Sliding down waterfalls with Fijian convicts from the local correctional facility (they were nice).

Hiking a mountain in my polygamist homestay dad’s backyard in rural South Africa (ya, I went ~abroad~).

Falling off a motorbike in Thailand and having the nurse write the instructions for my meds from Google Translate.

RISKY BEHAVIOUR & OUTDATED SAFETY SYSTEMS DRIVE HIGHER COSTS

Humans make mistakes, and many organizations still lack the technology to effectively manage student travel health and safety.

Current travel-tracking solutions are antiquated and ineffective in youth travel. To the extent an institution or organization has the foresight and maturity to offer products and services like emergency contact cards or check-in apps, students are overwhelmingly unaware or disengaged. The schools own the risk but are flying blind. In fact, nearly 70% of students do not report their side-trips and/or their independent off-campus travel while on school-sponsored programs. The information gap is bad for everyone. Students need safety and security services, but don’t voluntarily adopt them, even when available or made mandatory. Social connections, adventure, and budget drive student travel behaviors. Safety and security are after-thoughts or “no-thoughts”—third on their totem pole of travel anxieties.

When something goes wrong, the school is exposed not only to incident-related loss and expense, but disproportionately harm to reputation, and to strategic objectives to promote wide use of study abroad options. Additionally, insurance providers annually spend billions to figure out vital travel data on the traveler’s journey for claims processing and policy creation. Our goal at OffWeGo is to help mitigate these circumstances, and provide more insight into the student experience so that their above stakeholders can better manage their travels, reducing costs and saving time.
GAMIFIED RISK MANAGEMENT

The first student-centric travel risk management platform for higher education and travel insurers alike. OffWeGo is a mobile-first platform that transforms needed student safety behaviors from “have to do it” to “want to do it,” by applying social interaction, comparison, and proven gamification principles.

Our Solution

GAMIFIED RISK MANAGEMENT

Find Travel Companions
Peer-Reviewed Travel Recommendations
Risk Modeling Algorithms
Executive-Level Travel Assistance

FOR ADMINS

By incentivizing the students to submit the required travel data, we automatically aggregate students’ travel data and send it to the appropriate administrator, so they can better keep track of their students, and make informed policies accordingly, aiding in the Duty of Care of the institution and/or organization.

Through our partnerships with travel assistance and insurance providers, students are automatically enrolled in our assistance program, receiving access to features such as intelligence services (safety text/email alerts), destination briefings, on-call & on-ground support, and evacuation for various scenarios, depending on the risk tolerance and subscription tier of the organization. We then synthesize aggregate, permissioned traveler data to aid policy creation and claims processing for insurance providers, hopefully resulting in lower premiums for students.

FOR STUDENTS

Students are able to see and meet other travelers going to the same place at the same time. We’ve created a unique, safe place where international students can share information such as their favorite cafes, restaurants, museums, etc., alongside safety tips such as, “Avoid this area of Amsterdam: 10 girls in my program have been harassed at [insert bar];” invaluable information that normally is shared by word-of-mouth, by happenstance, or all too often, not at all.

Drawing on the Octalysis Framework, we incentivize students to submit key travel data through a social network of their peers. We track not only quantitative data such as geolocation, frequency of trips, etc., but also qualitative psychographic data on their mental and physical wellbeing, travel attitudes, and the type of traveler they are.