

SAVING ASIA'S DOGS AND CATS



"THE GREATNESS OF A NATION AND ITS MORAL PROGRESS CAN BE JUDGED BY THE WAY ITS ANIMALS ARE TREATED."

MAHATMA GANDHI

SOI DOG'S MISSION STATEMENT

TO IMPROVE THE WELFARE OF DOGS AND CATS IN ASIA, RESULTING IN BETTER LIVES FOR BOTH THE ANIMAL AND HUMAN COMMUNITIES, TO CREATE A SOCIETY WITHOUT HOMELESS ANIMALS, AND TO ULTIMATELY END ANIMAL CRUELTY.



THE BEGINNINGS OF SOI DOG

SOI DOG FOUNDATION WAS ESTABLISHED IN 2003 IN PHUKET,

Thailand, by John and Gill Dalley from the UK and Dutch retiree Margot Homburg, to help the street dogs and cats who had no one else to care for them.

Over 70,000 strays roamed the island, with the numbers growing alarmingly due to a lack of spay & neuter programmes to control the population.

Occasionally, local authorities would carry out culls. The poisoning, shooting or clubbing to death of dogs were some of the methods used in an effort to control the population.

Soi Dog was created to provide a humane and sustainable solution to managing the stray population and to address their medical needs.

Funding then, as now, came entirely from individuals who shared, and continue to share, the vision of our founders.

For more on the history of the Soi Dog Foundation, visit soidog.org

SOI DOG'S MAIN ACTIVITIES







CNVR CAMPAIGNS

Controlling dog and cat populations and reducing/eliminating disease through sustained Catch, Neuter, Vaccinate and Return (CNVR) campaigns across Thailand.

MEDICAL TREATMENT

Providing high quality veterinary treatment to stray dogs and cats in state of the-art facilities.

SANCTUARY

Providing sanctuary to animals that have been victims of cruelty or abuse, disabled animals, abandoned puppies and kittens who cannot survive on the streets.

ADOPTION

Finding permanent homes both in Thailand and overseas for animals taken into the shelter and rehoming dogs caught up in emergency situations.



FIGHTING THE ASIAN DOG MEAT TRADE

Eradicating the organised dog meat trade across borders and the eating of dogs and cats in Asia. Great strides have already been made and attitudes are changing.

DISASTER RESPONSE

Initiating fast and effective action to save dogs and cats after natural or man-made disasters.

ERADICATING PUPPY FARMS

Combatting the evils of puppy farms and encouraging people to adopt rescue dogs and not to buy puppies from pet stores. This includes discouraging the breeding or importing of breeds that are not suited to Thailand's hot climate.

ANIMAL WELFARE LAWS

Soi Dog Foundation was instrumental in the introduction of Thailand's first animal welfare law and sits on committees designed to continually improve it. In addition, we campaign to ensure the law is enforced and sentences applied by courts for cruelty to animals are as severe as the new law allows.

EDUCATION, TRAINING & COMMUNITY OUTREACH

In 2018, Soi Dog Foundation rolled out education programmes for schools to teach future Thai generations about responsible pet ownership and animal welfare. The Foundation also trains both Thai vets and vets from other countries and has a Community Outreach Programme which provides on-location, veterinary treatment for stray animals and teaches animal welfare at local community workshops.

CNVR: WHY IT WORKS

IT IS WIDELY AGREED THAT THE MOST EFFECTIVE WAY TO GIVE STREET ANIMALS A HIGHER QUALITY OF LIFE IS THROUGH A CAMPAIGN OF CATCH, NEUTER, VACCINATE AND RETURN (CNVR).

The World Health Organisation (WHO), The Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO), The World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) and the Global Alliance for Rabies Control (GARC) all agree that the most effective way to eliminate rabies in humans is to eliminate it in dogs.

Vaccinating 70% of dogs in an area will result in the elimination of rabies. It is a similar situation with reducing stray dog numbers; neutering 80% of dogs in an area will lead to a sustained reduction in numbers, as long as a maintenance programme is kept up. This is provided that vaccinated and neutered dogs are left in place to build up herd immunity and prevent new, unneutered dogs taking over territory where a food supply (usually garbage) exists.



It's a simple concept: catch the dogs, neuter and vaccinate them, and then, usually within 24 hours, return them to where they were caught.

It has already been shown that culling street animals, apart from often being brutal and also running against the Buddhist beliefs that predominate in Thailand, is ineffective for long-term population control.

Dogs are territorial by nature and will keep other dogs out of their territory.

When an area is cleared of dogs, animals from neighbouring areas – who may not yet be neutered – move in.

With reduced competition and a good supply of food (from garbage), they breed fast. Within a year or two the dog population in the area has climbed back to where it was before the cull.

The same applies to impounding dogs. Although the dogs are not killed, they all too often end up in expensively built but poorly designed and poorly run state pounds that lack sufficient funding to care for them properly. Disease is rife, owing to lack of quarantine facilities, and injuries and death from fights over food are common. In addition, often many of the dogs are not neutered and the ridiculous situation of puppies being born in these shelters occurs. They are little more than canine concentration camps. Soi Dog is spending large sums every year on food and drugs to help these dogs as much as it can.

Removing neutered, vaccinated dogs from an area actually encourages rabies and more stray dogs.

The effectiveness of CNVR carried out by Soi Dog has been demonstrated in Phuket, where the dog population is now much reduced despite a growing human population, and where the animals are much healthier than they were a decade ago.

The Thai government recognised the health benefits of CNVR to humans as well; thanks mainly to the vaccinations performed by Soi Dog, Phuket was the only province in Thailand officially declared as rabies-free a few years ago. With Phuket under control, and a similar programme completed in neighbouring Phang Nga province, a CNVR campaign was carried out in 2017 on Thailand's next most popular island holiday destinations, Koh Samui and nearby Koh Phangan.

Teams also began work in November 2015 on Soi Dog's most ambitious CNVR challenge: Bangkok. It is estimated that there are around 640,000 free-roaming dogs in the greater Bangkok region, and the majority of these are neither vaccinated nor neutered. This is a major exercise but Soi Dog is confident, given the success achieved in Phuket, that it can eventually stabilise the Thai capital's street dog population.

Since it was first founded with just three people, SDF has neutered over half-a-million animals, surpassing the milestone in December 2020. In November 2019, SDF surpassed all its own records by neutering over 100,000 animals for the first time in a calendar year, and repeated the feat again in 2020. As far as we are aware, no other organisation anywhere in the world is neutering and vaccinating as many stray animals as Soi Dog.

In Greater Bangkok, our clinic, mobile teams, and teams financed by Soi Dog have neutered and vaccinated more than 300,000 animals there since 2015 – over 75,000 of these in 2020.

The chart on page 14 shows the number of dogs and cats neutered by Soi Dog over the first 18 years. The number has grown dramatically each year for the past seven years.

In addition to the large numbers neutered by our own teams in Bangkok, Phuket, Phang Nga, Koh Samui, Surat Thani and Nakhon Sri Thammarat, Soi Dog is also financing projects that meet our standards in the far south of Thailand, and central and eastern Thailand including projects in the cities of Pattaya and Chiang Mai.

Phuket, as well as being a positive example of how CNVR works, also shows the need for a continuing maintenance programme, as with many neutered vaccinated dogs being removed to the local pound, and hundreds of vaccinated puppies being freely imported from rabies endemic areas for sale at markets and pet shops, 2019 saw the first case of rabies in a dog in Phuket for over 20 years. Fortunately, Soi Dog found the dog early and no more cases have been reported since.

In addition, unsold puppies are usually dumped and, if they survive and nothing is done, they will breed and eventually replace the removed dogs. Whilst there is a waste food source, there will be something feeding on it. With the dog population decreasing we are seeing an explosion in the cat population and, indeed, wild monkeys coming into villages where dogs would previously have kept them out. If we can control the cat population then Phuket will see an increase in rats and mice and, in turn, snakes that feed on them. Until Thailand controls its waste food disposal, the cycle will continue.



Soi Dog Rescue Officers at work in Bangkok, December 2018

SPAY & NEUTER NUMBERS

THE **121,707** ANIMALS NEUTERED IN 2020 WAS THE HIGHEST EVER IN A CALENDAR YEAR, DESPITE THE RESTRICTIONS IMPOSED BECAUSE OF COVID-19.

YEAR	DOGS	CATS	TOTAL
2003	134	41	175
2004	952	285	1,237
2005	4,300	2,027	6,327
2006	5,792	1,433	7,225
2007	2,046	192	2,238
2008	3,283	1,079	4,362
2009	3,148	1,045	4,193
2010	3,140	1,457	4,597
2011	3,874	1,715	5,589
2012	8,625	2,067	10,692
2013	10,965	2,603	13,568
2014	12,767	4,419	17,186
2015	17,759	5,975	23,734
2016	24,378	9,863	34,241
2017	42,331	11,229	53,560
2018	67,818	12,920	80,738
2019	103,074	16,468	119,542
2020	106,762	14,945	121,707
2021 (End of August)	85,216	8,033	93,249
Overall Total (End of August 2021)	506,373	97,788	604,161



In December 2020, Gao Na, meaning 'progress' became the 500,000th animal neutered by Soi Dog Foundation.



SANCTUARY AND MEDICAL TREATMENT

ANIMALS RESCUED FROM THE STREETS AND BROUGHT TO THE SOI DOG SANCTUARY IN PHUKET suffer from a wide variety of medical conditions, ranging from severe skin diseases, to broken limbs and

conditions, ranging from severe skin diseases, to broken limbs and brain damage from being hit by vehicles and horrific injuries purposely inflicted by people.

Soi Dog has the most sophisticated and best equipped dog hospital in Southeast Asia, staffed by 15 full-time veterinarians. The hospital can hold up to 160 "patients" in double "rooms". In addition to the number of vets in Phuket, we have 10 working in our Bangkok clinic and another 2 devoted to the mobile clinics. In 2020, Soi Dog treated 11,657 sick or injured animals. 4,655 of the most severe cases in the Phuket dog and cat hospitals, 254 in the clinic in Bangkok and 6,748 on location by the Community Outreach teams.

A new cat hospital opened its doors to patients in October 2019 and in mid-2020, refurbishment of the cattery was completed, providing an improved environment for the resident cats, including designated suites for FIV and FeLV positive cats.

In November 2020, we opened a brand new Humane Education Centre, the first of its kind in Thailand, capable of hosting animal welfare workshops for up to 50 children.

In addition, November saw the completion of a new isolation ward for dogs and cats, enabling the demolition of the former structure which became no longer fit for purpose or capable of handling the volume of animals passing through it.

Consequences of covid-19 saw the local abandonment of animals and, coupled with restrictions on international travel leading to a reduction in animals being able to travel to their adopted homes overseas, led to the sharp increase in sanctuary population. As a result, nine additional dog runs were constructed between April 2020 and October 2020 to accommodate the rise in numbers.

September 2020 saw the acquisition of an adjacent parcel of land. The additional space allows us to offer shelter to the rising number of dogs affected by the covid-19 crisis. June 2021 saw the first four shelters constructed on this land, along with new exercise areas for the ever-increasing sanctuary dog population.

Soi Dog has sheltered hundreds of animals rescued from the dog meat trade and continues to provide care at the sanctuary for dogs rescued from emergency situations when they arise.

DISASTER RESPONSE

FROM ITS VERY BEGINNINGS, GOING BACK TO THE 2004 ASIAN TSUNAMI, SOI DOG FOUNDATION HAS RESPONDED TO NATURAL DISASTERS.

Today, with its Emergency Response and Community Outreach teams, SDF has been able to provide on-the-ground help to both animals and people affected by such events.

SDF was first to respond to the Bangkok floods in 2011, providing not only food to marooned animals but also establishing emergency shelters and evacuating many animals. The exercise was repeated when floods hit the south of Thailand in 2016/17 and in Ubon Ratchathani in 2019.



Viola, pictured in a desperate state at the undersized facility in Nakhon Phanom in May 2018, and fully rejuvenated at the Soi Dog sanctuary in November 2018.



Disasters are not always the result of climatic events. In 2010, an epidemic of the usually fatal canine distemper saw us conduct a mass vaccination campaign that stopped the disease spreading.

In April 2018, an exaggerated rabies scare in north-east Thailand resulted in the impounding of over 3,000 animals. These included domestic pets surrendered by their owners and the rounding up of street dogs who were dumped together in a livestock centre which was simply way too small to house them all. Over 2,000 dogs died before Soi Dog were made aware of the crisis. Thankfully, we were able to save many and have since been transporting them to the sanctuary in Phuket and many have already found new homes through our adoption programmes.

In April 2020, immediately before covid-19 lock down came into effect on Phuket, SDF coordinated the emergency delivery of over 11 tonnes of extra food to various districts around Phuket. The extra supplies ensured that hundreds of community animals had access to food as the island ground to a halt, sub-districts became cut-off, restaurants closed and thousands of people left the island, causing the disappearance of many regular food sources that these animals rely upon.

It is impossible to say how many lives were saved through these operations but the number certainly runs into the thousands.

ADOPTION

MOST DOGS, ONCE THEY FULLY RECOVER, ARE RETURNED TO WHERE THEY CAME FROM but SDF also found loving homes for 727 animals in 2020. Due to international travel restrictions, the number of animals adopted to countries overseas dropped significantly. Thankfully, the number of dogs and cats adopted to loving homes in Thailand rose, with adoption of puppies and juvenile animals becoming increasingly popular.

Soi Dog's commitment to ending the suffering of dogs and cats in Asia has, in the past, seen shelter provided to hundreds of dogs saved directly from the dog meat trade. Of course, to enable Soi Dog to help more and more animals, homes must be found for the ones already at the sanctuary as there is an optimum amount of space. With new major rescue operations occurring at any time, and the threat of more animals finding themselves homeless because of covid-19, SDF has to be ready to react. While Soi Dog continues to find ways to transport adopted animals to homes overseas during the pandemic, the importance of 'local' adoptions because of this has never been greater.

Gradually, these dogs are being relocated to the safety of the Soi Dog sanctuary before being included in its adoption programmes.







The Little Orange Book **21**

FIGHTING THE DOG MEAT TRADE

THERE ARE A NUMBER OF PLACES IN ASIA - PARTICULARLY CHINA, SOUTH KOREA AND VIETNAM – WHERE DOGS ARE EATEN AS FOOD.

Unlike other types of meat industries, this trade is rarely regulated. This has resulted in horrific animal abuse at the hands of organised criminal bands.

In north-east Thailand, criminal gangs were taking dogs off the street or stealing pets out of people's gardens and jamming them into filthy cages for transport across Laos and into Vietnam.

The dogs were neither fed nor watered, with the result that many perished en route.

Those that survived invariably met nightmarish deaths, bludgeoned or stabbed to death before having their hides ripped from them and their corpses butchered.

In some well-documented cases the desperate animals were still conscious when their hides were ripped off their bodies.



Soi Dog took it upon itself to put an end to this disgusting trade out of Thailand.

Working with the Thai government, police and border officials – and with heroic private citizens willing to go up against the gangs – Soi Dog was able to make the trade unprofitable.

Truckloads of dogs were seized and thousands of dogs were rescued.



In 2018, we produced a large number of posters which were translated



The horrific and heartbreaking sight of dogs crammed into cages, on their way to be slaughtered, remains a motivating factor for us to continue the push for an end to this evil trade.

IN YULIN, CHINA, an annual dog meat festival has seen an estimated 10,000 dogs and cats killed and eaten. The Chinese authorities have recently taken action to reduce that number, but this year's festival will still see at least 1,000 dogs and cats killed and eaten.

The methods employed to kill these innocent animals in China, Korea, Vietnam and other Asian countries are unspeakably cruel.

In the Philippines and Indonesia, for example, dogs are routinely blow-torched or flung into vats of boiling water while still alive.

In South Korea they may be clubbed or stabbed to death in front of other dogs, as it is believed the terror the dog endures releases adrenaline, making the meat tastier.

However, there is hope. In August 2018, Indonesian government officials said they would support a ban on the trade. In September, the Hanoi municipality in Vietnam announced that it will ban dog meat sales in the city centre by 2021.

This has still to take effect but with an increasing number of South Koreans owning dogs as pets, dog meat is becoming more controversial and the government is under increasing pressure to ban it.

In Taiwan, In Taiwan, eating dogs was banned in 2017. In China, there is growing disgust with, and opposition to eating dogs. In Yulin, campaigners have clashed with dog meat traders, trying to rescue some of the animals due to be butchered in an annual "festival". **IN SOUTH KOREA,** public opinion is taking its toll and a growing number of dog farm owners are switching to new occupations. In February 2019 the Mayor of Seoul vowed to ban the dog meat trade in the Korean capital.

This has still to take effect but with an increasing number of South Koreans owning dogs as pets, dog meat is becoming more controversial and the government is under increasing pressure to ban it.

In September 2021, Soi Dog joined forces with ARK119 (Animal Rescue Korea) to support their efforts in ending the barbaric dog meat trade in South Korea. Earlier this year, thirteen dog farms were ordered to close down and three dog slaughterhouses were destroyed there thanks to the efforts of ARK119.

In Cambodia, where Soi Dog has invested in media campaigns to push for a ban on the trade, the pressure finally yielded some progress when the province of Siem Reap announced in 2020 a ban on the consumption of dog meat there.

In Vietnam, we have held meetings with the authorities there and the Mayor publicly requested that people refrain from eating dog and cat meat. That is not enough, though. During 2018, a series of short films financed by Soi Dog Foundation were shown on Vietnamese national TV highlighting the cruelty and corruption involved in the trade. These films were screened just before the National Tet holiday when many dogs are consumed. In 2019, we began a major campaign to try and push the city to introduce legislation to effect a full ban. In 2019 and 2020, we launched two separate petitions; The first was to gain support to present to Formula 1 group who, prior to covid-19, had introduced a race in Hanoi to their annual calendar. The race was subsequently removed from the F1 calendar as fears surrounding covid-19 spread The second was targeted to raise support from the public against the consumption of dog and cat meat and to present to the Vietnamese government as evidence that the wider public view the practice as inhumane and outdated.

The Soi Dog Foundation is determined that the dog meat trade from Thailand to Vietnam will never be resurrected, and supports all effort elsewhere to end the dog meat trade.





The pups raised by these farms are often of the cutest, fluffiest breeds. Frequently this means they are dogs with heavy coats such as Huskies, and therefore inappropriate for the hot weather of the tropics.

And if pups from these factories are unsold after a few days, they are often dumped at the side of a road or at the gates of a temple.

Soi Dog Foundation is conducting awareness campaigns to combat this cruelty.

The new Thai anti-cruelty law means that it may also be possible to achieve successful prosecutions against the worst of the puppy farms, driving them out of business.

Importing of exotic breeds that sell for large amounts of money also involves cruelty in many cases, and Soi Dog Foundation is dedicated to eradicating this practice as well.

ERADICATING PUPPY FARMS

AT MOST LARGE MARKETS IN THAILAND YOU CAN SEE PUPPIES ON

SALE. If you go up to the cages, the puppies either come straight to you as if you are their best friend ever, or they lie there, looking sad.

It's a false impression. Unscrupulous puppy vendors know that pups that react in this way are more appealing, and therefore more likely to be bought.

So they give the puppies no food or water. The "happy" puppies are desperately thirsty. The "sad" ones are simply exhausted.

This is just the most public manifestation of a supply chain that is often characterised by its cruelty.

The pups are most usually born in puppy farms, where the mother dogs are impregnated again and again until they die of exhaustion.

Conditions are often squalid. These places are businesses with no room for sentiment.

The puppies, as a result, can be sickly by the time they reach market. And because they are often sold when very young (and therefore cute), before they are properly weaned, their immune systems are not fully formed and they are particularly susceptible to disease.

This is good for the "farmers". Someone whose cute puppy has just died may come back to buy another.

ANIMAL WELFARE LAW

COVERING CRUELTY TO ANIMALS.

the Criminal Law.

40,000 baht or a 2-year jail sentence.

Soi Dog Foundation actively gathers information and evidence in animal cruelty cases to aid prosecutions.



SOI DOG FOUNDATION WAS THE DRIVING FORCE BEHIND THE RECENT PROMULGATION OF A NEW THAI LAW SPECIFICALLY

in its application of penalties, so SDF is are cruel to animals.

EDUCATION, TRAINING & COMMUNITY OUTREACH

AT SOI DOG FOUNDATION, WE BELIEVE THAT PEOPLE'S ATTITUDES TO ANIMALS ARE FORMED AT AN EARLY AGE.

If more people grow up with sympathetic attitudes to dogs and cats, there will be fewer cases of cruelty and neglect.

To guide this formation of sympathy towards dogs and cats, Soi Dog Foundation has devised a programme of education for schoolchildren, starting at primary school age. The initial rollout of the programme was in November 2017 and the addition of a Humane Education Centre at the sanctuary in Phuket in November 2020 will allow further development of the programme.

We also receive vets from neighbouring countries who can spend time learning from our own vets, who encounter a far more varied and complex range of surgical and medical situations than most vets anywhere in the world experience in a lifetime of practice.

This is a huge help for the visiting trainee vets.

Apart from visiting vets from Europe, Soi Dog Foundation has also extended training and experience to practitioners from Myanmar, Cambodia and Vietnam.





Soi Dog's Community Outreach Programme works with communities to help stray animals in need, to provide veterinary care and support all over the island of Phuket and to provide training workshops for local people in basic first aid and animal welfare.

Started in 2017, the COP team provided care for over 1,600 animals.

A second community outreach team was employed in 2018 to cope with the increasing demand for help by local people and, in 2020, over 6,700 animals were treated under the programme.

They also liaise with local stray animal 'feeders' and have formed a network of people which enables the fast reporting of animals in need of urgent medical attention.



28 The Little Orange Book







11,656 604,160 B1,000

Soi Dog Foundation operating cost per month.

Average number of animals neutered and vaccinated each month during 2021

Animals neutered since Soi Dog Foundation began in 2003

Cost to neuter and vaccinate a dog

10,262 21,939 1,441

Sick or injured animals treated so far in 2021

Calls received about animals in need of help during 2020

Current number of dogs and cats under the care of Soi Dog.

в3,100

Cost to keep a dog at the sanctuary for one month

(Updated August 31st, 2021)



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT. WWW.SOIDOG.ORG