



Animal Nepal's

2018

ANNUAL REPORT

Animals have a
way of finding the
people who need
them,
And filling an
emptiness we
didn't even
know we had.

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FOREWORD

At Animal Nepal we call ourselves 'A Voice for the Voiceless'. That's not an easy ideal to live up to. While our ancestors lived in close harmony with nature and maintained strict rules about killing and eating animals, Nepal, like any other country, nowadays witnesses large scale animal abuse. But our voice is getting stronger. Over a decade ago we started out by speaking up for the suffering dogs of Kathmandu and the exploitation of elephants in the Terai. We then discovered and opposed the unspeakable atrocities against donkeys, mules and horses in brick factories.

For seven long years, with the support of our international friends, we gave a voice to rhesus monkeys, which were bred for cruel lab tests in the USA. We protested against 'diplomatic wildlife gifting' by the government and a new law regulating wildlife breeding. We spoke for the animals to be killed at Gadhimai festival, for dogs to be poisoned by local governments, for individual animals at the zoo, for dancing bears, holy cows, in fact for any animal which deserves a Voice.

Elephant in the room

And we keep voicing our concerns. We protest against the loss of greenery in our cities, the destruction of our forests and animals at the proposed airport at Nijgadh and other parts of the country, the ongoing abuse of cows and elephants. We lobby for new legislation which provides legal protection of the animals. We campaign for humane conditions for livestock. We promote vegetarianism and right living. When needed we act as the elephant in the room, let the cat out of the bag and watch new developments like a hawk.

But we are more than just a voice. We practice what we preach and are not afraid to act. That is why we run successful programs for dogs, equines and livestock, focusing on permanent solutions through education, improving conditions and birth control. We built a sanctuary for discarded equines, a treatment center for dogs and plan to expand one of our centers as an education hub. We expanded our working area beyond Lalitpur, to districts such as Gurkha, Dhading, Banke and Lumbini.

I would like to invite you to join our movement for animals. You too can raise your voice, so our common voice becomes a strong one. We need to be heard in our neighborhood, Singha Durbar, across the nation and abroad. No animal in Nepal should remain voiceless. It is up to us to stand up and speak out.

Pramada Shah
President

“

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in our neighborhood,
Singha Durbar, across
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SUMMARY

2018 was certainly a memorable year for Animal Nepal. It was the year in which we celebrated our 10-year anniversary through a photo exhibition chronicling our remarkable history. It was heartwarming to receive so much love and support in the period 2008-2018. We look forward to many more decades of your continued friendship!

This year, through our Equine Outreach Program and Equine Welfare Project, we were able to provide medical care to a total of 2650 equines. Our dedicated team reached out to 312 equine owners. The majority of them fall behind on most development indicators. This is why our approach of focusing on both people and animals works so well. By delivering awareness classes and skills-based livelihood training, we have been able to help the community in gaining the necessary knowledge and means to take better care of their animals.

In 2018 we carried out Animal Birth Control programs in several new places including the 'Land of the Buddha', Lumbini, as well as Banke and Dhading districts. In various CNVR (Catch Neuter Vaccinate Release) camps close to 1000 dogs got neutered and vaccinated! For birth control programs to achieve long lasting and meaningful results it is necessary to continue the program each year so we will be back in those areas in 2019.

Our Mobile Response Team (MRT) and staff at the Chobhar Treatment Center were kept busy treating sick and injured dogs. The teams managed to treat a total of 1533 needy dogs and vaccinate 2285 canines.

Animal Nepal in 2016 started treating dogs on the street, with the cooperation of communities. In 2018 the MRT continued to facilitate fewer animal deaths and increased involvement of caring community members.

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Having our own land has been a dream come true. We look forward to transforming the space into a thriving sanctuary for our current and future residents!”



A mobile vet technician treats a sick stray dog at the home of a community member

Dogs that cannot be treated on the street are treated in Chobar and returned back to their locality once recovered. Some puppies, elderly and handicapped dogs cannot return and are given up for adoption. In 2018 we were successful in rehoming 35 dogs, seven of whom were adopted in Canada and the USA.

After spending ten years in Godavari, we moved our donkey sanctuary to Dukuchhap, where we were able to purchase our own land. Having our own land has been a dream come true. We look forward to transforming the space into a thriving sanctuary for our current and future residents!

2018 also saw the launch of our media mobilization campaign, through which we aim to engage the mainstream media in regularly highlighting animal welfare issues. Media is one of the key components in spreading this message and we will continue to work with them to ensure that animal welfare becomes everyone's business.

In 2018 we had to say goodbye to some of our much appreciated staff members, including Executive Director Uttam Kafle. Uttam replaced Lucia de Vries as Director in 2012 and proved to be a natural leader, wise beyond his age and able to deal with stressful situations in a gentle and clear manner. We were very pleased to welcome senior development professional Hari Joshi as the new Executive Director. With the support of Animal Nepal's board headed by Pramada Shah, Hari now leads the organisation towards what we trust will be a promising future.!

HAPPY DONKEY NUMBERS



HAPPY DOG NUMBERS





Clockwise:

- Musa, a dog suffering from scabies, at our treatment center
- Animal Nepal board members conduct a puja ritual to bless the new land
- Caretaker Iswori shows a puppy whose leg had to be amputated
- Dr Atish feeds medicine to a donkey in a brick factory
- Pramada flyers during a demonstration against abuse in the dairy industry
- Dr Sunil spayed over 1000 dogs this year, especially in the Land of the Buddha, Lumbini



2018

IN PICTURES



What we did for equines

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Animal Nepal's Equine Outreach Program is conducted in partnership with The Donkey Sanctuary and takes a holistic approach in ensuring welfare for these animals through the following three interventions:

- Awareness creation
- Advocacy
- Services to the animals, animal owners and their dependents

To implement the project successfully there are 3 major stakeholders associated with the program. They are:

- Government offices and local political representatives
- Equine owners and handlers
- Private sector involved in equine related work such as brick kilns, industries that use mountain mules and service providers for animals

SUMMARY

Among the challenges seen in 2018 was the increase in the use of equines in brick factories due to a lack of labor force in Nepal, as most men of working age are migrant workers. Increasingly, equine owners from India are recruited to address this issue. As no animal welfare organizations have worked intensively with these Indian equine owners and as some are new to the business, the AN team found that they greatly lacked awareness regarding the welfare of their equines in comparison to Nepali owners. A number of extra education sessions were conducted for the benefit of the new workforce. With the influx of Indian owners and animals, we also saw an increase of communicable diseases including vector borne diseases which require intense treatment and follow-ups. Another rising issue has been the increased number of vehicle related injuries encountered by the equines at the kilns.

We also saw many positive developments in 2018 - more than 75% of the shelters in our working area are now cleaned in the mornings, some 70% of equine owners in Lalitpur provide minerals and vitamin supplements to their animals, more than 60% of equine owners are buying green fodder from locals to feed their animals and a minimum of 2 hours of rest and grazing time has been provided to more than 80% of the equines in our working areas.

Animal Nepal's Equine Outreach Program is currently present in four districts - Lalitpur, Dhading, Banke and Gorkha. During the brick production season of December - June, we work in 16 brick factories in Lalitpur and 24 in Dhading.

AWARENESS CREATION

In 2018, Animal Nepal's Equine Outreach team delivered 21 training sessions across Lalitpur, Dhading, Banke and Gorkha. These sessions are aimed at equine owners, handlers, brick kiln owners and other key stakeholders. Topics such as communicable diseases in equines, management of hooves, wounds and harness, animal welfare, implementation of the Animal Welfare Directive were covered in these sessions. The sessions are led and delivered by our vets Dr Atish Kumar Yadav and Dr Sajana Thapa, as well as our community educator Rashid Ali. The education sessions include both theory and practical components and the team make use of audio visuals, role playing, demonstrations and IEC materials to deliver the messages. Additionally, the team also distribute sample harnesses and first aid kits to the equine owners.

The Equine Outreach team have been leading Animal Nepal's ongoing efforts in spreading the message about the urgent need to implement the provisions laid out in the Animal Welfare Directive. This was done through widespread distribution of the directive to government offices, animal owners and animal welfare organizations.

In line with this, Animal Nepal appointed a consultant, Dr Krishna Chandra Poudel (Retd. Secretary of Ministry of Livestock Development) to develop a directive implementation guideline, which will eventually become a legal document following its endorsement by the Department of Livestock.

Hoarding boards

In 2018, Animal Nepal also completed the installation of hoarding boards across various locations in Dhading and Lalitpur, mostly in an around brick kilns. The boards contain messages about animal welfare and summarizes the provisions laid out in the directive.

As part of our multi-faceted approach in spreading awareness about animal welfare, Animal Nepal has been working closely with educational institutes – the aim being to prepare the future generation of veterinarians to provide the right and effective medical care. In line with this, Animal Nepal signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Himalayan College of Agricultural Sciences & Technology.

Training vets in equine welfare

As part of the MoU, the final year veterinary students from HICAST are offered internship opportunities with Animal Nepal where they can undertake placements with our Equine Outreach Team. This program is running very successfully and the feedback from the college and students have been that they have found this type of learning on the field to be very beneficial and makes



them better prepared to handle equine cases once they graduate. Animal Nepal, with the help of consultants also started the development of education materials for the curriculum at veterinary colleges nationwide. This is the first time such content has been developed for veterinary students in Nepal.

In 2018, Animal Nepal also held interaction programs and workshops with key stakeholders from organizations working with and for animals. Such programs have proven to be effective in not just raising awareness but also for sharing information and knowledge. Furthermore, the inclusion of representatives from decision and policy making bodies have been crucial in furthering the cause of animal welfare and putting in place legislation for the protection of animals.

ADVOCACY

The main objective of this activity is to improve the status, welfare and working conditions of working equines by raising awareness and creating public pressure on duty bearers, leading to positive changes in the treatment of equines.

Dr Sajana educates equine owners about communicable diseases



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The program has been very well received by its audience and we get regular messages of appreciation for highlighting animal welfare.”

In 2018, Animal Nepal initiated our media mobilization work to ensure regular and meaningful coverage of animal welfare issues in Nepal's main-stream media. With the help of the media, messages of social change can be effectively put across to a wide audience, thus creating an environment where systematic pressure can be put on relevant authorities to ensure the provision of animal welfare standards for the well-being of all animals.

This has been done by working together with radio, television and print media to develop animal welfare specific messages.

Animal Nepal teamed up with Sambad Private Ltd. To develop and produce a weekly 30-minute radio program titled 'Conversations about animal welfare'. The program is broadcast through a popular FM station, 97.9 Image FM which has a nationwide reach. Each week, the program shares information about animal welfare, including interviews with Animal Nepal team members, other relevant individuals and members of the public.

The program has been very well received by its audience and we get regular messages of appreciation for highlighting animal welfare. Alongside this, we have also developed five radio jingles with animal welfare messages which are played regularly throughout the week.

Similarly, a nine-episode monthly television show titled 'A Voice for the Voiceless' has been developed in partnership with Parivartan Nepal, which is broadcast through channel AP1. Each 30-minute episode explores the lives of working animals and their owners, follows the Equine Outreach Team on field visits and shares information about animal welfare.

SERVICES TO THE ANIMALS, OWNERS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS

The objective of this activity is to create awareness among equine owners about equine diseases, to ensure the welfare of the equines and to prevent equine owners from heavy economic loss caused by disease outbreaks.

Medical support

Since its establishment, Animal Nepal has been a pioneer in providing needs based medical support to equines. This free of cost support to the animals is available throughout the year, however most of the cases are reported during the brick season of December - June. The most common types of ailments and injuries encountered by the Equine Outreach Team are wounds caused by inadequate harness and saddles, hoof related issues, colic, parasites and malnutrition.

In 2018, the Equine Outreach Team periodically visited our working areas in all four districts to carry out health and welfare assessments. Furthermore, the team also visited locations where medical support was needed. Animal Nepal's procurement officer purchases medical supplies based on the general occurrence of predominant illnesses and injuries. Annually, between 2000 – 2500 equines benefit from this service. In addition to the treatments, the equines are also vaccinated annually against diseases such as Tetanus and Rabies. Castrations are another common service provided by our team, usually done upon the request of the owners.

Historically, the equine owning community have relied on traditional home remedies in treating their equines. Not only are these methods ineffective, some are harmful to the equines such as applying chili powder to the animal's private parts in case of constipation, turmeric paste on open fractures, etc. The Equine Outreach Team addresses these issues through education classes and in the past decade, there have been measurable changes in the attitude of the owners and now most actively seek veterinarian care when their animal is unwell. The program also distributes first aid kits to the owners so that they can treat minor wounds in their animals.

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With such shelters in place, the equines have an adequate resting place with protection from any extreme weather as well as wild animals.”



Animal Nepal staff treat mountain mules in Gorkha district

During the field visits, the team also provides training to local healthcare providers, thus enabling them to give the necessary care even when Animal Nepal is not present in the area.

Thus the medical support provided by Animal Nepal's Equine Outreach Team has been crucial in improving the health of thousands of equines and equally in changing the attitude of their owners.

Equine welfare youth club in Nepalgunj

A group of young people from the equine owning communities from Nepalgunj committed to form a club to support Animal Nepal's equine welfare initiative. The objective of the club is to:

- Develop capacity and leadership skills of the club members
- Spread messages of equine welfare in the community
- Minimize cases of animal abuse

Given the enthusiasm among those joining the club, we are very hopeful that this initiative will bring about lasting changes in the lives of working equines in Nepalgunj.

Building permanent shelters for equines

In 2018, Animal Nepal with support from the brick factory owner constructed a permanent shelter for the working equines at Chhampimai brick kiln in Lalitpur. The shelter was built using concrete and corrugated zinc sheets and have

feeding mangers. With such shelters in place, the equines have an adequate resting place with protection from any extreme weather as well as wild animals. Prior to Animal Nepal's intervention, it was common practice to house the equines in inadequate temporary shelters. Construction of permanent shelters for the mountain mules in Gorkha has been challenging due to the uncertainty around their resting locations.

Portable ramps

Hydraulic ramps are useful for safe loading and unloading of large animals to and from vehicles. The ramps protect the animals from possible accidents and injuries. The ramps are portable and can be easily carried by two people. Animal Nepal constructed a portable ramp in Kathmandu which can be easily carried by two people. Animal Nepal plans to construct two more ramps for Dhading and Nepalgunj.



Equine Welfare Project



Mushrooms produced by the women of Hirminiya

In 2018, Animal Nepal's Equine Welfare Project addressed equine welfare in Hirminiya, Banke district, an area in the West of Nepal, in which the majority of the households are equine owners.

The people of Hirminiya historically rely on income generated solely through equines. In partnership with World Horse Welfare we provide needs-based medical support for the equines and awareness raising among the equine owning community. The project also focuses on improving the socio-economic status of the community through skills-based livelihood training.

The equine owning community in Hirminiya is a poor one and falls behind in all development indicators including education, health, sanitation and livelihood.

The women in particular have very limited access and contact with the outside world. This is why we target the women, in order to build their confidence so that they can also contribute to the family. Access to alternative livelihoods will ultimately contribute to the improvement of equine welfare.

In 2018, the project provided medical care to 73 equines and reached 46 equine owners. The project delivered training on wound management, harness management and hoof management, which was received by 118 equine owners. 35 equine owners participated in the PRA session which looked at changing the perception of working animals. 20 para-vet students attended an education session which provided exposure on equine related issues. 35 equine owners attended an orientation class on vital registration organized by the project as a high percentage of the equine owning community do not have their vital records.

In a pilot, 20 women received training on mushroom farming. The aim of this project was to train the women in business entrepreneurship and to use the income to purchase good quality fodder grass seeds for the equines and reinvest. The first group produced 132kg mushroom, which was sold to local restaurants and hotels for Rs 26,200. Following on from this success, the mushroom farming will continue and Animal Nepal will coordinate with other local organizations to provide a variety of skills-based trainings.

The income is used to invest in nutritious grass for the equines



DUKUCHHAP DONKEY SANCTUARY

Our donkey sanctuary is a motley crew of donkeys, mules, horses, one goat, one duck and two dogs, who are all looked after by our live-in caretakers Santa Bahadur dai and Masini Didi. Our vets and technicians regularly visit the sanctuary to ensure our residents are healthy and well groomed. Our donkey sanctuary was first opened in 2009 to provide a home for mistreated and abandoned equines from nearby brick kilns.

From Jeevan the Goat who was saved after almost being sacrificed at a temple to miniature donkey brothers Lav and Kush who were found malnourished and injured, Our sanctuary has been running for 10 years, which would have been very challenging without the support of our friends and partners Animal Aid Abroad, help Animals India and individual sponsors.

Since 2009, our sanctuary was located in Godavari on a rented piece of land. In 2018 we were successful in purchasing our own land in Dukuchhap with the help of our partners and supporters. In January, our President and board members performed a bhoomi puja in Dukuchhap for good luck!

We welcome visitors at our sanctuary and our miniature donkeys are always a

Celebrating World Animal Day with the donkeys



The sanctuary has truly become a safe haven for animals who at one time were all victims of cruelty inflicted on them by people.”

hit with the children! In February, we welcomed students from Lincoln School. During this visit, the kids had a chance to get to know our residents and Krishna was a firm favorite. Our vet Dr Yadav also spoke about animal welfare and the five freedoms of animals.

May was a sad time for us as we lost our long-term resident donkey Chung. We really miss her! Chung suddenly started showing neurological symptoms and started biting her fellow animals. She was quickly isolated and unfortunately was gone by the next morning. While the cause of her death is unknown, tests allowed rabies to be eliminated. Chung was sponsored by Animal Aid sponsors Elaine Goode, Sharyn McCarthy, Stanley Cork, Gayle Buttrose and Sandersons Body Repairs in Queensland. We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to Animal Aid Abroad and her sponsors for her upkeep over the years, which allowed her to have a good life.

Another much beloved resident who passed away was blind Naina, the oldest donkey in our midst. She was always the first one to greet us, and loved being stroked and cuddled. She too will be missed!

On 26th August, we marked Global Working Animals Days by spoiling our residents at the sanctuary. Together with interns from HICAST, we fed them lots of TLC and their favorite food like carrots and apples. On 4th October, we celebrated World Animal Day at our donkey sanctuary!

After a decade, we said goodbye to our donkey sanctuary in Godavari and moved to our new space in Dukuchhap, Lalitpur. Of all of our animals, Bunu and Lucky (our two dogs) found the journey the toughest because they didn't enjoy traveling by car! Our residents love the new space and enjoy spending all day outside grazing and playing with one another.



What we did for dogs

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Animal Nepal's Humane Dog Population Management Program first started as a provision of needs based medical support for stray dogs inside Lalitpur district. Ten years on, it has expanded to include routine birth control and vaccination camps, campaign to encourage adoption of stray dogs and awareness creation.

Under this program, we provide:

- Animal Birth Control (ABC)
- Mobile Response Team (MRT)
- Vaccinations
- Chobhar Treatment Center
- Adoptions

ANIMAL BIRTH CONTROL

The main objective of this activity is to reduce the plight of the thousands of suffering stray dogs in Nepal by creating a stable and healthy stray dog population through systematic birth control interventions.

Catch, Neuter, Vaccinate and Release (CNVR) is the method of population management used by Animal Nepal as its generally accepted as the most effective solution for overpopulation of stray dogs. Prior to starting CNVR, our team identifies the working area and takes a census of the stray dog population. Following this, our team go out to catch the dogs and they are brought over to the premises where the procedure is taking place. The dogs are neutered, vaccinated and marked then returned to the same spot where they were collected from. In 2018, a total of 1154 dogs were neutered / spayed in Lalitpur, Dhading, Nepalgunj and Lumbini.

We started off the year by conducting a 4-day CNVR camp in Godavari with the help of Rinpoche Geydak and Dhanmaya Thapa. The premises were provided by Dzogchen Shri Singha monastery and a total of 79 dogs were neutered. The Rinpoche is keen to support more camps and Godavari municipality has pledged financial assistance.

In May, we conducted a 1 week long CNVR camp in Lalitpur in partnership with Sneha's Care and the District Livestock Office where a total of 171 dogs were neutered. It was great to see the community get involved in assisting, including police officers helping to catch the dogs!

In June, we were part of the first CNVR camp organized by Nepalgunj municipality. A total of 200 dogs were neutered during this week-long camp. For a meaningful result, it is crucial to carry out routine CNVR camps in the same area and with this in mind, our team will be back in 2019.

When we started our Animal Birth Control in 2009, we wanted to see the government of Nepal replicating similar programs using its own resources. Almost a decade later that is becoming a reality and it is very encouraging to see local authorities take an active role in the human management of stray dogs. In June, we were invited by Nilkantha municipality in Dhading district to participate in their first CNVR camp. A total of 106 dogs were neutered during this camp.

In September 2018, in partnership with Dogs Trust UK, we started a six-month CNVR camp in thirteen wards of Lumbini municipality. Despite being one of the holiest places in the world as well as a UNESCO World Heritage site - Lumbini struggles with a growing stray dog population. The problem is coupled with a lack of adequate veterinary care; as a result the stray dog population in Lumbini was susceptible to illnesses, injuries and mistreatment. At the end of the program, a total of 400 dogs (226 female and 174 male) were operated on and vaccinated. The program was also supported by Lumbini Social Service Foundation and Lumbini Cultural Municipality.

Catching dogs in Lumbini, the holy land of the Buddha



“ It is very encouraging to see local authorities take an active role in the human management of stray dogs.”



MOBILE RESPONSE TEAM (MRT)

The objective of the MRT service is effectively respond to calls and messages about sick and injured strays dogs inside Lalitpur district, provide treatment and rehabilitation, mitigate rabies incidences by vaccinating the dogs and use the program as a medium to educate communities on and promote animal welfare, thus reducing incidences of animal cruelty.

Prior to the initiation of our Mobile Response Team service, sick and injured dogs were brought to our treatment center in Chobhar, which meant the center would often get overcrowded. It was therefore essential to find another way of helping the dogs in need without necessarily having to bring them to the treatment center.

In 2018, we responded to and treated a total of 831 through our MRT service. All year round, with the exception of a few holidays, the MRT's Vet Technician drove around on his motorbike with his medical kit. Following an initial assessment, the Vet Technician either treated the dog at the location itself or in case of a critical case, made arrangements to take the dog to the treatment center.

For those dogs treated at the location, the Vet Technician left medication for the dog with a member of the community, usually the person who made the phone call, as well as advise them on how to take care of the dog. By doing this, Animal Nepal, not only provided treatment to the dog, but also took part in educating the community about taking care of the dogs and thus creating a more compassionate society.

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Through its MRT program, Animal Nepal not only provided treatment to the dog, but also took part in educating the community.”



VACCINATION

As part of creating a healthy stray population, Animal Nepal conducts regular vaccination camps and also vaccinates all the dogs we come into contact with in the course of treatment. The common vaccinations we administer are for Rabies, Distemper and Parvovirus. In 2018, we vaccinated a total of 2285 dogs against Rabies.

In March 2018, we organized an anti-rabies vaccination camp in Dhapakhel, Lalitpur where a total of 64 dogs were vaccinated with support from Help Animals India and community members.

In July, our team visited the Tibetan Refugee Camp in Lalitpur at the request of our long time friend Tsechok Palmo. The dogs in and around the camp are looked after by Tsechok and other community members. On this occasion, we vaccinated a total of 17 dogs against Rabies. In August, we vaccinated 34 dogs against Rabies in 3 different wards of Lalitpur.

On September 28, to mark the twelfth World Rabies Day, we conducted a vaccination camp and Rabies awareness program in parts of Lalitpur district. 99 dogs were vaccinated on this day. In line with 2018's slogan - Rabies: share the message. Save a life, Animal Nepal's team and volunteers distributed pamphlets among community members to raise awareness about Rabies.



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Despite being full of critically ill puppies and dogs, our treatment center is a very happy place and visitors love to come and spend time with our patients.”

CHOBHAR TREATMENT CENTER

Our dog treatment center in Chobhar is a much needed facility for critically injured / sick stray dogs. The center has the capacity to hold between 40-45 dogs at any one time. Dogs are kept here during treatment and released back into the community following a full recovery. Vulnerable puppies and dogs are transferred to our adoption program and remain at the center while they await adoption. The center is run under the supervision of our vet, Dr Sunil Thapa. In 2018, we treated a total of 702 dogs at our treatment center.

Despite being full of critically ill puppies and dogs, our treatment center is a very happy place and visitors love to come and spend time with our patients. Couple of times a year, we also organize programs at the center, which always tend to be very special and enjoyable.

In November 2018, we organized a sapling plantation program - Plant a Tree - Help a Furry Friend or Three - where we invited our friends and supporters to make our treatment center greener and nicer for our patients.

Despite being full of critically ill puppies and dogs, our treatment center is a very happy place and visitors love to come and spend time with our patients. Couple of times a year, we also organize programs at the center, which always tend to be very special and enjoyable.

Soon after, it was Kukur Tihar! The second day of the five-day Hindu festival

Tihar, is called Kukur Tihar or Dog Tihar. On this day, people pamper dogs by offering them garlands and delicious food to cherish the special relationship between humans and dogs. As with every year, this is always a very special day for us at Animal Nepal and we always go to great lengths to ensure that our patients are given extra love, attention as well as their favourite treats.

ADOPTION PROGRAM

We believe that every dog deserves a loving home. In view of this, we always encourage the public to adopt instead of spending thousands on designer dogs from pet shops. Our dog adoption guideline provides all the information to be considered before making the decision to adopt a dog. Furthermore, for the first year of adoption, Animal Nepal provides all vaccinations and other minor treatments free of cost, including spay/neuter.

In 2018, 35 dogs were successfully adopted through Animal Nepal. Most of the adoptions took place inside Nepal, however seven of our patients from the treatment center with handicaps were adopted by families in the US and Canada. It is very challenging to get handicapped and older dogs adopted in Nepal. In such cases, we work with partner organizations to rehabilitate the dogs abroad because they are too vulnerable to be released back into the streets.



Campaigning and advocacy

Creation of public awareness on animal welfare issues is crucial in increasing enthusiasm and support for the animal welfare movement. As such, alongside our other programs, we routinely raise awareness through social media, education classes, exposure visits to our centres, and by mobilising the mainstream media. Only by changing the society's perception towards animals, can we bring a difference to the lives of not just a handful, but all animals.

Our President Pramada Shah attended the Open Wing Alliance conference in Prague in April. The Open Wing Alliance is a global coalition against the cruel cage confinement of egg laying hens.

In July, Nepal's last known dancing bear finally made it to his new home at the Wildlife SOS Agra Bear Rescue Facility in India. Rangila was rescued with the help of World Animal Protection, Jane Goodall Institute Nepal, Wildlife SOS and our Vice President Shristi Singh Shrestha, in partnership with local police. Rangila now lives with other rescued bears in India, in a large forested enclosure with a pool and lots of trees to climb.

In October, we marked the start of Dashain (one of Nepal's largest Hindu festivals), by launching our annual campaign against the practice of Pashubali or sacrificing animals in the name of religion. We visited a number of temples across Kathmandu, putting up posters and talking to people about the need to stop animal sacrifice. In Hinduism, the practice of sacrificing animals started due to misinterpretation; Hindu scriptures such as the Gita and some Puranas in fact forbid animal sacrifice.



Rangila, Nepal's last dancing bear, got rescued

National Livestock Survey

To obtain a better insight into Nepal's present livestock industry, Animal Nepal commissioned RH Consultants to conduct the National Livestock Welfare Survey. The survey looks at the breeding, rearing, transportation and slaughtering practices along with the prevalent acts and policies. This research is the first of its kind in Nepal and was conducted in 14 districts comprising all 7 provinces. The findings in the report were collected from various stakeholders including consumers, farmers, producers, butchers, government representatives, animal transporters and the law enforcement. The survey showed that there is a huge lack of awareness about animal welfare among the stakeholders, including the government authorities. There is thus an immediate need to bridge the gap between policy and implementation by educating the stakeholders the legal provisions and good practices. Furthermore, stakeholders need to be adequately equipped and supported to be able to fulfill their roles in improving animal health and welfare.

The full report is available on our website.



Campaigning against animal sacrifice in the heart of Patan



Highlight

Time to celebrate!

To mark our 10 years' anniversary, with the help of The Donkey Sanctuary UK, Animal Nepal hosted a 3-day photo exhibition at Moksh, Jhamsikhel. The photos on display chronicled the work we have done over the last decade, including various campaigns and our accomplishments in the field of animal welfare.

To bring more variety to the exhibition, there were also artwork on display by some local and international artists, who contributed a percentage of their sales to Animal Nepal. In addition to the photo exhibition, there were a variety of other fun activities such a musical performance, meet and greet with our rescue donkeys Krishna and Fudge, adoption corner and many more.

We finished up the final day of our photo exhibition by holding an appreciation ceremony for our volunteers and supporters, who have been so selfless in doing their part in ensuring the welfare of animals. We were so incredibly touched by the amount of love and support we received. When we opened the exhibition, we were hopeful that we would receive a good number of visitors, but we are pleased and extremely encouraged to say that we had almost 400 visitors!

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With your help we
made Nepal a kinder
place for animals...



Financial overview

Expenses (in NPR)

Staff salaries and activities	1,73,01,650
Animal treatment and food supplies	36,53,545
Vehicle expenses	5,91,476.3
Shelter expenses	17,88,613
Repair and maintenance costs	4,66,741
Fuel costs	6,57,185
Stationaries	28,472
Miscellaneous	14,97,342
Total	2,59,85,025

Income

Overseas grants	3,52,12,950.71
Local donations	8,65,452.4
Bank interest	1,55,315.35
Total	3,62,33,718.46

Board & Staff

Board members

Pramada Shah - President
 Shristi Singh Shrestha - Vice President
 Rita Limbu - General Secretary
 Paralita Malla - Treasurer
 Shova Rayamajhi - Member
 Kanchan Rana - Member
 Saraswati Rashmi Shakya - Member General

Administration

Hari Joshi - Executive Director
 Rupa Dali Shrestha - Account Officer
 Radha Gurung - Communication Officer
 Nirmal Sharma - Admin / Logistics Officer
 Rajendra Thapa - Caretaker
 Sanchamaya Syangtang - Office Helper

Equine Outreach Project

NB Amgai - Program Head
 Dr Atish Kumar Yadav - Veterinarian
 Dr Sajana Thapa - Veterinarian
 Bishnu Pokharel - Monitoring & Evaluation Officer
 Ram Chandra Shrestha - Driver / Junior Technical Assistant
 Rashid Ali Kasgar - Community Educator
 Tara Budhathoki - Junior Technical Assistant
 Prem Bahadur Roka - Junior Technical Assistant
 Mana Nepali - Junior Technical Assistant
 Santosh Gautam - Junior Technical Assistant
 Sijan Pokharel - Junior Technical Assistant

World Horse Welfare

Rekha Shrestha - Social Mobilizer
 Dr Dipendra Sah - Veterinarian

Dukuchhap Donkey Sanctuary

Santa Bahadur Shrestha
 Masini Shrestha

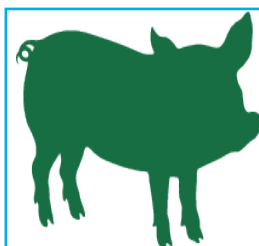
Humane Dog Population Management

Dr Sunil Thapa - Veterinarian
 Susan Acharya - Junior Technical Assistant
 Junga Bohara - Junior Technical Assistant
 Mohan Maharjan - Catcher / Caretaker
 Prem Nagarkoti - Caretaker

Partners

Our lifesaving work would not have been possible without our loyal local and international donors. We especially thank:

Animal Aid Abroad
Dogs Trust
The Donkey Sanctuary
Fondation Brigitte Bardot
Help Animals India
Himalayan Animal Treatment Center UK
Infinite Compassion Foundation
The Humane League
The Marchig Animal Welfare Trust
Suzy Utzinger Foundation
World Horse Welfare



the humane league™



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