

FOUR PAWS Annual Report 2022

Animal Welfare.
Worldwide.



Editorial

Dear Readers,

2022 has been challenging and often heart-breaking. With war returning to Europe, and the climate emergency affecting both animals and humans, it's been a year of distressing headlines and hard-to-handle situations.

For FOUR PAWS it's also been a year in which we have risen to the challenge many times: We continued to be active in 30 countries and delivered even in the most difficult circumstances. From providing essential supplies to zoos in war-struck Ukraine to continuing previous activities in the country – with the help of our donors, we managed to remain the face of animal welfare worldwide. Furthermore, we expanded our reach when we went to Argentina for the first time to rescue four tigers from captivity in a train carriage. What's more, at the time of writing, preparations are underway for the opening of an additional FOUR PAWS country office in France (scheduled for 2023).

With the European Citizen's Initiative which we launched together with partner organisations – still ongoing at the end of 2022 – there is now a real chance of ending the cruel practice of fur farming in Europe for good. This is particularly special to FOUR PAWS as it is the very issue that started our organisation: Almost 35 years ago, FOUR PAWS emerged to oppose fur farms in Austria. Since then, we have continuously delivered results for animal welfare in a growing number of countries, rescuing animals and addressing underlying problems. One such example from 2022 was the rescue of Mark, Albania's last restaurant bear, with which we closed an important chapter in our work for animals under direct human influence.

2022 also saw major contributions by FOUR PAWS to the policy side of animal welfare on a global level. The ongoing political work carried out by FOUR



PAWS in the field of animal welfare continued with activities around the interlinkages between pandemics and animal welfare, and with our participation in key events such as the United Nations Environment Assembly. There we contributed to the passing of the Animal Welfare, Environment and Sustainable Development Nexus Resolution, a key document which tackles the link between animals and environmental policies while simultaneously addressing the climate emergency.

Looking ahead, it remains crucial that animal welfare is part of the political debate, as practices such as fur farming, live animal markets and illegal wildlife trade not only bring about enormous suffering, but also create breeding grounds for new viruses that can be transmitted between animals and humans. Intensive factory farming is also a major contributor to the climate emergency.

The FOUR PAWS vision is a world in which animals are treated with respect, empathy and understanding. Thank you to everyone who contributed to our global animal welfare work in 2022.

Yours,

Josef Pfabigan
FOUR PAWS President & CEO

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The World of FOUR PAWS

Offices, Projects and Countries of Operation



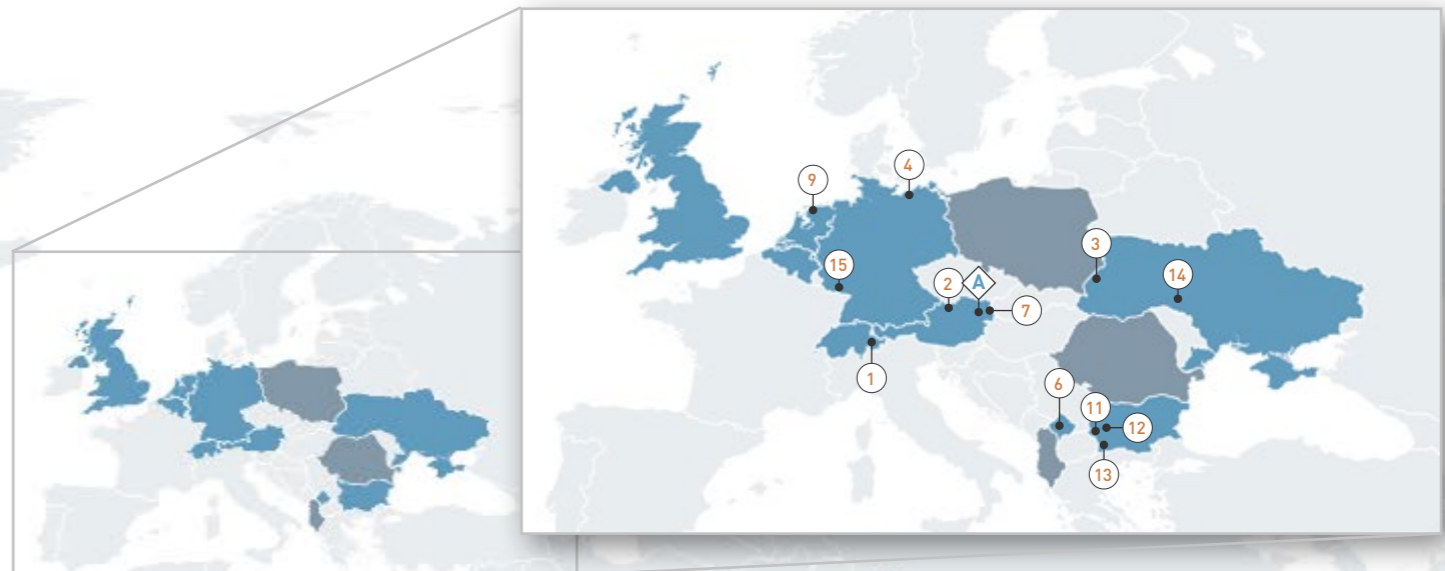
FOUR PAWS International
with headquarters in Vienna



FOUR PAWS Offices 2022: Australia, Austria, Bulgaria, Brussels (EPO - European Policy Office), Germany, Kosovo, the Netherlands, South Africa, Switzerland, Thailand, Ukraine, United Kingdom, USA, Vietnam



Countries of operation and location of cooperation partners 2022
Albania, Cambodia, Gabon, India, Indonesia, Jordan, Kenya, Poland, Romania, Sudan



FOUR PAWS SANCTUARIES AND ANIMAL CLINICS

- | | |
|---|---|
| ① Arosa Bear Sanctuary* | ⑨ FELIDA Big Cat Sanctuary |
| ② BEAR SANCTUARY Arbesbach | ⑩ LIONSROCK Big Cat Sanctuary |
| ③ BEAR SANCTUARY Domazhyr | ⑪ Stray animal clinic Bankya |
| ④ BEAR SANCTUARY Müritz | ⑫ FOUR PAWS Center for Animal Assisted Intervention Sofia |
| ⑤ BEAR SANCTUARY Ninh Binh | ⑬ BEAR SANCTUARY Belitsa* |
| ⑥ BEAR SANCTUARY Prishtina | ⑭ FOUR PAWS Centre for Animal Assisted Intervention Vinnytsia |
| ⑦ OWL & BIRDS OF PREY RESCUE STATION Haringsee* | ⑮ TIERART Wild Animal Sanctuary |
| ⑧ ORANGUTAN FOREST SCHOOL* | ⑯ Al Ma'wa for Nature and Wildlife* |

*in cooperation with partners

Mission and Vision Statement

FOUR PAWS is an organisation with a strong vision: We believe in a world where humans treat animals with respect, empathy and understanding. To move continuously closer to such a reality, FOUR PAWS consistently follows its mission of revealing, rescuing and protecting animals under direct human influence.

Reveal

FOUR PAWS reveals inappropriate and life-threatening conditions for animals. FOUR PAWS exposes abuse, develops appropriate solutions and drives them forward in order to implement them in the best possible way.

Rescue

FOUR PAWS rescues animals in need worldwide, focussing on those living under direct human influence, and reduces and ends the suffering of animals through continuous help and medical care.

Protect

FOUR PAWS provides a safe home for wildlife such as bears, big cats and orangutans rescued from non-species-appropriate living conditions around the world.

Global Reach – One Objective

The global animal welfare organisation FOUR PAWS was founded in Vienna in 1988. This is where the headquarters of 'VIER PFOTEN International – gemeinnützige Privatstiftung' are located to this day.

Continuous building of links and reach over the past 35 years has led to expansion into a growing number of countries on all five continents. Today, FOUR PAWS operates on a truly global level with offices in 14 countries.

Objectives, Tasks and Expertise

Our sustainable campaigns and projects focus on companion animals, farmed animals and wild animals and their keeping in inappropriate conditions, as well as on animals in disaster and conflict zones. FOUR PAWS is actively committed to the humane treatment of stray dogs and cats, as well as to improving living conditions for companion and farmed animals. The organisation establishes and operates sanctuaries around the world, in which rescued wild animals find a species-appropriate home and in which the public can learn about relevant topics, from species-appropriate keeping conditions to sustainable tourism or the linkages between animal welfare and human health or the climate crisis.

FOUR PAWS takes a problem-solving approach and offers animals in distress swift and direct aid. Our aim is to achieve and establish changes in politics, society and the economy that will benefit animals – through projects, campaigns, missions, partnerships and education. All our work is based on scientific expertise, sound research and intensive national and international advocacy efforts.

How We Work

Nationally and Internationally

Far-reaching changes in animal welfare are only possible if there is a general consensus on the need for change in society. Through information and educational work, direct campaigns, and lobbying at national and international level, FOUR PAWS works towards a change in people's awareness, for the benefit of animals. All our work is solution-oriented, scientifically based and carried out in close cooperation with experts. The organisation highlights abuse and shows that its root causes are commercial, political and social. FOUR PAWS works with partners in science, research and industry to develop constructive proposals for solutions which can be put into practice as examples of how best to implement future animal welfare measures.

Structure

FOUR PAWS is organised internationally so that its work can be carried out as efficiently and effectively as possible. The 14 national offices work together and are united under a joint 'One FOUR PAWS' approach, with headquarters located in Vienna. This ensures that links are developed and synergies used, while at the same time differences in markets and geographical topics of focus are recognised, acknowledged and used.

Strategy

The FOUR PAWS Strategy 2025 has guided the organisation with clear goals over the past few years. The focus of this work has been to achieve significant improvements in the living conditions of animals under human influence: wild animals, companion animals and farmed animals, as well as those affected by natural disasters or suffering from life-threatening conditions in crisis areas. FOUR PAWS seeks fundamental, system-wide changes across economic, technological and social factors, including paradigms, goals and values, to ensure that animals are treated with respect, empathy and understanding.

To achieve global impact, FOUR PAWS is active worldwide. The strategic goals defined up to 2025 are well within reach, prompting the organisation to start work on the follow-up framework, which will reach as far as 2038. What will remain unchanged is that FOUR PAWS will continue to encourage and mobilise people to contribute to the improvement of animal welfare. Millions of supporters and donors from all over the world spread the message about animals in need, campaign on behalf of FOUR PAWS, and make financial contributions to rescues, missions, projects and campaigns.



Wild Animals



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Bears

Background

Bears around the world are living in unsuitable captive conditions. In Asia, black bears and sun bears are kept in cramped cages for the cruel practice of bear farming. Sadly, bears are also tortured in Europe. Whether they are used in photoshoots with tourists, circuses, fights with hunting dogs or as a public attraction in restaurants, they are often kept in enclosures that are small and mostly featureless, where they cannot show their natural behaviour, such as exploring and looking for food. This causes behavioural disorders, which typically present in the form of pacing up and down, swaying their heads or self-mutilation. For over 20 years, FOUR PAWS has been working to help tortured and mistreated bears.

Our Aims

FOUR PAWS seeks to improve the living conditions of brown, black and sun bears in captivity and to end the inappropriate keeping of these species. The

worst forms of captivity, such as being exploited on bear bile farms, in circuses and in restaurants, as well as being forced to fight, should be banned.

FOUR PAWS has devised several aims for brown bears in Europe, including achieving changes to legislation that prohibit the private and non-species-appropriate keeping of bears, as well as the cruel conditions in which some bears are kept for commercial purposes.

Bears should only be kept in zoological facilities and sanctuaries, and only with minimum standards that guarantee the well-being of the animals. Bears must be guaranteed sufficient space, proper care, social structures and veterinary treatment in order to ensure a high quality of life. All facilities must be in line with scientific principles.

In Vietnam, FOUR PAWS is working with local organisations to end the captivity and abuse of bears on farms. FOUR PAWS objectives for black bears and sun bears in Vietnam include holding the Vietnamese

government accountable for delivering on its promise to end bear farming in Vietnam. Through educational campaigns, FOUR PAWS also seeks to raise awareness among the general population of Vietnam about the cruel practice of bear farming.

The FOUR PAWS bear sanctuary in the north of Vietnam, BEAR SANCTUARY Ninh Binh, will be expanded to accommodate at least 100 bears rescued from the bile farming industry.

Two departments at FOUR PAWS are working towards achieving these objectives: Wild Animal Rescue & Advocacy coordinates rescue and research

Projects

FOUR PAWS runs five of its own bear sanctuaries and two others in cooperation with partners: BEAR SANCTUARY Belitsa is managed with the Brigitte Bardot Foundation, while Arosa Bear Sanctuary is run with Arosa Tourist Office and the Arosa Bergbahnen cable car company.

FOUR PAWS also works with Poznań Zoo in Poland and the Al Ma'wa for Nature and Wildlife sanctuary in Jordan. All of the mentioned bear sanctuaries provide a protected and species-appropriate home for bears that have been confiscated or voluntarily surrendered. In the spacious enclosures at the sanctuaries, which have lots of features replicated from nature, rescued animals can rediscover their instincts and follow their natural patterns of behaviour, while experienced animal handlers provide daily stimulation to aid recovery from behavioural problems. The animals are regularly checked by a veterinarian and treated when necessary. All the bears will have safe living conditions for the rest of their lives and will not be used for breeding.

BEAR SANCTUARY Arbesbach

The first FOUR PAWS sanctuary, which opened in 1998, BEAR SANCTUARY Arbesbach offers a lifelong home to brown bears rescued from bad keeping conditions. Currently, the sanctuary covers an area of 1.4 hectares and provides a near-natural habitat for three bears.

activities, with a focus on bears and big cats living in captivity. At a political level, the department is also working to change the existing legal frameworks in countries where it is active. Sustainable Sanctuaries (SUSA) is responsible for managing the wildlife sanctuaries operated by FOUR PAWS as well as supporting partner projects. Its second key area of focus is education: To inform those who visit the sanctuaries about the needs, habitats and behaviours of different species, and to inspire a passion for animal welfare. To do this, the SUSA team develops suitable programmes, experiences and exhibitions.

BEAR SANCTUARY Müritz

BEAR SANCTUARY Müritz in Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, Germany, opened in 2006. Covering 16 hectares, it is the largest bear sanctuary in western Europe. Since its foundation, BEAR SANCTUARY Müritz has taken in a total of 27 bears, all of which were rescued by FOUR PAWS from catastrophic keeping conditions in Germany and Europe. At the end of 2022, BEAR SANCTUARY Müritz was home to 12 bears.

BEAR SANCTUARY Prishtina

FOUR PAWS opened BEAR SANCTUARY Prishtina in Kosovo in 2013 to provide appropriate living conditions for brown bears that were being kept illegally in restaurants and private mini-zoos. In addition to all the brown bears once kept privately in Kosovo, this



149 bears were cared for by FOUR PAWS around the world in 2022

8 bear sanctuaries were operated either independently by FOUR PAWS or with partner organisations

16-hectare sanctuary also provides a safe home for bears rescued from poor conditions in Albania. With over 40,000 visitors in 2022 and almost 50,000 followers on social media, the sanctuary has been able to reach lots of people and raise awareness about the needs and behaviours of bears.

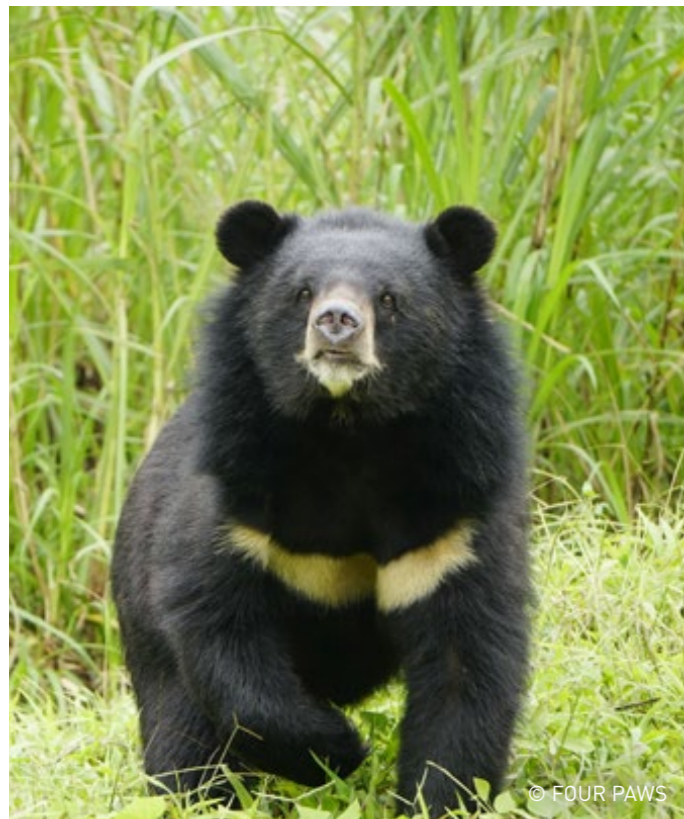
BEAR SANCTUARY Domazhyr

In Ukraine, not only is bear baiting – the cruel practice of using bears as bait to train hunting dogs – now banned, it is also illegal to keep bears as an attraction in restaurants, hotels and private zoos that do not comply with animal welfare standards. Nevertheless, providing all these animals with species-appropriate homes remains a challenge. It is still entirely legal for bears to be kept at hunting stations, where they are at risk of being illegally misused in fights with hunting dogs. In 2018, FOUR PAWS opened BEAR SANCTUARY Domazhyr in order to give the bears kept in captivity in Ukraine a safe alternative. The sanctuary is part of the ‘Green Sanctuary’ initiative: Electric vehicles are used to

transport the animals’ food, and electricity is provided by a solar power plant.

BEAR SANCTUARY Ninh Binh

In Vietnam, there are around 300 bears still living on bear farms. Most of them are Asian black bears, which are still farmed for bile despite the fact that this practice is prohibited under Vietnamese law. Since 2017, bears that are confiscated or voluntarily surrendered can be rehomed in a species-appropriate setting at BEAR SANCTUARY Ninh Binh, which was constructed by FOUR PAWS in north-east Vietnam. The sanctuary currently has approximately six hectares of land and can accommodate 60 bears rescued from bile farms. Plans are in place to gradually expand the site to offer new homes for up to 100 bears. By the end of 2022, BEAR SANCTUARY Ninh Binh was home to a total of 47 bears. A total of 40 provinces across Vietnam have now officially ended the practice of bear bile farming.



© FOUR PAWS



BEAR PROJECTS

- 1 Arosa Bear Sanctuary (Switzerland)
- 2 BEAR SANCTUARY Arbesbach (Austria)
- 3 BEAR SANCTUARY Domazhyr (Ukraine)
- 4 BEAR SANCTUARY Müritz (Germany)
- 5 BEAR SANCTUARY Ninh Binh (Vietnam)
- 6 BEAR SANCTUARY Prishtina (Kosovo)
- 7 BEAR SANCTUARY Belitsa (Bulgaria)
- 8 Al Ma'wa for Nature and Wildlife sanctuary (Jordan)
- 9 Outdoor bear enclosure at Poznań Zoo (Poland)

BEAR SANCTUARY Belitsa

DANCING BEAR PARK Belitsa was opened in 2000 in cooperation with the Brigitte Bardot Foundation, with the main aim of being a safe place for ‘dancing bears’ rescued from the territory of Bulgaria. By 2007, all the dancing bears in the country had been rescued and transferred to the sanctuary. After more than 20 years, most of the dancing bears had passed away and there were no new cases in Bulgaria, which led to a change in the name of the sanctuary. In 2022 the sanctuary was renamed BEAR SANCTUARY Belitsa and currently covers an area of 12 hectares.

At the end of the year, BEAR SANCTUARY Belitsa was home to 18 brown bears, 15 of which went into hibernation – a sign that they are doing well and can once again follow their natural instincts, despite the trauma they suffered in the past.

Arosa Bear Sanctuary

Arosa Bear Sanctuary opened in Switzerland in 2018 and is located at an altitude of around 2,000 metres. It has the capacity to look after five bears rescued from poor living conditions. The joint project between FOUR PAWS, Arosa Tourist Office and the Arosa Bergbahnen cable car company combines animal protection with efforts to promote tourism in the region of Arosa in the canton of Graubünden. Visitors to the sanctuary can take part in various activities to learn about bears as well as the wider protection of animals and nature.

BEAR SANCTUARY Arbesbach

Key Activities 2022

A FOUR PAWS Animal Welfare Corner was installed in the indoor exhibition, with the aim of gaining leads and petition signatures. This was another step in not just promoting bear-related topics in the sanctuary, but also giving visitors access to the wider FOUR PAWS ideas. In December, Mark, the Albanian rescue bear, was rescued to the sanctuary with very good

BEAR SANCTUARY Domazhyr

Key Activities 2022

The war in Ukraine completely changed the lives of the Ukrainian people and BEAR SANCTUARY Domazhyr itself. From the very first day, emergency planning was underway, with new working rules developed to limit the risk for all staff. Only caretakers and maintenance staff stayed on site, taking care of the bears and sanctuary security 24/7. The rest of the team worked online until April, when the situation became more stable and it was possible to travel to work again. On 20 May, the sanctuary started

media coverage. Furthermore, plans to enlarge the sanctuary were submitted to the authorities.

Outlook 2023

Approval of the enlargement plans and submission of a construction permit, which will allow work to start on the construction of new enclosures. In addition, planning will commence on a new educational exhibition.

receiving visitors again, with new rules adopted to suit the current situation in the country. It also hosted many groups of refugees who were forced to leave their cities.

During the year, the BEAR SANCTUARY Domazhyr team arranged several rescue missions. In March, bears were translocated from White Rock Bear Shelter near Kyiv to BEAR SANCTUARY Domazhyr in an emergency rescue operation, as the shelter could no longer ensure their safety with the war zone nearby. From then until the beginning of June, BEAR SANCTUARY Domazhyr took care of 36 bears. In June, the four bears from Kyiv were returned to their home as the situation had grown calmer. At the end of March, the BEAR SANCTUARY Domazhyr team rescued Vova, a bear which lived near a restaurant. Another emergency rescue was carried out in September, this time for Bakhmut, a male brown bear which was abandoned at a private location in the war-torn Donetsk region. Bakhmut was very stressed by his horrible living conditions, but BEAR SANCTUARY Domazhyr caretakers are now looking after him and providing the necessary rehabilitation. Despite the ongoing situation in the country, the BEAR SANCTUARY Domazhyr team continues to care for 31 bears.

Outlook 2023

The main efforts of BEAR SANCTUARY Domazhyr staff will be focussed on the sustainable development of the sanctuary. At least five veterinarian checks will be arranged, as well as the continued socialisation of two groups of bears. We are planning

to relocate two bears, Dasha and Lelya, to BEAR SANCTUARY Müritz. In 2023, the sanctuary team will start implementing the BEAR SANCTUARY Domazhyr educational concept and create an Animal Welfare Academy within this framework. Work will continue on the development of the Green Sanctuary project. In particular, an additional photovoltaic system will be installed, and a new electric car will be purchased.

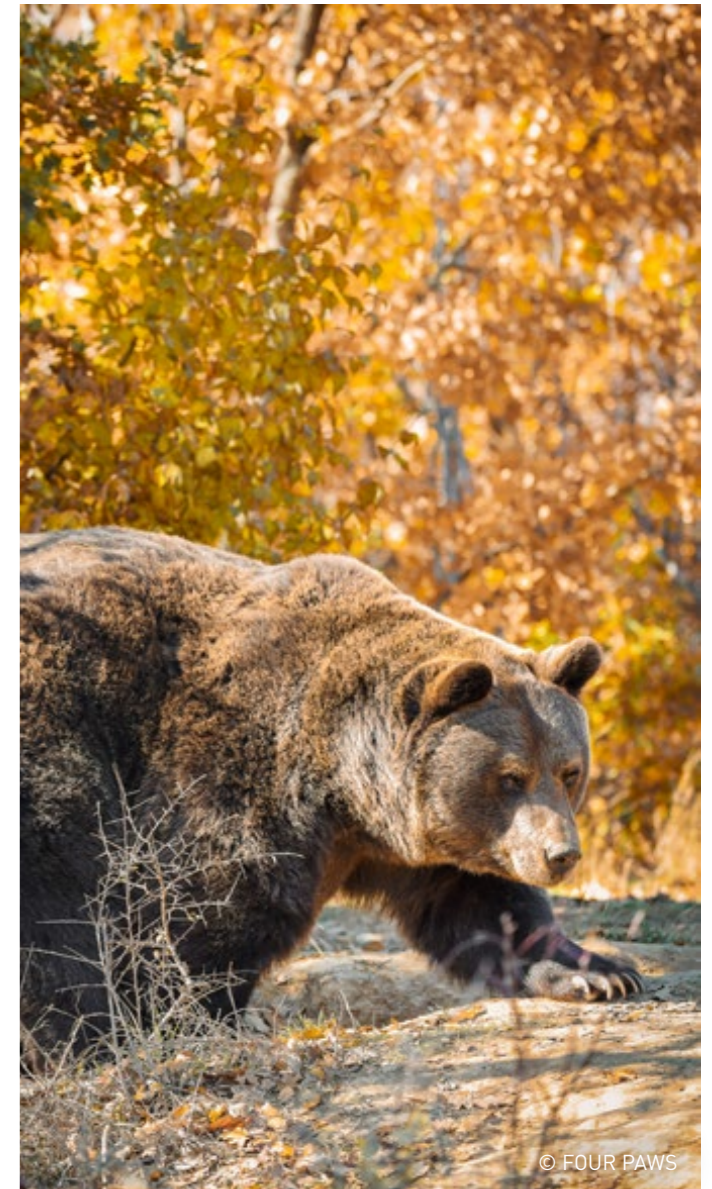
BEAR SANCTUARY Belitsa

Key Activities 2022

Numerous veterinary checks were performed to ensure the health of the 19 bears currently living in the sanctuary, with treatment applied where appropriate. To manage the checks, treatments and medical supplies better, medical training became one of the main activities for the sanctuary. Although 2022 was a very turbulent year, the sanctuary welcomed 42,344 visitors. BEAR SANCTUARY Belitsa rescued Iva, a bear which had been kept privately in the Republic of North Macedonia.

Outlook 2023

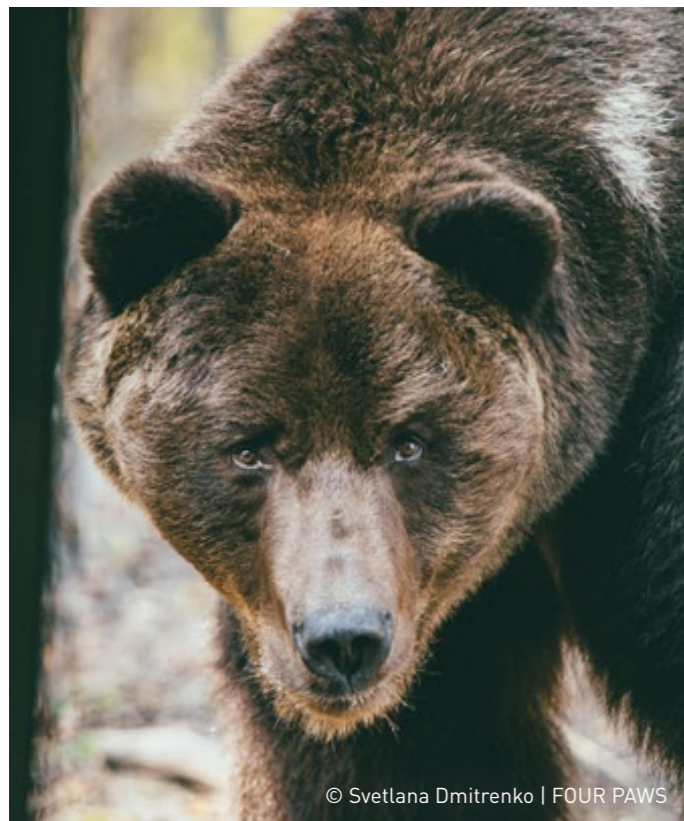
The sanctuary is expecting a wonderful year full of different activities. One of the main aims for 2023 is starting to realise the Animal Welfare Education Centre Project. An important vet check is planned for the spring, during which newcomer bear Iva will be examined for her deafness.



BEAR SANCTUARY Prishtina

Key Activities 2022

BEAR SANCTUARY Prishtina continued to provide care for 20 bears and in March 2022 also welcomed the lion Gjoni. In general, the bears were in good health; five bears and the lion had their annual veterinary check-up. Until March 2022, 16 bears were in full hibernation and four others in semi-hibernation. In order to ensure better keeping conditions for Gjoni, who was rescued from illegal private captivity, a temporary enclosure with a surface of 600 square metres was built in April. FOUR PAWS and BEAR SANCTUARY Prishtina have been working on obtaining the necessary documents to transfer the lion to a FOUR PAWS Big Cat Sanctuary so the lion can





© FOUR PAWS

live with conspecifics. Throughout the year, animal caretakers continued training the bears, especially those that exhibited more abnormal behaviours, also offering suitable enrichment for them.

Animal welfare education continued to be one of BEAR SANCTUARY Prishtina's priorities. During the year, many educational visits were conducted with schools and kindergartens. About 6,000 students and 900 teachers took part in these educational activities. Internationally recognised events such as Children's Day, Animal Day and Vegan Day were also marked. BEAR SANCTUARY Prishtina also started the certification process for hosting volunteers within the framework of the European Solidarity Corps (ESC) programme.

Within the framework of Green Sanctuaries, BEAR SANCTUARY Prishtina continued to contribute to climate change mitigation. During the year 2022, two hybrid cars were purchased, which will be charged

from solar panels installed in the sanctuary and directly contribute to reducing carbon emissions.

The total number of visitors to the sanctuary approached 60,000.

Providing safety and security for animals, staff and visitors continues to be a priority for BEAR SANCTUARY Prishtina.

Outlook 2023

In 2023, BEAR SANCTUARY Prishtina will start implementing the new approved three-year programme for Animal Welfare Education. Other key activities will include improving the sewage plant and visitors' path, and expanding the sanctuary's renewable energy capacity. An electric vehicle will be purchased for transporting bear food. The transfer of lion Gjoni to a big cat sanctuary abroad is planned for this year. Last but not least, BEAR SANCTUARY Prishtina will celebrate its tenth anniversary.

In April 2022, BEAR SANCTUARY Müritz hosted the largest vet check in its history: No fewer than seven bears were given a thorough examination by

specialist veterinarians over two days. In 2022, the animal caretakers intensified the medical training of the bears, which teaches them what to do during a medical examination; this helps to simplify the process and, if possible, avoid anaesthesia.

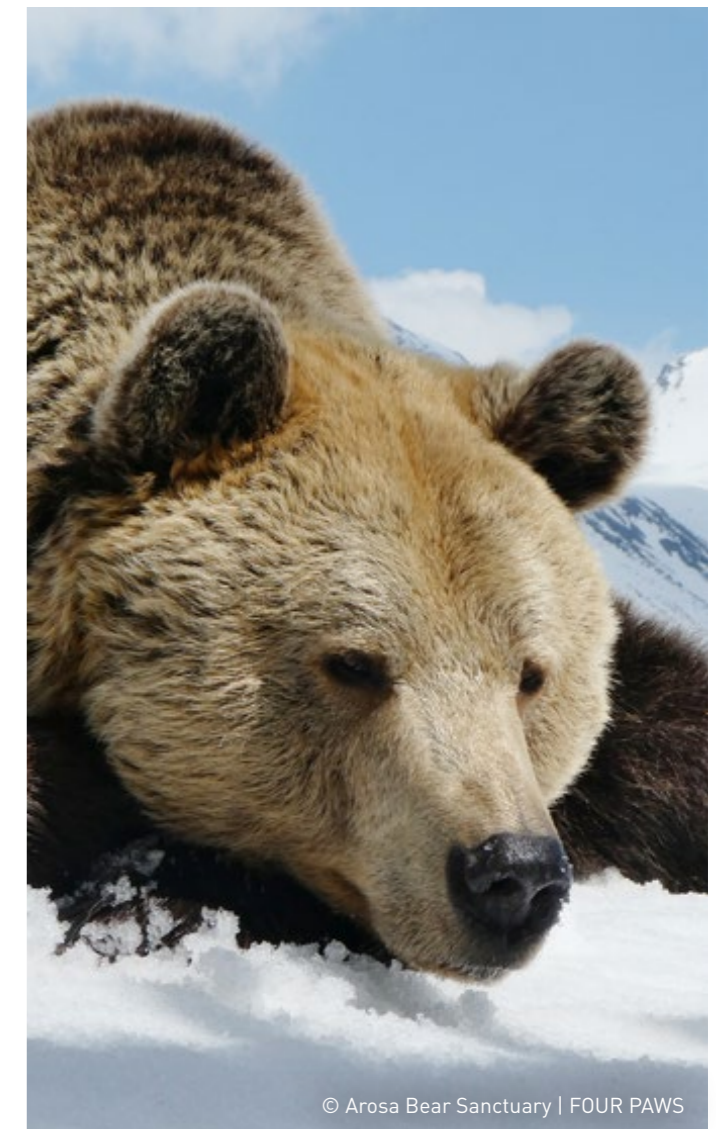
A new strategy adopted in 2022 was that the bears swapped enclosures at regular intervals. The good structural conditions at BEAR SANCTUARY Müritz make it possible to use these enclosure changes as a special opportunity to provide the bears with natural conditions. They can then roam through 'new territories' and have their senses stimulated anew – just the same as with the enrichments that are often offered to them.

In 2022, the BEAR SANCTUARY Müritz team unfortunately had to say goodbye to three bears: Otto (30 years), Sindi (32 years) and Clara (32 years) died after a long and species-appropriate life in BEAR SANCTUARY Müritz.

BEAR SANCTUARY Müritz is open daily and offers various guided tours and events. In 2022, about 97,000 guests visited the project.

Outlook 2023

In 2023, the operating room will be structurally renovated and improved in order to be able to perform highly complex bear examinations on site in even better quality. In addition, three very large enclosures will be divided to offer more bears rescued from poor housing conditions a better home at BEAR SANCTUARY Müritz. The intake of bears Dasha and Lelya from BEAR SANCTUARY Domazhyr is planned. The animal food kitchen will also be renewed, including the construction of better cooling facilities for bear food.



© Arosa Bear Sanctuary | FOUR PAWS

BEAR SANCTUARY Müritz

Key Activities 2022

At the end of 2022, BEAR SANCTUARY Müritz is currently home to 12 bears.

BEAR SANCTUARY Ninh Binh

Key Activities 2022

2022 marked five years since the first rescue bears were brought to BEAR SANCTUARY Ninh Binh. During the year, a further 12 bears were rescued, including the biggest ever rescue of nine bears from Binh Duong province, 1,600 kilometres from the sanctuary. By the end of 2022, 48 bears were being taken care of in the sanctuary. More than 50 vet checks for resident bears took place in 2022.

The 30-minute documentary film about the animal welfare work at BEAR SANCTUARY Ninh Binh, 'Binh Yen, come home!' was launched in September 2022

Arosa Bear Sanctuary

Key Activities 2022

The main event of 2022 was the arrival of new bears Jamila and Sam in May. In a first step, the siblings were familiarised with their surroundings and met one another again after years of individual captivity. Despite having been kept apart, they recognised each other immediately. From the middle of August, the new arrivals were socialised with the sanctuary's existing residents, Amelia and Meimo – first individually and then all together. Visitors were able to observe them looking for food, bathing or resting. In late autumn, the bears embarked on their annual hibernation: another new experience for Jamila and Sam.

The unique experience offered by BEAR SANCTUARY Arosa in combining animal welfare, sustainability and tourism was reflected in the sanctuary's very first sustainability day. In August, local suppliers demonstrated how easy it is to integrate

with the support of the Goethe-Institut Hanoi. The film vividly shows the lives of bears and their caretakers at BEAR SANCTUARY Ninh Binh. It reflects the pain of bears which have been victims of bile farming, their recovery journey at the sanctuary and the thoughts of their caretakers.

Outlook 2023

In 2023, construction work will be completed on the 4.5 hectares of land with three more bear houses. When the entire 10 hectares of the project site is put into use, the sanctuary will be able to accommodate 100 bears.

sustainability into everyday life, garnering a great amount of interest from the public.

The expansion of the Bear Academy also continued, helped by a new staff appointment. This role will oversee the planning and organisation of school trips, experience walks, children's birthdays, courses and lectures.

Outlook 2023

BEAR SANCTUARY Arosa will observe how the four bears behave and share their territory after waking from hibernation. Depending on the results of this observation, the sanctuary and FOUR PAWS will consider the possibility of introducing a fifth bear. The sanctuary will continue to pursue its aims of offering rescued bears a species-appropriate life while teaching as many international visitors as possible about animal welfare and sustainability.





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Big Cats

Background

Around the world, big cats suffer unnecessary cruelty in private ownership. They are made to perform unnatural tricks in circuses, are left to waste away in poorly managed zoos, or are bred for commercial purposes on industrial-scale farms. Most big cats spend their lives confined behind bars, with an inadequate diet and suffering from disease and behavioural problems. Young animals are subjected to human stroking and touching or are used as photographic props to generate income for their owners. A number of them end up with private owners in an environment that is completely inappropriate for their species. Others are even killed and used in traditional medicine, or shot as trophies by amateur hunters. FOUR PAWS has been campaigning for years to end the unsuitable keeping of big cats in captivity.

Our Aims

FOUR PAWS aims to gradually reduce the number of animals being kept in unacceptable conditions in private captivity and in circuses. In the longer term, our objective is to bring an end to the non-species-appropriate keeping of big cats across Europe. In South Africa, FOUR PAWS is working hard to end the canned hunting industry. In order to achieve these goals, FOUR PAWS conducts research and prepares strategies alongside political lobbying and publicity campaigns. FOUR PAWS will also intervene in specific cases whenever it learns of big cats suffering in poor or inappropriate living conditions, doing all it can to rescue these animals.

Sanctuaries

Big cats that have grown up in captivity cannot be released into the wild. Where big cats are seized or surrendered voluntarily, they will be rehomed wherever possible at the sanctuaries operated by FOUR

PAWS (either alone or in cooperation with partner organisations), where mistreated lions, tigers and other big cats can live out their remaining days in an environment that provides the highest possible standards of care. The sanctuaries run a range of programmes and exhibitions to inform visitors about the animals' needs and ways of life, and to inspire passion for animal welfare.

LIONSROCK Big Cat Sanctuary

FOUR PAWS opened LIONSROCK Big Cat Sanctuary in South Africa in 2007. The site covers 1,250 hectares, with savannah, rolling hills and a rocky landscape for the animals to explore. In nature, big cats spend a larger proportion of their time hunting and defending their territory than rescued animals. As the cats are fed a diet of meat, the care team provides regular enrichment activities as an alternative outlet for the energy and brain power that the animals would usually expend on finding their next meal. For example, they fill boxes or sacks with straw and spices or freeze chunks of meat in ice. These activities help to prevent boredom, frustration and the resulting behavioural problems that are so typical of animals kept in captivity. The big cats cared for in this protective environment can gradually overcome the stereotypical behaviours they have acquired and the trauma they suffered in their previous lives. The majority of the inhabitants of LIONSROCK Big Cat Sanctuary were rescued in the first few years after the sanctuary opened and are now between 15 and 20 years old – a long life for big cats. At the end of the year, LIONSROCK Big Cat Sanctuary was home to 110 big cats.

FELIDA Big Cat Sanctuary

In 2013, FOUR PAWS took over a big cat rescue centre housing 26 animals in the Dutch village of

FELIDA Big Cat Sanctuary

Key Activities 2022

In 2022 FELIDA took in one young lion cub from Montenegro and transferred a group of five Romanian lions to LIONSROCK after intense

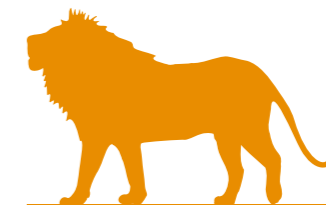
Nijeberkoop. The centre, which has been renamed FELIDA, specialises in caring for big cats with special needs. For example, the centre provides special therapy for severely traumatised animals rescued from war zones – for the rest of their lives, if they need it. Other animals, once physically fit enough, are prepared for their long journey to LIONSROCK. Apart from rare exceptions, the centre is not normally open to the public.

TIERART Wild Animal Sanctuary

With 14 hectares of land at its disposal, TIERART Wild Animal Sanctuary in Maßweiler, Rhineland-Palatinate, is the largest wild animal sanctuary in Germany. Here, FOUR PAWS provides care for a number of wild animal species, including big and small cats rescued from circuses or private captivity. The big cat centre consists of three enclosures covering a total area of about 2,800 square metres. Subject to the health and age of the animals, FOUR PAWS aims to eventually rehome them at LIONSROCK Big Cat Sanctuary. Where this is not possible, lifelong species-appropriate accommodation is provided at TIERART.

Al Ma'wa for Nature and Wildlife

In Jordan, FOUR PAWS has been working with the Al Ma'wa for Nature and Wildlife sanctuary for many years. As of the end of 2022, the sanctuary – which was founded by the Princess Alia Foundation in partnership with FOUR PAWS – cared for a total of 26 big cats: 24 lions and two tigers.



143 big cats were cared for by FOUR PAWS around the world in 2022

4 big cats sanctuaries were operated either independently by FOUR PAWS or with partner organisations

treatment over the course of ten months. A total of nine vet checks, including a special arthroscopic surgery, were carried out. Five crate trainings for transfers, five crate trainings for internal relocation, one vaccination training and two weighing trainings were conducted successfully. Every summer, special visitors' days are organised, when visitors get a chance to work with the animal caretakers team.

As the facilities are too old, in 2022 FELIDA prepared the development of new animal enclosures. In

TIERART Wild Animal Sanctuary

Key Activities 2022

In 2022 the team had to say goodbye to two tigers: Jill, who was rescued after 12 years in a German circus and passed away at the age of 15, and Varvara, who spent the last seven years of her life at TIERART. Varvara, who died at the age of nearly 20, was the last circus tiger in Bulgaria. The team took intensive care of the two remaining tigers, Sahib and Cara, as well as puma Tikam and serval Kiano. Two big veterinary checks were performed, including a complex tooth root treatment for 16-year-old tiger Sahib.

September 2022, the building permit was granted by the authorities.

Outlook 2023

In 2023, FELIDA will start the construction of new animal enclosures. These will generate a capacity of 12 indoor enclosures and six outdoor enclosures.

Alongside construction, focus will be placed on the further development of an education and visitors' concept for FELIDA.

More than 3,500 visitors came to the sanctuary during this year and participated in the informative guided tours. TIERART conducted 29 WORK WILD experience days, during which participants take on the role of an animal keeper for the day.

Outlook 2023

In 2023, TIERART will start the construction of a new enclosure for big cats. This enclosure complex will have capacity for six to 12 additional big cats when all the construction phases have been completed. It will not only provide new species-appropriate housing for more big cats from Germany and Europe, but will also be the first to take a unique and scientifically based approach for a revolutionary enclosure design.

LIONSROCK Big Cat Sanctuary

Key Activities 2022

2022 was a year of change for LIONSROCK, full of never-before-experienced challenges but also productivity. We had to say goodbye to some of our precious big cats, all of which had been with us for many years, so their loss is heavily felt. But we also welcomed 19 big cats this year, including a group of 10 lions from South Africa – one of the biggest local rescue missions the team has ever completed. Five young Romanian lions were also transferred from FELIDA, and the four train tigers from Argentina. Our



BIG CAT PROJECTS

- 1 LIONSROCK Big Cat Sanctuary (South Africa)
- 2 FELIDA Big Cat Sanctuary (Netherlands)
- 3 TIERART Wild Animal Sanctuary (Germany)
- 4 Al Ma'wa for Nature and Wildlife sanctuary (Jordan)

big cat family has thus grown to its biggest size in many years, with 110 big cats.

We moved 21 lions to other enclosures, some to make space for the unplanned new arrivals, for which we also had to adapt existing enclosures. However, we did also continue as planned with restructuring existing lion enclosures, which can now be used more flexibly for internal needs. Besides that, we built two lion houses and two more permanent lion enclosures to replace our old adaption units; these will be finalised next year. Finally, we also built four tiger houses as the start of a new Special Care Unit for tigers, which is still under construction.

One big change and achievement in 2022 was the renovation of the former lodge facilities and their transformation into a new visitor centre with many educational activities on offer. LIONSROCK reopened its accommodation for overnight guests in mid-November. The development of a new and exciting visitor concept is just the beginning of LIONSROCK's educational commitment.

Outlook 2023

We will continue with the planned construction of new animal facilities and finalise the Special Care Unit for tigers as well as two permanent lion enclosures. Afterwards, we will move lions and tigers, like the train tigers from Argentina, into these new facilities.

We will also plan the next construction phase of more permanent enclosures to increase our capacity to 150 big cats in the long term.

A photovoltaic system will be planned and implemented to be able to take LIONSROCK off the national electricity grid and thus avoid the consequences of ongoing power outages linked to the country's energy crisis. The concept development of the education programme, as well as the extension of the existing volunteer programme and the



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In order to assess the well-being of wild animals living under human care in the FOUR PAWS sanctuaries, scientifically sound observations are essential. In recent years, the Science and Research department at FOUR PAWS has developed a set of protocols in order to be able to assess the emotional and physical well-being (e.g. nutritional status or pathological changes) of the animals under our care

conceptualisation of an internship programme, are our main topics of focus this year.

Research Activities to Benefit Big Cats – CatWell

through precisely defined monitoring. Based on these findings, suitable and specific measures can be taken to improve the well-being of each animal as required.

For CatWell, 2022 was the second year of the project, which allowed for the second, practical phase to take place. More precisely, behavioural observations of lions and tigers in FELIDA, LIONSROCK and TIERART were conducted during the summer and winter seasons, and the welfare indicators to be included in the protocol were defined.

In the upcoming final year of the project, planned activities include analysing the behavioural data collected to allow the creation of behavioural indicators, creating health indicators derived from the analysis of veterinary records, and validating the existing faecal scale for lions and tigers under human care. The existing body condition score for lions and tigers under human care will also be validated, followed by all the welfare indicators that have been gathered, using an expert consensus test.



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Apes

Background

In Africa and Asia, the wild populations of gorillas and orangutans are shrinking drastically. There are only around 316,000 gorillas left in the wild, which means that the population of western lowland gorillas has shrunk by more than 70 percent since the 1980s. There are now just around 55,000 orangutans left in Borneo, which equates to an 80 percent reduction since 1950. There are many reasons for this, from commercial and illegal logging to agriculture and mining, all of which are taking ever greater areas of habitat away from these primates. In West and Central Africa, apes are also persecuted as a result of the demand for bushmeat. In Indonesia, huge areas of rainforest are burned to the ground each year in order to make space for more palm oil plantations.

Projects

ORANGUTAN FOREST SCHOOL

In 2014, the Indonesian Yayasan Jejak Pulang Foundation was established with the help of FOUR PAWS. Thanks to an agreement with the Indonesian government's official nature conservation authority, FOUR PAWS and Jejak Pulang have been able to roll out a rehabilitation programme for orphaned orangutans in Borneo. The ORANGUTAN FOREST SCHOOL run by FOUR PAWS in East Kalimantan was opened in 2018. Working in close partnership with the Indonesian forestry authorities, the local team provides new homes for endangered or confiscated baby orangutans. Over the course of a year-long rehabilitation process, the young apes are individually prepared for a life of freedom back in the wild. Care and daily routines are constantly adjusted based on the age and developmental level of each animal, helping them learn everything they need to know to live independently. After completing the programme, young orangutans are moved from the 100 hectares of the ORANGUTAN FOREST SCHOOL to

Meanwhile, the babies of both ape species continue to be targeted by the illegal animal trade.

Our Aims

Orangutans and gorillas are at risk of extinction. FOUR PAWS is committed to campaigning for the protection and preservation of these species. FOUR PAWS has been active in Borneo since 2007, working to rescue and rehabilitate orangutans and establish the very highest standards of individual care and veterinary treatment, and the successful reintroduction of these apes into the wild. Since 2019, FOUR PAWS has helped to protect western lowland gorillas in Africa through its partnership with a rehabilitation centre in Gabon.

a protected jungle region, where they continue to be observed and guarded by Jejak Pulang.

Africa

All gorilla species are at risk of extinction. In order to protect the population of western lowland gorillas living wild in the Fernan-Vaz region of south-western Gabon, FOUR PAWS has been working in partnership with the Fernan-Vaz Gorilla Project since 2019. The organisation campaigns to protect the habitat of these primates, as well as rescuing gorillas from

24 apes were cared for by FOUR PAWS around the world in 2022

Orangutan population decreased
80% since 1950



the bushmeat trade and rehabilitating them so they can be returned to the wild to live in protected habitats. An island in the Nkomi Lagoon is home to nine gorillas which are ready for reintroduction into the wild. Living as two social groups, the gorillas can experience the freedom of the wild without having any direct human contact. Once a protected reintroduction zone has been agreed with the Gabonese

Key Activities 2022

Orangutans

The Omicron wave hit Indonesia in February/March 2022, and at one point a third of all caregivers had to be quarantined at the same time, with the rest taking turns in lockdown on site. Jejak Pulang withstood this critical period without any orangutans falling ill.

Over course of the year, we gradually introduced younger and older orphans to each other. Seven-year-old Cantik, in particular, became an important role model for the infants. In May a baby girl, Juno, arrived at ORANGUTAN FOREST SCHOOL. Once FOUR PAWS knew that she carried no infectious diseases, meetings were arranged with Bhima and Cantik at the forest school. Since December, all the orangutans

government and finance has been secured, the first group will be transported to the pre-release area, where they can gradually acclimatise to their new environment. When the gorillas are settled, they will be released. In their new habitat, the primates will benefit from ongoing protection and remote monitoring of their health and welfare.

have been sleeping in night nests in the forest, except for the youngest ones: Indra, Bhima and Juno. In September, an expedition to the release site at Buring Ayoq produced an access route that does not get flooded, and two alternatives for required infrastructure, such as a base camp, helipad and habituation cages. Constructive meetings with the forestry services and the conservation agency are ongoing, in order to get all the permits needed.

Gorillas

The continued support of FOUR PAWS allowed the Fernan-Vaz Gorilla Project to provide ongoing care for the two groups of rehabilitant gorillas. The very first survey within Pongara National Park was

GREAT APES PROJECTS

- 1 ORANGUTAN FOREST SCHOOL (Indonesia)
- 2 Fernan-Vaz Gorilla Project (Gabon)

2



11 gorillas



13 orangutans

conducted by the gorilla veterinary team at Fernan-Vaz Gorilla Project, to assess one of the potential

release sites. Planning for the release has the full support of the Minister of Waters and Forestry.

Outlook 2023

Gorillas

Two female gorillas will be integrated into the group of nine gorillas living on Oriquet Island during the first quarter of 2023, after the enclosure on the island has been renovated. Surveys will be conducted at potential release sites in Pongara National Park and Wonga-Wongué Reserve. These surveys represent a crucial step towards a successful reintroduction of the rehabilitated gorillas to their natural environment.



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Equines

Background

In many regions across the world, horses are deployed as working animals. However, their owners often lack the financial resources and basic knowledge required to properly care for the animals and provide appropriate food, equipment and medical treatment in an emergency. In Romania and Jordan, FOUR PAWS has established aid projects to improve the living conditions of these animals. As part of its horse protection efforts, FOUR PAWS works with two partner organisations: In 2018, we joined forces with the Animal Rescue and Care Association in Romania, and we have been working with the Princess Alia Foundation in Jordan since 2015. On the other side, the overpopulation of wild horses in Europe and Australia is threatening protected flora and fauna. In some regions, these horses are shot to reduce their numbers and protect nature. In Romania, FOUR PAWS has demonstrated that there are more animal-friendly and sustainable ways to reduce wild horse populations.

Romania: Wild Horses

The Danube Delta in eastern Romania is one of the largest deltas in Europe. A few years ago, conservationists and local authorities were afraid that the growing wild horse population could destroy the unique flora in the biosphere reserve, and as a solution planned to cull the horses. FOUR PAWS was able to prevent this. As an alternative, it has been providing birth control and veterinary care since 2012. In order to guarantee long-term protection of the wild horse population living in the Danube Delta biosphere reserve, the project will be handed over to the responsible local authority in the near future.

Romania: Working Horses

Since 2017, FOUR PAWS has been working to improve the lives and health of working horses in some of the poorest regions of Romania. Over the past few years, veterinary treatment has been provided for a total of 457 horses in the Roma

community of Smârdioasa and surrounding villages. Almost all these horses were fitted with new shoes. In order to ensure long-term improvements to the situation, the owners were advised about the needs of their working horses and taught how to care for them properly.

Jordan

In Jordan, more than 1,000 horses and donkeys work on the streets of Petra to provide an income for their owners and their families. Many visitors to the UNESCO World Heritage Site like to explore the city in a carriage pulled by a horse or donkey, or on horseback. These working animals are forced to

live and work in very challenging conditions: When the FOUR PAWS project began back in 2015, they were often exposed to the unrelenting rays of the sun for hours on end, and many were suffering from exhaustion, lameness and colic. Together with the Jordanian Princess Alia Foundation and the Petra Development and Tourism Region Authority (PDTRA), FOUR PAWS has been operating an aid project to significantly improve living and working conditions for animals in Petra. New stables have been built to provide protection and accommodation for the animals, and around 1,000 have received medical treatment. Blacksmiths and owners have also been provided with training.

Our Aims

In the Romanian community of Smârdioasa and the cultural site of Petra in Jordan, FOUR PAWS is working to increase awareness of the needs of horses and to drive long-term, sustainable improvement in the living and working conditions of these animals. In Petra, a target has been set to halve the use of working horses by 2025. The wild horses living in the Danube Delta need long-term protection and must be integrated into the overall concept for the biosphere reserve. To ensure their ongoing protection,

the Danube Delta Biosphere Reserve Authority will assume responsibility for financing the project and for the birth control programme.

In Jordan, a lot remains to be done, especially regarding the treatment and handling of mules and mainly donkeys on the pathway up to the monastery. PDTRA is working closely with the local population (bedou) to find sustainable solutions for both humans and their animals.

Key Activities 2022

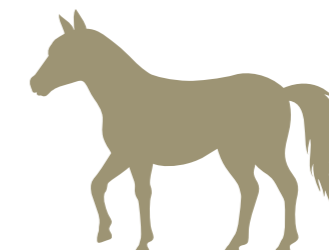
Romania: Wild Horses

In Romania, FOUR PAWS is cooperating with the Animal Rescue and Care Association (ARCA). 2022 was a busy year, with the ARCA team's first intervention in February: Using the 'soft-catch' method, more than 65 horses were rounded up and vaccinated/administered boosters. Aside from taking care of the feral and semi-feral horse population in Letea, in the Danube Delta, ARCA also faced numerous requests connected to the war in Ukraine. Two missions to Moldova resulted in the extraction of more than ten horses with contacts from within Ukraine. In September, nine horses were sterilised in Letea and Sfistofca. In December, ARCA became aware of the illegal live transport of feral horses from another part of the Danube Delta, which was successfully

stopped and subjected to a fine after social media and press coverage.

Romania: Working Horses

Between July and September 2022, ARCA returned to the Roma communities in southern Romania to treat and shoe working equines – in a total of five



More than **300** horses were cared for by FOUR PAWS in 2022

interventions, 80 horses were treated. Apart from returning three times to Smârdioasa (the biggest Roma community with horses), ARCA also visited Piatra Olt and went to Cervenia for the first time.

Jordan: Working Horses

In 2022, the cooperation between FOUR PAWS and the Princess Alia Foundation continued. The milestone of replacing working horse carriages with electric club cars was further cemented, and horse owners have adapted to this transition well. Tourists

have come back to Petra and also transitioned seamlessly to using the club cars.

Throughout 2022, the Princess Alia Foundation and FOUR PAWS visited Petra seven times and treated and shod more than 160 horses – this included medical diagnosis, pregnancy diagnosis, dental treatment, castration, microchipping and shoeing.

In the course of those seven interventions, two workshops were organised: One focussing on general awareness about horse anatomy and equine sicknesses, and one focussing on horse shoeing, specially designed for two aspiring farriers based in Petra.

Outlook 2023

FOUR PAWS and ARCA will strengthen efforts to finally use the long-lasting immune contraceptive Spay Vac in their Fertility Control Programme for the wild horses of Letea in the Danube Delta – this will be a milestone in effective, sustainable and animal-welfare-friendly population management. Furthermore, FOUR PAWS will also organise a stakeholder meeting with the local authorities in Romania, with two main objectives: To pursue a horse protection law for feral horses in Romania, and

to hand over the project ownership to the Danube Delta Biosphere Reserve Authority.

For the second project in Romania, ARCA and FOUR PAWS will plan and implement a Community Engagement (CE) programme in Smârdioasa – a Roma community that uses working equines to make a living. The CE programme aims to make the Roma community more aware of the needs of their horses, as well as able to take ownership and responsibility



for any plans or ideas they might want to develop within their community.

Last but not least, FOUR PAWS and its partner in Jordan, the Princess Alia Foundation, will continue improving the health and working conditions of the working equines within Petra Park. Apart from treating the horses in consistent interventions organised throughout the year, the new vets and farriers at the Petra Equine Clinic will also receive proper on-the-job training provided by local and international experts in the equine field.

Furthermore, FOUR PAWS and Princess Alia Foundation will work on the 'field' within the park, so that FOUR PAWS can get closer to the horse owners who do not visit the Petra Equine Clinic near the entrance to the park. Alongside this, FOUR PAWS will also support the tourism authority (PDTRA) in reaching its goals to become an animal-welfare-friendly tourist destination.



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Native Wild Animals in Danger

Wild Animal Centres Save Lives

Background

Every day, native wild animals are harmed by elements of human civilisation: high-voltage cables, windowpanes, barbed wire, litter, polluted water and road traffic can all be a death sentence for wildlife. Tens of thousands of injured and orphaned wild animals are brought into rescue centres each year in need of urgent help.

But these shelters are often unable to meet the complex needs of wild animals because they specialise in rescuing species that are kept as

companion animals. In the wild animal centres run by FOUR PAWS and our cooperation partners, wildlife keepers and vets help wild animals in need. The animals are nursed and looked after appropriately, given the care they need to make a full return to health; they are then released back into the wild as soon as they are able to survive independently. The work of wild animal centres plays a critical role not only in the individual lives of the animals it saves, but also in the conservation of native wildlife species.

OWL & BIRDS OF PREY Rescue Station Haringsee

The OWL & BIRDS OF PREY Rescue Station Haringsee, which occupies more than 12 square kilometres, is the only station where pairs of foster parents of almost all native owl and raptor species are available for rearing young animals in Austria. This prevents the animals from being reliant on humans as a consequence of hand rearing, which is harmful to the animals and prohibited under the Second Animal Husbandry Ordinance of the Austrian Animal Welfare Act. The goal of the rescue station is to care for abandoned or confiscated young animals

and wild animal patients in such a way that they can be released back into the wild. If wild birds cannot be released back into their natural habitat due to the severity of their injuries, they spend a species-appropriate life at the station in Haringsee as nurse parents for injured or orphaned young birds. Field hares, hedgehogs, squirrels, terrapins and other small native wild animals are also regularly given expert care and, if possible, released back into the wild.

TIERART Wild Animal Sanctuary

TIERART places a high value on providing professional animal care for native wild animals, offering species-specific accommodation across over 3,800 square metres of individually designed enclosures for a wide range of wild animal species. While being nursed back to health for release, the abandoned, sick or injured animals are looked after by a team of eight animal caretakers and two biologists. Patients arriving at the centre include foxes, badgers, stone and pine martens, polecats, European wild cats, lynx, brown hares, raccoons, squirrels, dormice and hedgehogs. TIERART Wild Animal Sanctuary also provides a permanent home to various exotic big and

small cats rescued from poor conditions. As raccoons have been classed as an invasive species in Europe since 2016, they cannot be released into the wild, so the TIERART Wild Animal Sanctuary now provides a permanent, species-appropriate home for 29 raccoons. The sanctuary is also a permanent home to nine red foxes and two Arctic foxes rescued from private captivity in Austria and from a Polish fur farm. In 2022, two raccoon dogs were also rescued from a Polish fur farm and will now live permanently in the sanctuary. TIERART Wild Animal Sanctuary also looks after 31 farmed animals (27 sheep and four goats) that were either seized or abandoned.



More than **5,000** wild animals brought in for assistance

7 new enclosures for young animals built in TIERART Wild Animal Sanctuary

Wild Animal and Species Protection Centre

FOUR PAWS has been supporting the Wild Animal and Species Protection Centre, located about 30 kilometres northwest of Hamburg, since its foundation in 2010. As the only facility of its kind in the greater Hamburg and Schleswig-Holstein area, the sanctuary has since developed into a central rehabilitation facility for native wild animals. The team cares for distressed wild animals in a way that is as close to nature and species-appropriate as possible and

makes them fit again for life in the wild. In individual cases, very severely injured wild animals, as well as exotic and farmed animals, that are found or confiscated and brought to the station are placed with recognised foster homes. In addition, orphaned raccoon cubs that cannot be reintroduced to the wild are raised in the wild animal sanctuary. They are housed in a 700-square-metre area in a species-appropriate environment for the long term.



© VIER PFOTEN | Jan Schuenke

WILD ANIMAL CENTRES



- 1 OWL AND BIRD OF PREY RESCUE STATION Haringsee (Austria)
- 2 TIERART Wild Animal Sanctuary (Germany)
- 3 Wild Animal and Species Protection Centre (Germany)

Key Activities 2022

OWL & BIRDS OF PREY Rescue Station Haringsee

In 2022, a total of 2,006 wild animals were brought into the station, of which 915 were successfully released. Experienced staff are still caring for 221 of these animals at the station, 90 of which are hedgehoglets there for overwintering. In addition, 134 wild animals brought in in previous years were successfully re-released.

TIERART Wild Animal Sanctuary

In summer 2022, TIERART took in three young Eurasian lynx rescued from captivity and prepared them for release into the wild. The first male lynx is now successfully exploring his new territory in freedom in the Lime Alps in Austria.

TIERART cared for and raised more than 186 injured and orphaned native wild animals in 2022. Many of these animals were released back into the wild, including a large number of wild birds, 16 stone and pine martens, 15 foxes, 11 wild cats, four badgers, two weasels, polecats, deer and several smaller mammals, including 30 hedgehogs, 25 dormice, 18 squirrels and two hares. All these animals were given life-saving medical treatment, and over 80 percent have already been released back into the wild.

The sanctuary completed work on seven new enclosures for young wild animals and renovated two old fox enclosures and one big wild cat enclosure.

During the year, 3,569 people visited the station and its exhibitions on the tiger trade, circus animals and the history of animals in war. The centre also answered thousands of emergency calls from across Germany and other European countries, with the team giving advice and instructions over the phone so that many more wild animals could be rescued and saved.

Wild Animal and Species Protection Centre

In 2022, more than 2,500 animals were taken in and cared for at the sanctuary. Almost half of the affected native wild animals were reintroduced into the wild after successful rehabilitation or rearing.

Thanks to additional funding provided by FOUR PAWS, work could begin on the extension of the outbuilding. It offers storage facilities for working materials, feed and transport boxes, and space for a roofed washing area for cleaning working materials.

Together with FOUR PAWS, the wildlife station was also able to complete the nature trail that was

started in 2021. It illustrates different animal welfare

topics to visitors, such as fur farming, invasive species and farm animal husbandry.

Outlook 2023

OWL & BIRDS OF PREY

Rescue Station Haringsee

In 2023, the wildlife centre will continue to receive injured and orphaned wildlife and provide them with the best possible care. Due to the increasing number of patients, there are plans to build a new patient room on site. This should meet the growing demands of the station and lead to even better care of the animals.

TIERART Wild Animal Sanctuary

TIERART Wild Animal Sanctuary will start the construction of an enclosure of 1,050 square metres for 'fur animals' like minks, foxes and raccoon dogs. This work will gradually expand the sanctuary's capacity while also improving safety and quality standards. Furthermore, TIERART will continue to expand its public outreach and education efforts with new exhibitions and learning content regarding nature protection and ending fur farming in Europe.

TIERART will also focus on public outreach and education. The site will hold exhibitions and

workshops to share information on FOUR PAWS campaigns and the educational exhibitions 'Animals in War' and 'Wild Animals in Circuses'. New exhibitions on the topics 'Fur Farming' and 'Climate Protection' will be implemented within the new educational concept for visitors.

Wild Animal and Species Protection Centre

In 2023, the wildlife station will continue to take in as many animals in need of help as possible, care for them and release them back into the wild or place them in suitable foster homes.

Beyond this, the construction projects started in 2022 are due to be completed and additional enclosures built. In addition, renovation work needs to be carried out on the building complex in order for it to operate in a more energy-efficient manner.

FOUR PAWS will continue its cooperation with the Wildlife and Species Protection Centre.





Campaigns for Wild Animals

Breeding and Commercial Sale of Big Cats

Background

The Wild Animals in Trade Unit seeks to end the commercial trade of big cats and their parts through raising public awareness and campaigning for policy and legislation changes in South Africa and Europe. The 2022 Lunar Year of the Tiger was a particularly important year to seize opportunities for the #RuthlessTrade and #BreakTheViciousCycle campaigns. There are three times as many tigers in captivity as in the wild, and while wild populations are in decline FOUR PAWS will work to ensure better protection laws for these much-loved species worldwide.

Aims

The commercial trade of big cats should be banned in hotspot countries in Europe and in South Africa. Trade between these locations and Southeast Asia and the Americas will also be curbed through shifts in policy and attitudes. Tigers and other big cats will no longer be kept privately as exotic pets, used in entertainment or traded outside of real in-situ conservation efforts and to true sanctuaries where they will not be bred or used in interactions with the public. Their parts and derivatives will also not be sold, e.g. in traditional medicine or luxury products. This will have a knock-on effect on the illegal trade and poaching of big cats in the wild.

Key Activities 2022

In February FOUR PAWS launched the 'Year of the Tiger?' report, detailing the extent of the commercial trade of tigers and big cats from South Africa. Along with evidence, FOUR PAWS provided recommendations for both the South African government and international community, with the aim of taking these to the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties for the Convention on International Trade of Endangered Species (CITES CoP19) in November.

At CoP19, FOUR PAWS delivered interventions by addressing the parties on the protection of big cats from commercial trade. Parties were reminded of the critical conservation status of Asian big cats, the continued demand that is driving poaching, and the slow progress of already existing decisions to end tiger farming.

Between February and November, the campaign had many peaks, including a short film featuring local South African ambassadors, a South African Member of Parliament and Jorge Rios, Chief of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime's Wildlife/Forest Crime Programme, all advocating for better protection of big cats in South Africa. Following the release of this video on our social media channels, a commitment was made by the CITES authority to deploy missions to breeding facilities of concern in key hotspots for trade countries, South Africa included. FOUR PAWS offered funds to ensure these important missions take place.

FOUR PAWS also presented evidence to the South African Chief of Enforcement and to the CITES Management Authority, as well as submitting to key governmental consultations on the white paper and game meat strategy. Publicly, FOUR

PAWS explored new ways of audience mobilisation: #YouAskedWeAnswer, a four-part mini-series tackling public questions on big cats and their trade; the #CITESBigCats series, highlighting the trade of lions, tigers and jaguars ahead of CITES CoP19; and engaging supporters with #YearoftheTigerChallenge.

December saw US legislation announced on the Big Cat Public Safety Act, a bill to ban the private keeping of big cats and their use in roadside zoos in America following the popular Netflix show 'Tiger King'.

Outlook 2023

While the Lunar Year of the Tiger ends in February 2023, our work will by no means slow down. Next year will see us continue our lobbying efforts to ensure the South African government follows through on its 2021 announcement of a ban on the lion breeding industry and goes further by adding all big cats into upcoming legislation.

The CITES missions to big cat breeding facilities of concern will begin in January, with the report being made ready before the 77th Standing Committee (SC77) in November. FOUR PAWS will monitor the situation and offer expertise when relevant.

In addition, FOUR PAWS is looking forward to much-anticipated European Union (EU) Tiger Guidance being formally announced, after which it can begin to be adopted by EU member states. FOUR PAWS and its partner Eurogroup for Animals will campaign to extend the guidance to include all big cats and for as many European countries as possible to instate new laws that protect big cats from being commercially traded for non-conservation purposes, used for entertainment and kept in private homes.

Rescue & Advocacy

Background

Wild Animal Rescue & Advocacy sets the framework within FOUR PAWS to end the illegal and



There are **three times** as many tigers in captivity as in the wild

inappropriate keeping of bears and big cats. FOUR PAWS aims for sustainable change by ending certain types of illegal and/or inappropriate keeping, both by law and in practice, through advocacy and the rescue of bears and big cats. The focus lies with key countries in Central and Eastern Europe and/or in the EU, and with South Africa and Vietnam.

Impact and Outcomes

The use and illegal keeping of bears as pets and for entertainment and commercial purposes (for instance for bile extraction and at restaurants) should be significantly reduced in key countries in Europe and in Vietnam. The use and illegal keeping of big cats in private collections, circuses and substandard zoos must be significantly reduced in key countries in Europe and in South Africa. By 2025, 100 wild animals will have been rescued from poor captive conditions in focus countries and transferred to species-appropriate sanctuaries.

Key Activities 2022

The #saddestbears initiative was continued in 2022, accompanied by publicity work, in order to keep raising awareness of the plight of bears that are kept in poor conditions. The campaign focusses on captive brown bears in Central and Eastern Europe, as well as on Asiatic black bears in Vietnam, which are rescued mainly from bile bear farms but also the wildlife trade. In 2022, FOUR PAWS succeeded in rescuing 18 bears and transferred them to the FOUR PAWS BEAR SANCTURIES in Ukraine, Bulgaria, Austria and Vietnam, as well as to our cooperation partner Arosa Bear Sanctuary in Switzerland. As a result, the total number of bears cared for by FOUR PAWS was 149 by the end of 2022. Additionally, FOUR

Outlook 2023

The #saddestbears campaign is to be continued in 2023, as well as the work for captive big cats. FOUR PAWS will reveal the suffering of bears and big cats held captive in inappropriate keeping conditions by private persons, in substandard zoos and on farms. Where possible, and in support of sustainable

PAWS was able to give temporary shelter in BEAR SANCTUARY Domazhyr to seven bears from the Wild Animal Rescue near Kyiv, and to bring three orphaned wild bear cubs from a special rehabilitation centre in Greece back to Bulgaria, where their release back into the wild could be supported.

FOUR PAWS also continued its work for captive big cats in Europe and South Africa, with 12 big cats rescued in these regions and transferred to the FOUR PAWS BIG CAT SANCTURIES in the Netherlands and South Africa, as well as to the FOUR PAWS BEAR SANCTUARY Prishtina in Kosovo. As a result of these rescues and that of an additional six big cats from Argentina and Sudan, FOUR PAWS cared for a total of 143 big cats by the end of 2022. Additionally, FOUR PAWS was able to relocate five young lions rescued from Romania in 2021 from FELIDA Big Cat Sanctuary to LIONSROCK Big Cat Sanctuary. Here the young siblings have all the space and freedom they need to roam and play.

In 2022, FOUR PAWS started to reveal the increasing number of cases in which bears and big cats appear to have been subjected to illegal trafficking, breeding and keeping in south-east Europe. Among the victims of this apparent trend were the lions, Gjoni and Nikola, which FOUR PAWS rescued from Kosovo and Montenegro and took into its care this year.

The biggest milestone achieved in 2022 was an end to the keeping of restaurant bears in Albania, which was reached after the last restaurant bear, Mark, was rescued. Since FOUR PAWS started working in Albania in 2016, more than 30 bears have been rescued in cooperation with the Albanian authorities and other animal welfare organisations and transferred to wildlife rescue centres abroad.

change, FOUR PAWS will rescue bears and big cats from these poor living conditions and transfer them to FOUR PAWS sanctuaries. In this way, FOUR PAWS will continue to work towards changing the legal framework to provide better protection for wild animals living in captivity.

In key countries in Europe, especially in south-eastern Europe, FOUR PAWS will look for and continue its cooperation with relevant authorities to introduce, implement and enforce legislation banning the keeping of bears and big cats by private persons. Furthermore, FOUR PAWS will investigate and follow up on cases of illegal bear and big cat trafficking, breeding and keeping in this region. In Albania, FOUR PAWS will continue fighting for legislative improvements, including a total ban on the private keeping of bears and big cats and the foundation of a state-run wildlife rescue centre for an appropriate response to such cases.

In Vietnam, FOUR PAWS will continue its work to expedite an end to bear farming. The focus is on

the capital city, Hanoi, which remains the country's number-one bear farming hotspot, keeping around half the bears in Vietnam. Help will be offered to the authorities for the rescue and intake of bears originating from bear farms and the illegal wildlife trade. FOUR PAWS will also investigate the keeping of tigers in the country, with the objective of curtailing breeding and trade related to the tiger farming industry.

In South Africa, FOUR PAWS will offer help to the authorities for the rescue and intake of big cats to support efforts to ensure the South African government follows through on its 2021 announcement of a ban on the lion breeding industry.





Fur Farming Campaign

Background

Every year, millions of minks, foxes, raccoons and other animals suffer and die on fur farms all over the world. They are kept in tiny wire cages, where the mesh floors injure their sensitive paws and faeces and urine build up underneath. The animals live in a state of constant stress, which often leads to behavioural problems or self-mutilation. Their deaths are just as cruel: they are gassed, poisoned or killed by electric current.

The coronavirus pandemic was a stark reminder that fur farming also entails considerable health risks to humans and animals: SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, spread rapidly on mink farms, where it was then transmitted back to humans. Millions of animals had to be culled. For decades, FOUR PAWS has worked to help fur farm animals,

educating the general public, exerting consistent pressure on politicians and businesses and protesting outside fur farms. Thanks to these efforts, the last fur farm in Austria closed in 1998, and Germany's last remaining facility closed in March 2019.

Our Aims

Our long-term goal is an EU-wide ban on fur farms and an end to the trade in fur products. FOUR PAWS also wants to encourage more clothing brands to keep their garments fur-free, with the ultimate aim of eradicating fur from the fashion industry.

Key Activities 2022

May 2022 saw the launch of the European Citizens' Initiative (ECI) 'Fur Free Europe', an historic opportunity to end cruel fur production and the sale of farmed fur in the European Union. ECIs are an effective way for EU citizens to call on the European Commission to propose new laws. If an initiative reaches one million validated signatures within one year, the Commission is obliged to respond and act. 'Fur Free Europe' is a joint effort by 80 European organisations, initiated by Eurogroup for Animals. FOUR PAWS played a leading role by working hard to collect ECI signatures, promoting the petition and mobilising support in all the EU countries where it is active. Thanks to the tireless efforts of more than 80 NGOs throughout the EU, the ECI obtained more than one million (unvalidated) signatures in less than seven months. It also reached national signature thresholds in 14 EU member states (seven are formally required by the EU Commission). This important milestone demonstrated to the European Commission the urgency of an EU-wide ban on fur farms and sales.

In October, FOUR PAWS published new investigative footage highlighting the suffering of animals on chinchilla farms in Romania and on fox and raccoon dog farms in Poland.

In Switzerland, FOUR PAWS advocated for a motion to ban the import of fur products. This was unfortunately rejected by the Council of States in June. Since then, FOUR PAWS has supported another initiative with the same objective that was launched shortly after.

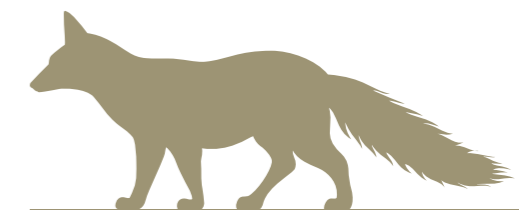
In the UK, FOUR PAWS launched several e-actions calling on MPs to support a ban on fur imports and sales, and tabled parliamentary questions on this topic in both the House of Commons and the House of Lords.

There were also several positive developments for fur animals at a national level. In March, Ireland banned fur farming, closing its three remaining mink farms by the end of the year. In September, Latvia became the most recent country to introduce a ban on fur farming, with a phase-out period until 2028.

FOUR PAWS was a successful representative of the international Fur Free Retailer programme, not only in Germany, Austria and Australia, but also for the first time in the USA and Bulgaria. The programme identifies retailers with a fur-free policy. In February, FOUR PAWS held a presentation about fur fashion at an OECD (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development) event, Animal Welfare Policy Guidance for Textile Companies.

Outlook 2023

After hopefully bringing the ECI signature collection phase to a successful end in early 2023, FOUR PAWS and its partner NGOs will focus on influencing the EU Commission, the European Parliament and the Agriculture and Fisheries Council to support the inclusion of a ban on fur farming and sales in the proposal for a revised EU animal welfare legislation, which is expected to be released at the end of 2023. FOUR PAWS will also continue to educate the public about the suffering behind fur, and convince more fashion stakeholders, such as designers, manufacturers and fairs, to phase out fur fashion and other wild-animal-derived materials.



More than **1.7 million** signatures were collected for the European Citizen Initiative for a ban on fur farming and placing farmed fur on EU market



Companion Animals



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The Dog and Cat Meat Trade

Background

Estimates suggest that over 30 million dogs and cats are killed for the meat industry in Southeast Asia every year. Dealers capture strays and beloved pets and cram them into tiny cages, before transporting them without food and water, sometimes on journeys lasting multiple days and across distances of hundreds of miles. The destination on these journeys of suffering is usually a market or a slaughterhouse, where the animals are brutally killed. The trade in dog and cat meat is not only a huge animal welfare issue, but also poses a major risk to public health: the industry provides the perfect vehicle for dangerous pathogens, like rabies, to spread, as well as fuelling the development of deadly viruses.

Our Aims

FOUR PAWS wants to end the dog and cat meat trade in Indonesia, Cambodia and Vietnam by the

year 2030. This would see the governments of these countries implement legislation, or revise existing regulations, to prevent dogs and cats from being captured and slaughtered and to outlaw the consumption of their meat.

Key Activities 2022

During 2022, FOUR PAWS continued focussing its efforts on applying pressure to the national governments of Cambodia, Indonesia and Vietnam, in particular through the tourism industry and public opposition to the trade. By the end of the year, nearly 1.8 million supporters had signed our #protectmillions petition, while over 50 influential international and local tourism companies had signed our pledge calling for an end to the dog and cat meat trade. This brought the cumulative total of tourism companies supporting the campaign to 80.

As a result of this pressure, a senior official from the Cambodian Ministry of Tourism publicly expressed strong support for a sustainable end to the dog and cat meat trade in Cambodia.

In Indonesia, as a result of continued lobbying and public awareness campaigning through the Dog Meat Free Indonesia (DMFI) coalition, of which FOUR PAWS is a member, 18 regencies and cities passed directives to explicitly prohibit the dog meat trade. 2022 also saw the successful prosecutions of a dog trader and slaughterhouse owner as part of DMFI's collaborative efforts with the authorities. These convictions set an important precedent that the trade will not be tolerated by the authorities.

In Vietnam, FOUR PAWS applied pressure to the Vietnamese government by launching the 'This is Not Vietnam' campaign, in which over 33,000 Vietnamese people sent letters to Deputy Prime Minister Vu Duc Dam, asking for an end to the trade. Meanwhile, over 13,500 supporters from across the globe sent digital postcards to the Minister of Tourism, calling on him to raise concerns with the national government to bring an end to the dog and cat meat trade and eradicate rabies in Vietnam.

In addition, as part of an agreement between FOUR PAWS and the Hội An People's Committee, the first stage of their two-year commitment to phase out the city's dog and cat meat trade was completed. Activities included the distribution of educational materials, sterilisation and vaccination clinics, as well as the launch of a reporting tool.

Throughout the year, positive relationships were established with embassies to extend political support for our campaign, with the UK, US and German embassies in Vietnam demonstrating their support by attending a key stakeholder meeting.

In December 2022, FOUR PAWS hosted a national government stakeholder meeting in Vietnam to discuss the implications of the dog and cat meat trade on the country's public health, animal welfare and tourism industry. It included keynote speeches from key stakeholders, including a prominent Member of the European Parliament, tourism industry leaders and those involved in the public health sector.

Outlook 2023

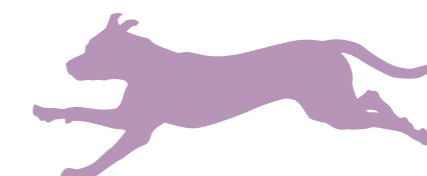
In 2023, the campaign focus will leverage the risks that the dog and cat meat trade poses to public health. The focus in 2023 will be to urge the Ministry of Health in target countries to speak out against the dog and cat meat trade and apply further pressure to the government.

In Cambodia, efforts will concentrate on FOUR PAWS becoming a registered entity in the country. Following this, a stray animal care programme will be established in Siem Reap, which will support activities surrounding the dog meat trade in the province.

In Vietnam, the Hội An People's Committee and FOUR PAWS partnership will commence its second year and continue efforts to phase out the dog and cat meat trade from the city. In addition, FOUR PAWS intends to work in collaboration with partners to end the illegal traffic and transport of dogs and cats destined for slaughter and human consumption through Hà Tĩnh province.

To support the creation of DCMT-free provinces and cities in Cambodia and Vietnam, additional local activities will be conducted, such as facilitating the closure of holding areas and slaughterhouses, and rescuing dogs and cats, along with supporting the implementation of comprehensive dog population and rabies management programmes.

In addition to this, as part of the DMFI coalition, FOUR PAWS will strive for three additional Indonesian regencies and cities to bring an end to the dog meat trade. In the first instance, a legislative review will be completed to identify stakeholders



1.8m supporters signed our #protectmillions petition

18 regencies in Indonesia prohibit dog meat trade

and influencers, including ministries, embassies and tourism businesses. This will be combined with the development of a stakeholder engagement strategy, which will include hosting a national meeting with relevant stakeholders at the end of 2023.

More widely, engagement with foreign governments and the tourism sector will continue, encouraging them to apply pressure to the governments of Cambodia, Indonesia and Vietnam. In the same light, working with FOUR PAWS European Policy Office, lobbying will continue for Members of the European

Parliament to voice concerns about the dog and cat meat trade or to call on the European Commission to include initiatives aimed at ending the trade in their efforts to eradicate rabies from Southeast Asia.

From the perspective of public mobilisation, international supporters will be engaged, and the petition will continue to be promoted to reach two million signatures by the end of 2023.





Stray Animal Care (SAC)

Background

To permanently reduce the number of stray animals roaming the streets, FOUR PAWS deploys specially trained teams across the world, all of whom use the Catch-Neuter-Vaccinate-Return method. The teams catch stray dogs and cats and transport them to a FOUR PAWS clinic or mobile clinic. There, the animals are neutered under anaesthetic, vaccinated and chipped. Injured animals or strays infested with parasites are given appropriate treatment. Finally, they are released back into the area in which they were found. To build awareness of the responsibilities involved in companion animal ownership among local citizens, the sterilisation programmes are run in conjunction with information campaigns to educate the public. FOUR PAWS also trains local vets so that they can continue the project themselves. The FOUR PAWS Stray Animal Care programme only operates in cities and municipalities that have entered into a contractual agreement not to kill strays.

Our Aims

FOUR PAWS wants to ease the suffering of stray dogs and cats across the world and to reduce the stray animal population in a sustainable and humane way. We also aim to convey the message that these animals are living beings which deserve respect, and to educate pet owners on their responsibilities.

SAC – Asia

Key Activities 2022

India: Our SAC Southeast Asia (SEA) partnership programme further expanded in 2022 with the launch of a stray animal programme in Chennai, India. Working in partnership with Blue Cross of India, we launched a mobile 'hospital on wheels' in the form of our stray animal care ambulance. The ambulance is the first of its kind in India and, despite the challenges of the pandemic, which introduced major restrictions on movement, around 700 sick and injured animals were treated by the ambulance while remaining in their community, thereby avoiding the stress and trauma of being moved to an unfamiliar environment for treatment.

Vietnam: 2022 saw the signing of the Hội An Memorandum of Understanding, which will aim to phase out the dog and cat meat trade in the city of Hội An. Additionally, our partners will now be instrumental in implementing a stray animal care and sterilisation programme to help the city in its aim to keep animals safe from the horrors of the dog and cat meat trade.

Cambodia: We continued to care for the dogs that were confiscated by the Siem Reap authorities, having been rescued from the dog and cat meat trade. Many of these dogs have now found loving homes in Cambodia or abroad. In 2022 five of the dogs were sent to Switzerland and nine to the USA for rehoming.

Thailand: In 2022 a Memorandum of Understanding was signed with Trang Municipality to work on a sterilisation programme and provide training in best

Outlook 2023

In 2023 we will continue operating partner programmes in Vietnam, Indonesia, Thailand and India, as well as setting up a new FOUR PAWS SAC programme in Cambodia following registration.

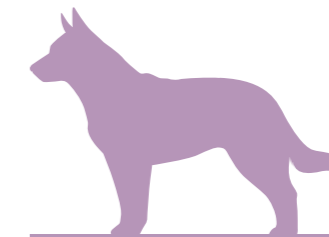
In 2023 we will add a new partnership in Bangkok, with the newly registered Bangkok Cat Society. Focussing on community cat population management, this exciting new project will serve as a best-practice, data-driven model on how to

practice for dog population management. A total of 12 staff, including government vets and vet nurses from Trang Municipality, were trained through our partnership with Lanta Animal Welfare. We aim to make the Trang project a model programme for stray animal care in Thailand.

Indonesia: In 2022, two perdes (village regulations) were secured in local villages, banning animal cruelty in the form of poisoning, as well as the dog and cat meat trade. The stray animal feeding programme continued in areas affected by the October 2021 earthquake. In addition, our partners at Bali Animal Welfare Association were able to respond quickly to a rabies outbreak, supporting the government and community with vaccination in Program Dharma areas. A total of 735 dogs were vaccinated to keep them and the public safe.

Borneo: we continued to work with the local government on animal welfare, responsible pet ownership and teaching the community about the importance of spaying/neutering. Through our local partners, we achieved an agreement from the local government to implement these animal welfare initiatives, which will continue in 2023.

Jakarta: we launched the animal welfare website with our partner Jakarta Animal Aid Network, and hosted Indonesia's first animal welfare conference in December 2022. The event was attended by over 230 delegates, including representatives from governmental animal health departments, veterinary universities, NGOs and veterinary students.



Food was provided to more than **110,000** cats and dogs in Ukraine

28,235 stray animals were cared for by FOUR PAWS in 2022

humanely manage urban cat populations,

SAC – EUROPE

Key Activities 2022

FOUR PAWS runs stray animal care programmes with a community engagement approach in a total of five municipalities in Romania and Bulgaria, providing direct veterinary care to more than 15,100 dogs and cats in Eastern Europe in 2022.

Romania: Following the completion of the community engagement pilot project in the city of Galati, the city of Constanta – one of the largest in Romania, as well as its most important port city near the Black Sea – has been selected as the second site for a community engagement project. After a decade of the municipality of Constanta killing stray dogs, a new city government put an end to these cruel practices and asked FOUR PAWS and Animal Society, our partner organisation in Romania, to support the implementation of a humane dog population management system. Observational street dog population surveys were conducted at baseline to understand the dog population size and dynamics, and a specialised Stray Animal Care team sterilised and vaccinated 1,599 animals in 2022.

Bulgaria: FOUR PAWS and the municipality of Elin Pelin continued their partnership, signed in 2021, to start the first community engagement programme, with the ultimate aim of Elin Pelin becoming the first municipality in Bulgaria with no stray dogs. In 2022, 252 animals were sterilised and vaccinated, and a series of educational workshops were held, aiming to

empowering local communities and creating safe, healthy cat populations.

prevent negative interactions between stray dogs and children. This year, FOUR PAWS also signed a partnership agreement with the municipality of Sevlievo for a community engagement project and, as part of this, a Catch, Neuter, Vaccination and Release campaign was launched, treating 158 animals alongside conducting a representative survey on attitudes and behaviours towards stray animals and pets in the community. Moreover, an agreement was signed with the municipality of Tryavna for a third community engagement project to help stray animals in the city. Finally, FOUR PAWS extended its cooperation with Sofia municipality for another ten years to provide specialised stray animal care from the FOUR PAWS Bankya clinic, with a focus on the large stray cat population in Sofia.

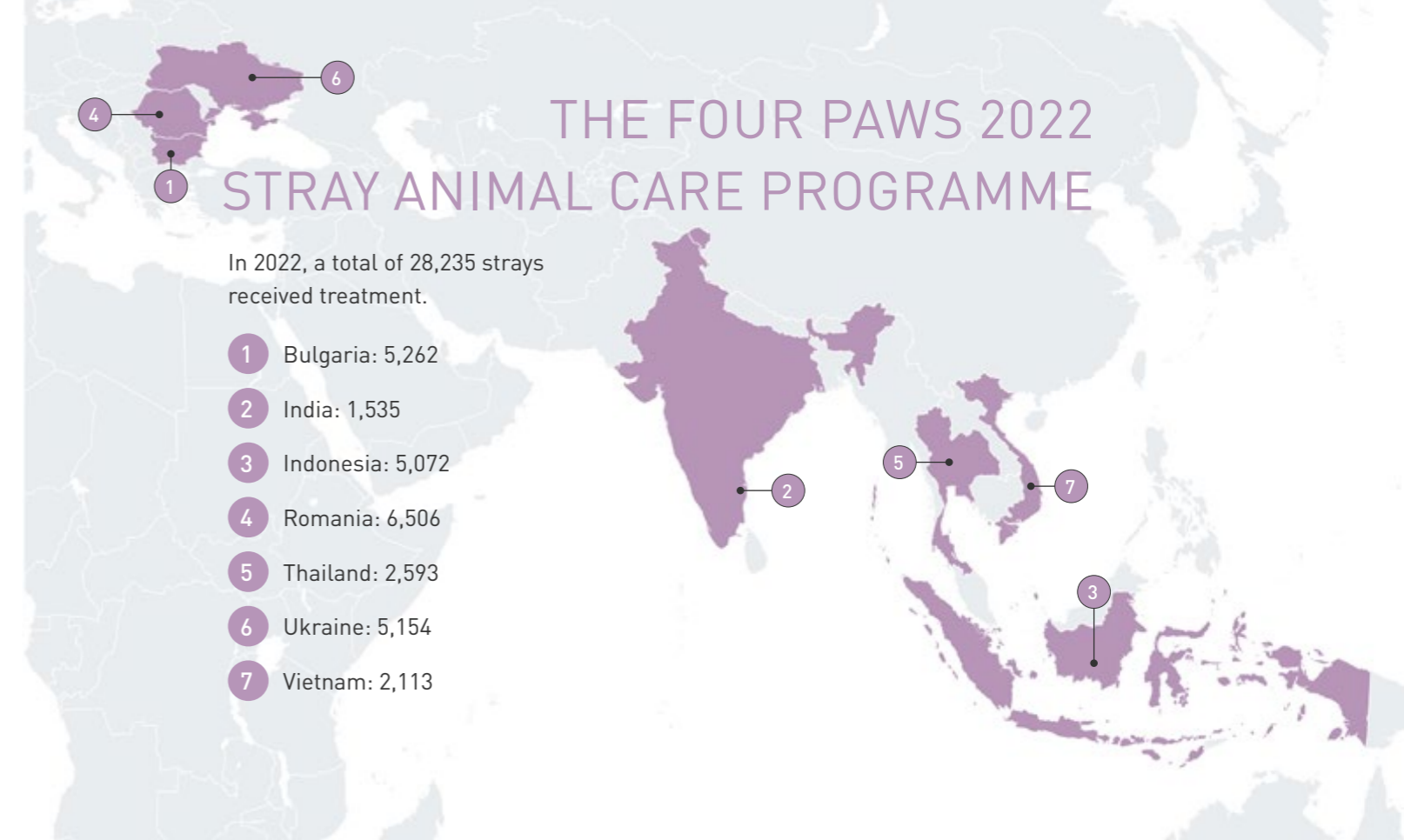
Ukraine: Despite the war, our SAC team continued their work to sterilise stray animals and minimise their suffering. In 2022 more than 3,300 stray animals were sterilised and vaccinated, preventing tens of thousands of puppies and kittens being born on to the streets in wartime. To support the city of Mykolaiv, one of the cities most affected by the war, FOUR PAWS additionally delivered 5,000 tick and flea treatments to prevent dogs and cats in the region from contracting deadly diseases. Furthermore, FOUR PAWS launched 'Project Kishka', in which several veterinarians were hired and trained to fully focus on sterilising and vaccinating stray cats in five cities across Ukraine.

Animal-Assisted Interventions (AAI) Programme

The Animal-Assisted Interventions (AAI) project is a special component of the FOUR PAWS international Stray Animal Care programme. Since 2004, FOUR PAWS has been training rescued strays to become therapy dogs. After starting in Romania, the project was expanded to Bulgaria in 2016 and Ukraine in 2018. People living with psychological conditions or physical disabilities often find it easier to establish a connection with dogs than with other people. Working

with animals helps them to regain their confidence and start to enjoy life again. In turn, the dogs benefit from a level of attention and care of which they could never even have dreamed in their life on the streets. These projects also help to improve the image of strays among the general population.

Romania: Over the past year, FOUR PAWS has worked with its partner organisation Animal Society



to focus on educational activities delivered via the AAI programme. The team organised 19 activities reaching over 270 people, along with 16 workshops on different responsible pet ownership topics with over 300 dog and cat owners. The AAI team also worked towards raising awareness about the value of stray dogs as pets by taking part in two conferences attended by over 450 people.

Bulgaria: Throughout the year, the AAI programme focussed its activities on children's education and

changing the attitudes and behaviour of students towards stray animals. A two-step approach for working with children on responsible pet ownership and encouraging positive attitudes and behaviours towards stray animals was developed. In 2022, the AAI team managed to reach over 230 people through more than 300 activities and signed partnerships to work with five new schools in Bulgaria.

Shelter Adoption Programme

In many parts of the world, dogs are kept in shelters long-term or even for life due to a lack of adoption culture. FOUR PAWS believes that shelters are only a temporary solution and, with the Shelter Adoption Programme, aims to transform shelters worldwide from permanent homes to rehoming centres by helping them to substantially increase their local adoption rate. This would mean that thousands of animals could be moved out of shelters and into responsible and caring homes. As part of the programme, the Shelter Adoption Academy e-learning course aims to support shelter staff and volunteers by providing best-practice guidelines to help improve their skills and knowledge so that they can overcome the most common challenges to pet adoption. The Shelter Adoption Academy course was launched in

November 2022 in both English and Ukrainian, with 50 shelters and organisations already signed up to the course.

Feeding and Partnerships Projects

FOUR PAWS delivered nearly 30 tons of pet food that provided over 4,700 dogs and cats on the streets of Mykolaiv and Kherson and in shelters in Vinnytsia, Mykolaiv and near Kyiv with food for a month. However, as the need for dog and cat food in Ukraine is so great, FOUR PAWS, together with Animal ID and Dogs Trust Worldwide, also supported the launch of a new organisation called UPAW (Ukrainian Pet Association Worldwide), with the main objective of providing support to shelters and volunteers looking after abandoned dogs and cats, including providing pet food. Over 1,000 tons of pet food were delivered in 2022, reaching more than 110,000 dogs and cats. Another collaboration with Animal ID was established with 'Project Povidok', to provide 20,000 dogs with a QR ID tag to help reunite pets with their owners in times of emergency. At the end of the year, FOUR PAWS launched a collaboration with USAVA (Ukrainian Small Animal Veterinary Association) to enable private veterinarians to work in three of the worst affected cities – Mykolaiv, Sumy and Zaporizhzhia – providing much-needed veterinary care to animals in these locations.



Help for Refugees and Their Pets

The war in Ukraine displaced millions of families and, together with its partner organisations Animal Society (Romania), Doctor Vet (Moldova) and Zvierací Ombudsman (Slovakia), FOUR PAWS provided free emergency aid to 2,500 refugee families and their pets in countries neighbouring Ukraine. Furthermore, in spring the city of Vinnytsia became a hub for thousands of refugees from Kharkiv, Mariupol and Odesa who were heavily impacted by

the horrors of the war and needed urgent help. The FOUR PAWS Animal Assisted Interventions (AAI) team, with therapy dog Busia, reacted immediately and started working with families in refugee camps, especially children. The team also started working with injured soldiers returning from the battlefield, with Busia bringing much-needed comfort after the horrors of war. In 2022, the AAI team conducted over 100 sessions reaching 1,445 people.

Outlook 2023

In Eastern Europe, FOUR PAWS will continue to focus on the implementation of strategic, sustainable and humane projects, helping communities to acquire the knowledge and skills they need to put in place effective and humane dog population management programmes in the future. This means that municipal partners have committed to making active, long-term improvements to the living conditions of stray dogs and cats in their regions. With initial support from FOUR PAWS, they commit to roll out measures such

as adoption campaigns, training for veterinarians, responsible pet ownership education and, of course, systematic sterilisation and vaccination programmes. In 2023, in addition to its key countries of Romania, Bulgaria and Ukraine, FOUR PAWS will also deliver veterinary support to stray animals in Moldova and is looking to expand its community engagement approach to other countries in Eastern Europe.





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Campaigns

Background

In Europe, millions of puppies are farmed in appalling conditions every year. Separated from their mothers far too early in life, they are sold anonymously via the internet, often with fake vaccination records that dupe buyers. In many cases, these puppies are actually seriously ill, traumatised, unvaccinated and riddled with parasites. Many die just days after purchase, and some don't even make it through the long journey to their destination country. The sellers operate on anonymous internet advertising platforms, which usually enables them to evade responsibility. Over the past three years, FOUR PAWS has been working with companion animal experts and industry representatives to develop a model solution that would make online sales of dogs and cats fully traceable within the EU. We also partnered with Europetnet, an umbrella organisation for pet registration databases across Europe. Together,

we developed PetSAFE: a technological solution for internet advertising platforms that enables users to verify sellers and check the details of the animals for sale.

Our Aims

In an international campaign against the illegal puppy trade, FOUR PAWS is lobbying for regulatory changes at national and European level to provide better protection for companion animals during breeding, keeping and trading. The key objective is to ensure that everyone involved in the breeding and sale of a puppy is traceable, especially in the case of online transactions. As transactions generally involve parties from a number of countries, regulations surrounding the identification and registration of companion animals must be standardised across the EU.

Key Activities 2022

In 2022 FOUR PAWS launched an international public awareness campaign called 'Cute. Quick. Sick.' targeting potential puppy buyers to raise awareness of the risks involved in purchasing a dog from the illegal and unscrupulous puppy trade. By the end of the year, there were more than 20 million impressions from the digital campaign and more than 50,000 people had visited the campaign pages: one international and eight country-specific.

In 2022 FOUR PAWS also conducted detailed puppy acquisition research on the unprecedented demand fuelling the illegal puppy trade in Europe. This resulted in a report titled 'Pandemic Pups', which explored the main reasons why people purchased puppies during the pandemic, as well as the issues they faced during and after their purchase. The report summarising the main findings of the research was published in October 2022 and achieved excellent media coverage, helping FOUR PAWS to reach even more potential puppy buyers.

To curb the trade, FOUR PAWS continued to cooperate actively with authorities at an EU level. Trainings for enforcement authorities were held in Austria, Germany and Bulgaria. FOUR PAWS also presented our work on addressing the illegal puppy trade to the European Commission and its member states at bilateral and multi-party meetings.

In May 2021 FOUR PAWS and Europetnet launched the technical system VeriPet in Switzerland. This is one of the first such pilots, pioneering a new way to help ensure traceability in the online puppy trade. The first evaluation of the project conducted in 2022 showed that the system works well and has already helped to stop illegal puppy traders from posting ads.

On the regulatory side, key steps were taken to limit illegal puppy dealers from the online market as well: the Digital Services Act (DSA) acknowledged the online pet trade as a matter of concern that needs to be addressed.

FOUR PAWS contributed to several public consultations at EU level, including the Digital Services Act, Consumer Agenda, registration of establishments, animal welfare legislation and others, as well as to

public consultations in countries including Austria, Australia, South Africa, and the UK.

In Austria, legislative changes removed the exemption on importing young puppies from abroad, as well as imposing further regulations on the trade.

Outlook 2023

In 2023 FOUR PAWS will continue to raise public awareness, particularly among puppy buyers, by providing them with information on how to buy a puppy responsibly and avoid the illegal puppy trade. We will also launch the third phase of our public awareness campaign 'Cute. Quick. Sick.'

FOUR PAWS will also continue to roll out VeriPet, working with Europetnet, classified ad sites and pet microchip databases around Europe, as well as continuing to raise awareness of its use in helping to combat the illegal online pet trade with authorities and influential stakeholders. A final evaluation report on the implementation of VeriPet in Switzerland will be developed and shared with relevant stakeholders.

On the legislative side, FOUR PAWS will continue to advocate for harmonised mandatory identification and registration in Europe and for full implementation of the EU Animal Health Law, which requires the registration of companion animal breeders' and sellers' establishments. This will help VeriPet to



25% of puppies bought during the Pandemic were six weeks and younger when purchased

29% of puppies bought during the COVID-19 Pandemic had health problems shortly after purchase

undertake more robust checks and enable full traceability of the online pet trade. FOUR PAWS will further cooperate with the responsible authorities

and engage all necessary stakeholders to implement measures to stop the illegal puppy trade.

Responsible Pet Ownership Programme

Background

Globally, approximately 57 percent of people own a pet; however, many owners are unaware of their responsibilities towards their pet, both in terms of legislative requirements and fulfilling species-specific needs. Every pet owner has a duty to provide appropriate care and protection for their pet. The reality is, however, that many owners do not consider, are ignorant of or unaware of their pet's specific needs. As a result, they are not sufficiently meeting these needs. This can result in animals that have not been properly cared for or socialised, leading to behavioural problems and animal welfare issues. This in turn can end in pets being abandoned, relinquished to shelters or euthanised.

The FOUR PAWS Responsible Pet Ownership (RPO) programme aims to raise the level of knowledge among pet owners on how to properly acquire and care for their pets. The programme seeks to improve the lives of millions of companion animals which are dependent on their owners for their welfare needs, through providing information and guidance on pet care, as well as information on specific companion animal welfare topics.

Key Activities 2022

During 2022 several articles and guides were written and published on FOUR PAWS channels regarding different RPO topics, for example pet dental health; adoption of elderly animals; fear, anxiety and phobias in pets; and saying farewell to your pet. New content was also added and existing content updated on the FOUR PAWS websites, including information and guides on pet equipment, important points to consider when travelling with cats, and what to look for in a boarding facility.

Outlook 2023

A new Responsible Pet Ownership Coordinator will be recruited at the beginning of 2023 to head up the FOUR PAWS Responsible Pet Ownership Programme. The main focus for 2023 will be on preparing the launch of the PetProtector project, developing new initiatives to engage our supporters and the public in responsible pet ownership topics, and continuing to produce RPO articles and guides for our communication channels.





Farm Animals & Nutrition

Background

The number of farmed animals in Europe far exceeds the number of humans dependent on them. Animal farming typically strives for maximum productivity at the lowest cost, without any regard for animal welfare – and, as such, keeps these animals out of the public eye. Bred for maximum yield, many of them never see daylight, and there is no way for them to practise natural behaviours. To enable these animals to be kept in cramped stalls and cages, they are ‘adapted’ to suit the human system of food production, e.g. their beaks and tails are cut off or their horns are burned away.

Our Aims

For many years, FOUR PAWS has been working towards better conditions for farmed animals. The organisation campaigns against cruel farming practices and works to improve established systems of animal husbandry. We also aim to reduce the number of farmed animals being kept overall and to limit animal transport.

In the EU, journey times should not exceed eight hours for hooved animals and four hours for rabbits and poultry. Bans must be introduced to prevent the transport of live animals to non-EU countries, outlaw long-distance transport and prohibit the transport of animals that are too young to have been fully weaned.

FOUR PAWS also believes that it is important for us to eat less meat and consume lower quantities of animal products in general – and to ensure that those we do eat come from high-welfare sources. To drive change, FOUR PAWS educates the public via traditional media and social media channels, lobbies politicians and runs awareness campaigns to hold the food and textile industries to account. Via our global branches and in partnership with other NGOs, we are aiming to improve the situation across Europe.

Most animals slaughtered for their meat suffer a period of prolonged torture before their death: They spend hours or days on end in the cramped trucks used for transport to the slaughterhouse. With barely any rest, food or water, they suffer unimaginable stress. The animals’ situation becomes particularly dire if their journey involves transport to a non-EU country. Most of these transport operations fail to satisfy even the most basic animal welfare standards.



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Ending Live Animal Transport

Background

Each year, more than 1.5 billion poultry birds and 49 million live cows, pigs, sheep, goats and horses are transported within the EU and to non-EU countries. Violations of animal welfare obligations happen every day. EU regulations on live animal transport are far from adequate and will finally be revised over the next few years – thanks in part to the intensive campaigning work carried out by FOUR PAWS and other animal welfare organisations. This issue has been on the agenda at FOUR PAWS for years, and we are convinced that the revision of EU Regulation (EC) 1/2005 is an opportunity to bring an end to the cruel practice of live animal transport once and for all.

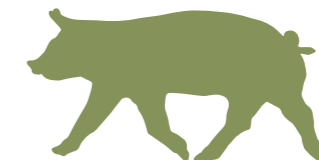
Key Activities 2022

FOUR PAWS worked on the plenary vote in parliament and participated in public consultations on

delegated acts concerning live animal transport. We organised an event at the Dutch representation on ways to move away from live animal transport within Europe. FOUR PAWS also participated as an expert in an impact assessment that will inform the revision process.

Outlook 2023

FOUR PAWS will keep exerting pressure at national and EU level, as well as working to ensure that the new EU regulation on the transport of live animals offers the most comprehensive possible protection to the animals and bans transport to non-EU countries.



1.5 billion poultry birds are transported within EU

Animal agriculture is responsible for **17%** of all greenhouse gas emissions



Atlas Challenge

Background

The FOUR PAWS Atlas Challenge, which was launched in 2020, aims to encourage the different sectors within the food industry to take responsibility for animal welfare and climate protection through animal protein reduction. Leading companies are being asked to reduce their meat and dairy production and increase their plant-based foods. FOUR PAWS advocates for the inclusion of binding reduction strategies in corporate sustainability reports, along with clear statements that highlight the benefits of reduction for animal welfare and the climate. In addition, FOUR PAWS is asking them to push and promote animal- and climate-friendly food. Thus far, the Atlas Challenge has conducted five rankings in its series, along with publishing supporting summary reports on the various sectors, including food delivery services, food producers, fast-food chains (within the quick-service sector) and international fast-food chains' headquarters.

Key Activities 2022

In 2022, the benchmark focussed on food retailers, targeting 38 leading supermarkets within the DACH (Germany, Austria and Switzerland) and UK regions on their meat and dairy reduction strategies and looking into their animal welfare policies, climate action goals and pandemic prevention measures. The summary report was published and the #IndustriesTakeAction petition has acquired over 71,000 signatures demanding change from the food industry.

Outlook 2023

Continuing with the success of the Atlas Challenge, FOUR PAWS will target the chocolate industry, focussing on dairy reduction – specifically milk. The leading national and international chocolate companies will be asked to define, implement and report concrete strategies in their corporate responsibility guidelines to reduce dairy and greenhouse gas emissions from livestock.

Climate

Diet as a Lever for Change

Animal agriculture is responsible for 17 percent of all greenhouse gas emissions, making it one of the largest contributors to climate change. In part, this is because ruminants like cows produce gases such as methane when they digest their food. But an even more significant factor is that the vast majority of agricultural land is used to grow animal feed – usually with large amounts of synthetic chemical fertilisers and pesticides, the production of which also harms the environment.

As the global appetite for meat and other animal products grows, so too does the amount of space needed to support this demand. Vast swathes of rainforest and other types of land are being cleared on a daily basis, destroying the habitats that wildlife relies on. The closer humans and animals get, the higher the risk of zoonotic diseases – diseases that can be transmitted from animals to humans, chiefly

through contact with species living in the wild. Industrial-scale animal agriculture causes a host of other problems, too: antibiotic resistance is on the rise due to the widespread use of antibiotics in animals. The industry also consumes an enormous amount of water – even though the world is suffering the impact of water shortages and droughts – while simultaneously polluting drinking water with slurry.

To get a handle on these issues and tackle climate change, we need to drastically reduce our consumption of animal products globally. Meat, dairy products and eggs shouldn't be cheap, mass-produced everyday food items; they should be something we eat only rarely, and a plant-based diet must become the norm. Only when demand for animal products is significantly reduced can we bring an end to the suffering of millions of animals trapped in the cruel cycle of intensive livestock farming.

Background

Both the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and the United Nations Environment Programme have now acknowledged the link between our diets and protecting the planet. The European Commission has announced the Green Deal, which aims to make Europe climate-neutral by 2050. The Farm to Fork Strategy, which aims to transform our food systems, will be an important building block. But on both a global and European level, there is still enormous divergence between ambitious rhetoric and concrete political action. From its European office in Brussels, FOUR PAWS

is lobbying the relevant political decision-makers to take action to reduce animal agriculture. We are also carrying out political and public outreach work to highlight the link between industrial animal agriculture and protecting our climate and environment. FOUR PAWS promotes drastic reduction of meat consumption and production along with a switch to a mainly plant-based diet.



Textiles

Background

Down, feathers and wool are important materials in the textiles industry. Unfortunately, however, the production of these materials often comes at a cost – the suffering of animals. In some cases, feathers are torn from the bodies of geese while they are still alive (in a practice known as live feather plucking). Feathers may also be sourced from companies that cruelly fatten up geese beyond all natural limits to produce liver pâté. In wool production, mulesing is a common practice: without any anaesthetic, large sections of skin are removed from a merino lamb's buttocks to prevent flystrike. This cruel practice is only practised in Australia, where 70 percent of the wool used in clothing is produced. The most recent representative survey by FOUR PAWS showed that mulesing is one of the least well-known animal welfare issues. The campaigns and public outreach work carried out by FOUR PAWS regularly shed light on the mistreatment of animals whose wool, skin and down is used in the textile industry. These campaigns place textile companies under direct and indirect pressure to eradicate animal suffering in their supply chains. Ever more companies are stepping up to the

plate and rejecting materials that are obtained using practices that inflict suffering on animals.

Our Aims

FOUR PAWS aims to raise public awareness of the cruelty to animals taking place in the textiles industry. We are aiming for consumers to opt for ethical and sustainable products when buying clothes and other textiles, and to choose non-animal alternatives and materials made without animal suffering. We are also calling on textile companies to guarantee full traceability in their supply chains, to eradicate the use of mulesing, live plucking, force-feeding of geese and similar practices in the production of their materials, while also striving to achieve the highest possible standards of animal welfare and reducing the number of animal products in their range. Beyond this, FOUR PAWS also advocates for the fashion industry to switch to certified mulesing-free wool and for the Australian wool industry to end the practice of mulesing.

Key Activities 2022

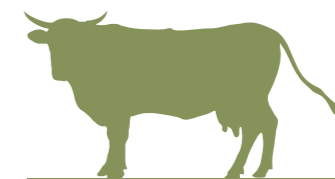
The brand engagement team held one-to-ones with over 30 major brands in 2022, providing bespoke advice, and engaged and supported many more in various ways. Numerous brands, along with some of the biggest fashion retailers in Europe and worldwide, signed an open letter committing to a transition towards certified mulesing-free wool and, together with over 50 other global brands, demanding the Australian wool industry end the practice of mulesing. During 2022 FOUR PAWS was also able to sign up 18 new companies to the international Fur Free Retailer programme. Our engagement with animal welfare in textiles standard owners took a huge step forward in 2022, and almost all standard owners agreed to work with us to improve their animal welfare standards.

Outlook 2023

FOUR PAWS will focus on the Nike campaign and put pressure on the wool industry via a full year of

communication and brand engagement activities. The third 'Animal Welfare in Fashion' report will be launched alongside brand-rating platform Good On You.

We will also grow the animal-friendly fashion movement by ensuring that more fashion brands join the Fur Free Retailer programme, and that fashion stakeholders, such as fashion weeks, commit to a fur-free policy. Additionally, FOUR PAWS aims to continue its work with the textile industry to improve animal welfare standards and see more companies committing to reduce their use of animal-derived materials.



Over **5 billion** animals are used in textiles each year

FOUR PAWS motivated and supported **22** brands in 2022 to develop new policies which ruled out mulesing, live plucking and made commitments to utilize alternative materials



Pandemics & Animal Welfare

Background

With large numbers of stressed and sick animals crammed into small spaces in incredibly unhygienic conditions, it's little wonder that intensive farming provides the perfect breeding ground for new diseases.

These kind of conditions are normal on intensive livestock farms and fur farms, and at live animal markets. However, new infectious diseases are also developing as a direct result of the commercial trade in wild animals, and because of human activity – such as deforestation – forcing animals out of their established habitats and bringing different species and the pathogens they may carry into contact with each other. When diseases become transmissible between animals and humans, they are referred to as zoonotic. Each new zoonotic disease could pose a significant risk to humanity. This is why improving animal welfare is such an important part of the puzzle when it comes to reducing the risk of future pandemics.

Key Activities 2022

In 2022 FOUR PAWS placed One Health and pandemic prevention (by improving animal welfare) as focus topics for consideration by the representatives of permanent missions to the United Nations (UN) in Geneva and national governments. We also built the case for tackling root causes at the animal-human-environment interface in the development of the zero draft of the pandemic treaty.

On 12 July 2022, the team organised a high-level expert roundtable on 'Preventing the next pandemic: what substantive elements must be included in a Pandemic Instrument?' in Geneva, Switzerland. It was attended by delegates of 20 permanent missions to the UN as well as the World Health Organization (WHO). Together with Compassion in World Farming (CIWF), Born Free Foundation and Proyecto Animales Latino America (ALA), FOUR PAWS was able to collect 577,637 signatures from supporters calling on governments and international institutions to make animal welfare a global priority so that we can prevent future pandemics.

Our Aims

Since the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, FOUR PAWS has been advocating for effective pandemic prevention with important international institutions such as the World Health Organization (WHO), the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH, formerly OIE), as well as campaigning on a national level. Our aim is to ensure that animal welfare is incorporated into the political debate around pandemics, because improving welfare leads to effective prevention of future pandemics. FOUR PAWS is asking these institutions to support governments in implementing the interdisciplinary 'One Health' approach – which has animal welfare as one of its central aspects – to prevent future pandemics. As part of its 'Pandemics and Animal Welfare' campaign, FOUR PAWS is demanding an end to intensive livestock farming, a transition to sustainable food systems and bans on the commercial sale of wild animals, the dog and cat meat trade and fur farms.

On 19 September 2022, FOUR PAWS organised a second high-level expert roundtable, co-hosted by the Permanent Mission of Australia to the UN, on 'Taking One Health seriously: what are the concrete steps to build an effective pandemic instrument?'. Representatives of more than 40 permanent missions to the UN attended the event, as well as the World Health Organization (WHO), the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) and the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).

Additionally, FOUR PAWS gave input to the One Health Joint Plan of Action – which will form the basis for the operationalisation of One Health on international, regional and national levels – to make sure the measures include steps to improve animal welfare.

Throughout 2022 FOUR PAWS provided feedback on the substantive elements, the working draft and the conceptual zero draft of the pandemic instrument; engaged in the process of developing the instrument through joining public hearings, submitting written input and statements, meetings with government

representatives and delegates of the permanent missions to the UN in Geneva, and sharing FOUR PAWS positions on prevention, the importance of animal welfare and One Health; and sought member states' support to our inclusion as an official stakeholder in the WHO pandemic instrument (Annex E – relevant stakeholders category).

The wildlife team attended and participated in CITES CoP19 meetings related to the 'Role of CITES in reducing risk of future zoonotic disease emergence associated with international wildlife trade' and made recommendations to the CITES CoP19.

Outlook 2023

The team is going to organise roundtable events with permanent missions to the UN in Geneva and an in-person session at the Consortium of Universities for Global Health (CUGH) 2023 conference in Washington, DC. We will also use the World Health Summit to draw attention to improving animal welfare, place key animal welfare topics on the agenda of the 2nd International Animal Welfare Summit, release the second FOUR PAWS AMR report, and organise public events on AMR. Another focus is

Additionally, to tackle antimicrobial resistance (AMR), which is also being called the 'silent pandemic', the farmed animals and nutrition team launched guidelines for reducing antimicrobial use in farming through improved animal welfare. FOUR PAWS advocated in public consultations and key political events for higher welfare and a reduction of the number of animals farmed as the critical measures for tackling antimicrobial resistance (AMR) and infectious diseases.

public communication on avian influenza, aimed at tackling the false narrative that frames biosecurity and vaccination of animals as the main solution to outbreaks and communicating instead the facts and measures needed to reduce the risks of highly pathogenic avian influenza becoming the next pandemic. FOUR PAWS will also release research on high-risk activities linked to the emergence and spread of zoonoses in the commercial wildlife trade.



With **75%** of emerging infectious diseases originating in animals, protecting animals within a One Health approach is key to preventing pandemics

In **May 2024**, governments of the World Health Organisation will agree on international legislation to prevent pandemics.



Emergency Aid for Animals in Need

Global Affairs and Disaster Relief

Background

In order to put animal welfare on the map on a global scale, FOUR PAWS continues to advance its goals of influencing global and systemic policies that impact animals and harm their welfare. The dedicated team comprises two principal units, namely Global Affairs Coordination (GAC) and Disaster Preparedness and Resilience (DPR) to encapsulate the work of the organisation.

The GAC unit contributes to the organisation's international and systemic goals by putting animal welfare into the language of the national, regional and global agenda in policy and media. It advocates for having animal welfare as one of the core topics in the development of the United Nations for Agenda 2030 and after Agenda 2030.

The DPR unit contributes to the organisational strategy for anticipating and responding effectively to the impact of imminent hazards, as well as supporting regional projects. The team has travelled many times to help animals across the world affected by disasters like storms, massive floods, drought and even an accident that destroyed a rural community. The interventions have, in the past, consisted of directly rescuing animals in disasters, providing animal food and assisting the affected communities with public health services.

FOUR PAWS continuously strives to work with local organisations around the world on how they can build robust and resilient communities and be best prepared for animals in disaster situations. The

importance of Animals in Disaster in relation to Agenda 2030 and the Sendai Framework continues to be a core focus for the organisation.

Key Activities 2022

In March 2022, FOUR PAWS together with the World Federation for Animals coalition helped member states adopt UNEP/EA.5/Res.1 Animal Welfare, Environment and Sustainable Development Nexus at the United Nations Environment Programme 5.2. The resolution is the first United Nations document to recognise animal welfare as a relevant topic for environmental and sustainable development policy.

FOUR PAWS representatives joined the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) to help increase the recognition of animal welfare as a crosscutting lens for international policy. We advocated with the NGO Major Group at the 2022 High-Level Political Forum and 77th United Nations General Assembly to mention animal welfare in the context of One Health, disasters, pandemics, climate and food systems. The team attended the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) CoP15 in December 2022 to advocate for the protection of animals for the Global Biodiversity Framework that will last until 2050, and advocated for more protection of biodiversity through an animal welfare lens and One Health approach.



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Outlook 2023

FOUR PAWS is actively working on multiple initiatives to promote animal welfare and sustainable development globally. One of the primary goals is to develop a strong Animal Welfare Nexus Resolution with the help of member states, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) secretariat, and the World Federation of Animals (WFA) in 2023. We are also advocating for the inclusion of animal welfare as a policy perspective in the current Sustainable Development Goals evaluations and progressing towards the recognition of animal welfare and One Health as a policy lens for sustainable development.

In addition, FOUR PAWS is actively advocating for the inclusion of animals in disaster and the due diligence of development funding towards animal welfare considerations and One Health for disaster resilience. We plan to advocate for these issues at UNFCCC CoP28 at the end of 2023. We are also collaborating with colleagues from the climate and pandemic

teams to promote spillover prevention, regenerative agriculture and the links between agriculture and disasters, which includes a reduction of risks from intensive animal farming and the financing of climate-damaging practices from development funding.

FOUR PAWS is also enhancing and developing its partnership programme for Animals in Disaster work. We plan to build strategic partnerships to enhance preparedness for communities with animals in disasters and build local disaster resilience. The focus will be on animal disaster legislation, response capacity with animals, disaster-preparedness education, and community engagement for climate-adaptive community-based solutions. In 2023, FOUR PAWS will begin three-to-five-year impact-based projects in Asia and Europe with local organisations on disaster resilience.



Reveal and Rescue Response

Background

Across the world, war and political unrest force millions of people to flee their home countries and threaten the lives of countless animals. Bombs fall on wildlife parks, wiping out many of their inhabitants; the surviving animals are often left to fend for themselves in their damaged enclosures for months on end. Even if a country is not torn by war, there are situations in which animals are abandoned in dreadful conditions; they don't get the medical treatment or food that they need, meaning these starving wild animals sometimes have no choice but to kill and eat one another.

The Reveal and Rescue Response department conducts rescue missions in areas affected by conflict or unstable conditions. Besides providing aid and sustainable solutions for animals in need, these missions have a wider impact on other animals, including legislation changes, awareness raising and implementation of pro-animal-welfare policies.

For example, the rescue of elephant Kaavan in 2020 had a large impact on animal welfare in Pakistan, as it drew the attention of the authorities. This resulted in the government of Pakistan imposing a ban on the import of exotic mammals in June 2022.

Our Aims

FOUR PAWS helps animals that are at risk from war and political or economic instability. Our aim is to relieve animals' acute suffering as quickly as possible. We consult with the relevant authorities to ensure that as many animals as possible are brought to the safety of sanctuaries. In addition to rescuing and identifying permanent, sustainable solutions for animals in need, the team's operations also have an impact on legislation.

Key Activities 2022

#TrainTigers: rescue of four tigers living in a train carriage from Argentina to LIONSROCK

The Reveal and Rescue Response (RRR) team completed a complex mission with the main goal of rescuing four tigers locked up in a disused train carriage located in the San Luis province of Argentina. The tiger family, consisting of three males and one female, had spent 15 years in the train carriage. Because of the complexity of this mission, the FOUR PAWS team stayed in Argentina for more than a month, preparing the tigers for their relocation and organising the required transport permits. In the meantime, a FOUR PAWS team from LIONSROCK Big Cat Sanctuary built a new enclosure and prepared a new home for the animals.

The rescue took place in March 2022, with the animals leaving San Luis and heading by road to Buenos Aires, from where they boarded a plane to South Africa via Amsterdam. The journey was completed on 12 March 2022 after 70 hours of travel, when the tigers were released into their new, spacious enclosures.



© FOUR PAWS | Hristo Vladev

#SaveSudanLions

Since 2020, FOUR PAWS has been engaged in helping lions which were nearly starved to death in a zoo in Sudan. Based on medical examinations conducted in 2020 and 2021 by FOUR PAWS veterinarians, two lions, Mansour and Kandaka, required specialised medical care which was unavailable in Sudan. A local animal welfare organisation, Sudan Animal Rescue (SAR), took excellent care of the animals while they were waiting for the possibility of being transported to Al Ma'wa for Nature and Wildlife in Jordan, a sanctuary run in cooperation by FOUR PAWS and the Princess Alia Foundation (PAF). FOUR PAWS travelled to Sudan in July 2022 with the main goal of relocating the two lions to Jordan, where a specialised team was ready to provide the medical treatment they needed.

Due to social and political challenges in Sudan, however, the team was prevented from transporting the lions out of the country. Nevertheless, during this stay in Sudan, FOUR PAWS conducted a medical check on all the lions living at SAR, and additionally provided them with contraceptives to prevent further breeding. The veterinary team gave a workshop to local veterinary students and volunteers from SAR on big cats' reproduction.

In November 2022, an opportunity for relocation arose once more. At very short notice, FOUR PAWS, in cooperation with PAF, conducted all the preparations needed for the relocation, and a small team travelled to Sudan. Thanks to cooperation with the Sudanese Wildlife Authority, SAR and PAF, Kandaka and Mansour arrived safely at their new enclosure at Al Ma'wa for Nature and Wildlife in Jordan. The lions have adapted well to their new environment and can finally receive the specialised medical care they require.

Outlook 2023

In 2023 RRR will continue expanding FOUR PAWS' network in Latin America, especially in Argentina. The team has received many messages concerning animals in need in this country and following them up will explore possibilities for providing help to the wildlife living in captivity in Argentina, especially to big cats held in former zoos and on private farms.

Moreover, FOUR PAWS will continue providing aid to animals in need in conflict zones. The team is planning on engaging in a project in the Democratic Republic of Congo, bringing help to lions confiscated

#KarachiElephants

The rescue of Kaavan in 2020 caused major changes to the perception of animal welfare in Pakistan. The FOUR PAWS team was contacted about many other animals in need in the country, including two elephants in Karachi Zoo, which were suffering from severe and painful dental issues caused by broken tusks. In August 2022, FOUR PAWS travelled to Karachi following an order of the Sindh High Court, who appointed the team to treat the elephants. The team conducted two complicated surgeries under standing sedation, which was being used for the first time in such a context and for such a long time on an elephant. The operations were life-saving, as untreated inflammation could have reached the skull and caused blindness or even the elephants' death. The surgery gathered a significant amount of national and international attention, and the team was honoured by the Pakistani Medical Association during a special event. FOUR PAWS is receiving regular updates from local vets and elephant keepers, thanks to which the team can follow the healing process and recovery.

by local authorities from an illegal breeding farm. The team will also follow developments in Karachi and support local organisations and activists in finding a sustainable and species-appropriate solution for the four elephants living in the zoo. FOUR PAWS is working together with Kurdish and Iraqi authorities on finding a sustainable solution for an injured Persian leopard, which was found at the beginning of 2022 in Kurdistan and cannot be released back into the wild due to an injury.





Organisation

European Policy Work

Background

The FOUR PAWS European Policy Office (EPO) provides a link between the FOUR PAWS national offices in Europe and the political institutions of the EU. The team monitors the latest developments in European politics, develops lobbying strategies and organises meetings and conferences with representatives from the EU Commission (EC), the EU Parliament (EP) and EU member states. The aim of this work is to ensure that animal welfare is enshrined in EU law and to improve animal welfare in the EU member states. European policies such as the Green Deal and the associated Farm to Fork Strategy, along with the EU biodiversity strategy, offer numerous starting points for improving not just climate protection and sustainable food production, but also animal welfare in Europe.

Key Activities 2022

FOUR PAWS participated in the public consultation and stakeholder meeting on the revision of the EU Action Plan against Wildlife Trafficking, highlighting the need to raise awareness to address both legal and illegal trade in captive-bred endangered species. Furthermore, it highlighted the need for EU guidance to help member states on how authorities can better manage confiscated or seized wild animals with the expansion of a true sanctuary network. The EC's revision of the EU Action Plan against Wildlife Trafficking outlined a comprehensive package of measures to tackle the illegal wildlife trade.

Due to the rising number of cases involving suspicious movement of dogs and cats, the EC proposed an EU Coordinated Control Action on the illegal trade of pets in 2022. Its goal is to detect fraudsters, understand how the law could be better enforced and

establish whether it should be reviewed. The FOUR PAWS EPO is working with EC officials by providing insights into the illegal trade of pets and helping with the drafting of guidance documents for control authorities to better detect the illegal trade. The team also has direct input into the drafting process of new legislative proposals, which will include provisions on mandatory identification and registration, marketing and breeding of dogs and cats across the EU.

In 2022, the CARO (Companion Animal Responsible Ownership) project, a collaboration of different European institutions and organisations under the leadership of FOUR PAWS EPO, went online with a new website. CARO promotes responsible ownership of companion animals with the aim of preventing companion animal abuse, abandonment and overpopulation in Europe.

The 2023–2027 CAP (Common Agricultural Policy) includes 'eco-schemes' for higher on-farm animal welfare. After the EU member states published their national strategic plans for the new CAP, each member state received an observation letter from the EC assessing their proposals. The FOUR PAWS EPO analysed both the strategic plans and the EC's letters and presented its findings at the meeting of the EP's Intergroup on the Welfare and Conservation of Animals concerning 'The New CAP and Animal Welfare'. Afterwards, Members of the European Parliament from the intergroup sent a letter to each member state encouraging them to utilise these new eco-schemes to prioritise spending on improving animal welfare and combatting antimicrobial resistance.

Outlook 2023

Over the coming year, the FOUR PAWS EPO will focus on the fitness check of EU animal welfare legislation and will use this historic process as an opportunity to promote its positions on various animal-welfare-related issues, as well as increasing the legal protection of animals throughout the European Union. It will continue campaigning to improve the living conditions of farmed animals and push for an end both to fur farming throughout the EU and to cruel long-distance transports or live exports of animals. The team will also lobby for more information and clarity about animal welfare in animal products through a mandatory animal welfare label. The FOUR PAWS EPO will lobby for the harmonised identification and registration of pets across the EU and stronger protection of the health and welfare of pets in trade. It will also continue to lobby for a harmonised legislation on the sale of pets. Furthermore, the team plans to engage in key campaigns for the protection of wild animals at EU level, such as the demand for an EU-wide positive list of species allowed as pets, the revision of the implementation of the Wildlife Action Plan and preparation for the next CITES CoP.





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Quality: Our Top Priority

FOUR PAWS has introduced a global quality management system to define what quality means to us, to ensure that we deliver the highest standards, and to continually improve the quality of our centres and all our animal welfare activities. The system focusses on learning, effectiveness and efficiency. Whether brown and black bears in our bear sanctuaries, big cats and other wild animals at LIONSROCK Big Cat Sanctuary, FELIDA Big Cat Sanctuary and TIERART Wild Animal Sanctuary, or apes in the care of our ORANGUTAN FOREST SCHOOL, all the animals looked after by FOUR PAWS receive the best possible care. As part of our quality management system, we have defined detailed guidelines and standards covering topics such as the size and design of enclosures, veterinary care and species-appropriate feeding, and we perform regular internal audits to check compliance with the system. As safety is critical when working with wild animals, to protect our teams and our visitors, we have been continually improving our safety regulations since the first FOUR

PAWS sanctuary opened in 1998. In our annual training, we conduct simulations of emergency scenarios so that all our employees know exactly what action to take if a safety fence is damaged by a storm, a fire breaks out on a site, or a wild animal escapes and injures visitors. The emergency and evacuation plans in place at our sanctuaries are also regularly reviewed by external safety and emergency management experts and revised as required.

Medical Care

FOUR PAWS provides new homes for animals that have been kept in inappropriate conditions. After their rescue, many wild animals continue to suffer the consequences of their inadequate or inappropriate diet and the poor conditions in which they were kept. Their teeth may have broken off after years spent chewing on the metal bars of cages; they might be suffering from skin or joint problems, damage to the kidneys or other organs; or may

show signs of behavioural issues. Even months or years after their rescue, some animals still spend hours performing the same ritualistic, monotonous sequences of movement as they did in their previous caged existence. In 2022, veterinarians specialising in wild animal care visited FOUR PAWS animal protection projects a total of 94 times. They examined 167 animals – 67 big cats and 100 bears – under anaesthetic on the treatment table.

Our Rescues

FOUR PAWS has also developed standards for transporting animals away from non-species-appropriate conditions, which cover aspects such as veterinary examinations before and after transfer, and the size and material of the crates in which the animals travel. FOUR PAWS provides regular training for all animal care teams and uses their day-to-day observations and feedback to inform decisions. The results are collected continually and in annual quality workshops, and incorporated into our internal

guidelines and standards. In 2022, we held 22 on-site workshops, while sanctuary teams also received training through online courses.

Our Other Animal Welfare Activities

For FOUR PAWS, quality is a top priority not only in its direct work with animals, but in all its operations. Our controlled, regularly revised processes help our teams to develop and run strategic animal welfare campaigns, to organise aid operations and to conduct lobbying work effectively. FOUR PAWS also strives for maximum effectiveness and efficiency in all its management, communication, fundraising, finance and administrative activities – from expenses claim templates right up to the annual planning process. This ensures that its working time and the donations it receives are put to the best possible use to help animals in need.

Fundraising

By providing pivotal funding for our mission, our donors enable us to protect animals under direct human influence. As a financially independent organisation, FOUR PAWS can make decisions free from political affiliations.

Thanks to our worldwide family of individual donors, trusts, foundations and companies, FOUR PAWS was able to maximise its reach and impact this year. Millions were raised to create lasting change for animals, as well as to address their immediate needs.

With nine regional fundraising offices globally and an international team, FOUR PAWS strategy is centred around two key pillars to generate growth: sustainability and diversification. The global teams deliver sustainable growth through traditional channels and test new approaches. The teams also mitigate risks to our income by investing in diversifying our revenue streams and developing new products through innovation initiatives.

Growing the FOUR PAWS Family

Without our dedicated donors, volunteers and staff, our vital work would not be possible. FOUR PAWS increases awareness of, and support for, its charitable activities through letters, publications, television, outdoor and digital advertising.

Our fundraising is dependent on building effective and long-lasting relationships with our donors, guided by our values. All regional offices and the international team set high standards for their fundraising practices, and they adhere to the core principles of ethical fundraising.

Regular Giving

Regular donations allow us to plan for long-term solutions and invest in critical projects. Donors supporting us through regular gifts and regular giving products can spread the monetary impact of their support across the year and help FOUR PAWS deliver on its mission to reveal suffering, rescue animals in need and protect them.

Dialogue with Donors

FOUR PAWS engages with donors through their preferred mode of communication. Telephone, emails and mailings are the most effective channels for engaging with our global network of passionate donors. Our team also organises events, both in-person and virtual, to allow donors to learn more about our critical work with animals.

Data Protection

The information donors share with FOUR PAWS is treated with respect and used in line with their instructions. All regional offices comply with national data privacy regulations. FOUR PAWS holds the Donation Seal of Quality in Austria and is a member of the German Donations Council. In the UK, FOUR PAWS is registered with the Fundraising Regulator.

Public Relations

The work of FOUR PAWS is regularly featured in national and international media. Projects that were featured in globally well-known media outlets with a high reach in 2022 included the rescue of four tigers in Argentina. This rescue was not only successful in terms of media coverage but also marked the first-ever activity of FOUR PAWS in South America. Of a total of roughly 1,000 clippings, a quarter came from South American media.

The rescue of bear Mark, Albania's last restaurant bear, received widespread media attention worldwide and was the most successful FOUR PAWS bear rescue so far in terms of media coverage. Closing this chapter of cruel bear-keeping generated over 700 clippings, including CNN and news agencies Reuters, AFP and AP.

When the war in Ukraine started, FOUR PAWS provided support at the borders to people trying to leave the country with their pets and continued helping as many stray and abandoned animals as possible,

as well as temporarily taking in rescued bears that were transported to other European sanctuaries. These efforts to help in Ukraine were reflected in over 600 clippings.

The contribution of FOUR PAWS to the 'Fur Free Europe' European Citizens' Initiative (ECI) has mobilised hundreds of thousands of supporters to sign the ECI. Various angles on the proposed end to fur farming and the suffering of these animals in Europe have been featured in the media.

FOUR PAWS launched its climate campaign and participated in COP27 – efforts which produced noticeable coverage in key media and established the organisation's expertise in linking climate and animal welfare issues. While the creation and display of the world's largest 3D banner calling for a stop to factory farming earned 20 clippings in just two days, a Forbes article featuring global CEO Josef Pfabigan reached new audiences.

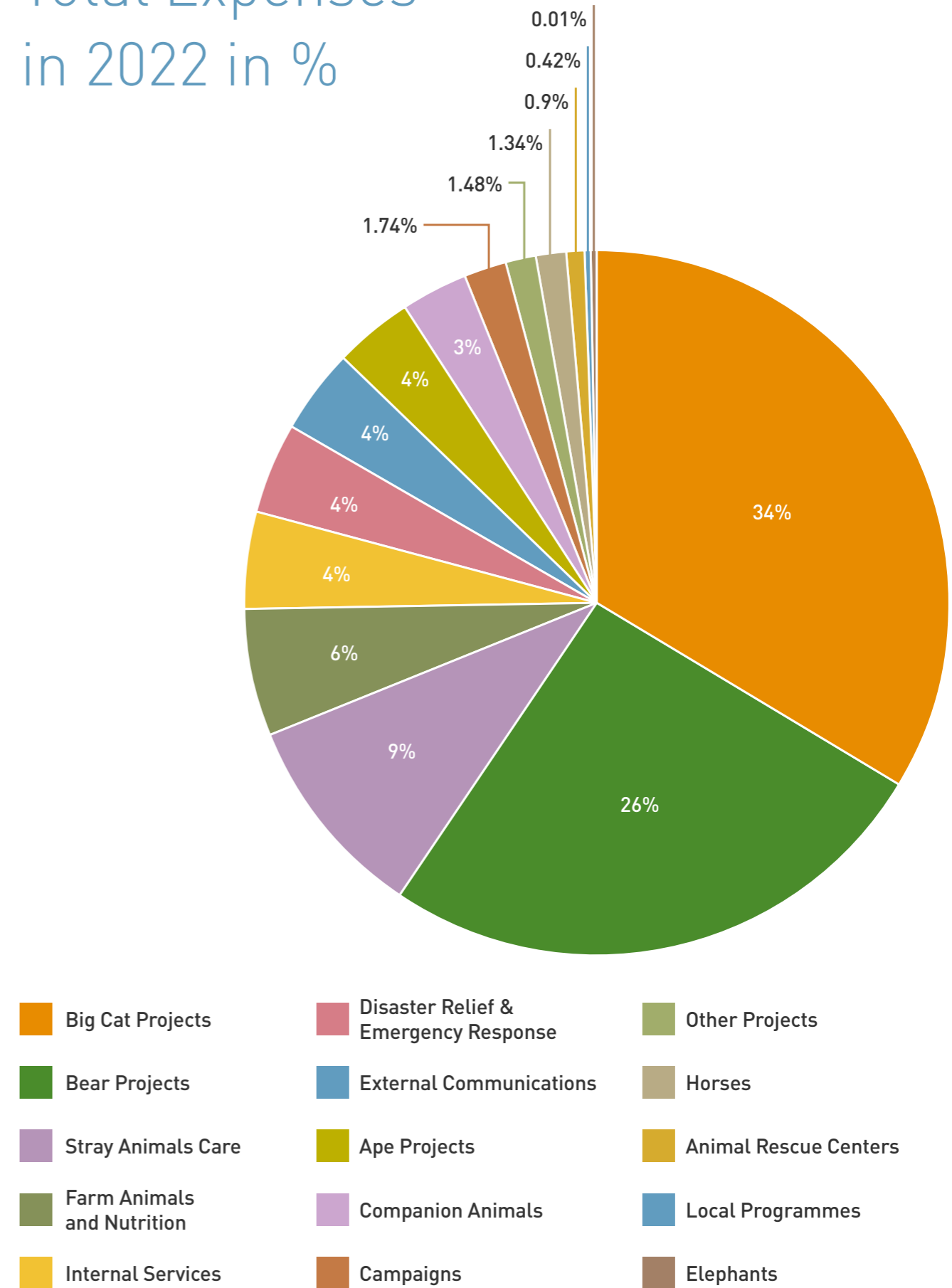
Financial Report

Total Expenses in 2022



Figures are rounded, money in reserves is not included. This Annual Report provides an overview of the work of the FOUR PAWS Network worldwide. Figures presented on these pages only represent the expenditure of the international head office in Vienna. The national offices provide their own annual reports.

Total Expenses in 2022 in %



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Sanctuary, Clinic, Center for Animal Assisted Intervention

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