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# Working together to develop biodiversity research and monitoring related capacities in the DR Congo

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**2010**  
Expedition along the Congo (1000 km).

35 Congolese researchers and 32 expat scientists from eight countries.



## Objectives

**Mapping biodiversity** in the Congo Basin  
Study of the role of the Congo Basin in global CO<sub>2</sub> balance  
**Making new navigable maps for the Congo river**  
Study of local vocabulary concerning biodiversity and use of natural resources  
**Development of local expertise** through cooperation with local scientists  
**Development of joint projects** for Belgians and Congolese researchers  
**Making specimen collections** for the new biodiversity centre in Kisangani (CSB)



The tropical forests in the DR Congo account for approximately 50% of the rainforests on the African continent.

The Congo River represents 25 % of the renewable water in Africa.

The Congolese government has recently solicited external support to rebuild its capacities to ensure that the tropical forests and their biodiversity will be exploited in a sustainable way.



**2014**  
Inauguration of the "Centre de Surveillance de la Biodiversité" at the University of Kisangani, Tshopo province, DR Congo

## A research Institute

2300 m<sup>2</sup>  
Collection rooms  
Warehouses  
Library  
Equipped laboratories  
Offices  
Meeting rooms  
Server room

## Staff

52 scientists & technicians

## A zoological museum



## Missions of the CSB

**Facilitate and attract projects** on biodiversity in the Congo Basin;  
**Expand partnerships** (DRC / international) that will benefit CBS and DR Congo;  
Capitalize gains resulting from these activities : **collections, joint publications**



## CEBioS institutional collaboration

**Centre de Surveillance de la Biodiversité (CSB)**  
**Study and monitoring of regional lowland forests**

## Flemish Interuniversity Cooperation (VLIR-UOS)

**University of Kisangani**  
**Contribution of biodiversity to training and food security in the North-East Congo Basin**

## Past activities

**Individual scientific capacity building**  
through research stays of up to 3 months in Belgian institutions since 2008  
**Financial support for specific individual needs in relation to the research projects**  
(local expenses, field work, small equipment).

## Ongoing activities

**Institutional capacity building:**  
research strategy, annual reports, quality of research  
**Biodiversity and socio-economic monitoring**  
for the sustainable exploitation of natural resources in regional unprotected biodiversity hotspots.  
**Scientific support to regional and national policymakers**  
Clearing House Mechanism (CHM) of the CBD in DRC  
Implementation of the Nagoya Protocol in DRC  
**Dissemination of biodiversity information** through 2<sup>nd</sup> International Conference on Biodiversity in the Congo basin (Kisangani 2021)

## Alumni

**Guy Crispin Gembu Tungaluna, PhD**  
Peuplement et dynamique alimentaire des Chiropétes frugivores (Mammalia) de la Réserve Forestière de Yoko (Province Orientale, RD Congo), 2012  
Promoteur : Dudu Akabe (UNIKIS) Co-Promoteur : Erik Verheyen (IRScNB)



**Nicaise Amundala Drizo, PhD**  
Ecologie des populations des Rongeurs (Rodentia, Mammalia) dans une perspective de gestion des espèces nuisibles aux cultures dans la région de Kisangani (R.D. Congo), 2013  
Promoteur : Dudu Akabe (UNIKIS) Co-promoteur : Herwig Leirs (UA)



**Consolata Kaswara Kyamaka, PhD**  
Impact des activités anthropiques sur la densité et la distribution de Petromedusas tetradactylus tordayi THOMAS, 1910 (Macroscelidae, Mammalia) Dans la Région De Kisangani (Province Orientale, RD Congo), 2013  
Promoteur : Dudu Akabe M. (UNIKIS), Co-Promoteurs: Emmanuel Gilissen (MRAC) & Erik Verheyen (IRSN)



**Jean-Claude Mukinzi Itoka, PhD**  
Biodiversité et écologie des musaraignes (Soricomorpha, Mammalia) de la réserve forestière de Yoko et des milieux perturbés environnements (Ubundu, RD Congo), 2014,  
Promoteur : Dudu Akabe (UNIKIS), Co-Promoteur: Herwig Leirs (UA)



**Célestin Mizani Danadu, PhD**  
Problématique de Synodontis cuvier, 1816 (Siluriformes, Mochokidae) dans le bassin du fleuve Congo: Systematique et écologie (RD Congo), 2014  
Promoteur: Jos Snoeks (KULeuven, MRAC), Co-Promoteur: Ulyel Ali-Patho (UNIKIS)



Bushmeat impact, zoonoses & economy

Culture of fish, mammals, fungi



Taxonomic inventory of algae & fungi



Dissemination biodiversity info to stakeholders



Taxonomic inventory of vertebrates

## Sylvestre Gambalemoke Mbalitini, PhD

Phylogéographie et biodiversité des musaraignes (Soricomorpha, Crocidurinae ) en cuvette congolaise (Kisangani, RDC), 2014  
Promoteur : Dudu Akabe (UNIKIS), Co-Promoteur: Erik Verheyen (RBINS)



## Frank Bapeamoni Anderwana, PhD

Biodiversité et densité des nids des oiseaux dans un dispositif permanent à Yoko (Ubundu, RDC), 2015  
Promoteur : Dieudonné Upoki Agenong'a (UNIKIS), Co-Promoteur : Michel Louette (RMCA-Tervuren)

