



**YOUNG RESEARCHERS OVERSEAS DAY**

Monday 9 December 2024

**Venue:** Christian De Duve conference room, Palace of the Academies, Rue Ducale/  
Hertogstraat 1, 1000 Brussels (Belgium)

Preliminary Programme

**08.30 – 09.00** Registration & Poster installation

**09.00 - 09.10** Welcome Address

**09.10 – 09.35** Keynote lecture  
Raoul DELCORDE, Université Catholique de Louvain, Ecole des sciences  
politiques et sociales & RAB Member (Belgium) & AOS Member (France)

**09.35 – 09.45** Questions & Answers

**09.45 – 10.45** Communications by young researchers

Chair: Christine COCQUYT, Meise Botanic Garden & RAOS Member, Belgium

**The evolutionary potential of DNA methylation in natural populations of a self-fertilizing vertebrate: the mangrove rivulus, *Kryptolebias marmoratus***

Justine BELIK, University of Namur (Belgium)

**“I have so much shame”: Experiences of irregular return migrants and family members left behind during their journey abroad, and after return to Nigeria**

Sarah ADEYINKA, University of Amsterdam (Netherlands)

**Light-demanding canopy tree species are no indicators of past human disturbance in the Yangambi rainforest (Democratic Republic of the Congo)**

Nestor LUAMBUA, Faculty of Renewable Natural Resources Management, University of Kisangani & Faculté des sciences Agronomiques, Université Officielle de Mbuji-Mayi (Democratic Republic of Congo) & Laboratory of Wood Technology, Faculty of Bioscience Engineering, Ghent University & Service of Wood Biology, Royal Museum for Central Africa (Belgium)

**Closing the Knowledge Gap in Corruption Tolerance Research: A Critical Interpretive Synthesis Review**

Ariana BRAVO, Faculty of Law and Criminology, Ghent University (Belgium)

**10.45 – 11.30** Coffee break & Poster session

**Sip Safely: The Unseen Role of Acidity and Alcohol Compounds in Instant Coffee**

Nurfarhanim ABU BAKAR, Department of Engineering and Sciences, Taylor's University, (Malaysia)

**Sensor technology towards combating food insecurity**

Muhammad AMEERULLAH SAHUDIN, Department of Chemistry, University Malaya (Malaysia)

**Taxonomic revisions of central African *Funisciurus* squirrels using molecular and morphometric data**

Pascal BAELO, Biodiversity Monitoring Centre, University of Kisangani (Republic of Congo)

**Role of cocoa agroforest typologies in above-ground carbon storage in the North-Eastern Forest Landscapes of the Democratic Republic of the Congo**

Germain BATSI, Faculty of Renewable Natural Resource Management, University of Kisangani (Democratic Republic of the Congo) & Faculty of Forestry and Environment management, University of Mzuzu (Malawi).

**A genetic assessment of *Musa viridis* and *Musa splendida* indicates that they are conspecific**

Yves BAWIN, Meise Botanic Garden (Belgium); Hasselt University (Belgium) & KU Leuven (Belgium).

**Cropping systems and farmer-preferred crop traits' characterization amidst climate variability in Southwestern Uganda**

Hakim BUKENYA, Department of Biology, Mbarara University of Science and Technology (Uganda)

**A critical approach of the ecological transition through infrapolitics in Shinkolobwe (DRC)**

Célia CARLIER, Sociology and Anthropology Department, University of Mons (Belgium)

**Sharks in distress: a physiological quest for stress biomarkers in shark conservation**

Shamil F. DEBAERE, ECOSPHERE, Department of Biology, University of Antwerp (Belgium) & College of Science and Engineering, James Cook University (Australia)

**Groundwater Drought and Anthropogenic Amplifiers: A Review of Assessment and Response Strategies in Arid and Semi-Arid Areas**

Abedulla ELSAIDY, Department of Water and Climate, Free University of Brussels (Belgium)

**Changement d'occupation du sol et décomposition de litière dans le miombo de la zone rurale de Lubumbashi, RD. Congo**

Bienvvenu ESOMA OKOTHOMAS, UCLouvain (Belgium)

**11.30 – 13.00** Communications by young researchers

Chair: Pierre MEERTS, Meise Botanic Garden & Université Libre de Bruxelles & RAOS Member (Belgium)

**Quartz-vein hosted gold mineralization in eastern DR Congo - Western Domain of the Karagwe-Ankole Belt**

Inge COOLS, Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences, KU Leuven (Belgium)

**The defence of land: MOCASEs reaction to the expanding agricultural frontier in Santiago del Estero, Argentina**

Marthe CRESSATO, Ghent University (Belgium)

**Sea turtles in peril: A multi-scale analysis of global warming and human impact on reproduction habitats**

Iona PÂQUES, Evolutionary Biology & Ecology, Université Libre de Bruxelles (Belgium)

**Crafting Loyalty, Crafting Self-Reliance: State and Missionary Vocational Schools in the Post-War Belgian Congo**

Igor BLOCH, Ghent University (Belgium)

**Diversity of Dolphin Whistles in a French Overseas Collectivity in the South Pacific Ocean**

Xavier RAICK, FOCUS, University of Liège (Belgium) & K. Lisa Yang Center for Conservation Bioacoustics, Cornell University (U.S.A)

**Drought-Flood Coexistence: Risk Perception and Adaptation of Urban and Rural Households in Southwest Madagascar**

Jonathan AHADI MAHAMBWA, Department of science and environmental management, University of Liege - Department of Geography, University of Namur (Belgium) & Laboratoire d'Ecologie, Géomorphologie et Géomatique (LEGG), Université Catholique du Gabon (UCG), Democratic Republic of Congo

**13.00 – 14.00** Lunch & Poster session

**Passive alternation in contemporary Chinese: a tale across the Strait**

Sumin GUAN, KULeuven (Belgium)

**Machine learning for predicting rapid sea ice loss in the Arctic**

Lauren HOFFMAN, Earth and Life Institute, UCLouvain (Belgium)

**Participatory spatio-temporal risk assessment of Ebola and Rift Valley fevers in Cameroon**

Ines KAMGUEM SOPBUE, University of Namur (Belgium)

**Production hydrométallurgique des oxydes purs de tantale et de niobium par fusion des minerais de coltan de la Province de Tanganyika/ RD Congo dans les fondants  $\text{NH}_4\text{HF}_2$  – KOH**

Bertin KITUNGWA KABUGE, Department of Chemistry, University of Lubumbashi (Democratic Republic of the Congo)

**Digitally improving the identification of aquatic macroinvertebrates for indices used in biomonitoring**

Ruan C.J. KOEN, North-West University (South Africa)

**Fossil snails, insect larvae and fish remains reveal the long-term (17,700-year) hydrological and ecological history of a now saline crater lake in western Uganda**

Lydia KOMUHIMBO, Dept Biology, Ghent University (Belgium)

**Diagenesis and mineralization in the Central African Copperbelt: implications from the reflectance of pyrobitumen**

Qiuping LIU, KULeuven (Belgium)

**L'impact psycho social des guerres sur les déplacés à l'Est de la République Démocratique du Congo (RDC)**

Alain MABOKO, Promoting Youth Education (Democratic Republic of the Congo)

**Investigation of seepage and associated geological problems of Gereb-Segen dam, northern Ethiopia**

Gebreslassie MEBRAHTU, Mekelle (Ethiopia)

**Insights on migration-household food security status nexus in Benin**

Yelian MIGAN, Department of Geography, University of Namur (Belgium) & Laboratory of Social Dynamics Analysis and Development Studies, University of Abomey-Calavi (Benin)

**Exploring Power Dynamics and Governance Structures in Urban Food Markets: Pathways to Inclusive Food Democracy in Dar es Salaam**

Jerry T. MOSSES, Ghent University (Belgium)

**Petrological, thermobarometric and geochronological study of the Proterozoic West Congo Belt (R. Congo)**

Hevecel Freude Welcom MOUNTOU, Marien Ngouabi University (Republic of Congo) & Royal Museum for Central Africa (Belgium)

**Understanding of spatial urban growth pattern and associated landscape dynamics in Mining Congolese cities bordering Zambia from 1990 to 2023**

Médard MPANDA MUKENZA, Renewable Natural Resources Management Department, Technological University of Katumba Mwanke (Democratic Republic of the Congo)

**Improvement of Women's Living Conditions in Lubumbashi through the Optimization of Household Waste Biomethanation (AFLUB)**

Médard MPANDA MUKENZA, Renewable Natural Resources Management Department, Technological University of Katumba Mwanke (Democratic Republic of the Congo)

**Hierarchical Analysis of Miombo Woodland Spatial Dynamics in Lualaba Province (Democratic Republic of the Congo), 1990-2024: Integrating Remote Sensing and Landscape Ecology Techniques**

Médard MPANDA MUKENZA, Renewable Natural Resources Management Department, Technological University of Katumba Mwanke (Democratic Republic of the Congo)

**Pollution intérieure en milieu urbain : matières particulaires (PM) et éléments traces métalliques (ETM) dans les dépôts atmosphériques solides à Kipushi (Haut-Katanga)**

Paul Didi MPOYO KUMWIMBA, Faculty of Medicine, University de Kamina (Democratic Republic of the Congo) & Department of Chemistry, University of Lubumbashi (Democratic Republic of the Congo)

**Separating deformation using slip tendency techniques: A case of brittle deformation during the Phanerozoic in Central Africa, Republic of Congo and Democratic Republic of Congo**

Hardy Medry Dieu-Veil NKODIA, Marien Ngouabi University (Democratic Republic of the Congo) & Royal Museum for Central Africa (Belgium)

### **Active Tectonics in Western Central Africa: Current Processes and Implications**

Hardy Medry Dieu-Veil NKODIA, Marien Ngouabi University (Democratic Republic of the Congo) & Royal Museum for Central Africa (Belgium)

### **Shining Bright: Innovating Self-Powering LED Technology with Conductive Sodium Alginate Thin Films**

Nurdiana NORDIN, Department of Chemistry, Faculty of Science, Universiti Malaya, 50603, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

### **The Digo Oral Narratives: Storytelling and Ecological Consciousness**

Mark OBURE-MORANG'A, Department of Language and Cultures, Ghent University (Belgium) & University of Nairobi (Kenya).

**14.00 – 14.25** Keynote lecture

Raïssa MALU DINANGA, Ministre d'Etat de l'Education nationale et de la Nouvelle citoyenneté (Democratic Republic of the Congo) & RAOS Member (Belgium)

**14.25 – 14.35** Questions & Answers

**14.35 – 16.05** Communications by young researchers

Chair: Georges VAN GOETHEM, European Commission & RAOS Member, Belgium

### **Conditions for the innovative integration of anaerobic digestion for sustainable energy production and improvement of the fertility status of agricultural soils by households in Lubumbashi (DR Congo)**

Guy MASUDI MWANA MULENDA, Faculty of Architecture, University of Lubumbashi (Democratic Republic of Congo) & Urban planning and land conflict management, UHasselt (Belgium)

### **How nest management and incubation affect Green Sea Turtle (*Chelonia mydas*) hatchlings**

Marion STEENACKER, Evolutionary Biology & Ecology, Université libre de Bruxelles (Belgium)

### **Understanding Indonesian Chocolate Consumer Perception Of Fine Chocolate and Chocolate Choices Using Focus Groups and Choice Experiment**

Desiana NURIZA PUTRI, Department of Agricultural Economics, Ghent University (Belgium) & Department of Food Technology, University of Muhammadiyah Malang (Indonesia)

### **Multi-stakeholders' perspectives on biofortified crops in Ethiopia: the case of biofortified orange-flesh sweet potato using SWOT-SMART analysis**

Lidya SAMUEL, Department of Agricultural Economics, Ghent University (Belgium) & Department of Business and Economics, Haramaya University (Ethiopia)

### **A new scenario for the diversification and dispersal of the earliest perissodactyls**

Jérémy TISSIER, Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences (Belgium)

### **Spatial overlap of Dengue, Chikungunya and Malaria risk in urban East Africa**

Noel JOSEPH, Department of Geography & Institute of Life, Earth, and Environment (ILEE), University of Namur (Belgium)

**Diversity and azole resistance in *Aspergillus* isolates of Epi-Plastic Fungi in Dumpsites Environment (Uganda)**

Adeyinka ODEBODE, Department of Basic Science, Kampala International University (Uganda) & Aix Marseille University (France)

**Impact of human activities on Guiana dolphin social structure in Brazil**

Sari PONNET, Ghent University (Belgium); Federal University of the State of Rio de Janeiro (Brazil) & ECoMAR, Federal Rural University of Rio de Janeiro (Brazil).

**Hide and seek with private military companies (PMCs)**

Liuva RAMOS MASÓ, Ghent University (Belgium)

**First report on the diversity of phytoplankton in a dried depression in the desert (Sebkha of Imlili, Morocco, North Western Africa) and its relationship to environmental parameters**

Elysée RUTAKAZA NZIGIRE, Department of Biology, Hydrobiology Research Center (Democratic Republic of the Congo) & Laboratory of Biodiversity, Ecology and Genome, Mohammed V University (Morocco)

**Lithological and structural study of Meso and Paleoproterozoic domains on Idjwi Island, South Kivu, Democratic Republic of the Congo**

Evelyne SAFARI NAKITO, Doctoral School, University of Burundi (Burundi); Geological and Mining Research Center/Lwiro Provincial Station (Democratic Republic of the Congo) & Department of Earth Sciences, Royal Museum for Central Africa (Belgium).

**Optimizing rice husk biochar as a soil amendment in Asia: Enhancing plant growth and reducing greenhouse gas emissions**

Daljit SINGH KARAM, Department of Land Management, Faculty of Agriculture, University Putra Malaysia (Malaysia)

**Deciphering the plant-phytomicrobiome-pathogen interactions for disease suppression: Fusarium wilt of banana as model pathosystem**

Salomé THONON, Earth and Life Institute, UCLouvain (Belgium)

**Police mapping and high-risk areas in the city of Lubumbashi**

Patient UMBA KYANGWE, Investigative Criminology Research Unit, School of criminology, University of Lubumbashi (Democratic Republic of the Congo)

**Characterization of anthropic impacts on the laying behavior of sea turtles in Martinique**

Chloé VANLEYNSEELE, Evolutionary Biology and Ecology, Free University of Brussels (Belgium) & Aquasearch (Martinique)

**Colonial Sources: Improve access, Share archives and Promote knowledge on the colonial past (Belgium, Burundi, the DR Congo and Rwanda)**

Davy VERBEKE, Cuvelier Repository, National Archives 2 (Belgium)

**Prevalence of Coxiella-infections in ticks - review and meta-analysis**

Roland Eric YESSINOU, Communicable Diseases Research Unit, University of Abomey-Calavi (Benin)

**16.50 – 17.10**

**General discussion and closing remarks**

Philippe GOYENS, RAOS Honorary Permanent Secretary, Belgium

**Best Presentation and Best Poster Award**

Thierry SMITH, Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences & Université de Namur & RAOS Member, Belgium