# INTRODUCTION TO THE RESEARCH and SELECTION OF PARTICIPANT:

# Hello, my name is *[say your own name]* and I am part of a research team that does research on various topics related to farming and agriculture in Malawi. We are currently conducting a study to understand smallholder maize farmers’ selling behaviour. This study is taking place in the central and northern regions of the country and it involves collecting information about the characteristics and agricultural information of smallholder farmers and their households. As part of the study, we would like to ask some questions, hence, we need to interview the person within your household that makes decisions on maize sales and purchases.

# INFORMED CONSENT:

This is a research conducted by researchers from the Development Strategy and Governance division at the International Food Policy Research Institute and Cornell University in Ithaca, USA with consent from National Commission for Science and Technology (NCST) in Malawi, the district authorities and your village chiefs.

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| **What the participant would be asked to do**  We would like to ask you questions about the maize marketing in this. This interview will take 30 minutes of your time. This study will involve XXX maize growing households.  **Risks and benefits of being in the study**  There are no risks related to participating in this study. There are also no direct benefits by participating in this study. Indirectly, the outcome of this research will inform actors involved in maize farming about technical, institutional and commercial innovations that can lead to transformations that make the maize value chain more efficient and effective.  **Confidentiality**  We will only gather non-sensitive data. Any data that enables one to identify you, such as your name and telephone number will be removed before the data is shared with researchers. The data will only be used for non-profit research purpose. All information collected will be kept under key and lock and on password protected machines.  **Voluntariness**  Participation in this study is completely voluntary. You may, at any stage of the research, choose to discontinue. You may also opt not to respond to certain questions that make you feel uncomfortable. You may also ask for additional information or clarifications about the study, at any point in time. If you decide not to participate, or to discontinue participation, this will not result in a penalty or the loss of any other benefits.  **Contacts and Questions**  The researcher(s) conducting this study are mentioned below. You may ask any questions you have now. If you have any questions later, you may contact them at:  Dr. Bjorn Van Campenhout (international PI)  [b.vancampenhout@cgiar.org](mailto:b.vancampenhout@cgiar.org)  Telephone numbers: +320488147073  Emmanual Hami (local research representative)  [E.Hami@cgiar.org](mailto:E.Hami@cgiar.org)  Telephone numbers: +265884180645  You may also contact IFPRI’s Institutional Review Board (IRB) Chair, Dr. Lieven Huybregts at [L.Huybregts@cgiar.org](mailto:L.Huybregts@cgiar.org#_blank) or [ifpri-irb@cgiar.org](mailto:ifpri-irb@cgiar.org).    **Statement of consent**  I have read the above information or had the above information read to me. I have received answers to the questions I have asked. I consent to participate in this research. I am at least 18+ years of age.  Name of participant: ........................................................................................................................  Signature or thumbprint/mark of participant: ………………………………………………Date: …………........ |