



LILONGWE UNIVERSITY
OF AGRICULTURE & NATURAL
RESOURCES (LUANAR)

Knowledge | Innovation | Excellence



NUMBER 1
UNIVERSITY
IN MALAWI

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Ranked by
THE Times
Higher
Education

Call for Papers

**2025-2026 LUANAR
Working Paper Series**
Technical Working Paper Series

A. INTRODUCTION

The inaugural working papers series, hosted jointly by the Centres for Agricultural Research and Development (CARD), Agricultural Policy Analysis (APA), AquaFish, Transformative Agricultural Commercialization and Entrepreneurship (TACE), Programme Coordination Office (PCO), and the Directorate of Research and Outreach (DRO), seeks submissions of original Working Research Papers in line with the Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources (LUANAR) Research Agenda.

A Working Paper is either a review, a rapid or a comprehensive, technical or scientific report, including an empirical or modeling analysis or a discussion paper. Accepted Working Papers will be open-access publications issued on the [LUANAR Website](#) dedicated to disseminating research to interested policymakers, academia, the scientific community, and the broader audience.

B. AIM & SCOPE

LUANAR Working Paper Series welcomes submissions from faculty members, visiting research fellows, guest researchers, post-doctoral fellows, research associates, policy professionals, and postgraduate students. LUANAR Working Papers typically works in progress, shared to stimulate public discussion and debate to receive feedback on the ongoing research.

The Working Paper series aims to strengthen the connection between policy, research, and practice in agriculture, rural development, human nutrition and health, food security, climate change, and environmental and natural resource management.

Accepted papers should align with one or more of the broad research thematic areas outlined in Malawi Vision 2063, the National Research Agenda, and the LUANAR Strategic Plan:

1. Agricultural Production and Productivity
2. Agricultural Commercialization, Agro-processing and Value Chain
3. Agri-Food Systems and Transformation, including food security
4. Natural Resource Management, Energy and Climate Change
5. Resilience, Gender, and Social Inclusion

Specific research working papers can tackle the following issues: i) Applied Data Sciences and Innovations, ii) Agricultural and Irrigation Engineering, iii) Agribusiness Management, iv) Agricultural and Applied Economics, v) Agricultural Extension and Rural Innovations, vi) Agricultural Education and Development Communication, vii) Aquaculture and Fisheries Sciences, viii) Animal Science and Health, ix) Biotechnology, x) Crop and Soil Science, including Abiotic and biotic stresses physiology, organic farming, and crop protection xi) Environmental Science, xii) Sustainable Development, Climate Change, and Disaster Risk Management, xiii) Food Science and Technology, xiv) Forestry, xv) Gender and development, xvi) Horticultural Science and Innovations, xvii) Human Nutrition and Health, xviii) Human Ecology, xx) Land and Water Resources, xxi) Veterinary Pathology, Clinic Studies, Epidemiology, Public Health and Biomedical Sciences, and xxii) Wildlife and Eco-tourism

We encourage all authors to ensure that pre-publishing their research as a LUANAR working paper will not compromise their chances of publishing in peer reviewed journals.

C. PAPER SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

The LUANAR Working Paper Series will publish papers from diverse fields. Hence, the exact structure and allocation of sections are at the author's discretion.

However, each submitted working paper must contain a clear statement of the research question and goals, conceptual and analytical frameworks, a description of the method and data, a narrative explanatory to an author's argument or proposed evidence, an analysis of results, and policy implications.

As authors prepare their manuscript, the following requirements should be adhered to:

- Submit the Working Paper in **Microsoft Word** Format. Please use **Microsoft JhengHei Font Size 12**, and it should be **double-spaced**.
- The Working paper should be between **5,000 and 10,000 words**. The editorial team will reject any paper with over 10,000 words.
- Papers must include 250-300 words or less abstract describing the research question, methods, findings, and key take-home messages. Authors should write abstracts in a manner that non-

experts can easily understand.

- Papers must include between 3 and 5 **keywords** for indexing.
- Submissions should include **Authors' contact details** and LUANAR Departmental Affiliation or any affiliates. Any Working Paper should have at least one co-author from one of the LUANAR Departments.
- Authors should insert graphs or tables, if used, inside the document where they are required. Graphs and Tables should be saved as images and inserted into the Word document.
- Please use American Psychological Association (APA) referencing.

Please submit a written Working Paper, **by midnight of February 20, 2025**, to the editor at workingpapers@luanar.ac.mw and copy card@luanar.ac.mw and dro@luanar.ac.mw

D. PEER REVIEW PROCESS

The editorial board and peer reviewers will assess all submissions and decide whether a manuscript satisfies the originality requirement for the LUANAR Working Paper Series.

E. PROMOTION CRITERIA

A technical working paper is one way of strengthening the knowledge linkage between the LUANAR Faculty members and the wider community. Hence, this call for working paper series aligns with the University Promotion Criteria (2023) Section 2.3 (Outreach). Faculty members are strongly encouraged to submit their technical working papers to this series to enhance both academic visibility and community engagement.

F. EDITORIAL BOARD

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