

STUDY ABROAD REPORT

You should upload this report **within 2 months** after the end of your stay abroad to Mobility Online. You should also upload the confirmation of your stay abroad from your host university as well as the equivalence list signed by the dean after your mobility to Mobility Online. If you should not fulfil these requirements it is possible that your whole study grant will be revoked (see letter of acceptance). Queries: jointstudy@boku.ac.at

BASIC INFORMATION

1. Name of student: **Anonym**
- Study programme: **H 066 448**
2. Host university: **Egerton University**
 Host country: **Kenya**
3. Your period
 of stay: from **03. 02. 2019** to **04. 03. 2019**
 Study year: **3**

FEEDBACK FOR FUTURE STUDENTS

4. Information about the host university. How helpful were the following sources of information?

(Please enter a number between 1 and 5, where 1 = not helpful and 5 = very helpful):

Homepage of the host university	2
Students / friends	5
Teachers at BOKU	3
Curricula	3
Host university	5
Centre for International Relations	5
Other:	

5. How would you evaluate your ability in the language of the host university?

(1 = weak to 5 = excellent)

	Before your stay abroad					After your stay abroad				
	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
Reading	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Listening	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Speaking	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Writing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

6. Languages of care/support at the host university and their use in percentage:

Language of care was German: Yes No

1.) English	100 %	3.)	%
2.)	%	4.)	%

What recommendations would you give to future students about the host country and university? (Questions 7 -14) Please give tips, sources of information, contacts, and links

7. Host country

It is recommendable to get a prepaid SIM card from Safaricom. This is the leading communications company in Kenya.
www.safaricom.co.ke

People who are not used to travel alone in Africa should stay in groups. For example during trips to towns or national parks. It is also advisable not to hesitate to ask locals for information and help.

8. Host university

Egerton University, www.egerton.ac.ke
LWM Programme Officer, Eddison Musikoyo, lwm@egerton.ac.ke,
LWM Coordinator, Prof. Nzula Kitaka, nkitaka@Egerton.ac.ke
Tel: +254727958986

9. To what extent did you feel socially integrated?

(1 = not at all to 5 = very well)	1	2	3	4	5
in the local culture/community in general	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
with students at the host university	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
with international students at the host university	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

10. Which contact person (at BOKU/the host university) helped you organise your stay abroad?

BOKU: Marie Theres Pfeifer, Nina Haslinger from the Institute of Hydrobiology and Aquatic Ecosystem Management
Egerton University: Eddison Musikoyo, LWM Programme Officer at Egerton University

25. Did you have any problems during your stay abroad?

I did not have any problems.

26. Will your academic progress at BOKU be hindered as a result of your stay abroad?

Yes

No

I don't know

If yes, please explain why:

27. How could the Joint Study and student exchange programme be improved in your opinion?

Since everything worked well for me and I did not have any problems, I personally have no suggestion how to improve the Joint Study and student exchange programme.

General Report

Short feedback on your stay: attended lectures, seminars, excursions, etc.

Other things you found interesting, you think future students should know, problems, general tips and recommendations...

During the 4 weeks of my stay at Egerton University I attended the Module Lake Ecology which is an intensive course and compulsory for LWM students. I as a student of Applied Limnology did it as an elective course.

The main emphasis of the first 2 weeks was on lectures including basics of physical limnology, limnochemistry, phytoplankton, zooplankton, production and energy flow in lakes. Furthermore, the students were instructed to orient themselves at the university campus and supported to coordinate everyday life. Class started at 9 a.m. and ended at 5 p.m..

In the third week, we began to prepare and train for the field trip in the laboratories. Our group stayed 3 days at the Elsamere Conservation Centre at Lake Naivasha. This place has a very special and famous history. In the field, we took samples from the lakes Sonachi, Oloidien and Naivasha. We installed a field lab at the camp where we did the chemical analyses of our samples in the evening.

I stayed with some students at Elsamere over the weekend. We hiked up Mount Longonot and rode the bike through the Hell's Gate National Park. An unforgettable experience. Unfortunately, it is not recommended to swim in the lakes because of the dangerous hippos.

In the course of the last week, we calculated and evaluated the outcomes of our analyses. We then had to present our results in front of the group and several professors. In addition, every student had to write a report and do a final exam. As I was already back in Austria when the exam took place, I had the possibility to write the exam at the Institute of Hydrobiology and Aquatic Ecosystem Management (IHG).

During my whole stay in Kenya I had no problems regarding digestion or any other illness. Some of my colleagues had. In general, it is advisable to follow the common recommendations tourists get before their trip to Africa. It is also important not to underestimate the influence of different climate zones, higher sea levels and the solar irradiation near the equator. Especially during exhausting hiking tours an unhurried speed may lead you faster to the destination. This is also something I learned in Kenya that can be useful in the fast living daily routine in Europe.

The last two questions

What did you gain the most out of your stay abroad?

Being intensively occupied with the topic ecology of lakes for 4 weeks including field work, taking samples and laboratory work, is definitely more effective to improve knowledge than a normal lecture with one short unit per week. I especially enjoyed university life at Egerton University and appreciate the possibility to gain a first insight into the way of living in Kenya. It always is inspiring to step out of the familiar cultural environment. Also the unique landscape, fauna and flora of the Rift Valley left a lasting impression.

Which particular piece of advice would you give interested students?

Just do it. Every chance to study in a foreign country should be taken. It is a major benefit for your studies and you gain precious experiences for life. Don't be discouraged by bureaucratic obstacles, it is worth the effort.

Many thanks for your support!

Publication of this report

I agree that this report, including the above data (field of study, host university, year of study, length of stay), will be published on the website of the Center for International Relations for the purpose of exchanging information on the study visit, so that future interested outgoings can be informed about your experience at the host institution.

Yes No

The consent is voluntary and can be withdrawn at any time in the future without giving reasons. Any revocation can be declared at any time by e-mail to joinstudy@boku.ac.at.