

A close-up photograph of a woman with dark skin, wearing a grey hoodie, gently holding a small, fluffy brown and white dog. The woman's eyes are closed, and she has a soft smile, looking down at the dog. The dog is looking directly at the camera with large, dark eyes. The background is blurred, showing what appears to be an outdoor setting with a fence. The image is overlaid with a blue diagonal band on the left and a yellow and green diagonal band on the right.

Annual Report of Activities

FISCAL YEAR 2024





CHAIRPERSON'S LETTER

Dear Friend,

The goal of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA) is to promote and ensure the humane treatment of animals and all our activities are directed to this cause. Another year has sped by and there just never seems to be enough time to do all one sets out to do but we have managed to ensure that most of our planned objectives were carried out.

Our achievements, as well as constraints, are contained in this report. Some of the achievements that are worthy of mention are as follows:

- We have had our first in person National Animal Welfare workshop that was attended by representatives of all our branches.
- We have managed to carry out quarterly branch meetings to support our branches.
- We have developed a Committee Manual to further strengthen our corporate governance goals.
- We have drawn up Adoption Guideline for cats and dogs.
- We have secured an arrangement whereby Taueber & Corssen and FP du Toit donate and transport pet food to approximately 20 welfare organisations and our branches.
- Numerous renovations have been done at most branches, most notably:
 - Windhoek renovated the Sunshine Puppy Kennels as well as various other upgrades.
 - Walvis Bay has renovated their boarding facility and replaced their CCTV system.
 - Keetmanshoop branch have secured new facilities and are hoping to extend their shelter in the near future. They have made great strides in getting community involvement and increasing donations.
 - Otjiwarongo branch have upgraded their facilities by carrying out extensive renovations to their kennels.
 - Tsumeb branch has managed to obtain donations to upgrade the front of their facility as well as fix their perimeter fencing. They have also done numerous essential renovations to their kennels and cattery.

On a sadder note, we will be losing our National Director, Hanna Rhodin, half-way through the next fiscal year as she is moving to another country. We are so appreciative of all she has done for the SPCA over the last seven years, and she will be sorely missed.

We remain grateful to all the donors and volunteers for the work they do for the love of animals. Our branch members also continue to deliver such fantastic work taking care of animals in need in their communities. The SPCA remains committed to its mission of promoting and safeguarding the welfare of animals. We extend our heartfelt appreciation to all those who contribute to our cause and look forward to another year of progress and collaboration. Thank you for all that you do for animals and your ongoing support.

Linda Dodds

Chairperson of SPCA Namibia-Windhoek



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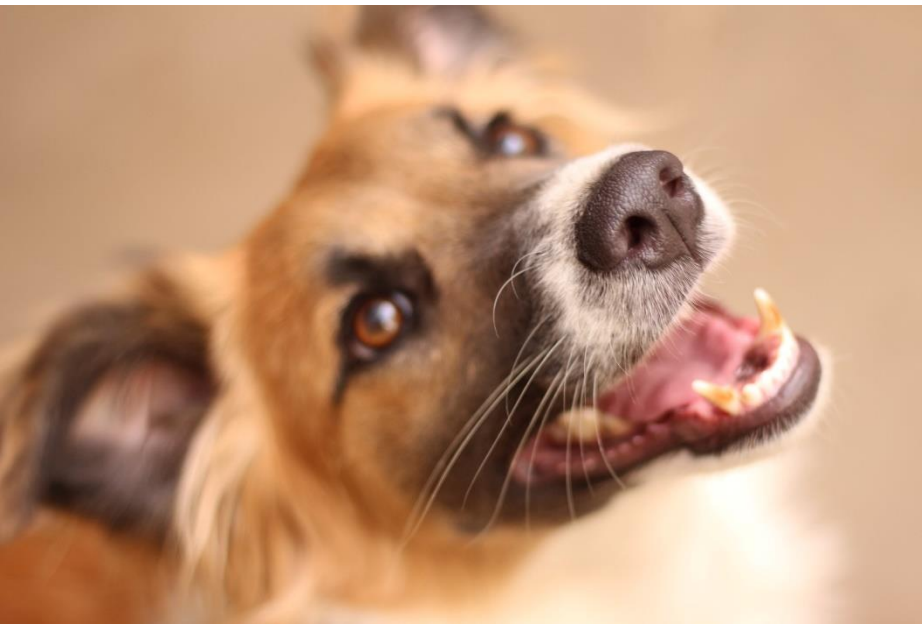


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ABBREVIATIONS

AFS	Annual Financial Statement
ARA	Annual Report of Activities
ARK	ARK Rescue and Rehabilitation
ASAD	A-Spay-A-Day
AWE	Animal Welfare Education
AWEC	Animal Welfare Education Curriculum
CAPU	Civilian Animal Protection Unit
COW	City of Windhoek
FY	Fiscal Year
HaH Namibia	Have-a-Heart Namibia
HaH Windhoek	Have-a-Heart Windhoek
HE	Humane Education
ICS	Independent Cat Society
MAWLR	Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform
MEFT	Ministry of Environment, Forestry, and Tourism
MOHSS	Ministry of Health and Social Services
MOU	Memorandum Of Understanding
NAWA	Namibia Animal Welfare Association
RTO	Return To Owner
SPCA	The Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals
T&C	Tauber & Corssen
TNR	Trap-Neuter-Return
TVT	Canine Transmissible Venereal Tumor
UNAM	University of Namibia
URI	Upper Respiratory Infection
WAWP	Working Animal Welfare Project
WO	Welfare Organization



About Us

The Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA) Namibia, was founded in 1949. SPCA Namibia is a registered Welfare Organization (WO6) with the Ministry of Health and Social Services (MOHSS). SPCA Namibia and its shelter operations SPCA Windhoek, which is also referred to as the Headquarters, have an additional seven SPCA Branches in Namibia of various size and scope, located in Grootfontein, Keetmanshoop, Lüderitz, Oshana, Otjiwarongo, Tsumeb, and Walvis Bay. The Branches are responsible for reporting to SPCA Namibia and follow national policies and guidelines but are financially and operationally independent. The Management Committee of SPCA Namibia provide support, guidance, and limited oversight to the Branches.

The SPCA is here to protect and prevent cruelty to animals, and to promote animal welfare in Namibia. Our organization

supports animals in need through education, action, and provision of care.

The SPCA plays an important role in rescuing and assisting animals that are neglected, abandoned, and/or abused all over Namibia, and together we make up the largest animal welfare organization in the country, primarily working with domestic animals, but not limited to pets alone. We provide a safe place for animals that have nowhere else to go, and medical care and behavioral rehabilitation for animals in need. Our team is passionate about finding loving homes for the pets in our care. Wild animals are transferred to wildlife rescue, rehabilitation, and release centers, and large domestic animals, such as horses, donkeys, and livestock, are cared for through a dedicated foster network. The SPCA's numerous shelters and foster caregiver networks can house anywhere from 20 to over 400 animals at any given time.



VISION, MISSION, AND VALUES

Our vision is to end animal cruelty in Namibia and, through our actions and education, engender respect and compassion for all animals.

Our mission is to prevent cruelty, alleviate suffering, and promote the welfare of all animals.

In our day-to-day work with animals and clients, the SPCA teams are guided by our values:

- Compassion
- Perseverance
- Respect
- Honesty
- Trust
- Loyalty

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

The Management Committee consists of a committed and professional team with experience and expertise in the following areas: veterinary field, law, corporate business and governance, human resources, and management.

- Chairperson: Linda Dodds
- Vice-Chairperson: Heike Hecht
- Treasurer: Richard Steinbach
- Secretary: Marsha Shaanika
- General Committee Members:
 - Adele De Villiers
 - Nina Foerster
 - Silke van der Merwe
 - Stephanie Viljoen
 - Thivana Pillay



BRANCHES AND THEIR REPRESENTATIVES

The SPCA Branch Committees are groups of committed individuals passionate about animal welfare. Each branch elects one branch representative to report to and communicate and collaborate with headquarters:

- Alta Scott, Grootfontein Branch
- Angelique Dunn, Keetmanshoop Branch
- Fabienne Looser, Lüderitz Branch
- Shanice Bigger, Oshana Branch
- Leshane De Jager, Otjiwarongo Branch
- Michelle Swarts, Tsumeb Branch
- Quinton van Rooyen, Walvis Bay Branch

STAFF AND SENIOR MANAGEMENT

Across the nation, the SPCA employs 34 people. Some of our teams have as many as 19 employees and some of us have very few or no paid employees at all; relying entirely on branch representatives, committee members, and volunteers. Each role is of significant value to our organization as they all play an important part in making sure we can provide the best care and services possible for the animals who need us.

The senior management team, based at headquarters, collectively has over 40 years of animal welfare and animal sheltering expertise and over 55 years of animal care experience.

- Hanna Rhodin, National Director
- Sylvia Breitenstein, Director of Operations

FISCAL YEAR

The Fiscal Year 2024 (FY24) represented in this report runs from 1st of July 2023 through 30th of June 2024.

CONTACT DETAILS

Address: 145 Robert Mugabe Avenue,
Windhoek, Namibia
P.O. Box: 1495, Windhoek, Namibia
Phone: 061 238 654
Email: info@spcanamibia.org.na
Website: www.spcanamibia.org.na

BANK DETAILS

Account Name: SPCA Namibia
Bank: First National Bank
Branch: Maerua Mall
Code: 282273
Type: Current Account
Account Number: 62263228259





Annual Activities

There is no shortage of dreams amongst us at the SPCA, but rather constraints of time, resources and capacity. With that being said, all of us have been able to make some inroads on some of those dreams this past year. From offering free sterilizations, increasing adoptions, and efforts in animal welfare education, to building renovations, program development, and administrative progress to enable our teams on the ground to focus on what they are passionate about – animals and their welfare. One thing we all have in common, is that our daily activities dictate everything we do – taking care of animals. Feeding the animals, cleaning kennels, responding to animal cruelty complaints, collecting strays, conducting adoptions, orienting volunteers, planning events and raising funds for the animals, reaching out to our communities, educating our youth, ensuring each animal receives the veterinary and medical attention they need, and so much more.

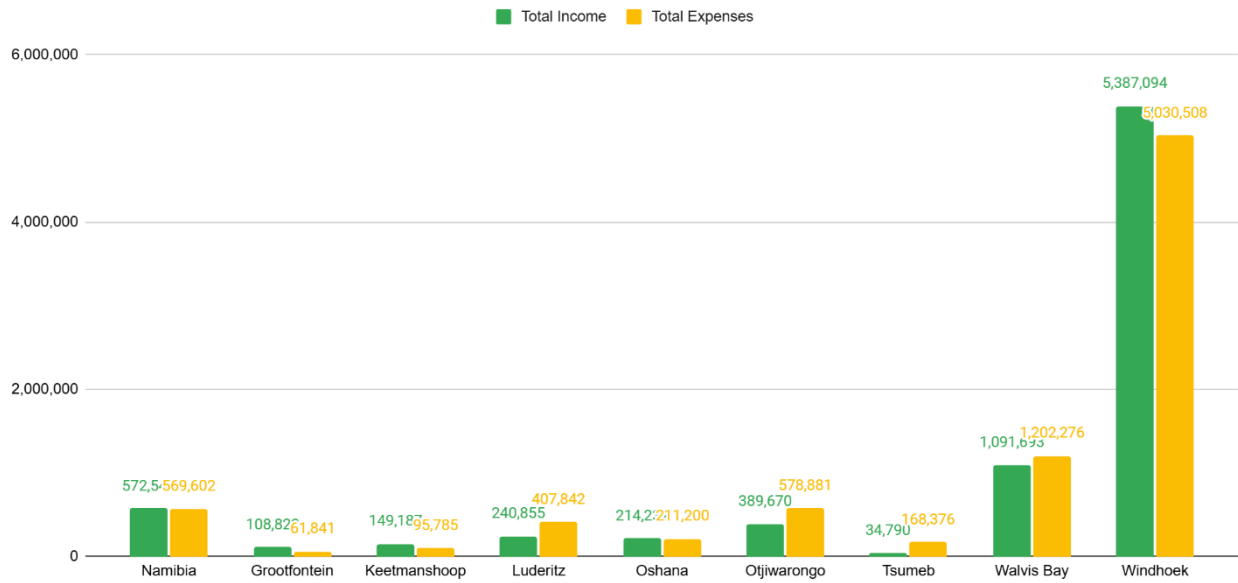
Each SPCA molds their programs and animal-admissions based on their structure, facilities, capacity, financial and human resources.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Across our SPCAs in FY24, our total income came to N\$8,186,749 and our expenses amounted to a total of N\$8,326,311, ending the year in a N\$139,562 in a small deficit. For SPCA Namibia, grants, donations and bequests received during FY24 amounted to N\$572,544 and our expenses were N\$569,602 and ended with a minor surplus for the year. The following SPCAs ended the year with surplus funds; Namibia, Grootfontein, Keetmanshoop, Oshana, and Windhoek. The following SPCAs ended the year in a deficit; Lüderitz, Otjiwarongo, Tsumeb, and Walvis Bay, primarily due to facility improvements whereby funds were invested into the properties following the large bequest from the previous FY.

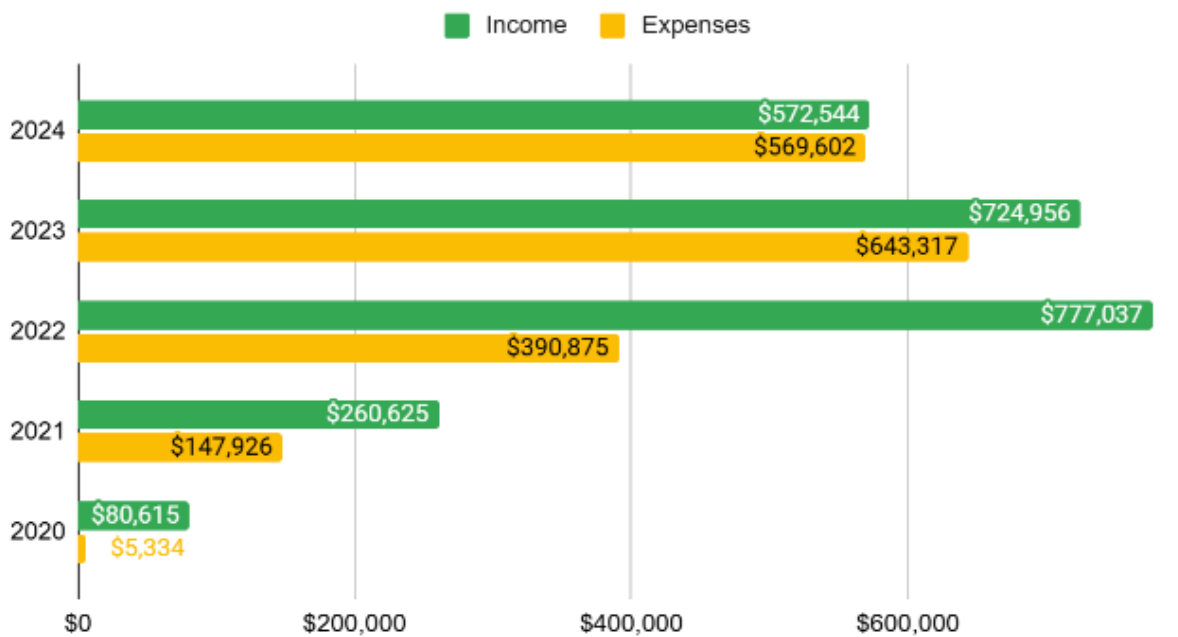


Total Income and Total Expenses per SPCA for FY24



Graph 1. Total FY24 Income and Expenses for all SPCAs.

SPCA Namibia - Income and Expenses 5 Year Comparison



Graph 2. Total Income and Expenses for SPCA Namibia FY19 through FY24.



Notable Income

The primary sources of income for the SPCAs this year came from donations, grants and bequests, interest received, boarding fees, and followed by adoption fees and from fundraisers and events.

In Windhoek, of note, the SPCA for the first time in years received the full invoice submitted to the City of Windhoek / City Police for their impound services. A total of N\$909,772 was received for FY23, of which N\$709,772 was received in FY24.

Continuing the trend from previous years; donations, bequests, and grants were the leading sources of funding this year, followed by adoption fees and boarding fees. In Windhoek, we have had some success recovering stray fees and veterinary expenses (where relevant).

Notable Expenses

As per previous years, the three biggest expense groups were salary and wages, veterinary and medical expenses, followed by pet food and supplies. The next two largest expenditure groups were recorded in water and electricity and repairs and maintenance as several SPCAs invested in upgrading their shelters.

In Windhoek, we saw a decrease in pet food and supplies expenses as we discontinued buying Hill's following continuous price increases, and now only purchase a mid-level brand. We saw a significant increase in water and electricity as new meter readers were installed.

The three major expenditure groups were followed by building repairs and maintenance, water and electricity, and motor vehicle repairs, maintenance and fuel. The last mention was a noticeable increase, especially with the increased fuel expenses, and costly repairs for the Windhoek vehicles. Thanks to a generous bequest which many of us received in FY23, many of us were able to support important renovations and upgrades to our various facilities. As a result, our building repairs and maintenance nearly doubled from the previous fiscal year.

In Windhoek, after much deliberation, the management and committee decided to increase the animal caretakers' basic salary so to ensure fair wage and to be comparable to those in similar markets, i.e. the veterinary field being closest in nature of business. The result of this being somewhat noticeable in expenses this FY but will primarily show in the coming FY. Due to sound cost management, even with price increases, the SPCA still decreased their overall spending.

Notes on the Audit

The financial statements are at this stage correct, but the auditor might still make some minor changes. For the fourth year, the Branch Financials are included in the SPCA Namibia and SPCA Windhoek Annual Financial Statement (AFS). They are included as a summary report, but not qualified or audited by our auditors. Each committee is responsible for the financials of their SPCA.



SPCA Namibia and Branches Summarized Income statement FY24

	SPCA Namibia	Grootfontein	Luderitz	Keetmans- hoop	Oshana	Otjiwarongo	Tsumeb	Walvis Bay	Windhoek	2024 Total	2023 Comparative
INCOME											
Boarding Fees		3,500		82,500			2,870	137,303	265,798	491,971	575,363
Fundraising and events		51,170	38,066		3,050		6,150		252,429	350,865	279,598
Donations		43,200	33,792	46,175	137,845	389,670	19,720	728,393	1,063,979	2,462,774	5,383,187
Donations for distribution	60,416									60,416	87,537
Grants and bequests	509,021								2,685,090	3,194,111	4,843,232
Interest Received	3,107	3,018	51,624					92,488	356,972	507,209	260,855
Medical expenses recovered and strays			200						154,236	154,436	115,312
Membership Fees			3,600	4,750	400		2,050		44,700	55,500	175,116
Microchip, dog tags and shop sales		5,935	3,755		72,937			435	60,500	143,562	75,122
Adoption		2,000	18,150	4,000			4,000	89,483	321,159	438,792	614,505
Discount received for cash				103,430				41,980		145,410	671
Other income							1,350		171,500	172,850	247,234
Pick up fees								261		261	3,183
Net loss from pet food									-2,139	-2,139	59,836
Other - Pet Food (Hills)									140,824	140,824	
PETFOOD COS									-142,963	-142,963	
Profit on sale of motor vehicle									12,870	12,870	-
TOTAL INCOME	572,544	108,823	149,187	240,855	214,232	389,670	34,790	1,091,693	5,387,094	8,186,749	12,720,751
EXPENDITURE											
Accounting fees					1,000	3,500		17,901	48,000	70,401	79,556
Audit Fees	6,217								9,783	16,000	14,000
Bank Charges	2,728	2,776	2,766	4,183	6,395	3,312	3,199	8,178	49,701	83,238	73,367
Cleaning		1,299	803			5,875		4,249	69,521	81,747	70,944
Computer Expenses					10,437			8,171	2,450	21,058	10,729
Depreciation				16,349		1,300		3,858	35,316	56,823	31,410
Fundraising and events		27,495	6,800			9,079			15,597	58,971	48,353
Insurance				7,519					57,415	64,934	54,687
Licenses and subscriptions	17,056			4,158				5,678	22,305	49,197	34,502
Legal fees									8,000	8,000	5,870
Medicines and veterinary services			45,485	29,619	63,640	133,914	19,000	210,153	583,677	1,085,488	889,194
Advertising & promotion	1,108				7,304			575		8,987	14,590
Consumables and merchandise	61,068									61,068	112,166
Motor vehicle repairs and fuel		500			36,696	744	10,715	13,319	159,624	221,598	245,871
Office expenses					56				15,582	15,638	30,025
Pet food and supplies		6,156	22,109	26,101	1,022	37,177	47,628	1,770	661,900	803,863	1,223,626
Professional, Meetings and Consulting		6,316		4,025		9,317				19,658	11,857
Repairs and Maintenance			1,122	105,833		139,824		284,892	133,538	665,209	647,754
Salaries and wages	321,475	15,900	15,925	144,675	79,856	201,994	36,648	456,850	2,612,207	3,885,530	3,639,598
Security									7,814	7,814	11,012
Stationary and printing		949	24	2,912		2,182		2,957		9,024	17,154
Distributed Donation	60,416									60,416	87,537
Courier, postage and telephone		450	751	12,142	1,360	1,728	1,686	16,941	33,858	68,916	76,381
Theft									4,336	4,336	
VAT write off/impaired									193,832	193,832	191,730
Water and electricity				2,600		7,250	49,500	121,875	306,036	487,261	298,361
Travelling, Training and Entertainment	99,534			27,384				8,670		135,588	110,202
Other Expenses				20,342	3,434	1,726		33,849	16	59,367	43,341
Protective clothing and uniforms						19,959		2,390		22,349	14,661
TOTAL EXPENSES	569,602	61,841	95,785	407,842	211,200	578,881	168,376	1,202,276	5,030,508	8,326,311	8,088,478
Surplus / (Deficit) for the year	2,942	46,982	53,402	-166,987	3,032	-189,211	-133,586	-110,583	356,586	-139,562	4,632,273
Accumulated funds at the beginning of the year	573,602	56,899	665,708	404,974	247,554	1,076,951	611,792	1,353,638	4,830,777	9,821,895	5,224,695
Accumulated funds at the end of the year	576,544	103,881	719,110	237,987	250,586	887,740	478,206	1,243,055	5,187,363	9,684,472	9,815,792

Table 1. Summarized income statement for FY24 for all SPCAs.



SPCA Windhoek - Five Year Financial Summary

	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
INCOME	\$5,387,094	\$5,986,768	\$5,738,810	\$3,740,512	\$5,033,644
Adoptions	\$321,159	\$380,913	\$427,391	\$473,584	\$510,813
Boarding Fees	\$265,798	\$284,274	\$234,274	\$173,026	\$225,830
Donations, Events & Grants	\$4,172,998	\$4,863,839	\$4,656,852	\$2,813,379	\$4,040,994
Membership	\$44,700	\$35,940	\$58,470	\$58,983	\$66,987
Other Income	\$586,714	\$421,802	\$361,823	\$221,540	\$189,020
EXPENSES	\$5,030,508	\$5,135,551	\$4,449,468	\$3,890,246	\$4,426,339
Medicines, Food & Vet Expenses	\$1,245,577	\$1,553,207	\$1,415,633	\$955,004	\$1,333,772
Salaries & Wages	\$2,612,207	\$2,417,417	\$2,271,999	\$2,232,865	\$2,298,000
Other Expenses	\$1,172,724	\$1,164,927	\$761,836	\$702,377	\$794,567
PROFIT/(LOSS)	\$356,586	\$851,217	\$1,289,342	(\$149,734)	\$607,305

Table 2. Income and expense summary over five financial years, FY20 through FY24, at SPCA Windhoek.



Financial Highlights

Total Income
+ N\$ 8,186,749

Total Expenses
- N\$ 8,326,311

Most common forms of income come from donations, grants, and bequests, followed by interest, adoption and boarding fees

Biggest expense groups include salaries and wages, followed by vet and med care, and pet food and supplies



ANIMAL ACTIVITIES

The SPCAs are guided by our mandate to prevent cruelty to animals and have come to fill an important need in our community; to provide shelter for vulnerable and homeless animals and animals who are at risk of suffering. Whilst the SPCAs are known for, and primarily work with cats, dogs and other pet species, we also work with and respond to calls about many animals ranging from birds and wildlife to livestock and equines. The categories covered in our data statistics depict cats, dogs, and others. The 'others' category includes animals such as rabbits, rats, hamsters, cattle, donkeys, horses, birds, wildlife, and many more. For the purposes of this report, they have been grouped into a single category.

Some SPCAs are contracted by their municipality as the Municipal Impound. Formal and informal agreements between the SPCAs and their local governments

dictate which species they take in, and various payment structures for the services provided. Currently, the following SPCAs have a form of an agreement with their municipalities: Keetmanshoop, Otjiwarongo, Walvis Bay, and Windhoek. The Keetmanshoop team had been working on a MOU with their Municipality since FY20 which after a lot of hard work and negotiations was signed in FY24. The SPCA team in Lüderitz is currently engaged in discussions with their municipality to become the official Impound Shelter in their community, and the Windhoek team are busy negotiating with City Police regarding the impound services provided.

The SPCAs across the country, from Oshana to Lüderitz, cite issues with the continuous increase in stray and feral cats in need. Housing feral cats in shelters is rarely successful unless they are brought in as young kittens and the specific SPCA has the time and ability to properly socialize those young felines. A cat that by nature avoids



people finds the shelter environment highly stressful. A more humane alternative to taking feral cats in is Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR), whereby the feral cat(s) are trapped, brought to a veterinarian for sterilization, and returned to the location they were found.

When funding allows, all SPCAs would like to make further inroads on cat TNR programs. One in which the Lüderitz team has made some encouraging advances for the third year in a row. Tsumeb have also been able to do a few dozen TNRs. In Windhoek, the team won a grant to sterilize 100 cats and dogs in need for those owners who cannot afford the surgery. Furthermore, the SPCA Windhoek team is continuing their efforts in A-Spay-A-Day (ASAD) sterilizations of owned pets where their owners are unable to afford to spay or neuter

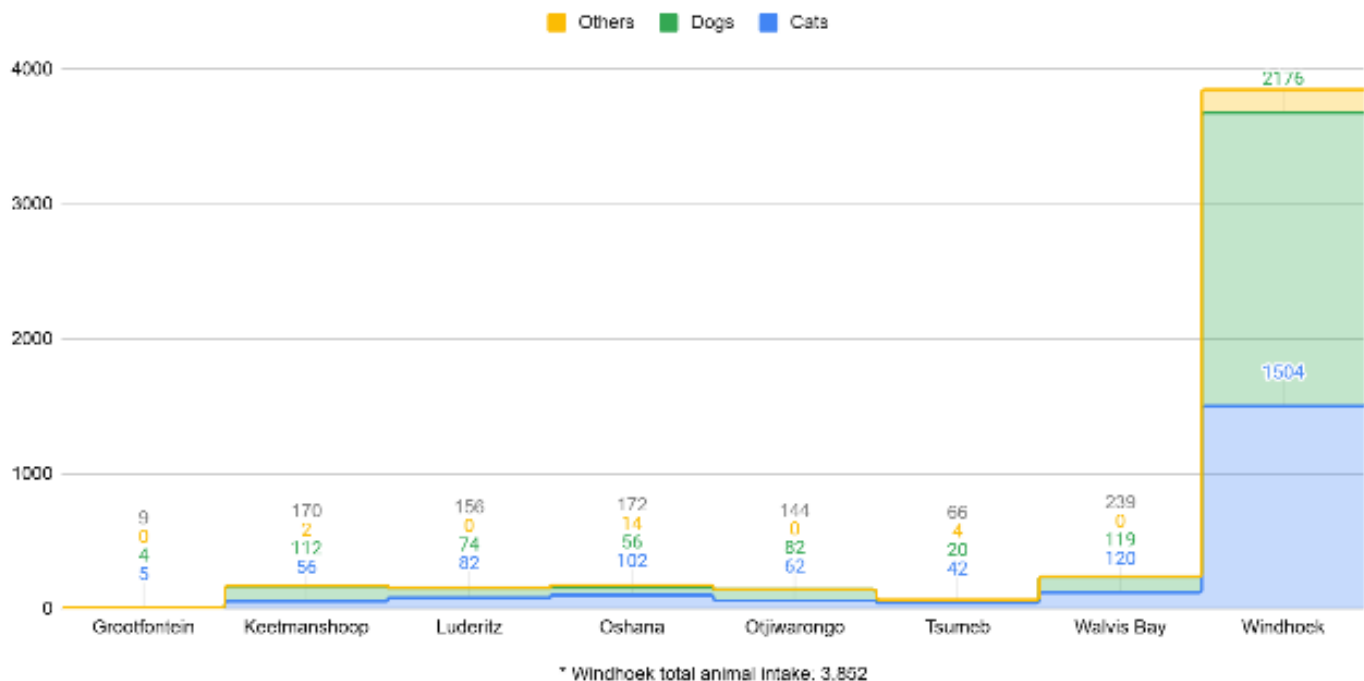
their animals. It is not unusual for the SPCA to receive mama pets with a litter of puppies or kittens whereby the owner clearly loves and cares for their pet but is unable to afford the sterilization expense. This is where the SPCA tries to intervene and assist in ensuring that no more unwanted litters are born, and ultimately end up in a shelters.

Animal Intake

The SPCAs rescued a total of 4,808 animals this year. It is the first time in national SPCA recordkeeping that there has been an overall decrease in animal intake from year to year; a 9% decrease in incoming animals compared to the year before. This year's accumulative animal intake is closest comparable with FY20 which recorded 4,530

Animal Intake

Total: 4,808



Graph 3. Animals taken in by the SPCAs in FY24.



rescued animals. However, the individual SPCA differed in terms of increase/ decrease intake of animals from the previous year. The following SPCAs recorded an increase in animal intake; Keetmanshoop (29%), Lüderitz (81%), Oshana (157%), and Tsumeb (106%). The following SPCAs noted a decrease in intake Grootfontein (-65%), Otjiwarongo (-30%), Walvis Bay (-43%), and Windhoek (-9%).

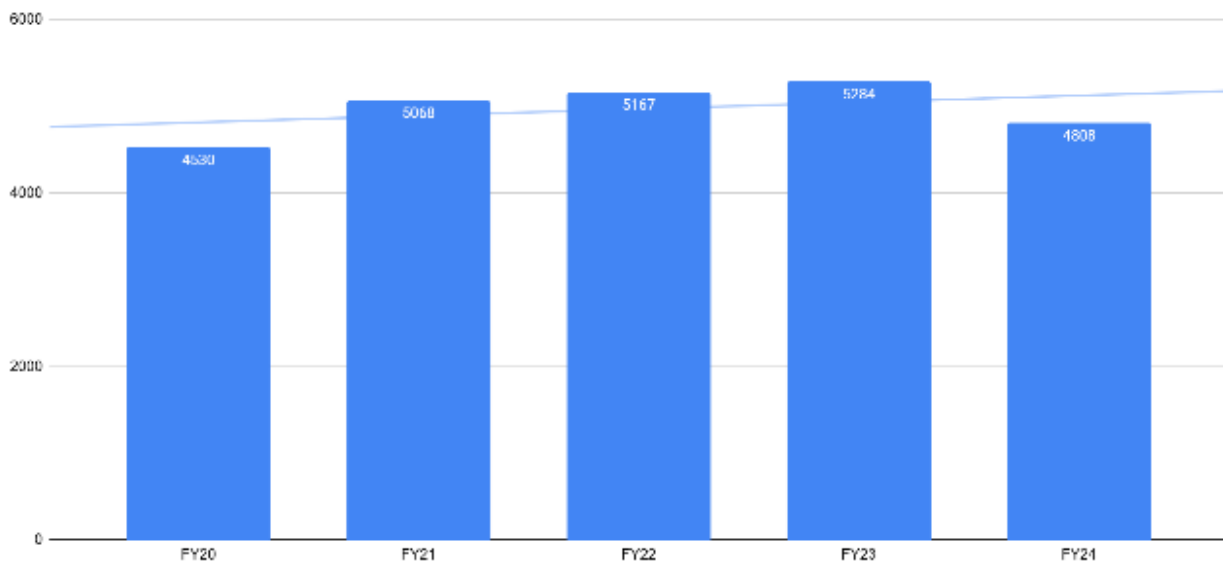
A stray animal is classified as an animal without a known owner - either a true stray or a lost animal. Any animal coming in without a signed surrender form is processed as a stray. Thus, known abandoned animals are processed as stray animals as well. The stray-hold policy of each SPCA varies depending on municipal bylaws and internal policies. The stray-hold at the SPCAs ranges from three to fourteen days.

All SPCAs continue to report a high number of stray and feral cats in need. Other organizations working with cats have also reported a significant increase in the stray cat population. This issue is likely to continue to worsen, and the SPCA strongly encourages their various towns to invest in TNR as it proves to be the most humane option to control overpopulation.

The SPCA Grootfontein tries to limit the number of animals taken in, even though there is a need in society. However, the SPCA will take in animals in very dire need if no alternative plan can be organized.

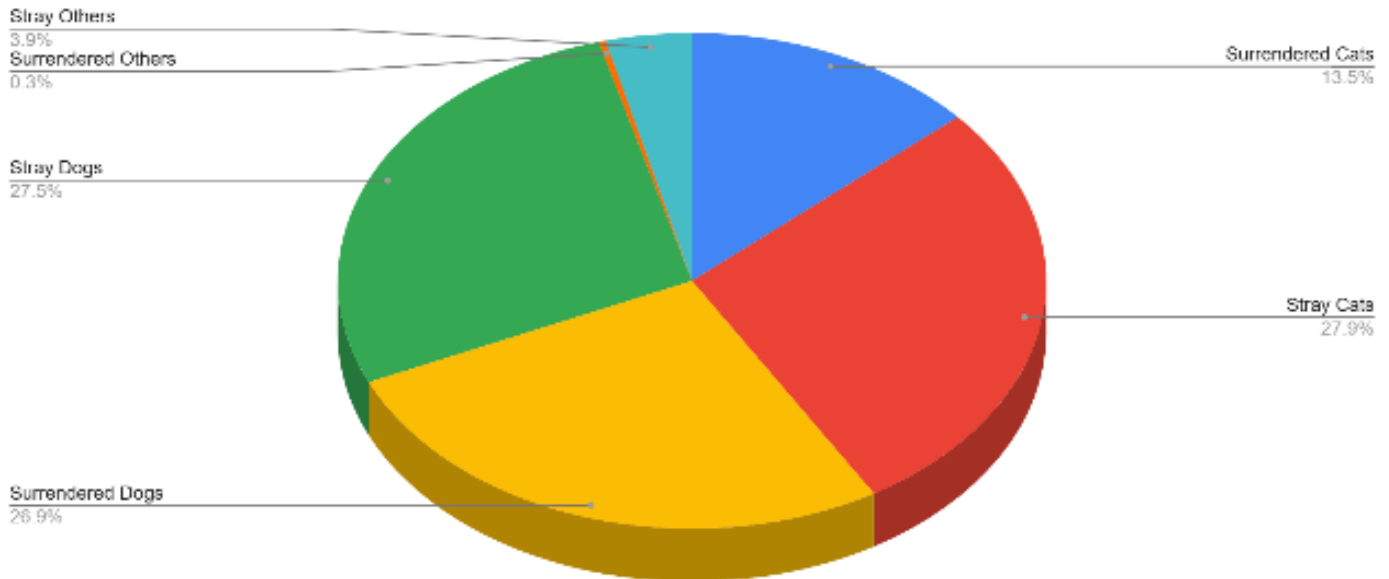
The team in Lüderitz notes a large number of free-roaming owned and community pets, as opposed to true stray dogs, and as such will only take in stray animals in dire need. They actively try to rather support pet owners in

Total Number of Animal Intake Across Namibia Per Year



Graph 4. The total number of animals taken in by the SPCAs over the last five fiscal years.

Breakdown of Surrender and Stray Intake Type



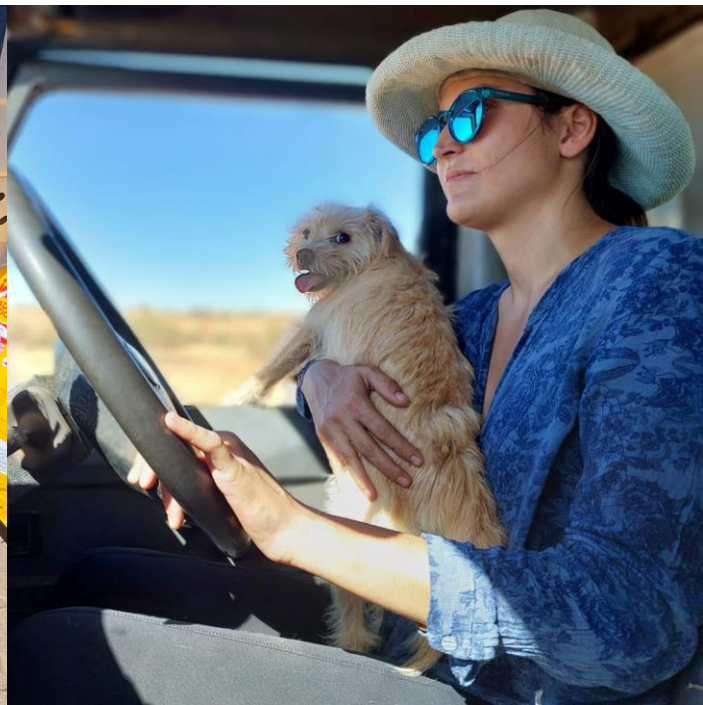
Graph 5. Breakdown of intake type, restricted to surrender and stray, as other forms of intake are negligible.

need of some assistance than to take their animals in as surrenders. This keeps loved pets with their families and the assistance is mostly contingent upon the owner's willingness to have their pets sterilized.

The transfer program has made an impact across the SPCAs as those with lower capacity have been able to transfer to SPCAs with more capacity and/or space at that time, which gives those who transfer out some relief. It is primarily the Windhoek shelter which will transfer in animals, but some of the other SPCAs have between each other as well.

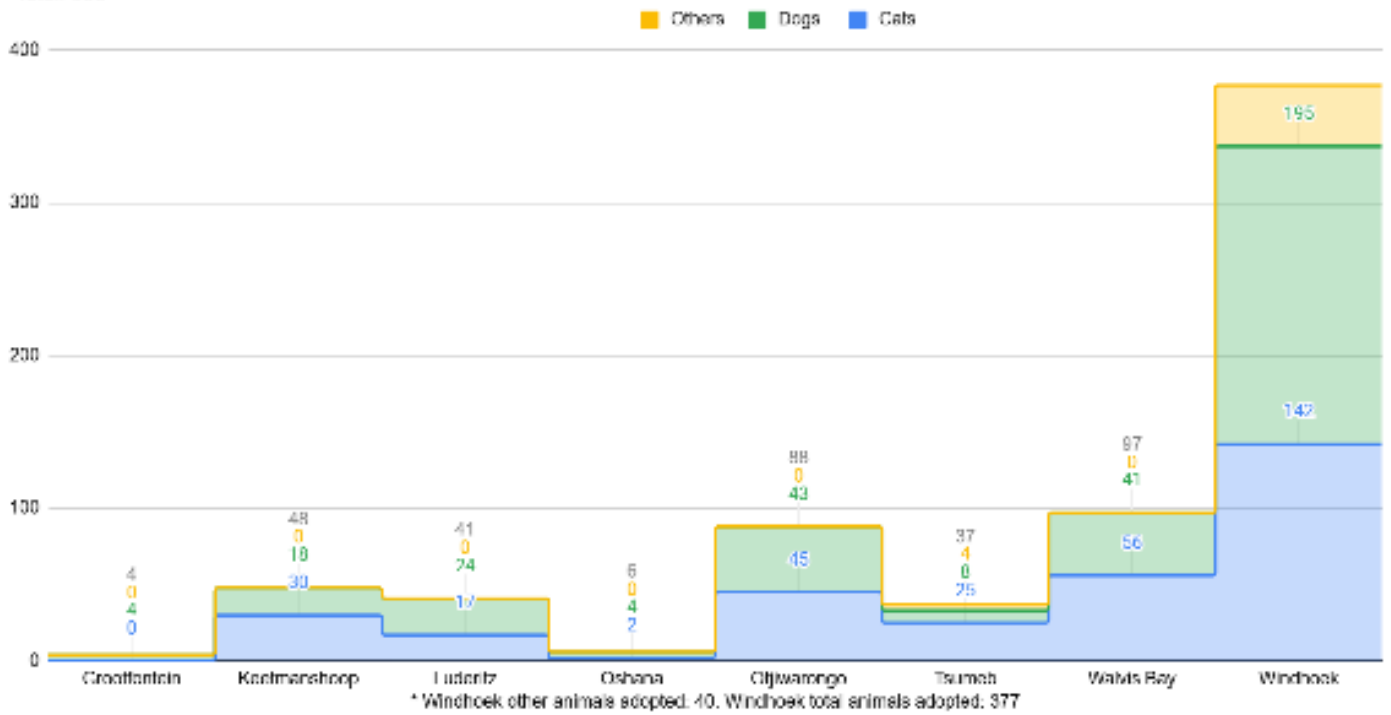
Adoption

Across the country's SPCAs, a total of 698 animals were adopted and overall adoption rates decreased by a total of 4%, a continued negative trend from the last five years. Unfortunately, this negative trend was prevalent in majority of the SPCAs, except for three which all recorded an increase in adoptions; Lüderitz (41%), Tsumeb (270%), and Otjiwarongo (21%). Unfortunately, the remaining SPCAs saw the following decreases in adoption rates; Grootfontein (-56%), Keetmanshoop (-14%), Oshana (-40%), Walvis Bay (-18%), and Windhoek (-11%). We are concerned at the continued negative trend of adoptions, even though we have tried promoting adoptions and engaged in innovative initiatives.



Animals Adopted

Total: 698



Graph 6. Number of animals, by type, adopted across Namibia, including totals.



The Oshana team notes a very low rate of adoptions this past year, only six animals were adopted in FY24. Their primary population in care are cats, which end up spending long periods of time in foster homes; citing lack of adoption interest in the northern region.

To encourage adoptions, we joined forces to bring awareness and attention to adoptions through the 'Clear the Shelter' adoption drive, whereby one week in May 2024 we had reduced adoption fees. All the SPCAs hosted two additional joint and national adoption drives, each for the duration of a month. October 2023 was Adopt A Shelter Dog Month and June 2024 was Adopt A Shelter Cat Month. During each initiative, there were adoption specials and reduced adoption fees on select or all animals, each SPCA determining the exact extent of the specials. Several of the SPCAs ran individual adoption campaigns throughout the year.

The HQ collaborated with the media to drive and promote adoption campaigns, to spread awareness and hopefully rehome more pets to loving homes. Across our branches, our

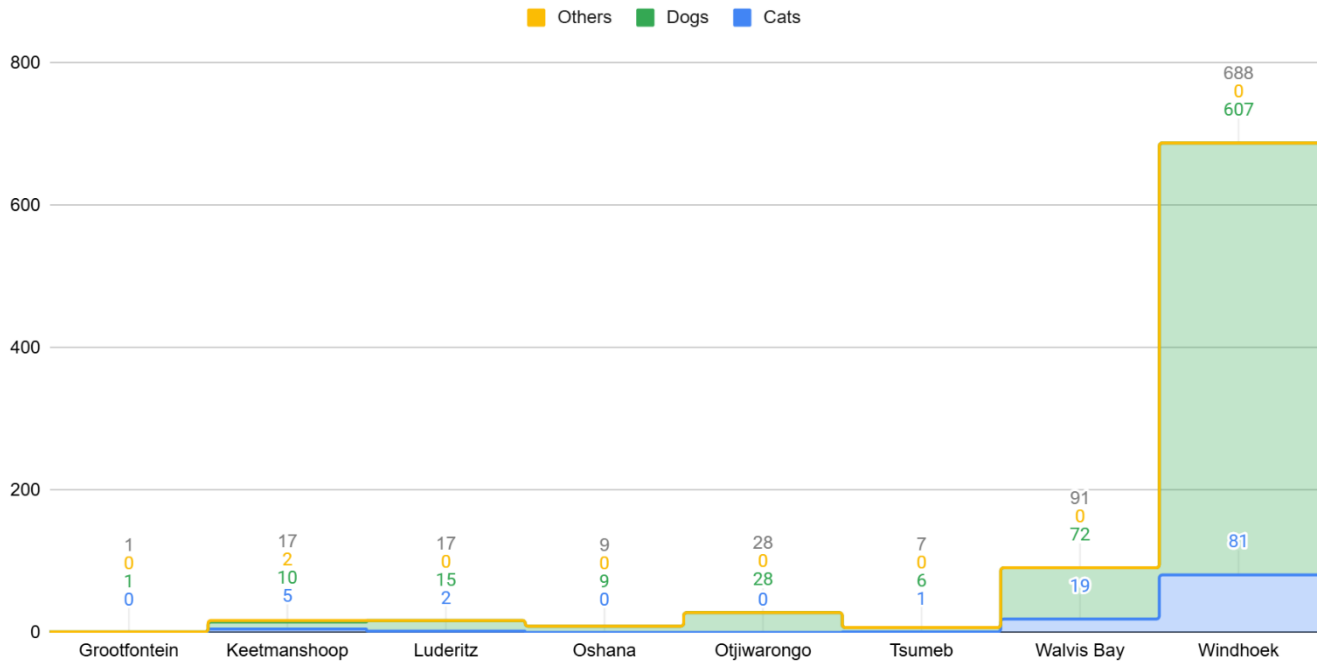
teams have tried various initiatives to encourage adoptions. In Windhoek, we are especially excited to have launched our 'Working Cat Program' which will give those cats that come in under-socialized or semi-feral a chance. There are specific considerations before these placements are done, but they have all been considered carefully.

Returned To Owner

The Returned To Owner (RTO) category are lost animals who have successfully been reunited with their owners. RTO numbers correlate highly with the admission model of each particular SPCA. An open-admission shelter will have a significantly higher RTO rate than a limited-admission shelter. Collectively, a total of 858 animals were reunited with their owners (15% increase overall), of which 688 were RTOs in Windhoek (6% increase). The increase of RTOs is a continued and encouraging positive trend. It should be noted that several of these RTOs in Windhoek are from ASADs returned to owners. Walvis Bay has made a notable increase in pets RTOs, from 59 in FY23 to 91 in FY24; a 54% increase.

Animals Returned to Owner

Total: 852



Graph 7. Number of animals, by type, including totals, returned to owners across Namibia's SPCAs.

Historically, very few cats were reunited with their owners, a trend that has been changing for the better. As an example, in FY17, 19 cats were claimed by their owners in Windhoek, in FY24, that number increased to 81. Showing that people know to contact the SPCA not for only lost dogs, but cats too.





Humane Euthanasia

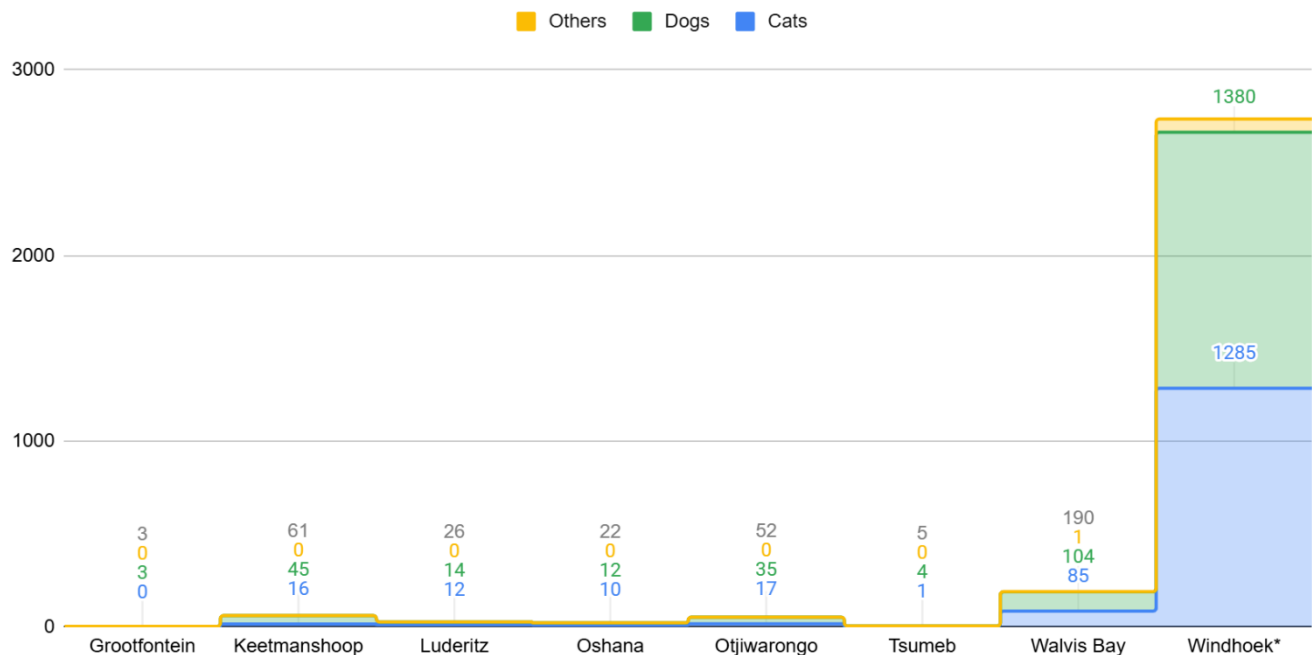
Making the decision to humanely euthanize an animal is not something anyone at the SPCA takes lightly, yet difficult decisions need to be taken daily. The staff and committee directly involved in making humane euthanasia decisions take multiple factors into consideration when making those decisions based on medical and behavioral assessments. The humane euthanasia considerations range from severely ill and diseased animals, disease transmission and the effect the disease may have on the wider shelter or foster population (which must also be protected), injuries, and behavior such as aggression. These animals are either found or surrendered to the SPCA

because the owners are unable to afford veterinary treatment, or they are simply unable to cope. Each situation must be triaged swiftly.

With limited funding, resources, space, and not enough adoptions, difficult decisions must be made to maintain a healthy population in our shelters and to take our capacity for care into consideration, i.e. what quality of care we are able to provide each and every animal in our shelter/foster network. We aim to alleviate the suffering of sick or injured animals and strive to keep confirmed aggressive animals from being released back to the public. The SPCAs make every effort to keep euthanasia rates as low as possible by rehoming or returning

Animals Euthanized/ Died/ Dead on Arrival

Total: 3,675



* Windhoek 'Other's': 71 and Total: 2,736

Graph 8. Number of animals euthanized, died, or dead-on arrival, including totals across Namibia's SPCAs.



as many animals as we can to their homes. Unfortunately, this is not always possible. It is not uncommon for the SPCAs to receive severely ill surrenders or strays. These animals are often so injured or diseased by the time they reach us that euthanasia is the only humane option.

In Windhoek in particular, the annual number of intakes far exceeds adoptions and RTOs. Our open-admission policy means that no animal is turned to the streets or left to suffer. This policy also mitigates significant public health risks by reducing animal overpopulation and preventing packs of stray dogs from forming (which would increase the

presence of zoonotic diseases, create bite risks for members of the public and potentially spread rabies). Namibia is considered a high-risk rabies country, and thus it is crucial for public health and the safety of the animals in our community that no animal is left on the streets if it can be avoided. It is notable to see that overall, there was a 16% decrease in humane euthanized/ DOA/ died animals. The SPCA Windhoek had a 16% decrease in euthanasia rates; most comparable to figures from FY21.

Other Intake and Outcome Types

Less common types of intakes not displayed in graphs are transfer-in, confiscated, TNR, born-in-shelter, and in-for-treatment, ASAD, and other outcome types are transfer-out, TNR, and released to wild.



Animal Highlights

Total Animals Rescued
5,284

Total Animals Adopted
730

Total Animals Returned-To-Owner
858

Estimated total animals at
SPCAs by the end of FY
670 +

Types of Animals Rescued
Cats, dogs, rabbits, guinea pigs, rabbits, hedgehogs, baboons, porcupines, sheep, and many more.



Animal Services

Animal Inspectorate activities such as attending to complaints, pre-adoption house checks, and picking up strays and surrenders amounted to a total of 3,011 actions nationally. Across the country, there are a total of seven Animal Inspectors, of which three are officially certified; the others work closely with the police to carry out their inspectorate duties. The SPCA in Windhoek has two full-time Animal Inspectors, and a third Animal Inspector performing other duties, certified by the Magistrate in the District of Windhoek. Our Inspectors are dedicated to the protection of animals and work hard throughout the year responding to complaints, confiscating animals when needed, picking up stray and surrendered animals, doing pre-adoption house inspections, assisting the police, and taking transporting animals when needed.

Individuals at several of the branches have warrants under the Animal Protection Act (APA) of 1962 and they, along with the Windhoek Inspectors, and other representatives, work closely with the police to uphold the law. However, the APA has severe limitations to ensuring the well-being of animals if and when confiscated. Cases take years to be heard and animals end of suffering. We are cautiously optimistic about the efforts and progress being made by the Ad-Hoc Animal Welfare Committee with the Animal Protection and Welfare Bill 2023, of which the SPCA has a representative. During the course of the year, a couple of inspections took place via SPCA Namibia, whereby extensive reporting and feedback was provided. Some cases still ongoing in the new year. The SPCA HQ is often contacted regarding national animal cruelty complaints and/or welfare checks, or by the branches where they need support and guidance on a case-by-case basis.

Animal Services Highlights

Total Animals Complaints Attended

717 +

Pre-Adoption House Checks

442 +

Total Stray Animals Collected

1,086 +

Total Surrendered Animals Collected

766 +



Animal Health

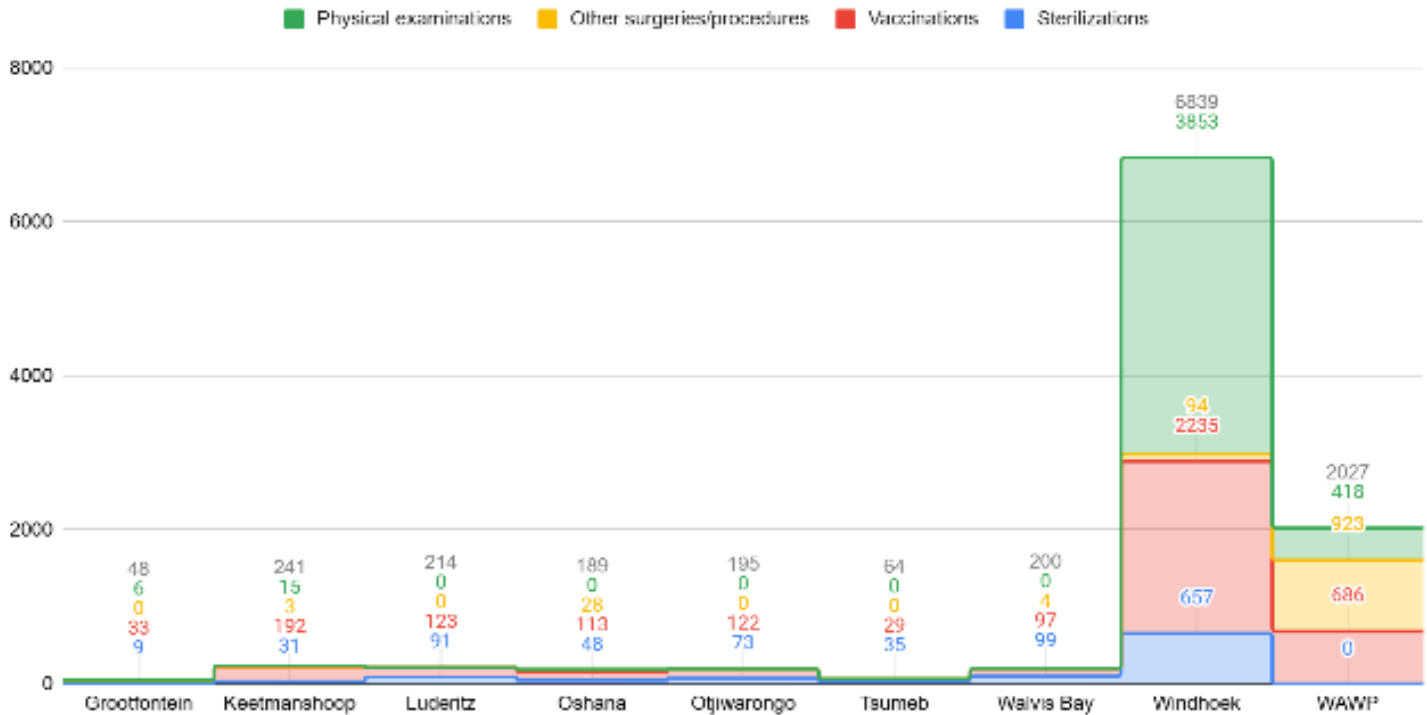
The SPCA is often a first stop for pet owners whose pet are in need of veterinary care, but unable to afford it. We see it as our duty to provide veterinary care to alleviate and prevent suffering of injury and disease. Oftentimes, the animals are first surrendered to the SPCA as all of us lack the ability to provide veterinary services free of charge. Treatments may include preventative measures such as deworming, de-tick- and -flea treatment, and vaccines, or of more intense measures such as trauma stabilizing, wound treatment, or various types of surgery. It is a challenge to balance compassion for animals with the financial realities of providing care for those in need. However, the SPCA will see to the end of suffering either by providing treatment or humane euthanasia.

The national SPCA Namibia and Windhoek are the only ones who have employed veterinarians. Our SPCA Namibia veterinarian is employed on a part-time basis, coordinating and implementing the efforts of our Working Animal Welfare Project (WAWP) in the field and out of Windhoek. Our Windhoek veterinarian has the immense responsibility of caring for the overall health of the 4,000 plus animals that came through our doors this year, and the 250-400 patients that reside with us at any given time. Our Windhoek based veterinarian stays busy caring for in-house patients only and a limited number of ASADs.

Our branches work with the private or state veterinarians in their municipality, whereas the team in Lüderitz does not have a residing veterinarian and make use of visiting veterinarians when they work in town. However, the need for a resident veterinarian

Sterilizations, Vaccinations, Other surgeries/procedures and Physical examinations

Total: 10,017



Graph 9. Medical procedures, sterilizations and vaccinations completed by veterinarians for the SPCA animals across Namibia.

or more frequent visits is crucial for the continued and improved health of the animals in the community, especially when pertaining to emergency cases and injuries.

All of the SPCAs report that sterilizing animals in their communities would bring a major relief not only to pet owners in the low-to-no-income communities but in feral cat populations too. Unfortunately, for most, lack of funds makes such initiatives unattainable.

Our Lüderitz team have continued to work hard with their community and Have-a-Heart (HaH) Namibia to provide TNR and no-cost sterilizations to pet owners within the low-to-

no-income communities and that of feral cats. Together, they ensured a total of 353 pets were sterilized, up from 181 pets the previous year. This partnership is a testament that by collaborating, greater things can be accomplished.

In Windhoek, we sterilized 657 pets, ranging from cats and dogs to rabbits, guinea pigs, and rats. Of these, 189 were low-cost or free sterilization of pets whose owner were unable to afford to pay or to pay at full cost. Of the 189 pets spayed a neutered, 113 were sterilized thanks to a grant via SPCA International. Our team is always looking to see where we can do more, and we were grateful to do so thanks to this grant.



The Oshana team are constantly contacted regarding animals, and they are dedicated to their TNR program, which sterilized 76 feral cats.

The SPCA is proud of its working relationship with the veterinary program at the University of Namibia (UNAM) School of Veterinary Medicine, with whom we have a signed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). The final-year UNAM veterinary students do a one-week rotation with practical experience at the SPCA where they work with our shelter veterinarian and learn about animal welfare, animal sheltering, pets in large populations, and shelter medicine. We hope this experience will impact their future careers

and philosophies around animal welfare and charitable work. Under the guidance of their professors, the UNAM clinic also take in and assist SPCA animals where the students perform spays and neuters free of charge and take on cases requiring x-rays or more thorough medical intervention.

The SPCA Windhoek has an initiative called Dixie's Fund, a fund dedicated to ordinary and extraordinary medical treatments for animals in our care. This fiscal year, FNB generously donated N\$150,000.00 towards this restricted fund. This has enabled us to make a positive change in many animals' lives.



Vet and Med Highlights

Total Vaccinations Administered
3,630

Total Animals Sterilized
1,043

Total Animals Given Special Treatment/Surgeries
1,052 +

Surgical highlights
In-house amputation, dentals, small exotic animal spay/neuter (rats and guinea pigs)



Working Animal Welfare Project

The SPCA Namibia is excited to share the success of its initiative the 'Working Animal Welfare Project' (WAWP) in partnership with SPANA, a UK based organization. The project was launched in October 2021 and focuses on working animals, namely donkeys, horses, and mules, in some of our most rural communities in Namibia, where there most of the time is no veterinarian. The project is run by our part-time veterinarian and project coordinator. The project has three major cornerstones, 1) veterinary relief, 2) community outreach, and 3) animal welfare education. This fiscal year, the SPCA treated 418 animals, just shy of the 450-target due to not having a vehicle for field trips until May 2024 and thus significantly

impacting our larger reach as we had to focus on areas closer to Windhoek. We vaccinate, deworm, treat wounds, and look over hooves and teeth of the animals, and we have replaced bits as well as some harnesses and bridles this past year. Since the beginning of WAWP we have established a beautiful collaboration with Namibian Animal Welfare Association (NAWA). The NAWA team has joined several of the SPCA's field trips and vice versa, which happen every month, where we join forces and NAWA in large part focuses on replacing poor tack for the donkeys and horses. The SPCA replaced a total of 211 bits, bridles, and harnesses this FY.

Through our initiative, we provided owner/caretaker training to 106 individuals and 40 skills training sessions. The training includes how to fix and mount harness and bridles correctly, why a comfortable bit is so



important, basic nutrition, more humane hobbling (which remains a challenge), and ultimately, that a happy animal is a good working animal. Satisfyingly, we have seen a decrease in the number of abuse and tack related injuries in the working animals and many owners and caretakers are actively asking questions on how to best care for their animals.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

The SPCAs are largely consumed with daily operational and emergency activities, often with limited manpower or funds left over for other programs or new initiatives. The animals in our care often dictate our day-to-day activities, which include medicating and feeding, cleaning, surgeries (by staff veterinarian or transport of such animals to the veterinarian of choice at branches), emergency response, investigating complaints, collaborating with other organizations, responding to phone calls, emails and Facebook messages, planning events, campaigns, and fundraisers, the many administrative tasks required to run an organization, and much more. However, our headquarters and its branches value operational and program development and improvement and we look positively at each new advancement we are able to make. We strive to constantly progress through training, keeping up with best practices, and supporting one another.

Branch Visits and Work

Each SPCA fulfills an important role in their community, someone to advocate for

animals, rescue animals in need, respond to animal cruelty complaints, and shelter and care for at risk animals. By having branch committee members, branch representatives, and employees nationwide, we can collectively do more for more animals. We share knowledge, ideas, and help support and guide each other. To foster collaboration and team spirit, the SPCA Namibia Chairperson and Secretary, senior management at headquarters, and all of the branch representatives meet quarterly via Zoom.

For the fourth year in a row, many SPCAs joined forces in both fundraising initiatives and adoption drives. Several branches took part in the national dog walk 'Mutt-Strutt' in September; Adopt A Shelter Dog Month in October; Spay and Neuter Awareness Campaign in February; Adopt A Shelter Cat Month in June; and the 'Clear the Shelter' event. The headquarters provided marketing materials for all participating branches and dates for the initiatives were agreed upon. There were some changes made to the dates by some of the branches to best fit the events in their town.

This year, whilst the focus was not on branch visits, the HQ made the time to visit both Walvis Bay and Otjiwarongo who needed specific support during the year.

National Animal Welfare

Workshop

In March 2024 the SPCA Namibia hosted its third National Animal Welfare Workshop, and the first in-person one in about 20 years. The



workshop spanned two and a half days. Staff, committee members, branches, and other organizations were invited, and we had a total of about 35 participants. The SPCA Namibia were able to sponsor the participation by two members from each branch thanks to a generous grant. The sessions covered social media, Stress Management and Compassion Fatigue, First Responder to Wildlife, Humane Capturing, Basic Shelter Medicine, Capacity for Care, Identification of Pets, HR 101 - Disciplinary matters, caring for exotic pets, Dog Body Language, Dog Behavior, update on our WAWP and basics of equine health, some hand-on training in behavioral evaluations of cats and dogs, roundtable discussions, and more. All in all, it was a great learning experience for many and a wonderful opportunity for us all to get together, many SPCA participants meeting each other for the first time.

Members

The members of the SPCA are the backbone of our Welfare Organization. They ensure that we remain a registered organization,

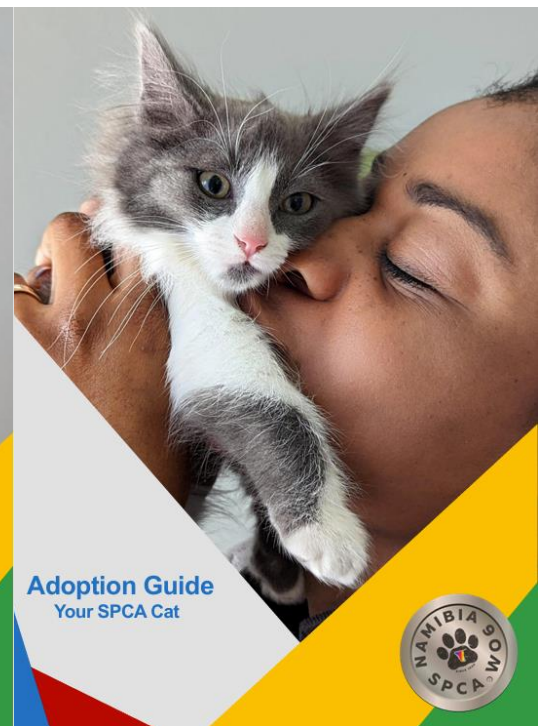
fulfill our mandate and objectives, and are responsible for electing members to the

Management Committee, which provides oversight, guidance, and support to the SPCA. It is thanks to our members that we can continue to do important work for animals in need.

In Windhoek, we have seen the concerning and declining trend in membership over the last few years. Many of our other branches also struggle with retaining and bringing on new members. We encourage all our supporters to join as members of the SPCA and encourage our members to help raise more members.

Governance

The SPCA team has put considerable effort into formalizing aspects of the SPCA, both at headquarters and at the branch levels. To do so, the committee and management are creating a few different manuals to provide guidance for different areas. The goal being to ensure the SPCAs are cohesive, follow the same and best practices, and remove as



much of the administrative burden as possible at branch level so that the teams can focus on what they are passionate about – the animals.

This year, we finalized a comprehensive Committee Manual to help guide and orient incoming new committee members. We also developed a couple of guides for adopters to help with giving some information on all things regarding adding an adopted pet to your family and their care in the form of a Cat Adoption Guide and a Dog Adoption Guide. Lastly, we completed the development of our Animal Welfare Education Curriculum (AWEC), as detailed under the 'Animal Welfare Education' section. All documents and manuals have been circulated and shared with the SPCAs.

Furthermore, the Windhoek team have been busy revising, updating, and adding important documents, of which templates will

be made available to all SPCAs in the coming year. This is to ensure that legal documents, such as surrender forms, adoption contracts, boarding agreements, volunteer indemnity forms etc. are sufficient and comprehensive.

Each month, the Branches are required to submit a monthly report to ensure proper administrative controls and data capturing are in place. This is especially essential to uphold our reporting requirements to MOHSS and at the time of potential handovers from an outgoing committee to an incoming committee.

Community Outreach

If there is one thing, we wish we could do more of, it is community outreach – to equip pet owners with knowledge on responsible pet ownership, how to enhance or maintain



the animal's welfare and wellbeing, and to support with veterinary services, primarily spay and neuter surgeries. Many times, improper animal care is simply the result of a lack of experience and education. We strive to be a reliable and welcoming resource for pet owners.

By focusing on community initiatives, medical interventions, and public support programs in Luderitz,, we are reducing the number of animals that need to come into the shelter while also improving their overall health and welfare. Our goal is to treat and support animals within their environments, preventing issues from escalating and ensuring better outcomes for both the animals and the community. Numerous animals have undergone surgeries, received medical care, and made full recoveries, allowing them to return to their communities or find new homes. These efforts, supported by our partnerships, highlight the success of our community outreach and care programs.

In Oshana, they place a significant amount of time to community outreach by way of educating pet owners. Flyers and business cards are distributed to the community for awareness. The inspector continues to educate pet owners, investigate cases/complaints and assist with pet vaccination.

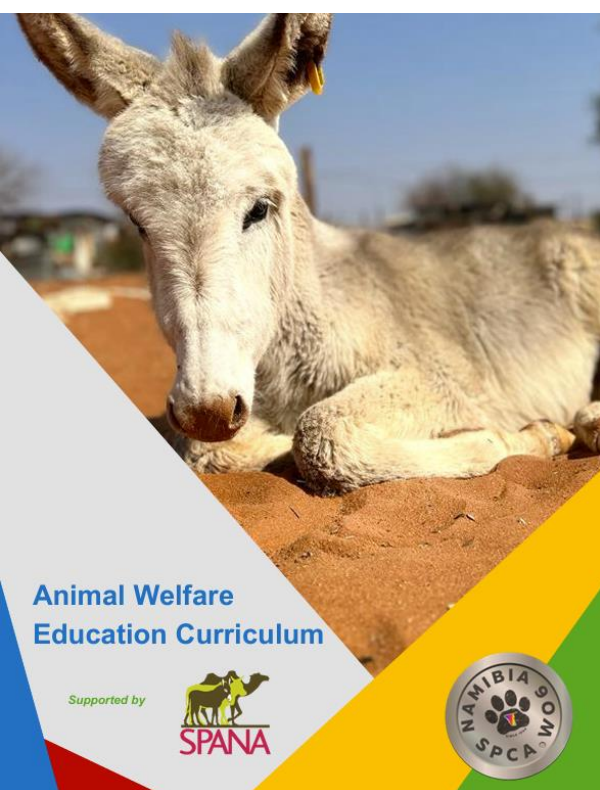
One of the WAWProject's cornerstones is Community Outreach, by educating, supporting, and guiding knowledge and impart skills to better care for their animals. See 'Working Animal Welfare Project' for more information.

The Animal Protection and Welfare Bill

The SPCA has a representative who has been appointed to the ad-hoc Animal Welfare Committee under the Veterinary Council at Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform (MAWLR). The committee have been meeting for a couple of years, working on improving the draft Animal Protection and Welfare Bill 2023. The SPCA Namibia was approached to host a Stakeholder Engagement meeting, which we hosted in March 2024 at Arebbusch conference hall, sponsored by the same. The invitation was shared with a total of 20 animal welfare organizations. In total, there were nearly 30 representatives present from a total of seven animal welfare organizations. We separated into five groups across the participating organizations to facilitate healthy discussions. Each organization's comment being included into the final draft which was submitted to the Ad-Hoc Animal Welfare Committee for review and consideration. The following organizations were present: The SPCA Namibia and its Branches, ARK Rescue and Rehabilitation (ARK), Civilian Animal Protection Unit (CAPU), Have-a-Heart Windhoek (HaH Windhoek), Namibian Animal Welfare Association (NAWA), Triglav Trust (TT), and former Independent Cat Society (ICS). All collectively representing over 250 members and animal welfare professionals.

Animal Welfare Education

Animal Welfare Education (AWE), also known as Humane Education (HE), is an important part of animal welfare, as the youth of today will be the guardians of our animals



in the future. SPCA Namibia developed an Animal Welfare Education Curriculum (AWEC) through our WAWProject. The SPCA decided to adopt 'Animal Welfare Education' over 'Humane Education' in line with SPANA's research regarding the terminology, indicating that non-animal welfare professionals did not understand the term HE, and that the AWE better describes the intention of the education is. The AWEC includes a guide on how to use the curriculum, baseline assessment, a single-contact session tailored to either shelter, school, or field visit, three multiple-contact sessions, and activities, making the AWEC an engaging experience for the learners. The AWEC has been distributed nationally to our branches and we are happy to share it with other organizations as well as directly with teachers and schools to try and expand the reach as much as possible. Our hope is that

the AWEC will be utilized by teachers regardless of whether there being a SPCA or not in their town.

Volunteer Program

Our volunteers play a vital role in all of our SPCAs. A well-functioning volunteer program is key to being able to do more and better by the animals we care for. They provide important support to tasks such as socializing animals, walking dogs, cleaning animal spaces, transporting animals, graphic designing, administrative tasks, fundraising, photographing, planning, and managing events, to name but a few areas.

Some of our SPCAs have very formal volunteer programs and others have informal arrangements, for both long-term and short-term volunteering opportunities.



The SPCA in Grootfontein, established a small, but dedicated volunteer team, all assisting with various needs of the SPCA. The current areas covered by volunteers are responding to animal cruelty complaints, social media, and answering the SPCA phone. This has brought the branch representative some much needed help and sense of community.

The Luderitz team praises their volunteers for the incredible role they play in assisting with rescue and recovery of animals. Trapping and gathering animals to be sterilized, responding to cases, and so much more.

In Otjiwarongo, we have what we call the 'OSS Interactors', young volunteers who come each week to socialize the animals and help with various tasks. It is a long-term initiative which we are very appreciative of. In Keetmanshoop, they had a day of a similar initiative with Keetmanshoop Private School whereby the children helped bathe, dip and clean the dogs and kennels.

In Windhoek, our Volunteer Coordinator (volunteer position) has made some positive strides in further organizing our volunteer program and to make it more efficient and sustainable. Monthly and mandatory volunteer orientations are hosted for new volunteers. For the last three quarters of the year, where we kept records of volunteer contributions, our volunteers collectively donated over 1,300 hours, resulting in 163 working days.

In Tsumeb, the team struggled with support and help from volunteers, but thanks to a committed group of individuals who started to assist this year as far away as the UK, has made a significant contribution and positive impact on everything from daily visits, handling and training of dogs – making them more adoptable, managing building projects, to administrative tasks and social media. A true testament that a great team can accomplish so much more.

Walvis Bay has a committed community and team of volunteers, helping with walking



dogs, fostering kittens, advertising and so much more. In recognition of their efforts, the committee put together appreciation days by providing different sponsored items to their volunteers.

The volunteers truly make a difference in the lives of the animals at the SPCAs and what the organization can do for their community.

Events, Fundraising and Grants

A common activity for several SPCAs is to attend markets. It is a way to create awareness as well as an opportunity to raise some funds.

Nationwide, most of us hosted the national 'Mutt-Strutt' dog walk in September 2023. At some SPCAs it proved to be a successful fundraiser and in others rather an opportunity for the shelter dogs to go for an appreciated walk. Furthermore, each year, for a number of years, the SPCA Windhoek has been invited as a beneficiary of the SAGES Golf

Fundraiser by selling raffle tickets. For the second time, the opportunity was extended to all Branches and collectively we raised just over N\$60,000.00 which was generously distributed by SAGES directly back to each Branch based on how many tickets they sold.

In Windhoek, the team held a handful of in-person events in the fiscal year; the Mutt-Strutt, the Animals by Night, a Quiz Night, two Yard Sales, and Clear the Shelter. The team also hosted several online fundraisers; a calendar contest, Animals by Day - a virtual WhatsApp auction, a Santa Paws drive for the holidays, a Membership Drive, and a fundraiser for Dixie's Fund. We also went to several markets promoting adoptions, served coffee and cake at KIKAWI, and had a ton of fun with both puppy and kitten yoga with The Yoga Shala. Furthermore, we are glad to report that our PAW-sitivity Charity Shop and Bargain Bin raised just over N\$82,000.00 during the year.

The Walvis Bay team also hosted a coloring competition and a Golf Day to raise much needed funds for the animals in their care.



Both Walvis Bay and Windhoek offer merchandise for sale in their shelters. In Windhoek, the shelter retails Hill's (internationally recognized cat and dog food brand) and are also able to sell prescription diets, as we have a registered veterinary clinic. We also sell Bravecto, and stock our store with collars, leashes, dog and cat toys, as well as Ideal Dog Dry Food as new pet owners should do a slow transition of diets when they first bring their adopted dog home. We offer pet microchipping at our clinic to successfully reunite more pets with their owners.

The Keetmanshoop team had a Christmas Table at the Central Lodge whereby members of the public donated items to the shelter pets. They also participated in a market, selling second-hand clothing, doggy treats, and blankets, and hosted a pancake sale stand.

The Otjiwarongo team hosted a Dog Show in conjunction with the national Mutt-Strutt initiative. The event was a success along with another few held throughout the year.

In Tsumeb, the team hosted their first Jumble Sale, whereby donations of sale items came from various regions across Namibia, thanks to our effective marketing efforts and support from our growing network of core supporters.

The Grootfontein team hosted a successful Gala which raised much needed funds. With a very small team, events take a backseat amongst everything else that needs to be managed.

An important part of covering expenses is the municipal agreement several of the branches have in their towns as they fulfill the animal impound services in their municipalities. In Windhoek, the municipal grant of just over N\$709,000.00 was received at the beginning of the FY. This is the largest payment received to date and the first time in a long time that the COW has paid in full for the services provided by the SPCA. The SPCA has struggled for years to receive proper payments for the services provided as the municipal pound.



Communication

Communicating and educating our members of the public is an important task carried out by the SPCA. Most media interactions are carried out by the SPCA Namibia and Windhoek team. We have very good working relationships with Radiowave, HitRadio, German NBC, National NBC, Nova FM, and Kosmos, and are often featured on these channels. We have official collaborations with weekly features with 'Mission PAWsible' at Radiowave, 'Schnuffle Ecke' at HitRadio up until January 2024, and the German NBC, 'SPCA Corner' at National NBC. We are also excited to share that we have a weekly feature on Good Morning Namibia on Saturdays by NBC TV, where the team speaks about a wide range of animal and pet ownership topics.

The headquarters team send out weekly notifications to various media entities and has received great support and coverage, not only on the radio channels, but also through Namibia Media Holdings, and some TV appearances too.

All SPCAs rely heavily on social media, primarily Facebook, but some on Instagram too, for quick and easy communication, adoption ads, lost and found announcements, events marketing, call for action and more.



Communication and Media Highlights

Radio, Newspaper, and TV Interviews and Features

227 +

Notices, Newsletters, and Press-releases

60 +

Featured 2 out of 3 days
How often SPCA animal welfare messages in the media are featured

Hot Topics
Animal welfare, animal care tips, PSAs, adoption promotions, dog slaughter, campaigns and more



Building and Maintenance

To date, all branches but Grootfontein and Oshana have an official animal shelter and/or a municipal property from which they can operate. The SPCA in Grootfontein does however have kennels on a private property where they take in a limited number of animals. For those that do not have a shelter, it puts limitations on their capacity to take in animals.

Many of the SPCAs' buildings are old and in constant need of renovations, upgrades and maintenance. Animal shelters have a high rate of wear and tear due to the harsh weather conditions, many animals, and strong chemicals to keep the kennels and cages sanitary. In Windhoek, we are glad to report that thanks to a generous grant we renovated our four 'Sunshine Puppy Kennels' which had not been renovated since the early 2000s, we finished repainting our boarding cat room, and two quarantine cattery holds, as well as the cages in male cat rehoming, and all wooden dog houses.

We replaced sand in our dog yards and fixed many kennel gates that were breaking due to rust, and painting of the same commenced not long thereafter.

After signing the MOU with their Municipality and access was given to the property to be used for the local impound, the SPCA in Keetmanshoop started renovations at the end of April. By the end of the FY, they had twelve quarantine cages for cats, four large catteries for adoptable cats, six dog kennels and two store rooms.

The Otjiwarongo's shelter had not seen any major renovations in a while, and were well due for some. They started renovating their kennels and finished 10 which now work and look great.

In May 2024, GI Construction generously offered to renovate the SPCA Tsumeb's entire front entrance, including the sliding gate, the area outside the property, and the front fence. Their support has been



invaluable in reducing costs for these necessary upgrades.

In Walvis Bay, they invested in renovating and expanding their boarding facilities in order to better take care of animals boarding with them and hopefully increase revenue as the need for boarding at the coastal town is high.

Vehicles

Indongo Toyota are incredible supporters of animal welfare and have sponsored vehicles for the following SPCAs: Oshana, Otjiwarongo, Walvis Bay, and Windhoek. Last year the Lüderitz and Tsumeb team also added vehicles to their fleet. Currently, it is only Keetmanshoop and Grootfontein branches which do not have official SPCA vehicles and they make use of private vehicles for SPCA business.

Last year, the Windhoek team suffered the loss of two vehicles, but we are glad to share

that three new vehicles were added, with one old vehicle pending retirement. Indongo Toyota generously sponsored a Toyota Avanza for SPCA's use. Funding had been budgeted from a large bequest received in FY23 for a new vehicle; a Suzuki Ecco. And lastly, the SPCA was given a 4x4 through a bequest which was sold and the funds received was used to buy a Hilux bakkie for field trips and other and larger transport needs.

Adoption and Creative Solutions

This past year, the SPCA in Windhoek has continued adoption efforts by advertising multiple times daily on social media and by starting to attend markets. The push comes from the negative trend in adoptions which is possibly due to a saturated market, more groups in Windhoek offering adoptions, and the continued difficult financial climate. The matter of more groups offering adoptions is,



however, a good thing, as ultimately the more homeless pets adopted to loving and responsible homes, the better, regardless of where they come from.

2. Dogs' long-standing role as companion animals, and
3. Public health risks associated with the consumption of eating dog meat.

Dog Slaughter

In July 2023, a case came to light of a pet dog that was stolen, slaughtered for human consumption. The case and the practice caused a public uproar. In Namibia, there has historically been and are instances of human consumption of dog meat. However, this is by no means as to say that all Namibians nor any specific group of individuals partake in the practice of eating dog meat. We believe it is crucial that SPCA Namibia and its Branches make our position clear on the matter of eating dogs. We do not support or condone the slaughter of dogs for human consumption. There are three core reasons for this position:

1. Current methods of dog slaughters are inhumane,

Food Distribution

We are excited to share that we have formed a partnership with Tauber & Corssen (T&C) and FP Du Toit Transport Group whereby T&C donate food to the SPCA Namibia, we organize what pallet should go where, and FP Du Toit sponsors and transports the food around the country. The first donation comprised over 30 pallets of pet food. The SPCA distributes the food to all SPCA Branches and other registered animal welfare organizations. The effect of this initiative has a major and positive impact on all groups involved. We look forward to continuing this wonderful partnership and hope to expand those we are able to help. To date, T&C have donated over N\$1 million worth of pet food.



The Year Ahead

As an organization, we constantly strive to improve ourselves and to stay up to date with best practices in order to do the best that we can by the animals who need us. As one-year ends, and the next comes along, we look at the new year with a set of fresh eyes and hopes of what we may accomplish. There is never a shortage of dreams which we wish and would like to do across our programs. We constantly aim to improve what we do, to stay abreast of best practices and new ideas, of which some are achievable in the near future, and others perhaps only down the line, be it with more adoptions, expand volunteer programs, or completely new project initiatives. In the year ahead, there are a few things that each of us aims to focus on.

FINANCIAL OUTLOOK

Being a non-profit, the SPCAs always have to be mindful of their expenditure, oftentimes turning every dollar before it is spent. Some of the SPCAs still have comfortable savings and investments in FY25, with a few still considering investing in positive upgrades of their shelters; see 'Shelter Facilities'. As most SPCAs are reliant on donations and income generating activities, such as adoption fees, stray fees, and boarding fees, we all have to supplement our revenue with fundraisers, events, grant applications, and sponsorship requests. Securing monthly donors goes a long way to ensure sufficient cashflow throughout the year. Furthermore, most of us continuously pursue in-kind donations of products and services to offset our expenses.



EVENTS, FUNDRAISING, CAMPAIGNS, AND GRANTS

Being a welfare organization, raising funds for the animals in our care is an important responsibility. In the coming year, we all have plans of upcoming events and joint initiatives. The first joint venture will be the annual national dog walk, the Mutt-Strutt, which will be hosted in September 2024, followed by Adopt A Shelter Dog Month in October, Spay and Neuter Awareness Month in 2025, followed by Clear the Shelter and Adopt A Shelter Cat Month in June.

The Windhoek team has a fully planned calendar of in-person events, virtual fundraisers, grant applications and are expanding their pet product supply shop.

BRANCH VISITS

The branch visits have proven to be great opportunities to connect, learn, train, guide and support our branches. The trips are supported by specific grant funding which enables the SPCA to focus on capacity building to make a lasting impact. We have decided to do branch visits every two years, unless more are necessitated, and an in-person workshop the opposite year, as funding will not allow for both in a year.

SHELTER FACILITIES

Many of the SPCAs have old, worn, and weathered shelter facilities, often in dire need of renovations and improvements of our facilities. Each year, many of us try to break the projects down to manageable activities and tackle one or more a year, to balance management, disruptions to



operations and care of animals, and financial considerations.

This coming year, the Windhoek team have made plans to do plenty of painting jobs and an upgrade to their CCTV setup, and hopes to renovate their two rehoming catteries, the office building, and their stray kennels. The latter project is in the works with design being drawn up by an architect, a land survey has already been completed. The demolishing of the very old, damaged, and not ideal stray kennels will be a huge undertaking and funded through a large bequest as a significant investment in the upgrade in care of stray and new dogs coming to the SPCA. The kennels are being designed in such a way that they minimize cross-contamination, a number of kennels will be designed to be able to safely handle and care for aggressive dogs and there will be more dog yards for the dogs to play in. The building will also have an intake veterinary room with temporary kennels for transit, a behavioral assessment room, a storeroom, and a washing area to avoid dirty water flowing down the property.

In Keetmanshoop, the team hopes to finish our building project so that we can have the necessary facilities to use for both dogs and cats. In Oshana, they hope to finally secure a permanent office space for the SPCA. The Otjiwarongo team also have some building and maintenance projects in mind to upgrade their facility.

As part of the SPCA Lüderitz' ongoing commitment to providing the best care for animals in need, they will continue to enhance our shelter's infrastructure. Planned projects include upgrading the dog kennels, creating dedicated space for their working cat program, and improving the staff quarters

to support the well-being of the dedicated team.

In Tsumeb, we have made significant progress in securing funding and donations for essential renovations in FY25 at our premises, including perimeter fence repairs, improvements to the cattery, essential kennel repairs, and the restoration of our dog dip. These upgrades are critical to maintaining the safety and wellbeing of the animals in our care. Once the dog dip is operational, we plan to offer this service to the community, which will generate a modest revenue stream. Additionally, the refurbishment of our kennels and cattery will allow us to advertise boarding services, showcasing our secure and upgraded facilities.

ANIMAL SERVICES

Some of the SPCAs have strong municipal agreements and support, while others struggle to get compensated for the services they provide to their municipality. Some have no official agreements with their municipalities. The SPCA in Windhoek has made some advances in coming to an agreement with their municipality and aim to negotiate better compensation for the dog impound services currently provided for the City of Windhoek. The Lüderitz team are also busy negotiating with their Town Council.



COMMUNITY SUPPORT

We are all considering ways to provide support to members of the community. Be it

The Lüderitz team will continue to collaborate with HaH Namibia and local veterinarians, focusing on reducing stray animal populations and preventing unwanted litters of pets. Expanding the reach to more remote areas and rural communities will be a priority.

In Otjiwarongo, they would like to focus on TNR, seeing a large population of stray/feral cats.

The SPCA Windhoek team are excited about launching a new initiative 'sPay-It-Forward' whereby members of the public can buy a voucher which the organization will dedicate to an animal in need. The target audience being mamas that come in with litters

whereby owners are unable to sterilize their pet, and if we don't sterilize them will have more litters, or if we were to take them in, would most likely be replaced by another pet. Feral cats and other pets whereby the owners are unable to afford the cost of sterilization will also be the recipients of this initiative. We aim to continue our ASAD efforts which provide reduced sterilization costs for those who may be able to afford a lesser amount, but not full private veterinary fees.



WORKSHOP

We aim to host a virtual workshop for all the SPCAs this year as we all met in person last year. The workshops have proven to not only be great learning opportunities, but an opportunity for the SPCAs to get together in a collaborative environment and a dose of motivation to continue to improve and provide the best care possible for the animals we shelter. Animal Welfare Education

Our AWE outreach is one that we all wish we could do more of, all of us realizing how important it is both for children and our animals. Many of us aim to deepen our engagement with schools and children either by facilitating shelter visits or us visiting schools.

GOVERNANCE

The importance of good governance never stops, and it is a responsibility that the management committee and headquarters take seriously. Some big tasks lie ahead of us; an Administrative Manual, an Operations Manual, How To Start A SPCA Branch Guide, and templates for standard documents and agreements. Many of the smaller branches simply do not have the time or resources to work on projects like these

and we want to enable them to focus on what is most important - the animals - whilst still ensuring every SPCA is managed with good governance. The SPCA Namibia plans to open an Online Library where all important documentation will be stored and can be accessed by the SPCAs.

Recap of FY 2024



5,284

ANIMALS RESCUED



730

ANIMALS ADOPTED



858

ANIMALS REUNITED
WITH THEIR OWNERS



1,853 +

ANIMALS COLLECTED



717 +

ANIMAL COMPLAINTS
ATTENDED



442 +

PRE-ADOPTION HOUSE
CHECKS



N\$ 8,186,749

INCOME



N\$ 8,326,311

EXPENSES



N\$ 139,562

DEFICIT



1,043

ANIMALS STERILIZED



1,052 +

ANIMALS GIVEN
SPECIAL TREATMENTS/
SURGERIES



3,630

VACCINATIONS
ADMINISTERED



287

MEDIA FEATURES,
NEWSLETTERS,
NOTICES



67

STAFF (34) AND
COMMITTEE (33)



670 +

ANIMALS STILL
LOOKING FOR HOMES
AT THE END OF THE
FISCAL YEAR



In Appreciation

On behalf of all the SPCAs, we wish to express our deep gratitude to our members, volunteers, donors and sponsors, adopters, partners and collaborators, and our communities. To our members, your commitment, advocacy, and involvement in animal welfare has helped create a more compassionate community for animals in need. To our volunteers, the time, energy, and compassion for animals have been the backbone of our efforts. Thank you for always stepping up, no matter what the challenge. To our donors and sponsors, your financial contributions make all the difference, enabling us to be there for the animals who need us, expand our reach, and continue to grow and build a better future for animals. To our adopters, you literally give a second chance in life for pets across the nation, for that, we could not thank you enough. To our partners and collaborators,

thank you for supporting the SPCAs, sharing your expertise, and for promoting animal welfare. Each and every one of you are important for animal welfare and the SPCA's mission. Together, we have made significant strides in improving the lives of animals, and we look forward to continuing this journey with all of you.



Report Details

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Report was reviewed, edited, and approved by:

- Linda Dodds, Chairperson SPCA Namibia-Windhoek
- Richard Steinbach, Treasurer, SPCA Namibia-Windhoek

Report resources:

- SPCA Namibia – Grootfontein Branch - Annual Report of Activities FY24 and SPCA Grootfontein Branch Annual Financial Statement FY24
- SPCA Namibia – Keetmanshoop Branch - Annual Report of Activities FY24 and SPCA Keetmanshoop Branch Annual Financial Statement FY24
- SPCA Namibia – Lüderitz Branch - Annual Report of Activities FY24 and SPCA Lüderitz Branch Annual Financial Statement FY24
- SPCA Namibia – Oshana Branch – Annual Report of Activities FY24 and SPCA Oshana Branch Annual Financial Statement FY24
- SPCA Namibia - Otjiwarongo Branch - Annual Report of Activities FY24 and SPCA Otjiwarongo Branch Annual Financial Statement FY24

- SPCA Namibia - Tsumeb Branch - Annual Report of Activities FY24 and SPCA Tsumeb Branch Annual Financial Statement FY24
- SPCA Namibia – Walvis Bay Branch - Annual Report of Activities FY24 and SPCA Walvis Bay Branch Annual Financial Statement FY24
- SPCA Namibia-Windhoek Annual Financial Statement FY24
- SPCA Windhoek – Monthly Individual Department Reports FY24





Buttercup, a beautiful, young female Yorkie was left in our SPCA Windhoek drop-box together with three other Yorkies. The four Yorkies had been picked up in a field and were all in very poor condition. They were malnourished, matted and dirty. We took them to our groomer, where they were all shaved to help get rid of the dirty and matted hair to give them some relief from the discomfort. Buttercup was examined medically, was found to have an eye infection, started on medication and given good food and fresh

water. With lots of love and treatment Buttercup and the other three Yorkies were gaining weight and growing stronger. Buttercup was made available for adoption, and it was not long before a family fell in love with her and welcomed her into their family. We were able to provide medical support to Buttercup and her friends thanks to the supporters of SPCA, because you believe they deserve a second chance in life.