About Change For Animals Foundation

Launched in 2012, Change For Animals Foundation (CFAF) is committed to improving the lives of animals throughout the world by delivering and supporting projects and campaigns to ensure positive and lasting change for animals. We believe the fastest way to do this is through working in partnership with other groups, pooling resources and combining expertise, so that our shared goals are reached quickly and efficiently. To this end, we have co-founded and joined international alliances to tackle some of the most pressing animal welfare issues around the world.

CFAF works on high-level campaigns, collaborating in partnership with other groups and stakeholders, to drive widespread positive change for animals. But we also recognise the importance of helping individual animals to give them a life worth living. So, at the same time, we undertake our own projects and initiatives to improve animal welfare.

CFAF has achieved so much since our launch in 2012 but we have much more to do to change the lives of animals around the world.

Ending the Cruel Dog Meat Trades in Asia

The dog meat trades in Asia – affecting tens of millions of animals each year – are arguably the most severe companion animal welfare concern in Asia. The dogs endure unimaginable suffering throughout all stages of the trade, from sourcing, transport, sale and slaughter. Stolen pets and roaming dogs are transported to cities on filthy, overcrowded trucks, posing a significant risk of disease transmission including rabies. Many die from suffocation, dehydration or heatstroke before they reach their final destination. For those who survive, the grueling journey ends at a slaughterhouse, market or restaurant. There is an ever-growing opposition to the dog meat trade and CFAF is committed to working with local and international partners to raise the profile of this issue and to ensure the strengthening and enforcement of laws that will banish this suffering to the history books.

Ending the Dog Meat Trade – Vietnam

As a founding member of the Asia Canine Protection Alliance (ACPA) in 2013, CFAF is committed to ending the illegal trade in millions of dogs every year, destined to supply Vietnam's restaurants and markets. By working with governments and human and animal health experts, ACPA has already secured a moratorium on the trade in dogs between Thailand and Vietnam. Vietnam’s Department of Animal Health also issued a directive to stop the illegal import of dogs. With government support, ACPA campaigns in key border areas to target illegal traders, and we will continue to work in close collaboration with regional governments and local law enforcers to ensure an end to this brutal trade.

Our ongoing activities include: conducting investigations to expose the risks the trade poses to human health; providing training and support to local animal protection groups; and promote compassion and respect for dogs and ultimately all animals.
Ending the Dog Meat Trade – Indonesia
CFAF is working in partnership with international and local partner organisations to end the dog meat trade in Indonesia. Together, we are committed to working with local communities, religious leaders and authorities to raise awareness of the illegal dog meat trade and the risks it poses to both human and animal health, as well as the enormous amount of suffering the trade causes to millions of dogs every year. Through grassroots education, seminars and advocacy, our partnership is working to: end the demand for dog meat; equip local law enforcers with the skills, resources and knowledge to ensure adequate enforcement of existing laws and regulations; educate local communities and authorities about the risks to human health and the risk to rabies control achievements and programs; and promote compassion and respect for dogs and ultimately all animals.

Ending the Exploitation of Wildlife in Captivity
Hundreds of thousands of wild animals are kept in zoos, safari parks and marine parks throughout the world, many living in the most appalling conditions. CFAF maintains that the keeping of wildlife in captivity for the purposes of entertainment is not ethically justifiable, and is committed to helping in specific cases where possible, whilst lobbying for laws to be strengthened to safeguard the welfare of captive wildlife. We are committed to raising vital public awareness of the cruelty animals exploited for tourism and visitor entertainment endure so that everyone is equipped to make ethical choices when on holiday at home or abroad.

Strengthening of Laws to Protect Wildlife from Exploitation – Indonesia
Throughout Indonesia, thousands of wild animals suffer every day confined in unacceptable zoos and other wildlife-holding facilities. Many are cruelly exploited for entertainment, in abusive performances, as “photo props” and forced to interact with visitors.

Change For Animals Foundation is proud to support the tireless work of local partner organisations with united campaigns to collect evidence of cruelty in zoos and safari parks throughout Indonesia, and to raise vital public awareness of – and opposition towards – wildlife exploitation for entertainment.

We also work with wildlife holding facilities, wildlife experts and other animal protection and conservation organisations, to assist with the provision of essential training to develop the knowledge and skills necessary to improve the quality of life of the animals in captivity.
Ending the keeping of cetaceans in captivity – Worldwide
CFAF is a partner organisation of the World Cetacean Alliance (WCA). This alliance brings together NGOs striving for improvements to the lives of cetaceans, as well as whale and dolphin watching businesses and concerned individuals, so that they can campaign with a united and powerful message. CFAF has representation on the WCA’s working group dedicated to ending cetaceans in captivity. The captivity working group is developing resources that will strengthen the work of the WCA and its partners on issues concerning the captivity of cetaceans. We add our weight to any campaign or project that is compatible with WCA’s vision and objectives. The WCA campaigns for changes in policy and legislation where appropriate and when opportunities arise. In addition, the WCA are partners with Responsible Travel in the campaign to end orca circuses.

Delivering humane cat and dog population management projects in Portugal
CFAF has developed a formal collaborative partnership with Animais de Rua (AdR) in Portugal to assist them in providing a powerful voice for animals throughout the country. We have worked closely with AdR to provide capacity development, staff and volunteer training, logistical and advisory support across all aspects of their animal welfare and organisational work. In addition, together we have developed a dog and cat welfare project in Praia de Faro that involves undertaking a full population, health and welfare census of the animals on the Praia as well as community attitude and behavior surveys. Working with the local municipality, Lisbon University and a team of vets, the project continues to vaccinate, treat and sterilise the local dog and cat population and provide ongoing support to the community to improve the lives of the animals on the Praia for years to come.

Supporting improvements in Pony Welfare – Cambodia
In Cambodia many people rely on working ponies for their livelihoods and these communities are some of the most marginalised and impoverished in the country. CFAF works with the Cambodian Pony Welfare Organisation (CPWO) to encourage pony owners to change the way they manage and work their animals by reducing key welfare problems and preventing the suffering from happening in the first place. Owners are now providing their ponies with water in their stables, ensuring their loads are balanced and increasing the size of the stables so that they have somewhere comfortable to rest. CFAF has partnered with CPWO to reward the owners who make significant changes by funding a scheme whereby they can receive certificates as a pledge of their ongoing commitment. In addition, we also award small useful items such as hoof picks, fly fringes, brushes and buckets (all costing less than 2USD but this represents more than a day’s earnings for many owners).