

Summer 2025



SPANNA

Working animal welfare since 1923

NEWS

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WORKING ANIMALS AND THE CLIMATE CRISIS

Helping working dogs
in Malawi



Protect working animals
from deadly parasites

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WELCOME

to the latest issue of SPANA News.



In this packed issue, you can read all the latest news and updates on SPANA's lifesaving work. You will also learn about the real difference we are making to the lives of working animals across the world, thanks to your continued support.

On page six, our **special appeal** highlights the plight of animals suffering from deadly parasites. Across the countries where SPANA works, parasites are a constant threat to the health and wellbeing of working animals.

You can read the story of Mwoyo, a donkey from Zimbabwe, who was seen by our veterinary team after he'd become weak, unsteady on his feet and was barely eating. Like many working animals, Mwoyo was suffering from parasites. As the climate crisis leads to more extreme weather events like floods and droughts, the resulting environmental conditions allow parasites to thrive, spreading disease and suffering. With your help, we can continue to provide treatment and support for working animals with parasites.

Sadly, the climate crisis is causing much more suffering than parasites alone. Climate change is a significant issue and a fundamental threat to animals, people and the environment. On page 12, I look at the devastating impact recent extreme climate-related events have had on working animals and how we are doing everything we can to help those affected.

Elsewhere in this newsletter, you can read the latest stories about just some of the animals SPANA teams have treated, thanks to your support – from working dogs in Malawi, to camels in northern India. Your kindness doesn't just stop at treatment, it fuels long-term change. From promoting better animal welfare practices to supporting animal owners in preparing for climate disasters, we couldn't continue this life-changing work without your support. Thank you so much.

All the critical work you will read about in this issue is only possible because of our supporters. You're giving working animals, who are so often overlooked and undervalued, the recognition and care they deserve. Thank you so much and enjoy your copy of SPANA News.

Linda Edwards
Chief Executive, SPANA



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HELPING MALAWI'S WORKING DOGS

In Malawi, hundreds of dogs are hard at work. They provide security patrols for private homes and businesses and are trained to detect illegal wildlife trade.

Sadly, when they're not working, many of these dogs are confined to small, dark and crowded kennels. They are often starving, severely dehydrated, and suffering from painful sores because they have no comfortable bedding to lie on.

That's why SPANA is delighted to be supporting the working dogs of Malawi through an exciting project. This project is providing vital veterinary care to working dogs when they are sick and injured, and is improving their welfare through education and training.

As part of the project, we are ensuring that dogs have access to nutritious food and clean drinking water, and we're vaccinating them to protect against diseases. We are also giving guidance to owners and handlers on

providing appropriate housing and enrichment, including exercise, training and play time.

In addition, in partnership with LSPCA and the Government of Malawi, we have developed an accredited 'stamp of approval' for security companies and institutions that demonstrate good animal welfare practices. This will promote long-term changes in behaviour and attitudes towards working dogs.

Linda Edwards, SPANA's Chief Executive, said: *'We are so happy to be helping working dogs in Malawi. Our vital project aims to transform the living and working conditions of these dogs, improve their physical health, and encourage security companies to apply for, and obtain, stamps of approval in recognition of their adherence to animal welfare guidelines.'*

To support our working dogs project, please visit spana.org/malawidogs

SPANANA IN THE NEWS



SPANANA expands caleche horse programme to new city

SPANANA has expanded its caleche horse programme to a new city in Morocco to transform the lives of even more working animals.

SPANANA's caleche horse programme, which has been running for more than 30 years in Marrakech, monitors the welfare of carriage horses. The charity is also part of a licensing scheme in which all caleche horses must have regular veterinary assessments and be passed as fit and healthy before they can work.

Now, in partnership with local authorities, the programme has been rolled out to Essaouira, a coastal city 200km west of Marrakech. SPANA's veterinary team have developed a horse identification scheme in which all horses will be microchipped and wear SPANA bands on their fetlocks to show they are fit to work. SPANA vets will also visit three times a year to monitor the welfare of the horses, provide veterinary assessments and treatments, and train owners and veterinary professionals in animal care.

Last year, SPANA's veterinary team visited Essaouira for the first time. Over a two-day period, they examined 98 horses and 89 caleches, and fitted 62 microchips.

As well as Marrakech and Essaouira, the programme is monitoring the welfare of working horses in Aït Ourir, tourist camels in Marrakech, and mules in Imilil.

SPANANA helps working animals in Honduras

During 2024, SPANA ran a project to help improve the welfare of working animals in Honduras by expanding the knowledge and skills of local teachers and schoolchildren.

The project, run in partnership with Equinos de Honduras, helped train teachers in delivering animal welfare lessons that change children's behaviour towards working animals.

Equinos de Honduras is based in the south of the country where, in rural areas, working animals – especially horses – play a key role collecting refuse, transporting fruits and dairy products to market, and collecting firewood. Children in these horse-owning communities usually accompany their parents to work before school, and some take responsibility for the care of their working animals at home. Despite this, many children do not know how to look after their animals properly.

The project trained 45 teachers, reaching 1,020 children from 12 schools across southern Honduras. The teachers undertook training sessions and were supplied with all the information and materials they need for their lessons. Follow-up monitoring and evaluation was also provided.

Linda Edwards, SPANA's Chief Executive, said:

'As part of our organisational strategy, we are developing and broadening our approach to SPANA's educational activities to inspire long-lasting and positive behaviour changes towards working animals. Empowering teachers and educating future generations, like this wonderful project in Honduras, will have a long-term, positive impact on the welfare of working animals.'



Celebrating the successes of 2024

Last year, the need for SPANA's work was greater than ever. The threats working animals are facing are immense – from rising poverty and political instability, to extreme climates and natural disasters.

Despite the challenges, SPANA's veterinary teams were able to transform the lives of sick and injured working animals across the world, and it's all thanks to the support of our generous donors – thank you.

With your support, in the last 12 months the charity's global teams reached over 380,000 working animals and provided more than 600,000 veterinary treatments. The charity also trained over 75,000 owners in animal care and taught more than 86,000 children about animal welfare.

SPANA also funded 13 emergency projects to help working animals and communities affected by crises

such as flooding in Tanzania and drought in Zimbabwe. Dr Erick Mutizhe, a SPANA vet in Zimbabwe, said: *'Thank you, SPANA supporters, for your kindness in 2024. You are enabling us to carry out our crucial work every single day, caring for working animals that desperately need us in Zimbabwe and around the globe. Even though times are challenging, together we are making such a difference for working animals and transforming their lives for the better. Our work simply would not be possible without you – your support truly means the world. Thank you!'*



SPANA joins the World Federation for Animals

SPANA has joined the World Federation for Animals (WFA) as a full member.

The charity will be working as part of this influential federation of more than 50 organisations to ensure animal welfare is recognised as part of the sustainable development agenda. SPANA will support the WFA's efforts to integrate animal welfare into international health, food and environmental frameworks, as well as trade and development policies.

Linda Edwards, SPANA's Chief Executive, has also been appointed to the WFA Board. She said: *'In our five-year organisational strategy, launched in 2023, we committed to being the voice of working animals around the world. By joining the WFA, we will put working animals on the global agenda – highlighting their value to humanity and the benefits of high-quality animal welfare standards.'*



Brick Kiln appeal update

Thank you to everyone who donated towards our recent brick kilns appeal. Your generous support is helping exhausted and injured animals working tirelessly in unimaginable conditions. To donate towards the appeal today, please visit spana.org/livinghell.



PROTECT WORKING ANIMALS FROM DEADLY PARASITES

Across the countries where SPANA works, parasites are a constant threat to the health and wellbeing of working animals. As climate change brings extreme weather events like floods and droughts, the resulting environmental conditions allow parasites to thrive, spreading disease and suffering. Unless we act, parasites can severely harm or even kill working animals, leaving vulnerable communities without their lifeline. Help us prevent and treat deadly parasites today.



Mwoyo's mottled coat was a visible sign that the donkey was suffering from external parasites.

Mwoyo's story

Mwoyo (meaning 'heart'), is a loyal and hardworking donkey, and the heart of his owner, Patrick's family. The older and more experienced of Patrick's two donkeys, Mwoyo provides a vital lifeline for the family, helping them earn a meagre income by ferrying people, water and goods around the village of Davira, Zimbabwe. While they were carrying out their work under the harsh Zimbabwean sun, Patrick started to notice that Mwoyo was struggling to pull his cart. He was becoming weak and unsteady on his feet, and he was barely eating.

Last year, Zimbabwe declared a state of disaster over the devastating El Niño-induced drought that swept across much of southern Africa. The extreme weather scorched crops, and with more than 80 per cent of the country receiving below normal rainfall, thousands of communities and the animals they depend on were left more vulnerable than ever.

Worried for Mwoyo's health, Patrick took him to the SPANA mobile clinic that was visiting the nearby Chivi district. Our vet examined Mwoyo and diagnosed him with digestion problems and severe malnourishment. Like many working donkeys across the region, Mwoyo was having difficulty obtaining the nutrients he needed from the drought-stricken land. When the vet checked a sample of Mwoyo's faeces with a microscope, he found a very high worm egg count, indicating that internal parasites were exacerbating his malnutrition. Additionally, with a lack of available drinking water, many animals are drinking from smaller, stagnant water sources, which are more likely to be contaminated with parasites.

Further examination revealed that Mwoyo was also suffering from external parasites which, along with the



A microscope examination revealed a shocking 1,500 worm eggs per gram of faeces – with 500 being considered high, this meant that Mwoyo had a severe parasite infection.

malnutrition, were contributing towards his mottled coat and excruciatingly itchy skin.

Parasites drain working animals of the nutrients they desperately need to survive, leading to fatigue, malnutrition and a range of debilitating health issues that can be fatal. If left untreated, the number of parasites in the environment will also increase, placing other vulnerable working animals at risk.

Thankfully, treatment is simple. The vet team provided Mwoyo with ivermectin, an anti-parasite medication that treats both internal and external parasites. They also gave him a vitamin injection to replenish lost nutrients and help rebuild his strength. Our vet advised Patrick to rest Mwoyo and give him wet, softened, nutritious feed to support him in this period of severe drought.

Thanks to SPANA's intervention and diligent care, Mwoyo could recover and return to work, providing a livelihood for his



One in three treatments delivered by SPANA vets is for parasite-related issues. Working animals in the countries where we work are currently at even greater risk of parasites due to extreme climates – from unrelenting drought in Zimbabwe and western portions of North Africa like Tunisia, to devastating floods in Tanzania.

grateful owner. At a follow-up visit three weeks later, Mwoyo had made a full recovery. His coat's poor condition had dramatically improved, and he was looking much healthier overall. Patrick agreed to follow our advice and attend routine parasite check-ups. He also signed up to join our community training sessions to learn more about caring for Mwoyo.

Living on or inside animals, parasites can cause severe distress. Working animals carry out exhausting tasks in extreme climates and need every ounce of their strength. Therefore, it's essential that our vet teams can diagnose and treat parasites effectively.

Treating parasites is simple and inexpensive. However, lower standards of animal welfare and lack of access to essential veterinary care can mean many working animals don't receive the treatment they need.

Our expert vet teams are also acutely aware of the issues that can arise from the overuse of anti-parasite treatments. That's why we're committed to having a responsible, strategic approach to deworming, decreasing parasite burdens by improving husbandry and environmental management, and by running community training sessions where owners learn the consequences of parasitic infestations, how to recognise them and how to take preventative steps.

Without intervention, more affected animals will suffer needlessly. Your support today could help pay for vital medication that will stop parasites in their tracks, meaning they won't harm defenceless working animals like Mwoyo. With a gift today, you can also protect them from the rising threat of parasites through preventative care and

education. As extreme climates cause more devastation, you can help protect working animals while supporting the vulnerable communities who rely on them for survival.

Could you make a donation today, to protect more working animals from deadly parasites? Thank you.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Please, if you can, donate today and help treat and prevent deadly parasites in working animals.

\$30

could treat four working animals like Mwoyo for internal or external parasites, providing instant relief and protecting them from further health risks.

\$88

could pay towards diagnostic equipment such as microscopes and egg floatation kits, as well as laboratory testing to help detect, treat and monitor deadly parasites in working animals.

\$295

could help run community training sessions where working animal owners are equipped with the knowledge to combat the threat of parasites, ensuring future generations can better protect their animals.

[CLICK HERE](#) TO MAKE A DONATION TODAY. THANK YOU.

Or visit our appeal page:
www.spana.org/parasites

Working animals play a vital role in Mauritanian life. In this Saharan country, there are severe water shortages and donkeys are often relied on to deliver water to households, including in the capital, Nouakchott.

SPANA OPERATIONS

We have three SPANA centres in the country – in Boghé, Nouakchott and Rosso. We also operate mobile veterinary clinics that help animals in more remote locations. Thanks to your support, our dedicated team provides vital veterinary treatment to tens of thousands of working animals every year.

Our local team also delivers formal veterinary and education training to veterinary professionals, including through our clinical skills centre in the country, as well as advice and training in animal welfare to working animal owners.

PROFILE

MAURITANIA

In addition, our school education programme teaches children about animal welfare. Through a partnership with the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Environment, the United Nations Development Programme and the German Development Corporation, SPANA is teaching students about the need for good animal welfare as part of protecting the environment.



MAURITANIA AT A GLANCE

Population: 4.7 million
Area: 1,030,000 km²
Location: West Africa
Capital city: Nouakchott
Estimated number of working animals: 1,935,406



PERSONAL
 PROFILE Q&A
Bebaha Hmeiditt,
 SPANA's
 Mauritania
 Country Director

How long have you been working for SPANA in Mauritania?

I helped establish SPANA in Mauritania and opened our first veterinary centre here in 2001. I initially worked here as a volunteer, then became Administrative and Finance Manager, and subsequently Country Director.

Why is SPANA's work so important in Mauritania?

Mauritania has many working animals. They are vitally important to the livelihood of many people. SPANA's work is therefore contributing to animal welfare and the fight against poverty.

What roles do working animals carry out?

Working animals are used for transportation. They haul drinking water from standpipes so that people can access fresh, clean drinking water. They also transport people, goods and refuse and, in rural areas, they are used for farming.

What is the biggest challenge facing working animals in Mauritania?

I'd say a key challenge is owners' lack of knowledge about good animal care and welfare – as much as 95 per cent of working animal owners here are illiterate. That's why we're educating owners and their children on good practices to improve animal welfare. In addition, without SPANA, many people wouldn't have access to veterinary care and medicines if their animal was sick.

What is your team's greatest achievement?

We have many! SPANA is the only provider of welfare services to most of Mauritania's working animals, so we are literally a lifeline for working animals. I am also very proud that SPANA's work was recognised by the country when, in 2022, the road on which our Nouakchott veterinary centre is located was named 'Rue SPANA' (SPANAs Road) in our honour.

What do you like most about your job?

Mauritania is a huge and wonderful country with many working animals, so I am pleased and proud that my team can reach so many animals in need. I would like to thank all SPANA supporters for their help. Our work would not be possible without them. Together, we are making a real difference – thank you!



CASE FILE

Jidou the horse's painful leg injury

Jidou the horse transports people around Boghé, a desert town in southern Mauritania, on the border with Senegal. His hard work in searing temperatures that regularly top 40°C enables his owner, Mohamed, to earn a small income and look after his young family.

One day, while making their way through Boghé's busy streets, Jidou was involved in an accident. The frightened horse suffered a painful injury to his right hind leg that needed urgent treatment.

Mohamed took Jidou straight to SPANA's veterinary centre in the heart of Boghé. Our veterinary team examined Jidou's leg. Luckily, Jidou hadn't broken any bones, but he was suffering from a soft tissue injury

Mohamed said: *'I'm very happy and grateful for the way SPANA's vets treated my horse.'*

which had caused a lot of inflammation and bruising. The vets administered an anti-inflammatory pain relief injection to Jidou to relieve the horse of any pain and to help reduce the swelling.

The vets were also concerned that Jidou's hooves were starting to become overgrown, so they trimmed his hooves with specialist farriery tools to ensure they were all even again and would not cause him any pain or problems.

Before Jidou and Mohamed left the centre, our vets took their time to advise Mohamed on Jidou's further treatment. Mohamed was told to rest Jidou for a few days and to make sure that his horse had access to plenty of fresh water and feed.



Dr Anna Bowker (second from left), SPANA's Veterinary Adviser, on how an innovative community project is transforming animal welfare in Zimbabwe.

HARNESSING COMMUNITY SPIRIT TO SAVE LIVES



In rural southern Zimbabwe, donkeys are a lifeline for their communities. They plough fields and transport people and essential goods, including water, food and firewood. Thanks to the kindness of SPANA supporters, a new community group is transforming the lives of these hardworking donkeys.

The project, in Takavarasha, was formed when SPANA's mobile clinic team identified a need for safe, affordable, durable and reflective harnesses. Previously, donkeys had been wearing harnesses made from rubber strips or webbing. These harnesses caused problems because the edges were often sharp and cut into an animal's skin; the materials were often secured with large nuts and bolts, which rubbed and caused injuries; and sweat collected under the rubber, causing skin damage and infections.

With SPANA's help, community members set out to make new harnesses that were more breathable, dried quickly, and were reflective so that donkeys would be more visible to other road users.

SPANA provided funding for the initial set up, including the purchase of a sewing machine and solar power.

Solar power is vital for the project because communities in Zimbabwe suffer from frequent and prolonged power cuts. The renewable power source enables the group to work through power outages and means they don't have to worry about electricity payments.

The harnesses will last two to three years and are greatly appreciated by animals and their owners.

As well as encouraging entrepreneurship, the project is empowering women. Three of the group's 10 members are women, and they have equal say in all decisions and activities.

SPANA is actively supporting local sales and distribution, but we hope the project will become self-sustaining and that the group will expand its reach across Zimbabwe with support from our veterinary team, local councillors and district veterinarians. The initial results are very encouraging. Earlier this year, for example, 165 harnesses were distributed in the border town of Beitbridge.

This project would not be possible without your compassion for working animals. Thank you so much for helping working animals in Zimbabwe and around the world. Your support is making a real difference.

INSPIRING POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR CHANGE



Christelle Chenard, SPANA's Education Programme Adviser, on how the charity is developing and broadening its approach to education.

Animal welfare education has always been a crucial part of SPANA's work. Our co-founders, Kate and Nina Hosali, recognised that providing veterinary care to sick and injured working animals wasn't enough to bring about lasting change. They formally established our education programme in 1925 to ensure that people could learn how to look after animals and understand their needs.

Fast-forward 100 years and we're at an incredibly exciting time for animal welfare education. As part of our organisational strategy launched last year, we're developing our approach so that SPANA can transform the welfare of even more animals than before.

Over the past year, we've been broadening our educational activities. Before, when we talked about education we only talked about schoolchildren, even though we were providing educational training to tens of thousands of owners, community groups and veterinary professionals every year. We know that to meet the needs of working animals, we must engage with the people who care for them. We're therefore aiming to support everyone involved with working animals – from a child who looks after their family's donkey, to a person who uses a horse for work, to a vet who looks after their

community's camels. We want to develop the essential knowledge, attitudes and skills that everyone requires to transform the lives of working animals.

Key to this is Social and Behaviour Change Communications. This means using communications strategically to inspire long-lasting and positive behaviour changes towards working animals. It's about understanding the learning needs of the people we encounter – influenced by local knowledge – and helping them to take positive action.

We're also focusing on the interdependency among people, animals and the environment to empower people to meet growing global challenges, such as the climate crisis, economic instability and health risks like zoonotic diseases.

My SPANA colleagues and I have been so excited to roll out our broadened approach. We've introduced peer-to-peer networks, regular group sessions and coaching to make this possible, and we're providing our educators with continuous professional development so that they can inspire positive change.

With your support, our education programme is reaching even more people and transforming the welfare of even more working animals across the world. Thank you!



Linda Edwards, SPANA's Chief Executive, on the devastating impact that the climate crisis is having on the lives of working animals and how the charity is helping them.

WORKING ANIMALS AND THE CLIMATE CRISIS

Last year, I visited SPANA's hardworking team in Mali. My visit, in sweltering heat, was just a couple of weeks after the country registered a temperature of 48.5°C – its hottest day ever. That record-breaking temperature was due to a deadly heatwave in which more than 100 people lost their lives.

Mali isn't the only country where our charity works that has experienced a recent extreme climate-related event. In the past year, severe flooding and landslides have caused terrible destruction in Iraq and Tanzania. Countries including Namibia, Tunisia and Zimbabwe are struggling through prolonged droughts. It's clear that the climate crisis is having a catastrophic impact across the world and making life more difficult than ever for working animals and their owners.

It's important to recognise that the climate crisis is a significant issue. At SPANA, our goal is for the world of working animals to thrive and grow sustainably as part of the nexus between animals, people and the environment. Recognising this link is known as the One Health approach. People have historically exploited animals and the environment, while failing to appreciate the critical interdependency between them. Sadly, the climate crisis is a result of that exploitation.

The climate crisis is also a fundamental threat to the health of animals, people and the environment. When disasters strike, it's usually the most vulnerable in society who are most severely affected – including those in low-income countries where SPANA works. The climate crisis creates emergency situations, like Mali's heatwave, wildfires and hurricanes, which all put livelihoods at risk and leave working animals fighting for their lives.

Extreme events are increasing in frequency, intensity and scale. That's why SPANA needs to ensure that those affected are prepared – and that we are ready to act when needed to help working animals affected by the climate crisis. When an emergency happens, your continued kindness and generosity enable us to act swiftly. We provide on-the-ground support, emergency feed and lifesaving veterinary treatment to working animals in need.

A critical element of our organisational strategy is to expand our emergency response capacity. We are developing a comprehensive disaster, risk and resilience strategy that will aim to reduce risk, build resilience and respond to emergencies. We also encourage community projects to request help and relief through our emergency response funding initiative.

Meanwhile, at policy level, we're working with key organisations like the World Federation for Animals and the International Coalition for Working Equids to call for policy actions that mitigate climate change while benefiting animals.

As the voice for working animals around the world, we're also highlighting the devastating impact the climate crisis is having on working animals. Last year, we conducted a survey for International Working Animal Day (15 June) which found that 78 per cent of people felt working animals were overlooked and forgotten in the climate crisis. Some 82 per cent of respondents also agreed that working animals deserve help and support when an emergency strikes.

Thank you so much to our supporters in Australia, New Zealand and around the world. Your support is enabling us to help working animals when they need us most, and to highlight their plight to the world.

The threat posed by climate change to working animal welfare is only going to grow if we don't act now. Together, we can create a world where animals, people and the environment are respected and thrive. Find out more at spana.org/climatecrisis



SPANNA AROUND THE WORLD

Introducing just a few of the tens of thousands of animals we've helped recently, thanks to your kind support.



ETHIOPIA

K'EYI THE HORSE'S EZL TREATMENT

K'eyi, meaning 'red', is a 15-year-old horse from Batu, in central Ethiopia. K'eyi helps his owner, Melese, earn a basic living by transporting goods and helping people get to market, school and hospital.

Melese brought his horse to SPANA's mobile clinic when he discovered red sores on K'eyi's right hind leg. SPANA's veterinary team examined K'eyi and diagnosed epizootic lymphangitis (EZL), a highly infectious fungal disease that can be fatal if it is left untreated. The disease affects the skin and lymphatic system, causing skin nodules to develop that can result in painful open ulcers.

Our vets told Melese all about EZL, including how it is transmitted and how they would treat his horse. They cleaned K'eyi's nodules with water and an antiseptic solution, carefully shaved the affected area, then applied a special solution of tincture iodine to disinfect the nodules and reduce the spread of the disease.

The vets also gave him some of the iodine solution to take home and showed him how to apply it to the nodules every day. He would also need to bring his horse back to the clinic regularly over the next few months for monitoring and further treatment.

Melese said: *'Thank you, SPANA, for saving my horse's life.'*

MALI

Mamady the donkey and his owner, Madou, work alongside each other at the sprawling Badalabougou rubbish dump in Mali's capital, Bamako. Every morning, Mamady hauls heavy loads of refuse to and from the dump so that Madou can support his family. It's dangerous work, and Mamady and Madou are at constant risk of injury and illness.

Mamady was seen by vets at SPANA's mobile clinic, which makes regular visits to Badalabougou, when Madou became concerned for his seven-year-old donkey's health. Mamady had developed a cough that was clearly making it difficult for him to work.

The veterinary team carefully examined Mamady and found that he was not suffering from infection, so the coughing was likely caused by the dusty conditions. The vets administered an anti-inflammatory injection to provide Mamady with some relief.

They advised Madou to give Mamady plenty of rest and water, and to bring him back to the clinic in a week's time for a check-up.



MAMADY THE DONKEY'S EXHAUSTING COUGH

Madou said: *'SPANAs helps us. They are very good to us. Thanks to my donkey, I can provide for my family.'*

INDIA

Pepper the camel's owner, Hemraj, depends on camels for his livelihood. Pepper provides small quantities of camel milk for Hemraj to sell.

Hemraj became increasingly concerned for Pepper when he noticed that she couldn't stop itching and scratching herself. In a short space of time, Pepper started losing patches of hair and her skin started cracking and bleeding.

Pepper and Hemraj visited SPANA's regular mobile clinic near Jaipur, in northern India. Pepper was examined by SPANA's veterinary team, who diagnosed mange, a painful skin disease caused by mites. The vets administered an anti-parasite medication, then gently applied a soothing cream to the worst-affected areas of Pepper's skin.

The vets advised Hemraj that he should be extremely careful when handling Pepper, because mange can be contagious to both animals and people. The vets advised that he clean her harnesses, blankets and shelter thoroughly, and keep her away from other animals until she recovered.

Find out more about the devastating impact that parasites can have on working animals on page six.



PEPPER THE CAMEL'S ITCHY SKIN

Hemraj said: *'SPANAs is doing good work. They give our animals medicine. I am happy that they are treating our camels.'*




REMEMBERING WORKING ANIMALS

By leaving a gift to SPANA in your Will, you'll be helping generations of working animals long into the future.

Every year, many kind and compassionate people remember working animals by leaving a bequest to SPANA. Thanks to them, we are working to ensure that these remarkable animals are remembered, respected and cared for.

Your kind bequest could inspire long-lasting and positive changes in behaviour towards working animals among schoolchildren and owners (page 11), help our teams reach working animals and their communities in the immediate aftermath of an emergency (page 12), or ensure horses like K'eyi from Ethiopia receive lifesaving veterinary treatment for deadly diseases (page 14).

Gifts in Wills currently fund more than half of what we do for working animals. By remembering working animals with a gift in your Will to SPANA, you can create a more compassionate future for many generations to come.

 If you would like to find out more about how to leave a bequest in your Will to help working animals, please visit spana.org/bequests or email giftsinwills@spana.org. If you have recently included SPANA in your Will or you intend to do so when the time is right, please do let us know. We would love the chance to say thank you for your kindness.

Visit spana.org/bequests

