

About CABES

CABES - Capacity Development for Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services Experts for West, Central and East Africa - aims to develop and strengthen the capacity of youths, decision-makers and professionals in biodiversity-related fields across Africa with a view to increase their engagement in the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES, www.ipbes.net).

CABES capacity building initiatives include:

Master's Program - SPIBES

"Science-Policy-Practice Interfaces on Biodiversity, Ecosystem Services & Climate Change - SPIBES"

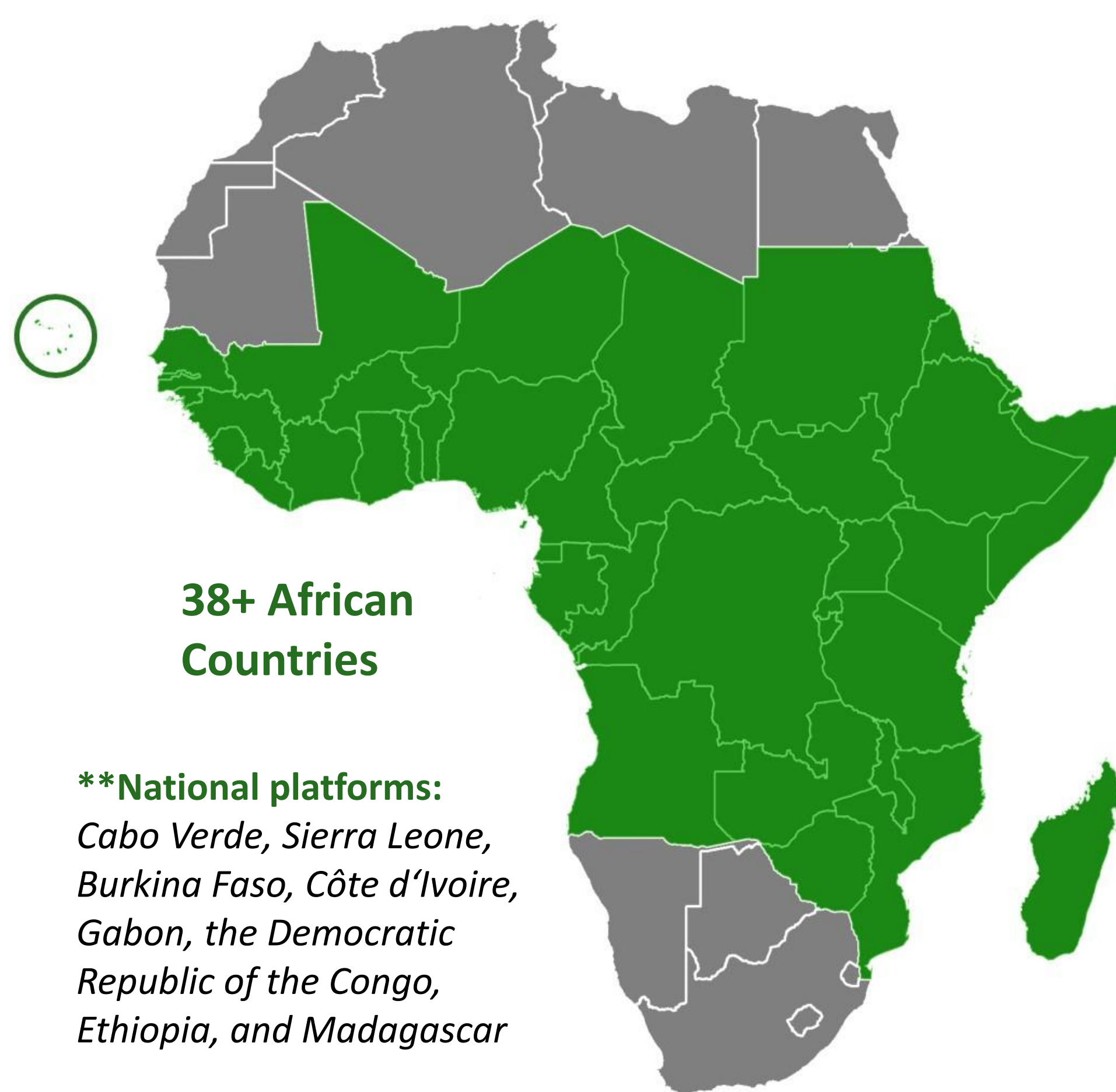
SPIBES is a fully-funded, two-year interdisciplinary program designed to:

- Educate and empower a new generation of early-career scientists to tackle complex environmental challenges;
- Develop and/or strengthen the capacity required to take up lead roles in biodiversity science-policy interfaces;
- Build individual capacities to support the implementation of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs);
- Reinforce inter- and transdisciplinary thinking in tertiary institutions in West, Central and East Africa; and
- Foster south-south collaboration through the SPIBES Alumni network

SPIBES is hosted by three universities across Africa:

- The University Félix Houphouët-Boigny (UFHB), Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire,
- The University of Lubumbashi (UNILU), Democratic Republic of Congo,
- The Horn of Africa Regional Environment Centre and Network, Addis Ababa University (HoAREC&N, AAU).

The SPIBES program is dedicated to young scientists interested in sustainable biodiversity and ecosystem services management through evidence-based decision-making processes and policies.



2. CABES Capacity Development Programme - CDP for professionals

CABES aims to develop capacities of decision makers and other IPBES stakeholders to support the implementation of political decisions on nature-based solutions, ecosystem-based adaptation approaches and sustainable use of natural resources.

The CDP is delivered via our open access CABES e-learning portal and face-to-face courses as well as a 'train the trainers' component. The programme enables participants to better engage with, and benefit from IPBES and targets professionals, such as focal points, policy makers, advisors, entrepreneurs, and organizations working with indigenous and local knowledge holders.



Biodiversity Experts Platforms

aim to bring together experts from biodiversity-related fields from science, policy, and the private sector by facilitating networking and exchanges through workshops

CABES is supporting the establishment and/or strengthening of national**, sub-regional and regional experts platforms in West, Central and East Africa, with the goal to promote south-south networks, foster knowledge transfer and exchanges, and increased engagement with the global IPBES community.

The platforms will be empowered through several virtual, face-to-face networking and capacity development activities.

The platform goals include:

- To share information about ongoing initiatives, highlight challenges and opportunities in Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (BES) conservation activities, and to learn from one another,
- To disseminate knowledge about ongoing IPBES activities and related products, and present ways of engaging with IPBES,
- To foster uptake initiatives of IPBES products at the national, sub-regional and regional levels in order to improve the conservation of BES through better awareness and improved policies.

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ZEF is an international and interdisciplinary research institute of the Rheinische Friedrich-Wilhelms-University of Bonn active in research, capacity building, policy dialog and public awareness as well as international networking. ZEF's research aims at finding solutions to development-related issues by working on cross cutting themes of central importance for the developing world.



CoKnow Consulting is an international consulting agency in the field of environment, development and capacity building. We support the exchange and cooperation between science, politics and society in interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary research. In doing so, we offer creative methods and facilitation processes to develop new knowledge with you and your partners and to co-design sustainable solutions.



The University of Félix Houphouët-Boigny (UFHB) is a university in the Cocody section of Abidjan, in Côte d'Ivoire. It is one of the elite universities in the region and across the country. With over 50,000 students, the UFHB contains 13 faculties and a research center. The African Center of Excellence (CC-BAD) overarching goal is training, research and service to society in the domains of climate change, biodiversity and sustainable agriculture.



The University of Lubumbashi-UNILU, is one of the great universities of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). Located in the so-called copper province of Haut-Katanga in the south of the country, it has the advantage of being in a naturally rich environment. Thus, benefiting from a particular generosity of nature; the fauna, flora, soil and subsoil make this province a geological scandal and a site of scientific research par excellence.



The Horn of Africa Regional Environment Centre and Network- Addis Ababa University (HoA-REC&N-AAU) has been working towards uniting academia and practitioners to promote environmental conservation, natural resource management, while facilitating strengthening and advocating for sustainable development and environmental governance across the Horn of Africa.



WASCAL is a large-scale research-focused Climate Service Centre designed to help tackling this challenge and enhancing the resilience of human and environmental systems to climate change and increased variability. It does so by strengthening the research infrastructure and capacity in West Africa related to climate change and by pooling the expertise of ten West African countries and Germany.



UNEP-WCMC (UN Environment Programme World Conservation Monitoring Centre) is a world leader in biodiversity knowledge. It works with scientists and policy makers worldwide to place biodiversity at the heart of environment and development decision-making to enable enlightened choices for people and the planet.