



Annual Report 2020-2021



Visakha Society for Protection and Care of Animals.

(Regd. No. 865/96)

#26-15-200, Main Road, Visakhapatnam-530-001, AP, India

Website: www.vspca.org, www.facebook.com/vspca

Recognized by Animal Welfare Board of India,
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, New Delhi.



Organization Governance

Jurisdiction and tasks of Board and Management during 2019-2020

The Board:

- Is ultimately responsible for strategy, policy, budget and result.
- approves audited financial statement and ensures the organization's compliance with laws and regulations.
- sees to it that the activities of the organization are aimed at realizing the target and contribute to its mission.
- examines the strategic long-term plan and the individual annual plans and budgets and reviews the progress of the plans throughout the year.
- decides adjustments of plans, budgets and investments.
- The below structure shows the compositions of the boards as on August 31 2018.

VSPCA INDIA : Patrons :

- Mr. Philip & Mrs. Trix Wollen – Founder, The Winsome Constance Kindness Trust, Australia
- Ms. Margaret Gebhard, USA
- Mrs. Esther Geisser – Founder, Network for Animal Protection (*NetAP*), Switzerland
- Mrs. Priya Tallam, USA – President, VSPCA USA

Governing body of VSPCA India :

- Mr. Pradeep Kumar Nath – Founder/President
- Mr. M. Srikanth – Vice President
- Mrs. Budhiraju Mallika – Secretary
- Mr. J.V.V.S. Rajshekhar – Joint Secretary
- Ms. B.Sarada – Joint Secretary
- Mr. Gudivada Sridhar – Treasurer
- Mr. Subhash Kedia – Executive member
- Mr. Pramod Agarwal – Executive member

Advisory Board :

- Mrs. Esther Geisser, Switzerland – Network for Animal Protection (*NetAP*)
- Mr. Philip and Mrs. Trix Wollen, Australia – The Winsome Constance Kindness Trust
- Mrs. Priya Tallam, USA – President, VSPCA USA
- Dr. Gayatri Vaidyanathan, USA
- Dr. Yamini Narayan, Australia – ARC DECRA Senior Research Fellow, Alfred Deakin Institute, Deakin University, Melbourne, Australia
- Ms. Krti Tallam, USA



CEO & FOUNDER'S DESK

The year will remain as most memorable for all humans, but also unique for the animals on the **Streets, Pets, and Large Animals** like **Bovine**. It is also a marker for community animals – those who undergo **Animal Birth Control**– primarily **Dogs and Cats**.

Yes, I refer to the existence of the invisible – **Corona Virus**. Even if animals are not directly impacted, they have suffered greatly from the impacts and consequences of the punishing virus.

Street animals in particular, majorly dogs and cats had no access to food! *There was simply no food on the roads!* No eateries open, no dustbins to forage from, no leftovers from events which did not take place and no open market places, where dogs and cats can find scraps. It has been worse in **Containment Zones and Restricted Areas**, making it extremely difficult for **Dog Feeders** like VSPCA, to **feed animals during curfews and restrictions. Fueling this city-wide starvation, rumors, mis- and dis-information** spread wildly that dogs and cats can spread the **Corona Virus to humans**. Reports of **solitary incidences in cats, and large felines in zoos** put the seeds of doubt into many impressionable and vulnerable human minds. Thus, incidences of abandoned pets have been high and abnormal. In the weeks of the 2nd wave of the Corona Virus, the abandonments have been extraordinarily high. Beyond this, there have been scores of requests from people to hand-off their pets. The fear psychosis was strong, where animals have been found tied up in front of houses, VSPCA feeding stations, and left at VSPCA Main Shelter!

VSPCA team stood steady and remained strong through the crisis despite working amid 50% of staff absence; several of them affected by the virus. Most unfortunately, we lost our lead. **Mr. Narayana Rao** succumbed to the virus even though one the most mentally strong men in our workforce. He was in charge of the formidable Sea Turtle Project, the 16 Dog Feeding Stations across the city, and a variety of administrative work. We hurt from his absence in more ways.

VSPCA conducted **Spay and Vaccinations** despite government moratoria from their side, and kept at **Rescuing Animals** rotating through the **Vacancies at the Shelter** and attending to **Emergency** cases that continued from the LG Polymer Gas leak tragedy.

We are grateful to all who stood by us during these terrible times and unforeseen challenges. With many of our advocates lost to the virus, we continue on with the responsibility of looking after more than **1200 different kind of animals in both shelters**.

I would like to emphasize categorically, that **we put great emphasis on human welfare and public health**. However, we have not yet seen necessary change in human behavior, toward animals in cities. Stray, feral and animals in shelters world over languish, or are stranded, facing a bleak and uncertain future. *The future may not be rosy for humans – but animals are very much part of our ecosystems.* **Unless we can take care of ALL the living, we cannot flourish as a species.** The Government and related agencies are left with lesser resources. We understand this. However, we seek to be included, funded to take on their duties, and be entrusted with permission and responsibilities to work with animals, which is our expertise.

As **TEAM VSPCA** we remain devoted and steadfast in our mission and vision. We will continue to look integratively at all aspects of work, to help animals in distress. We are acutely aware of the virus strains and are prepared for the third wave, if it were to descend on humanity.

Donations/Grants have significantly reduced as there was less all around, to be able to support us without proper business operations and employment. We earnestly request your support this year and next, in the face of this crisis. Sincerely,



Mr. Pradeep Kumar Nath
CEO

Programme Strategy

Projects During the Pandemic Season

SOS/ Rehabilitation/Rescue (Direct Impact)

**Dog Protection
Program (DPP)**

**One Stop Feeding
Station**

**Cat
Protection
Program (CPP)**

**Cattle
Respect
Program (CRPI)**

Dog Protection Program (DPP): Urban Visakhapatnam, Vizianagaram Strategies that involve the Coordination with Netap

Animal Birth Control Program which includes providing Anti Rabies Vaccination.

Providing essential food because there are too many dogs on street and next under The Smart City Plan "Open Food" will disappear under the instant garbage planning.

Water bowls at vantage points with responsibilities to a volunteer water is very essential more during summer. Despaired of this dogs can get very aggressive and relate to Rabies Cases.

Mobile Ambulance Services in vulnerable areas, reaching out to the public, listening to the issues, counseling services, survey of Pet Dogs, as well as Street areas, providing vet care on spot to owner dogs for pedigree will be charged and for those owning Indian Dogs Services are free. The mobile services are free. The mobile services will give top priority to those volunteers program who enroll in this program get trained by us and are serious with street animal welfare. the mobile ambulance services will conduct Awareness program covering services, medical protocols, survey of dog picking up dogs that survive on the roads, picking up dogs for ABC Programme etc. The main advantage of having such mobile Ambulance Services is to greatly reduce the over worked, over crowded shelters that are for over treasured men quick service is provided when our volunteers are present services is definitely a game changer for the animals and humans.

Setting up very very serious minded Animal lovers as volunteer for an opportunity to serve the animals in distress that will be specifically trained and all equipped with materials and Medicines, ID cards and will serve designated areas. These services are related to providing services and looking after the designated the areas all aspects pertaining to animal welfare these volunteer areas we can also set up make shift shelters. These all are possible only when there are volunteers who are willing to take up this opportunity to serve the animals in distress under the stewardship of well prove successful Animal Welfare Organization.

Providing hot nutritious vegan meals to be abandoned natural affinity to street dogs. Under two thought we have seen the emotional natural link between as street dog and human what any shelter and food.

ABC for Dogs Spay- Neuter- Immunization Revaccination, Dog Protection Program (DPP) :

The Animal Birth Control for Street Dogs has continued as normal following two months suspension due to severe containment zones based upon the surge of Covid cases.



Direct/Impact:

Beneficiaries

Dogs	3853
Humans	1.6 Million

One Stop Dog Feeding Station



One Stop Dog Feeding Station: Our Foundation Project, almost **5 decades** old and one of the many reasons for **VSPCA's** expansion into different arenas of Animal Welfare, covering many species of animals in cities, forests, rivers, coasts, ocean, sky and rural regions, is the Dog Feeding project, begun in late 1960s. This project remains inspiring and motivational to all at VSPCA.

We have expanded the feeding to **16 Stations** covering all of **Old Town** where we began our feeding initiative. Today, this assumes great significance because of the **Smart City** mission and vision. Smart cities tend to ignore street animals, who are a healthy part of the city ecosystem. Dogs and cats are in every smart city, but smart cities do not have specific plans for them. The dustbin; a means of food for street animals (cows, dogs, cats, crows, parrots, pigeons, primates, etc.) goes 'underground' in smart cities, which will force starvation upon street animals.

Concept: To VSPCA, provision of food and water to all street animals must be included in the "**Standard Operated Procedure**" *within Animal Birth Control/ABC/Spay for Street Dogs* because the dogs will anyhow die of starvation when food is unavailable in smart cities. Animal lovers who take on volunteering to feed dogs and cats, must be mandatorily issued a specific Government ID because unless one can provide water, there is no point in having government-maintained water bowls across the city. And, those who are kind enough to take on the job of providing the water, must be acknowledged and allowed to go about their work with dignity and authority. Just as one needs to be present to pour water to plants in medians and on streets, there is no point in planting trees across the city. So also, unless there is food for street animals, it makes no sense to subject them to ABC if there isn't any hope of them surviving on the roads. We are convinced that the programs must be comprehensive and integrated and ask with our conviction that these be systemically developed within smart city policy. Under **VSPCA DOG PROTECTION PROGRAM** we feed approximately 350 dogs 2X per day / and under all disaster and emergency situations. All food is packed neatly for each dog.

Direct/Impact:

Beneficiaries	
Dogs	1, 26,000
Humans (Public Health and Safety)	1.6 Million

Cat Protection Program (CPP): Urban Visakhapatnam



Our well-wishers, donors, and audiences are aware of the basic tenets of VSPCA's **Cat Protection Program:**

1. Spay /Neuter/Vaccinate and Release.
2. Awareness and Education against Cat Abuse and the Social and Environmental Role of Cats in Society.
3. Investigating, Raiding, Rescuing and Stopping of Cat Hunters.
4. Pursuit of/ Filing of Police Cases against cat perpetrators.

In coordination with our partner at Network for Animal Protection, and with our ally, Ms. Esther Geisser and deeply-dedicated team, our work on cat protection in all the above areas has seen considerable progress. We require to intensify our efforts with regards to cat spayings. Cats hide and are not visible on street, which makes it hard for us to catch them. We are learning new ways of how to go about this and are attempting to improve our numbers of cat spays.

Direct/Impact:

Beneficiaries

Cats	66
Humans (Public Health and Safety)	1.6 Million



Cattle Respect Program India (CRP): Urban and Rural AP, Odisha and Telangana

This project, where a major spoke in VSPCA's work-wheel for cattle, at the **Simhachalam Temple**, has made significant progress. The Temple authorities have agreed to take responsibility for all **Male Calves** donated by the ignorant devotees. Over two decades, our dogged efforts have resulted in **Stopping of Auctioning of Calves**. Carrying out **Extensive Awareness and Education Programs** in the Villages, from where devotees arrive at Simhachalan to donate their male calf offspring, has resulted in male calf donations coming down from **16,000 to 3,000** per annum. We continue to monitor and pursue the Temple authorities until there are no incidences of male calf donations to the temple.

Another side to this story is the setup of Farmer Co-ops that can take in the male calves – to produce fertilizer, biogas, dung-cakes and ground cleaner, where VSPCA trains the farmers in innovative, renewable energy techniques. All of this, is to save the lives of innocent calves, while working towards food security for the farmers.



Direct/Impact:

Beneficiaries

Male Calves	3200
Humans	2600
Villages	12 (population: 6000)

Consolidated Projects Monitoring/Mentoring Government

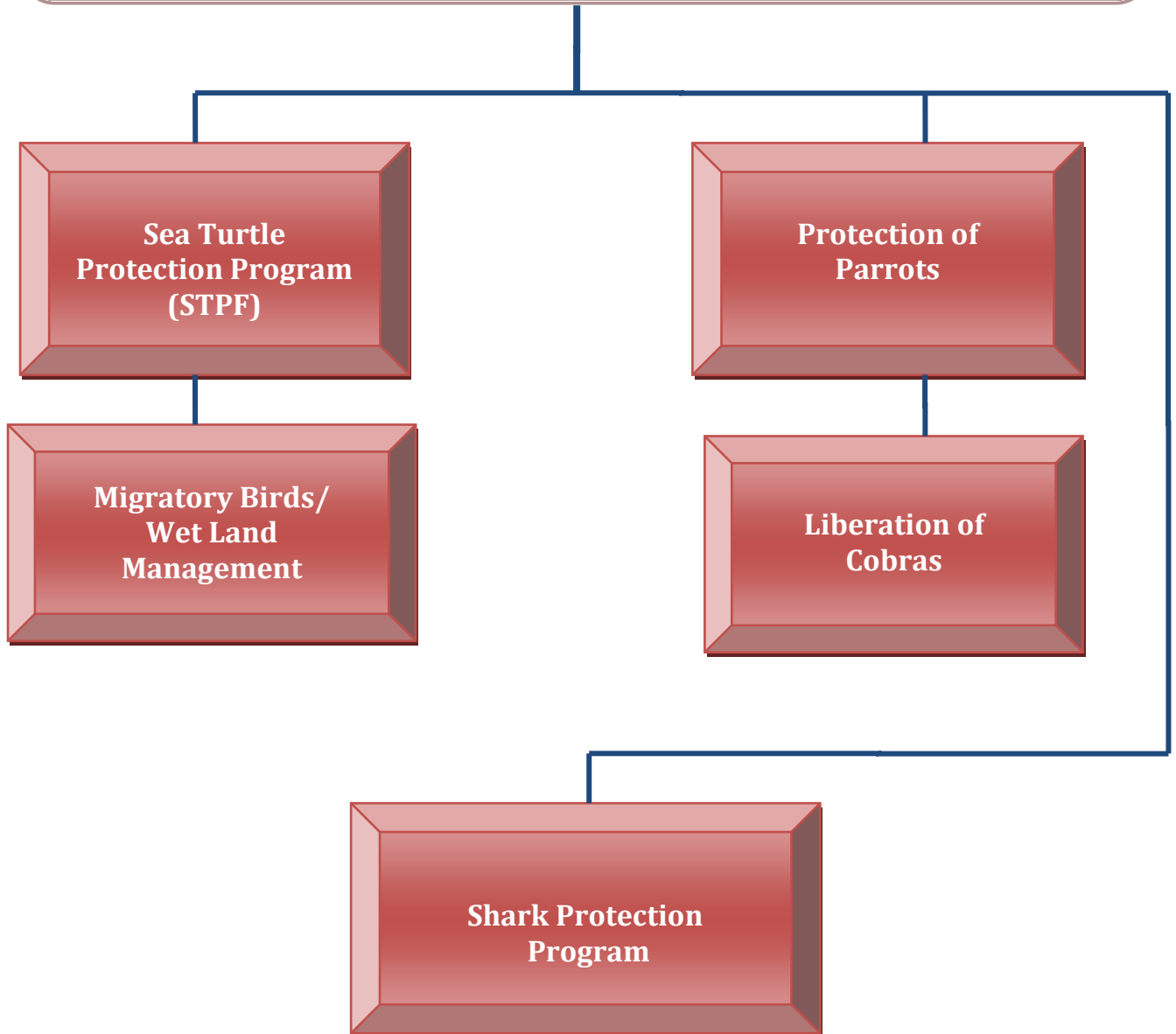
**Sea Turtle
Protection Program
(STPF)**

**Migratory Birds/
Wet Land
Management**

**Protection of
Parrots**

**Liberation of
Cobras**

**Shark Protection
Program**



Sea Turtle Protection Program (STPF): Urban Visakhapatnam

In its **25th year** of Sea Turtle Protection along the urban coast of Visakhapatnam, for the season 2020-2021, we bring good tidings and share this news with joy: the AP (Andhra Pradesh) Forest Department of Visakhapatnam decided to recognize **Sea Turtle Nestings** as important and significant occurrences. They have now adopted the VSPCA approach and methods of sea turtle protection! With the fisher community men whom VSPCA trained to build and protect turtle nests, they have knowledgeable human resources by their side who know the ocean, weather, and turtles very well. These young men also know the process of hatchery-building and management, as they worked with VSPCA for 20+ years!

VSPCA now takes on a **NEW ROLE!** We are forging ahead to survey the remaining 70 Kms of unprotected sea turtle habitat and continue further along the coastline to cover Vizianagaram's 30 Kms if this is possible as well. VSPCA has networked with all fishing communities along the coast. This role and direction change are crucial or the government will not be set up for success. The remaining unprotected turtle habitat must be protected. VSPCA is well-versed with the legal and operational models to fight the good fight for these precious lands.

OUR NEXT TASK: SURVEY THE REMAINING VIZAG COASTLINE, ANDEMBARK ON A HABITAT PROTECTION PLAN WITH OUR FISHING COMMUNITIES.



At this time, the **Andhra Pradesh Forest Department** has not come forth with their data for year 2020-2021. Therefore, VSPCA is unable to share the numbers of turtles protected and released for the year. VSPCA has given notice to the AP Forest Department and is pursuing the data release for transparency of information to the public. As we acquire the data, we will analyze it to ensure we align our new direction in fully support of the trends of turtle nestings. As we survey the unprotected coastline, we will share our survey data with photos and also reveal our strategies for the new campaign.

Parrots Protection Program (PPF): Urban, Semi-Urban and Rural Visakhapatnam

Over the past **20 years** we have physically stopped the exploitation of parrots by whom we deem “Fake Astrologers” wandering all over the city, making their living, (ab)using these parrots to reveal people’s “fortunes” by way of story-telling. The beautiful, vibrant birds suffer extreme abuses– babies and adults among them. [Alexandrine Parakeets](#) for example, are subjected to cruel practices like being stored in a “2 by 2” box until they are disabled and dehydrated – and their spirit is broken. This type of baseless, mindless, and intense cruelty to tiny birds to weaken their hearts and beings, has no place in civilized society. We have followed these men, brought cases against them, confiscated the parrots in their possession, given the birds a home in our facilities, and worked hard to engage the men in alternate livelihoods at our Shelter and places where they can use their knowledge and talents in ways to help – not hurt, animals.

Our consistent work has largely reduced the extreme cruelty and the communities we work in, have a heightened awareness of the problem. They are our informers of such wrong-doings. Such awareness and legal pursuits, have further-strengthened our resolve to bring a complete stop to the problem.

This year we rescued and rehabilitated 5 people from this situation. This means respite and freedom for many hundreds of parrots these people would have exploited in their lifetime! Also, their children now have a different path to follow. We think about their families as we address the problem.



Beneficiaries :

Parrots	14
Humans	1.62 Billion

Liberation of Cobras: Urban, Semi-Urban and Rural Visakhapatnam

Over 14 years of painstaking work, VSPCA is proud to declare that we have stopped the intense abuse and exploitation of Cobras for religious purposes. We have converted the exploiters to contemplators, who still have immense faith in the Cobras, but now understand that their rituals caused all the captured Cobras extreme pain, that cannot be the basic tenet of any religion – to cause pain to another living being! Dozens of Cobras in our journey to liberate them, have been found dead from exhaustion, dehydration, and pain – their fangs cruelly removed and mouths stitched-up using cruel and primitive practices. We found meters of Cobra skin in the bags of the exploiters. Over time, with patience, and pursuit of education and awareness, we have led people to understand the roles of snakes in our ecosystems, and have changed their rituals, abiding with their basic beliefs of God. They now construct stone sculptures of Cobras and pray to the idols. They use framed pictures. They go to Naga Temples in the region and, also, our audience will find that they construct “Cobra Pits” in their homes, and worship the image of the Cobra.

This massive change in behavior, that took over a decade-and-a-half, has borne fruit for this species of animal that is so misunderstood by many humans. Snakes are precious. Besides their utilitarian value in ecosystem services, they are magnificent creatures we can learn a lot from. Just as how spiders teach us to be weavers; *snakes can teach us about life itself: Be authentic! Shed your old skin and get comfortable with your new role! Savor the sunshine! Love the trees as much as you love the land! Play hide-and-seek! Don't limit yourself! Keep the pests/problems in check! And so much more!*



Beneficiaries:

Cobras : Hundreds (over 500, directly rehabilitated by VSPCA)

Humans : 1.6 Billion (Over 97 villages, and covering many towns in Vizag)

Ecosystems : City, City periphery, rural Andhra, farm ecosystems

Migratory Birds and Wetlands Protection: Coastal & Estuarine Visakhapatnam



Our audience is well-aware of our work with seasonal and migratory animals since we began our work as a formal organization. However, since 2019, our role in the protection of **Migratory Birds** and endemic Indian birds at **Telineelapuram and Srikakulam districts**, about 170 Kms from central Visakhapatnam, has been of transformation and transition – to provide Monitoring and Technical Assistance to established committees of coastal representatives of two champion (for the birds) villages, namely **Rajagopalapuram and the Telineelapuram Forest and Revenue Departments**. The Andhra Pradesh Bio-Diversity Collaboratives have also mapped these areas for Tourism Development. We share our gratitude towards this move; however, we request them to keep a close watch on the habitat for the sake of the health of these birds and their very-rich ecosystems. Tourism is a two-edged sword. It is why we have happily taken on the role of Monitor and Subject Matter Expert (SME), providing consultation to the committees. Our vets, Para-vets and animal behaviorists are always available to provide medical care to exhausted birds who travel long distances – harbingers of hope to fishers and farmers because of how much biodiversity they help flourish – in the ocean, on the coasts, and in the river systems of our bio-diversely rich state!!



Birds Surveyed in 2020	6500
Humans Benefitted in these Ecosystems	15000

Shark Protection Program: Bay of Bengal and Coastal Andhra Pradesh

Drawing inspiration and motivation from our successful campaigns to stop the hunting of sea turtles, while becoming *emic-ally involved* with the fisher communities, we embarked on Shark Conservation. This is a comprehensive program under development. It involves fisher livelihoods, fishing gear, the port authorities, the fishing mandals, institutes like the CMFRI (Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute) and the Andhra Pradesh State Fisheries Department, Universities (to research shark species, lifecycles, roles, climate impacts, impacts of over-fishing, the intricacies of ocean ecosystems, etc.). Over three years, we are studying the problem and contemplating the issues. We decided to put our efforts into the sustenance of the Ocean's Biodiversity. Working with sea turtles for 25 years, has given us a deeper look into the profundity and fecundity of the Bay of Bengal.

We have a doctoral student with us to research our models of conservation. She will be trying to explore the political ecology of this region – helping us truly grasp the region's historical impacts, the systems by which this region operates and has evolved, and the Agents of Change over the years. Geographically, historically, economically and politically, the Bay of Bengal's ocean impacts the whole world.

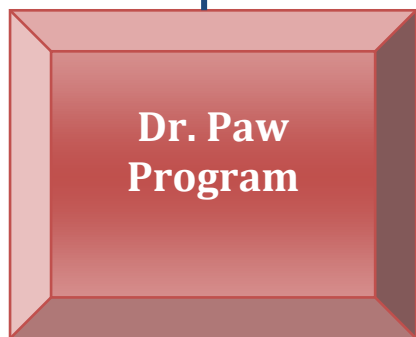
Inequality and Climate Change are hard problems to address; however, we know that both can only be addressed locally. Documenting our conservation model and sharing our legacy is important to us, so that the fisher people have a sustainable infrastructure to Shark Conservation – that is inclusive foremost, flexible to climate changes, adaptive to their needs, and thereby, long-term. They must remain at the forefront of the shark conservation inverse infrastructure.

For 2022, VSPCA will concentrate on Education for fishers **over 22 villages** along Visakhapatnam coastline, for immediate impact in terms of shark species: - preventing the capture of juvenile pups, sharing of other, less-known species of fish for consumption, speaking with fisher men & women about IMTA (Integrated Multi Trophic Aquaculture) and exploring with women, direct sales of the lesser-known fish species to restaurants and hotels – while the student works her program.



**Awareness/ Hands-On Education/ Human Bonding
Projects**

**We believe in Delivering Results for the Long-Term
in Achieving our Objectives, while ensuring Protection to all Animal
Species. Cataloged below are Animal Well-Being Projects through
Direct Community Engagement, Education and Therapy**



Emotional Bonding Human & Companion-Animal Program: Vegan Meals

The abandoned, neglected and sometimes, aged humans with severe mental health issues, who connect profoundly with scores of street animals, had us create the nutritious, sensitive and thoughtful **Vegan Meals** Program. Many of the beneficiaries of the program are un housed, living in squalid conditions on the streets, under culverts and bridges in Visakhapatnam. Many are emotionally and spiritually defeated. The dogs and cats that surround these humans are their automatic ATMs of love, protection, companionship and care. We have seen just how close these humans are to the animals – they do everything together – travel, eat, forage for food, share clothes, share sorrows and joys. They have no inhibitions with each other – cuddling and sleeping together, while the dogs lick the humans with love. Dirt or squalor is no issue between them. In dark nights, the dogs are great source of protection from bodily harm to humans. Often, both members are not cared for, by society – rather, there is no system in place to consistently take care of the un housed humans.

VSPCA has been serving meals to many such people for over 5 years now, via upon donations from kind patrons, and our own efforts with businesses who wish to do good. The beneficiaries have grown and so have their animal companions. As this program grows, we hope to pave a way to government shelters, mental health care and livelihood for these people.



Beneficiaries	1920
Dogs	1412

Field Awareness and Education VSPCA's Mobile Ambulance

Since 2020, we have taken upon ourselves to engage with the community through our **Mobile Ambulance Program**. We go into neighborhoods to provide treatment to animals in distress and people who care for animals but cannot afford treatment. However, in the process, we take time to talk to members of the community – about animals, their role in the environment, the possibilities of working with animals, explain our Shelter and Kindness Farm initiatives, and talk through our successful programs like Sea Turtle Conservation, which kids get deeply interested in. It's a way of keeping biodiversity on people's radars.



Areas Covered	5 Zones with ~ 800,000 population
Schools	4 Schools and 640 Children

DR. PAWPROGRAM

An important internalization in all staff members of VSPCA is about evoking compassion in all humans whose paths we cross. Our **Dr. Paw Program** is built on *compassion* and *connection*.

A rescued animal who trusts people and wants to be among them, is brought to facilities where children and youth are less-abled. These children may have a range of difficulties such as speech trouble to hearing loss, or deeper health conditions such as mental, physiological and structural impairments. The kids bond with the animal. There is no judgment; only love and understanding. Both the animal and kids do very well in this program.

Over time, the program has helped scores of kids therapeutically. Their parents, counselors and educators have many stories of the kids' visible improvements and their excitement that's sparked from the animal's visit – and that lasts. Kids also ask to learn more about animals following the visits. Some come to class with their own books about animals. We are talking to a few schools to explore how to fund this as a weekly program. We know the value of animals in therapy and over time, we would like to expand this to hospitals. Gradually, we would like people to visit our Kindness Farm to bond with the horses and cattle there. We know how effective Equine Therapy is for people with difficulties in social realm. We will pursue this program in all the ways that funds permit us to do so.



Student Cadet Police Program

As Master Trainer, certified by the Central Government, we are one of 5 trainers in our state. We received training in Delhi. Our close connections with Law Enforcement and our networking with the Joint Director of the Police help us keep with the laws, as well as build connections to programs we know can make our city better. Over the years, we have taught children in grade 8-10 about Environmental Law. Currently, We carry out our training duties through the **Student Cadet Police Program** providing Environmental and Law Education via Awareness Campaigns covering 13 Schools (Both, in Private and Government-Aided Municipal Schools) in over 50 selected topics; some shared below:



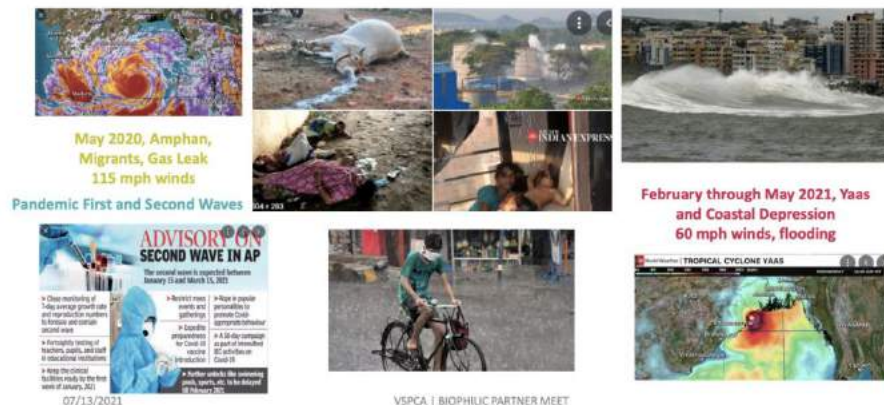
Practical Education Program Events for Students Police Cadets Under S.P.C. Program:

S. No	Topic Covered	Field Activity
1.	Ethics and Values (Our role in society toward the have-not)	Vegan Meals for the Needy – Vegan Meals is a Program in humility initiated by VSPCA to serve the neglected un housed and abandoned humans and their companion animals, by providing non-dairy (plant-based) nutritious meals.
2.	Empathy and Sympathy (Our role for the differently-abled; differently-formed)	a) Tours to V.S.P.C.A Shelter I to interact with Shelter staff and animals. b) Dr. Paw Program , an initiative of V.S.P.C.A which works to bring healing and therapy to specially-abled humans via their healthy interactions with our animals.
3.	Community Development (Our role in community and our responsibility for the environment)	a) Showcasing the comprehensive VSPCA Sea Turtles initiative and engagements with the <u>Sea Turtle Protection Force</u> (STPF) who belong to Fisher Community b) Migratory Birds initiative in Telikunchi and Telineelapuram which is a mutual benefit, community-based program.
4.	Team Spirit (Our role in innovative practices for biodiversity retention)	Visit to VSPCA's Kindness Farm/ Animal Sanctuary to observe the animals there, and learn from VSPCA's Kindness Shelter Team about accountability to our land, soil, air and water and importantly, the other non-human living beings.
5.	Respect Towards Elders (Our role and responsibility towards the Elder)	Visit to Senior and the Very-Aged Homes with our animals.
6.	Disaster Management (Our role in building community resilience)	Interaction with Fire Service Department.
7.	Cleanliness	Beach Clean-up Drives and Awareness.
Schools Covered		53
Children reached		2543

CONCLUSION



Annus Horribilis



In conclusion, the years of the pandemic have been really hard on VSPCA. The deaths of our staff members and the death of our donors and advocates are not only heartbreaking but a long-term loss. The storms, the gas leak, the rising animal cruelty, the abandonment of scores of animals (pedigreed dogs and cattle suffered greatly) and the great funding losses could have had us reeling. We have gone down only to rise up again for the cause of animals and our biodiversity.

We took actions during and after the pandemic to keep the movement alive for animals who have suffered greatly during these years! Here are glimpses of actions VSPCA took over the past year working closely with the community to raise funds and take care of animals in distress.



Actions



07/13/2021

VSPCA | BIOPHILIC PARTNER MEET

10

We have come back with a force and to have you, our well-wishers and patrons, understand the large picture,

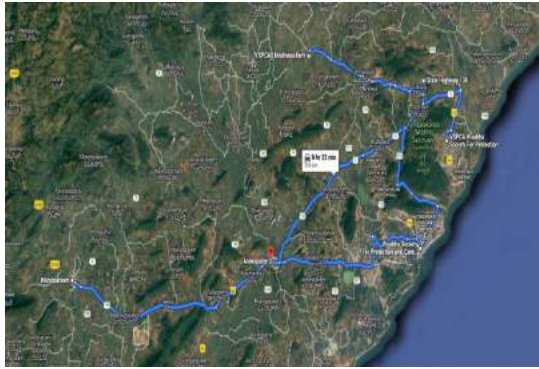
VSPCA is striving to leave a legacy in: -

**Visakhapatnam as a Biophilic City,
Effective Animal Management in Cities for all Smart Cities, and
Biodiversity Conservation,**

while keeping at the forefront, Animal Welfare and Rights of all species in ecosystems of our city, ocean, soil and air.

With a track record of about 50 years, where 25 are official as a registered Society, VSPCA is working with entities as below, to spread its message, approach and values, via projects seen here.

I. Narsipatnam- VSPCA's Hands-On "Kindness Library of Knowledge" :



Narsipatnam photos and video taken by Farmer Satyanarayana, who learnt VSPCA's approach and methods and is conducting training for farmers and government entities – in methods of organic farming via animal rescues.

Narsipatnam is poised as a sustainable initiative to bring out the best of VSPCA for the cause of biodiversity flourishing. It is being planned as hybrid between VSPCA's shelter in Vizag City, and VSPCA's Kindness Farm as a food-smart animal sanctuary. Importantly, it will allow students/people to visit and stay here, in order to gain

hands-on experience in biodiversity conservation, while absorbing the value of ecosystem services and natural capital in rural and semi-rural ecosystems. The land and location are ripe for this venture. The villages in this region are seeking the knowledge from VSPCA in terms of animal management, rain water harvesting, crop production through organic means, renewable energy production, and more. VSPCA has traversed this region scouring the animal shanties, speaking to the villagers and bringing up their levels of awareness through education around animal life-cycles and their roles in these ecosystems. It has worked with government officials, ministers, and law enforcement agencies everywhere in this region, to procure these lands and support government initiatives, especially where there are gaps and exclusion of communities in the plans.

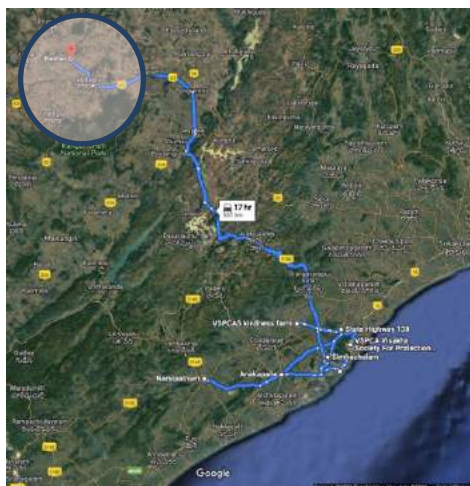
In 2018, Ms. Priya Tallam (President, VSPCA USA) and Mr. Pradeep Kumar Nath (CEO, VSPCA) visited with Shri Chintakayala Ayyanna Patrudu from Narsipatnam to conclude the transfer of these lands to VSPCA.

The pandemic caused a deep shortage of funds to be able to work on this initiative with consistency. However, VSPCA continues major experiments in Kindness Farm on biodiversity retention, renewable energy production, the Dog Park, rain water harvesting and more – to ensure knowledge growth in all areas of our legacy.

Photos: A shed, a board, electricity and bordello.



II.SUKMA TRIBE - VISIT TO VSPCA



Sukma District in southern Bastar of Chhattisgarh, is a [Tehsil](#) – and a new district as of 2012, 400 km away from state capital Raipur, well connected by NH-30. It shares the border with Odisha, Telangana and Andhra Pradesh states and districts Bastar, Bijapur and Dantewada. The land known as Dandakaranya from the ancient times is a habitat for different types of Tribal communities; one of which is Sukma.

The Sukma are specifically interested in *male* cattle. Unsolicited, they learnt about VSPCA's work and

decided to visit, in order to learn how VSPCA achieved success with at least a couple of million male bovine.

[VSPCA continues to work intensively with the Simhachalan Temple authorities and devotees](#), who discard male calves at the temple's doorsteps. VSPCA has forged Farmer Cooperatives – to accept the male calves as fertilizer producers for farms, while helping devotees understand that disposing off their innocent calves, cannot help them thrive, nor bring peace to their communities.

Besides male bovine, the Sukma of Chhattisgarh have an immense faunal, floral, and cultural diversity with many ethnic communities who depend on the traditional medicinal system for their primary health care. Documentation and evaluation of this indigenous remedial knowledge may be helpful with respect to human health. Studies(Mahawar M.M. 2008) on these tribes look into different zoo-therapeutic medicinal uses in the traditional health care system among indigenous inhabitants of Dantewada district of Chhattisgarh. They are based on field surveys carried out in villages, where dwellers provide information on animal species used in medicine as remedies for illnesses.

A total of 31 animal species have been recorded in depth, used for 24 kinds of different ethno-zoological purposes. The documentation of indigenous knowledge on animal-based medicines should be helpful in formulating strategies for sustainable management and conservation of bio-resources, as well as providing potential for novel drugs as curative, protective and preventive medicine (Adeola,1992 and Anageletti et al.,1992. Many attempts have been made to elucidate the ethno-zoological remedial practices by tribal communities in Chhattisgarh but less of this reflects the zootherapeutic medicinal uses provided by animals. It is important to document the traditional knowledge of tribal human communities, since the majority of such communities are losing their socioeconomic and cultural traditions. Animals constitute the part of inventory of medicinal substances widely used by the tribal people since time immemorial and such practices still exist in traditional medicine (Unnikrishnan,1998). The traditional medicinal knowledge of indigenous people across the globe has played an important role in identifying living organisms which are important for treating human health problems. According to the World Health Organization (1993), about 80% of the world people rely primarily on animal and plant-based medicines.

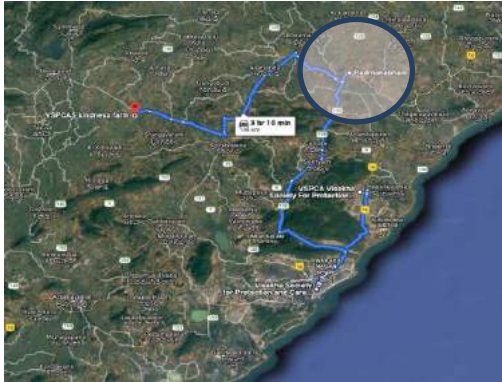
Since VSPCA works closely with native fisher people, we understand the value of indigenous wisdom. To be clear, VSPCA promotes veganism and plant-based lifestyles, within and without the organization's influence. However, we don't point fingers at tribal people and those whose only means of living and health depends on animals. We work hard to offer them alternatives to using/exploiting animals.

More importantly, just as we converted fisher people from "turtle poachers" to "turtle protectors," we know how to work with the indigenous, to help them see the value of diminishing animal populations in their ecosystems, and explore plant-based living. Tribals, nomads, farmers, fishers and natives are the best people to protect their resources, which include animals.

Dev Tayde with [Shiksharth](#) NGO is partnering with us to assist the tribal people with training and knowledge transfer.



.Joint Director of Police and District Collector Governmental Lands for Cattle Management



About 32 Kms from Shelter 1 in **Padmanabhan Mandal**, lies 5 acres belonging to Government District Collector.

Joint Director of Police and District SPCA have approached VSPCA to take over these lands and manage large animals. This is purely because VSCPA is the only entity recognized and validated as capable of managing large numbers of cattle, by the AWBI (Animal Welfare Board of India) in the state of Andhra Pradesh. VSPCA's extensive experience with

many species of animals that cattle interact with in cities (like dogs and cats) and their track record of cattle rescues from illegal transportation and slaughter houses, has made them the unique candidate for this task. As the land is alienated from VSPCA, donors will not provide funds directly to VSPCA for cattle management here.

In the interests of all Bovine in Andhra Pradesh, VSPCA is working on an MOU and subsequent contract with the Government District Collector of Visakhapatnam – asking them to raise funds through their corporate alliances and present a matching-5-year plan to VSPCA for cattle management, with VSPCA's input into the plan. VSPCA desires to be assured of funds in order to undertake the effort and apply their expertise.

If these lands are monetized as an asset; say a Corpus Fund, VSPCA will leverage the potential of this land – based on experience at their Kindness Farm, to develop it into a sustainable and demonstrable model for cattle management in India. This implies, for e.g.: - biogas, vermi-composting, dung-cakes, incense, funeral pyre sticks, sawdust, and ground-cleaner production using cattle waste, fertilizer creation and utilization to grow organic crops to feed animals and people, and such). These products allow for the land to sustain itself with healthy soil and crop rotation, as well as the humans who work here, and the nonhumans who live on this land, peacefully. The outcomes are nature positive as well. This is because VSPCA is adept at growing lots of native plants that invite biodiversity back to lands it manages.

VSPCA creates humane and biological preserves in illustrative models of conservation for governments, NGOs and Farmers everywhere, as to how to work with rescued bovine that are no longer “useful” to the industries (e.g. male calves that are victims to the veal and beef industrial complexes, by illegal means).

VSPCA is ready to take on the leadership and management of these lands.



IV. Rain Water Harvesting at Kindness Farm

Kindness Farm includes 13 acres of land purchased in the name of *Visakha Society for Protection and Care of Animals*.

VSPCA's Kindness Farm and Sanctuary is situated in drought-prone, rural country of coastal Andhra Pradesh, India. Over the past 5 years, extreme and unpredictable weather events such as delayed monsoons and battering storms, have unleashed both: - consistent flooding and persistent drought along India's east coast. *The water will come and* the 5-year drought is bound to persist. We expect the situation to exacerbate in 2020 and beyond. The Climate Crisis is disrupting life for animals and vulnerable locals. The cyclones cause damage and flooding and their aftermath brings drought. Extreme heat, drought and water shortage are taking a toll on our animal inhabitants. Kindness Farm is the City of Visakhapatnam's only major shelter with doors open to all animals. It is also a role model for governments of Orissa, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Kolkata and Maharashtra whose officials visit intermittently to learn VSPCA's techniques and approaches.

In the event of the pandemic, its second wave particularly hitting Visakhapatnam extra-hard, and the fatally terrifying gas leak at the S. Korean Company (LG Polymer) – Kindness Farm's capacity and location, has become the main resource for VSPCA activities around animal rescues, housing them and planning for the future of the animals in the city.

The objective of purchasing this land in the interior of the state (and distant from Bay of Bengal) is because the urban city is cyclone-prone from the winds and monsoons – greatly affected by climate changes. It is forecasted that portions of the city's coastline will be submerged due to sea level's steady rise through global warming in this decade. VSPCA's Shelter I is highly impacted due to the pandemic. Being the first mission-critical resource for all city-wide animal emergencies, it has been overcrowded since early 2020 and through 2021. VSPCA's Kindness Farm provides that much-needed respite and the source of life-time care to ease the burdens on Shelter I, as well as - a long-term sustainable solution for animals and people of the city.

The Farm's situation in the drought prone area is deeply affected by limited rainfall and lack of a perennial drainage system. Rain water must be harvested in a planned implementation to combat annual flooding as well as, provide year-round water, for individuals and plants at Kindness Farm. Due to drainage issues, standing water makes it difficult for animals and people, and creates an environment prone to breeding diseases and/or mosquitoes. Flooding at the Farm causes chaos stalling work. With all human and food resources in peril, it makes it harder to accept new animals into the Farm during these seasons. Additionally, the Farm lost several non-native animals to this phenomenon in 2019 as they cannot withstand the drastic climate-generated onslaught. VSPCA officials met with Andhra Government's Forest Officials in 08/08/2019 to address increasing human-animal conflict issues on account of water shortages.

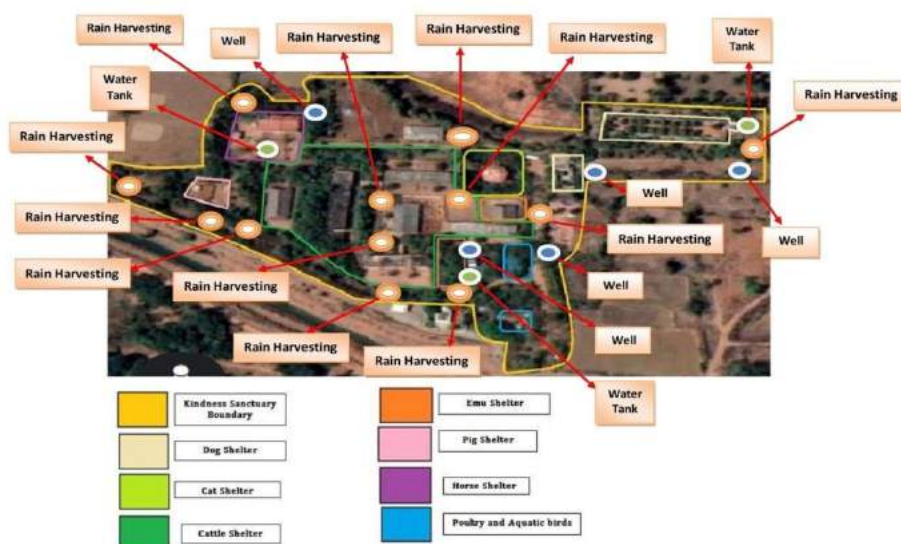
There is an expectation of one rainfall per season/per annum. In 2021 with climate change, monsoons have been highly erratic in East India. A single, unrelenting downpour followed by no rain for months, has brought on persistent regional drought. VSPCA's Rain Water Harvest Program within their Strategic Plan, is the only long-term sustainable solution to the problem to collect, store and recycle water in the best manner possible, applying local wisdom and knowledge. *Water is a critical ingredient for any development.* With this in mind, VSPCA earnestly began to speak to the need for a watershed project in the region. Through Ahimsa Foundation's kind donation in 2020, this is now a reality in this hard-hit region. Despite the pandemic and lack of resources (human and otherwise) VSPCA put every effort to demonstrate the possibilities of food security through consistent availability of water. With long-term thinking, VSPCA is now incrementally educating farmers in Anakapalle, Chodavaram, Narsipatnam and Koruvada regions, about water conservation through tactical Rain Water



Flooding at the shelter



Extreme heat after heavy rains



Watershed Management at Kindness Farm, located at Koruvada, K. Kotapadu, Visakhapatnam District.

As of now, we are accomplishing the first phase of this task that unfortunately had hiccups with unpredictable rain producing very wet conditions, abnormal corona virus waves (a 3rd semi-wave in October 2021) led to severe shortage of human resources and materials. Despite this, we are able to achieve the first phase of demarcating and building this layout and a few features.

Several old structures required government clearances to be able to refurbish or retrofit and add into this overall rain water harvest plans, and we have used some of them as elements of the needed water tasks in the system. A lot more needs to be done; but, we have taken the first step that covers every area in Kindness Farm – where rain water flows freely but disappears into the water table.

VSPCA is committed to the funds from Ahimsa Foundation and dedicated to creating the facility and the environment that will be the best, natural-living place for any species of animal.

A modest, effective watershed and water resource management action plan will combat a potential disastrous situation in the very near future.

Goals: Watershed & Water Resource Management Plan

1. To improve the Ground Water Levels through standard environmental water-harvesting practices.
2. To implement a reliable and sustainable Water Harvesting System for Farm/Shelter Management.

Specifications

The above-mentioned goals can be achieved through effective management of copious rain waters via an effective, capacity-building critical watershed project. Rain water preserved for utilization and groundwater levels replenished, mitigates water crisis via nurturing the natural water tables through this approach. Our watershed and water resource management actionable project encompass watershed management, rainwater harvesting, pit construction and water treatment through reverse osmosis. This adequate drainage system with major rain water collection points, wells to hold ground water, rainwater harvesting pits to recharge ground water and a water treatment technique reusing water for plantations and drinking is work-in-progress. The project is designed to alleviate the situation and importantly, prepare the Farm region for the future.

We continue to look for funds for food and direct care for our animals. We approach Ahimsa Foundation and other donors, in an effort to ensure the Farm's water needs.

Self-Sustenance : VSPCA's Kindness Farm is deemed an oasis situated in Koruvada's drought-prone region, where Groundwater utilization is the only means to reliably quench thirst and practice agriculture. Therefore, there is a need to elect specific water storing and replenishing practices before the last remaining water resources are fully exploited. To avoid a dire situation, we are working strategically based upon an ideology of self-sustenance for our Farm and Shelter: self-sustenance with food, shade, sanitation, power and produce. The underpinning of all these life's essentials is fresh water. To reach our goal of reliable, perennial fresh water access, we must austere build selected facilities, and employ guaranteed mechanisms & techniques harvesting water sustainably while replenishing natural drainage systems. VSPCA is now growing paddy, herbs, fruit and vegetables using our animal dung alone as fertilizer, to further support communal needs.

Present Scenario : Presently, Kindness Farm is suffering a prolonged drought due to highly deviated monsoons causing incessant rains, triggering flash floods, and drowning the Farm's low-lying areas. Lack of a proper watershed and water resource management scheme and lack of resources to support water storage are couple of the major issues incapacitating Farm/shelter management. Water is a necessity. A basic watershed and water resource management action plan includes the following essential arrangements:

Overhead Tanks : Overhead tanks are large storage units of fresh water erected for water preservation and accumulation during non-monsoon seasons.

Rain Water Harvesting Pits : Rain Water Harvesting Pits are required to replenish the ground waters, while additional drainage implementation will utilize rain-shed waters instead of focusing all water needs upon ground waters alone.

Water Segregation Mechanism : Water Segregation Pits are the collection points diverting and channeling flooding waters to storage points. This is very important to avoid wasteful draining of water, essential during unseasonal rains and flooding situations.

Concrete Drainage System : Concretized Drainage system is required to prevent excessive spilling of water and also channelizing water flow to desired destinations.



Figure 1: Wasteful Accumulation of Waters at Kindness Farm during Flash Floods



WATERSHED AND WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN BUDGET:

Sl.	Particulars	Budget		
		Particular Budget	Overall Budget	In Dollars
1	Over Head Tank Capacity, 10000 liters: 3 numbers	Rs. 42/- per liter	Rs. 12,60,000	\$17,655
2	Rain Water Harvesting Pits: 12 numbers	Rs. 45,000/- for every 300 Sq. Meters	Rs. 5,40,000	\$7,570
3	Water Segregation	for 65/65/5 feet storage area	Rs. 1,45,000	\$2,032
4	Water Collecting Drainage Pits for 600 Sq. Meters	Rs. 7,56,700/- per 100 sq. meters	Rs.45,40,200	\$63,654
TOTAL			RS.64,85,200	\$90,924

We believe sustainable Watershed Management and Natural Rejuvenation of Water cycles play a crucial role in maintaining not just the Farm, but the region's ecosystem. Migratory birds and animals come to Kindness Farm in large numbers in the Fall, Winter and early Spring each year. Terrestrial wildlife access food and water year-round from our ponds, trees and surroundings. We are a significant source of employment for the surrounding villages. The main intention around a sustainable watershed management action plan is to have assured, secured and environmentally- friendly means of harvesting unmanaged water resources with calculated intervention into underground water cycles, helping the entire water-table, restoring the perennial water resources in this famine-hit region.

To summarize the progress; thus far: we have created 12 water-harvesting pits. There are 6 wells - one is large by most standards - at 40 ft. x 20 ft. There are two major water tanks. One more is in the works on top of the horse-shed, based on the monsoon pattern. Two minor tanks are on top of each cattle-shed and one in the wildlife area. As shared above, some tanks in the system are retrofitted or refurbished. One large major water collection point covers drainage from about 5 acres of Kindness Farm; a minor collection point is in the making at the southeast area of the Farm, and there is another being demarcated near the wildlife area separated from the domestic animals' enclosures.

We are still working on water treatment plans at this time. We need more wells in due course, but are making do with the harvesting pits. Our plans are a work-in-progress based on the region's changing situation of the pandemic pressures, the monsoons, and drought.



Actions




Every tree counts!
Your 20 USD will help to...

- ... improve air quality.
- ... provide new habitats for numerous species.
- ... improve the quality of rain.
- ... provide food for countless living beings.
- ... provide shade for animals and humans.
- ... signal a way towards a better climate.

Donate 20 USD to sponsor a tree at the Kindness Farm in India.
Donation account:
PayPal: vspcausa@gmail.com

RAIN WATER HARVESTING AT KINDNESS FARM





07/15/2021

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Actions: Rain Water Harvesting



07/13/2021

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V. Dog Park in Kindness Farm – An illustration for CITY GOVERNMENTS :

With our Swiss Partner, NetAP – Network for Animal Protection, VSPCA is building a delightful DOG PARK as a model for all cities – regarding street dog management! The idea is to provide animal residents in cities with essentials such as food and water, but also – housing, healthcare and recreation. Just as humans need food and water; so do city animals. Humans need Covid vaccines – and dogs need Rabies, Distemper and Parvo type vaccines for their health. Humans take vaccines to ensure public health. As humans follow precautionary reproductive care, organizations like VSPCA perform Animal Birth Control (ABC) on dogs and cats in the city. Therefore, scientifically and logically, all animals in cities should also have housing and recreation – because it all matters deeply to public health!

Our goal is to build 50 “dog bungalows” and 8 swimming pools in the coming year. We are building 15 bungalows to start off; and, will include 4 more regular kennels and 5 children kennels with 3 pools by this year. There is space for 121 Kennels at Kindness Farm. There are good reasons to have Dog Parks across city neighborhoods:

Humane societies do not foster regular animal interaction to the extent VSPCA wants to foster – between residents in a community and dogs in VSPCA’s model Dog Park, within walking distance of every neighborhood.

Dog and cat adoptions are not consistent and cannot cope with the increasing numbers of street dogs and cats (scale problem).

Open spaces in cities, if transformed into interactive spaces between dogs and residents – will permit residents who cannot afford dogs at home, do so. And, many dogs do not have a home. They will have one and be assured of food, water, healthcare and play!

The dog park solves several problems:

- Dogs can be rounded up at nights to live inside the dog parks.
- It will provide jobs to many who love animals but don't have opportunities to work with them
- Evoke compassion for the city's animals
- Keep the city free of dog chasings and dogs mating on the roads,
- Reduce disease spread,
- Survey the number of dogs by neighborhood making management easy
- Make it easy for animal organizations to vaccinate these dogs,
- and so much more.

VSPCA has an excellent model for cat houses across the city. Evoking compassion for dogs and cats will help people become aware of city-animal needs. VSPCA's goal is that every resident be aware and educated about the city's biodiversity. Only then will they begin to think about humane gardens that attract pollinators and bird song as a measure of the city's health. The residents then will join forces to guide the city's management of liminal animals like monkeys and boars and even migratory animals. Here are views of our Dog Park:



Actions

The World's First, Unique DOG PARK at KINDNESS FARM



07/13/2021

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