

# YOUR GLOBAL IMPACT REPORT 2023 ENDURING COMPASSION, EXTRAORDINARY PROGRESS

## 2023: IN TURBULENT TIMES, YOUR COMPASSION ENDURES

This has been a year of immense challenges. But, thanks to your steadfast kindness and compassion, 2023 also saw historic wins against factory farming, and hope for a brighter future for animals, people and our world.

In 1967, against the odds, one farming family stood up against the suffering of caged and cruelly confined animals. Over 55 years later the movement they founded, Compassion in World Farming, still faces tough odds against a trillion-dollar global industry, political turmoil, international conflicts and the costof-living crisis.

But, despite the tough climate for engaging governments and businesses, Compassion's 160-strong staff team, and our global community of determined, passionate advocates for animals, continue to achieve huge progress.

supported our

campaigns

87,000

currently donate to

enable our work

NR NUMBERS

2022-202

Millions of people around the world want to see cages banned from farming. We've encouraged companies to back a more humane, environmentally sound food system, and helped hundreds of thousands of citizens to speak out for vulnerable animals. Plus, together, we're proving that the wellbeing of everyone on Earth depends upon ending the biggest cause of animal cruelty.

You know that the vision, born in 1967, of a world without factory farming is the only humane, just and sustainable option for our planet. **By standing with Compassion, united against the odds, you're securing big victories for animals and making that better future possible. Thank you.** 

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Philip Lymbery Chief Executive, Compassion in World Farming International

# **GIVING FARMED ANIMALS A VOICE**

#### During 2022/23, Compassion supporters took 23.2 million actions to speak up for animals and expose the cruelty, environmental and social harm caused by factory farming.

From writing to politicians and policy makers, to attending protests and spreading the word on social media, you showed those in power that ending farm animal suffering isn't just morally right but a global imperative.

By backing our urgent appeals and applying your talents to creative fundraising events and sponsored challenges, you fuelled the fight against intensive farming around the world.

And, with each generous monthly donation you made, you gave Compassion's campaigns the constancy and power to drive through every challenge, towards an end to unsustainable and unethical intensive animal farming.

### **SMALL BUT MIGHT**

Alongside your advocacy for animals - to MPs, governments, friends and family - Compassion's small but dedicated media teams took your message to the global stage.

In 2022/2023, media coverage of our campaigns hit an estimated 19.5 billion opportunities to be seen or heard. This included prominent coverage across TV, radio and the press - including on the BBC and in Le Monde, La Repubblica and The New York Times.

Thanks to your support, media highlights included potential reach of 222 million for our EggTrack report launch; our Global CEO, Philip Lymbery's, regular column in The Scotsman reaching up to 4 million readers every fortnight; and coverage

of our work to ban octopus farming achieving a potential audience of almost 2 billion people.

Thanks to you, people around the world are waking up to the suffering of farmed animals trapped in inhumane conditions, to new threats to intelligent, sensitive creatures like octopuses, and to the terrible environmental impact of these practices.

You've proved that compassionate individuals, working together, can fight factory farming by cutting through the crowds and noise online, on TV and radio, and in the press. You are the voice for farmed animals, and you are making a difference around the world.



UR NUMBED Total global media coverage: 5 BI potential reach from 7,192 stories

2022-2023

**Online**: **19.4 BILLION** potential reach from 6.540 stories

Broadcast: **151.1 MILLION** reach from 360 stories

Print (UK only): 39.3 MI potential reach from 292 stories

# CHANGING THE LAW, FOR GOOD

When it comes to banning cruelty and transforming politics for farmed animals, Compassion supporters are a powerful, positive force, and won't give up, whatever is thrown back at us.

#### **ENDING THE CAGE AGE**

Thanks to you, in 2021, the European Commission committed to end the use of cages in animal farming. Your European Citizens' Initiative to End the Cage Age, the referendum-like petition initiated and co-ordinated by Compassion, was signed by 1.4 million citizens.

Over 80% of Members of the European Parliament voted in favour of an end to caged farming. And last year, studies by the EU's scientific body, the European Food Safety Authority, recommended that hens, sows, ducks, geese and quail should be kept cage-free and calves should not be kept in individual pens.

In a shocking U-turn, on 13 September 2023, Commission President Ursula von der Leyen's State of the European Union speech failed to mention this important issue, suggesting the European Commission is to shelve its unprecedented commitment to ban caged farming.

Such apparent disdain for citizens and scientists alike will only make us more determined to get Europe's 300 million animals out of cages; we won't stop until the only cage on a farm – wherever in the world it may be – is an empty cage.

Elsewhere, in the face of dither and delay by the UK and Scottish Governments, we simultaneously delivered almost **400,000 signatures** to Westminster and Holyrood, calling on Ministers to End the Cage Age.

In the US, we celebrated a pivotal victory when the Supreme Court rejected the pork industry's challenge to California's 'Proposition 12'. Judges upheld California's ban on the production or sale of pork, veal or eggs from caged or crated animals. This **vital ruling will help protect millions of animals from cage cruelty every year**.

### **BANNING LIVE EXPORTS**

2023 brought **four big wins** for the global movement against the unacceptable trade in live farm animals:

- New Zealand's historic ban on all remaining live exports by sea came into force in April.
- Germany has now banned all live exports of cattle, sheep and goats to non-EU countries.
- The Australian Government committed to phasing out sheep exports by sea.
- And a Brazilian judge banned live cattle exports from all the country's ports.

Meanwhile over **120 organisations, including** campaigners in at least **31 countries**, united for Ban Live Exports: International Awareness Day. On 14th June, around the world, people took to the streets to help end long-distance suffering on trucks and ships. And, online, **#BanLiveExports** had a potential reach of over **41 million views!**  Sadly, following regressive pressure from eight member states and the agriculture industry, the European Commission's review of animal welfare legislation didn't lead to a proposed ban on live exports beyond the EU.

However, several countries, including Germany and Luxembourg, remain committed to ending this practice. Even the European Court of Auditors, the EU's financial watchdog, says live transport journeys should be reduced. With your support, we're keeping up the campaign in Brussels, and within individual member states to cut this trade off at source.

In the UK, our 750-mile Ban Live Exports tour of Ministers' constituencies generated radio and press coverage with a potential reach of 399 million people. This summer, with your relentless support and with the help of our friends at Avaaz, we amassed over 95,000 signatures calling to end live exports. In September we delivered these directly to No. 10 Downing Street, alongside our Patron, Dame Joanna Lumley.

In November, the UK Government announced that it intends to introduce a Bill to Parliament. The Animal Welfare (Livestock Exports) Bill would ban live exports for slaughter or fattening from Great Britain. We will keep up the pressure until this Bill becomes law and these exports are stopped, once and for all.

#### SAVING OUR ANTIBIOTICS

The misuse of medication to keep animals alive in unhealthy, cruel conditions is rife. And, as a founding member of the Alliance to Save our Antibiotics, Compassion is at the forefront of efforts to stop these vital drugs being used to prop up factory farming.

You've already helped secure EU legislation that made it illegal for farmers to use antibiotics routinely to prevent disease. And, in 2023, we celebrated major progress in the UK when the Government launched a consultation on strengthening the rules on antibiotic use on farms.

If these proposals lead to changes in legislation, the routine use of antibiotics would be banned, as well as using antibiotics "to compensate for poor hygiene, inadequate husbandry, or poor farm management practices.

#### SHOALS OF PROGRESS

Through Compassion's Rethink Fish campaign, you're at the forefront of efforts to fix the shocking lack of fish welfare protection in EU legislation.

Alongside WeMove and Essere Animali, last December we handed in over 150,000 signatures to the European Commission, urging for new fish welfare rules. We also published an important scientific report, Rethinking EU Aquaculture for People, Planet, and Animals, which makes the clear case for more sustainable, higher welfare fish farming. And for the first time, our Supermarket Survey included questions relating to farmed fish.

Compassion is also playing a leading role in fighting plans for the world's first commercial octopus farm. We're pressing the local government in the Canary Islands to block the scheme and, with allies across Europe, calling on the EU to ban this cruel and environmentally damaging practice before it can take hold.

Meanwhile, in the US, Hawai'ian state authorities ordered an octopus farm that was operating under the guise of a tourist attraction and research facility to discontinue its activities. And the Washington House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee advanced a Bill that would ban octopus farming in the state. This first-of-its-kind legislation must still clear several hurdles, but momentum is growing to protect octopuses from inhumane factory farming.

ER 121 organisations in 31 countries called for a global live export ban

**Our work highlighting** the cruelty of octopus farming was potentially seen by almost 109 MILLION

on Twitter

We mobilised 20.000 in Czechia to demand a cage ban for farmed animals

Media coverage of our work to **ban** octopus farming reached almost

**2 BILLION** 

## **COMPASSION IN FOOD BUSINESS**

Over **2.5 billion animals** are now set to benefit each year thanks to your backing for Compassion's Food Business team. Together, we're helping more and more companies commit to improving animal welfare, and holding them to account for their pledges to move to more sustainable, resilient food systems.

#### **CHANGING THE LIVES OF CHICKENS**

Over **600 businesses** globally have now promised to move to healthier breeds of chicken, reared in better conditions, by making the Better Chicken Commitment (BCC). And the number of companies in our US Working Group who are collaborating to improve chicken welfare has leapt from **seven to 20**.

We also hold companies to account on their BCC pledges. The latest US ChickenTrack showed the number of businesses reporting progress on their commitments has **more than tripled**. Plus, the first ever European ChickenTrack confirmed **100% of fresh chicken in Norway's REMA supermarkets and M&S in the UK** is now from birds raised to these higher welfare standards.

#### **CRACKING PROGRESS FOR HENS**

Every year, we track the performance of major food businesses against their growing number of cage-free commitments for egg-laying hens. And the good news is that, despite economic challenges, the sixth annual EggTrack revealed positive change for animals around the world.

The report showed that **75%** of the 232 companies tracked were now reporting progress towards eliminating cages for hens, and on average almost 80% of the eggs used or produced by these companies were from animals living cage-free lives.

Meanwhile, **eight businesses made new global cage free pledges** – including Pizza Express and Yum! Brands. And eight companies also reported 100% compliance with European-level cage free egg commitments.

Crucially, **24 companies** have now made clear statements against using 'combination systems' which, at the flick of a door, can become a cage. You previously helped stop combi-cages infiltrating the UK, and now more and more companies globally are turning their backs on this unethical 'solution' to the cruel caging of hens.

#### **MAKING LABELS COUNT**

Corporate progress on animal welfare also depends on giving shoppers clear information about the food they buy, so they can choose to avoid factory farming.

After the European Union required packaging to state whether eggs come from hens who were kept in cages, barns, free-range or organic systems, the demand for cage-free eggs increased. Over half of hens in the EU now live in higher welfare systems.

We were therefore appalled when, having previously said that it would consult on extending compulsory animal welfare labelling to other species, the UK Government announced it was abandoning plans to publish its **long-awaited consultation** on this issue.

And we're also making sure the food industry doesn't simply wait for legislation before it gives consumers a clear choice. With your support, this year we've helped **extend the Étiquette Bien-Être Animal® welfare labelling scheme in France** from chicken to pork. And more than 100 French companies are now trialling Planet-Score® – the ground-breaking environmental labelling scheme which was devised, with our input, in 2021.



#### In the past year:

We helped secure corporate commitments to higher welfare production that are set to benefit more than

150 MILLION animals each year

## **TRANSFORMING THE FUTURE OF FOOD**

From pollution to the climate crisis, wildlife extinctions to human malnutrition, almost every global challenge has food at its core. But, thanks to you, politicians, businesses and citizens are waking up to the truth that ending factory farming is essential to a healthy future for our planet.

#### **EXTINCTION OR REGENERATION**

In 2023, Compassion brought together policy makers, business leaders, NGOs, farmers and scientists for the 'Extinction or Regeneration' conference – co-hosted with IPES-Food (the International Panel of Experts on Sustainable Food Systems), the Institute of Development Studies and other partners.

Hundreds of delegates took part in London and online. And, thanks to a partnership with the Good Food Fund, hundreds of thousands also joined a translated live stream in China.

Experts on issues as diverse as soil science, food justice, sustainable development and cellular agriculture came together to address the threats posed by our current food system. And they identified diverse solutions, from the financial tools governments can use to make healthy food affordable to disrupting the concentration of power in the food system and moving away from cruel practices towards regenerative farming.

#### END.IT

2022-2023

Our ground-breaking campaign calling on global leaders to eliminate factory farming gained significant momentum during 2023.

Following its launch at the COP27 UN climate conference in 2022, our petition calling for a transformative United Nations Global Agreement on food and farming has already gained **over 300,000 signatures**, with numbers growing every day.

Our END.IT campaign has also secured high profile backing from Hollywood actors, **Brian Cox, Alan Cumming, Steve Coogan** and **Eva Green**. And the compelling case for holding factory farming to account is gaining political traction.

### 600,000

people signed our joint petition to **end factory farming** to prevent pandemics Through our work in advocacy coalitions in Brussels, the EU adopted a new ground-breaking law requiring firms working in deforestation hotspots to certify that their goods have not harmed forests. This applies to products like soy used for animal feed.

#### **AVERTING THE NEXT PANDEMIC**

Compassion also remains at the forefront of efforts to address the disease threats posed by factory farms – where overcrowded, stressful conditions create a perfect breeding ground for dangerous viruses and bacteria.

In 2022, alongside FOUR PAWS, the Born Free Foundation and Proyecto Animales Latino América, we presented World Health Organization officials with almost **600,000 names** of people who want to see an end to factory farming to reduce the risk of future pandemics.

And, in 2023, we stepped up this campaign in the face of the devastating global bird flu crisis. We released a ground-breaking report setting out how the emergence and spread of highly pathogenic bird flu is linked to intensive farming. We are urging international agriculture ministries and the poultry sector to work with the World Organisation for Animal Health and the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization to introduce key, urgent reforms. This is essential to tackling bird flu, protecting birds, and averting the threat of a new human flu pandemic.



### Compassion's work relies on the generosity of all those who donate to fight factory farming, protect animals and transform the global food system.

Our thanks to every single individual and organisation who made a gift in the last year, and to all those who have remembered Compassion in their Will.

GLOBAL INCOME 2022/2023 GLOBAL EXPENDITURE 2022/2023 GLOBAL EXPE

A summary of our income and expenditure for 2022-2023 is shown here.

For more information, our full Annual Report and audited Accounts are available online at **ciwf.org.uk/Annual-Report** or on request.

### **NEW TO COMPASSION?**

Please join us! You'll receive updates on the latest campaign progress, opportunities to help fund the global movement, and be amongst the first to hear about new actions you can take to help give farmed animals a life worth living.

To see how you can act against factory farming, make a donation or regular gift, or learn about leaving a legacy for future generations of farm animals:

EMAIL supporters@ciwf.org CALL +44 (0)1483 521 953 VISIT ciwf.org.uk/Impact

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