



**HUMANE SOCIETY
INTERNATIONAL**



SUMMARY REPORT

2023



**HUMANE SOCIETY
INTERNATIONAL**

AFRICA



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The year 2023 marked tremendous growth and impact for the Humane Society International/Africa office, as we saw a significant expansion in our team and program work. Our emphasis on policy and legal reform across all campaigns continued, coupled with an expansion of fieldwork in our elephant immunocontraception, companion animal and farmed animal outreach programs.

We extend a heartfelt THANK YOU to all our supporters, partners, donors, funders and friends. Your unwavering support has been instrumental in our success, enabling us to celebrate many victories for animals in 2023. We are looking forward to another year of advancing the welfare of animals in Africa together!

1. WILDLIFE PROTECTION



1.1 ENDING TROPHY HUNTING OF ICONIC SOUTH AFRICAN WILDLIFE

In 2023 HSI/Africa:

- Submitted 11 freedom of information requests to monitor compliance with the April 2022 interdict restricting the national Department of Forestry Fisheries and the Environment and provincial wildlife authorities from issuing permits for the hunting and export of leopard, black rhino and African elephant. Hunting and export of these species is currently prohibited as a result of a legal challenge to the permitting process brought by HSI/Africa in 2022.
- Challenged the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment's (DFFE) policy position on trophy hunting and sustainable use of wildlife through multiple engagements via in-person attendance at five government roadshows/consultations, and 10 written comments on proposed new policies and processes, notably the Draft Policy Position on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Elephant, Lion, Leopard and Rhinoceros and the updated Threatened and Protected Species Regulations and Species Lists.
- Continued to represent and promote the welfare interests of wildlife through participation at the first four official meetings of the Minister's Wildlife Well-Being Forum. HSI/Africa was elected to the position of Standing Chair of this forum until the end of the 2023/24 financial year, which will allow us to further highlight welfare deficiencies in national policies and practices.
- Pushed for more transparency, cooperation and the development of regional management plans between African range states for management of large carnivore species (lion, leopard, cheetah and wild dogs) across the continent through engagements with range state representatives and conservation agencies and NGOs at the international CITES-CMS African Carnivore Initiative meeting in Uganda.
- Participated in the first Global Leopard Conference, which sought to address the latest research relating to leopards, their local and global populations, and their long-term survival prospects in the wild. This information is used in critically assessing DFFE data, which is often used to substantiate leopard hunting permits.
- Maintained pressure on the DFFE and the Minister, through written submissions and Parliamentary questions, to explain their continued use of CITES export permits for the exportation of giraffe hunting trophies, despite there being no finalised Non Detriment Finding (NDF), a key requirement under the CITES framework for the trade in listed species. HSI/Africa is building a case demonstrating noncompliance with the CITES convention and national regulatory and public participation frameworks.

In 2024 HSI/Africa will:

- Continue to challenge DFFE decision-making in regard to the trophy hunting of threatened and protected species, and advocate for proper transparency in how hunting allowances are determined concerning trophy hunting and permitting.
- Use its position as Chair of the Minister's Wildlife Well-Being Forum to raise critical welfare and well-being concerns such as trophy hunting, export of live animals outside of their natural ranges, and intensive breeding within the wildlife industry with Government. Ensure that policy relating to trophy hunting standards, procedures and practices are evaluated and developed, whilst ensuring that they remain consistent with the Constitution and the National Environmental Management Act.
- Continue to investigate and campaign against the inappropriate issuance of CITES permits for the export of giraffe and other species that do not have current NDFs.

1.2 CAPTIVE LION BREEDING

In 2023 HSI/Africa:

- Continued to pressurise the Minister for an end to the captive lion breeding industry by first raising the lack of progress made by the DFFE in implementing the High-Level Panel recommendations to the Government's Portfolio Committee on Forestry Fisheries and the Environment through a presentation on the "Status of Lion Breeding and the Hunting of Captive Breed Lions".
- Raised welfare and conservation concerns regarding the Minister's plans for voluntary exit options by participating in the NGO engagement session with the Minister's Lion Task Team. Together with the greater conservation community we further sought to influence the outcomes and findings of this task team by providing written comments detailing the minimum requirements and conditions necessary for any future voluntary exit option.
- Revealed the extent of the lion bone trade to Southeast Asia originating from South African captive lion breeders, by undertaking

extensive research into the nature of South African CITES import and export data. This research identified irregularities with the permitting process, which have been raised directly with the Minister.

- Submitted nine freedom of information requests to evaluate the present permitting of the captive lion breeding industry, including, holding, transferring and international export of captive lions. These requests have revealed multiple concerning aspects of the permitting of the industry which are being addressed with the DFFE through written comments.
- Challenged the DFFE's proposed draft policy position regarding the future of the captive lion industry and recent regulations banning the establishment of new captive lion facilities. Public consultation opportunities were utilised to highlight the lack of progress on implementing the High-Level Panel recommendations and to maintain pressure and focus on ensuring that the DFFE continues to honour its May 2021 commitment to completely close the industry.
- After a long multiyear process, HSI/Africa successfully assisted in securing the release and placement of two ex-captive bred lions, Mufasa and Soraya, at The Lions Foundation. For the first week post-release, they were housed in separate, neighbouring enclosures but are now reunited and are thriving in their new environment.



In 2024 HSI/Africa will:

- Continue to press the Minister and the DFFE for an immediate ban on the breeding of lions in captivity and the hunting of captive-bred lions.
- Engage the Minister’s Lion Task Team on their final recommendations for voluntary exit options and provide supporting evidence of any uncovered permitting irregularities and welfare concerns regarding specific facilities. We aim to ensure that the Minister and the DFFE maintain their commitment to a full closure of the industry.
- Repeatedly highlight any further delays and lack of progress on closing the captive lion breeding industry with the public through media and educational campaigns.
- Continue to investigate and bring to the DFFE’s attention permitting transgressions relating to commercial lion bones and derivatives being exported out of South Africa, as well as any other irregularities or welfare concerns regarding the current permitting of lion facilities.



1.3 STRENGTHENING WILDLIFE AND BIODIVERSITY PROTECTION; PROMOTING NONCONSUMPTIVE UTILISATION THROUGH POLICY, LEGISLATIVE, REGULATORY DEVELOPMENT AND COMPLIANCE

In 2023 HSI/Africa:

- Sought to ensure that well-being and welfare considerations were incorporated into the revision process for the Black and White Rhino Biodiversity Plans, by participating and in a Governmental consultation and engagement workshop.

In 2024 HSI/Africa will:

- Continue to promote a high degree of welfare requirements in any and all biodiversity management plans that are developed.

1.4 PROMOTING ELEPHANT IMMUNOCONTRACEPTION AS AN ALTERNATIVE TO CULLING AND/OR LETHAL CONTROL AND EX-SITU RELOCATION:

In 2023 HSI/Africa:

- Continued the administration of elephant immunocontraception to reserves outside of the Greater Kruger National Park, bringing the total reserves participating in the program to 48 and the number of elephant cows treated to approximately 1,660. Considering that every female elephant can produce 8 to 10 calves in her lifetime, the exponential effect of the program is considerable.
- In April, the immunocontraception team presented information at the first IUCN International Conference on Human-Wildlife Conflict and Coexistence in Oxford, entitled “*Immunocontraception can mitigate human elephant conflict in the medium to long-term through the reduction of local elephant density.*”

- Worked with numerous landowners and reserve managers to humanely mitigate against human-elephant conflict, specifically fence-breaking behaviours, through novel and cost-effective techniques and early-warning systems.
- The immunocontraception team, led by Dr Audrey Delsink, published a paper in *Wildlife Research* entitled *“Immunocontraception of the female African savanna elephant (Loxodonta africana) in South Africa: from pipe dream to policy.”*
- Together with our partner Global Supplies, deployed three satellite collars on female elephants on partner reserves in Limpopo, Eastern Cape and Kwa-Zulu Natal. This brings the number of HSI/Africa collared elephants in the field to 12. These collars help to monitor elephant movements and promote human-elephant coexistence.
- Contributed to the Elephant Heritage Development Strategy.
- Participated in the Workshop on the Outcomes of the Elephant Research Project conducted in line with the South African Elephant Research Strategy.
- Provided the Elephant Reintegration Trust’s (ERT) Greater Elephant Welfare Project with a financial grant to aid and develop welfare parameters for elephants on reserves, including the monitoring of: a) captive elephants newly reintegrated back to the wild; and b) researching hormonal management of African bull elephants and their behaviour on South African reserves.
- Provided Conservation Outcomes with a financial grant to support activities related to African elephant immunocontraception through the funding of Community Elephant Monitors at Community Elephant Reserve’s participating in HSI’s immunocontraception program under CO’s direction.

In 2024 HSI/Africa will:

- Continue to administer immunocontraception to elephant cows in small to very large private, community, provincial and national parks, thus reducing pressures to cull or use other lethal methods to control the animals.
- Continue to promote nonlethal and novel ways to mitigate human-elephant conflict and promote coexistence.
- Continue to avail our expertise to landowners, reserve managers, governments and provincial and management authorities as well as other range state governments and NGOs for immunocontraception assistance and human-elephant mitigation techniques.
- Continue to support Conservation Outcomes and the Community Monitors at Community Reserves through our immunocontraception programme at specified reserves under CO’s direction. Deploy an additional five satellite collars as part of our ongoing research and monitoring initiatives at new and existing elephant immunocontraception reserves and human-elephant conflict mitigation strategies.

1.5 2023 OTHER WILDLIFE WORK:

In 2023 HSI/Africa:

- Supported the African Pangolin Working Group (APWG) with a financial grant for the conservation and protection of all four African pangolin species, but specifically the Temminck’s Ground pangolin, by generating knowledge, developing partnerships and creating public awareness and education initiatives in South Africa and pangolin range states. The pangolin is the most trafficked mammal on earth; the APWG is instrumental in creating information networks and capacity building between veterinarians, law enforcement, provincial management



authorities, anti-poaching units and reserve managers and landowners, who all come together to protect this highly threatened and endangered species.

- Together with the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment, the Struisbaai Harbour Master and the 2 Oceans Aquarium, facilitated the raising of information signs of Cape Clawless Otters at otter hotspots across the City of Cape Town to educate the public about human-otter interaction and otter needs.
- In response to a number of instances where lions and tigers escaped from enclosures in or near residential areas, we launched a petition (hsi.org/BigCatsSA) urging the Government to instigate laws to prevent the keeping of large cats as pets.
- Supported the Johannesburg Wildlife Veterinary Hospital with a financial grant to assist with the rescue, rehabilitation and release of small wild animals.
- Together with HSI/Europe, HSI/Africa supported the Game Ranger Association of Africa with a grant to assist the GRAA's Ranger Support Initiative through the RangerCare and RangerSkills Programmes. Rangers are the front line in conservation, and we are proud to be able to assist the GRAA with holistic support for these eco-warriors. We are delighted that our donation was matched by the Tusk Trust as part of its 2023 Wildlife Ranger Challenge.

In 2024 HSI/Africa will:

- Continue to support initiatives to protect endangered and threatened species such as the pangolin with a focus on direct and indirect measures to combat illegal trade.
- Continue to pressure the government into introducing adequate legislation to prevent the keeping of large cats as pets and as ambassador species in South Africa.
- Continue to campaign against direct human-wildlife interactions across all sectors with the public and government through education materials and policy reform.



2. FARMED ANIMALS

2.1 ENDING CRUEL CONFINEMENT

In 2023 HSI/Africa:

- Lobbied major South African food retailers to convert to cage-free procurement practices. Support and global expertise from HSI has resulted in one significant retailer committing internally to announce a cage-free egg commitment in 2024. When implemented, this commitment will not only result in much-improved welfare for the millions of hens supplying this business but will also be a catalyst in moving the other retailers toward similar commitments.
- Supported Hotel Verde Cape Town, which continues to carry the title of Africa's Greenest Hotel, to implement its crate-free commitment for pork. However, instead of choosing producers who do not use gestation crates, the hotel went the extra mile after seeing the benefits of using a pasture-raised producer with the highest welfare standards. Their pork is now sourced from pigs who spend their lives in the pasture.



- Engaged with Marriott Hotels to support the implementation of its global cage-free commitment and guided the company on responsible sourcing of pork from pigs who are not kept in gestation crates.
- Identified major egg and pork producers to support the commitments made by corporations that are working with us on ending the cruel confinement of hens and pigs.



In 2024 HSI/Africa will:

- Continue to work with retailers, hotels and restaurant groups to encourage them to commit to sourcing only 100% cage-free egg and crate-free pork products.
- Continue to engage with those companies who have made cage and crate-free commitments and assist with their transition.
- Continue to engage with producers on improved welfare standards, specifically eliminating cages for egg-laying hens and crates for breeding sows, to support the ever-growing interest from corporations to transition to a more ethical supply chain for their customers and sustainable business goals.

2.2 NATIONAL STANDARDS

In 2023 HSI/Africa:

- Worked through the technical group on farmed animal welfare standards to improve minimum standards settings for pigs, which included proposed new wording that acknowledges the use of crates is inconsistent with good welfare and must be phased out.

In 2024 HSI/Africa will:

- Work with the SABS on finalising new National Standards for chicken, hens, rabbits, and dairy cow welfare.

2.3. ENVIRONMENTAL NONCOMPLIANCE

(including chicken, laying hen, rabbit and dairy cow welfare)

In 2023 HSI/Africa:

- Completed a regulatory audit on 37 industrial animal agriculture facilities, covering broiler chicken, egg-laying hen and pig facilities across all provinces in South Africa. The audit established many of them to be noncompliant with environmental and waste management permitting. Various strategies on how this information could be used to positively impact animals were developed in response to this.

In 2024 HSI/Africa will:

- Implement a strategy to challenge the environmental noncompliance, forcing industrial-scale animal production facilities to properly address waste and water emissions, thus ending an informal subsidy for meat production, protecting the environment and stimulating policy discussion regarding food system reform away from industrial animal agriculture in South Africa.

2.4. PIGS TO PLANTS TRANSITION PROGRAM

In 2023 HSI/Africa:

- Identified three sites and developed partnership agreements to reduce the number of pigs bred and slaughtered in informal urban settlements. HSI developed a roadmap for stakeholders to progressively phase out cruel informal pig production and slaughter in these three sites, and to support alternative plant-based revenue streams for affected persons.



In 2024 HSI/Africa will:

- Implement the agreed road maps in all three sites to reduce cruelty and progressively transition livelihoods in informal areas away from low-welfare pig production, in favour of sustainable plant-based agriculture. This is a more sustainable solution which will provide additional income and food security for local communities.



2.5. PLANT-BASED SOLUTIONS

In 2023 HSI/Africa:

- Conducted training with the chefs at South Africa's largest independent cooking school, Capsicum Culinary School, at all six of their schools nationwide. They have incorporated plant-based cooking into their third-year students' curriculum.
- Conducted training at Highlands House frail care facility and trained their chefs on plant-based cooking. The institution offers 100% vegan meals every Monday and serves approximately 1,050 meals a day (350 per sitting). This accounts to 54,600 plant-based meals annually.
- Worked with a leading food retailer, Woolworths, to launch and promote its Plant Love plant-based campaign in January.
- Created and distributed a Green Monday SA go-to guide to assist South Africans in cooking and consuming more plant-based meals at home.
- Created and distributed a Vegan Map of Cape Town brochure to assist the public in finding vegan-friendly restaurants in the city, encouraging them to consume plant-based meals.
- Created and distributed a Vegan Map of Gqeberha brochure to assist the public in finding vegan-friendly restaurants in the city, encouraging them to consume plant-based meals.
- Secured a partnership with the Reserve Bank of South Africa to implement the Green Monday SA meat-reduction campaign in its canteens. They serve approximately 1,200 meals per day.
- Secured a partnership with the Cape Town International Convention Center to conduct plant-based culinary training with their kitchen staff and assist in plant-based menu development for events.



- Initiated communication regarding meat-reduction implementation at Vaal University of Technology.
- Continued to lobby government to withdraw its discriminatory campaign against plant-based foodstuffs and challenged state policy on the mislabeling of animal-based products as well as the labelling of meat analogues.

In 2024 HSI/Africa will:

- Continue engagement with educational and corporate institutions on implementing the Green Monday SA program, aiming to secure three new partnerships.
- Implement the Green Monday SA program at the Reserve Bank of South Africa's corporate canteen and conduct culinary training with the kitchen staff.
- Pitch the Green Monday SA program to Vaal University of Technology and possibly conduct culinary training with the kitchen staff.
- Provide the Cape Town Convention Centre kitchen staff with plant-based culinary training and assist with plant-based catering and menu development for its events.
- Reach out to government and municipalities to reduce the consumption of animal products and increase their knowledge about the benefits of plant-based consumption.



2.6. BUILDING A STRONGER FARMED ANIMAL PROTECTION MOVEMENT

In 2023 HSI/Africa:

- Continued to drive collaborative meetings for the Farmed Animal Alliance in South Africa. The alliance engaged on several issues, including a study commissioned by the South African Poultry Association on the viability of cage-free eggs in this country, comments on draft food labelling regulations, and a position statement on animal welfare that will be used to push political parties to construct a political strategy to improve the protection of animals in South Africa.

In 2024 HSI/Africa will:

- Continue to help coordinate and drive farmed animal issues across the industry in a meaningful way through a growing Farmed Animal Alliance, engendering more support for our priority initiatives.



3. COMPANION ANIMAL ENGAGEMENT

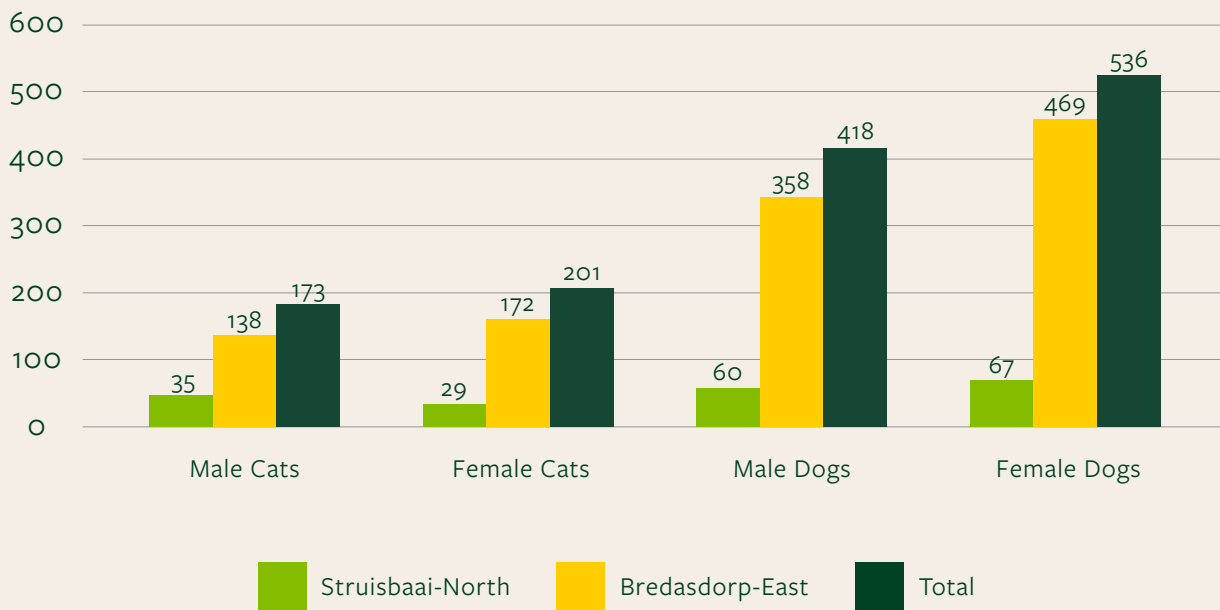
3.1. IMPROVING THE LIVES OF COMMUNITIES AND PETS THROUGH OUR HEALTHY PETS, HEALTHIER COMMUNITY PROGRAM

In 2023 HSI/Africa:

- Conducted seven sterilisation and vaccination outreaches since the launch of our Healthy Pets, Healthier Community program in December 2022, sterilising a total of 1,328 community cats and dogs, whilst providing primary vet care to many more. This program is conducted in partnership with the Cape Agulhas Municipality and Envirovet CVC, in coordination with local partner organisations Luv4Pets and Animal Anti-Cruelty League, Bredasdorp. Each animal received a “pamper pack” complete with stainless steel food bowl, brush, toy, pet food, shampoo, tick or flea collar (cats) and collar and leash (dogs).



Healthy Pets, Healthier Community Sterilisation Statistics Dec 2022 - Nov 2023



TVT = Canine transmissible venereal tumors

In 2024 HSI/Africa will:

- Conduct a follow-up Monitoring, Evaluation, Impact and Assessment (MEIA) Survey post the June 2022 survey to gauge the Healthy Pets, Healthier Community program's progress.
- Based on the MEIA's results, reevaluate the needs and continue the program in the Bredasdorp East and Struisbaai North communities.
- Start to identify possible new venues to replicate the benchmark Healthy Pets, Healthier Community program.
- Continue to educate pet owners about responsible pet ownership, which is crucial to ensure the well-being of animals. This goal will be achieved by providing resources and information on proper sustainable nutrition and regular veterinary care. It could also include promoting spay/neuter programs to prevent pet overpopulation.
- Increase access to affordable veterinary care: Many pet owners in South Africa face financial barriers to providing adequate veterinary care for their animals. To address this, the goal should be to enhance access to affordable veterinary services by working with veterinary clinics, creating mobile clinics, or establishing subsidized programs for low-income pet owners.
- Foster community engagement in enhancing the welfare of companion animals through the provision of volunteer opportunities, the implementation of outreach programs, and the facilitation of educational workshops.
- Engage with schools, community centers and local businesses to raise awareness and encourage responsible pet ownership.

3.2 BUILDING A STRONGER COMPANION ANIMAL PROTECTION MOVEMENT THROUGH THE CAPE ANIMAL WELFARE FORUM AND LOCAL MUNICIPALITIES

In 2023 HSI/Africa:

- Dr Audrey Delsink presented at the fourth International Companion Animal Management Coalition (ICAM) Virtual Conference on '[A one health approach through "Healthy Pets, Healthier Community" program in low-income communities of South Africa](#)' on behalf of the Companion Animal and Engagement team. The focus of this program ensures that dogs and cats living in the underserved communities of our pilot study areas, Bredasdorp East and Struisbaai North, have access to basic, primary veterinary care.
- Hosted a participatory workshop on how to use animal law to protect companion animals with 35 animal welfare organisations in the Western Cape, including City of Cape Town Law Enforcement personnel. The focus was on using the Animals Protection Act and the City of Cape Town Animal Keeping Bylaw to protect animals from deliberate cruelty and neglect.



In 2024 HSI/Africa will:

- Foster collaboration among animal welfare organizations, veterinary professionals and government agencies to share resources, expertise and best practices. In addition, HSI/Africa plans to establish a legal framework to formalize the agreement among various parties in the Cape Agulhas municipality. This will ensure the provision of sustainable veterinary services, with an aim to replicate this strategy in other municipalities across rural South Africa.
- Enhance animal welfare laws and regulations: Advocate for the development and implementation of stronger animal welfare laws and regulations in South Africa. Collaborate with government bodies, influential stakeholders and animal welfare organizations to push for legislation that improves the treatment and protection of companion animals.
- Improve animal shelter and municipal pound facilities: Work toward improving and expanding animal shelter facilities in South Africa. This includes upgrading existing shelters, constructing new ones and ensuring they have adequate resources, staff and veterinary care to provide for animals in their care.



4. BIOMEDICAL AND COSMETIC TESTING

4.1 ENDING COSMETICS TESTING ON ANIMALS

In 2023 HSI/Africa:

- Worked with the cosmetics industry (CTFA; Cosmetic, Toiletry & Fragrance Association of South Africa) with the aligned objective to ban cosmetics testing on animals in the Foodstuffs, Cosmetics and Disinfectants Act.
- Worked with other organizations to promulgate the Regulations for banning cosmetics testing on animals, under the Foodstuffs, Cosmetics and Disinfectants Act (Department of Health).
- Updated the Draft Regulations for banning cosmetics testing (the Foodstuffs, Cosmetics and Disinfectants Act), and sent to HSI BCF international team for alignment with the Canadian 2023 bill, as the current AFSA-accepted policy language.
- Submitted a statement on cosmetics testing not being an ethical health research practice to the Department of Health's Draft Guidelines for Health Research Ethics.

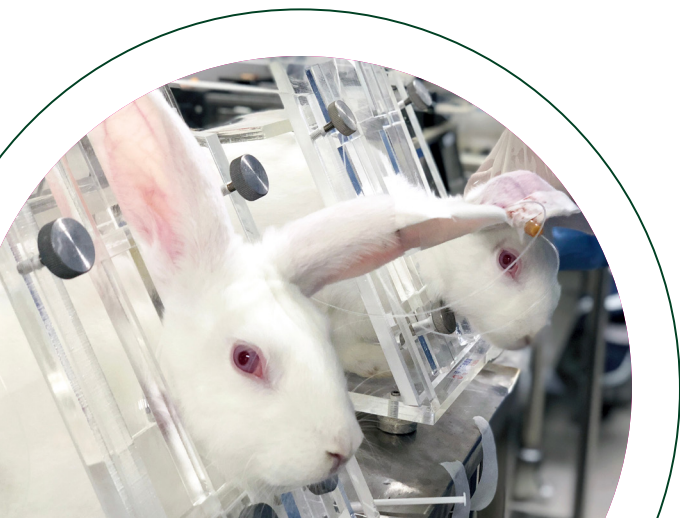
In 2024 HSI/Africa will:

- Engage with the AFSA partners and CTFA to finalise the policy language for the Regulations to ban cosmetic testing.
- Continue to work with the CTFA (an industry body) to lobby government for promulgation of the Regulations for banning cosmetics testing on animals, under the Foodstuffs, Cosmetics and Disinfectants Act (Department of Health).

4.2 BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH

In 2023 HSI/Africa:

- Submitted public comments on the Department of Health's Draft Guidelines for Health Research Ethics, promoting broader philosophical consideration (i.e., introducing deontological ethical principles), greater protection against conflicts of interest and bias in Animal Ethics Committee (AEC) membership and quorum, broader representation from animal welfare sector in AEC membership, and greater transparency in public reporting of animal research (animal numbers, species and severity).
- Advocated for the National Health Research Ethics Council (an animal ethics regulator) to provide greater transparency in animal research by annual public reporting of national animal numbers by species/severity grade of study.
- Served on a Health Sciences Animal Ethics Committee at a prominent South African university. Our input included providing strategic leadership and administration of 3Rs/4Rs metadata study; the development of a Harm-Benefit Analysis (HBA) rubric with addition of several ethics-based principles of categorizing and penalizing increasing harms to animals, including their level of sentience, degree of prevention of harms, quality of life (i.e., mental-emotional well-being) of animals, and fate of the animals after the study (i.e., considering death as a harm). We challenged the use of animals in a number of proposed studies and provided training to AEC members on animal ethics and the implications of animal sentience.



In 2024 HSI/Africa will:

- Engage with biomedical funders and regulators in a national summit, in order to change strategic priorities, create awareness of low translative efficiency of preclinical models, new approach methods, animal-free alternatives, etc.
- Draft regulations for the governance of institutional Animal Ethics Committees for the new Animal Welfare Bill. Our proposals will include national registration and quality-assurance of all institutional AECs, mandatory reporting of animal usage statistics per species and severity band, including mandatory auditing and assessment of efficiency of the AEC's harm-benefit analysis.
- Engage with institutional Animal Ethics Committees in a national summit to provide humane education for AECs.
- Develop HSI/Africa service on institutional Animal Ethics Committees as dedicated animal welfare representatives;
- Survey public perceptions toward the use of animals in biomedical research, as part of a broader HSI/Africa survey.



5. GROWING A STRONGER ANIMAL PROTECTION MOVEMENT

In 2023 HSI/Africa:

■ HSI/Africa co-founded and co-chaired the Animal Law Project, a multidisciplinary initiative that seeks to challenge the existing deficient framework of animal law in South Africa and provide a blueprint for new law and policy that protects people, animals and the environment as envisaged in the South African Constitution. Work in 2023 included holding stakeholder engagements with much of South Africa's animal welfare and protection community (over 600 organisations were identified and invited to participate) and hosting an expert workshop to frame the critique of current arrangements and develop a vision and framework for reform. In 2024 a white paper and draft new legal framework will

■ be workshopped with a broader stakeholder group; when finalized, it will be presented to government for implementation.
■ Presented on animal law in South Africa at the University of Western Cape Animals in Society course, as well as at the University of Cape Town @Law series. Presentations addressed changing perceptions regarding animals and the development of new laws seeking better animal protection.
■ Obtained over 100 pieces of media coverage on our animal protection work in South Africa, including articles in top mainstream media such as Cape Times, Independent on Saturday, City Press, News24, GROOTplaas, IOL, Beeld, Cape Talk, SAFM and more.



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We thank all our supporters, partners and volunteers for their contributions in time, money and effort, which make this work possible!



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