

# Logistics Note

## Final Resilient Food Systems Knowledge Exchange and Learning Workshop 20 - 23 September 2022 Blantyre, Malawi

### Key documents



Additional information on the [Resilient Food Systems Programme](#) (RFS) can be found on our website. A dedicated [event page](#) has been created and will be updated with presentations and other relevant resources as they become available. In the meantime, you can check the [latest draft of the workshop agenda](#) (this will be updated as needed until the event).

### Visa

Participants are advised to check early on whether they need a visa to enter Malawi at <https://www.evisa.gov.mw/>. The RFS Programme Coordination Unit (PCU), through CIFOR-ICRAF, can assist in the application process for the Malawi e-Visa. Should you require such support, please let us know before **September 06<sup>th</sup>** by writing to the PCU ([GEFIAPFS.PCU@cgiar.org](mailto:GEFIAPFS.PCU@cgiar.org)) and attaching a scanned copy of the bio-data page(s) of your passport.

### COVID-19 & Travel restrictions

As per the [Press Statement](#) issued by the Government of Malawi on 09 June 2022:

- *“All incoming travellers, including Malawians, that are fully vaccinated and have an electronically verifiable COVID-19 vaccination certificate are no longer required to produce a COVID-19 PCR certificate prior to entering the country.*
- *All incoming travellers, including Malawians, that are not fully vaccinated or don't have an electronically verifiable COVID-19 full vaccination certificate are required to produce a negative PCR based COVID-19 certificate that is not older than 72 hours at the time of arrival in the country.”*

For the latest information on the COVID-19 situation in the country, please check the [Malawi Ministry of Health Facebook page](#).

Wearing face masks is mandatory across most places in the country, including in the hotel. Please bring your own supplies.

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Yellow fever vaccination certificate is required for travellers arriving from countries with risk of yellow fever transmission and for travellers having transited more than 12 hours through the airport of a country with risk of yellow fever transmission.

All participants are advised to travel with hardcopies of their invitation letters, e-Visa and vaccination certificates (where applicable), as well as this logistics note, which also contains emergency contacts (see last page of this note).

## Airport transfers from / to Chileka International Airport (BLZ / Blantyre)

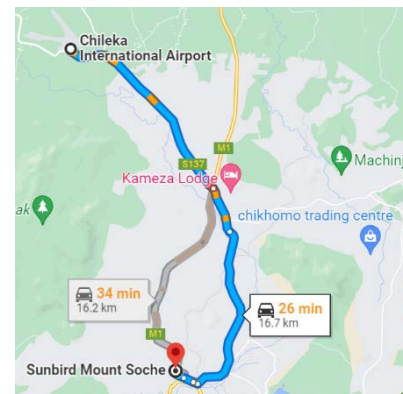
Airport transfers in Blantyre will be organized through the Sunbird Mount Soche Hotel to all participants sponsored by CIFOR-ICRAF, according to their flight itineraries. Self-sponsored participants can directly arrange for this service with the hotel management, at a cost of USD 20 (approximately MKW 26,000) per transfer – see hotel contact details below. In this case, when exiting from BLZ upon your arrival in Blantyre, you will be greeted by a driver from the Sunbird Mount Soche Hotel, who will take you to the hotel.

Each journey between the airport and the hotel is expected to last approximately 30 – 40 minutes.

In the unlikely event that no one is there to pick you up, or if for any reason you missed your flight or changed your itinerary without informing the hotel or the organizers, kindly call:

- Sunbird Mount Soche Hotel: main reception (+265 1 820 588), Dorica (+265 888 965 192) or Thokozile (+265 888 965 235).
- CIFOR-ICRAF Malawi office: Mercy Chirwa (+265 999 120 886).

The departure schedules will be available at the hotel reception.



## Venue (and suggested accommodation)

The workshop will be held at the [Sunbird Mount Soche Hotel](#) in Blantyre, Malawi.

### Sunbird Mount Soche Hotel

P.O. Box 376  
Blantyre  
Malawi  
T: +265 1 820 588



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All participants are encouraged to stay at the Sunbird Mount Soche Hotel, which has enough capacity to host all guests. Preliminary block bookings were made for dozens of rooms.

Self-sponsored participants: to book your stay at Sunbird Mount Soche Hotel, please write to the hotel management at [mountsocheres@sunbirdmalawi.com](mailto:mountsocheres@sunbirdmalawi.com), copying [dorica@sunbirdmalawi.com](mailto:dorica@sunbirdmalawi.com), [thoko@sunbirdmalawi.com](mailto:thoko@sunbirdmalawi.com), and [aisinternational@gmail.com](mailto:aisinternational@gmail.com), mentioning you are attending the ICRAF Workshop. Guests can also contact the hotel management by phone through Dorica (+265 888 965 192) or Thokozile (+265 888 965 235).

Negotiated daily rate for deluxe single rooms (bed & breakfast): MKW 112,640 (approximately USD 110), including taxes.

Airport transfer rate: USD 20 (approximately MKW 26,000) per journey.

Guests with special needs, such as for mobility support or specific diets, are advised to inform the hotel management and the PCU team accordingly.

## Registration



All invitees are expected to have filled out the [Registration form](#) online well in advance of the workshop.

Participants are kindly requested to collect their badges and workshop materials, including the updated agenda, between 08:30 and 09:00 on Tuesday, September 20<sup>th</sup>, from the registration desk outside the main meeting room.

## Interpretation

Professional simultaneous interpretation (English – French) will be provided throughout the workshop, as well as during the field trip (including Chichewa – English/French).

## Wi-Fi



The hotel offers free Wi-Fi connection, including at the meeting rooms. For instructions and ICT support, please contact the main reception.

## Catering

Tea, coffee and snacks will be served during morning and afternoon breaks. Buffet lunches will be served on September 20<sup>th</sup>; 21<sup>st</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> at the hotel restaurant. Lunch boxes with light meals will be provided for the field trip day (22<sup>nd</sup>).

Tap water is not considered safe for drinking. Bottled water is recommended.

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## Field Trip (September 22<sup>nd</sup>)

Three parallel groups will visit different sites and realities in the context of the RFS Malawi project, the Enhancing the Resilience of Agro-ecological Systems Project (ERASP). Itinerary details can be found at the workshop agenda. All buses will depart from the hotel at 07:30.



## Other useful information

Additional information and general travel tips (on local climate, food, currency, health and safety, power plugs, etc.) can be found on the following websites:

- <https://www.visitmalawi.mw/> [Official Malawi Tourism Web Portal]
- <https://www.malawitourism.com/>

## Contacts



The Programme Coordination Unit is at your disposal for any queries you may have. You can contact us at [GEFIAPFS.PCU@cgiar.org](mailto:GEFIAPFS.PCU@cgiar.org). A registration / support desk will also be available outside the main meeting room. **For emergencies**, you can contact:

- CIFOR-ICRAF: Mercy Chirwa (+265 999 120 886), Ann Mbutia (+254 725 314064), or Anne Omollo (+254 716 088966).
- Sunbird Mount Soche Hotel: main reception (+265 1 820 588), Dorica (+265 888 965 192) or Thokozile (+265 888 965 235).
- RFS Malawi Project team: Martha Lungu (+265 999 37 62 19), Tsilizani Mseu (+265 999 94 96 23) or Munday Makoko (+ 265 99 158 72 59).