

A photograph of a man standing in a dense, lush green forest. He is wearing a green sleeveless shirt and holding a machete. The forest is filled with tall trees and thick foliage, with sunlight filtering through the canopy. The text "Congo Basin Institute" is overlaid in white, centered in the upper half of the image.

Congo Basin Institute

A new model for research and education

Kevin Njabo, PhD and Virginia Zaunbrecher, JD

An aerial photograph of a rural settlement. In the center, there is a large, rectangular compound with a white wall and a green lawn. Inside the compound, there are several long, white buildings with corrugated metal roofs, arranged in a U-shape. A dirt road runs along the left side of the compound, with several cars parked. To the right of the compound, there are several rectangular plots of land, some of which appear to be agricultural fields. Surrounding the central compound and fields are numerous small, simple houses with brown or orange roofs. The houses are scattered across the landscape, which is covered with green vegetation and trees. In the background, there is a dense forest covering a hillside. The overall scene depicts a rural community with a central administrative or institutional building complex.

What is CBI?

Congo Basin Institute – Mission and Plan

- To find integrative breakthrough solutions that conserve the environment and meet the vital needs of the developing world.
- Build a center of higher learning and center of scientific excellence in Central Africa — generating research that decision makers can use to address sub-Saharan Africa's interlocking environmental and development challenges.



CBI - What it is?

- A consortium of highly experienced and recognized partners
- A permanent, multidisciplinary enterprise focused on innovative evidence-based solutions
- Leverages the resources of universities, industry and development organizations
- A Research and Education Park

How Does CBI Work?



CBI's Power Comes from It's Members

Founding Members:



July 2015



July 2015

- In the last 6 months, have worked on bringing Participants on board
- More than a dozen other organizations in the pipeline
- All kinds of organizations are invited to join (universities, NGOs, businesses, research institutes, government entities)
- All participants must make commitments to build research capacity in the Congo Basin

Current Participants:



June 2016



Oct 2016



Oct 2016

How Do Members Sustain CBI?

1. Commitment

Shared commitment to capacity building in scientific research and education

Are conducting teaching and training activities in the Congo Basin

Are committed to partnering with scientists and students from other countries

2. Contribution

Fee for use for facilities

Participate in joint grant-writing efforts

Recommend Central African students and researchers to participate in activities

Provide additional facilities or other assets

3. Participation

Representatives participate in CBI activities (Advisory Council, Working Groups)

Conduct research and offer educational opportunities

How Do Members Participate?

- Use of facilities
- In the process of forming the collaborative structure

An aerial photograph showing a vast, lush green landscape with a complex network of winding waterways, likely a wetland or mangrove system. The water is a deep blue-green color, contrasting with the dense green vegetation. The sky is overcast with soft, grey clouds. The text "Where does CBI go from Here?" is overlaid in white, sans-serif font across the center of the image.

Where does CBI go from Here?



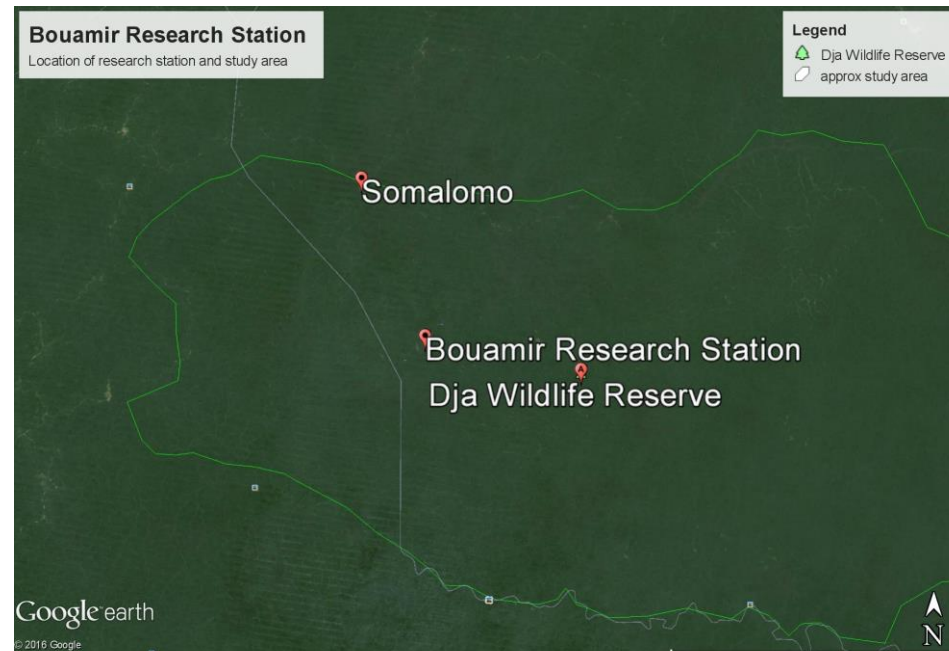
- Remote GIS/remote sensing research and training facility
- Plant tissue culture laboratory
- Entomology and pathology laboratories with insectaries, isolation room, climate control incubators, and screenhouses
- Plant, soil and water analytical lab.
- Molecular genetics laboratory



Bouamir Field Station



- The Biological Field Station in the Dja Forest Reserve host to academic programs and researchers working in the forest throughout the year.
- The facilities are basic and scholars camp while at the research site.
- Main campsite located approximately 30km from the village at Somalomo

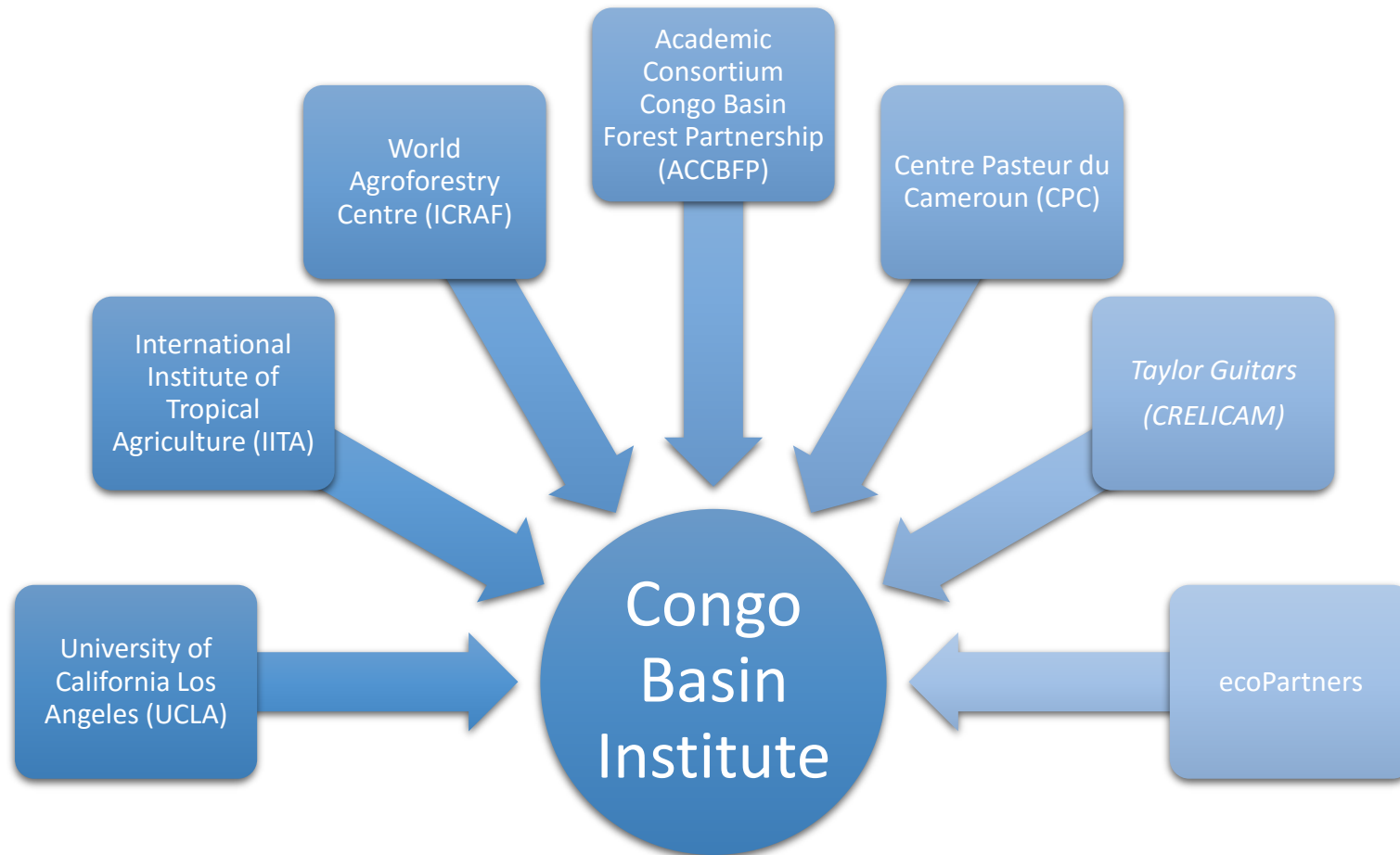


Accommodations

- Accommodations for researchers and students visiting Cameroon available at CBI Bastos in Yaoundé, Cameroon.
- CBI Bastos - a hub for collaborations between African and international researchers.
- Furnished individual and bunk rooms, kitchen, bathrooms, workspaces and WIFI internet access.
- Accommodation in a gated complex with 24-hour security in the Bastos neighborhood of Yaoundé.

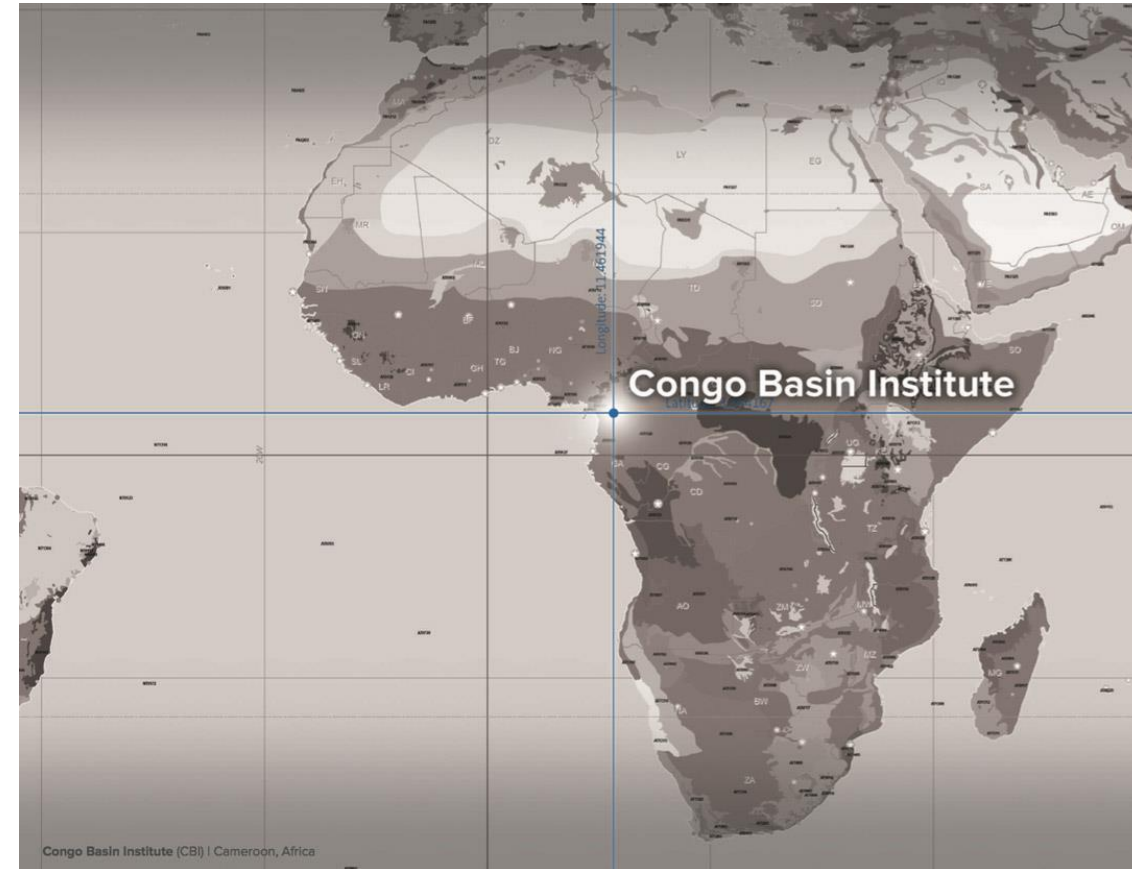


Relationship with CBFP



CBI as Solution Maker

- A permanent presence in the region. CBI is based not in New York or Paris but in Cameroon — the “hinge” between Western and Central Africa, and a country diverse in culture, landscapes and biodiversity. Cameroon is an ideal laboratory for innovative solutions appropriate in many situations across Africa.
- An integrated approach. CBI undertakes research on climate change, poverty alleviation, food and water security, human health, and biodiversity. But we examine and understand how they interact — not as concepts in isolation.
- A focus on African scientists. We give African scientists the training and opportunities to do that research — and then bring forward those findings in ways policymakers can take into action.
- University and NGO partners – CBFP Platform. CBI brings together leading universities, NGOs, government ministries, and corporate and local stakeholders. CBI draws on the University of California — the largest university system in the world, with 200,000 faculty — as well as other university and NGO partners in the United States, Europe, Asia, and Cameroon.



Joining CBI

- Open to invitations of all types that share our commitment to research and education in the Congo Basin
- Steps:
 - Work with us to determine how the organization might participate
 - Draft Participant Agreement
 - Assessment by the Review Committee and Joint Steering Committee
 - Sign Participant Agreement
 - Participate in CBI!

Please reach out to Dr. Kevin Njabo or Virginia Zaunbrecher for more information