

Crystallography in the developing world: Experiences in africa and beyond

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The Cambridge Structural Database (CSD) contains over 875,000 experimentally determined small molecule crystal structures, containing a wealth of information about the solid state. Crystallographic databases such as the CSD are easy to access and can be searched and analysed via software at minimal cost. They are therefore well-suited to use for performing high-quality research in countries with limited technological and financial resources.

In recent years, the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre (CCDC) has been involved in a number of activities in the developing world from research collaborations and PhD studentships to workshops and conferences. This presentation will highlight what we have learned from our recent experiences and illustrate through examples how scientists in the developing world have gone on to benefit from, and perform cutting-edge research with, the structural resources that are now available to them.

Finally, we will reflect on how the CCDC, along with the crystallographic community, can continue to help equip scientists worldwide with tools and data that they can benefit from for years to come.

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