Second Stakeholder Consultation Meeting
OIE Platform on Animal Welfare for Europe
7 June 2016, Brussels

# FOUR PAWS' PROJECTS ON STRAY ANIMAL POPULATION MANAGEMENT

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Director of the European Policy Office



# **VIER PFOTEN/FOUR PAWS?**

FOUR PAWS was founded in 1988 in Austria to campaign against fur farms and against battery farmed eggs.

In 1994 FOUR PAWS started to work internationally and today has offices in thirteen countries.

This international approach allows FOUR PAWS to lobby and campaign more effectively, improving animal welfare and thousands of animals' lives each year.

# **VIER PFOTEN/FOUR PAWS Projects**

#### Wild animals

- $\Rightarrow$  Bears (7 sanctuaries)
- ⇒ Big cats (1 sanctuary, 1 Rescue center, 1 bigcat center)
- ⇒ Orangutan (1 « school » in Borneo)

#### Farm animals and nutrition

⇒Private AW label (Tierschutz-Gütesiegel)

slaughter? Transport?









# **VIER PFOTEN/FOUR PAWS Projects**

#### **Stray / Companion animals**

- ⇒ Equids: Petra, Feral horses Danube Delta
- ⇒ Stray animal care
- ⇒ Companion Animal Responsible Ownership



# Disaster Relief Unit (Chennai – India, floods Balkans)

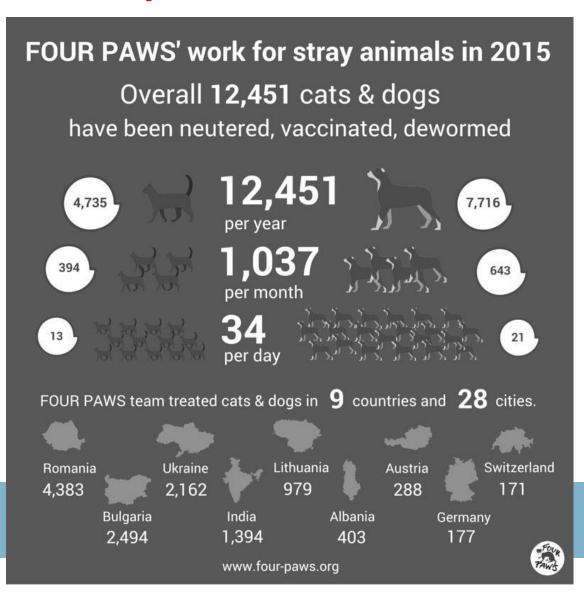




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# **FOUR PAWS' Stray Animal Care**

33 Members,
mainly
vets and animal
catchers,
mainly based in
Bulgaria, Romania,
Austria, Ukraine



#### FOUR PAWS' Successful CNR Approach

- ⇒ Only Method recognised by the WHO
- ⇒ Only sustainable solution as the last census in Sofia, Bulgaria, reveals
- $\Rightarrow$  There are however pre-requisites:
- \*Good collaboration with local Authorities
- \*High number of neutered strays (over 60%) and

household animals (free neutering campaigns)

\*Increased adoptions from street and shelters...

#### The number of stray dogs in Sofia is 3844

2016-02-18

According to the latest census conducted by FOUR PAWS the number of stray dogs has decreased three times in 9 years

The FOUR PAWS experts reported a considerable decline in the number of stray dogs in Sofia. Today they presented the results of the latest census conducted in the second half of 2015. The total number of stray dogs in Sofia is 3844, which is nearly 2,000 less than two years ago and nearly 7500 less than in 2007 when the first similar census was carried out.



# Dogs for people

- Started in 2004
- Aims to train strays as therapy dogs
- 1 project leader, 4 handlers + 4 dogs, 1 psychologist
- Dogs are chosen from shelters, or have been saved, or come directly from the street through a selection process (dogs have to pass successfully successive tests)
- Work in center for children with special needs and retirement houses







# Therapy center for children with special needs

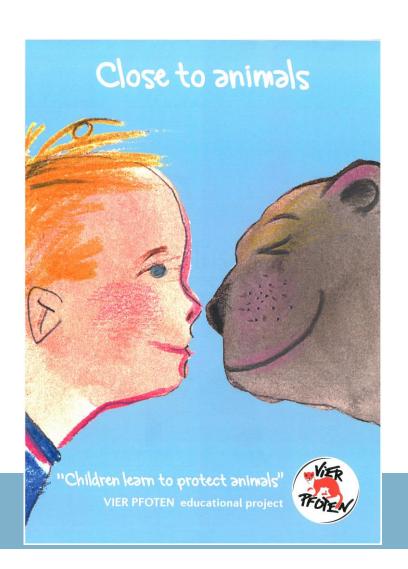
January 2016
Opening of an **Animal-Assisted Therapy Centre** in Bucharest

Entirely free for the Little patients 24 Patients – up to ca. 50 patients





#### **Educational project for kids**

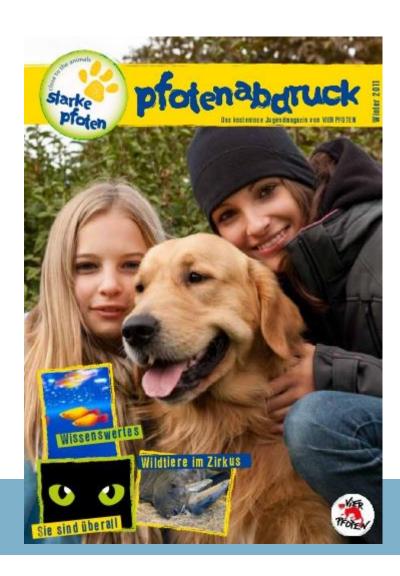


FOUR PAWS go to schools to give educational courses and published and distributed school books for Romanian, Bulgarian and Moldovan children

 Romania: 9-11 y.o. children.
 Since 2005 over 220 schools beneficiated from the program



# **Educational project for teenagers**



« Powerful Paw »

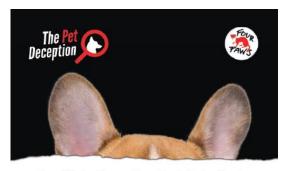
In Germany, Austria and Bulgaria

A « teenagers club »

Magazine and an Internet Forum



#### **Campaigns**



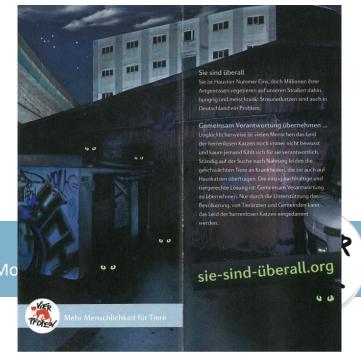
Deceitful online sellers. Exploited animals.

Tragic consequences.











# **CARO (Companion Animal Responsible Ownership)**













Project aiming at disseminating reliable scientific knowledge and supporting the development of a European overall strategy on responsible ownership of dogs and cats.

- ⇒ Websites with educational/practical information
- ⇒ Scientific tools (I&R, CNR approach...)
- ⇒ Special focuses (I&R, Cat and dog Trade)
- ⇒ Expert group on canine and feline traceability







#### **Research:**

# Report on Identification, vaccination and movement of dogs and cats in Europe

#### 1. Identification

Existing and missing rules, problem met in practice with transponders and transponders' codes, the role of competent authorities, veterinarians and transponders' manufacturers etc.

#### Pet Passport

What it is (a sanitary travel document) and what it is not (an ID document), its limits, the vaccination proofs issues etc.

#### 3. TRACES

How to improve the system to better integrate cats and dogs?





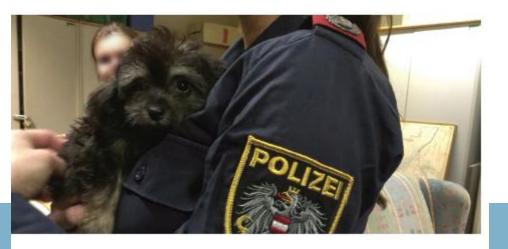


#### CONFERENCE

Identification, vaccination and movement of dogs and cats in the EU:

How to improve the Pet Passport and TRACES systems?

Brussels, 21 and 22 June 2016 Representation of the State of Hessen to the EU



#### **Conference:**

Identification,
vaccination and
movement of dogs
and cats in the EU

Brussel, 21/22 June

