

Dr. Patrick Duncan joined the CNRS (France's National Centre for Scientific Research) as a *Directeur de recherche* in 1990 (currently DR1, and Emeritus in February 2013), after directing the *Station Biologique de la Tour du Valat* in the Camargue, 1985-90.

His research is on herbivore-plant interactions, and the conservation and sustainable use of forest and savanna ecosystems in Europe and Africa. His thesis in 1975 (available on <http://www.cebc.cnrs.fr/Fidentite/duncan/duncan.htm>, see last page "Thèse de Doctorat, PDF" was based on a detailed study of factors limiting resource acquisition by individual Topi antelope (*Damaliscus*) and explored the consequences of variations in their resources for the ecology and behaviour of the Topi at the population level in Serengeti and Lamu District (Kenya); since then he has explored similar issues in equids, especially horses and zebras, in the European roe deer (*Capreolus*), in grazing waterbirds and in the African ungulate community, with over 150 papers, books and book chapters (some are on https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Patrick_Duncan). His discoveries include work on nutritional ecology which showed that equids like horses and zebras are more effective at extracting energy and nutrients from grasses than ruminants like cattle. He also showed in 1975 that that some species (like Topi) can have very different social systems coexisting in the same population – these are determined by the abundance of the animals' resources. With Hervé Fritz, he identified what limits the abundance of large herbivore communities in near-natural African ecosystems (their resources, not predation), and has shown that Zebras are an exception, and are limited by predation in near-natural systems.

His administrative work has involved directing the Chizé Laboratory 1999-2006 (www.cebc.cnrs.fr). As Biodiversity Officer at the French Ministry for Research 2007-10, he was involved in the negotiations leading up to the decision of the UN General Assembly, in December 2010, to support the creation of IPBES. He managed the creation of the Fondation pour la Recherche sur la Biodiversité in 2008 (FRB www.fondationbiodiversite.org). Between 2010-11 he worked at the CNRS's Institute of Ecology and Environment (INEE) to develop an integrated national Observatory of Biodiversity Dynamics: "Ecoscope", coordinated by the FRB, was launched in June 2011. Duncan was President of the FRB 2011-4; he has been a member of several Scientific Councils (e.g. the *Tour du Valat – Institut de Recherche pour la Conservation des Zones humides Méditerranéennes*, and the *Fonds Français pour l'Environnement Mondial* [French GEF], the *Office National des Forêts* etc.). He chaired the IUCN Equid Specialist Group from 1990-2000, and edited the first IUCN Equid Action Plan.

He has taught in several Universities and has organised field courses for young biologists in the Camargue, at Chizé and is on the Executive of the TBA (www.tropical-biology.org). He has advised eight Postdocs, 20 Doctoral students since 1990, and 1-5 other postgraduate students per year.