

Hi

Across India's animal welfare landscape, progress often takes two forms: long-term efforts to reshape systems, and the daily work of caring for animals already in need. Both are essential. While structural reform initiatives help bring animal welfare into conversations on climate, public health, and sustainable food systems, organisations on the ground continue to provide rescue, treatment, and lifelong care for animals who have experienced injury, neglect, or abandonment.

This edition of Connect the Dots highlights developments across this spectrum- from the launch of a new national collaborative working to address systemic challenges in food systems, to the ongoing work of sanctuary teams caring for rescued animals, and conversations on expanding support for farmed animal welfare.

## Ecosystem Milestone

### India Karuna Collaborative Launches in Mumbai



On 11 March 2026, the **India Karuna Collaborative (IKC)** was **officially launched** in Mumbai as a new national platform aimed at integrating animal welfare into India's climate, public health, and economic development conversations. The initiative brings together over 50 organisations and more than 70 leaders from business, finance, policy, philanthropy, public health, media and civil society to address what speakers described as a largely invisible dimension of India's development story- the **welfare of over 1.5 billion farm animals** embedded in the country's food and economic systems.

Our recap deck notes the details from the round table discussion with signatories, launch of the IKC interconnectedness paper, YouGov survey, panel discussion and media coverage – click here [IKC Launch Recap.pdf](#).

## Ecosystem Conversation

### Bringing Attention to Farmed Animal Welfare

In February, India Animal Fund CEO Rekha Raghunathan participated in a webinar hosted by Project Pig Welfare Watch (PPWW), an initiative focused on improving welfare conditions for pigs in India's piggery systems. In her talk, "Overcoming Neglect: Securing Support for Farm Animals," Rekha discussed the persistent **funding gaps affecting farmed animal welfare** and the **reasons animals such as pigs often remain overlooked within traditional philanthropic priorities**.

The session explored how better **alignment between funders, organisations, and research initiatives** could help expand support for programmes addressing the welfare of farmed animals.

Watch the webinar recording:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1qtJIXeaE35pVmvS0b1ebzCOWuyx5K2sC/view>

## Partner Spotlight

### Caring for Rescued Animals at Happy Home Sanctuary



People For Animals Uttarakhand operates the **Happy Home Sanctuary in Dehradun**, where nearly 300 rescued animals receive ongoing care. The sanctuary provides food, shelter, medical treatment, and long-term rehabilitation for **animals who cannot safely return to the streets or the wild**.

To support these efforts, the organisation is currently running its annual fundraising campaigns to help cover the **costs of veterinary treatment, nutrition, shelter upkeep, and caregiver support**.

Support the sanctuary:

For Indian citizens:

<https://milaap.org/fundraisers/support-animals-of-happy-home-sanctuary>.

For US-based supporters:

<https://www.every.org/people-for-animals-uttarakhand/f/lifelong-care-for-300>

These contributions help ensure that rescued animals continue to receive consistent care and a safe place to live.

## Enabling Strategic Philanthropy and Partnerships

Animal welfare remains one of the most neglected areas, given its scale and systemic importance. India Animal Fund works to bridge this gap by identifying high-impact opportunities, enabling credible implementation partners, and facilitating strategic philanthropic and CSR engagement. Our role as a backbone organisation is to ensure that resources are deployed effectively, partnerships are strengthened, and interventions deliver measurable, scalable impact. To explore collaboration or partnership opportunities, write to [rekha@indiaanimalfund.org](mailto:rekha@indiaanimalfund.org)

*“Compassion, in which all ethics must take root, can only attain its full breadth and depth if it embraces all living creatures and does not limit itself to mankind.” - Albert Schweitzer*

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