

## **Budget Justification**

(project related funding)

The funds being sought from the Leakey Foundation will cater for a four-week (28 days) fieldwork. Because of the multi-disciplinary nature of the field work and the distance from Nairobi to the research area, one four 4-wheel-drive vehicle will be required (hired) for use by the fossil prospecting team. A 4-wheel-drive lorry to ferry field equipments and items (e.g., food, fuel, etc.) will be provided by the NMK. However, the lorry will require fuel, a spare tire and some minimal maintenance, all of which are reflected in the budget. For all the vehicles, it is estimated that 1 litre of fuel will cover approximately a 4 km journey, and that on average, the hired vehicle will cover at least 30 km a day while in the field. In the course of the field work, the hired vehicle will cover a round-trip of about 250 km to Lodwar town to replenish field supplies. It is projected that at approximately 60 km will have been covered in Nairobi by the two vehicles prior to departure for the field (buying supplies, and running other errands) and upon return from the field (running a number of post-field work errands). All the above explain the need for 1183 litres of fuel.

During the field work, there will be two categories of field assistants, i.e., senior and junior. The senior field assistants (6 in number) will comprise field assistants/soil prospectors and a cook who have over 15 years of experience working in the field, while the junior field assistants (4) will comprise field assistants/fossil prospectors who have worked in the field for less than five years. It is noteworthy that at least 4 of the field assistants were born in the general area of research, and thus the proposed field work will provide some short-term employment to some local people. This number of field assistants is necessary because of the many sites earmarked for investigation.

The costs for lab analysis are as follows, pollen analysis (\$1,000.00), geochemistry (\$750.00), geochronology (\$1,000.00), and petrography (\$500.00). These are based on quotes from various laboratories. The number of samples (x) to be analyzed are estimated based on the proposed research project as described.

Fieldwork extension of two weeks and other costs associated with post-field work will be met by Palaeontologic Scientific Trust (PAST) of South Africa, as part of their pan-African campaign which aims at extending grants to African researchers/scholars from outside South Africa. In sum, a total of US\$9,480 is expected to come from PAST. The funding from the Leakey Foundation and the one expected from PAST will enable a successful completion of the proposed project.

There will be post-field work processing and analysis of the fauna, and this explains the allocation in the budget of funds to engage an assistant (for two months) to help in processing the fauna.

## **Budget Justification**

(Education based funding)

### **Tuition:**

The base tuition of \$ \$52,000.00 is as per the official offer letter from the University of Michigan. This covers the cost of attending classes and accessing university resources. The estimated costs for textbooks and course materials are based on the University of Michigan's website. These items are crucial for academic success and participation in coursework.

### **Food & Lodging:**

A monthly budget of \$400 for groceries is allocated based on the estimated cost of living in Ann Arbor, Michigan. This includes the cost of food, toiletries, and household supplies. The estimated monthly rent of \$1,100 is based on average rental prices for student housing in Ann Arbor. A security deposit of \$1,650 is included. Utilities costs are estimated at \$150 per month, covering expenses such as electricity, heating, water, and internet. A monthly cellular phone plan of \$80 is estimated based on standard Verizon plans. The estimated cost of health and dental insurance is based on the University of Michigan's website. A budget of \$500 is allocated for winter clothing, including a coat, boots, hats, and gloves, as these items are essential for staying warm in the Michigan climate, calculated based on previous student experiences.

### **Travel:**

Airfare: The estimated cost of airfare from Nairobi to Detroit and back is based on current flight prices. The estimated cost of the F1 international student visa is based on government fees from the U.S. Dept. of State.

Other Sources of Funding: While the base tuition is covered by the University of Michigan, I am requesting \$12,068 from your foundation to supplement the remaining costs of my education as detailed above. I have also secured \$67,560 from the University of Michigan to contribute towards my tuition and living expenses.

Sustainability of Funding: The funds from the foundation and the University of Michigan will cover my expenses for the first year of my studies. I am actively exploring additional funding opportunities, such as research assistantships, teaching assistantships, and scholarships, to ensure the sustainability of my funding in future years. I am confident in my ability to secure these additional funds based on my academic performance and involvement in campus activities.

**PLEASE NOTE: As a Francis H. Brown African Scholarship Applicant, you may apply for educational and project related funding. The examples are separated to help you understand the different types of funding available.**