

Action for Dolphins

2023 aquatic animal welfare achievements	Relevant links	2024 plans for aquatic animals
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Shutting down a Taiji dolphin meat supplier 2. Advancing towards shark net removal in NSW 3. Highlighting the risks of feeding wild dolphins 	<p>https://www.afd.org.au/news/2023-a-year-of-good-news-for-marine-life/</p>	<p>Continue to advocate for the end of the Taiji dolphin hunts, the removal of shark nets in New South Wales, and the promotion of responsible marine life tourism</p>

Alianima

2023 aquatic animal welfare achievements	Relevant links	2024 plans for aquatic animals
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lecture given on the welfare of farmed fish at the largest Brazilian (and probably Latin American) congress in the aquaculture sector (industry-oriented event) - IFC (International Fish Congress & Fish Expo Brazil), with good repercussion and networking. 2. A detailed text about humane fish slaughtering published in the Brazilian journal 'Panorama da Aquicultura', which has the greatest reach in the aquaculture sector in the country and that was previously quite resistant to addressing the topic. 3. A well-based technical note about public policies regarding humane fish slaughtering in Brazil was created and submitted to parliamentarians. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. https://ifcbrasil.com.br/arquivos/programacao_ifc_brasil_2023_v2.pdf 2. https://www.instagram.com/p/Cu2-WNvOl2y/ 3. https://panoramadaaquicultura.com.br/o-abate-de-peixes-pode-e-deve-ser-humanitario/ 4. https://www.instagram.com/p/CvIDMKxA_Dg/ 	<p>We are planning to organize and host a seminar about fish welfare including presentations of experts in the field and to extend our operations by developing a project with farmers. In addition, we plan to continue with the scientific dissemination about fish welfare in our social media, newsletters, also to monitor the outcomes from our technical note about fish slaughtering and other discussions in the field among parliamentarians, besides looking for the next steps from the dialogue we established with many international certifiers acting with fish welfare and or sustainability.</p>

Animal Justice

2023 aquatic animal welfare achievements	Relevant links	2024 plans for aquatic animals
<p>Spearheaded a petition against octopus farming, which was introduced in Parliament by MP Elizabeth May. This was a collaborative effort with Montreal SPCA, and other groups.</p>	<p>https://www.instagram.com/p/CyYq4IT09MS/</p>	<p>Release first-ever Canadian investigation into a fish farm, call for new laws, campaign against corporate targets.</p>



Aquatic Animal Alliance 2023 Wins

Animal Law Reform South Africa (ALRSA)

2023 aquatic animal welfare achievements	Relevant links	2024 plans for aquatic animals
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Several of our comments were incorporated into the South African government's Aquaculture Development Bill prior to its publication for public comment. Participated in several educational initiatives relating to aquatic animal law including presenting on World Aquatic Animal Day event hosted by George Washington University and at the Aquatic Life Symposium hosted by De Paul Center for Animal Law. 	<p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZoPKkivF3Qw and https://youtu.be/m5vrzNkcH54</p>	<p>Submission as part of legislative process on South Africa's "Aquaculture Development Bill" open for public comment in January 2023.</p>

Animal Welfare Observatory (AWO)

2023 aquatic animal welfare achievements	Relevant links	2024 plans for aquatic animals
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Fish Welfare team expanded to 4 staff working in Spain Sürsan and Avramar commitments Work on sea bream and sea bass guides 	<p><i>Linked relevant resources in previous column.</i></p>	<p>Continue to work with companies and institutions to improve the welfare of aquatic animals</p>

Compassion in World Farming - Policy and Campaigning team

2023 aquatic animal welfare achievements	Relevant links	2024 plans for aquatic animals
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Publication of the report "Rethinking EU Aquaculture: for People, Planet, and Animals" and presented in the European Parliament calling for strict new EU welfare requirements for fish and policies European Parliament study on fish welfare was published following a long period of lobbying work from CIWF for this important piece of work which calls for legislation to protect fish welfare and championed the successful establishment of the European Reference Centre Aquatic Animal Welfare Trout investigation in Poland in 2023 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> https://www.ciwf.org/media-news/press-releases-and-media-statements/2023/01/improving-animal-welfare-key-to-sustainable-aquaculture-pioneering-new-report-argues#:~:text=The%20report%2C%20Rethinking%20EU%20Aquaculture,industry%2C%20and%20to%20give%20clear https://www.europarl.europa.eu/thinktank/en/document/IPO_L_STU(2023)747257 https://www.ciwf.org.uk/news/2023/10/actor-zoe-wanamaker-unveils-shocking-eu-fish-farm-cruelty 	<p>We will continue our policy work to achieve welfare legislation for fish, the certification schemes work and to implement humane slaughter for fish in Europe. We also will work to stop octopus farming.</p>



Aquatic Animal Alliance 2023 Wins

Congo Basin Conservation Society CBCS-Network DRC

2023 aquatic animal welfare achievements	Relevant links	2024 plans for aquatic animals
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Advocacy for the adoption of a local law on wetlands and freshwater management policy in South Kivu 2. Support for floating cages for fish farming in Lake Kivu 3. Conserving the hippopotamuses of the Ruzizi river by developing community-based tourist sites; 4. Distribution of Lake Tanganyika fishing kits (nets, pirogues) to 4 fishermen's committees; 	<p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5ZhVso2Tsxs</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Raising fishermen's awareness of good fishing practices that do not destroy the biodiversity and ecosystems of Lake Tanganyika and Lake Kivu 2. To identify investment opportunities for youth led-enterprises in livestock, fisheries and aquaculture in the national value chains 3. To support the creation of youth led-business forums on fisheries, and aquaculture in DRC 4. To promote Private sector driven business incubation in fisheries 5. Installation of structures to monitor aquaculture activities 6. Support for caged fish farming in lakes, rivers and streams 7. Training young people in modern aquaculture techniques 8. Setting up small fish feed manufacturing units; 9. Development of breeding ponds 10. Construction and installation of submerged cages (100 cages) managed by young people. 11. Purchase of fishing boats 12. Strengthening the development of hippopotamus tourist sites on the Ruzizi river and Lake Tanganyika

Conservative Animal Welfare Foundation (CAWF)

2023 aquatic animal welfare achievements	Relevant links	2024 plans for aquatic animals
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Co hosted a Parliamentary Reception with coalition partners The Humane League UK, Compassion in World Farming (CIWF), RSPCA and Soil Association to highlight the lack of legal protection for farmed fish at the time of their slaughter in the UK. Speakers included host Lord Trees, Shadow Defra Minister Daniel Zeichner MP, RSPCA Senior Scientific Officer Sean Black and Ronnie Soutar, Head of Veterinary Services at Scottish Sea Farms. Many MPs and Peers attended, including Baroness Fookes, Henry Smith MP and Sir Roger Gale MP. 2. Worked with Lord Trees to place an article on the above issues in Politics Home - a very influential magazine read by MPs. 	<p>https://www.politicshome.com/thehouse/article/its-time-step-regulation-fish-farms-uk</p> <p>https://www.conservativeanimalwelfarefoundation.org/fish-welfare/parliamentarians-ngos-and-industry-gather-in-parliament-to-call-for-protections-for-farmed-fish-at-the-time-of-slaughter-in-the-uk/</p>	<p>Continued focus on using the newly published 'Updated Opinion on the Welfare of Farmed Fish at Time of Killing' from the Animal Welfare Committee as a hook to lobby and drive forward mandatory regulations including stunning before slaughter and CCTV in fish slaughterhouses - to legally align the protections for farmed fish with those of terrestrial farmed animals. Additionally, hosting a joint All-Party Parliamentary Group for Animal Welfare as a roundtable on this topic in House of Lords in January</p>

Dyrevernalliansen

2023 aquatic animal welfare achievements	Relevant links	2024 plans for aquatic animals
<p>To gain insights into improving conditions and reducing mortality in aquaculture, we commissioned a report from Menon Economics, an economic consultancy firm, and the research institute Nofima.</p> <p>The report reveals that 60-70 percent of salmon producers exhibit lower mortality rates than the industry average. However, there are certain producers who experience significantly higher mortality rates, thereby inflating the overall industry average.</p> <p>Main findings:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Implementing regulatory changes for reduced fish mortality would provide a greater socio-economic return than the current regulations. 2. It is possible to achieving a reduction in mortality without compromising growth in production. 3. Several measures have been identified as particularly suitable for producers aiming to decrease mortality in their operations, including: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Adhering to best practice on fish welfare and health b. Increasing the use of precautionary measures and technologies c. Adopting more gentle treatment of the fish 	<p>https://dyrevern.no/oppdrettsfisk/how-can-we-reduce-farmed-salmon-mortality/</p>	<p>Dyrevernalliansen aims to continue our work to improve fish welfare and advocate for strengthened fish welfare standards amidst imminent revisions to salmon farming regulations in Norway.</p>

Essere Animali

2023 aquatic animal welfare achievements	Relevant links	2024 plans for aquatic animals
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Publication of the report produced with Animal ASK on the cost of effective stunning for sea bass, sea bream and trout in Italy and Greece 2. Started to engage with companies to implement effective stunning 	<p>https://www.essereanimali.org/corporate-engagement/#:~:text=Valutazione%20economica%20dei%20metodi%20di%20abbattimento%20pi%C3%B9%20rispettosi%20nella%20filiera%20ittica%20%E2%80%93%20focus%20Italia</p> <p>https://www.essereanimali.org/corporate-engagement/#:~:text=Valutazione%20economica%20dei%20metodi%20di%20abbattimento%20pi%C3%B9%20rispettosi%20nella%20filiera%20ittica%20%E2%80%93%20focus%20Grecia</p>	<p>Continue to work with companies and institutions to secure public policies covering effective stunning</p>



Aquatic Animal Alliance 2023 Wins

Eurogroup for Animals

2023 aquatic animal welfare achievements	Relevant links	2024 plans for aquatic animals
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establishment of EU Reference Centre for Animal Welfare for aquatic animals 2. Together with CiWF, blocked the licensing of the octopus farm in Canary Isles 3. Recognition by EU governments of the welfare of target species in wild capture fisheries 		

Farm Animal Protection Association (Future for Fish)

2023 aquatic animal welfare achievements	Relevant links	2024 plans for aquatic animals
<p>Publishing a comprehensive report on the status of usage of electrical stunning system and the fish welfare in Türkiye Marine Aquaculture. Organizing a Launch event where many different stakeholders, especially 10 biggest Turkish producers were present. Securing a commitment from Abalı Fish, impacting 30 million fish annually.</p>	<p>Summary Report</p> <p>Comprehensive Report</p> <p>Abalı fish commitment</p>	<p>Securing more commitments from aquaculture producers and HoReCa</p>

Fish Welfare Initiative

2023 aquatic animal welfare achievements	Relevant links	2024 plans for aquatic animals
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Helped 450,000 fishes through the Alliance for Responsible Aquaculture which now has over 100 committed farmers 2. Completed 3 in-field tests to improve our welfare ask for Indian Major Carp and hired a R&D lead to expand this work in 2024 (read more here) 3. Advanced fish advocacy work in China, see our China page 	<p><i>Linked relevant resources in previous column.</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Expand the ARA and explore new program strategies to help more fish. 2. Conduct studies and exploratory programs to inform future programs to scale. 3. Engage stakeholders and advocate for policies that help fishes, and advance our existing programs. <p>See more details on our OKRs</p>



Aquatic Animal Alliance 2023 Wins

Forum Nacional de Proteção e Defesa Animal

2023 aquatic animal welfare achievements	Relevant links	2024 plans for aquatic animals
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Publication of Guidelines commitment to Animal Welfare in Fish Farming, these guidelines are in line with global policies on the subject and aim to minimize stress during handling, guarantee quality conditions in the aquatic environment, as well as abolish practices that lead to cruel slaughter. Publication in portuguese, english and Spanish.2. We took part in the Seafood Show Latin America event at the end of October, aimed at the fish market, to strengthen our relationship with Brazilian fish farmers and fishermen and invite them to the Workshop.3. We organized the GUIDELINES LAUNCH WORKSHOP where we invite members of the different aspects of the Brazilian fish production chain to dialogue. Encompassing producers, researchers and members of animal protection. It had the partnership of the Brazilian Fish Farming Association (Peixe BR), which brings together fish producers and retailers, and is one of the largest conglomerates of producers in Brazil. They also produce the yearbook related to the fish production chain, where the guidelines that the Forum Animal drew up will be present in the 2024 yearbook, maximizing the direct reach of producers.4. We started articulating in the Brazilian National Congress to ban trawling. We are monitoring and influencing a bill that has been filed, and our aim is to ban trawling, or at least change many points in the current legislation.5. We commissioned a public opinion survey from the DataFolha Institute to assess the importance of fish welfare, results will be published soon. This was the largest survey in Brazil on the subject, with many Brazilians demonstrating that they are interested in changing the way they relate to fish, and even paying more to provide welfare for the animals they consume.	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1- https://forumanimal.org/site/p/rodaa/3- https://youtu.be/l8_wPhPNQtK5- https://forumanimal.org/site/d/atafolha-prodaa/	<p>In 2024, we will continue with the corporate relationship and seek Brazil's first commitment to fish welfare. We will work with a public awareness campaign about fish welfare and mobilization for World Day for the End of Fishing and Fish Farming (WoDEF). And we will continue our work in the national congress to approve the ban on trawling.</p>

Aquatic Animal Alliance 2023 Wins

Green REV Institute

2023 aquatic animal welfare achievements	Relevant links	2024 plans for aquatic animals
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Debate and discussion building in Poland on fish as farmed animals 2. Providing to the decision makers concrete postulates on fish welfare legislation in Poland; building the debate and learning on the local level 	<p>https://www.facebook.com/events/695633669012717/</p> <p>https://www.facebook.com/greenrev.institute/videos/3389104911416923/</p> <p>https://www.facebook.com/greenrev.institute/videos/641343134321627/</p> <p>https://www.facebook.com/greenrev.institute/videos/1195508894411455/</p> <p>https://fb.me/e/9u2ssPjwC</p>	<p>To strengthen the debate on farmed fish in Poland, we propose organizing at least two events outside Warsaw (offline) to engage a wider audience. Additionally, providing legislative recommendations to the new Polish government, incorporating the issue of fish welfare into the EU election discourse, and enhancing MEPs' knowledge on fish welfare should be part of our strategy.</p>

Humánný pokrok

2023 aquatic animal welfare achievements	Relevant links	2024 plans for aquatic animals
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The last big retailer in Slovakia - COOP Jednota - committed to end live carp sales. 2. The first city in Slovakia - Žilina - bans live carp sales on the city premises. 3. Major media coverage of our campaign to ban live carp sales during december, including a 40 minute live TV debate of our director with the minister of agriculture about carp protection. 	<p>3- https://www.rtvs.sk/televizia/archiv/20116/440944</p>	<p>Continue our live carp sales ban work, but we need to decide on further direction because a lot has happened in December, the new government is very hostile towards non-profits and we are facing backlash from fish farmers with the support of the government. So this year will be very interesting.</p>

One Health and Development Initiative

2023 aquatic animal welfare achievements	Relevant links	2024 plans for aquatic animals
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Continuation of KAP survey on Aquaculture Welfare practices in 19 states of the 6 geopolitical zones in Nigeria 2. Successfully trained about 90 farmers and government officials on fish welfare best practices. We used the train-the-trainer approach, and had select farmers from all the southwestern states of Nigeria 3. Developed and published a training guide for Aquaculture Fish Welfare 	<p><i>Linked relevant resources in previous column.</i></p>	



Aquatic Animal Alliance 2023 Wins

Royal New Zealand Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (RNZSPCA)

2023 aquatic animal welfare achievements	Relevant links	2024 plans for aquatic animals
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Successful prosecution for failing to render crayfish insensible (a New Zealand first)2. Successfully advocated for an amendment to the Operational Code: Processing of Seafood Products to align with the Animal Welfare Act requiring water used for swimming live fish must be sufficient to maintain the fish in their live state. The previous Operational Code indicated water should be sufficient, not must.	<p>https://www.guardianonline.co.nz/news/concern-for-crayfish-welfare/</p> <p>https://www.mpi.govt.nz/dmsdocument/58447-Summary-of-submissions-Operational-Code-Processing-of-Seafood-Products</p>	

Rwanda Animal Welfare Organization (RAWO)

2023 aquatic animal welfare achievements	Relevant links	2024 plans for aquatic animals
Raising aquaculture welfare for veterinary students from College of Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine		

Sabet's Lab; Bioacoustics and Behavioural Biology Laboratory

2023 aquatic animal welfare achievements	Relevant links	2024 plans for aquatic animals
Doing research to explore anthropogenic noise impacts on aquatic animals. Link between behaviour and welfare	<p>https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Saeed_Shafiei_Sabet</p>	Explore anthropogenic noise impacts on both aquatic vertebrates and invertebrates at the individual level.



Aquatic Animal Alliance 2023 Wins

Samayu

2023 aquatic animal welfare achievements	Relevant links	2024 plans for aquatic animals
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Samayu has conducted on-ground comprehensive evaluations of farm operations and welfare measures at 16 inland aquaculture sites in two states of India, namely, Andhra Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh, covering approximately 5.1 million fish, including intensive farms. These assessments identified key elements for policy change and areas for welfare improvement across both cooperative and smallholder systems. Samayu's intersectional field engagement and farmer 'policy-meets' enabled farmer agreement and 6 farmer-backed policy recommendations to the Government, potentially impacting 3.38 billion (4.22 million metric ton) inland fish in Andhra Pradesh (estimating 2628.39 WPs/\$ affected) for setting guidelines against overstocking, promoting stress-free environment for fishes. To improve the understanding in various sectoral concerns Samayu has conducted in-depth secondary research and produced two peer reviewed research papers (under process of publication) and a comprehensive dossier containing the inland aquaculture operation system in four eco-climatic regions of India, identifying welfare considerations and informing relevant sectoral policies. 		<p>During 2024 Samayu's mission in the inland aquaculture sector of India aims to significantly enhance the living conditions of 92.5 million fishes in inland fish farming operations (freshwater ponds and tanks), through applying data driven policy advocacy experience to improve critical aspects of aquaculture, including water quality, oxygen levels, and ceasing non-clinical use of antibiotics and growth promoters.</p>

Shrimp Welfare Project

2023 aquatic animal welfare achievements	Relevant links	2024 plans for aquatic animals
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Reaching 1.2B shrimps helped per \$ per year (in expectation) SWP became an ACE recommended charity Most of the team got together in India for a successful strategy week, Shrimposium 	<p>https://forum.effectivealtruism.org/posts/Qo3559TqP5BzoQyWX/two-years-of-shrimp-welfare-project-insights-and-impact-from</p>	<p>Expand our electrical stunner program to reach more farms, supported by scientific study on humane electrical stunning for vannamei wrapping up phase one at the University of Stirling, publish v1.0 of our Welfare Index for farmed whiteleg shrimp (vannamei), expand our work in India through SSFI (Sustainable Shrimp Farmers of India), and engage with more retailers to publicly publish their shrimp welfare sourcing policy.</p>

Sibanye Animal Welfare and Conservancy Trust (SAWC) Zimbabwe

2023 aquatic animal welfare achievements	Relevant links	2024 plans for aquatic animals
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Reaching to government on policy reforms Research on state of Aquaculture in Zimbabwe 		<p>To carry on with aquaculture policy reforms and to create awareness on aquaculture</p>