

JULY 2015
0 - Paris

OUR COMMON FUTURE UNDER CLIMATE CHANGE

International
Scientific Conference

day conference will be the largest forum for the scientific
y to come together ahead of the 21st UNFCCC Conference
ties (COP21), which will be hosted by France in December
s Climat 2015"). Building on the results of IPCC 5th
nt Report (AR5), the Conference will address key issues
g climate change in the broader context of global change.

OVERARCHING THEMES:

- State of Knowledge on Climate Change
- Scenarios Exploring Our Common Future
- Responding to Climate Change Challenges
- Collective Action and Transformative Solution

More information regarding the conference programme and key dates can be found on the website

www.commonfuture-paris2015.org



page of:



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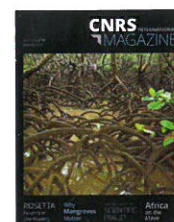
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On this cover:

Stilt roots of mangroves (*Rhizophora
mucronata*) in Mayotte.

PHOTO: F. FROMARD/ECOLAB

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he past year has provided evidence, if any were needed, of the strength of the foundations on which the CNRS is built, with the scientific advances achieved in 2014 further enhancing our organization's long-standing international reputation.

The French-Brazilian Fields Medal awarded to Artur Ávila, or Philae, which had the world spellbound as it landed on comet 67P after a ten-year voyage in space, are further proof that research can only thrive in a globalized organization, based on long-term investment. From an economic point of view, an in-depth survey enabled us to establish that the CNRS helped create a thousand businesses over 15 years, some of which are now listed on the stock exchange.

No doubt the 21st session of the Conference of the Parties, COP 21, will be one of the highlights of 2015. Scheduled in Paris from November 30 to December 11 under the auspices of the United Nations, this event is of vital importance for our planet. It will also provide an opportunity for scientists who are attempting to understand the mechanisms of climate change and assess its impact, to take center stage.

With less than a year to go until this decisive international meeting, the CNRS wants to play an active role and encourage all its institutes to share knowledge with the scientific community, both in France and abroad, as well as with society at large.

Several events are already in preparation. In addition to COP 21, the CNRS will be present at the scientific conference "Our Common Future Under Climate Change," organized at UNESCO from July 7 to 11. Changing climate conditions and weather

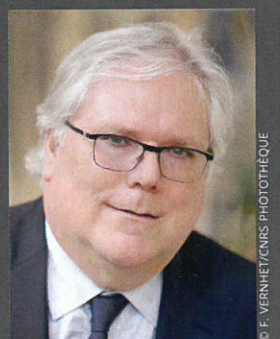
events, melting glaciers, rising sea levels, ocean acidification, migration of species, health and environmental risks, impact on biodiversity, territorial planning, population displacements, resource management, the energy transition, new materials, the circular economy, social innovations: the challenges arising from global change involve every discipline.

On November 13 and 14, 2015, at the Sorbonne University in Paris, the CNRS's scientific forum *Les Fondamentales* will focus on these issues, which we hope to discuss with the general public. "What remains to be discovered?" will again be the

theme of this forum, which will bring together more than a hundred scientists from around the world to exchange views on the climate of the future and the impact of global change. The CNRS will take an active part in the debate and propose solutions to address the crucial challenge of climate change. COP 21 will give scientists a platform. We must seize the opportunity.

Lastly, the recent terrorist attacks in Paris prompt us to reflect upon freedom of speech and the meaning of democracy, but also upon the values of an institution such as the CNRS. And our values are precisely those of freedom: freedom of expression, but also the freedom to discover, invent, acquire knowledge, and disseminate it.

Alain Fuchs,
President of the CNRS



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