FORGOTTEN ANIMALS

ANNUAL REPORT 2017

Charity Commission registration number 1145269

FORGOTTEN
ANIMALS

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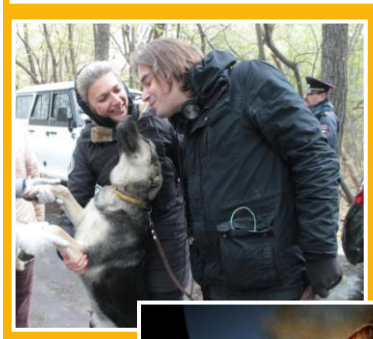
FORGOTTEN ANIMALS
2017
OUR YEAR
at a glance

ЗАБЫТЫЕ ЖИВОТНЫЕ

FORGOTTEN ANIMALS

wild animals

WHAT WE ACHIEVED	OUR PROGRAMMES and projects
REHABILITATED 4 WILD ORPHANED BEAR CUBS	REHABILITATION & RELEASE
CONSULTED 4 ZOOS IN 2 COUNTRIES ON A BETTER CARE	CAPTIVE WILDLIFE IMPROVEMENT
10+ BROCHURES AND PRESENTATIONS ON BETTER ANIMAL CARE	CAPTIVE WILDLIFE IMPROVEMENT



animals & people

WHAT WE ACHIEVED	OUR PROGRAMMES and projects
REACHED 1000+ SCHOOL CHILDREN IN 5 CITIES	HUMAN BEHAVIOR CHANGE
ANIMAL CRUELTY & ANIMAL TESTING LAWS IMPROVEMENT	ANIMAL WELFARE LEGISLATION
LIVE BAITING LEGISLATION DEVELOPMENTS	WILD ANIMAL LEGISLATION
TOOK PART IN 6 CONFERENCES & ADOPTION FAIRS	RAISING KNOW HOW&AWARENESS
"ANIMAL IMPACT" BOOK TRANSLATED INTO RUSSIAN	BUILDING EFFECTIVE ANIMAL ADVOCACY

companion animals

WHAT WE ACHIEVED	OUR PROGRAMMES and projects
STERILIZED 1302 CATS AND DOGS IN 11 CITIES	SUBSIDIZED NEUTERING
DONATED 550+kg OF FOOD TO 12 ANIMAL SHELTERS	HOMELESS ANIMAL SHELTERS
RESCUED AND REHOMED 500+ CATS AND DOGS	RESCUE AND REHOMING
TRAINED 10 VET SURGEONS IN LATEST TECHNIQUES	IMPROVING VET STANDARDS
STARTED A UNIQUE PROJECT WITH DOGS TRUST WORLDWIDE	AWARENESS & NEUTERING
BUILT RELATIONS WITH 3 MORE MUNICIPAL SHELTERS	HUMANE STRAY POPULATION MGMT

founder's message

I believe we can achieve major shifts in behaviour and attitude towards animals. **We are doing it where the most difference in animal welfare can and needs to be made.**

– Anna Kogan, Founder and CEO of Forgotten Animals

As Russia's first animal welfare organization to work in remote towns and regions, where, unlike in big cities, animal welfare community is virtually inexistent, Forgotten Animals (formerly Big Hearts Foundation) has an ambitious vision: **A more responsible and accountable society where animal rights are protected and upheld by law.** This is why back in 2011, after getting a full picture of the scale of animal abuse, stray problem, the lack of legislation guaranteeing any welfare standards and no private or public organizations working to change and improve this, **I decided to dedicate my life to raising animal welfare standards and improving the lives of animals in the region.**

And this is why in 2017 our rapidly growing organization went through a complete rebranding becoming FORGOTTEN ANIMALS, whose only mission is **To save as many animals as we can from despair in countries where animal welfare education, rights and resources are most deficient.**

Since then Forgotten Animals, a registered charity in both UK and Russia with only 2 paid employees and over 60 volunteers spread across the former Soviet countries, the UK, Italy, the Netherlands and Australia has carried out or directly supported projects in 60+ cities across 5 countries, and counting. I am proud to say that we came a long way and managed to extend our reach to help wild and captive animals, as well.

Our ultimate goal is to help people see animal welfare with new eyes, so they can become the driving force behind the societal change.

Today, Forgotten Animals closely collaborates with a number of animal welfare organizations around the world in order to bring positive change, one animal at a time.

Working with DogsTrust Worldwide

Cruelty-Free INTERNATIONAL

WORLD ANIMAL PROTECTION

Fondation Brigitte Bardot

Mayhew International

AnimalsAsia

PERSULA FOUNDATION

FIVE FREEDOMS

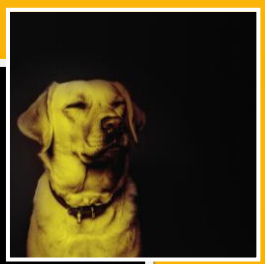
We Will Not Stop Until:

- ✓ **The rights of all animals are respected, protected, and upheld by effective legislation;**
- ✓ **All companion animals have a home where they live a dignified life, free from abuse and neglect;**
- ✓ **Overcrowded animal shelters where animals suffer in atrocious conditions are outlawed;**
- ✓ **The number of wild animals in captivity is heavily regulated and reduced to the minimum;**
- ✓ **Private ownership of wild and exotic animals is minimized and strictly regulated by law;**
- ✓ **Baiting stations, animal circuses, roadside & travelling zoos and dolphinaria are banned.**

Our founder, trustees and ambassadors do not receive any financial benefits from the charity's activities. On the contrary, they invest their time, energy and money in improving the plight of stray animals in the world's biggest region. Our overheads are kept to respectable 18% of our income, with a large part of it being covered by the Founder. **This means that every pound, dollar, euro, ruble or bitcoin we get in donations is directly spent on helping and saving lives of thousands of animals.**

OUR PROGRAMMES AND PROJECTS

Wild Animals	Companion Animals
Captive animal welfare	Subsidized neutering
Rehabilitation and reintroduction	Improving veterinary standards
Captive animal legislation	Human behaviour change
Wild Animal Sanctuary	Animal welfare legislation
Raising awareness	Social advertising



WILD ANIMALS

IMPROVING CAPTIVE ANIMAL WELFARE

In April 2016 we discovered a horrible animal abuse case at the Almaty zoo, Kazakhstan. Malnourished sick animals with reduced diet, no qualified veterinary assistance, underpaid and mobbed employees. **The last drop was the very sick Amur tigress Kuralaj left to die in agony by the zoo director.** Read the full story. It was too late for us to save Kuralaj, she fell victim of political games, ignorance and indifference. But we couldn't sit still and let her death go in vain. **We decided to make it our priority to improve the standards and conditions captive animals are kept in this zoo and other zoos in former Soviet countries.**

Kuralaj left to die in agony

Upon the great success of our first visit and several months of e-mails, calls and pulling the strings we finally managed to get invited by the new management of the Almaty zoo to consult them on how to improve the wellbeing of their animals in a simple and affordable manner. **In October 2017 our Programme Director travelled to Russia and Kazakhstan with Hilda Tresz - the world renown expert on primates from Phoenix Zoo and the Jane Goodall Institute to visit 4 zoos** (Saint Petersburg, Almaty, Rostov and Krasnodar), giving workshops on the importance of substrate and the encouraging of natural behaviour in animals, such as foraging for food, rather than just free feeding.

You may read the detailed trip report and watch the videos here.

Dora in Rostov zoo, our first visit, Image by Chloe Rossman

Happy animals enjoying substrate and enrichment after our visit, pictures courtesy of respective zoos

Dora and her friends playing with enrichment. Rostov zoo

Wolf enjoying the Pumpkin Day, Saint Petersburg zoo

Diana the jaguar laying in substrate, Almaty zoo

Black Capuchin, Lar gibbon and Squirrel monkey playing with enrichment and foraging for treats using items and puzzle feeders built for the Pumpkin Day 2017 by the keepers of the Saint Petersburg zoo

WILDANIMALS

REHABILITATION & REINTRODUCTION

"Un pour tous, tous pour un" - 4 brave musketeers!

In March 2017, the Wildlife Rehabilitation Center Utyos, whom we have been working with and supporting for many years now rescued 4 more orphaned bear cubs, whose mothers were most likely killed by hunters or illegal poachers, while still hibernating. **2 Himalayan and 2 Brown bear cubs – two different species, one cruel destiny. Every year 3000 to 4000 tiny babies just like them are left to die by hunters and poachers in Russia's Far East alone.** These 4 tiny, but very brave musketeers got lucky, they were rescued and brought to UTYOS, where, with the very generous grant from the Brigitte Bardot Foundation they took place of grown orphans, who, after a cozy winter nap, were released back into the wild in May 2017 and will be guests of UTYOS for 1 year, until they too are ready to go back where they belong.

Extreme Makeover: tiger (home) edition

Our beautiful Zhorik, an injured Amur tiger who lives at Utyos in a huge 1.5 hectares territory of the forest all for himself got a NEW "dining room"! **He loves spending his time in this new area! Of course, who doesn't like to hang out where there's food?**

LEGISLATION: Live Baiting Ban Campaign

There are over 1000 "baiting stations", in Russia alone, many more in the surrounding countries, where the practice of using live animals (often defenceless cubs or injured adults) as bait to train hunting dogs has not been explicitly outlawed, leaving it in a grey area. **We have been campaigning and lobbying the government for a ban, together with other animal welfare activists collecting and presenting evidence of widespread animal abuse and illegal commercial practice in these places.** In 2017, finally, the state Duma finally started talking about it, discussing the amendments of the hunting law. We even managed to push for an examination of some of the baiting stations by government officials. But we are up against a huge and powerful hunting lobby, whose primary interest is fully legalize live baiting. **The ban did not pass, but we are not giving up and will continue our lobbying and legislation drafting work until this barbaric practice is banned in Russia and the surrounding countries.**

COMPANION ANIMALS

Homeless Animal Shelters: Christmas Food Marathon

For Christmas 2016 our volunteers turned into Santa's Little Helpers and prepared a wonderful Christmas surprise for the animals, who still live in shelters and are waiting to be adopted by their forever families. **In two months of food donation marathon in a number of stores in different cities we managed to collect nearly 550 kg of food for cats and dogs living in 12 shelters across Moscow and Saint Petersburg regions, making the holiday season a little bit sweeter for shelter animals!**

Improving Vet Standards: Mayhew Veterinary Training

In June 2017 one of our partner vets from Petrozavodsk, Russia, Elena Bokareva, underwent an intensive practical training in the latest spay and neuter surgery techniques with Mayhew International. Thank you very much to Mayhew International and Dogs Trust Worldwide for making this a reality for Elena and our organisation. **Another 9 vets were trained in Russia over 2 trips in 2016 and 2017, making the total of 10 veterinary surgeons, whose skills were improved through our crucial Improving Vet Standards Programme.**

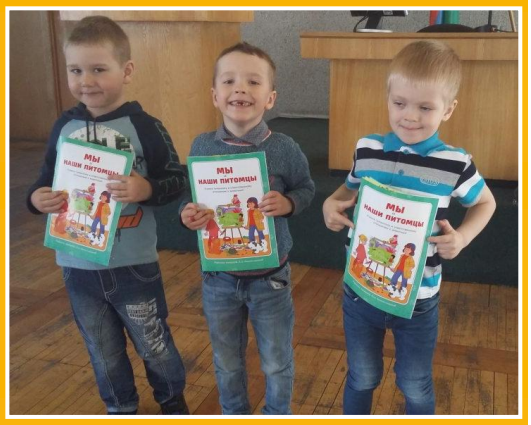
Subsidized Spaying and Neutering: More cities added!

In 2017 thanks to the generosity of our donors' we managed to add two more Russian cities to our subsidized spaying & neutering programme. **Our nationwide sterilization campaign is one of our priority projects, as the amount of stray animals dying on the streets of Russia is enormous while the culture of spaying/neuhttering pets is virtually non-existent.** Thanks to the donations the campaign is getting stronger day by day while spreading to more and more Russian towns and cities helping hundreds of animals to stay healthy, find forever homes and, most importantly, preventing thousands of unwanted kittens and puppies from being born on the streets where their destiny is uncertain, to say the least.

Humane Education and Responsible Pet Ownership

Humane Education is one of our priority programmes, as it carries amazing potential of bringing long-term change to animals and people. In summer 2017, we designed and printed rulers explaining the importance of spaying and neutering pets for school kids in Russia.

Over the past year, more teachers were trained through our online Humane Education course, we held a competition for the most engaging class and have further plans to grow our Humane Education programme, especially with working with underprivileged children and orphans.



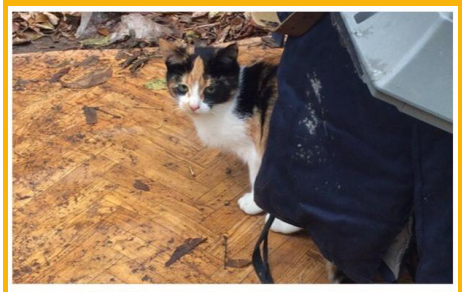
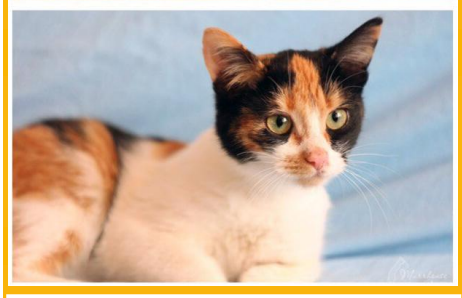
Unprecedented Multi-Faceted Project with Dogs Trust Worldwide

We are extremely proud to have received a grant from the amazing Dogs Trust Worldwide for a revolutionary multi-faceted project in Petrozavodsk, Russia! The project will result in providing subsidised neutering to 2000 owned dogs from the lower income households and includes two phases of public opinion survey and a massive social advertising campaign (TV, radio, Internet, outdoor and public transport ads), based on the findings of the research. Dogs Trust Worldwide have previously funded the training of our partner veterinary surgeons to get them even more skilled in the latest neutering techniques. Our main goal with this project is to improve the culture of pet spaying & neutering in Petrozavodsk and consequently reduce the number of stray animals suffering on the streets. Thank you, Dogs Trust Worldwide, for your trust and support! Here are some heart-warming stories of lucky dogs and their owners, whose lives we managed to improve thanks to this amazing collaboration!

Rescue mission in Balashikha

In October 2017 we found out about a horrible animal hoarding situation in Balashikha, Moscow region. A mentally ill elderly man was hoarding stray animals and torturing them. **Immediately after learning about the situation and rushing to the address, volunteers found a terrible sight: filth and unbearable smell, hungry, sick animals roaming around. Some locked up in old filthy supermarket trolleys, cold, with no food or water.** The president of Forgotten Animals Russia - lawyer Anastasia Komagina together with the wonderful local volunteers has urgently arranged a police visit to the site and organized a rescue mission to save, treat and re-home all animals.

Just look at their transformation: these before & after pictures clearly speak for themselves!

Former Stray HERO DOG Saves An Entire Building During Fire!

Former homeless dog, whom his new family adopted from one of the shelters we support in Russia became a true Hero by saving many lives! Atos smelled smoke coming from the neighbours' apartment and woke his entire family up by non-stop loud barking!

Fire-fighters got there just in time! The neighbours' kitchen was destroyed by the fire, but thanks to Atos everyone, including a child, was evacuated from the building and nobody was harmed by the fire!

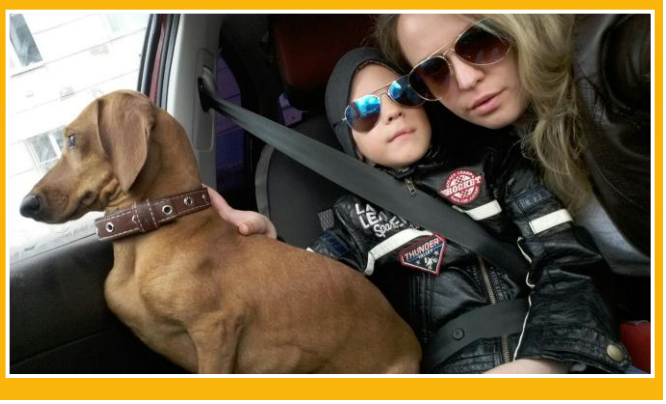
"HAPPY TAILS" *some of the happy stories of animals we managed to help with your support*

Nicole, the "adventurous" German

Svetlana got Nicole, a 2 year old German Shepherd female from her colleague. Svetlana didn't think Nicole was old enough to be sterilized at the time. Nicole lived in the yard and was free to roam around. Unfortunately, they didn't notice that one day Nicole escaped when she was in heat, and got pregnant. Our project coordinator received a phone call from tearful Svetlana who didn't know what to do and whether it was possible to safely spay Nicole to prevent the unwanted litter. She felt very guilty that she hadn't spayed Nicole earlier and knew that she wouldn't be able to find suitable homes for a litter of 8 puppies. We arranged for an urgent consultation, during which our vets assessed Nicole who was a few weeks pregnant and reassured Svetlana that it would be safe and more responsible to spay Nicole as quickly as possible. Nicole is now a healthy happy dog who will never escape in heat and have unwanted puppies again. Svetlana was very grateful for the opportunity, as she couldn't afford the full cost of the procedure for such a large dog. She also promised that she would not let Nicole escape again!

Jasmin "Yasya", the feisty shoe lover

Alina found 3 year old Jasmine (Yasya) online; her previous owners were giving her up due to a sudden alleged allergy. Soon Alina realized that Yasya was suffering when left alone and would damage things around the house. Yasya's favourite pass time was stealing shoes and laying them on the couch, which was probably the real reason why her previous owners decided to get rid of her. But Yasya got lucky, she didn't end up at a puppy mill, thanks to Alina, who fell in love with her at the first click and decided to adopt her. Sadly, Alina had lost her first dog to cancer , that appeared after the dog developed numerous false pregnancies. To stop false pregnancies Alina's neighbour "recommended" letting the dog have puppies. Inexperienced Alina trusted the neighbour and not long after giving birth the dog died. Taught by this horrible experience Alina knew she didn't want the same tragic fate for Yasya. This is why, as soon as she learnt about our campaign, she immediately signed Yasya up for the procedure. As you may clearly see yourself, now Yasya is a happy healthy dog living her life to the fullest with her loving "furrrever" family!



LEGISLATION

HUGE LAW VICTORY! We have been fighting for this for many years and it FINALLY happened. After years of lobbying, knocking on every door, gathering statistics and highlighting widespread unpunished cruelty in Russia, the Federal Government has finally voted on this change: the amendments toughening the punishment for animal abuse according to Art. 245 of the Penal Code in Russia has passed! **The abusers will now have to pay over 1000 GBP fine (a very large sum for most Russians), do 360 hours of community service or go to jail for 6 months to 3 years. If a minor was present during the act of cruelty or it was published on the Internet, the fine will be as large as nearly 4000 GBP and the jail time from 3 to 5 years.** The wording of the law has also been amended, to make the law actually effective – the prosecutors no longer need to prove sadistic intent, just the fact of the animal cruelty itself is enough, which is a huge change comparing to the previous legislation! Now there is a lot of work for us to ensure Russians are aware of the law, apply it and it actually works!

Animal Testing Ban

Last year we got one step closer to ending the abuse of millions of rabbits, mice, rats, cats and dogs in laboratories in Russia. We have been working on this with Cruelty Free International for years now and our fight, drafting and lobbying of an adequate and civilized law proposals is FINALLY starting to give results! **The Technical Regulation in Russia has been changed, establishing that toxicological tests (i.e. not only clinical) can be conducted on alternative models, and not only on live laboratory animals.** This very change in the Technical Regulation means that now ANY test can be replaced by a humane non-animal alternative. So, even in the absence of the law, banning animal testing, each of us can make an effort to foster the development of accredited testing laboratories, that use alternative biological models.

Vanessa-Mae and her continuous support of our cause!

Also this past year the world-renown musician and fierce animal advocate Ms. Mae continued to help us raise awareness and advance the legislative work. In the past she kindly allowed us to play a video to raise awareness of various aspects of animal suffering due to the missing legislation before and during the intervals of her concerts in Russia, attended by thousands. **On multiple occasions she issued statements and spoke out to the Russian press and addressed the Government on how she is upset and outraged by unpunished cruelty - the last being the case of a dog left to freeze to death by the owner in -50C° cold. All her continuous support over the years has definitely contributed to the passing of the Anti-Cruelty law we lobbied. We are eternally grateful to Ms Mae for her kind heart and for never giving up and look forward to bringing more positive change to animals together!**

EVENTS: CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS AND ADOPTION FAIRS

Taking part in such events help our team develop new skills, gain know-how and establish connections in order to build a more effective and efficient local animal advocacy to directly benefit animals we help.

Dogs Trust Worldwide International Training Programme

In March 2017 our Programme Director had a privilege to be part of an amazing group of animal welfare delegates from Nepal, Cape Verde, Mexico, Bulgaria, Romania, Spain, Portugal, Zambia, Poland, France and the UK attending the International Training Programme organized by Dogs Trust Worldwide in London. The delegates attended workshops held by leading experts learning about Humane Education for future generations, how to build and successfully run an effective and sustainable shelter, amazing facts about dog behaviour and how to correctly interact with dogs, fundraising and social media strategies and so much more! We are very grateful to Dogs Trust Worldwide for this great opportunity to meet like-minded people from so many countries and exchange know-how and best practices in order to improve lives of companion animals all over the world!

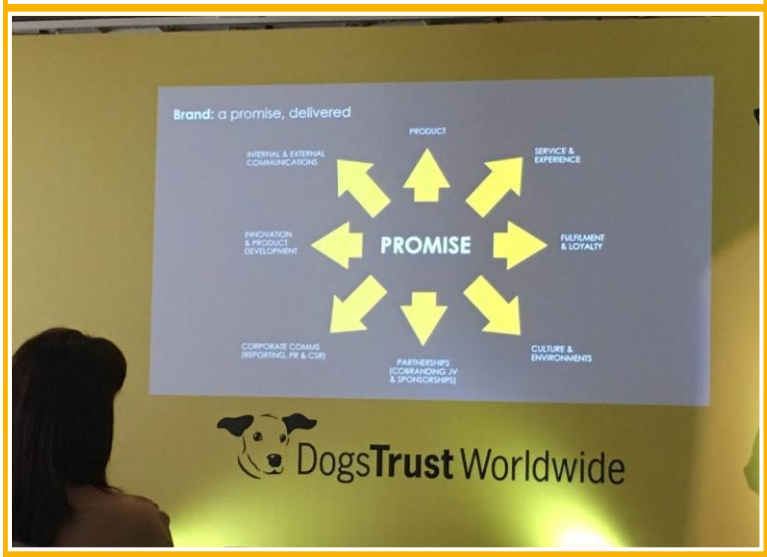
Balashikha City Adoption Festival

In November 2017, Forgotten Animals was invited to be an organizational partner and to participate in a massive city festival and shelter animals adoption fair in Balashikha, Russia.

Our amazing volunteers, lead by Anastasia Komagina - Forgotten Animals Russia President - had a great time distributing our leaflets and brochures on Responsible Pet Ownership and talking to the visitors. Many shelter cats and dogs found their forever homes thanks to this event. We are grateful to the organisation committee, volunteers and the city administration for helping to make this happen and hope to repeat the success in many more cities in the future!

Dogs Trust Worldwide International Companion Animal Welfare Conference in Cyprus

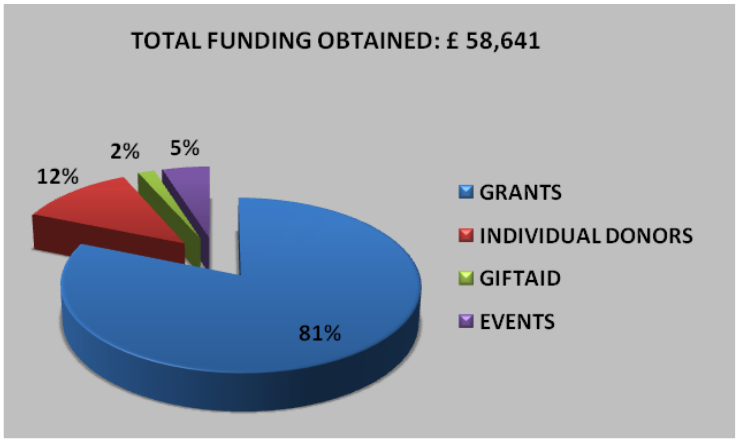
In October 2017 we had a privilege to attend the International Companion Animal Welfare Conference organised by Dogs Trust Worldwide in Cyprus. We have listened to experts in companion animal behaviour, sheltering, veterinarian science, charity marketing and branding and met some inspirational, dedicated animal welfare professionals from the UK, India, USA, Romania, Croatia, Cyprus, Serbia, Bulgaria and other countries. We have come away with loads of ideas and inspiration to further improve our work and help more animals! Thank you, Dogs Trust Worldwide, for this wonderful opportunity!

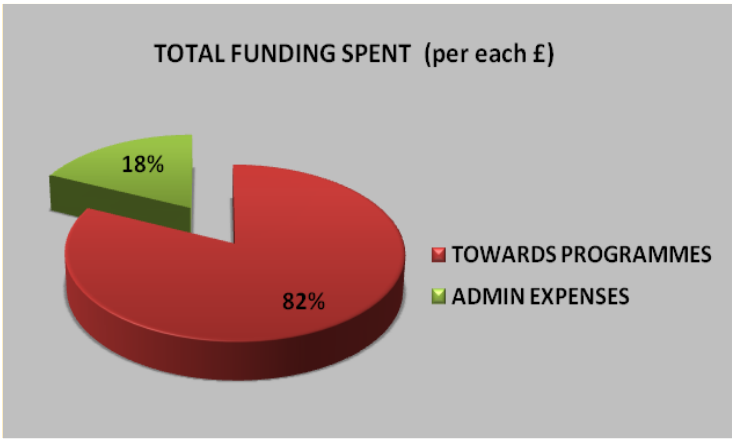


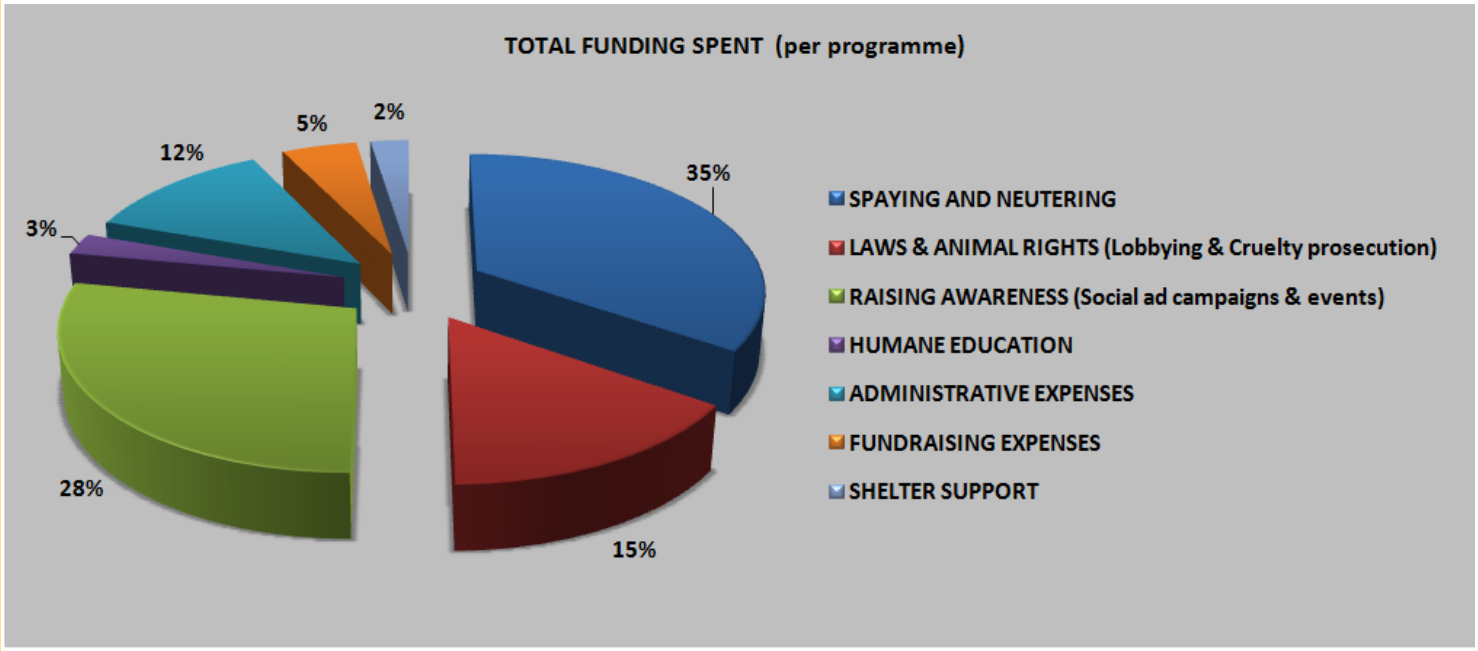
New Strategy and Rebranding

COMMENTS ON RESERVES AND FUNDING SOURCES

The main sources of our income comes from grants, individual donors and events. All funding received has allowed us to relieve and prevent animal suffering, to run subsidized neutering projects, to rescue and rehabilitate wild animals and to raise awareness of these and other crucial animal related issues among the general public. None of this would be possible without the donations and grants we receive.







Year start, cash: £ 21,067 // Year end, cash: £ 29,382

GOVERNANCE IN PLACE

Our board of Trustees oversees all our financial activities and play an active role in management decisions. Starting from 2017, the year end has been moved from September 1st to January 1st.

All neutering projects are verified by means of receiving receipts and photos of surgeries from the project leads and local volunteers.

All other project expenses are verified by receipts, pictures and videos. Our volunteers regularly visit projects we are involved in. All projects provide regular detailed income/expenses reports.

Follow us on:

FORGOTTEN ANIMALS 2018

FUTURE goals and plans

ЗАБЫТЫЕ ЖИВОТНЫЕ

FORGOTTEN ANIMALS

wild animals

OUR PLANS AND GOALS	OUR PROGRAMMES and projects
REHABILITATE MORE ORPHANED BEAR CUBS	REHABILITATION & RELEASE
FUND PERMANENT WILDLIFE OFFICER POSITION	CAPTIVE WILDLIFE IMPROVEMENT
RAISE FUNDING FOR RUSSIA'S FIRST TRUE SANCTUARY	FIRST WILD ANIMAL SANCTUARY

companion animals

OUR PLANS AND GOALS	OUR PROGRAMMES and projects
ADD 10 MORE CITIES TO THE CAMPAIGN	SUBSIDIZED NEUTERING
TRAIN 10 MORE VET SURGEONS IN LATEST TECHNIQUES	IMPROVING VET STANDARDS
SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE THE PROJECT WITH DOGS TRUST WORLDWIDE	AWARENESS & NEUTERING
BUILT RELATIONS WITH 5 MORE MUNICIPAL SHELTERS	HUMANE STRAY POPULATION MGMT
RAISE FUNDING FOR SUOYARVI'S FIRST SOCIAL VET CABINET	IMPROVING VET STANDARDS
LAUNCH A MASSIVE MULTI-FACETED PROJECT IN MOLDOVA	HUMANE STRAY POPULATION MGMT

animals & people

OUR PLANS AND GOALS	OUR PROGRAMMES and projects
HIRE 2 FULL-TIME HUMANE EDUCATION TEACHERS	HUMAN BEHAVIOR CHANGE
ANIMAL TESTING: CONVINCE PRODUCERS TO TRY ALTERNATIVES	ANIMAL WELFARE LEGISLATION
CONTINUE FIGHTING FOR THE LIVE BAITING BAN	WILD ANIMAL LEGISLATION
A VIRAL TV-CAMPAIGN ON RESPONSIBLE PET OWNERSHIP	RESPONSIBLE PET OWNERSHIP

WWW.FORGOTTENANIMALS.ORG

we all hold the key