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From: "Francis Halle" <francishalle@numericable.fr>  
To: "Maurice Leponce" <Maurice.Leponce@naturalsciences.be>  
Subject: Re: Lettre d'appui pour IBISCA  
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TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

As a tropical botanist, I strongly support the international project IBISCA and its developments. Obviously, such a taxa-wide approach of the patterns and distribution of the biological diversity is essential if we are to understand the tropical rainforest functioning.

Such research will also provide an invaluable source of data into evolutionary processes generating and maintaining the rainforest biological diversity, and the way such diversity is affected by climate and habitat changes.

I saw the IBISCA team doing field work in the humid tropics; they certainly deserve to be supported in their fantastic pioneer work.

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