

LTBP Renovations of Riparian Stations

uring the past year, LTBP has worked hard to establish a presence in each of Lake Tanganyika's four riparian nations. In addition to our National Coordinator's offices in Bujumbura, Dar es Salaam, Kinshasa and Lusaka, and the Project Coordinator's office in Dar es Salaam, LTBP has established a presence at the lakeshore in each of these countries, with lakeside research stations in Bujumbura, Kigoma, Mpulungu, and Uvira.

In Bujumbura, the Burundian Ministry of Agriculture granted LTBP generous office space in the Department of Water, Fisheries and Aquaculture. After a coat of paint all around, we moved into the former offices of the Regional Research Center in Applied Hydrobiology (CRRHA). Our facilities include: wet and dry laboratories, a museum with aquaria, a library with computer



LTBP Bujumbura Station

facilities and office space. We are grateful for the resources, notably a vast library of literature, that we inherited from the CRRHA project. LTBP also capitalizes on the excellent laboratory facilities of other institutions in Bujumbura to carry out its studies. For example, the physico-chemical component of the pollution studies is carried out at the laboratory of the National Institute for the Environment and Conservation of Nature (INECN) and components of the sedimentation studies are conducted at the Department of Geology and Mines (DGGM), the National Geographic Institute (IGEBU) and the University of Burundi.

In Tanzania, LTBP is based at The Tanzanian Fisheries Research Institute (TAFIRI) compound in Kigoma. LTBP renovated an old fish-shaped storage building/canteen to provide offices for the facilitator, administrative assistant, visiting researchers and communal computer facilities. In addition, LTBP upgraded the



LTBP Kigoma Station (TAFIRI)

TAFIRI wet and dry laboratories and renovated the R/V Echo. Though some analyses are conducted in Dar es Salaam and Arusha, all the LTBP special studies conducting research in Tanzania rely on the TAFIRI Kigoma facilities.



The R/V Silver Shoal (DoF - Zambia)

The Zambian Department of Fisheries (DoF) granted LTBP office facilities at their compound in Mpulungu. LTBP has dedicated office space for the administrative assistant and facilitator and has use of communal DoF facilities, including, laboratories, the library, and storage facilities. At DoF Mpulungu station, LTBP has upgraded the wet and dry lab facilities, renovated the R/V Silver Shoal and contributed computers to the library. All the LTBP special studies conducting research in Zambia rely on these DoF Mpulungu Station facilities.

In the Democratic Republic of Congo, LTBP activities are concentrated at the Hydrobiological Research Center (CRH) in Uvira. The two-story center, with its biological and limnological laboratories, museum and darkroom, was constructed by the Belgians in the 1940s and at that time was surely the most



LTBP Uvira Station (CRH)

impressive scientific center on the lake. In addition to the Belgians, other international scientists including the Japanese, Americans, and French have relied on this center over the years. LTBP is currently renovating the CRH building to put it back in business as a functional laboratory. This work includes complete refitting of electricity and plumbing, masonry, woodworking and a fresh coat of paint all around.

We hope that you will make an effort to visit the LTBP riparian stations when you are in the area or learn more about each station by visiting our website.