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**Kew**

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26 October 2005

**Re Investigating the Biodiversity of Soil and Canopy Arthropods (IBISCA)**

Dear Yves,

With this letter I would like to support your application to the European Science Foundation for making IBISCA a 'new ESF programme'.

I certainly wish to encourage conservation projects, especially when they focus on the formidable biodiversity found in tropical areas. I am actually the coordinator of a €1.6m EC-funded EST project on 'understanding and conserving the earth's biodiversity hotspots' (2005-2009) and IBISCA would be welcome to collaborate with us.

Al though it was unclear from your message how you would like us to be linked to your project (as partner or collaborator), I certainly believe that DNA barcoding and biodiversity analyses for conservation are two avenues where it would be very profitable to work together.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Vincent Savolainen  
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