An Archaeology of Exchange Networks in Central Africa. The Cases of the Copperbelt and Niari Basin Copper Deposits

Fact Sheet

Project Information

**ArCAN**

Grant agreement ID: 890896

**DOI**

10.3030/890896

**Funded under**

EXCELLENT SCIENCE - Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

**Total cost**

€ 224,933,76

**EU contribution**

€ 224,933,76

**Coordinated by**

THE CHANCELLOR MASTERS AND SCHOLARS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

United Kingdom

Project description

An archaeological reconstruction of central African exchange networks

Despite evidence of the important role that exchange networks played in the history of central Africa, many questions remain unanswered. For instance, where were the trade networks located and how did they operate? The EU-funded ArCAN project will research the history of these networks by exploring exchange systems around the
copper deposits in the Niari Basin (southern Republic of Congo) and the Copperbelt (south-eastern Democratic Republic of Congo). The style and manufacturing methods of copper and ceramic artefacts as well as the provenance of traded objects and materials will be examined as sources of information on trade networks and the spread of knowledge. The research results will allow historical reconstruction of regional and long-distance relationships and interactions, and an assessment of the role played by geographical features and socio-political contexts in these exchange networks.

**Fields of science**

- engineering and technology > mechanical engineering > manufacturing engineering
- humanities > history and archaeology > history
- natural sciences > earth and related environmental sciences > physical geography > cartography > geographic information systems
- humanities > history and archaeology > archaeology > archaeometry
- social sciences > political sciences > government systems

**Keywords**

- Central Africa
- Exchange Networks
- Social Spaces
- Manufacturing Process
- Copper Metallurgy
- Pottery
- Archaeometry
- Spatial Analyses
- Provenance Studies

**Programme(s)**

- H2020-EU.1.3. - EXCELLENT SCIENCE - Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions
- H2020-EU.1.3.2. - Nurturing excellence by means of cross-border and cross-sector mobility

**Topic(s)**

- MSCA-IF-2019 - Individual Fellowships
Funding Scheme

MSCA-IF - Marie Skłodowska-Curie Individual Fellowships (IF)

Coordinator

THE CHANCELLOR MASTERS AND SCHOLARS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

Net EU contribution

€ 224 933.76

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Links

Contact the organisation  Website  Participation in EU R&I programmes  HORIZON collaboration network

Other funding

€ 0.00

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