

DRC Packing Checklist:

- **PLEASE NOTE:** It is important to pack a change of clothes and any important personal necessities, including **medications**, in your carry-on, just in case your luggage arrives late or you miss a connecting flight for any reason.
- Print several copies of this checklist, and save a copy on your computer's hard drive to refer to when planning your next trip. Storing the checklist on your computer is the easiest way to make updates to it when necessary.

Documents ~ Be prepared

- Passport
- International Certificate of Immunization (yellow card) with proof of yellow fever vaccination within the past 10 years (to be carried with passport)
- Clean crisp \$50 dollar and \$5 dollar bills newer than 2006 without any visible damage or tearing. These will be used to pay your departure fee from Lubumbashi (take 2 of each to be safe)
- 2 color copies of passport, visa, and yellow immunization card
- Extra copy of itinerary
- Visa/MasterCard (carry a spare for lost AMEX or places not honoring AMEX)
- Company AMEX
- Wallet/Cash/Picture ID
- Cash – You won't need a whole lot as most of your meals will be covered, but it could be useful for the occasional meal out, or small purchases at the small grocery store. There is a Rawbank ATM machine next to Base camp and outside Bravo camp, which accepts Visa or MasterCard. Also be sure to call your bank for a travel notice on your ATM/credit cards if you plan to use the cash machine or make any personal purchases in South Africa.
- In general, most try to keep around \$200-\$300 in cash at all times, in case of an emergency. The stores (including at TFM) only accept US bills that are 2006 or newer. Anything damaged in the slightest, they won't take.

Business Essentials ~

- Work Laptop – be sure to submit a ticket to the MIS team at least 2 weeks ahead of time to inform them of your trip to the DRC to be sure your computer is configured correctly. You can submit a ticket to the following link: [Global Call Center Access Modification](#). Choose options: **I need access modified▶other▶change**
- Laptop Charger
- Work Portfolio
- Business Cards
- Jump Drive
- Work Cellular Phone - be sure to submit a ticket to the MIS team at least 2 weeks ahead of time to have a global plan added to your cellular phone for the duration of your stay in the DRC. You should also receive a local phone to use while you are at site to contact those within the DRC.
- Cellular Phone Charger
- USB Chargers

- Adaptors – Congo uses the European two round pin type. However, a lot of the offices and accommodations are fitted with South African outlets, which are three large round pins. (BS-546 Large). It is suggested to get International Plug Adaptor which includes European, South American and Universal plugs.
- CPE Workbooks make easy travel on the flight.
- Clear plastic envelopes for receipts, reports, etc.

Electronics ~

- Headphones
- AAA or AA batteries for wireless mic, headphones, etc.
- iPad, iPod, Kindle, Nook, books to read
- Personal Laptop with media. Many people download their favorite movies or TV series onto a personal external hard drive to watch on their personal laptop. If you have a company laptop it may not have the necessary configuration.
- For personal internet, you can purchase a portable Wi-Fi gadget ([like this one here](#)) and you can purchase a SIM card at site from the Vodacom guy at TFM's MIS dept. and then pay for the amount of data you want to use. If you ask around someone can help you set it up. The TFM internet isn't always reliable for personal use but this isn't a must-have.
- Flashlight, battery lamp or head lamp – sometimes the power can go out and these types of gadgets are helpful for reading or getting around your house
- Watch or battery powered clock (alarm)

Food Items ~

- Power/Cliff/Atkins Protein Energy bars
- Beef Jerky
- Mixed Nuts/Dried Fruit
- Cheese Crackers w/Peanut Butter or Cheese
- Gum/Mints
- Plastic Silverware
- Plastic Bags or containers (Helps to take a known item from the mess hall)
- Clorox Wipes or Hand Sanitizer
- Travel coffee mug
- Instant Coffee
- Equal or Stevia (regular sugar only in Congo)
- Reusable water bottle - Water at the accommodations at Base Camp and Bravo Camp is potable.
- Peanut Butter (small travel size)
- Lunch size pre-mixed tuna in a can with crackers
- Cup of Soup
- Easy Mac
- Microwave popcorn
- Herbal tea
- Crystal light or lemonade powered water drinks
- Chocolate (Dove pieces work great)

Clothes ~ Daily laundry except on the weekend.

- Long and Regular Socks
- Long Sleeve Shirts
- Jeans/Pants
- Undergarments
- Remember take clothes that are functional and you don't love.
- Sturdy, comfortable shoes such as hiking boots for day wear.

- Warm jacket – it gets quite cold in the mornings and nights during the dry season from May - November. The temperature in the evenings is around 50F or 10C.
- During the rainy season, a light raincoat and waterproof shoes can be helpful. When it is humid, things such as shoes can take a while to dry out.
- If your position will involve important business meetings/functions outside the concession, a more formal attire could be helpful such as suit/tie for men.
- Running shoes and workout clothes– There is a gym you may use after work hours, and the area is good for short hikes.
- An inexpensive pair of sunglasses can come in handy when driving or outside. Protects from the sun and if there is dust during the dry season. This does not replace PPE used at the mine.

Linens ~ Towel, sheets, and pillow will be provided but are well used.

- Towel
- Wash Cloth
- Bed Sheet
- Pillow Case
- Pillow or Neck roll

Toiletries ~ Take what you need, but these weigh up in quantity.

- Facial soap or cleanser
- Hair products
- Shampoo / conditioner
- Toothbrush
- Toothpaste
- Deodorant
- Hand lotion
- Lip balm
- Anti-bacterial cream (mosquito bites)
- Band-Aids (a few will come in handy)
- Travel size sewing kit
- Travel Size Laundry Detergent
- Bug repellent with DEET
- Vitamins
- Malaria Pills
- Personal medications
- Personal pain relievers
- Sleeping aids