

# *Reaching The Unreached International*

*God's Mission; Our Opportunity to Restore the Biblical Church*

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## RTU SHORT TERM MISSION TEAM (STMT) POLICY

RTU (Reaching The Unreached International) value the input of STMT. Over the past years many STMT have assisted in various ministries in Botswana. We encourage the church within and outside Botswana to join God in His mission to the nations. Therefore, our policy is:

### **What is a STMT?**

*STMT is a group of believers who for a short period travel to their own people group or another people group, across the culture, language country or continent, to share the good news of Jesus Christ in various forms of service in consultation and approval with the host/local church.*

### **How can you be involved in STMT?**

- *Visit for a short term exposure or organise a team*

#### 1. Number of people

- *A STMT can be a number of between 1-15 people (20 would be an exceptional case) due to the limited facilities available*

#### 2. Duration

- *Would depend on the group, preferably a weekend (3 days) or more*

#### 3. Requirements

- *Valid passport and relevant visa (where applicable by Botswana Immigration) for visitors travelling from countries outside Botswana check with your embassy*
- *Visit your medical centre for safety, areas where RTU minister no malaria treatment required. However insect repellent, sun block and first aid kit highly advisable*
- *An indemnity from the STMT sending church or RTU must be signed*
- *All financial costs shall be for the STMT*
- *Donations must be made to the local church for use of water and electricity, where applicable*

#### 4. Travel & transport

- *STMT visiting from overseas who have no transport will be accommodated in RTU vehicles, but expenses remain the responsibility of the STMT*
- *STMT from neighbouring countries who are able to bring vehicles (vans, 4x4) must please do so*
- *Ensure vehicles are in good condition for the terrain; sand, mud, water*

## 5. Equipment

- *Sleeping facilities (tents) & cooking facilities (stoves, gas, pots & pans) are a requirement for the visiting STMT. However in the case of overseas STMT, RTU will accommodate where possible*
- *Equipment needed for ministry, e.g. generator, music equipment, lights, projector & screen, fuel must be prepared by the STMT*
- *Camera (1 recommended with a designated photographer), taking of pictures must be supervised by the host and agreed upon by both parties*

## 6. Ministry opportunity

All planned ministry must be communicated and cleared with the local church leadership, for their information and involvement. Other major projects must be cleared with the local village leadership before commencing service. Please note that sometimes permission from government office is required so advance planning is highly advisable.

- *Kids & youth ministry*
- *Preaching and teaching*
- *Sports ministry (soccer, volleyball, netball)*
- *Music & dance (teach and perform)*
- *Practical works; building, painting, gardening, repairs, herding livestock, harvesting*
- *Hand crafts (sewing, knitting, crochet, hair braiding, painting)*
- *Life skills training; HIV/AIDS, social development*
- *Medical work (a Botswana licence for medical practitioners, except nurses, to practice in Botswana is required and the process is time consuming. Plan 3-6 months ahead)*

## 7. Do's & Don't

### DON'T

- *Do not wander off alone remain in the group*
- *Do not hand out or promise any items to people without prior discussion & understanding & permission with local leaders/missionary*
- *Do not attempt any activity without consultation with local leaders/missionary*
- *Do not litter, please use plastic bags or pit*
- *Do not enter properties or photograph people or their property without their permission*

### DO'S

- *Do use water sparingly*
- *Do greet people by hand where possible (Dumela 1 person or Dumelang 2 or group)*
- *Do report any injuries/illness to team leader*
- *Do taste the water it is safe to drink*
- *Do treat people with respect & dignity*
- *Do follow instructions or guidelines of local leadership, interpreter, missionary*
- *Do ensure that you clarify food/ type given to you, avoid allergic reactions*
- *Do dress respectable and for the occasion, e.g. no mini skirts/pants & tank tops or bare chest during worship service or home visits*