



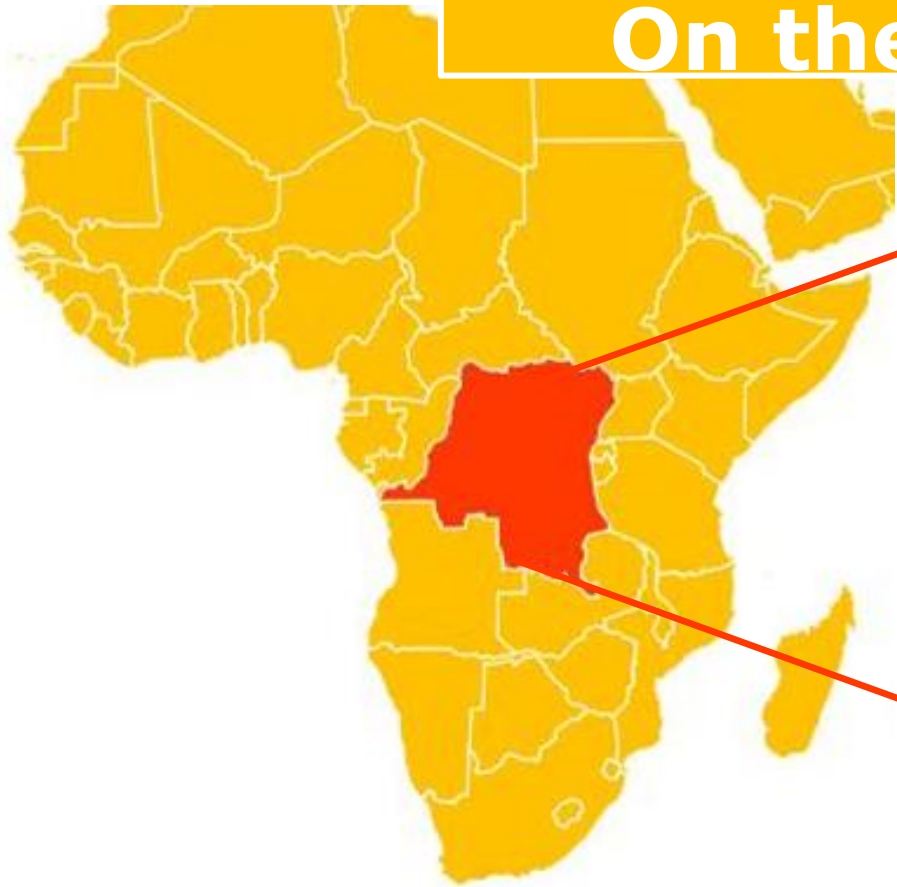
Université
de
Lubumbashi

IUC-project DR Congo

Strengthening University of Lubumbashi (UNILU)

Prof.dr. Virginie Bito
Prof.dr. César Nkuku Khonde

On the map



Katangese Copperbelt Area



▶ 300 km long en 50 km wide – 10 milion inhabitants ◀

INDUSTRY AND MONEY...

- ▶ Important mining sector and **extractive industries** (copper and cobalt) (*industrial vs. artisanal*)
- ▶ Responsible for 5% of the **economical growth** of DRC



... VERSUS POVERTY

- ▶ Poor living conditions of local population
- ▶ Few jobs
- ▶ Problems of governance, environmental degradation, public health, inefficient agricultural production....



Local people do not benefit from natural resources!

UNILU, 'driver of change'

STRENGTHS UNILU

- ✓ Successful in fund raising
- ✓ High potential

UNILU, 'driver of change'

LIMITATIONS UNILU

- ✓ Insufficient/lowly qualified academic staff (1 academic / 40 students)
- ✓ Under-representation of women (3,000 staff members, of whom ± 750 are women)
- ✓ Very poor access to online literature
- ✓ Inadequately/poorly equipped and unsuitable laboratories

LIMITATIONS UNILU

- ✓ Inadequate research structures and/or weak study programmes in the mining domain
- ✓ Insufficient resources for dissemination and valorisation of research results
- ✓ Inefficient interaction UNILU and society
- ✓ Insufficient and inadequate infrastructure



IUC-project 2022-2032

Challenges and Opportunities for a Sustainable Socio-Ecology in the Katangese Copperbelt Region

Combination of research, education and social services
(including valorisation and capacity building)

5 Academic projects
1 Transversal project (Institutional Capacity Building)
1 Programme Support Unit (PSU)

> 100 experts involved



The team



TEAM NORTH

Promotor: Virginie Bito
ICOS: Liesbeth Oeyen

TEAM SOUTH

Promotor: César Nkuku Khonde
Program Manager: Yannick Useni



PROJECT	TEAM LEADER N	TEAM LEADER S
P1 Biodiversity and climate change	Pascal Boeckx (UGent)	Basile Mujinya Bazirake
P2 Environment and health	Virginie Bito (UHasselt)	Salvius Bakari Amuri
P3 Governance and security	Sara Geenen (UA)	Laurent Ngoy Ndjibu
P4 Entrepreneurship	Nikolay Dentchev (VUB)	Pascal Sem Mbimbi
P5 Smart agriculture	Geert Haesaert (UGent)	Florence Kampemba Mujinga
P6 Institutional capacity building	Jean-M. Rigo (UHasselt)	Doniatien Dibwe Dia Mwembu
Program Support Unit	Virginie Bito en Liesbeth Oeyen (UHasselt)	César Nkuku Khonde en Yannick Unesi (UNILU)



**More information on the different projects in
the coming presentations**

Program Content

5 ACADEMIC PROJECTS

- ✓ Doctoral programmes (fundamental and/or applied research)
- ✓ Improve the organisation of regular education
- ✓ Establish new specialisation master's programmes, e.g:
 - ✓ MSc Environmental Sciences and Technology
 - ✓ MSc Law (on natural resources)
 - ✓ MSc Agro-ecology
- ✓ Improve research structures (e.g. ICT and library)
- ✓ Housed in Environmental Observatory
- ✓ Task Forces with local stakeholders

1 TRANSVERSAL PROJECT

- ✓ Ongoing training of administrative and technical staff of UNILU
- ✓ Supporting existing structures (e.g. computer service)
- ✓ Establish new structures:
 - ✓ Archiving centre
 - ✓ Computer centre
 - ✓ Local/University television
- ...
- ✓ Attention for women, minorities, etc.
- ✓ Focus on sustainable solutions
(stakeholder engagement is essential!)

This long-term, intensive cooperation allows us to strengthen the local university and community and thus have a sustainable impact on the Katanga region.



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*« Tout seul on va plus vite, ensemble on va plus loin »
proverbe africain*

Thank you for your attention

