



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



• ICTP - East African Institute
• for Fundamental Research
• under the auspices of UNESCO

GENERAL INFORMATION FOR PARTICIPANTS TRAVELING TO RWANDA

Welcome to the **"School on Subseasonal to Seasonal Weather and Climate Prediction"**, jointly organized by the Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP), the East African Institute for Fundamental Research (EAIFR), and the University of Rwanda. The ICTP school will include daily lectures on reanalysis, subseasonal to seasonal forecasting, and predictability, including lectures on ENSO-driven variability and teleconnections. Each afternoon will be spent carrying out hands-on exercises using state-of-the-art products now available on the Copernicus climate data store hosted at ECMWF. These exercises will demonstrate how to access files through python scripts or perform analysis directly at ECMWF using the python-based toolbox. The aim would be to assess some aspect of the seasonal forecast skill in a participants' projects during the ICTP school. The dates for the school are: 29/April – 03/May, 2019.

Updated program for the school can be found at: eaifr.org

Important general information about your travel and stay in Rwanda including the emergency contact details is provided here. Kindly read it with the utmost care. The country dialing code for Rwanda is +250.

WORKSHOP VENUE

The Workshop will be held here in Kigali at the ICTP-EAIFR premises (former "KIST2" Building) of the College of Science and Technology at the Nyarugenge Campus of the University of Rwanda.

ACCOMMODATION

Participants supported by ICTP-EAIFR will be accommodated at the hotel given below. Airport pick up and drop off will be provided as well as transportation between the hotel and the workshop venue.

NOBLEZA HOTEL, 5 KG 680 Street, Kigali, Rwanda

Tel: +250 [786 103 713](tel:786103713)

(<https://www.booking.com/hotel/rw/nobleza.en-gb.html>)

ICTP-EAIFR, KIST2 Building, Nyarugenge Campus, University of Rwanda, Kigali, Rwanda

www.eaifr.org * info@eaifr.org

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CONTACT DETAILS OF LOCAL ORGANIZERS

Name	Tel	Email
Dr. Bonfils Safari	+250-788-508-669	bonfilssafari@gmail.com
Dr. O. Akin-Ojo	+250-787-266-585	info@eaifr.org

EMERGENCIES

Rwandan National Police	112
Fire Brigade	111
Traffic Accidents	113
Ambulance (only in Kigali)	912 or +250788 622 524

ABOUT KIGALI

Peacefully nestled along picturesque hilltops, Kigali is a thriving African city recognized worldwide for its cleanliness, orderliness, and hospitality. It is a great place to begin and/or end any Rwandan journey as it is conveniently located in the geographic centre of the country. The city is clean and safe, with extremely welcoming people. Travelers do enjoy exploring the great cultural activities – including several award-winning museums, burgeoning music scene, and some of East Africa’s most memorable dining experiences. (From: <http://rwandatourism.com/destinations/kigali-city/>)

WEATHER AND CLIMATE IN RWANDA

For weather updates in Kigali, Rwanda, please visit:

<https://www.timeanddate.com/weather/rwanda/kigali/hourly>

It might be a little cold in the evening and we would therefore recommend that you bring along a sweater.

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VISAS

If you require a visa to enter Rwanda, you can obtain it on arrival at the airport. It costs \$30. Citizens of certain countries are exempt from paying; see <https://irembo.gov.rw/rolportal/web/dgie/single-entry-visa>

ELECTRICITY

The AC voltage used Rwanda is 220 -- 240 volts, with frequency of 50Hz. Two-pin plugs are common in Rwanda – similar to the two-pin plugs in Europe.

TIME ZONE

Rwanda is in the Central African Time (CAT) zone, which is UTC+2.

TRANSPORTATION

Airport transfers are being arranged for visitors subsidized by ICTP/ EAIFR (upon receipt of their exact flight schedule). For your personal business, please only use licensed/metered taxis. Generally, transport in Kigali is easy and accessible. A taxi ride from the airport to most places in Kigali costs 10,000 to 15,000 Rwandan Francs (RWF), equivalent of \$12 -\$18. Depending on the distance, taxi rides within the city range from 3,000 to 10,000 RWF (\$4-\$12).

MONEY

You can exchange money at foreign exchange bureaus, either at the airport or at banks in Kigali. However, using banks might take a little longer than an exchange bureau.

Most banks are open from 08.00 am – 6.00 pm on weekdays (Monday to Friday) and on Saturday 8.00am to 1.00 pm; on Sundays 10.00 am to 6.00 pm. On the Umuganda Day (last Saturday of every month) banks in Kigali open from 2.00 to 6.00 pm. Credit cards are accepted at most supermarkets, restaurants and hotels in Kigali. In rural areas, vendors would generally feel comfortable only with money in Rwanda Francs. Most banks in East Africa have difficulty accepting MasterCard. In Kigali, Ecobank and Access Bank accept MasterCard withdrawals at a price. (<https://kabiza.com/kabiza-wilderness-safaris/rwanda-money-information-for-tourists-visitors/>)

EXCHANGE RATE

Exchange rates may vary from bank to bank and also between exchange bureaus according to their location. However, the rate will not differ greatly from the National Bank of Rwanda (BNR) rate. As posted on 23 April 2019 at 12:00 am on NBR, here are the rates for USD, Euros, and GB Pound Sterling.

Currency	Average	Buying	Selling
USD	890.968826	882.148235	899.789417
EURO	1,002.117187	992.196227	1,012.038147
GBP	1,156.744827	1,145.293053	1,168.196601

For more currencies, please visit (<https://www.bnr.rw/index.php?id=23>)

ATM MACHINES

ATM machines are available at nearly every bank, at the airport, and on campus at the workshop venue. You can use both Visa and Mastercard as well as credit and debit cards, which can make life a lot easier over carrying a lot of cash with you. But it is always useful to carry some extra USD or Euros in Cash as backup, just in case. ([https://www.tripadvisor.com/ShowTopic-g293829-i9988-k9063556-Bank ATM s in Kigali-Kigali Kigali Province.html](https://www.tripadvisor.com/ShowTopic-g293829-i9988-k9063556-Bank_ATM_s_in_Kigali-Kigali_Kigali_Province.html))

HEALTH AND RECOMMENDATIONS (IMMUNIZATION AND VACCINATION)

Malaria

Rwanda has a tropical climate – it receives rainfall most of the year and hence has mosquitoes.

We strongly suggest that you see your doctor about malaria precautions.

For information on vaccinations necessary before travelling to Rwanda, follow the link below:

<http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/traveler/none/rwanda>

Yellow Fever

A Yellow Fever vaccination certificate is required for travellers 1 year of age and older coming from a **country with risk of Yellow Fever transmission**. For a list of concerned countries, please follow the link below. The certificate is valid from 10 days after the vaccination

(<https://www.iamat.org/country/rwanda/risk/yellow-fever#riskcountries>).

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Ebola outbreak

Rwanda is monitoring all travels to Rwanda with regards to the recent [Ebola outbreak in DRC](http://www.who.int/ebola/en/) (<http://www.who.int/ebola/en/>). At the moment, we have not heard of any Ebola cases in the country. Nevertheless, the Rwandan government has put in place screening procedures for Ebola at all entry points including land borders and airports.

We wish you a good stay in Rwanda and we hope you will learn a lot from this workshop as well as contribute to the programme.

The Organizing Committee.

Updated Workshop Programme can be found at: eaifr.org

More information can be found online, for example, at:

<http://www.rcb.rw/practical-information-2/>

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