Student Elective Report

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What problems did you encounter? (120 words max)

Tanzania is a beautiful country to explore – based in Dar es Salaam it was easy to get to several local islands with beautiful beaches, to visit Zanzibar (which has amazing snorkelling/diving sites) and go on Safari. While organising this placement through Work the World meant Swahili lessons were included, it was still difficult to communicate with patients

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	Salaam and surrounding areas.  Tanzania has an interesting history and culture which I was able to learn about, from exploring the local area and also from several doctors, the team at our house and our neighbours – overall, I found people there to be very friendly, inquisitive and inclusive.
Are you more likely to choose a career in plastic surgery as a result of this experience?	I organised my elective in Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery because I was already interested in pursuing a career in this field. I had a fantastic experience of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery in Tanzania, it was so refreshing to see this specialty in another country, and see the types of cases seen there. I also enjoyed the many opportunities to scrub in and assist in theatre, allowing me to learn, practice, and develop confidence in my surgical skills; overall this placement has reaffirmed my interest in pursuing a career in this field.