

This conference aims at bringing together African crystallographers, mineralogists, solid state and structural scientists to increase the awareness for crystallography and improve the educational opportunities for African researchers and students of all levels. The variety of activities will provide opportunities to engage with (i) the scientific community, from expert crystallographers to young researchers and students of all ages, (ii) government representatives and policy-maker from most African countries.

### Scientific program

*Chairman:* Prof. C. Lecomte, Chair of the IUCr Africa Initiative Commission  
[claude.lecomte@univ-lorraine.fr](mailto:claude.lecomte@univ-lorraine.fr)

*Plenary Lecture:* Prof. G. Desiraju, Immediate Past IUCr President India

### Microsymposia:

- Mineral prospection
- Crystal growth
- Inorganic materials
- Molecular crystals
- Crystal engineering
- Large facilities
- Database
- Macromolecular crystallography



**Exhibitions booths** will be available for companies and individuals

For any question about registration, abstract submission..., please contact Dr Patrice Kenfack at the following address: [pancocrys1@gmail.com](mailto:pancocrys1@gmail.com)

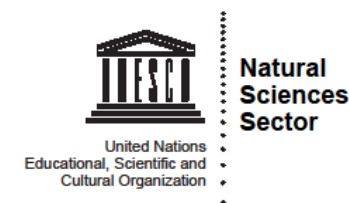
Website: <http://www.iycr2014.org/capacity-building/icsu2015>



## First Pan African Conference on Crystallography



Chairman: Prof. Anaclet Fomethé, Rector of University of Dschang  
Co-chairmen: Profs. Ignas Tonle, Jean Ngoune, University of Dschang



## Welcome to Dschang

The Cameroon Crystallography Association and the University of Dschang invite you to participate to the **First Pan African Conference on Crystallography**. As an interdisciplinary science, crystallography should play a decisive role for sustainable development in Africa. In fact, crystallography underpins most of the technological and medical developments in modern society. In 2011, the International Union of Crystallography designed an ambitious program for sub-Saharan African countries. Known as the Crystallography in Africa Initiative, the program does not only train teaching staff and PhD students in crystallography but also provides participating universities with diffractometers. The first faculty staff that has been trained in order to be prepared for the arrival of a powder diffractometer (2013) came from the University of Dschang in Cameroon. In 2013 also, the Cameroon Crystallographic Association (CCrA) was founded. In August 2014 in Montreal (Canada), Cameroon was admitted as first sub-Sahara African IUCr member during the 23<sup>rd</sup> General Assembly of IUCr. For the development of Crystallography in Africa, schools and open laboratories have already been organized in Algeria, Ghana, Côte d'Ivoire, Kenya, Morocco, Democratic Republic of Congo, Tunisia, Senegal, South Africa and soon in Benin, Burkina, Congo, Gabon, Madagascar and Nigeria.



In October 2014, the Bloemfontein IYCr summit meeting produced the *Pan African and South African Summit Declaration* (<http://www.iycr2014.org/summits>) for development of Crystallography in Africa. ICSU, UNESCO and IUCr decided to sponsor these activities and proposed to organize the first Pan African Conference on Crystallography in Dschang. The safe city is located in the West region of Cameroon and can be reached by bus from Yaoundé or Douala. Dschang, as well as the whole region, contains many valleys through which fine rivers flows are interrupted by waterfalls. It offers up a rise of round-topped mountains and a unique temperate climate in Africa with average annual temperature of 20 °C. The beauty of the area is completed by the richness of its craftsmanship: clay pipes, earthenware utensils, figurines, copper masks, stools decorated with beads and *the Bamileke dancers* in their picturesque costumes.



Cameroon, named « Afrique in miniature », is introduced by the “Musée des Civilisations du Cameroun” just located 100 meters from the University of Dschang where the conference will be held.