

In recognition of **Professor Roger Crofts CBE**, for his significant contributions to protected areas policy, governance, management and advocacy for over 40 years in Scotland, in the European region and around the world. As the founding CEO of Scottish Natural Heritage, Roger promoted the successful implementation of Natura 2000 with new consultation and financial management arrangements for protected areas owners and occupiers. Placing protected areas in their landscape context through Natural Heritage Futures, he determined a strategy which continues 15 years later.

In Europe, he led the volunteer network of the IUCN WCPA for eight years with drive and determination. Roger advised on the establishment of Vatnajökull in Iceland, Europe's largest National Park, and the establishment of Denmark's National Parks. He argued for removal of perverse incentives, encouraging the reform of the EU Common Agricultural Policy, and promoted the use of enhanced governance models in Bulgaria.

Globally, Roger led the formulation of the Durban Accord and Action Plan at the Vth IUCN World Parks Congress in 2003, laying the foundation for IUCN work on protected areas for a decade, persuaded colleagues to focus on the conservation of 'nature' in defining protected areas, and broadening the discussion to include a new focus on the conservation of geoheritage.