



HUMANE SOCIETY  
INTERNATIONAL



2017  
*annual report*



## *Our mission; your support*

Humane Society International works around the globe to promote the human-animal bond, protect street animals, support farm animal welfare, stop wildlife abuse, curtail and eliminate painful animal testing, respond to natural disasters and confront cruelty to animals in all of its forms.

It is only thanks to your compassion and generosity that we are able to pursue our mission.

To the advocates, volunteers, donors and other supporters who give their hearts, their time and their funds to support our critical work: You have our deep gratitude, along with our commitment to press on in our efforts to improve the lives of animals everywhere.

This page: HSI's Grettel Delgadillo coaxes a dog out from under a house destroyed by flooding during Tropical Storm Nate in Costa Rica.

On the cover: This dog was brought to HSI's disaster response team for treatment in Rio Grande, a coastal town on the northeast side of Puerto Rico, in the aftermath of Hurricane Maria.

# From the President



Above: HSI President Kitty Block visits a dog meat farm in Namyangju, South Korea that HSI then shut down.

**WITH YOUR HELP**, HSI made substantial strides in animal protection globally in 2017. We continue to shape the dialogue that has catalyzed animal welfare reform and influenced public opinion, corporate priorities, legislative action and governmental collaboration.

We have driven transformative change in the ways animals are treated on farms, in labs, on the streets and in the wild. We have carried out animal rescue, care and disaster relief. We have advocated for and mobilized pressure for improved laws, enforcement and penalties. HSI has cultivated and leveraged partnerships

with organizations, institutions, multinational corporations and governments and has harnessed both economic and ethical incentives as powerful forces in facilitating better treatment of animals.

Thank you—our donors, advocates and volunteers—for all that you have done for animals. In 2017 alone, you helped HSI secure hundreds of victories. Our progress includes reducing intensive confinement practices in agriculture, promoting corporate and federal adoption of cruelty-free policies for cosmetics testing, applying humane methods of reducing companion animal overpopulation, rescuing dogs from the Asian dog meat trade and passing animal-related legislation across Latin America.

We continue to push the incremental but steady shift in people's mindsets to increased awareness of welfare issues, better-informed consumer choices and support both for initiatives providing relief to animals and laws mandating their protection.

In 2017, HSI expanded our presence to Honduras, Guatemala, El Salvador, Liberia and Nepal. In the coming years, we will be opening additional offices worldwide to increase our organization's impact, scope and ability to effect positive change.

You are part of a burgeoning movement that is making a tangible difference in the lives of animals around the world. While there remains much to do, I am heartened as I reflect on our achievements thus far. I am deeply grateful for your generosity of spirit and contributions to our cause. Without you, none of this would be possible.

I have a vision of a humane society in which consideration for animal welfare is globally accepted. Thank you for standing with us as we fight to bring this dream to fruition.

Kitty Block, President  
Humane Society International

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## *Take action*

Help animals in need—visit

[hsi.org/takeaction](http://hsi.org/takeaction).

## *Raise awareness*

Share videos of our rescues and investigations from [youtube.com/hsus](https://youtube.com/hsus) (playlist: HSI).

## *Donate*

Every gift, no matter the size, protects animals. Visit [hsi.org/donate](http://hsi.org/donate) to learn more.

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## *Improving the lives of chickens and pigs*

Billions of animals suffer in factory farms around the world, spending their whole lives confined to cages so small they can barely move. HSI is working with governments and corporations to promote more humane farming practices, and with school districts, universities and other institutions to shift tens of millions of meals to plant-based options.

**IN 2017**, HSI made significant progress toward ending the extreme confinement of egg-laying hens in battery cages so small that the birds cannot fully stretch their wings.

Canada announced a policy to phase out the use of battery cages over the next 15 years. HSI/Canada worked intensively for a decade to achieve this victory, which will impact more than 26 million chickens annually.

We convinced over two dozen food companies to announce cage-free egg policies, including major restaurant and food service enterprises in Latin America and Asia, Brazil's leading agribusiness companies—including Cargill and JBS—and global food manufacturers.

We worked with Mexico's second largest restaurant operator, Taco Holding, to announce a cage-free egg policy, and garnered the first-ever cage-free egg

commitments from food and hospitality industry leaders from Chile, Colombia and Singapore—marking the first commitment from an Asian company.

Food service provider Aramark, operating in 19 countries and purchasing over 300 million eggs annually, committed to transitioning to cage-free eggs globally by 2025, and Mondelēz International, one of the world's largest snack companies—with brands including Nabisco and Cadbury—announced a similar policy. Nestlé, the world's largest food company, extended its cage-free egg commitment to encompass not only the U.S. and Canada, but also Europe by 2020 and Latin America, Oceania, the Middle East

and Africa by 2025. Kraft Heinz, one of the world's largest food manufacturers, pledged to go 100 percent cage-free globally by 2025 as well.

**HSI IS ALSO HELPING** get pregnant sows out of gestation crates. Frimesa, Brazil's fourth-largest pig processor, committed to transitioning to crate-free housing, and restaurant company G&N became the first Chilean company to announce a crate-free pork policy.

**ON THE MEAT REDUCTION FRONT,** HSI launched a partnership with four Brazilian cities to go 100 percent plant-based at all public schools within two years, impacting over 23 million meals a year. We worked with six more school districts in Brazil to serve wholly plant-based meals one day a week, and with São Paulo's penitentiary system to adopt Meatless Mondays. In South Africa, we partnered with the University of Cape Town to launch 18 plant-based dishes in its dining halls, making it the first university in Africa to adopt a meat reduction program. Over a dozen Asian food companies joined our Green Monday movement, along with two schools in Viet Nam, and our plant-based outreach and educational programs in India are reaching millions of people.

Our Europe office continues to lobby Members of European Parliament and the European Commission to incorporate meat reduction goals into health, climate, agricultural and procurement policies and regulations and to create a friendly regulatory environment for plant-based food companies.

"HSI's unique approach to farm animal advocacy means that we're on the ground helping make better welfare a reality," explains Elissa Lane, deputy director of farm animals for HSI. "As part of this strategy, we arranged visits for major egg producers from Argentina, Singapore and Viet Nam to cage-free egg farms in the U.S. and the U.K., and we organized multiple roundtables and workshops that brought together egg and pig producers and major food and hospitality companies to share ideas to advance animal welfare around the globe."

**FINALLY,** we launched a new campaign working with the world's largest international financial institutions to end the financing of cages and crates globally and to promote investment in more sustainable plant-based foods. We are also endeavoring to strengthen the World Organization for Animal Health's welfare standards for pigs and laying hens.



# Impact

*Laws and rulings make a long-term difference*

**The passage of welfare-related legislation can help millions of animals. The rules have to be enforced, and reasonable penalties applied, but the laws can be publicized as a deterrent and used protectively whenever an opportunity arises.**

In addition to fighting successfully for a nationwide ban on dogfighting and accompanying penalties, HSI/Mexico also helped draft animal protection language in the new constitution enacted by Mexico City that recognizes animals as sentient beings whose welfare must be protected. This mandate grants animals moral consideration and care as a common responsibility of citizens and local authorities, and establishes guidelines for wildlife protection, humane farm animal practices and animal abuse penalties.

In Guatemala, a joint initiative by HSI and others secured legislation to protect companion animals, wildlife and animals used in research. It defines limits on the use of animals in circuses, makes dogfighting and spectator participation illegal, bans animal testing of cosmetics and penalizes animal abuse. The law also created an Animal Welfare Unit within the Ministry of Agriculture.

Cynthia Dent, director of global expansion for HSI, states: "This vote by the Guatemalan Congress not only marks an unequivocal victory for animals, but also ratifies the country's commitment to animal welfare." We will continue to work closely with authorities to ensure implementation of the new law and to guarantee its observance.

The Costa Rican Congress approved penal code reform that includes jail time

for harming or debilitating an animal, causing an animal's death, and organizing or promoting animal fights. The law also enables the judicial system to maintain a database on animal cruelty offenders.

Costa Rica also passed the Wildlife Conservation Law Regulations, which establish wildlife and habitat conservation guidelines, support best practices for rehabilitation and rescue centers, and protect wildlife from trafficking.

HSI/India helped develop legislation to regulate dog breeding and marketing, live animal markets, aquarium fish shops, and care and maintenance of animals in custody of the court in matters of cruelty/abuse. The government of India passed these bills in 2017. HSI/India also worked with the National Academy of Legal Studies and Research University of Law to establish India's first Centre for Animal Law. Our staff are collaborating with NALSAR to coordinate Centre activities, create a curriculum and suggest



The dogfighting ban is the first time any form of animal cruelty has been made a criminal offense at the federal level in Mexico.

topics for research, and to conduct workshops with advocates, magistrates, law enforcement and other government stakeholders.

HSI/Europe contributed to legislation prohibiting bullfights and bull fiestas in the Balearic Islands, and the inclusion of raccoon dogs on the list of Invasive Alien

Species of Union Concern. Inclusion on the list prohibits the trade in the species as an exotic pet. Our European team also successfully lobbied the European Parliament to vote for a methane strategy within the Regulation on the Governance of the Energy Union without an exception for animal agriculture. Finally, they helped secure the promotion of increased fruit and vegetable consumption as a focal point in the reform strategy of the EU's common agricultural policy.

In a long-standing fight for animal welfare, the World Trade Organization ruled that dolphin-safe labeling requirements must be consistent, accurate and fair. Now, all tuna sold in the U.S. under the dolphin-safe label will come from fleets that do not chase and set nets on dolphins to catch the schools of tuna that swim beneath them. HSI efforts included congressional, judicial and international trade actions.





## Putting an end to animal testing

HSI works around the world to end the use of animals in laboratories through science, education and training, and changes to laws and regulations. Our #BeCrueltyFree team is campaigning in every major cosmetics-manufacturing country to ban cosmetics testing on animals. Our regulatory scientists are negotiating with companies and government health authorities to remove cruel and obsolete animal tests from regulations and replace them with modern alternatives. And our #BioMed21 (biomedical research for the 21st century) effort is working to prevent animals from being used as “models” for disease research by promoting investment in modern, human-relevant technologies such as “mini-brains” and other types of artificial organs.

**IN 2017**, our Australian #BeCrueltyFree campaign secured a government commitment to “ban the testing of finished cosmetic products on animals in Australia, the testing of cosmetic ingredients on animals in Australia and the sale of cosmetic products and ingredients that have been tested on animals outside of Australia.” We’re now working with elected officials and the Health Minister’s office to for-

malize an effective ban under the law.

In Brazil, the state of Rio de Janeiro became the first jurisdiction in the Americas to legislate a comprehensive ban on testing cosmetics on animals and on selling cosmetics that have used animals in testing. This #BeCrueltyFree victory is likely to have an impact across Brazil’s states and in the federal Senate, where HSI is also campaigning to achieve a national ban.

Canada’s Cruelty-Free Cosmetics Act moved ahead in the political process, with unanimous endorsement by the Senate Standing Committee on Social Affairs, Science and Technology. In testimony before the committee, Troy Seidle, HSI’s vice president of research and toxicology, said, “Cosmetic testing on animals is an outdated, needless practice with no place in a modern and progressive society.”

HSI also launched two new #BeCrueltyFree campaigns in 2017: in Chile—the second largest cosmetics market in South America—and in South Africa.

**BEYOND COSMETICS**, our regulatory science team made significant progress for animals used in the testing of pesticides and other chemicals. Our negotiations in India and Brazil achieved critical agreements on lifesaving changes to testing regulations and guidance. Our teams in Japan and South Korea made major headway toward convincing authorities to remove their requirement for a year-long repeated poisoning test using beagles. HSI also drove the introduction of a bill to revise South Korea’s chemical law that would require companies to use all available non-animal testing methods, with animal use being possible only as a last resort.

Finally, our BioMed21 Collaboration ([biomed21.org](http://biomed21.org)) provided grant funding for six new scientific publications to critically review the validity of animal research in the areas of cardiovascular disease, diabetes, liver disease and others, and suggest new directions for research based on the growing toolbox of non-animal technologies.





## *Protecting wildlife from abuse and slaughter*

Every year, billions of animals suffer inhumane capture and treatment to serve as biomedical research subjects, exotic pets, or stock for game farms and entertainment. They are killed for fashion, ornamental display, hunting trophies, luxury and other food products and unproven traditional medicine. HSI works to convince policymakers to tighten and enforce laws and to raise public awareness, as decreasing demand is ultimately the best way to stop this cruelty.

**HSI HAS LONG ADVOCATED** and worked for an end to the international ivory trade, which is responsible for the death of one elephant every 15 minutes. Fortunately, 2017 saw some good news on this front.

China—the world’s largest domestic ivory market—closed all registered ivory carving facilities, ivory wholesalers and ivory retailers. The European Commission banned raw ivory exports. In the U.S., HSI co-sponsored an ivory crush in New York

that destroyed more than one ton of confiscated ivory. And online, Japanese retailer Rakuten announced a ban on all sales of elephant ivory following calls by groups including HSI to protect elephants from poaching.

HSI has been working in Viet Nam since 2013 on a national, government-led campaign to reduce demand for rhino horn. In 2017, we engaged more than 6,000 Vietnamese high school students in

fun, instructive events as part of our strategy of effecting change through humane education. We also launched a project that aims to integrate threatened species education into the primary school curriculum.

### **LIONS, LEOPARDS, GIRAFFES, CHIMPANZEES, SHARKS AND OTHER SPECIES**

received international treaty-level protection at the 12th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention for the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals. The listing is a culmination of years of effort by HSI and like-minded organizations. It will facilitate development of additional international conservation strategies and exchange of best practices across countries.

### AT THE INTERNATIONAL WHALING COMMISSION,

HSI has been at the forefront of the establishment of the Bycatch Mitigation Initiative, which seeks to address the killing of hundreds of thousands of animals in fishing gear each year. Similarly, we have been leading work at the IWC on welfare issues and, more generally, battling to ensure that the global moratorium on commercial whaling is not undermined. Other key marine mammals work focuses on marine pollution (including marine debris), and dolphin and seal hunting.

### SEALS SCORED A VICTORY IN 2017,

in fact, with Switzerland's ban on trade in commercial seal products. Other wins for fur-bearing animals included the Czech Republic's ban on fur farming, British Columbia's ban on grizzly hunting and fur-free commitments by several major designers.

### FINALLY, HSI/INDIA

was a contributor to the 2017 decision by India's Directorate General of Foreign Trade to ban the import of skins of reptiles, mink, fox and chinchillas, which will spare tens of thousands of animals from the cruel exotic leather industries. Our India team also helped officials successfully enforce a ban on trading wildlife at Sonapur, Asia's largest cattle fair. HSI/India and People for Animals had been working with the local government since 2014 to conduct undercover investigations inside the fair and had been fighting the matter in court.



HSI/Mexico's Claudia Edwards, DVM, examines a kitten in Jojutla, Mexico.



## Disaster relief

*Helping animals who are hungry, lost, sick or injured*

**When disaster strikes around the world, Humane Society International deploys teams to collaborate with local, provincial, national and international organizations to provide rescue, relief and evacuation services for animals. With your support, we are often able to reach those in affected communities before they succumb to injury, starvation or disease.**

Disaster response was a major feature of our work in 2017. After Hurricane Irma, our team traveled to the British Virgin Islands. Working with H3 Foundation, Inc., we transported 120 animals, assisted hundreds of people in preparing their pets for evacuation, provided hay for 80 horses, and secured and cared for all the animals transferred from a destroyed shelter. The team stayed on the island through Hurricane Maria to provide additional services and worked with Royal Caribbean Cruise Line to transport animal supplies to the severely impacted island of St. Martin.

Also after Hurricane Maria, HSI and the HSUS provided 370 animals with emergency care and vaccinations in Puerto Rico, and provided more than 1,000 households with food and water for their animals.

After Tropical Storm Nate, HSI sent staff, animal food and veterinary supplies to hard-hit communities throughout Costa Rica. We worked alongside Costa Rica's Animal Health Department to bring relief to more than 500 lost, injured, hungry and dehydrated animals by providing food, and veterinary and animal care supplies to rural communities cut off from water and electricity.

Finally, we responded to two deadly earthquakes in Mexico, where HSI veterinarians and volunteers, together with local group Ayudemos a México, assisted more than 6,200 animals, providing 14 tons of food, vaccines and emergency treatment in Mexico City, Morelos, Oaxaca, Puebla and Chiapas. "It was sad to witness the terrible devastation after the earthquakes, but also very inspiring to see so much solidarity and eagerness to help," says HSI/Mexico programs director Dr. Claudia Edwards, DVM.



## *Supporting and saving companion animals*

HSI addresses cruelty, neglect and overpopulation and does hands-on rescue of companion animals worldwide. We campaign against the dog meat trade, dogfighting and puppy mills, and promote street dog welfare and spay/neuter/vaccination.

### **AN ESTIMATED 30 MILLION DOGS**

per year are killed for human consumption across Asia. They endure appalling conditions and are brutally slaughtered. HSI is a global leader in promoting awareness, rallying public outcry, rescuing dogs and providing alternatives to dog meat farmers.

In South Korea, HSI shut down five dog meat farms in 2017, helped the farmers transition to more humane livelihoods and saved more than 600 dogs, flying them to safety in the U.S., U.K. and Canada.

We launched a new campaign against

the dog meat trade in Mizoram, India, where we worked with partners to rescue 73 dogs from this awful and illegal industry. We also conducted workshops for Mizoram police on animal laws and against the dog meat trade.

Local partners of HSI in Guangzhou, China rescued 1,000 dogs and cats packed into one truck and headed to slaughter. Dr. Peter Li, HSI's China policy specialist, says, "This was an audacious rescue, the single largest dog and cat truck rescue that we've seen so far in China. What makes it most significant is the large number of young people from

Guangzhou, the once so-called 'world capital of dog and cat meat consumption,' who participated. These young activists are the hope of a new China that will be free of dog meat cruelty." Not long afterward, more activists discovered and closed an illegal dog meat trade-related warehouse in a suburb of Beijing, rescuing 26 additional animals.

In related good news, HSI welcomed the announcement of a dog and cat meat trade ban by Taiwan.

### **WE ARE WORKING AROUND THE**

**WORLD** to deal humanely with the overpopulation of companion animals. In Asia, along with Latin America, Africa, Guam and Puerto Rico, we sterilized nearly 30,000 dogs and cats and vacci-

nated more than 44,000 this past year. Seeking the sustainability of our programs, we train veterinarians in high-quality, high-volume spay/neuter surgery, and we collaborate with local organizations in each country to provide affordable and accessible veterinary care to thousands of companion animals. The training and guidance we provide ensure that the programs we help implement continue to grow and improve the welfare of animals into the future.

HSI has been in discussions with the government of Mauritius to develop a pilot project in the Flacq district, to sterilize 10,000 dogs and carry out community engagement and education. This pilot is aimed at providing the government with an alternative to culling. The memorandum of understanding is slated to be signed by February 2018, with the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security supporting part of the costs and providing the infrastructure and vehicles.

In Canada, we joined with local partner Chiots Nordiques to conduct mass spay/neuter and veterinary care clinics in the remote First Nations of Wemotaci and Manawan, Quebec, where the lack of access to veterinary services has led to neglect and unchecked reproduction.

**FINALLY,** our Costa Rica, Mexico and India teams helped rescue nearly 700 dogs and cats from dogfighting, hoarding and neglect situations.



Top left: HSI's Adam Parascandola removes a dog named Ava from a dog meat farm. Above: HSI/Latin America assisted with the rescue of 70 dogs and cats seized from a suspected hoarding situation in Costa Rica. Back cover: HSI consultant John Peaveler holds Rufus, rescued from a dog meat farm.

# Financial operations report

For the year ending December 31, 2017

| Revenue                        |             | Total               |
|--------------------------------|-------------|---------------------|
| Contributions and bequests     |             | \$20,178,677        |
| Grants and trust contributions |             | 1,782,305           |
| Other income                   |             | 44,619              |
| <b>Total Revenue</b>           |             | <b>22,005,601</b>   |
| Expenditures                   |             |                     |
| Program services               |             | \$17,193,830        |
| Companion animals              | \$7,485,376 |                     |
| Wildlife                       | 3,456,440   |                     |
| Farm animals                   | 2,837,770   |                     |
| Animal testing                 | 1,539,707   |                     |
| Confronting cruelty            | 1,874,537   |                     |
| Management and general         |             | 934,840             |
| Fundraising                    |             | 2,086,849           |
| <b>Total Expenditures</b>      |             | <b>\$20,215,519</b> |
| <b>Change in Net Assets</b>    |             | <b>\$1,790,082</b>  |
| <b>End of Year Net Assets</b>  |             | <b>\$4,776,569</b>  |



■ **85%** \$17,193,830 PROGRAM SERVICES  
 ■ **5%** \$934,840 MANAGEMENT AND GENERAL  
 ■ **10%** \$2,086,849 FUNDRAISING

■ **44%** \$7,485,376 COMPANION ANIMALS  
 ■ **11%** \$1,874,537 CONFRONTING CRUELTY  
 ■ **20%** \$3,456,440 WILDLIFE  
 ■ **9%** \$1,539,707 ANIMAL TESTING  
 ■ **16%** \$2,837,770 FARM ANIMALS



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*“Keep up the great work in Korea and elsewhere. Every life saved is precious. They all matter, no matter where they are, or how forgotten their story seems. Tell it all, so that the world will know the truth about how we value and how we treat all animals.”*

—RACHEL BAILIE, SUPPORTER FROM CANADA

Visit [hsi.org/donate](https://www.hsi.org/donate) to support our lifesaving work.

