

TERMS OF REFERENCE

SESSION HOSTS – Sustainable Entrepreneurship and Livelihoods Summit- SELS 2025.

1. BACKGROUND TO SELS 2025

The Sustainable Entrepreneurship and Livelihoods Summit- SELS 2025 - an initiative by Emerge Livelihoods under the Emerge4Biz flagship program in collaboration with the Empowering Sustainable Entrepreneurship in Africa initiative supported by Village Capital and NORAD will gather key stakeholders across the sustainable entrepreneurship ecosystem in Malawi and beyond under the theme “Strengthening the MSME ecosystem in Malawi and Beyond”

The Sustainable Entrepreneurship and Livelihoods Summit- SELS 2025 will provide opportunities for key players in sustainable entrepreneurship through mutual learning, co-creation, networking, creating new narratives and breaking barriers to socio-economic and environmental transformation across Malawi and beyond. The SELS 2025 will focus on solution driven entrepreneurship and innovations enhancing the positive impact across Malawi and beyond. The core value of SELS2025 is centered on creating new knowledge, shaping the narrative around sustainable entrepreneurship and livelihoods development, co-creating new solutions, connecting key actors across multi sectors and building new communities towards enabling a thriving ecosystem for MSMEs to thrive.

SELS2025 will provide a platform to discuss the role of enterprise support organisations in fostering inclusive growth, poverty reduction and addressing key challenges across communities such as unemployment, lack of opportunities, limited access to financing, climate change and environmental sustainability.

SELS2025 will showcase how sustainable entrepreneurship and livelihood development contributes to the Malawi2063, African Union Agenda 2063 and United Nations SDGs.

The SELS 2025 will take place on the **27th to 29th August 2025 in Lilongwe** under the theme **“Strengthening the MSME ecosystem in Malawi and Beyond”**

SELS 2025 is a flagship event hosted by Emerge Livelihoods under the Emerge4Biz flagship program implemented through the “Empowering Sustainable Entrepreneurship in Africa – ESEA” initiative co-delivered in collaboration with Village Capital and NORAD.

2. OBJECTIVES FOR FACILITATION

- To foster collaborative learning and knowledge sharing through active engagement and co-creation amongst the SELS 2025 participants
- To drive solution-oriented dialogue through guided discussions and leading to innovative and solution-driven approaches that align with SELS 2025 agenda
- To shape and promote new narratives around sustainable entrepreneurship and livelihoods development by amplifying socio-economic and environmental transformation.

3. SCOPE OF WORK

The scope of work for the session hosts will center around:

3.1. Session design and preparation

- The session host will prepare session materials, including presentations, discussion guides, case studies, or interactive tools, to foster engaging and solution-oriented dialogue.

3.2. Facilitation and Delivery

- The session host will facilitate discussions that encourage learning, co-creation and networking among diverse stakeholders, including MSMEs, enterprise support organizations, policymakers and innovators.

4. **METHOD OF DELIVERY**

- Multisectoral breakout sessions
- Masterclasses
- Networking
- High level panel discussions
- Plenary sessions

5. **DELIVERABLES**

- Detailed session plan and materials
- Successful facilitation of assigned session(s) during SELS 2025
- Session summary or feedback report
- Active participation in networking events and contribution to summit documentation

6. **TIMELINES**

- The session host will be expected to dedicate approximately 4 hours of pre-summit preparations
- The session host will be expected to deliver approximately 2-4 hours of session delivery based on number of themes allocated.
- The session host will be expected to attend at least a day of the SELS 2025

7. **WHO ARE WE LOOKING FOR:**

Emerge Livelihoods would like to collaborate with individuals and organisations as session hosts at the **“Sustainable Entrepreneurship and Livelihoods Summit- SELS 2025.”**

As session hosts, SELS2025 will provide you the platform to co-deliver impactful masterclasses, panel discussions and breakout sessions across the below subthemes:

- Climate adaptation, resilience and sustainability

- Agriculture and Food Security
- Climate Financing and funding models
- Renewable Energy
- Gender Equality and Social Inclusion-GESI
- Data and Technology for greater social impact
- Social entrepreneurship in TEVET/Higher Learning

8. APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

a) Expression of Interest (EOI)

A 1-page cover letter outlining:

- Your motivation to host a session at SELS 2025.
- Which subtheme(s) you wish to address.
- Relevant expertise or experience (e.g., past facilitation, subject-matter knowledge).

b) Proposed Session Outline

1-2 pages summary including:

- Session title and format (e.g., panel, masterclass, breakout).
- 3-5 key learning objectives for participants.
- Interactive tools/methods you'll use (e.g., case studies, group activities).

c) Supporting Documents

- CV or organizational profile (max 2 pages).

9. SUBMISSION PROCESS

Email all materials to events@emergelivelihoods.org with the subject line: **Application for SELS 2025 Session Host – (Your Name/Organization).**

Deadline for the application is **15th August 2025.**

10. SELECTION CRITERIA

Applications will be evaluated based on:

- Relevance of expertise to the subtheme(s).
- Innovation in proposed session design.
- Demonstrated facilitation experience.
- Alignment with SELS 2025 objectives.

ABOUT EMERGE LIVELIHOODS

Emerge Livelihoods mission is to foster socio-economic growth for communities through transformative solutions, leveraging technology and innovation, promoting inclusivity and collaboration. EmERGE Livelihoods envisions a thriving ecosystem that amplifies the self-reliance of individuals and communities across Malawi and beyond.

Since inception in 2017, EmERGE Livelihoods has dedicated towards developing and refining innovative and holistic approaches for human capital development through leadership development, education and training; micro, small and medium enterprise (MSME) development, capital investment facilitation, productivity enhancement, technology and innovation spaces that bring together communities to bring impact ideas to life.

Emerge Livelihoods model incorporates leveraging social capital and technology for inclusive economic growth and prosperity playing a crucial role across six main sectors – transformative education, inclusive digital transformation, sustainable entrepreneurship and livelihoods development, environment and natural resources management, gender equality and social inclusion (GESI) enabling individuals and communities across Malawi and beyond to become leaders and entrepreneurs, creating sustainable livelihoods, protecting the surrounding environment and powering a thriving future for themselves and their households.

Emerge Livelihoods currently operates in Malawi, Southern Africa headquartered in Mzuzu City with a network of community impact hubs known as EmERGE Hubs across diverse districts – Mzimba, Nkhatabay, Kasungu, Lilongwe and Ntcheu.