

Internationalisation and planning

The practicalities of planning research abroad

Marcin Dąbrowski, Research Fellow, SPS, Urbanism
m.m.dabrowski@tudelft.nl

I. Access to institutions and interviewees:

- *How difficult it will be to gain access to interviewees and data? Consider a pilot study.*
- *Do I know someone who could introduce me to key interviewees?*
- *Could my supervisors and their colleagues know someone?*
- *Could the supervisor provide me with a support letter?*

II. Sensitive issues and safety:

- *Is the issue I am investigating a sensitive one? Are the interviewees likely to want to discuss it with me? How will I guarantee anonymity of the interviewees? Will the want to be recorded?*
- *Are there any risks for me?*

III. Costs and time:

- *What are the travel and accommodation costs (for an extended period)? Can I afford this?*
- *How much time do I need stay in the field and how early before that do I need to plan the interviews?*

IV. Language capabilities:

- *Do I master the local language? Am I capable of understanding documents? Doing an interview?*
- *If not, how likely are the interviewees to speak English?*

V. Lost in translation - considering different meanings and terminologies:

- *Will my interviewees understand what I am asking about?*