

# SUMMARY OF ANNUAL REPORT

2022



[WWW.AAP.EU](http://WWW.AAP.EU)



**WHO ARE WE, AND WHAT DO WE DO?**

AAP (Animal Advocacy and Protection) is a European animal welfare organisation dedicated to the welfare of exotic mammals such as primates, lions and tigers. Millions of them are kept in poor conditions as pets, are illegally traded or brutally exploited in circuses and other forms of entertainment. This causes unimaginable suffering. To end this, AAP rescues animals in need and advocates for better laws and regulations across Europe. Because only by tackling the causes we can really put an end to animal suffering.

AAP operates two rescue and rehabilitation centres; one in the Netherlands and one in Spain. In these facilities, rescued animals can recover from their often cruel past. Once the animals have recovered, AAP finds them a suitable permanent home.

**AAP 50 YEARS**

In 2022 AAP celebrated its 50th anniversary. In our anniversary year, we had some great achievements. In this summary, we share the main parts of our 2022 annual report.\*

**TOTAL NUMBER OF ANIMALS IN THE RESCUE CENTRES**

As of 31 December 2022, there were 503 animals in our rescue centres, including chimpanzee Congo. Congo lived in a French circus for years. He now lives together with a group of other chimpanzees at our rescue centre in Almere.



TOTAL NUMBER OF ANIMALS IN THE RESCUE CENTRES		
Chimpanzees	:	45
Other primates	:	193
Big cats	:	30
Other mammals	:	235
<b>Total</b>	:	<b>503</b>
In Almere	:	391
In Spain	:	112



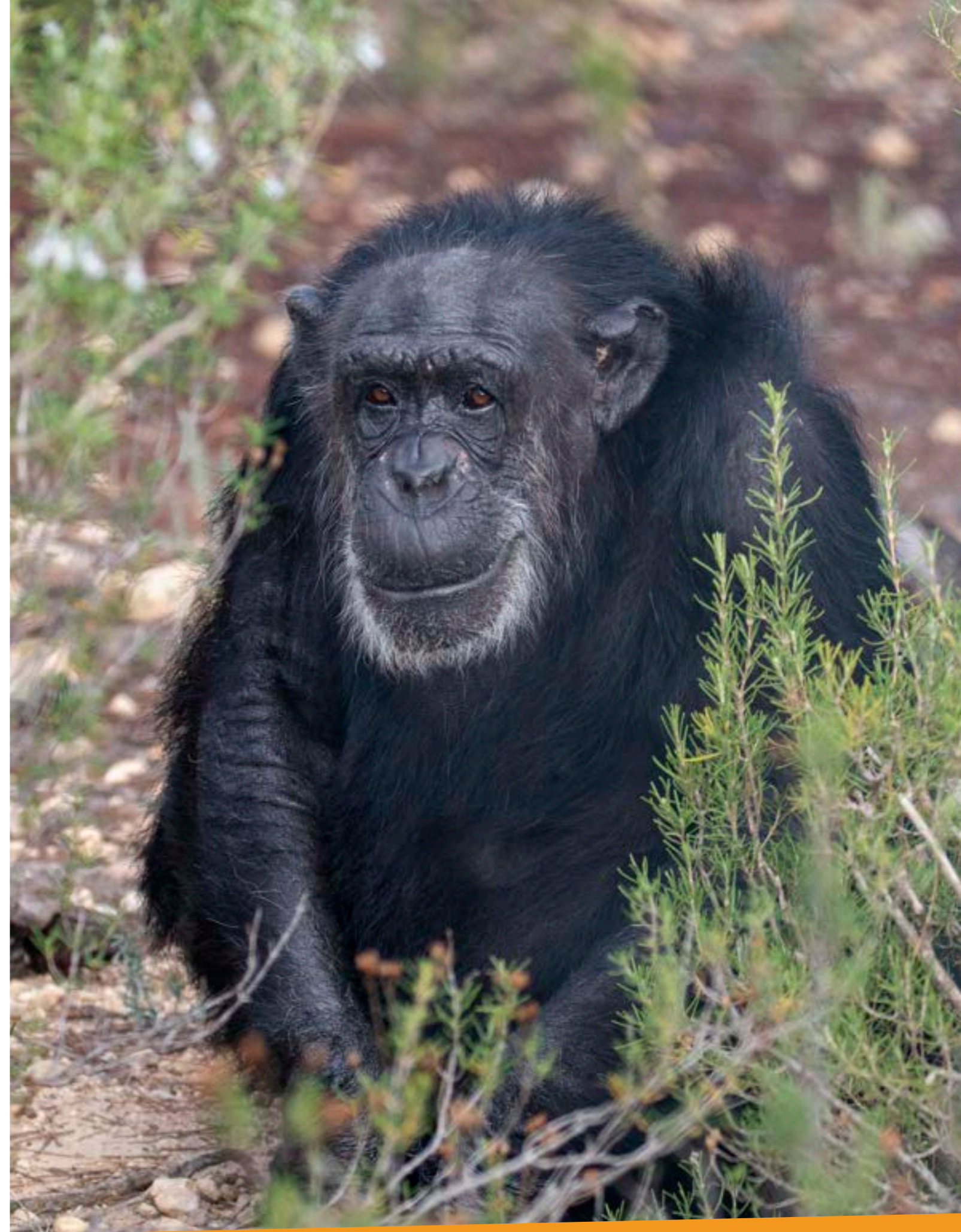
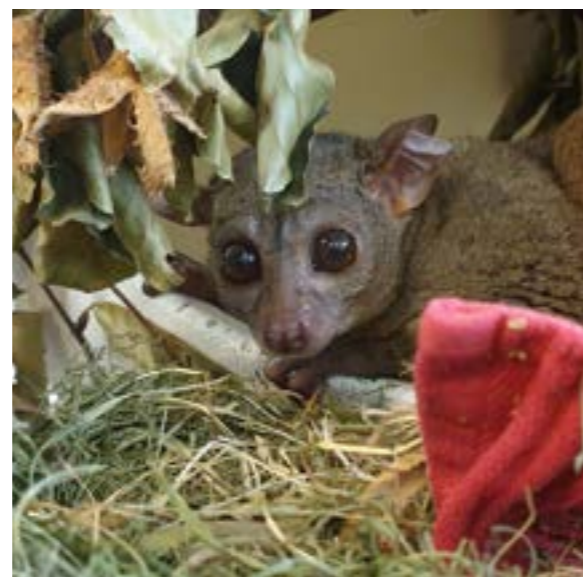
**NUMBER OF RESCUED ANIMALS**

In 2022 AAP was able to take in 92 animals. Many animals were rescued from the war in Ukraine, including the young lions Flori, Kiara, Nila and Gyz and the African wild dog Zair.

ANIMALS RESCUED IN 2022		
Big cats	:	12
Primates	:	19
Other mammals	:	61
<b>Total</b>	:	<b>92</b>

**NUMBER OF OUTPLACED ANIMALS**

In 2022, a total of 66 animals were outplaced, including galago Edwin. As of 31 December 2022, a total of 558 AAP animals had found a new home with 100 different outplacement partners.





### SUCCESSSES IN LEGISLATION

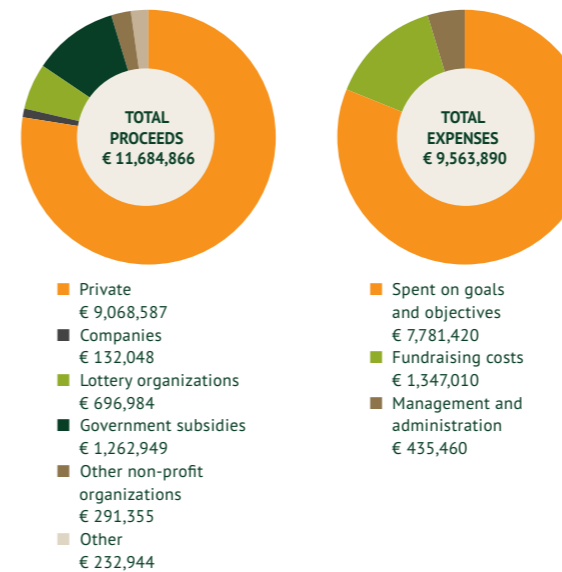
In our 50th anniversary year, we also achieved great results on the legislative and policy front. For example, the Dutch government presented the new Dutch Positive List for pets in the summer of 2022. A milestone in the field of animal welfare that was partly achieved thanks to AAP's efforts! See all results on animals in entertainment, private ownership and illegal trade at page 6.

### INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

AAP cooperates with and is part of many organisations, both nationally and internationally. For example; the Species Survival Network, Positive List Coalition (Spain), InfoCircos (Spain), Eurogroup for Animals (Brussels) and the European Alliance for Rescue centres and Sanctuaries (EARS).

**Number of donors: 72.253**  
**Number of staff and volunteers:**  
 Salaried staff: 117. Volunteers: 223.

### TOTAL REVENUE AND EXPENSES



### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION TO THE PIE CHARTS

#### Private contributions

Inheritances and legacies are an important source of income for AAP. In 2022 we received € 3,685,671 in inheritances and legacies.

#### Lottery contributions

The Dutch National Postcode Lottery (Nationale Postcode Loterij) supports many charities, including AAP. In 2022 we received an annual contribution of € 500,000.-. In addition, we received a fantastic €750,000.- cheque which enables us to develop a European Positive list methodology! We are delighted with the support from the Dutch National Postcode Lottery.

#### Subsidies

AAP receives government funding for a specific group of animals. Namely, the chimpanzees that came from a Dutch laboratory. These animals will stay at AAP permanently because they are infected with HIV and Hepatitis C. The animals came to AAP in 2006 after the Government funded research centre had to stop testing on great apes, which has been prohibited by law in the Netherlands since 2003. AAP receives a subsidy from the government for the shelter, daily care and medical care of these animals and this will continue until 2036.

Furthermore, AAP receives a European grant for the European Solidarity Corps, a program in which you can work as a volunteer throughout Europe.

### EXPENDITURE PER EURO RECEIVED

81.4 cents of every euro we receive is spent directly on the primary objective of AAP Foundation: the sustainable improvement of the welfare of exotic animals. Besides housing and care costs for all animals, we also spend part of these contributions on our prevention work. We spend the remaining 18.6 cents on organisational running costs. For example, expenses for fundraising, office facilities, financial administration, personnel administration and IT facilities. These expenses are necessary to make our work for exotic animals possible and to operate professionally.



## RESULTS LEGISLATION AND POLICY

### PRIVATE OWNERSHIP OF EXOTIC PETS - POSITIVE LIST

- In 2022 AAP worked in collaboration with Eurogroup for Animals (EFA) and put pressure on the European institutions to opt for a European Positive List for mammals that are allowed to be kept as pets. Several successes were achieved from these activities. For instance, the Agrifish committee led by the Cypriot agriculture minister spoke out in favour of a European Positive List. Finally, in November, the European Parliament passed a motion for the creation of a European Positive List. The European Commission's revised action plan against illegal wildlife trade also now includes the intention to explore a European Positive List, although for the moment it is limited to animals captured from the wild. AAP has commissioned a white paper via EFA with a legal and science-based plea for conducting a feasibility and impact study on a European Positive List.
- In the Netherlands, the Dutch Positive List for pets was published by the Government in the summer of 2022. The outcome is very positive with only 30 animals on the list that are suitable to keep as pets based on the scientific research of the assessment committee. For the moment, there has been little public opposition to the list, but this may change as the implementation of the Positive List from 1 January 2024 approaches. AAP is therefore permanently committed to maintaining and broadening support for this instrument.



- In Spain, discussions on a national animal welfare bill have been started. AAP is following the process closely and - where possible in coalition - will exert pressure on the progress of the legislative process given the elections in November 2023. The bill includes both a ban on the use of wild animals in circuses and the development of a Positive List.
- In 2022 we also celebrated some milestones in several EU member states. There were positive developments in Portugal, Italy and Lithuania, among others. To facilitate these and other member states in the development of a Positive List, a project manager has been appointed by AAP to focus on a model positive list that will help to facilitate the (legal and political) process significantly. This project is possible thanks to an earmarked donation from the Dutch National Postcode Lottery.
- In Germany, AAP worked in coalition to achieve a Positive List. This achievement has led to a formal cooperation agreement with a fellow organisation based in Germany. A German Public Affairs agency was also engaged to further develop the lobbying strategy in Germany, which should take more shape in 2023.

### WILD ANIMALS IN ENTERTAINMENT - CIRCUS BAN

- In 2022 AAP has continued its work towards an EU-wide ban on the use of wild animals in circuses. An EU ban is the final piece of the puzzle that will allow us to end the suffering of wild animals in European circuses once and for all. Despite a very successful petition in autumn 2021, handed over to the European Parliament, it proved very difficult to convince the European Commission of the necessity and possibility of an EU ban. It has therefore been decided to put this endeavour on hold until a new European Commission has been elected, in the hope that the new Commission will be less reluctant towards an EU ban.
- On the research front, AAP continued to work on the report, "The Darkness behind the Spotlights", in which we show what behavioural and health problems we find in rescued circus animals.

### ILLEGAL TRADE

- In November 2022, the revised action plan against illegal wildlife trade was adopted by the European Commission. This revision is not binding but is the intended policy of the European Commission for which it can be held accountable. AAP provided input on this revision in 2021 through public con-

sultation and by providing additional advice - at the invitation of the European Commission - as an expert. We took this opportunity to emphasise the links between the legal and illegal wildlife trade and to call for a more preventive approach in the form of an EU Positive List. We also called for more (financial) support and coordination at an EU level for the care and housing of confiscated wild animals in the hope of increasing and strengthening the currently far too limited European facilities for these animals. Positively, the European Commission has announced steps on all these fronts. AAP is committed to the speedy implementation of the intended plans.

- Furthermore, 2022 was another important year for our Born to be Wild project, made possible by the Dutch National Postcode Lottery. A reintroduction project was launched where we give confiscated Barbary macaques a chance to return to the wild! At the newly built rehabilitation centre in Tazekka National Park, the animals are being prepared for reintroduction one step at a time.



This summary is not the official annual report of AAP and contains only excerpts of the AAP official annual report 2022. The AAP official annual report has been prepared according to Dutch reporting guidelines and audited by an external auditor. It is only available in Dutch and can be found via the AAP website [www.aap.nl/jaarverslagen](http://www.aap.nl/jaarverslagen).