



UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN
IYUNIVESITHI YASEKAPA • UNIVERSITEIT VAN KAAPSTAD

African Climate & Development Initiative

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To
HPS Summer School Planning Committee,

Re: Application for travel subsidy

I hereby submit my request for travel subsidy to attend HPS Summer School in University of Reading scheduled for August 2020. I am a PhD student on scholarship at African Climate Development Institute, University of Cape Town, South Africa. Also, a Meteorologist with Kenya Meteorological Department, but currently on study leave. The allocation for conference/workshop attendance as part of my scholarship has since run out.

This is a result of a 2-month research visit at University of Oxford, one summer school and two conferences attended in 2019. Also, as stipulated for employees on study leave, I do not draw salary from my employer.

My research works seeks to understand the role of anthropogenic climate change in extreme weather events in East Africa, particularly floods and droughts. This work requires use of high-resolution climate models to effectively capture and simulate processes that result in extreme events in East Africa. There exist limited capabilities in application of HPC in weather forecasting and climate prediction in Kenya and the wider Horn of Africa. The largest support of HPC in Africa is currently provided by the Centre for High Performance Computing (CHPC) in Cape Town, South Africa.

Kenya is one of the Square Kilometer Array (SKA) partner countries in an ongoing HPC Ecosystems Project, administered by CHPC, responsible for the distribution and deployment of decommissioned HPC hardware as mid-tier systems to research institutions within Africa. The current focus of the project is to support HPC development in the SKA partner countries across Africa through enabling computational research initiatives and developing human capital in HPC. Kenya Education Network (KENET) is supporting a special interest group, Computational Modeling and Materials Science, by facilitating workshops on the use of HPC resources.

I'm a registered user to both local and international research infrastructure like Jasmin (UK) and the Climate System Analysis Group (CSAG, University of Cape Town) servers etc.

Cost estimate: Air fare from Cape Town, South Africa - Heathrow, United Kingdom - £ 750

Yours Sincerely,
Joyce Kimutai