

**Marie-Christine Cormier-Salem - Director of Research in Geography, *Institut de Recherche pour le Développement* (IRD)**

Marie-Christine Cormier-Salem holds a PhD in Geography from the University of Paris I, Sorbonne. Her main fields of research are, among others, biodiversity conservation and local development; ecosystem services and nature values; approach of history, social geography and political ecology applied in various fieldworks of tropical countries. She is currently deputy-director of a research unit working on local heritage.