



**Ludwig TRIEST, TROPIMUNDO VUB Local Coordinator**

Ludwig Triest is Head of the Department of Biology, member of the research group 'Ecology and Biodiversity' and coordinator of the International Course Programme on Biology (specialization Human Ecology) supported by Cooperation and Development. He holds a MSc in Botany, a PhD in Biological Sciences and he is holder of a 'Higher Aggregation' ('Habilitation') degree for University teaching. His PhD and postdoc was funded by the Belgian National Fund for Scientific Research and dealt with tropical plant biodiversity and distribution in aquatic habitats. These research activities included frequent research missions in many tropical, subtropical and European countries. He was appointed as a permanent research director in 1993 and professor in 2000. His research and education is on conservation ecology using genetic data at population level and using organismal information at community level, both for management and restoration of habitats. Major topics are on gene flow or dispersal, connectivity, invasions and ecological quality. These focus on aquatic vegetation in European, Mediterranean and Tropical ecosystems (wetlands, rivers, ponds, lakes, coastal lagoons, mangroves).

<b>1</b>	<b>Family name</b>	TRIEST		
<b>2</b>	<b>First name</b>	Ludwig		
<b>3</b>	<b>Date of birth</b>	30 July 1957		
<b>4</b>	<b>Nationality</b>	Belgian		
<b>5</b>	<b>E-mail</b>	<a href="mailto:ltriest@vub.ac.be">ltriest@vub.ac.be</a>		
<b>6</b>	<b>Education / Professional studies</b>			
	Dates (from-to)	Institution	Degree/diploma	
	01/10/1976-15/09/1980	Vrije Universiteit Brussel	MSc Botany	
	01/10/1980-18/12/1986	Vrije Universiteit Brussel	PhD Biological Sciences	
	01/10/1986-30/05/1991	Vrije Universiteit Brussel	Higher Aggregation ('Habilitation') for University teaching	
<b>7</b>	<b>Language skills</b> Grade skill 1-5 (1 = basic, 5 = excellent, * = mother tongue)			
	Language	Speaking	Reading	Writing
	English	5	5	5
	French	3	4	3
	Dutch*	5	5	5
	German	2	2	2
<b>8</b>	<b>Membership of professional bodies</b>			
	Flanders Marine Institute, International Society for Mangrove Ecosystems			
<b>9</b>	<b>Other Skills</b>			
	Computer skills, research skills, managerial capabilities			
<b>10</b>	<b>Name of organisation currently working for and Present position in the organisation</b>	Vrije Universiteit Brussel - VUB Full-time Professor		
<b>11</b>	<b>Years with the organisation</b>	36		
<b>12</b>	<b>Long-term experience in specific countries/territories</b>			
	Country	Date	Details	
	Kenya	1995-present	Research on wetlands and rivers	

	Ethiopia	2008-present	Research on ecological river quality
	Indian Ocean	2005-present	Genetics of mangrove dispersal
<b>13</b>	<b>Professional experience record</b>		
	Location	Date	Organisation
	Brussels	1980-present	Vrije Universiteit Brussel
	Position	Student, Researcher, Postdoc, Lecturer, Professor	
	Responsibilities	Scientific research, Education, Projects, Management	
<b>14</b>	<b>Publications</b>		
	Number of publications in peer-reviewed journals		
	114		
	10 publications that are most representative in the field of tropical biodiversity and ecosystems		
	<p>Symoens, J.J. &amp; Triest, L. (1983) Monograph of the African genus <i>Lagarosiphon</i> Harvey (Hydrocharitaceae). Bull. Jard. bot. Nat. Belg. 53: 441-488.</p> <p>Triest, L. (1987) Revision of the genus <i>Najas</i> L. (Najadaceae) in Africa and surrounding islands. Mém. Acad. r. Sci. Outre-Mer, Cl. sci. nat. méd., nouv. sér. in - 8°, 21 (4) (et Et. Cont. afr. 6, 49 (2)) : 88 pp., 11 figs + 18 plates.</p> <p>Triest, L. (1991) Isozymes in <i>Lagarosiphon</i> (Hydrocharitaceae) populations from South Africa: the situation in dioecious, but mainly vegetatively propagating weeds. - In: Triest, L. (ed.) Isozymes in water plants, Op. Bot. Belg. 4 : 73-88.</p> <p>Triest, L., Van de Vijver, M., El Arifi, M. &amp; Symoens, J.J. (1992) <i>Ambrosia maritima</i>: morphology, distribution, genetic and chemical diversity. - In : Symoens, J.J., Geerts, S. &amp; Triest, L. (ed.) Vector control of schistosomiasis using native African plants, Proc. Roy. Acad. Overseas Sc. : 63-77.</p> <p>Gichuki, J., Triest, L., Dehairs, F. (2001) The use of stable carbon isotopes as tracers of ecosystem functioning in contrasting wetland ecosystems of Lake Victoria, Kenya. <i>Hydrobiologia</i> 458: 91-97.</p> <p>Ndiritu, G., Gichuki, N., Kaur, P., Triest, L. (2003). Characterization of environmental gradients using physico-chemical measurements and diatom densities in Nairobi river, Kenya. <i>Aquatic ecosystem Health and Management</i> 6: 343-354.</p> <p>Abebe Beyene Hailu, Taffere Addis, Demeke Kifle, Worku Legesse, Kloos, H., Triest, L. (2009) Comparative study of diatoms and macroinvertebrates as indicators of severe water pollution: case study of the Kebena and Akaki rivers in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. <i>Ecological Indicators</i> 9: 381-392</p> <p>Abebe Beyene, Yared Kassahun , Taffer Addis, Fassil Assefa , Aklilu Amsalu, Worku Legesse, Helmut Kloos, Ludwig Triest (2012). The impact of traditional coffee processing on river water quality in Ethiopia and the urgency of adopting sound environmental practices <i>Environmental Monitoring and Assessment</i> 184: 7053-7063.</p> <p>Triest, L., Lung'aya, H., Ndiritu, G., Beyene, A. (2012). Epilithic diatoms as indicators in tropical African rivers (Lake Victoria catchment). <i>Hydrobiologia</i> 695: 343-360.</p> <p>Terer Taita, Muasya, A.M., Triest, L. (2015). Genetic diversity and strong isolation by distance revealed among <i>Cyperus papyrus</i> populations in Rift valley lakes, Lake Victoria and isolated wetlands of Kenya. <i>Aquatic Botany</i> 121: 57–66.</p>		
<b>15</b>	<b>Number of conference presentations (between brackets invited contributions)</b>		
	60 (5)		
<b>16</b>	<b>Awards</b>		
	Award	Award date	Issuing organisation
	Laureate of the Annual Prize	1984	Academy of Overseas Sciences (Class of Natural and Medical Sciences)
	Laureate of Conservation Prize	1988	WWF-Belgium