

To: CDC Administrator

From: Angel Pineda, GRAID Secretary

Re: GRAID continuing funding (Round 1, Year 4, Round 2, Year 3, Round 3 Year 2)

Date: September 29, 2020

Round 1, Year 4

Of the two groups funded in the first round of awards from Morocco and Cameroon only the Cameroon Group continues to have students supported by GRAID. The GRAID committee unanimously approved the continuation of funding for the two Ph.D. students (Keumo Nguenkeng Adriel Raoul and Defo Hugues Olivier) at the University of Yaounde I in Cameroon which continue at the same amount as year 3. The original principal Investigator (PI) Edgar Tchoundja (University of Yaounde I, Cameroon) had been ill but he recuperated and is now working with the students again in collaboration with the International Partner (IP) Brett D. Wick (Washington University in St. Louis, USA). This is the last year of funding for these students except for possibly an extension of six months due to COVID-19 and the illness of the PI. The IP noted in his report that the students could finish this year. The decision on the extension would be decided based on an application next year. The funding requested for each student in the proposal:

Accommodation: 360,000 CFA Francs = USD 626

Living Expenses: 1,140,000 CFA Francs = USD 1982.50

Total per student: 2,608.50

The total for the two students in Cameroon per year is USD 5,217.

Round 2, Year 3

COVID-19 affected group in Uganda supporting this round through the communication and travel with the IP but the group has continued their work. One of the two students supported by GRAID (Caroline Namanya) received a Breakout Graduate Fellowship. The GRAID committee unanimously approved the continuation of the funding for the remaining Ph.D. student (Brian Makonzi) at Makerere University in Uganda at the maximum amount allowed by the GRAID program (\$3,500) mentored by PI (David Ssevviiri) and IP (IP Michael Wemyss, UK).

The total for the student in Cameroon per year is USD 3,500.

Round 3, Year 2

In this cohort, two groups were supported, one from Burkina Faso and one Pakistan. The support for the student from Burkina Faso (Boubacar Ouédraogo) was unanimously approved by the GRAID committee pending the completion of the master's thesis and evaluation for continuation for the PhD by the PI Idrissa Kabore and IP Nicolas Bedaride (France) at the end of October 2020. If the support is continued, a separate request will be made.

The group from Pakistan with PI Sarfraz Ahmad and IP Volkmar Welker (Germany) worked with one PhD Student, Hafiz Muhammad and two master's students, Arooj Jamil (female) and Safdar Ali. The two master's students decided to switch to a course-based master's degree. Two new master's students replaced them (with permission from the GRAID committee): Ms. Alia Yasin (female, alia_yasin418@gmail.com) and Mr. Abdul Mannan (male, abdulmannansajid97@gmail.com). The GRAID committee decided to continue support for the PhD student until the completion of his PhD and the master's students only until the completion of their master's degree in January 2021.

Budget for PhD Student (Hafiz Muhammad Bilal)

Living: USD 2011
Housing: USD 503
PhD Fees: USD 816

Total: 3,330 USD

Funding for the PhD student is expected to continue for up to two more years depending on satisfactory progress.

Budget for each of the two MS Students (Ms. Alia Yasin and Mr. Abdul Mannan) until their graduating from the MS degree (1/2021):

Living: USD 690
Housing: USD 210
MS Fees: USD 372

Total: 1,272 USD

The total amount of funding for both MS students is $2 \times 1,272 =$ USD 2544.

Please contact the AMS and request that funds be dispersed accordingly. Don McClure (FIMU treasurer) and other AMS representatives have the credentials to access the student information, including the necessary financial information as these students have been previously funded.