

Skopje, North Macedonia

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

VENUE

The GCF Regional Dialogue with Eastern Europe and Central Asia will be held from 18 to 22 March 2024 at the Limak Hotel in Skopje, North Macedonia.



Please note the location of the Limak hotel on Google Maps at the <u>following link</u>.

VISA

Visa

All registrations received for the event will be reviewed by the GCF, and a confirmation of registration will be issued. Along with the confirmation of registration from the GCF, participants will also receive a questionnaire from the North Macedonian authorities, which aims to inform further steps in those cases where a visa for North Macedonia is required. All participants requiring a visa will then receive a letter from the NDA of North Macedonia to facilitate visa issuance at the Diplomatic Missions and Consular Posts of Republic of North Macedonia.

Please note the following provisions as relates to visa exceptions:

- Nationals of EU Member States and signatories of the Schengen Agreement DO NOT need a visa to enter the Republic of North Macedonia (and are eligible to enter the Republic of North Macedonia with a valid national identity card).
- Third-country nationals with temporary residence in an EU Member State or a country signatory of the Schengen Agreement may stay no longer than 15 (fifteen) days upon every entry into the territory of the Republic of North Macedonia as long as the total length of stay does not exceed 90 days in any 180-day period.
- Third-country nationals with permanent residence in an EU Member State or a country signatory of the Schengen Agreement may stay no longer than 15 (fifteen) days upon every entry into the territory of the Republic of North Macedonia as long as the total length of stay does not exceed 90 days in any 180-day period.
- Third-country nationals with multiple-entry Schengen visa (type C) valid for at least 5 (five) days beyond the intended stay in the Republic of North Macedonia may stay no longer than 15 (fifteen) days upon every entry into the territory of the Republic of North Macedonia as long as the total length of stay does not exceed 90 days in any 180-day period.
- All foreign nationals who are holders of valid USA, UK-British, and Canadian visas, with multiple entries can enter the Republic of North Macedonia without requiring a short-stay (visa C) issued from the Republic of North Macedonia. The length of the stay at one entrance should not exceed 15 (fifteen) days, while the duration and the validity of the USA, British, and Canadian visa should be 5 (five) days longer than the planned stay in the Republic of North Macedonia. This decision is of a temporary character and shall be in force from 1 January 2024 to 31 December 2024.



Transit Visas

Please note that arranging any required transit visas is a responsibility of the participant. Letters of invitation issued by the Secretariat may be used in support of visa applications, including for transit visas.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR SPONSORED PARTICIPANTS

Sponsored participants will be provided with flight tickets, hotel accommodation and a daily subsistence allowance (DSA) for the duration of their stay in line with the GCF travel policy. The DSA shall be paid to the eligible participants by cash on site.

Information regarding the accommodation arrangements for sponsored participants will be circulated separately.

The Secretariat kindly requests participants to avoid sharing accommodation to minimize the risk of COVID transmission.

ARRIVAL INTO NORTH MACEDONIA

Participants will arrive at the Skopje International airport. Further information about the airport is available at <u>https://skp.airports.com.mk</u>.

Taxi journey between the airport and the city shall take around 30 minutes and cost 1500MKD/25Euro. Official taxis are available outside of the arrivals hall. It is also possible to take a bus from the airport (<u>schedule available at this link</u>). The ticket costs 199MKD (approx. 3.5 Euro). The nearest stop to hotel Limak is hotel Holyday Inn (10 min walk).

No COVID-19 vaccination certificate or test results are currently required from visitors, regardless of their age or nationality.

COVID-19 MEASURES

In consideration of health and safety, we recommend all participants to be mindful of the following:

- **Wearing a face mask**. While it is no longer a requirement, participants may wish to consider wearing face masks, at their own preference.
- **Maintaining physical distance**. As a preventative measure, participants are advised to maintain social distancing during the event, whenever possible.
- **Good personal hygiene**. It is recommended for participants to use a personal hand sanitizer.

Symptomatic or positive COVID Cases

If at any point a participant experiences COVID symptoms (or symptoms similar to that), even if only mild, they are advised to stay in their accommodation and contact local health authorities for guidance – the first point of contact should be your accommodation provider. Please refrain from attending the event in such a case.

MISCELLANEOUS



Time Difference

North Macedonia is in the Central European Standard Time zone (CET/GMT+1).

Weather

The climate of the country is of continental type. The weather in March is expected to be humid and cool, with an average daytime temperature of 11° C.

Currency

The unit of currency is Macedonian Denar (MKD). The current exchange rate is approximately 61.5 MKD to 1 Euro.

Electricity

In North Macedonia the standard voltage is 220 V and the frequency is 50 Hz. Standard European power plug sockets of type F are in use.

Insurance

The organizers cannot accept liability for personal accident, loss, or damage to private property, which may be incurred as a result of participation in the events. Participants are advised to arrange appropriate insurance coverage prior to their travel.

Emergency phone numbers

Police, ambulance, fire – 112

Visiting North Macedonia

For information regarding tourist attractions in North Macedonia, please visit <u>https://macedonia-timeless.com/eng</u>

DRESS CODE

The dress code for the event is smart casual.

EVENT CONTACT

With any queries for information not covered in this document, please contact the GCF events team at <u>GCF-events@gcfund.org</u>.