

UN-REDD PROGRAMME



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



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Responsible leaders.



15th UN-REDD Programme Policy Board meeting San Jose, Costa Rica 7-10 November 2015

VISA REQUIREMENTS FOR COSTA RICA

Citizens from the following countries do not need a visa to Costa Rica for up to 90 days:

Australia	Luxembourg
Austria	Mexico
Argentina	New Zealand
Belgium	Netherlands
Bolivia	Norway
Brazil	Panama
Bulgaria	Paraguay
Canada	Philippines
Chile	Poland
Croatia	Portugal
Czech Republic	Romania
Denmark	Russian Federation
Dominica	Singapore
El Salvador	Slovakia
Fiji	Slovenia
Finland	Spain
France	Solomon Islands
Germany	South Africa
Greece	Suriname
Guatemala	Sweden
Guyana	Switzerland
Honduras	Turkey
Hungary	United Kingdom
Ireland	United States
Iceland	Uruguay
Israel	Vanuatu
Italy	Venezuela
Japan	

Passports must be valid beyond six months from date of arrival in Costa Rica.

All other countries that are not listed above must obtain a visa prior to entry to Costa Rica and should be obtained from a Costa Rica Embassy or Consulate prior to travel.

Participants who hold regular passports and do not have a Costa Rica Embassy or Consulate in their country of residence must apply for the visa in the nearest country with a consular office (click on this [link to see Costa Rica consular offices around the world.](#))

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Visa Waiver – Exceptions

There are a few exceptions or waiver to the visa application -- they are as follows:

- Individuals who have a multiple entry visa to the United States (type B1 or B2 visa valid for longer than 6 months on date of entry to Costa Rica)
- Individuals who have a multiple entry visa for the Schengen States with six months validity
- Those who have a multiple entry visa to Japan (valid longer than 6 months on date of entry to Costa Rica).

Individuals with any of the above conditions do not need to apply for the visa, regardless of type of passport.

Official or diplomatic and UN Laissez-Passer passport holders

For participants who need a visa, and have an official or diplomatic passport or a UN Laissez-Passer but do not have any of the above conditions for a visa waiver and/or do not have a Costa Rica consulate in their country of residence, the UN country office in Costa Rica will be able to assist in facilitating the issuance of a letter authorization from the Costa Rica Government. For this particular case, the following documents must be submitted to the UN-REDD Secretariat (via email to: policyboard@un-redd.org) before **2 October 2015**:

1. Official letter from the respective Government authorizing the confirmed participant to attend the UN-REDD Policy Board meeting.
2. Invitation letter from the UN-REDD Programme
3. Clear, visible copy of official or diplomatic passport pages
4. Copy of itinerary and/or E-ticket

Procedure for holders of Official or Diplomatic passport

- The Secretariat will compile the above requirements received from participants and will send to the UN country office in Costa Rica on 2 October.
- The UN country office will prepare the letter, endorsing the participants with official, diplomatic or UNLP to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Costa Rica (by 9 October).
- The Ministry of Foreign Affairs will process and will send the visa authorization letter to the UN country office (by 23 October).
- The UN country office will forward a copy of the authorization letter to the Secretariat, who will forward it individually to participants who requested the visa authorization letter (by 30 October).
- Participants who requested must bring a copy of the authorization letter on hand to present to immigration officials upon arrival in Costa Rica. The visa will be stamped on their passport upon arrival.
