



Spring 2015



Director General to visit UK

Inger Andersen, the new Director General of IUCN (*pictured above*) will be visiting us in the UK in early June, when she will be visiting Cambridge, Bristol and London.

Thanks to the sponsorship of Baroness Parminter, a welcome reception at the House of Lords has been arranged. In addition to various meetings, Inger will be opening a new building at Bristol Zoo and meeting the staff at the IUCN offices in Cambridge.

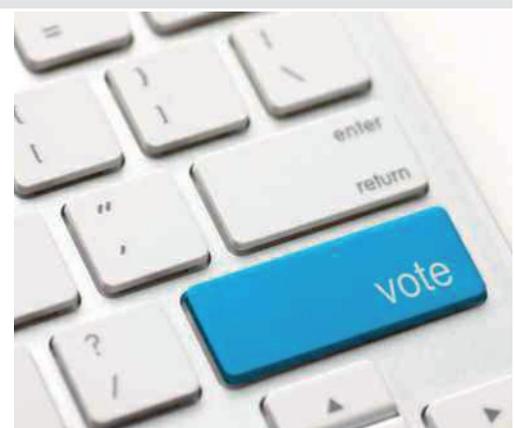
Prior to joining IUCN in January 2015, Inger was Vice President for the Middle East and North Africa at the World Bank, and was responsible for leading the Bank's strategy as well as policy and operational engagement with the Region during a time of complex and challenging historic transition.

IUCN Motions process - online voting

Polling is now open for IUCN's Members to decide whether they want to vote on Resolutions and Recommendations (known as motions), electronically and ahead of the IUCN World Conservation Congress, rather than physically at the Congress itself. This is an important reform (motions help set the global conservation agenda) and you are encouraged to exercise your opinion and vote if you are eligible. The UK National Committee Executive has discussed this issue and welcomed the commitment of IUCN Council to bring forward recommendations for change.

More detail at:

<http://www.iucn.org/about/union/members/?20140/IUCN-Members-to-take-part-in-historic-electronic-vote>



Peatland Programme finalist in European Natura 2000 award



The IUCN UK Peatland Programme has been announced as one of 23 finalists out of 90 applications received from across the EU. The award aims to bring the success of the Natura 2000 network to the public's attention and to demonstrate the network's importance for protecting biodiversity across Europe.

You can vote for the project at:

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/natura2000/awards/application-2015/award-finalists/index_en.htm

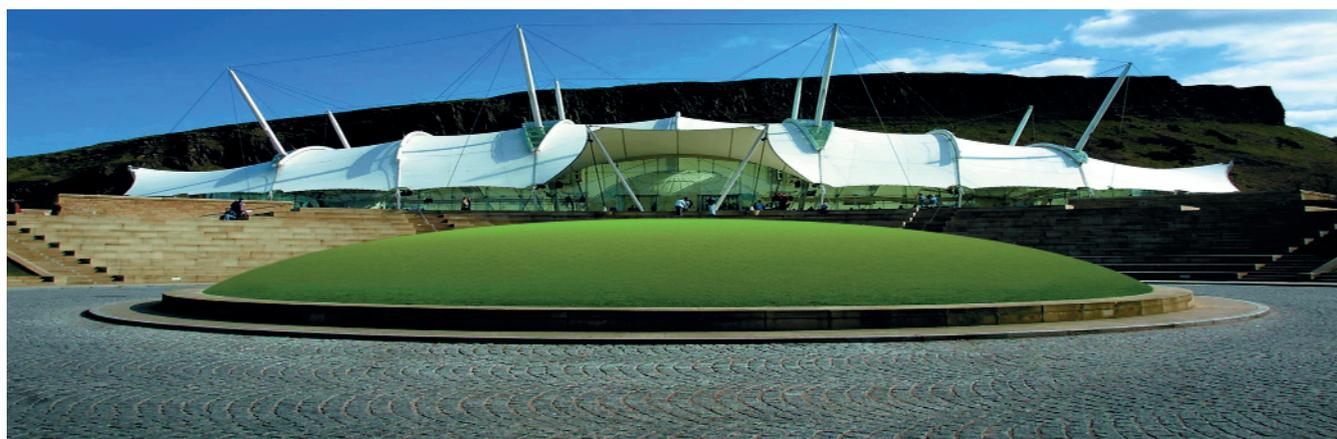
River restoration project enters Phase 2

After the successful River Restoration Expert Workshop in Liverpool in November last year, this project is following in the footsteps of the Peatland Programme and aims to publish its River Restoration and Biodiversity report later this year.

The project covers river restoration schemes and the benefits for nature conservation derived from them in all countries of the UK and the Republic of Ireland. Partners working together on this project include Scottish Natural Heritage, the James Hutton Institute, River Restoration Centre and the Environment Agency amongst others.



Protected Areas conference



Protected Areas – Implications of the Global Agenda was held at Our Dynamic Earth, Edinburgh, on 9th February 2015. Supported with funding from Scottish Natural Heritage, the programme comprised feedback from participants at the recent World Parks Congress in Sydney, Australia, matters relating to the application of the IUCN protected area management categories and the SNH Panel Review of Protected Areas, all of interest to the UK and Scottish audiences of protected area professionals that attended. Presentations from the conference can be found at:

<http://www.iucn-uk.org/presentations/implicationsoftheglobalagendaconference2015/tabid/167/default.aspx>

'Little Sydney' protected areas conference

As an IUCN European regional follow-up to the World Parks Congress (WPC) held last year in Sydney, Australia, we now have 'Little Sydney' near Vienna in Austria. More than 300 participants from all over Europe will gather for the "Protecting Nature in Europe" conference, taking place in Hainburg/Donau-Auen National Park from 28-31 May 2015. The objectives of the conference are to discuss, share and showcase original approaches for conservation and development arising from the WPC 2014; and to facilitate the implementation of the Promise of Sydney in the European context.

The Little Sydney conference is a milestone international event aimed at finding long-term sustainable solutions for protected areas in Europe – and there's still time to book your place at:

http://www.iucn.org/about/union/secretariat/offices/europe/little_sydney_conference

Organisers are particularly interested in showcasing commitments to the delivery of the Promise of Sydney – do you or your organisation have any examples of fulfilling that promise? Click here for more information:

http://worldparkscongress.org/about/promise_of_sydney.html



Regional Conservation Forum (RCF) 2015

The RCF for Europe, North and Central Asia will take place in Helsinki, Finland from 14-17 December 2015. Delegates attending will shape the future of conservation in Europe by identifying the actions and forging the synergies needed for positive change to happen.

"The RCF is a must for all IUCN Members and partners in the region, not only as preparation for the next World Conservation Congress, but also for engaging and identifying opportunities for the implementation of actions for the conservation of nature in Europe, North and Central Asia," says Sebastia Semene Guitart, Senior Coordinator for Europe at IUCN. "With Helsinki's vast experience in conference organization, and a proven record of green values and commitment to nature conservation, we are sure this city will provide an exceptional setting for this major event."



For more information click here:

http://www.iucn.org/about/union/secretariat/offices/europe/regional_conservation_forum/

IUCN NCUK ExCo and AGM

The next meeting of the IUCN NCUK Executive Committee will be on 7th May in Bristol. Please inform the Secretariat if you have anything you wish discussed.

The Annual General Meeting of the IUCN NCUK will be on Wednesday 10th June 2015 at London Wildlife Trust, Dean Bradley House, 52 Horseferry Road, London SW1P 2AF between 1530 and 1700. Please inform the Secretariat if you intend to be there.



Dates for the diary...

- **Watch out for 'Little Sydney'!**
Little Sydney - 28 -31 May 2015, Austria
- **IUCN European Region Members Conservation Forum**
European Region Members Conservation Forum - 14-17 December 2015, Finland
- **IUCN World Conservation Congress 2016**
World Conservation Congress – 1-10 September 2016, Hawaii

IUCN NCUK are actively looking to establish new projects. If you have an idea that fits our unique niche and adds value please do get in touch.