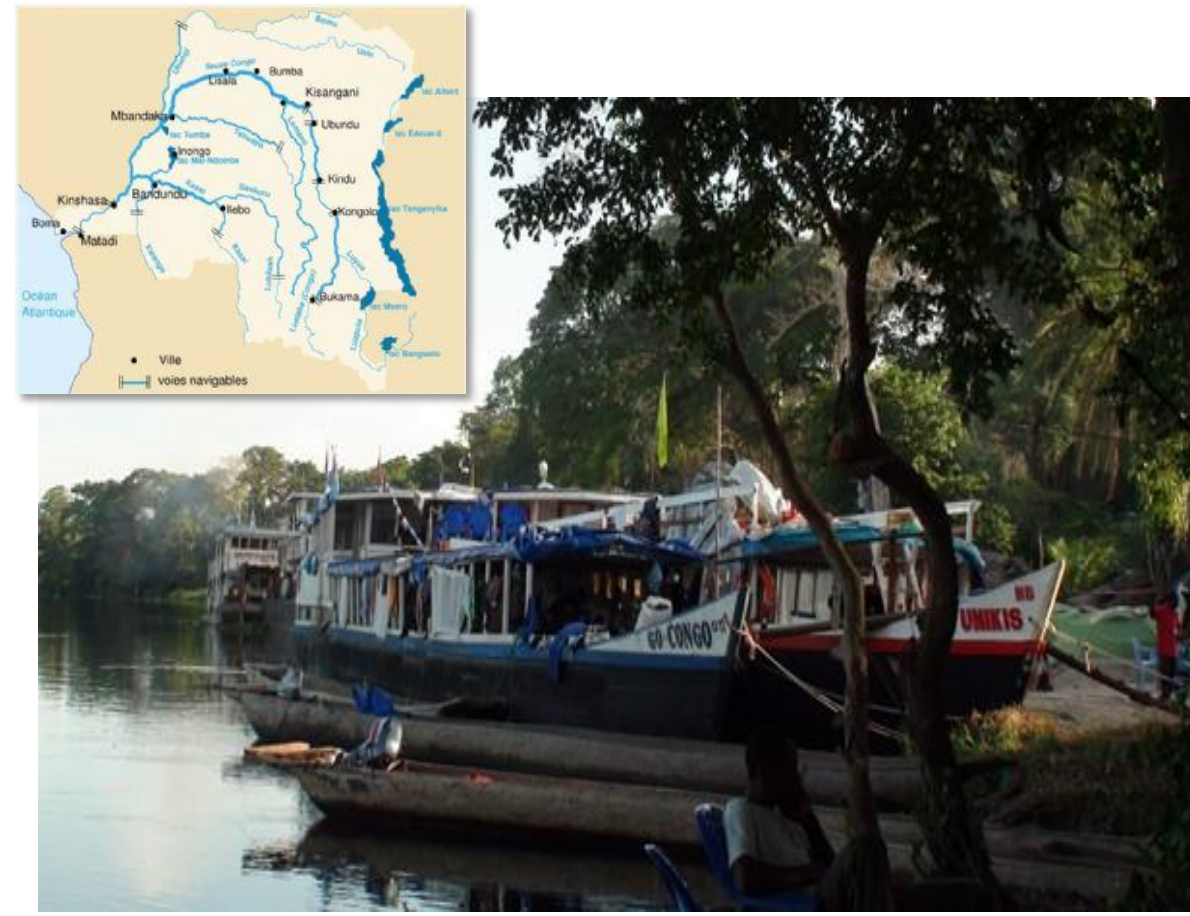


A tale about knowledge and empowerment: Rebuilding biodiversity related capacities in the DR Congo

Erik Verheyen

Operational Direction Taxonomy and Phylogeny, Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences, 1000 Brussels, Belgium



2010
Expedition along the Congo (1000 km).

Participants:
35 Congolese from four universities, and 32 expat scientists from eight countries.

Partnership



2014
Inauguration of the "Centre de surveillance de la biodiversité" in Kisangani, Oriental province, DR Congo on 14 June 2014



Objectives

1. Mapping biodiversity in the Congo Basin
2. Study of the role of the Congo Basin in global CO2 balance
3. Making new navigable maps for the Congo river
4. Study of local vocabulary concerning biodiversity and use of natural resources
5. Development of local expertise through cooperation with local scientists
6. Development of joint projects for Belgians and Congolese researchers
7. Making specimen collections for the new biodiversity centre in Kisangani (CSB)



Coordination



Hilde Keunen (RMCA)



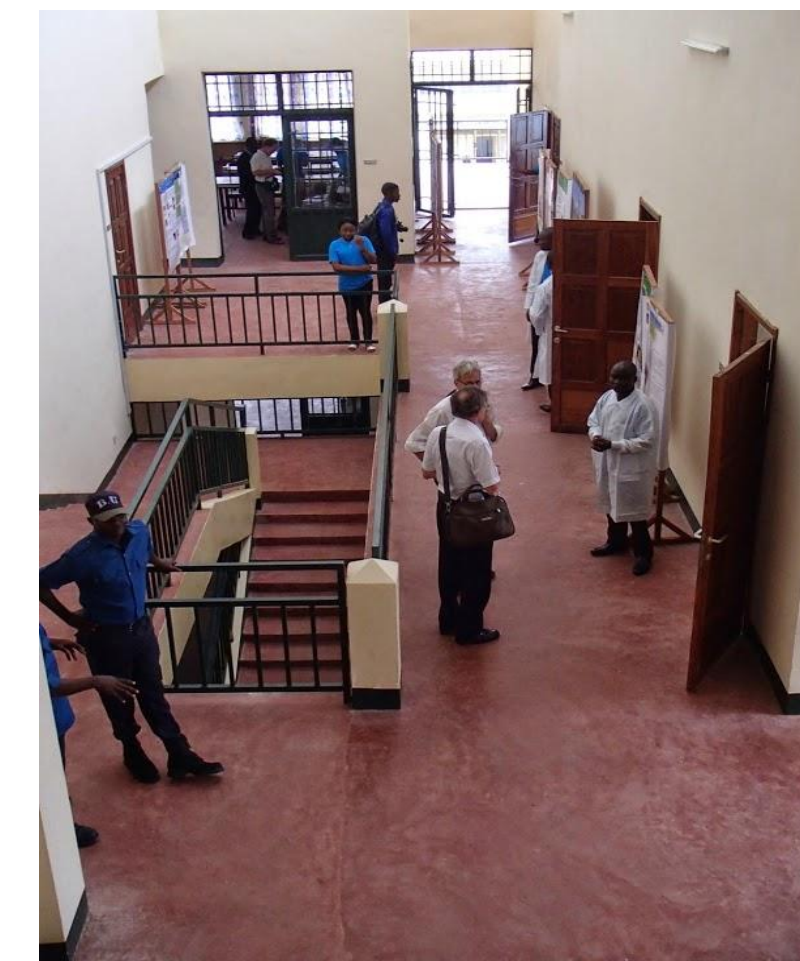
Dudu Akaibe (UNIKIS)



Erik Verheyen (RBINS)

Missions of the CSB

1. facilitate and attract projects on biodiversity in the Congo Basin;
2. expand partnerships (DRC / international) that will benefit CBS and DR Congo;
3. capitalize gains resulting from these activities : collections , joint publications



Useful surface: 2300 m²
Ground floor: six collection rooms, a meeting room, four offices, warehouses.
1st floor: a library, eight equipped laboratories, five offices, a meeting room.
2nd floor: five offices, a server room.
Personnel: 38 scientists & technicians
A zoological museum

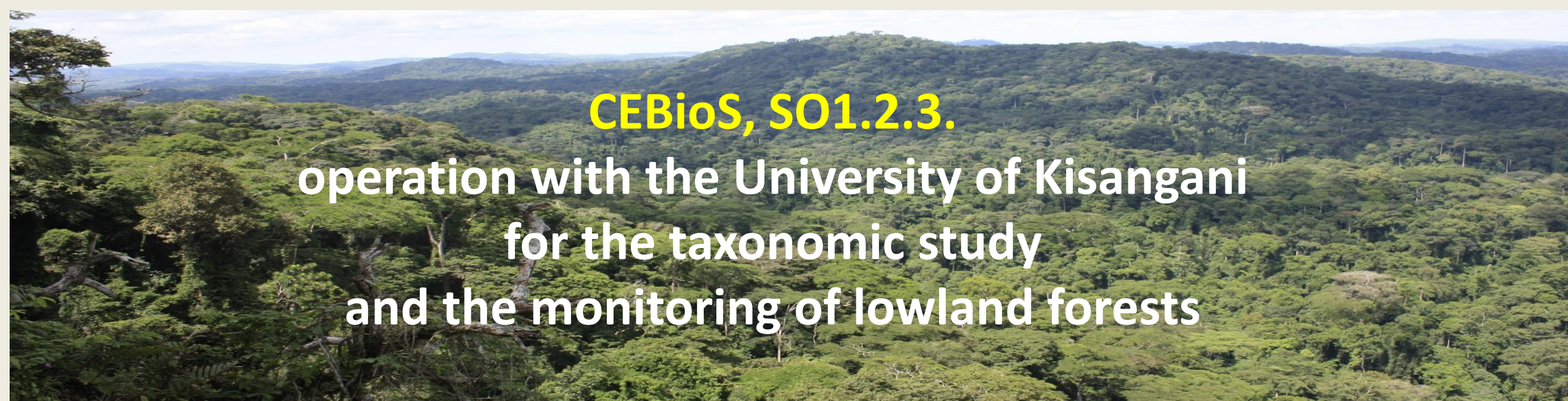


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More info: www.congobiodiv.org/



Activities

1. Annually three research stays of up to 3 months in Belgian institutions since 2008
2. Financial support for specific individual needs in relation to the research projects (local expenses, field work, small equipment).

Deliverables

1. Finalisation of locally started PhD research projects with external experts as co-promoters of the submitted/defended theses.
2. Scientific publications during these trajectories, each candidate will try to publish up at least one publication in international journals prior to their thesis defence.

Current trainees

Falay Dadi Sadiki

"Zoonoses et biodiversité dans la région de Kisangani.", Promoteur: Dr. Jan Jacobs (ITG) co-promoteur Nestor Dauli Ngbondia (UNIKIS)



Casimir Nebesse Mololo

"La filière de la viande de brousse dans la province Orientale.", promoteur Dudu Akaibe, co-promoteur Erik Verheyen (IRSNB)



Prescot Musaba Mololo

"Les chiroptères dans la région de Kisangani, diversité et zoonoses.", promoteur Gembu Crispin Tungaluna (UNIKIS), co promoteurs Erik Verheyen & Vic Van Caekenberge (UA)



Steve Ngoy Luhembwe

"Le rôle des tiques comme vecteurs de zoonoses chez les rongeurs", promoteur Gembu Crispin Tungaluna (UNIKIS), co promoteurs Erik Verheyen & Anne Laudisoit (UA, CIFOR)



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PhD theses defended so far:

Guy Crispin Gembu Tungaluna

Peuplement et dynamique alimentaire des Chiroptères frugivores (Mammalia) de la Réserve Forestière de Yoko (Province Orientale, RD Congo) - Année académique 2011-2012, Promoteur : Dudu Akaibe (Unikis) Co-Promoteur : Erik Verheyen (IRSNB)



Nicaise Amundala Drazo

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) - Année académique 2012-2013, Promoteur : Dudu Akaibe (UNIKIS) Co-promoteur : Herwig Leirs (UA)



Consolate Kaswera Kyamakya

Impact des activités anthropiques sur la densité et la distribution de *Petromomus tetradactylus tordayi* THOMAS, 1910 (Macroscelididae, Mammalia) Dans la Région De Kisangani (Province Orientale, RD Congo) - Année académique 2012-2013, Promoteur : Dudu Akaibe M. (UNIKIS), Co-Promoteurs: Emmanuel Gillissen (MRAC) & Erik Verheyen (IRSN)



Jean-Claude Mukinzi Itoka

Biodiversité et écologie des musaraignes (Soricomorpha, Mammalia) de la réserve forestière de Yoko et des milieux perturbés environnants (Ubundu, RD Congo) - Année Académique : 2013-2014, Promoteur : Dudu Akaibe (UNIKIS), Co-Promoteur: Herwig Leirs (UA)



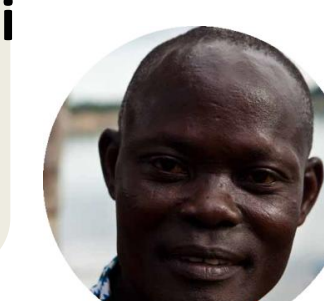
Célestin Mizani Danadu

Problématique de *Synodontis* cuvier, 1816 (Siluriformes, Mochokidae) dans le bassin du fleuve Congo: Systematique et ecologie (RD Congo) Année Académique: 2013 - 2014, Promoteur: Jos Snoeks (KULeuven, MRAC), Co-Promoteur: Ulyel Ali-Patho (UNIKIS)



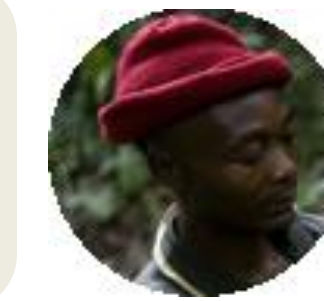
Sylvestre Gambalemoke Mbalitini

Phylogéographie et biodiversité des musaraignes (Soricomorpha, Crocidurinae) en cuvette congolaise (Kisangani, RDC) - Année Académique 2013-2014, Promoteur : Dudu Akaibe (UNIKIS), Co-Promoteur: Erik Verheyen (IRSNB)



Frank Bapeamoni Andemwana

Biodiversité et densité des nids des oiseaux dans un dispositif permanent à Yoko (Ubundu, RDC) - Année académique 2014-2015, Promoteur : Dieudonné Upoki Agenong'a (UNIKIS), Co-Promoteur : Michel Louette (MRAC)



Jan Rammeloo
Christine Cocquyt



Anne Laudisoit
Raoul Van Damme
Erik Verheyen

General objective of Project 2.

to strengthen the academic capacity of the institution in the fields of biodiversity.

Specific objectives

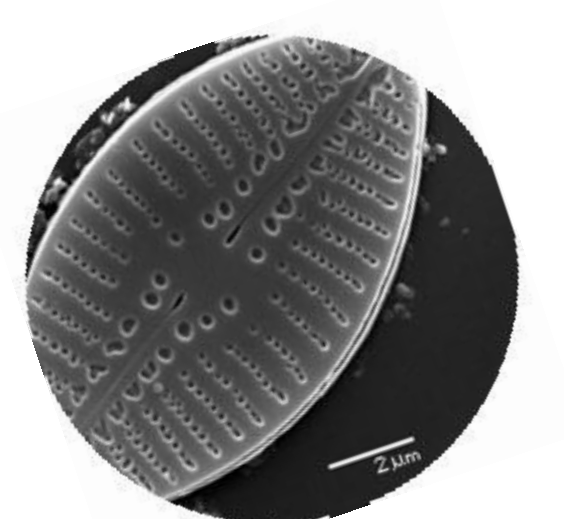
Improve knowledge (taxonomic, ecological), socio-economic and nutritional importance of animal and plant biodiversity



Bushmeat impact, zoonoses & economy



Culture of fish, mammals, fungi



Taxonomic inventory of algae & fungi



Dessimination biodiversity info to stakeholders



Taxonomic inventory of vertebrates

vliruos
SHARING MINDS, CHANGING LIVES