

Animal Welfare.  
Worldwide.



# United to **#ProtectMillions** CAMPAIGN HIGHLIGHTS 2022

FOUR PAWS wishes to **thank you** for supporting our global pledge to protect millions of dogs and cats in Southeast Asia. Together we are making powerful, lasting change! Let us share the latest successes.

Ending the dog and cat meat trade will save the lives of millions of companion animals that will otherwise face unspeakable suffering. However, the positive outcomes don't stop there. Ending the trade will also have far-reaching benefits for the residents of countries where the trade is prevalent. 90% of local people want to see an end to the trade and those who work in it need help to transfer to alternative, cruelty-free livelihoods.

Furthermore, due to its connection with the spread of zoonotic diseases, an end to the dog and cat meat trade will help safeguard the health and safety of millions of people, including global travellers to Southeast Asia.

Recent findings related to COVID-19's origins demonstrate that an end of the trade could prevent future pandemics. There is documented evidence that the dog and cat meat trade severely hinders efforts to prevent the spread of rabies, which is just one of many zoonotic diseases associated with the trade. FOUR PAWS is working with regional government authorities to create "rabies-free zones."

This is why we will not stop until our work is done. Today, FOUR PAWS is extremely proud to share the incredible campaign success and thank you for your support in making it possible!

Here are just some of the greatest highlights:



Thousands of people across Southeast Asia are calling for an end to the dog and cat meat trade.

**Sign and share the petition today.**

**#ProtectMillions**



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Click on the #ProtectMillions button to add your voice.

# Overwhelming global support



**1.7 MILLION** people worldwide have signed our petition to #ProtectMillions of animals from the dog and cat meat trade.



**250,000** people in Vietnam and Cambodia have signed our global petition with over 90% of local people surveyed supporting an end to the trade.



**33,000** Vietnamese people have sent letters to the Deputy Prime Minister Vu Duc Dam asking for an end to the dog and cat meat trade.



**24,000** people have written to the National Tourism Authorities of Cambodia, Indonesia, and Vietnam urging for an immediate end to the trade.



**1,000** photos and videos received from Vietnamese and Cambodian people showing their sentiments against the trade.



Learn more of the local sentiment.

## Last but not least...



**75 influential travel businesses** have pledged support and are helping to increase awareness of the campaign.

“ We have signed the pledge because protecting animals and betterment of care is a key focus for Discova. We believe that animal-friendly tourism is both possible and necessary and encourage others to support this initiative. ”

Discova,  
Global Destination Management Company



# Dog and cat rescues



FOUR PAWS has **rescued over 135 dogs and cats** for rehoming and supported the livelihood conversions of slaughterhouse owners into more sustainable and **cruelty-free futures**. There are many more slaughterhouse operators wanting to end their work in the trade and many more animals **in need of rescuing**.

- **November 2021 - authorities intercepted a delivery truck packed with dogs**, forming part of the Indonesia's first ever large-scale police raid on an illegal dog meat slaughterhouse. The Dog Meat Free Indonesia (DMFI) coalition (of which FOUR PAWS is a member) rescued 52 dogs from the slaughterhouse and provided urgent medical treatment before seeking out their new homes.
- **February 2021 – FOUR PAWS took 61 dogs into their care** following a confiscation by government officials in Siem Reap, Cambodia. Many have since been adopted locally with 15 of the dogs about to embark on new lives in Europe.
- **December 2020 - FOUR PAWS rescued 20 cats and 5 dogs from a slaughterhouse in Cambodia**. These cats are in the safe hands of our partners in the USA and have been adopted into new homes!



Check out our heart-warming rescue stories.



# Political engagement and latest bans

- **August 2022 - FOUR PAWS invited to attend the Vietnam One Health Partnership High Level Forum for Zoonosis Control by the Vietnam Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development.** This opportunity allowed FOUR PAWS to discuss how the dog and cat meat trade undermines efforts to eradicate rabies in Vietnam. An ideal outcome, and one being pursued, is the creation of a working group that will discuss the dog and cat meat trade and its implications in relation to rabies surveillance and prevention - potentially paving the way for a national ban.

“ We welcome and highly appreciate the actions by the International FOUR PAWS to end the dog and cat meat trade in Vietnam. EASIA Travel strives to ensure both people and animals in the destinations we visit are protected from harm, which is the essence of the pledge being signed today. We congratulate FOUR PAWS for its dedication to protect animals and look forward to the day when Vietnam is dog and cat meat trade free. ”

VU Huong Giang,  
who represented EASIA Travel, at the Hanoi event



- **July 2022 - FOUR PAWS hosted an event in Hanoi, Vietnam to publicise the national support for the campaign to end the local dog and cat meat trade.**

The focus was on the 'This is not Vietnam' public mobilisation action, whereby over 33,000 people sent letters to the Deputy Prime Minister Vu Duc Dam, asking for an end to the dog and cat meat trade. The event was well-attended by representatives from Vietnamese authorities, the Food and Agricultural Organisation, Vietnam One Health Partnership, NGOs, representatives from numerous foreign governments, including UK, US and German embassies, and leaders from the travel and tourism industry. The media were also in attendance and have since publicised the event across national media channels.

- **June 2022 - Two Indonesian regencies and a city announced dog meat freedom.** The Indonesian provincial capital Medan of North Sumatra passed the necessary regulations for the ban. Almost at the same time, Temanggung and Magelang regencies in Central Java also declared to join the movement and become dog meat free.
- **May 2022 - Stakeholder event held in Siem Reap, Cambodia.** FOUR PAWS hosted a government workshop focusing on the dog meat trade and its implications on tourism and public health. The sentiment from all the Cambodian officials attending was that there needs to be a concerted effort to end the dog meat trade in Cambodia, noting a plausible opportunity to do so, through the national rabies eradication plan. This included senior tourism officials speaking out against the trade.



**Siem Reap Hosts First Dog Meat Trade Awareness Workshop.**

- **April 2022 - Five cities and regencies in Indonesia passed Directives to prohibit the dog meat trade.** As a result of continued lobbying by the DMFI coalition, five more cities and regencies have passed local Directives prohibiting the dog meat trade in Central Java – Magelang City and Jepara and in East Java – Blitar City, Mojokerto City, Mojokerto Regency.
- **March 2022 - Indonesian dog trafficker sentenced to 17 months imprisonment and in June 2022, the slaughterhouse owner sentenced to 12 months.** Despite the government’s declaration that dogs are not considered food, these are only the second and third convictions in Indonesia. Both cases send a strong message to those operating in this illegal trade, that it will not be tolerated.

- **February 2022 - Mayor of Semarang City announced regulations prohibiting the dog meat trade.** Officially signed on 27th January 2022, Semarang became the first capital city of the Central Java Province and the fifth region in Indonesia to pass such regulations.
- **January 2022 - Another Indonesian city committed to dog meat freedom.** Officials from the city of Malang in East Java have issued a Circular letter pertaining to the prohibition of the dog meat trade city-wide.



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- **December 2021 - Hoi An declared a ‘Tourist-Friendly, Dog and Cat Meat Free City’.** FOUR PAWS and the Hoi An People’s Committee signed a historic agreement to phase out the dog and cat meat trade from the city by the end of 2023.

- **April and May 2021 - Salatiga City and Sukoharjo Regency announced ban on the sale and consumption of dog meat in Indonesia.** Following this, a local police authority stopped a truck carrying 78 dogs headed to a slaughterhouse. This was the first interception of dogs destined for slaughter in the country.
- **July 2020 - Siem Reap provincial government published an official letter declaring a ban on dog meat slaughter and trading.** Following this, 61 dogs were rescued in a collaboration between FOUR PAWS and the Siem Reap authorities in Cambodia. This sent a clear message that the illegal trafficking of dogs through the province would no longer be tolerated.

“ We and our clients take the welfare of animals across our destinations very seriously, so we are delighted to see the vital work of FOUR PAWS in eliminating this cruel trade and engaging communities in better protecting companion animals across Southeast Asia. ”

Exodus



© FOUR PAWS

## Livelihood conversions

- **March 2021 - FOUR PAWS supported closure of major slaughterhouse in Cambodia.** The owners expressed a wish to close their facility and with FOUR PAWS' assistance, they have changed their lives.
- **December 2020 - FOUR PAWS supported a local family in Northern Vietnam** who expressed interest to close their restaurant and slaughterhouse business in pursuit of a better future.
- **August 2020 - FOUR PAWS closed one of the biggest dog meat suppliers in Kampong Thom Province, Cambodia** (killing approx. 3,000 dogs/year trafficked from Siem Reap) and supported the owner in their dream to convert the building into a grocery store.
- **October 2019 - FOUR PAWS supported the closure of the biggest slaughterhouse in Takeo, Cambodia** where 2,000 dogs were killed every year. FOUR PAWS helped the owner Mr Chan convert his livelihood to rice farming.

 Watch the interview.

 Follow Mr Chan's journey.

# Tourism sector support

- **August 2022 - 75 travel businesses pledged support to end the dog and cat meat trade in Vietnam, Cambodia and Indonesia.** Pledgers include outbound businesses operating outside of these countries and inbound businesses operating within them. All recognise that the dog and cat meat trade proliferates disease and health risks to their customers, whilst also being severely detrimental to companion animal welfare.
- **May 2022 - Cambodia Ministry of Tourism expressed concerns about the dog and cat meat trade.** At the government workshop hosted by FOUR PAWS in Siem Reap, the Deputy Director General of Tourism Development and International Cooperation (at the Ministry of Tourism), expressed his particular concerns about the risk of the dog meat trade harming tourism and the reputation of Cambodia.

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|--|--------------------------------|--------------------------|
| ★ Adventure Travel Trade Association     | ★ Adventure World Travel       | ★ Asia Magics Travel     |
| ★ Asien Direkt GmbH                      | ★ Charitable Travel            | ★ Diethelm Travel        |
| ★ Discova                                | ★ Easia Travel                 | ★ Exodus Travels         |
| ★ Explore                                | ★ Explore Real Asia            | ★ Global Work and Travel |
| ★ Guiding Cambodia                       | ★ ICS Travel Group             | ★ Inspired Adventures    |
| ★ Lifesigns Groups / Adventure Lifesigns | ★ Luxperia Collective          | ★ Manase Travel Studio   |
| ★ Pod Volunteer                          | ★ The Different Travel Company | ★ Travel Asia a la Carte |
| ★ Wetouring Travel Sales Representation  | ★ WorkingAbroad                | ★ Inside Travel Group    |



Read more about which travel businesses are supporting FOUR PAWS and their campaign to end the dog and cat meat trade here.



Our ultimate objective is to eliminate practices that have a negative impact on the welfare of animals or that threaten fragile natural habitats and their wildlife. Therefore, with the help of FOUR PAWS, we are one step closer in protecting animals.



Diethelm Travel



Read more about the campaign achievements here.



To find out how your business can further support this incredible work please contact [travel-pledge@four-paws.org](mailto:travel-pledge@four-paws.org)

Thank you for joining us!