

Cosmogenic burial dating of hominin fossils in *Ausidi* cave, South Africa

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I work at the *Ausidi* fossil-bearing cave in the Cradle of Humankind UNESCO World Heritage Site, South Africa. The *Ausidi* cave system is older than 4 million years and preserves deposits that have yielded hundreds of hominin fossils and bone tools. I will use cosmogenic $^{26}\text{Al}/^{10}\text{Be}$ burial dating to determine whether these fossils are older than 2.5 million years and potentially represent a previously unknown human ancestor.



Visitor: Dr. Tebogo Makhubela
Visit dates: N/A- Virtual visit only

I am a geologist investigating the ages and formation histories of fossil-bearing deposits that preserve evidence of early human evolution in South African caves. I use various geochronology methods, but cosmogenic nuclide techniques are my preferred choice.