



CENTRE NATIONAL
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*Direction Scientifique Générale
UPS 2561 CNRS-Guyane*

Programme AMAZONIE
Analyse, modélisation et ingénierie
des systèmes amazoniens



*Sciences pour l'Ingénieur, Sciences Chimiques,
Sciences de l'Univers, Sciences de la Vie
Sciences de l'Homme et de la Société*

Professor Alain Pavé

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To whom it may concern

This letter certifies that the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique from French Guiana (CNRS-Guyane; UPS 2561), strongly supports the IBISCA project (Investigating the Biodiversity of Soil and Canopy Arthropods) Towards a Census of Rainforest Life for the period 2007-2011.

This program focusing on the extremely species-rich arthropod communities represents an international collaborative effort permitting to improve our knowledge of the tropical rainforest biodiversity with special reference on the underlying processes that control their interactions with other life forms, particularly plants.

We are more than ever in need of large data sets of animal life, particularly arthropods, living in remaining healthy forests to figure out what is going to be lost in the future and how tropical forest ecosystems respond to anthropization. We need to know the processes controlling the organization of biodiversity in space and time in order to verify if the composition of species assemblages is driven by coadaptation among species or rather by chance. For instance, this will permit to manage with a better efficiency the consequences of human perturbations. Only intensive surveys of many taxonomic groups in the same locations, as proposed by the IBISCA project, will permit to gain substantial insights in this topic.

The CNRS-Guyane can provide staff expertise for field sampling work, taxonomic identification, data analysis as well as research facilities.

Pr. Alain Pavé

Director