

# KIRSTEN WEKESA

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February 13, 2026

## The Scholarship Committee

iThemba LABS (Laboratory for Accelerator Based Sciences)  
Old Faure Road, Faure  
7131, South Africa

### APPLICATION FOR RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIP AND TECHNICAL TRAINING SPONSORSHIP

Dear Selection Committee,

I am writing to formally submit my application for a research scholarship and sponsorship at **iThemba LABS**. As an undergraduate student at **Maseno University**, Kenya, pursuing a degree in **Climate Change and Development with Information Technology (IT)**, I have dedicated myself to mastering the intersection of environmental data science and climate resilience.

Despite being in the early stages of my academic journey, I have actively sought to apply my IT training to regional environmental challenges. I have developed a functional **Interactive Climate Dashboard for Kenya**, which translates complex atmospheric data into an accessible analytic platform. This project demonstrates my technical proficiency in data visualization and my commitment to evidence-based decision-making.

**Active Research Tool:** You may view my work-in-progress dashboard here:  
<https://climate-dashboard-by-brown-awqze9mmv7pszcnavl3pdy.streamlit.app/>

I am particularly drawn to iThemba LABS due to your institution's global reputation for scientific excellence and multidisciplinary research. I am eager to understand how high-precision data—the kind generated through your facility's advanced accelerator sciences—

can be integrated into environmental modeling. Exposure to such a sophisticated research environment would be transformative at this formative stage of my career.

Securing this scholarship would provide the necessary financial stability to focus entirely on my technical development. My long-term goal is to leverage the skills acquired at iThemba LABS to refine my data-driven tools, eventually scaling my digital solutions to support environmental monitoring across the region. I see this opportunity as an investment in both my personal growth and the scientific capacity of my home country.

I am a disciplined, highly motivated student with a clear vision for the future of African science. Thank you for your time and for considering my application to join the iThemba research community.

Yours faithfully,

**Kirsten Wekesa**

Undergraduate Student | Maseno University