

# Turkana Miocene Project Publication & Authorship Guidelines

The purpose of publication is to communicate Turkana Miocene Project (TMP) research results through journals. Datasets produced from TMP work (field and lab) and other TMP-related outputs (dissertations, other projects utilizing TMP original data, etc.) are based on the resources produced by TMP team members and will normally result in multi-authored publications by multiple TMP members, as well as non-members in some cases. This guide is intended to promote open communication, articulate authorship criteria, and encourage early and continued discussion of authorship throughout the TMP project because of its large size and complexity. All present and future TMP team members, plus invited researchers and students who work under the NSF-FRES and TBI grants and associated NACOSTI permits granted to the TMP, are requested to abide by the guidelines below for the publication of information (conference abstracts and posters, journal and book manuscripts, images of TMP discoveries, media presentations, websites, etc.) and authorship gathered under TMP permits and/or funding.

Consideration of individuals' career progression is important. We expect that all TMP members (investigators, graduate students, postdocs, and experts) write, contribute, and co-author papers as appropriate. Graduate students, postdocs, and untenured scientists must be given opportunities to lead-author papers when their contribution justifies such leadership.

TMP scientists and invited science members working under TMP or individual NACOSTI permits under the auspices of TMP are expected to conduct field and/or lab research and publish the results of their work.

It is expected that TMP co-PIs, who oversee and coordinate field operations, project management, logistics, data collection, and some lab analyses, should be made aware of outputs (abstracts and papers) in progress in an effort to be transparent in communication.

## Guidelines

- 1) To discuss publication plans with the relevant TMP co-PIs, depending on relevance to Earth, Climate, or Life teams, as well as any other TMP member with relevant expertise or direct involvement in data collection reported in the publication. It is important for the project to have a clear plan and timetable of publications. Plans for papers and presentations should be communicated at an early stage to relevant co-PIs and associated team members. It can be anticipated

that publications will be either (1) specialist, technical and methodological papers, or (2) synthetic and multi-proxy papers. The following types of papers are likely: geochronology (including geochemistry, stratigraphy, tephrochronology), geology/sedimentology, tectonic modeling, climate modeling, paleontology (taxonomy and systematics) paleoecology (community analysis, faunal turnover), or paleoenvironmental reconstructions (ecometrics, isotopes), and education/outreach.

- 2) Authorship: TMP recognizes the need for a flexible policy regarding authorship, which should be discussed early on in the project and revisited regularly. Here we attempt to outline important criteria to consider for authorship with the understanding that each situation is different, while keeping in mind the maxim 'if in doubt, include them'.

2.1. A project member's name should be on a paper if:

- they contributed to research planning, unpublished data, or ideas.
- they had a substantive, intellectual role in the fieldwork, lab analysis, or data analysis. This could include field or curatorial staff from TBI, NMK, or other organizations. Authors should discuss as a team the inclusion of field or curatorial staff.
- they wrote substantial parts of it or played a significant role in editing and/or revising.
- their contribution is recognizable to the primary author.

2.2. It is the responsibility of the lead author, in discussion with co-authors and relevant co-PIs, and if applicable, their advisor(s), to ensure that the authorship list and ordering is appropriate. TMP members, of course, have the right not to be included if they disagree with interpretations etc., but resignation from authorship must be affected before the manuscript is submitted for publication.

2.3. All authors must ensure that:

- relevant TMP team members are acknowledged (if they are not to be co-authors) for their support and efforts on behalf of the project
- that publications (and the projects themselves) are coordinated to avoid conflicting interpretations in the early phases of research outputs.
- feedback from TMP collaborators is acknowledged, and when appropriate their contribution should lead to co-authorship.

2.4. For major or synthetic papers, TMP co-PIs will be considered for co-authorship, reflecting their overall leadership, fundraising, intellectual contributions, and organization efforts.

- 3) Acknowledgements: All publications that have benefited from TMP research, permitting, and/or funding, should acknowledge the relevant TMP funding sources, regardless of whether or not TMP co-PIs are co-authors of the papers. All publications will acknowledge funding sources and agencies with the following statement: "This research was partially supported by grants from X, Y [here insert specific grant(s) that directly funded a particular study] and appropriate NSF-FRES grants: EAR 20-21579 (Stony Brook); EAR 20-20488 (Michigan); EAR 20-21682 (Rutgers), EAR 20-21666 (LDEO); EAR 20-21591 (Hamilton). The TMP is acknowledged for logistical assistance. This research was carried out under NACOSTI permit(s) Y.
- 4) All publications should list in the Acknowledgements that "This is TMP Publication #XXX." We will keep a record of pubs in Google sheet to keep track of and assign TMP publication numbers.
- 5) Prior to initial submission of the manuscripts, data, or content for a journal, conference abstract, or website, authors should share with relevant TMP co-PIs a copy of the abstract, manuscript or image; this in turn can be forwarded, at the suggestion of the TMP co-PI, to other appropriate TMP participants if they have yet to be consulted. This is for the purpose of cataloging all instances of research output and not an editorial step whereby the results of the work will be scrutinized.
- 6) To encourage clear communication, lead authors should apprise co-authors and relevant TMP co-PIs of the status of the item for publication along major steps in the submission and review process, which includes dates of submission, revision, decisions (accepted/rejected), and publication.
- 7) Once available, lead authors should share a copy of the publication with TMP project members as well as the relevant permitting authorities and granting agencies. A PDF should be uploaded to the TMP Slack Publications channel and the TBI publication database. Lead authors are also responsible for submitting PDF copies to relevant Kenyan authorities (NMK, TBI, NACOSTI, KWS, etc). Finally, PDF copies should be shared with TMP Co-PIs to ensure the reference information is included in NSF reporting.