

## **Narrative Resumé: Norman R. Tyler, Ph.D., FAICP**

### **Current position**



Professor Emeritus,  
Eastern Michigan University Urban and Regional Planning Program  
(served as director of the program for 17 years)  
Phone: 734 761-5549; email: ntyler@tylertopics.com  
Web page: tylertopics.com

### **Education**

Ph.D., Urban and Regional Planning  
Michigan State University, 1998

Dissertation was a continuation and expansion of research on downtown revitalization efforts from previous doctoral degree. The number of cities studied was expanded, new elements incorporated, and a time-series analysis compared responses from earlier research with responses from this survey.

Doctor of Architecture  
The University of Michigan, 1987

Dissertation research focused on downtown revitalization efforts in eight small cities in Michigan. An extensive survey of downtown owners and merchants provided data for creating a downtown health perception index, which was used to evaluate the success of various revitalization programs and strategies.

Bachelor of Architecture  
The University of Michigan, 1970

Capstone project: An elevated city proposal for Detroit's New Center area.



*Innovative Teaching Award,  
International Conference on  
College Teaching, Learning,  
and Technology*

### **Professional experience**

Norm Tyler's career spans three distinct phases: For the past 21 years he has been a full-time planning educator and community activist. Previously he was a planning and architect practitioner and consultant. Initially he served as a community advocate (Baltimore, VISTA volunteer) and rural development specialist (Sierra Leone, West Africa, Peace Corps Volunteer and trainer).

1990–current: Faculty, Urban and Regional Planning Program, Eastern Michigan University; Director of the Urban and Regional Planning Program from 1992 to 2009.  
Currently teaching courses in Urban and Regional Planning Program

1987–1989: Adjunct Instructor, Eastern Michigan University.  
Taught Community Development and Downtown Revitalization course

1983–1990: Principal, Norman Tyler, Architect/Planner, Ann Arbor, Michigan  
Projects in planning, architecture, and historic surveys

1983–1986: Graduate Assistant Instructor, Taubman School of Architecture and Urban Planning, The University of Michigan  
Taught Preservation Studio course

1979–1981: Adjunct, Pennsylvania State University, Fayette campus  
Taught architecture course

1974–1983: Principal, Tyler and Tyler, Architects/Planners, Mill Run, Pennsylvania.  
Major projects included planner for new town, consultant to Redevelopment Authority, and consultant for Main Street Program



*Undergraduate student project:  
Site Planning Studio*

1970–1972: Neighborhood Design Center, Baltimore, Maryland.  
Staff for agency coordinating volunteer planners and architects



Consultant for Main Street Program study for downtown Uniontown, Pennsylvania

1964–1966: Peace Corps Volunteer, Sierra Leone, West Africa.  
Rural development program

**Professor of Urban and Regional Planning:** Norman Tyler has been an award-winning member of the faculty of the Urban and Regional Planning Program at Eastern Michigan University (EMU). As director of its Urban and Regional Planning Program, he carried much of the responsibility for the continued success of its two planning programs (undergraduate and graduate) and oversaw their significant growth.

*"I am impressed with his social consciousness and ethical standards. These are displayed on a daily basis in the classroom, at the university, and during professional meetings with public officials. He lives by the AICP Code of Ethics and promotes this code among students and colleagues at every opportunity."*  
(Robert M. Ward, Professor Emeritus, Urban and Regional Planning Program, Eastern Michigan University)

**Director of Urban and Regional Planning Program:** For 17 years, Dr. Tyler was director of the Urban and Regional Planning Programs at EMU. He had primary responsibility for the initial accreditation of its undergraduate Urban and Regional Planning Program, lead searches for four new faculty, served as advisor for the undergraduate Planning Program and more recently for the graduate Planning Program. His success also is measured by the success of his students. Leslie Kettren AICP served on the National Board of the APA; as a student, Michelle Aniol AICP was honored as Student of the Year by the APA. Andrea Brown AICP currently serves as the Executive Director of the Michigan Association of Planning. Andrew Armbruster is completing his Masters in Urban Planning degree at Tongji University in Shanghai and has worked as a planner on a number of Chinese new towns.



Professionals Advisory Board for EMU Planning Program

**Other program and university responsibilities:** Dr. Tyler served in a number of capacities for the EMU Planning Program.

Representative to the university's Undergraduate Research Symposium.

Chair of search committee for three faculty searches; committee member for four other searches.

Coordinator of the Planning Program's Professionals Advisory Board.

Webmaster for the Planning Program's web site (<http://planning.emich.edu>).

Advisor for the program's student club, Planning Awareness Club of Eastern (PLACE).

Advisor for the Student Mentoring Program.

Editor and writer for the Planning Program's journal of student/faculty articles, and its newsletter.

Faculty coordinator for Annual Golf Outing program fund-raiser and establishment of the first student-run endowed scholarship fund at EMU, with an endowment of \$35,000.

Coordinated "World Town Planning Day" for Michigan planning students.

Other committee work, including Instruction Committee, College Advisory Council, Graduate Council, and advisory board for Faculty Center for Instructional Effectiveness.



Faculty Advisor for Planning Awareness Club of Eastern (PLACE)



Webmaster for EMU Urban and Regional Planning Program web site

### Awards and Recognition:

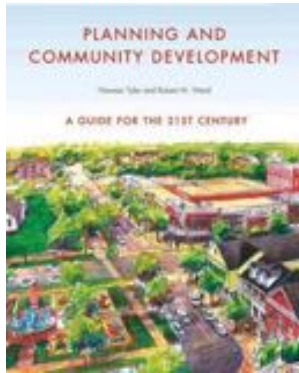
Fellow, American Institute of Certified Planners (FAICP), April 2012.

Eastern Michigan University Teaching Excellence Award, 2005.

Innovative Excellence in Teaching, Learning, and Technology Award at the Ninth International Conference on College Teaching, Learning, and Technology, 1998.

Alpha Rho Chi medal for student leadership, 1970.

**Book Author:** Dr. Tyler is principal author of books relating to community planning and historic preservation.



Co-author, Planning and Community Development: A Guide for the 21st Century

**Planning and Community Development: A Guide for the 21st Century**, with co-author Robert M. Ward (W.W. Norton and Company, 2011). This book presents a comprehensive description of community planning, with topics developed around the framework of the comprehensive plan. Its primary audiences are planning practitioners, lay planners, students, and community activists. Extensive online resources were created to complement the text (<http://cityhallcommons.com>).

*"This book is meant to introduce students and laypersons to community planning. It does this very well."* (CHOICE)

*"Impressively thorough."* (Book News)

*"This is the textbook I wish my professor had used when I signed up for the Intro course in college."* (Amazon.com review)



Co-author, Historic Preservation: An Introduction to Its History, Principles, and Practice

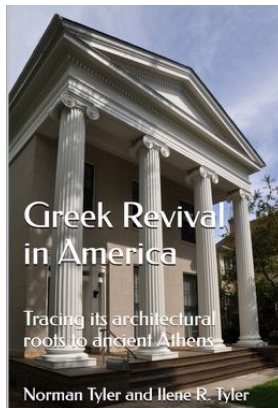
**Historic Preservation: An Introduction to Its History, Principles, and Practice**, (W.W. Norton and Company, 2000); 2nd edition with co-authors Ted J. Ligibel and Ilene R. Tyler, FAIA, FAPT (W.W. Norton and Company, 2009): This successful book remains a popular introductory text on this topic and has been adopted as a primary textbook by historic preservation programs across the country.

*"An essential resource."* (PreservationDirectory.com)

*"If we could have only one book on the practice of historic preservation, this may well be that book."* (Alabama Trust for Historic Preservation)

*"Used by a majority of preservation programs across the country."* (Ted Ligibel, Chair, National Council of Preservation Educators)

*"One of the top-selling titles on our list, this book has become established as the basic text on historic preservation."* (Nancy Green, Senior Editor, W.W. Norton and Company)



Co-author, Greek Revival in America: Tracing its architectural roots to ancient Athens

**Greek Revival in America: Tracing its architectural roots to ancient Athens**, with co-author Ilene R. Tyler (CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform, 2014): The book traces the roots of the authors' historic Greek Revival house in Ann Arbor, Michigan, back through history to a little-known Greek temple in Athens.

*"A fascinating book explaining the roots of Greek Revival architecture."* (Grace Shackman, architectural historian)

*"The authors' tenacity ultimately uncovers the roots of their home's architecture, both on the celebrated Acropolis and in the remnants of a largely forgotten temple that once played an important role in the civic life of ancient Athens."* (Christine Crockett, historic preservationist)

*"Every page is a visual delight and stimulating read. While it is only about 100 pages I think it's going to take me weeks to digest it all."* (John Leeke, building conservator)

**The Peace Corps, Sierra Leone, and Me: 50 Years Later** (Draft manuscript, 2015): The book presents the intriguing coming-of-age story of a nineteen-year-old Peace Corps Volunteer in West Africa in the 1960s, the historic changes in his host country, Sierra Leone, and his personal story of how this experience changed his life.

**Selected publications:**

**National:**

Robert M. Ward and Norman Tyler. "Integrating Historic Preservation Plans with Comprehensive Plans" *Planning*. October 2005.

Norman Tyler and Ilene Tyler. "Downtown Revitalization: How Renovations of a Performing Arts Facility Can Improve a Community's Economic Health" *InLeague* (the publication of the League of Historic American Theaters). January 2004.

Tyler, Norman. "The WebPolis Consortium." Conference paper for Joint Congress of the Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning and the Association of European Schools of Planning, Leuven, Belgium. July, 2003.

Norman Tyler. *Issues of Historic Preservation*. (Greyden Press). 1994.

Norman Tyler. "Evaluating the Health of Downtowns: A Survey of Small Michigan Cities." *Small Town Institute*, September-October, 1989.

Publicity by others:

"Bigger isn't always better for small towns," USA Today, 1985.

"Downtown Health Index Reveals Shopping Mix Essential for Small Cities," *Downtown Idea Exchange*, 1998.

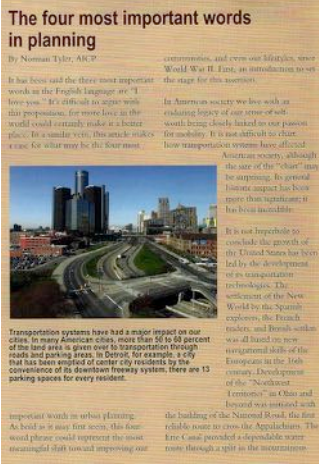
Interviewed for House and Garden Television (HGTV) on preservation of home, 2003.

Interviews on various urban planning topics with Michigan Talk Radio, Michigan Public Television, AP Wireservice, ABCNews.com, and newspapers in Michigan.

Reviewed article for *Journal of Planning Literature*, 2011.



Page 1 of article in *Planning*: "Integrating Historic Preservation Plans with Comprehensive Plans"



Article from *Michigan Planner*

**StState:**

Norman Tyler and Robert M. Ward. "Creating a Successful Economic Development Plan." *Michigan Planner* (July/August 2011).

Norman Tyler. "The Need to Integrate Historic Preservation in Master Plans." *Michigan Planner* (May/June 2011).

Norman Tyler. "The four most important words in planning." *Michigan Planner* (January 2007).

Norman Tyler. "Business Mix Critical to Success of Small-City Downtowns." *Michigan Planner*. Volume 5: Number 10. May 2001.

Norman Tyler. "Rave Reviews for Rivertown." *Planning and Zoning News*. 1997.

Norman Tyler. "The WalMart Invasion." *Michigan Monthly*. November 1995.

**Planning for  
Preservation in the  
Experience Economy (\$451)**

Sunday, 2:30 p.m.–3:45 p.m.

HBG Center, Room 007 C+D

Gain a new perspective on how historic preservation and planning can benefit from better integration. Examine the findings of a national state-by-state survey describing the lack of integration between historic preservation and master planning. Determine why the survey faults both preservationists and planners. CPD: 1.5

**Norman R. Tyler, AICP, and Robert Ward,** Eastern Michigan Univ., Ypsilanti; **Ilene Tyler,** Quinn Evans Architects, Ann Arbor, Mich.

*APA National Conference  
Presentation, San Antonio*



*Invited Presentation:  
University of Florida*



*Design Committee Chair,  
Ann Arbor Street Exhibits  
Program*

**Selected presentations:**

**International:**

"Good Urban Design: Principles and Practices" (with Ilene R. Tyler). Qatar University School of Urban Planning. December 2013.

"The WebPolis Consortium: Online Decision-Making for Local Governments." Joint Congress of Association of European Schools of Planning (AESOP) and Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning (ACSP), Leuven, Belgium. July 2003.

"Role-Playing in a Simulated Downtown for an On-Line Course." Ninth International Conference on College Teaching, Learning and Technology. Jacksonville, Florida, April 1998.

**National:**

"Preserve and Protect: Striking a balance between planning and preservation" (with Ilene R. Tyler). Urban Living History Conference, Columbus, Ohio, September 2014.

"Tools for Planning Well-Designed Communities" (with Andrea Brown and Ilene R. Tyler). American Planning Association National Conference. Los Angeles, April 2012.

"Planning and Community Development: A Guide for the 21st Century." Online podcast interview (urbandesignpodcast.com). January 2011.

"Planning for Preservation In the Experience Economy" (with Ilene R. Tyler, FAIA, FAPT). American Planning Association National Conference. April 2006. San Antonio, Texas.

"The Elusive Historic Preservation Plan: Is It Planning?" (with Dr. Robert M. Ward). Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning Annual Conference. Kansas City, Missouri. October 2005.

"Historic Theaters and Downtown Revitalization." Ilene R. Tyler and Norman Tyler. American Institute of Architects Tennessee Annual Conference. Nashville, Tennessee. July 2005.

"The WebPolis Consortium." E-Governance Conference. Ohio State University. March 2004.

"Empowered Community Design: Who Makes the Decisions?" University of Florida College of Architecture, Construction, and Planning. March 2003.

"Downtown revitalization: How renovation of a performing arts facility can improve a community's economic health." League of Historic American Theaters Annual Conference, Miami. July 2003. (noted as the highest attendance of any session)

"Creating an Online Textbook." Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning Annual Conference. Pasadena, California. November 1998.

"Online Simulations." Faculty Strategies for Engaging Online Learners Conference. University of Maryland. October 1997.

"Simulations of Urban Growth: A Comparison of Computerized and Direct-Input Models" (with Dr. Yichun Xie). Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning National Annual Conference. Detroit, October 1996.

**State:**

"Placemaking for Downtown." Norman Tyler. Owosso, Michigan. February 2011.

"Place Making in the Well-designed Community." Norman Tyler and Ilene Tyler. Michigan Association of Planning Annual Conference, Detroit. October 2010.

"Impact of the Ann Arbor Historic Street Exhibits Program." Norman Tyler et al. Michigan Historic Preservation Network Annual Conference, Ann Arbor, Michigan. May 2010.

"Cost Benefits of Historic Preservation." Norman Tyler and Ilene Tyler. Michigan Historic Preservation Network Annual Conference, Grand Rapids, Michigan. May 2009.

Interviews on various urban planning topics with Michigan Talk Radio, ABCNews.com, Port Huron Times-Herald, Detroit Free Press, Flint Journal and Saline Reporter (2004-2005).

"Walkability and Ann Arbor." Michigan Historic Preservation Network Annual Conference. East Lansing, Michigan. March 2005. "Historic Theaters and Downtown Revitalization." Norman Tyler and Ilene Tyler. October 2004. Michigan Society of Planning Annual Conference. Grand Rapids, Michigan.

"The Heart of Small Communities: Downtown Success Starts with Attitude." Keynote Address: Small Town Success Strategies Conference, Michigan State University Extension, St. Johns, Michigan. December 2002.

"How to Sell Planning to Youths and Adults." Michigan Society of Planning Annual Conference. October 2002.

**Local:**

"Design Guidelines for Ann Arbor." Norman Tyler. University of Michigan School of Business. March 2011.

"Ann Arbor Design Guidelines." Norman Tyler, et al. Ann Arbor Community Television Network. January 2010.

"Historic Preservation in Ann Arbor." Norman Tyler and Ellen Ramsburgh. Ann Arbor Community Television Network. October 2010.

"The Four Most Important Words in Transportation Planning," University of Toledo Colloquium, April 2009.

"Issues in the Germantown neighborhood." Ann Arbor Main Street Association, March 2009.

"The Economics of Preservation." Ann Arbor, Michigan, June 2008.

"The Ann Arbor Street Exhibit Program." Podcast interview, 2008.

"Interactive Community Feedback for Downtowns: WebPolis." Urban Land Institute Real Estate Forum, Ann Arbor, Michigan, November 2003.

"Introduction to Historic Preservation." A lecture given to the "Introduction to Urban Planning" course, The University of Michigan. Presented regularly from 1996 to present.

**Member of professional organizations:**

Membership (20+ years) in the following professional organizations:

American Planning Association (Urban Design and Preservation Division),  
Fellow, American Institute of Certified Planners

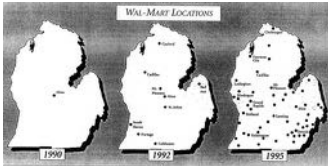
Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning (through university)

National Trust for Historic Preservation

Michigan Association of Planning, Lifetime Member

(former Executive Committee member, served on numerous committees)

Michigan Historic Preservation Network (former board member)



Public television interview:  
"Planning for the growth of  
WalMart"

**DOWNTOWN ANN ARBOR  
DESIGN GUIDELINES**

Adopted February 7, 2011



Member, Mayor's Task Force:  
Ann Arbor Design Guidelines





Plan-A-City board

**Plan-A-City:** Norman was a primary designer of Plan-A-City, an interactive exercise for elementary and secondary classrooms in which students work in collaborative groups to design a city on undeveloped land. A large board accommodates magnetic pieces representing various land uses, including industry, commercial, residential, and infrastructure. The prototype was first presented at a national conference of the American Institute of Architects. (See: [tylertopics.com/planacity.jpg](http://tylertopics.com/planacity.jpg))

*"Norman's leadership in the game's development was instrumental in ensuring that the game instills the values of good urban design principles in a fun and engaging experience for our youth." (Gene Hopkins, FAIA, former president, American Institute of Architects)*

**Professional and Service Organizations:**

**Local and state organizations:** Dr. Tyler has been involved on the boards and on numerous committees with state and local professional organizations. He has served in a variety of capacities, drawing on his expertise both as an educator and as a former practitioner. The involvements include:



Students and alumni at Michigan Association of Planning annual conference

**Michigan Association of Planning (formerly Michigan Chapter, American Planning Association):** Norman has been a supporter of the state organization, one of the largest in the country, for over 20 years. He has served on its board and as a member of the following committees:

- Publications committee;
- Education committee;
- Annual conference committee;
- Faculty advisor for planning student conferences;
- Faculty liaison;
- Chapter elections nominating committee;
- Joint Merger Committee (merging MAPA with Michigan Society of Planning Officials);
- Initial webmaster for organization's web site;



Faculty Advisor: State planning chapter annual student conference

He also has contributed numerous presentations to its annual conference, articles to its magazine, and has been an instructor for its AICP training sessions.

**Michigan Historic Preservation Network:** Norman has been active for many years with this large statewide organization, having served as board member and member of various committees, including the annual conference committee, education committee, awards committee.

**Ann Arbor Preservation Alliance:** He is a founding member of the Preservation Alliance, serving as chair of its education committee. (See: [aastreet.aadl.org/](http://aastreet.aadl.org/))

**Other public service activities:**

**Mayor's Task Force on Ann Arbor Downtown Design Guidelines:** Norman served as a key member of the group that wrote the first design guidelines for the community's downtown districts.

(See: [www.a2gov.org/a2d2/designguidelines/Pages/DesignGuidelines.aspx](http://www.a2gov.org/a2d2/designguidelines/Pages/DesignGuidelines.aspx))

**Ann Arbor Historic Street Exhibit Program:** Founding board member and chair of its design charrette.

**Ann Arbor Historic District Commission:** He served for six years as a member of the HDC and was its chair during that time. While a member, he produced a state-funded 90-minute educational video on historic styles in Michigan, regularly shown on community television.

**East Michigan Avenue Corridor Economic Development Study:** Co-principal investigator: 1993.

Historic survey of Cherry Hill, Michigan, 1988.

Historic survey of downtown Dundee, Michigan and preparation of proposal for historic district, 1986.



Design Chair: Ann Arbor Street Exhibits Program



### **Selected Non-academic Professional Activities:**

**Private practice:** Prior to his academic career, Norm was involved as a planner/architect in many community planning projects. Selected projects include:



*Town Planner: Aerial photo of New Village under construction*

New Village, Pennsylvania (1981-83): Served as planner and designer for development of a new town proposal near Uniontown, Pennsylvania. Known originally as New Village, the innovative community was planned, developed, and built by its future residents under the direction of the Rensselaerville Institute of New York and with funding from various federal agencies. Structures utilized very-high-R insulation panels to reduce energy costs significantly. Norman's role was to educate the future residents on planning and design principles to allow them to make their own decisions on selection of a 200-acre site and development of a site plan for their community. He also served as the project's site planning consultant and monitored its early development. (See: [tylertopics.com/NewVillage.pdf](http://tylertopics.com/NewVillage.pdf))

Main Street Program (1982): One of the first demonstration cities in the National Main Street Program was Uniontown, Pennsylvania. Norman's firm (Tyler & Tyler Architects/Planners) was hired as planner/historian for this project, which included researching the downtown's history, conducting a community design charrette, and using this information to prepare its downtown revitalization plan.

*"Norm was the first individual to really point out the historic wealth of the community's built environment and his work and vision from over 25 years ago is still referred to today." (Lynda Waggoner, Vice President, Western Pennsylvania Conservancy)*

Redevelopment Authority of the County of Fayette, Pennsylvania (1978-1983): For five years Norman was the professional consultant to this western Pennsylvania redevelopment authority. His activity focused on redevelopment projects in small former coal-mining communities, where coal-company-owned housing was being purchased and rehabilitated for owner occupancy, using federal and state funding sources.

*"Norm Tyler served a specially important part in revitalizing areas of the County." (Jean Sickel, former Deputy Director, Redevelopment Authority of the County of Fayette, Pennsylvania)*



*On cover of book on Peace Corps*

Consultant for prototype housing and site planning, Williamson, West Virginia (1979): Williamson had suffered from repeated devastation from flooding. Norman directed construction of a demonstration housing unit he designed for steep slopes, utilizing a Clivus Multrum waste system.

**Peace Corps and VISTA volunteer:** Early in his career Norman served as a community development volunteer in the U.S. and overseas. This volunteer work influenced his future career decisions.

He served as a Peace Corps volunteer for two years in Sierra Leone, West Africa (1964 to 1966). He coordinated a post-colonial development program in Kenema Province, including the development and construction of three village schools, a health center, a new cattle scale for micro-scale economic development, and a community water supply system. He also supervised a rural development training program to carry the program forward. (He is shown on the cover of a book written about the Peace Corps.)



*As a VISTA community development volunteer in Baltimore*

As a VISTA volunteer in the City of Baltimore, Norman and his wife, Ilene, staffed the Neighborhood Design Center (NDC), an advocacy office coordinating volunteer participation of planning and architect practitioners in underserved neighborhoods. NDC grew rapidly in its initial years (1970 to 1972) and he was actively involved in community outreach efforts and the organization's coordination with work of the Baltimore City Planning Department. The organization still provides volunteer professional expertise to local communities in need, and although living in a distant state, Norm retains his membership with the organization.

Norman was a recruiter for the Peace Corps and VISTA programs from 1972 to 1973. He visited university campuses throughout the Midwest, giving presentations and speaking individually with interested students. He also served as a Peace Corps trainer for a rural development program in Sierra Leone.

## Early Public Projects



*Planner and architect for public housing project, Masontown, Pennsylvania*

1988: Oberlin College Humanities Youth Project: national residency program in Planning/Architecture for high school students

1983: Documentation of the Hagan House, Chalk Hill, Pennsylvania, Frank Lloyd Wright, Architect.

1982-1983: Board of Directors: Fayette-Westmoreland Counties, Pennsylvania, Historical Society

1976: President, Uniontown Art Club, Uniontown, Pennsylvania.

1975: Planner/Architecture, Masontown Public Housing Project, Masontown, Pennsylvania

1975: Housing Task Force, Uniontown, Pennsylvania.

1974 – 1975: Speaker for Laurel Highlands ALERT, Fayette County, Pennsylvania (organization opposed to construction of a nuclear power facility).



*Climbing Mt. Kilimanjaro*

## Other Personal Accomplishments

1991: Climbed Mt. Kilimanjaro, Tanzania, West Africa.

1975–1983: Hand-built his own house/workshop/office complex.

## Travel:

Most of the United States and Canada

England, France, Italy, Germany, Spain, Greece, Switzerland

Equador, Costa Rica

Sierra Leone, Ghana, Nigeria, Cameroon, West Africa