

ACE 2021 Charity Evaluation: FIAPO

Program Name: FARMED ANIMALS

Program Outputs April 2020 – June 2021

Dairies

- We went undercover to investigate [22 dairies in Prayagraj and Varanasi](#) districts of Uttar Pradesh and found the animals living in horrific conditions. We have filed a case in the Allahabad HC to demand better lives for cows and buffaloes in dairies.
- We filed 30 Right to Information (RTI) applications to further our investigation into dairies.

Illegal meat shops

- We addressed the illegal and unethical practices in illegal meat shops across seven cities, seeking information on ground realities from authorities, facilitating the filing of complaints, and urged several government bodies to take action.
- The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India in Bhubaneswar in the eastern state of Odisha has joined hands with us to stop slaughter cruelty by regularly inspecting meat shops to ensure they meet the guidelines.
- We expanded the Stop Slaughter Cruelty Campaign to a new state, Punjab, where we seeded an activist group. More than 30 complaints were filed in one city in Punjab against illegal meat shops.
- Our engagement with the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) resulted in a [directive for action against disease-prone illegal meat shops](#) in the country.
- [100 doctors wrote](#) to the Government of India asking for action on illegal meat shops and meat markets to control the spread of Covid-19.
- We launched the Living Free app to help citizens report illegal slaughter to government authorities to save countless lives.

Aquaculture

- FIAPO conducted a nationwide undercover investigation in 160 freshwater fish farms and 81 brackish water farms, making it India's most in-depth investigation covering 241 farms.
- Following [our investigation into aquaculture](#), we identified fisheries institutes, colleges and academics with whom we could explore collaborations. We held a webinar on fish cognition, intelligence and sentience. FIAPO sought information from one state government on the framework to monitor and prevent water pollution from aquaculture. We advocated with state and national authorities to act on our findings in an investigation into aquaculture farms in another state.
- We persuaded the Department of Fisheries, Government of India, to be inclusive of animal welfare, environmental protection, and public health hazard elimination, under the "Draft National Fisheries Policy" currently being redrafted by the government.

Plant-based lifestyle campaign

- Due to Covid-19, a lot of our campaign work moved to digital platforms. We ran online cooking contests for our audience, resulting in a six-fold increase in the uptake of the 21-Day Compassion Challenge.
- More than 350 young people learnt about cruelty-free living and plant-based diets through our online and offline outreach sessions.

- In the period from April 2020 to March 2021, our digital efforts reached 33 million people, persuading them to adopt an animal-friendly lifestyle.

Policy advocacy for farmed animals

- We engaged with 74 Members of Parliament (MPs) to play the role of an influencer in pushing our policy asks at the bureaucratic level, in addition to local Members of Legislative Assembly (MLAs) in the states and constituencies in which our policy asks are targeted. Seven MPs raised eight animal welfare-related questions in Parliament due to our persuasion. Thirteen MPs are positively engaged with us and 10 of them have asked for inputs on questions to be raised in the next Parliament session.
- A webinar by FIAPO and Eurogroup for Animals made [recommendations](#) on how the EU and India could work together to improve animal welfare in trade relations, ahead of the EU-India trade summit. FIAPO followed this with letters to heads of agricultural research and food safety institutions for the inclusion of animal welfare in trade relations.

Top Outputs Prior to 2020

- (i) We stopped the establishment of India's first mega-dairy that was proposed to be set up in Andhra Pradesh, with 40,000 cows.
- (ii) We conducted an in-depth investigation into 500 dairies across the country, resulting in seven state governments introducing guidelines for better welfare of dairy animals.
- (iii) We investigated 200 gaushalas to advocate for stricter policies, and as a result persuaded the Uttar Pradesh government to introduce welfare guidelines for all cow shelters.

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Program Name: COMPANION ANIMALS AND COVID-RESPONSE

Program Outputs April 2020 – June 2021

When the Pandemic hit us in early 2020, it disrupted our work, and the work of our members, and put animal lives at risk. FIAPO rose to the challenge of supporting its members to save animals' lives and to campaign for a better relationship with nature. A couple of the outputs below might not directly include companion animals, but were part of our overall Covid-19 response.

- We facilitated a strategy group of leading animal organisations to respond to Covid-19, to ensure that animals on streets and in farms don't die of hunger.
- During the first wave of the Covid-19 pandemic, we raised Rs 24.16 lakh for 25 organisations that were feeding street animals. Our [members were able to feed 213,100 meals](#) to dogs and other street animals.
- We ran an emergency desk for quick response to animal cruelty or distress and legal guidance during the pandemic.
- FIAPO's engaged with the chief minister of Karnataka, the Animal Welfare Board of India, SWBI, commissioners, principal secretary and director of animal husbandry to form regulations against the abandoning of pet animals and the feeding of street animals during Covid-19.
- We engaged with the TN and Delhi FSAs to change rules for including animal welfare in guidelines in the wake of Covid-19.
- Released a report called In Their Own Right, which comprises documentation and analysis of crimes against animals during the period 2010-20 across three main categories: Companion, Working and Street Animals.

Top Outputs Prior to 2020

- (iv) Worked in the states of Assam, Punjab and Kerala to help local organisations start Animal Birth Control, anti-rabies vaccination programmes, and dog-bite prevention education in government schools
- (v) The National Centre of Disease Control agreed to include post-bite counselling for dog-bite victims, an approach piloted and measured by FIAPO, in the NRCP

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Program Name: ANIMALS IN CAPTIVITY

Program Outputs April 2020 – June 2021

- We had filed a writ petition in the Delhi High Court on behalf of circus animals. The Animal Welfare Board of India [cancelled the registration of five circuses](#) with over 100 animals and the [Central Zoo Authority cancelled the recognition of the last circus in India that was using elephants for performances](#).
- We brought together key organisations working for the welfare of captive elephants to respond to key issues, produce in-depth research, and liaise with the government. The coalition took up the issue of the deaths of elephants in Kerala and Jaipur Hathigaon.
- FIAPO collaborated with other organisations in India, WRRRC, PETA, WAP the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, to support elephants during the Covid-19 lockdown.
- We published a whitepaper on the behavioural needs of [Elephants in India](#) to drive policy change for captive elephants.
- FIAPO, along with partners, is continuing to fight for a complete ban on the practice of Jallikattu, where an aggravated bull is released into a crowded area and held down by people by holding on to its horns or hump. We have collectively challenged the Tamil Nadu government's The Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Tamil Nadu Amendment) Act 2017, that allowed the practice to continue.

Top Outputs Prior to 2020

- Our campaign and advocacy led to a ban on dolphinarium and the use of dolphins for entertainment in India.

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Program Name: PLANT-BASED WORK

Program Outputs April 2020 – June 2021

- FIAPO launched [The Plant Factor](#) challenge to drive innovation for better alternatives to animal products, in the plant-based food sector to support emerging businesses.
- The top three winners were awarded Rs 20 lakh and access to experts in management, research, networking, funding and mentorship support to form a wholesome and successful plant-based company.
- We supported India's top eight plant-based businesses through a workshop series on business planning and creating investment decks. We also launched a business directory called the [Plant Factor-y](#), a one-stop shop for plant-based alternatives.

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Program Name: MOVEMENT BUILDING

Program Outputs April 2020 – June 2021

Apr-Sep 2020

- More than 770 activists across the country were trained through nine “Learn from Leaders” webinars, free of cost.
- During the first wave of the Covid-19 pandemic, [our members were able to feed 213,100 meals](#) to dogs and other street animals.
- We mentored and trained 452 budding activists across India, who are now more deeply engaged with us.
- Eighteen new members joined us, taking our total membership to 165.

Oct-Dec 2020

- Our webinars reached more than 200 people, educating them on mobilization and mitigation skills, as well as on building a conscious and cruelty-free lifestyle.
- Five new members joined us, taking our total membership to 170.

Jan-Jun 2021

- During the second wave of Covid-19, our network grew by 20 cities with 210 new volunteers, and 174 members.
- We built the leadership skills of 34 grassroots activists in on-ground and online activism, and made 750 activists aware of specific issues through nine webinars.
- Activist cards were given to 117 activists.