, Class C; from Ministry of Home Affairs (immigration.go.tz); $550 per person (2012).

• Sample collection permits; obtain from Dept. of Mines and Minerals in Arusha prior to departure (1/2 day); ~$35.
Tanzania: Other Considerations

- Rental vehicles from Arusha (with driver): $150-$200/day (includes gas but may need gas containers/extra gas cash)

- Accommodations in Arusha but very limited in Natron Basin (bush camps at Engaresero; e.g., Lasivunye).


- Hire local Maasai guide ($40-$50/day); check in with local village leaders.
Kenya: Research Permits

- Research permits from NCST: National Council for Science and Technology (Form B): www.ncst.go.ke (online application)
  - Three-year permits.
  - $500 per person (2013 rate) / $400 for grad students.
  - Also require a local affiliating institution to vouch for the proposed research (Form D).
- Sample collection permits: obtain from Division of Mines and Geology in Nairobi prior to departure (1/2 day).
Kenya: Other Considerations

- Rental vehicles from Nairobi (self-drive): $120-$150/day (from city center; includes insurance; excludes gas)

- Accommodations in Nairobi but very limited in Magadi Basin. Limited options in Olepolos, Magadi, Nguruman, and Shompole.

- Drive from Nairobi to Magadi: 3 hours


- Communicate with local Maasai; hire guides ($30-$40/day)