

## CV Bernard HUBERT

Bernard HUBERT, Senior scientist at the National Institute for Agricultural Research (*Institut National de Recherche Agronomique*, INRA) and Professor at the Advanced School for the Social Sciences (*Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales*, EHESS), trained as an ecologist (his thesis study concerned functional ecology in Western Africa), but his work has broadened as he has questioned the role of human activities in this setting, seeking to understand the contribution of the social sciences to issues in the life sciences.

This approach led him to reflect upon cross-disciplinary studies and the conduct of interventional, mission-oriented research with the actors concerned. He put this thinking into practice by heading a research unit on ecological development oriented towards the links between animal husbandry and forests, the aim being to prevent forest fires in Mediterranean regions (coordination of activities by those involved in animal husbandry, forestry and local government, etc., combining diverging interests between heterogeneous actors), and directing three successive European projects.

In more recent years, sustainable development has provided the intellectual framework for the development of cross-disciplinary work around the notion of integration (of disciplines, social actors, public and private sector actions), by deliberately focusing on the design and conduct of research projects in society. As Professor at EHESS, he is leading a research seminar on the philosophical and social challenges of advances in the life sciences in the context of future sustainable development. He was a founder member of the journal *Natures Sciences Sociétés* (EDP Sciences) which was launched in 1993, and remains one of its chief editors.

This wide-ranging experience led him to become Director of the Agrarian Systems and Development Department at INRA (from 1994 to 2003), to which he gave new impetus on the interface between social sciences and biotechnical sciences after an international review he organised. Then he became the Scientific Director at INRA for Social sciences and applied mathematics and informatics (Scientific direction 'Society, Economic, Decision-making') from 2003 to 2007. He is now, since mid 2007, the head of a joint venture between INRA and CIRAD, the French Initiative for International Agricultural Research (FI4IAR), which will provide the two organizations, at the highest level, with real strategic study forums that will both benefit from and contribute to the evolution of science and will also enable them to work towards pertinent and open proposals of scientific programs aimed at both national and international decision-makers, based on national, European and international partnerships. He has been elected as Chair of Agropolis International in Montpellier, where he is acting since April 1<sup>st</sup> 2009.

At the CGIAR Science Forum 2009, he will present a paper on "The Future of Food: Towards Safer, More Nutritious Diets".