

ANNUAL REPORT

Financial year ending

March 2023

www.acres.org.sg


T01SS0121K

ACRES

A world where animals are treated
with compassion and respect.



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Greetings!

With immense honor and heartfelt gratitude, I extend to you our annual report, encapsulating the financial year concluding on March 31, 2023. In comparison to the preceding year, this year has borne witness to our remarkable team reaching out to double the number of individuals, facilitating over 130 outreach programs and experiencing a 50% surge in the hours generously contributed by our young students towards aiding the animals of Singapore.

What more profound way to manifest the care and compassion Singapore's residents harbour for our animal companions than to observe a remarkable 70% escalation in volunteer hours throughout this financial year. It is with deep gratitude that we acknowledge the unwavering support and benevolence emanating from individuals, school students, corporate entities, and our diverse array of partners, without whom this progress would not have been possible.

Unsurprisingly, our leadership has looked into a pressing and important concern in sustaining the animal protection movement – the people of the organisation. As we bring you the programme updates, our CEOs have embarked on a transformative journey, prioritising the growth and engagement of the dedicated staff and volunteers at ACRES. This strategic focus aims to fortify our collective efforts in advocating for the welfare of animals, ensuring a resounding impact.

I am confident that with your continued support, we can continue to contribute to creating a compassionate society for all lives.

Sincerely,

ASSOC PROF DR UMAPATHI THIRUGNANAM

ACRES President

FY 2022-2023 IN A GLANCE

3,139



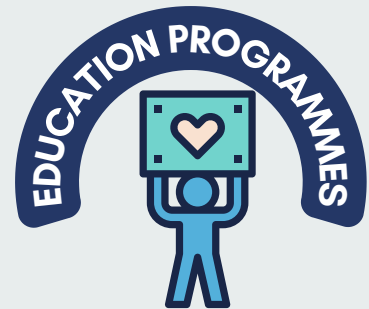
14,876



632



133



23,447



154



19,342



990



INTRODUCTION TO ACRES

ACRES (Animal Concerns Research & Education Society) is a pioneering Singapore-based charity and Institution of Public Character (UEN T01SS0121K), founded by Singaporeans in 2001 with the aim of ending animal cruelty. ACRES was registered as a society on 24th May 2001 (Registration No.: 0176/2001). It was registered under the Charities Act on 11th January 2005 (Registration No.: 1849) and registered as an Institution of Public Character on 1st June 2007 (Registration no. IPC000559).

OUR VISION

A world where animals are treated with compassion and respect.

OUR MISSION


To create a caring and socially responsible society where animals are treated as sentient beings.

OUR AMBITION

To drive forward a collaborative and sustainable animal protection movement in Asia.

OUR OBJECTIVES

- To foster respect and compassion for all animals.
- To improve the living conditions and welfare of animals in captivity.
- To educate people on lifestyle choices which do not involve the abuse of animals and which are environment-friendly.



ACRES is an animal protection organisation, driven by our concern for animals. We adopt a Scientific, Creative, Practical and Positive approach to educate the public, empowering them with knowledge to make a positive difference for animals. We strongly believe in promoting community involvement in addressing animal protection issues and in building partnerships with all related bodies and the authorities to improve animal welfare.

OUR FOCUS AREAS

TACKLING THE ILLEGAL WILDLIFE TRADE

Investigating and
monitoring to end the
cruel wildlife trade



HUMANE EDUCATION

Sowing seeds of
compassion in young
minds and hearts

WILDLIFE RESCUE & REHABILITATION

For the wildlife in distress
24 hours a day,
365 days a year



OUR FOCUS AREAS



PROMOTING CRUELTY-FREE LIFESTYLE

Empowering YOU to
make animal-friendly
choices in daily lives.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Inspiring action for animals
through volunteer programmes



PROMOTING CO-EXISTENCE

Instill wildlife etiquette
to coexist with
Singapore's wildlife
in our City in Nature

Photo Credits

Jayaprakash Pascal
Bojan Debrunner
Monitor lizard Piglet

EXECUTIVE BOARD

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS & THEIR OCCUPATION

A/P Umapathi Thirugnanam
Associate Professor, Neurologist

Satya Tiwari
Obstetrician & Gynaecologist

Noelle Seet
Technology & Privacy Counsel

Andrew Tay
Master Nature Educator

Alpana Ahuja
Illustrator

Naomi Clark-Shen
Sharks and Rays Researcher

POSITION & DATE OF APPOINTMENT

President
24 January 2017

Vice-President
29 March 2023

Treasurer
07 February 2023

Secretary
11 January 2019

Committee Member
06 January 2016

Committee Member
27 January 2023

There are no paid staff members who are close members of the family of the above directors and members.

Seven meetings were conducted for this financial year on 12 Apr, 21 Jul, 20 Sep, 1st Dec of 2022 and 17th Jan, 7th Feb and 29th Mar of 2023. All meetings were held via zoom except one. All meetings except one, had full attendance. Absent with apologies was the treasurer in one (in February 2023) of the seven meetings.



EXECUTIVE BOARD



DIRECTORS	POSITION & DATE OF APPOINTMENT	MONTHLY SALARY
Anbarasi Boopal	Co-CEO (Advocacy) 01 January 2021	\$4,110
Kalaivanan S/O Balakrishnan	Co-CEO (Wildlife Rescue) 01 January 2021	\$4,240

ACRES's banker is Overseas Chinese Banking Corporation (OCBC), and we do not have an appointed lawyer at the moment.



WILDLIFE RESCUE

The ACRES Wildlife Rescue Centre (AWRC), the first of its kind in Singapore, serves as a safe haven for animals affected by the illegal wildlife trade. Within this premises, wildlife abandoned or discarded due to the illicit exotic pet industry receive care and rehabilitation, finding solace among others of their species in natural-like habitats. Our primary goal is to reunite them with their native homes whenever feasible.

Our experienced Wildlife Rescue Team is at the ready round the clock **24 hours a day, 365 days a year**, stepping in to assist distressed wildlife. This aid extends to abandoned exotic wildlife as well as native wildlife grappling with injuries, entrapment, or displacement.



Images (Top to bottom) A black-naped oriole under rehabilitation; a native heron being treated for concussion and a coral snake rescued from a glue trap laid for rodent control

Between 1st April 2022 and 31st March 2023, a total of **14,876** calls were handled by our 24-hour hotline (97837782) from the members of public. **3,139** wild animals were rescued- including animals from the illegal exotic pet trade (who are frequently found abandoned in public areas), as well as injured, trapped or displaced native wild animals. A total of over **1,200** native wild animals were successfully released back into the wild.

NATIVE WILDLIFE

Between 1st April 2022 and 31st March 2023, ACRES rescued several native wildlife of the following species:

Reptiles: Malayan box turtle, Asiatic soft-shelled turtle, water monitor lizard, clouded monitor lizard, King cobra, reticulated python, elegant bronzeback, striped bronzeback, oriental whip snake, striped kukri snake, Wagler's pit viper, mangrove viper, mangrove cat snake, equatorial spitting cobra, paradise tree snake, common wolf snake, dog-faced water snake, twin-barred tree snake, brahmminy blind snake, dog-toothed cat snake, common Malayan racer, banded Malayan coral snake, Equatorial spitting cobra, green crested lizard;

Birds: Rock pigeon, spotted dove, cinnamon bittern, house crow, Eurasian tree sparrow, oriental pied hornbill, zebra dove, yellow bittern, black-naped oriole, tailor bird, olive-backed sunbird, collared kingfisher, common kingfisher, oriental dwarf kingfisher, stork-billed kingfisher, grey heron, large-tailed nightjar, barn owl, oriental scops owl, honey buzzard, spotted wood owl, changeable hawk eagle, sparrow hawk, crested goshawk, mangrove pitta, blue-winged pitta, pink-necked green pigeon, little green pigeon, yellow-vented bulbul, peregrine falcon, night heron, common mynah, white-vented mynah, crested-serpent eagle, white-breasted waterhen and more species.



*Two black-naped oriole fledglings (top)
hand-raised to adulthood (bottom) in
April 2022, with all necessary life skills
before release into the wild*

NATIVE WILDLIFE



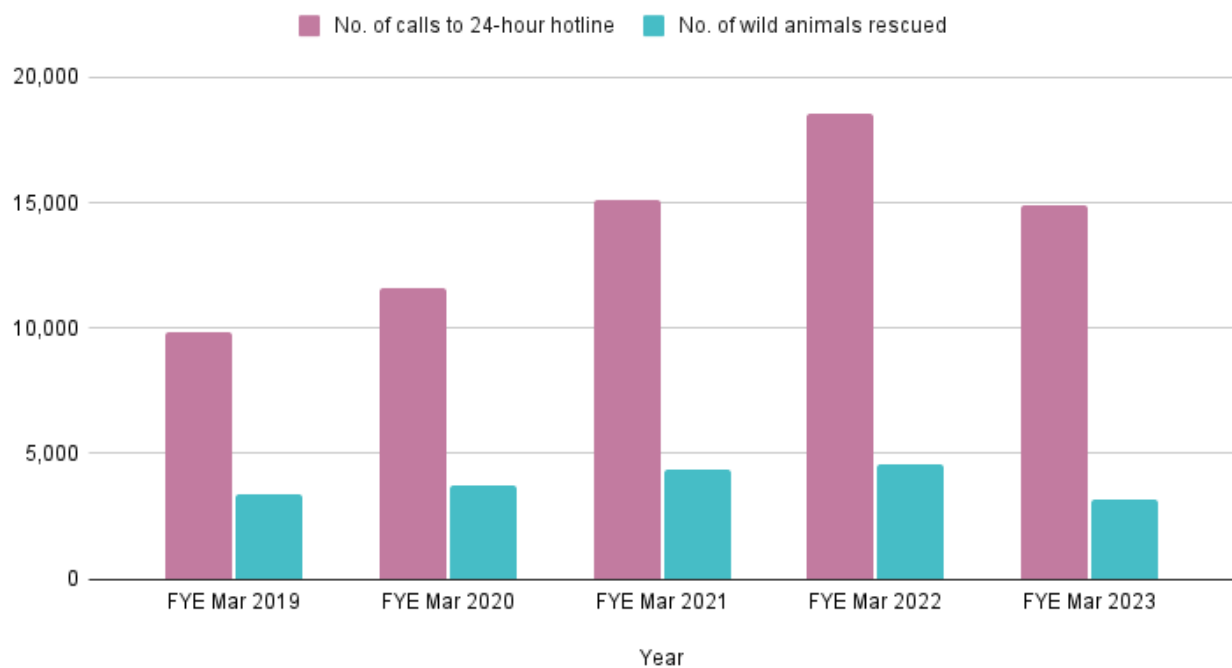
Rehabilitating and hand-raising native mammals involve prolonged care in captivity: These two baby civets rescued from two different cases in June 2022, were integrated and rehabilitated for 3 months, before release in our wild habitats in Singapore.

Mammals: Plantain squirrel, dog-faced fruit bat, yellow house bat, bamboo bats, common tree shrew, Sunda pangolin, long-tailed macaque, banded langur, smooth-coated otter, masked palm civet, Malayan colugo, sambar deer and common palm civet.

Sadly, not every wild animal whom we rescue survives. Some are so badly injured or suffering from such severe shock that they pass away. This year, we successfully released over 1,200 rescued wild animals back to the wild.

NATIVE WILDLIFE

Trends in need for ACRES's need for wildlife rescue services



ACRES observed a drop by 20% in the number of calls handled by our hotline in this financial year. Even though last FY was the unusually highest ever in the organisation's history, this drop can be due to factors such as NParks' 24-hour hotline handling wildlife-related situations.

ACRES successfully completed the tenure of the work as a contractor to NParks for wildlife management services in September 2022, which involved activations to remove wildlife such as snakes, civets and bats by NParks. ACRES's bids did not win the tender to resume this contract.

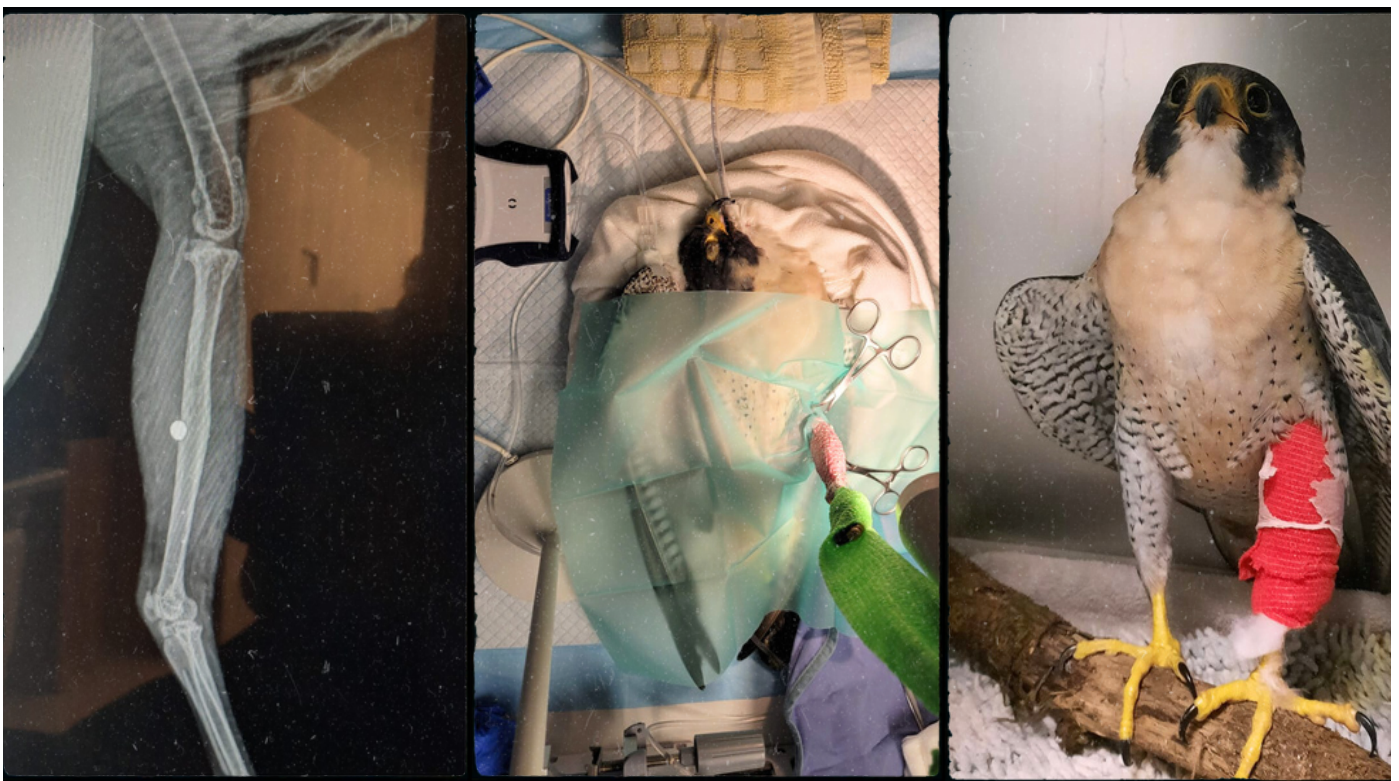
In compliance with the Wildlife Act, ACRES also submits records of release, rescue and rehabilitated wildlife to the NParks.

SPOTLIGHT: NATIVE WILDLIFE

In March 2022, our wildlife rescue team rescued 'Titanium', a peregrine falcon who could not stand up or take off. With no visible injuries, our veterinary team's assessment and x-rays revealed a metal object in the leg. A surgery was carried out to ensure that the object was safely removed. To our shock and surprise, it was a BB gun pellet lodged in the leg, resulting in a fracture.

Following two week's rest and healing, Titanium was free to be wild again in April 2023, as we welcomed the new financial year! Titanium's recovery update can be watched by clicking below.

Titanium (left to right): (i) X-ray showing the BB gun pellet lodged in the leg bone; (ii) under surgery and (iii) An unhappy Titanium who likes to rip off the bandage during cage rest



SPOTLIGHT: NATIVE WILDLIFE

In January 2023, our team was alerted to a large reticulated python who has sought refuge on the high-hanging CNY lights on the road. As a concerned crowd gathered, our rescue officers had to bring down the lighting, and rescue the python safely for relocation.



Choa Chu Kang CNY lighting sought as refuge by a native reticulated python, rescued and safely relocated by our rescue team.

Educative rescues is a key aspect of our work, which goes beyond rescuing the animal. Our team goes the extra mile to talk to the personnel on the ground, educating them on our native wildlife. This is not only to raise awareness, but also minimise unnecessary panic from lack of awareness and exposure.

Gerald, our rescue officer working together with construction personnel to rescue a python



Ari, our rescue officer explaining to public, while examining a rescued grounded raptor

SPOTLIGHT: NATIVE WILDLIFE

KHABIB, THE WHITE-BELLIED SEA EAGLE Our heartfelt thanks to the kind folks at Nee Soon Camp who called for help and also named this eagle Khabib. Khabib was rescued in shock, after he flew into a wall and crashed from a great height.

Our veterinary team quickly stabilised Khabib with fluids and rest. Xray revealed that Khabib suffered spinal trauma that resulted in paralysis in both legs. Thankfully as a young eagle, Khabib accepted food readily and had the fighting spirit to cooperate with the physiotherapy sessions! We are grateful for our patient and dedicated team of wildlifevet, #vetnurse and our caregivers who took all efforts for two months to ensure that Khabib grew stronger and stayed wild, for release back to the wild.



Khabib, before rescue. Click button below to watch his full story



Khabib, getting fluid therapy after rescue, to stabilise from dehydration and trauma

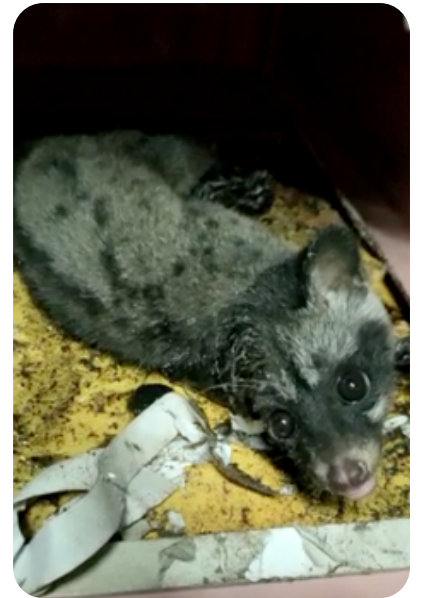


Khabib, at the release site, before flying off

SPOTLIGHT: NATIVE WILDLIFE

SAYANG, the common palm civet was rescued as a baby from a glue trap in February 2023. The team recount cleaning Sayang as one of the most heart-breaking moments. Glued feathers and fur are not only difficult to clean the glue off from, but glue removal is also a very stressful process overall for these poor animals. They deserve a safe home in the wild, and have the right to be Free To Be Wild! Glue traps are just one of the issues, besides poisoning, abuse, illegal trade and poor welfare that we fight to end in Singapore. Click the watch button to watch her full story of rehabilitation and release in June 2023.

Following glue removal, she could not be released immediately, as Sayang was too young to survive in the wild. So she had to be rehabilitated for about four months before release into the wild.



Sayang, the young common palm civet found on glue trap

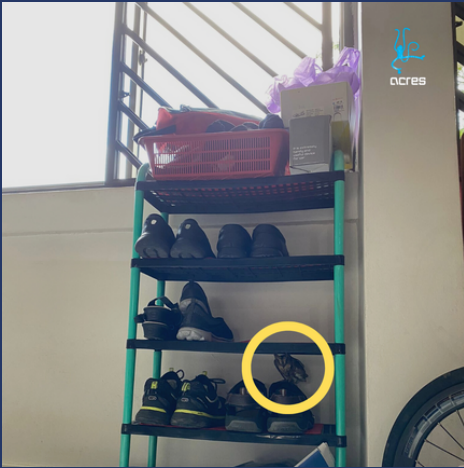


It took over two weeks of cleaning and care before all of the glue could be removed from her body.



Sayang, four months later before release back into the wild

SPOTLIGHT: NATIVE WILDLIFE



December 2022: A lost scops owl rescued from a shoe rack in a HDB building, rested and released back into the wild.

April 2022: A rock pigeon with a broken leg and a olive-backed sunbird with a left wing fracture in recovery, before release into the wild.



December 2022: A stranded paradise tree snake rescued from Christmas tree decorations, and a grounded honey buzzard under fluid therapy after rescue.

SPOTLIGHT: GLUE TRAPS



In early 2023, ACRES worked closely with the media to raise awareness on the plight on the cruel and indiscriminate glue traps. Our data indicated that ACRES rescued at least one wild animal from a glue trap every day in the calendar year 2022. This alarming rates prompted an appeal to NParks to look into phasing out or at least regulating the sale and use of glue traps.



Most often, these sticky traps laid for lizards or rats, have the whole food chain trapped – a gecko or a toad or a rat, then their predator a snake or a monitor lizard too.

Glue removal is a stressful process taking several days, and unfortunately many of these rescued victims may not survive.

Dec 2022: Top: A collared kingfisher rescued from a rodent glue trap. After 8 weeks of rehabilitation, the bird was finally released back into the wild. Bottom: In February 2023, Peep, the slaty-breasted rail bird was rescued from a glue trap and was released after 3 weeks of rehabilitation and captive care. A shy and elusive resident breeder, this bird is not even an urban species to be caught as a victim of a practice in urban centres.

SPOTLIGHT: GLUE TRAPS



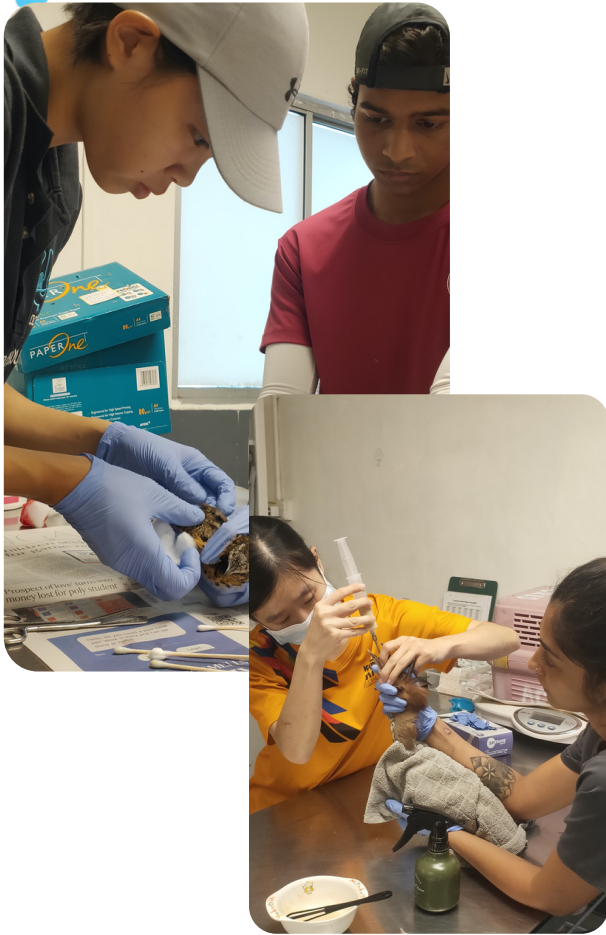
December 2022: A spotted dove, a gecko and a wolf snake rescued from glue/sticky traps.

Jan 2023: Two common wolf snakes and a rare banded Malayan coral snake rescued from glue traps.



Previous year examples of pythons and other snakes getting stuck to glue traps, when they find their prey. Without addressing the food sources availability, glue traps does not address the rodent issue.

WILDLIFE RESCUE VOLUNTEERS



In this financial year, our amazing volunteers clocked in 14,430 hours, assisting us with the wildlife rescue shifts and caring for the rescued wildlife housed at ACRES Wildlife Rescue Centre.

ACRES trained another batch of volunteers in this financial year. However, we sadly bade farewell to our long term volunteers Laurie and Chetna among a few more who were moving out of Singapore.

We are grateful for the continued dedication and support from our current and new batch of volunteers.

A long-term wildlife rescue volunteer and teacher Ee Qiang examining a rescued young Malaysian colugo, during his Saturday day shift.

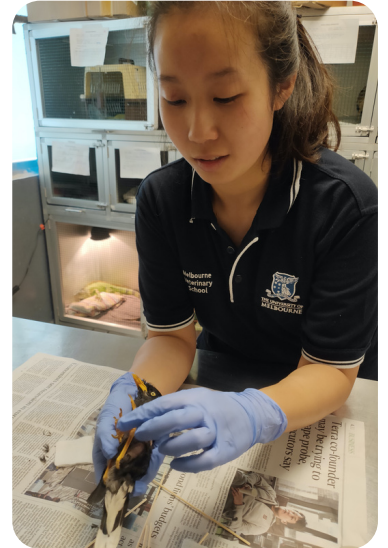


We bid farewell to our long-term committed volunteers Laurie and Chetna, as they move out of Singapore.

VETERINARY SUPPORT



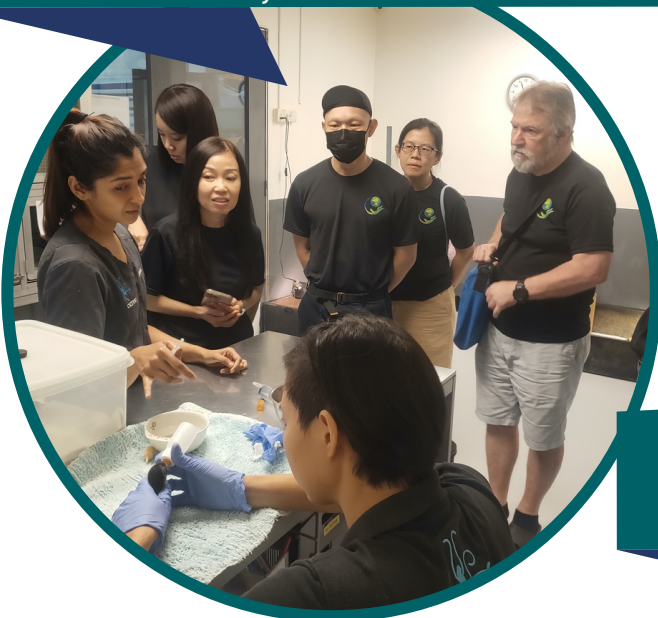
Left: Animal Wellness Recovery Centre team learning journey visit to ACRES



Right: Veterinary student on extra-mural internship attachment, from Melbourne University

We are honoured to partner Animal Wellness Referral Centre and Animal Wellness Recovery Centre, thanks to Dr Jean Paul-Ly's kindness and unwavering support. The partnership is to support veterinary care for certain animals requiring special diagnostic facilities or treatment procedures, at a subsidised rate and fully waived consultation fee.

the Animal Wellness REcovery Centre team of vets and vet nurses visited and spoke to our husbandry and veterinary team, sharing insights



Dr Jean Paul-Ly observing, as our veterinary team carries out a treatment procedure for a rescued bird

RAPID RESPONSE TEAM



In August 2022, during our Supporters ge-together event, our Co-CEO Kalai together with our supporters unveiled our brand new team called Rapid Response Rescue Team. This retro-fitted second hand bike, is to pilot a project, to complement current rescue efforts carried out by a single van and two rescue officers

For cases, that require emergency attention and can be handled by a single person, the bike rider will respond and handle the situation until help arrives.





EXOTIC WILDLIFE

The ACRES Wildlife Rescue Centre (AWRC) provides a safe haven for rescued exotic wild animals from the illegal wildlife trade in Singapore. A considerable number of these animals are discovered abandoned in public spaces, their survival prospects in Singapore's environment being minimal due to their lack of adaptation. Releasing them to be free in Singapore is detrimental not only to their well-being but also to the native wildlife and habitats. The presence of introduced exotic species poses a significant threat, leading to competition with native species for food and the potential introduction of foreign diseases, resulting in detrimental imbalances within the native ecosystem.

Since the Covid-19 restrictions were being lifted during this period, efforts to resume repatriation begun in this financial year, resulting in successful repatriations in the future. Consequently, we faced space constraints and had to limit admissions of exotic wildlife, redirecting a number of cases to the National Parks Board, who had recently opened a facility to house trafficked wildlife in Singapore.



One of our African ball python receiving care to prevent possibilities of eye infections. Often, these animals come with underlying health conditions due to sub-optimal care.



Leonard, the leopard tortoise from previous year, continued to face health issues, requiring veterinary care. Native to Africa, these tortoises are often smuggled to be sold/kept as pets for their beautiful shell.

EXOTIC WILDLIFE

Our outdoor sanctuary and indoor quarantine space, house over 110 exotic wild animals from the illegal wildlife trade. Providing care for them not only includes feeding, cleaning enclosures - but also having a rigorous enrichment and preventive veterinary care in place.

This entails having a complete diet plan, supplement routine, preventive care such as periodic weighing, daily behavioural monitoring, daily bowel/urination monitoring and enrichment schedule for both physical and mental well-being of these animals. The enclosures are also revamped periodically.

Featured here are a couple of festive enrichment that are carried out to share some of these programmes with our supporters. However, the daily enrichment projects have a lot more engagement, meaning and purpose to stimulating their natural exploratory or foraging behaviour to best possible level in a given space at ACRES.



*Left - Sulcata tortoises, native to Africa trying to figure out their National Day dietary enrichment
Right - Christmas enrichment of 2022, which involved a salad creatively designed to be a Christmas tree, with locally sourced wild flowers grown at ACRES. You may watch the video by clicking above.*

FEEDBACK



Jiahui Zhou

January 24 · 🌐

We want to say thank you again to ACRES for taking the time to contact and take over the 4-day-old sunbird nestling whose parents have been missing. Your team responded quickly and transported the baby bird with profession. It is grateful to see that your organization treat every life with care, regardless of the size and rarity. Hope the baby bird can grow up successfully and fly back to the wild again 🙏 Happy Chinese New Year and wish all the best to ACRES 🙏



We just now called the service since a small snake was spotted in the bathroom. The response is very swift and the rescue professional reached after 1 hour. He caught the snake and also provided the useful knowledge. Appreciate the fast action. He has rescued us too.

Shirley Shi Wen, January 2023

Shivani Bhutda recommends ACRES: Animal Concerns Research & Education Society (Singapore).
September 15, 2022 · 🌐

Thank you so much ACRES rescue team 🙏🙏 for saving Myna Bird I have called ACRES when we saw critical/ injured myna Bird They gave me instructions on WhatsApp to follow and keep him safe in the box with ventilation we had seen improvement after a few hours the rescue team was there hats of you guys for giving him another life



As one can expect, we also receive feedback on our services resulting from miscommunication during rescues or over the phone. The work we do involves tense and emergency situations, where multiple calls are handled and the feedback provider can be trying their best to get help as soon as possible. We try our best to make time to address those and explain to the feedback provider.

TACKLING CRIMES AGAINST ANIMALS



This financial year, our ACIU (Animal Crime Investigation Unit) investigated a total of **154 cases** related to animal cruelty and illegal wildlife trade, in comparison to last FY which saw around 230 cases.

Out of the 154 cases,

- 20 cases were related to sale of prohibited wildlife
- 36 cases were on possession of prohibited wildlife
- 41 cases were on cruelty and welfare concerns related to wildlife
- 22 cases were on poaching of Singapore's native wildlife



This year, the ACIU also carried out an investigation and will soon be publishing findings and recommendations on the issue of online illegal wildlife trade on Telegram platform.

Top: A case of a civet trapped and left in a cage for three days in December 2022

Bottom: Poor welfare for many birds reported to ACRES in April 2022

BIRD SHOPS UPDATE



Pic: a conure kept as a pet in a small cage, also chained to the perch limiting movements and possibly injuries. Currently there are no specific welfare guidelines for keeping of wild animals such as birds.

NParks shared that there is an ongoing review of the pet shop licensing conditions and will look into ACRES's recommendations.

We met again with NParks in July this year and were glad to hear that the review progress will be shared with us at the end of this year. Positively looking forward to the possible amendments to the licensing conditions to improve the welfare of birds kept at pet shops and by pet owners.

Here are some images providing you a gist of the report. Full report can be found at <https://bit.ly/ACRESBirdReport2022>

ACRES conducted an undercover investigation into the conditions of shops in Singapore displaying and selling birds. We examined those conditions which could be evaluated solely on visual examination. For the purposes of this report, the Pet Shop Licence Conditions (4) Display And Sale of Birds Conditions was used as a benchmark against which to evaluate the bird shops' practices in respect of their display and sale of birds.

In January 2022, ACRES met with NParks to discuss the recommendations for the review of the pet shop licensing conditions for birds and code of animal welfare for (pet) bird owners. Similar to the animal welfare legislative committee, ACRES proposed focus group discussions to engage relevant stakeholders to improve the welfare conditions of these birds, which NParks welcomed.



Scan QR to read the full report by ACRES with recommendations



WELFARE CASES

ACRES raised serious welfare concerns to AVS (Animal & Veterinary Service) on the pony rides at Geylang Ramadan Bazaar this year, offered at Gallop Stables booth and the other animals such as parrots used for photography and entertainment. We also received several feedback from concerned members of the public on the wellbeing of the animals and how having these animals at a festive bazaar was unnecessary. ACRES met with AVS to share:

- Concerns on the use and transport of live animals for the purposes of entertainment, with little or not educational value.
- Provided with two peer-reviewed scientific papers to indicate that horses have shown elevated stress levels from transportation – both physical stress indicated by elevated heart rates and physiological stress indicators such as significant increases in cortisol, packed cells volume; behavioural indicators such as recovery time to resume eating or drinking.
- We are pleased that AVS took our and public concerns into consideration, and appropriate action/advisory was taken on booth operators.

Complaints made against operator of pony rides at Geylang Serai Ramadan bazaar

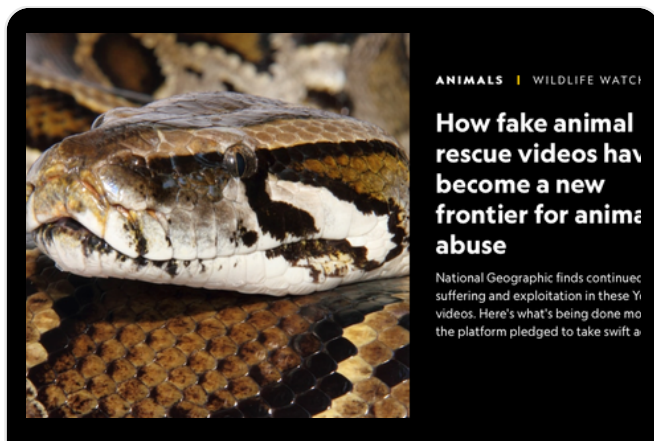


In light of this, ACRES has been continuing to appeal to AVS to end issuing license/permits for other public events where handling/petting live animals occur, with no educational value or supervision. Such events include transporting the animals such as chickens, quails and cows to a venue, for the purpose of exhibition.



ONLINE ANIMAL CRUELTY

An article that was published in 2021 by National Geographic on fake animal rescue videos on social media platforms, and the trends that has driven the online animal trade drove ACRES to want to tackle the issue of animal content that surfaces on social media platforms. ACRES as a core member of Asia For Animals coalition, actively participated with the formation of the sub group SMACC (Social Media Animal Cruelty Coalition) to raise public awareness on this topic. We also started publishing awareness materials on how public can play an active role by reporting content related to sale and possession of wildlife, animal abuse, animals used for entertainment purposes etc.



ACRES started reaching out to social media platforms who had office in Singapore, to work with them to prevent such content from surfacing and to help the platforms understand terms such as “cruelty” for example.

ACRES started reaching out to social media platforms who had office in Singapore such as Tiktok and META, to work with them to prevent such content from surfacing and to help the platforms understand terms such as “cruelty” for example. With positive working relationships with Tiktok, many such content were actively removed by them. This then led us to be invited to be a member of the Social Media Animal Cruelty Coalition (SMACC) in November 2022. We have been having discussions with the SMACC team and working together to find solutions to tackle the online cruelty content on social media platforms. A joint effort by SMACC members saw the release of many reports that highlighted the plight of these animals. [Click here to view the reports.](#) ACRES will continue working on this relevant issue locally.

ACRES ROLE LEGISLATIVE CHANGES

Since 2021, NParks had conducted several engagements with nature groups including ACRES, as part of the consultations in amendment of our Endangered Species (Import & Export) Act, referred to as ESA for this report. ACRES actively participated in this engagements to provide feedback in closed-door engagements and submitted a position paper on the proposed amendments to NParks CITES secretariat. ACRES also worked closely with the other nature group stakeholders in Singapore, who work on this issue, tackling even at regional and global level.

ACRES Recommendations for the Endangered Species (Import & Export) Act Review

ACRES commends NParks for the review of the Endangered Species (Import & Export) Act, engagements with nature groups including ACRES and the public consultation. For two decades, ACRES has worked closely with the then AVA and now NParks' wildlife trade team, resulting in several [sting operations](#), information sharing and nabbing offenders committing crime to wildlife.

In this fight to end the cruel and illegal wildlife trade, ACRES supports the following proposed amendments by NParks:



1. Clarity in definitions of transit and required documentation;
2. Enhanced enforcement powers for NParks;
3. Reward and confidentiality for informants;
4. Increased penalties (from \$50,000 per specimen to \$100,000 for CITES Appendices I and II) and
5. Increased maximum jail term from two to four years.

ACRES strongly believes that all animals deserve the right to live a safe life. Removal of wildlife from their habitats and their exploitation for food, medicine, ornaments, souvenirs, entertainment or pets puts these animals through immense suffering and raises serious welfare concerns.

When the ESA legislative review entered the public consultation phase, ACRES released a document in November 2021 with definitions to help public understand better about the amendments, and ACRES's proposed recommendations.

We are pleased to share that in July 2022, the following enhancements were passed to the ESA:

1. Longer jail term and heavier fines including a jail term of up to 8 years
2. Stronger enforcement power. Enable seizure and forfeiture of conveyances such as cars and vans and items used to deliberately conceal CITES specimens.
3. Greater clarity for stakeholders on the scope of Singapore's wildlife trade regulations.

ACRES together with other local groups continues to appeal to the authorities, on recognising illegal wildlife trade as a serious organised crime, and tackle the online illegal wildlife trade.



WILDLIFE TRADE CASES

In Sep 2022, our ACIU received tip on possession of a leopard gecko through a social media post. Even though a case was filed with the NParks, this is one of several cases that indicate challenges in following up and tackling the issue online.



In December 2022, we received feedback from a concerned member of the public on possession of sturgeons and axolotl. Even though NParks has not provided us with updates, we have promptly provided information for further investigation.

Amongst many such cases, we also received tip of possession of prohibited endangered Indian star tortoises at a residence in November 2022. We are still awaiting update from the enforcement agencies on action taken. ACRES continues to work with the agency on these updates.





CRUELTY TO WILDLIFE

In April 2022, ACRES was informed of a squirrel caught in a rat trap by security guard and left at an open area without shelter. We learnt that the animal was caught as the animal was eating fruits from the trees. Often, ACRES engages mediation and education as a means to address cruelty to animals. The squirrel was released on the same day, after visit and advise by our officers. The guards were educated on squirrel behaviour and coexistence as well.



In November 2022, we received feedback from a concerned member of the public on pigeons trapped in a cage at Peck San Theng temple, some trampled to death in crowded conditions with no water or shelter. Our visit showed that 8 pigeons were dead, and 10 live pigeons were rescued, out of which 2 died on the way to our facility. Dialogue with the temple staff revealed issues of pigeons as nuisance, due to offerings given by visitors. The temple also informed that they had tried calling the authorities but no one came to pick up the birds. Failure to provide care had resulted in death of the pigeons, which prompted ACRES to file a case of cruelty, and continue to engage the temple.



CRUELTY TO WILDLIFE

We have also visited the temple and reminded the management to adhere strictly to guidelines to safeguard animal welfare during bird control operations, such as ensuring adequate food, water and adequate shelter while the animals are under their care. We will continue to educate and work closely with the temple to reduce and manage bird-related disamenities in a safe and humane manner. However, the issue repeated itself a few weeks later, so ACRES has appealed for stern action on individuals involved.

In December 2022, ACIU received information from a concerned member of public who spotted a common palm civet caught in a trap within a private property and left unattended for three days. Since it is within a private property and the owner only returns occasionally leaving the unit vacant mostly, ACRES could not enter and had to report to authorities. Unfortunately, the animal was missing when NParks arrived on the same day. This is an example for cases, where things can take an unexpected turn, leaving us in a state with no further leads or information on what could have happened to the poor animal.



CRUELTY TO COMPANION ANIMALS

ACRES has been working closely with the inspectors of the SPCA over years, where all companion animal cases are handled by SPCA inspectorate. However, there could be some cases such as 'pet' birds & turtles or animals such as horses are handled by us or together with the SPCA, due to their nature as wild animals with varied needs.

Red-eared terrapins have long occupied the list as one of the wild animals who are often inappropriately housed with poor welfare conditions. In August 2022, we received information on welfare concerns over these turtles kept in small tub at a HDB unit. We visited twice to engage the owners, in vain. So ACRES resorted to filing a cruelty case for the authorities to inform them with an advisory. We also provided information on what can be done to improve welfare, by using a bigger enclosure with filtration system, ensuring adequate sunlight and sufficient basking platform is provided. We are pleased that it was followed up by the AVS and advisory was issued.

In August 2022, a concerned feedback provider informed us via IG on welfare conditions of poultry kept at Lucky Garden, Dempsey. We have shared our concerns by filing a case with AVS after visits, and yet to receive updates on action taken.



POACHING CASES

In this financial year, we handled 22 poaching cases in Singapore, compared to 28 in the previous financial year. Most cases may not have concrete evidence and may require monitoring and repeated site visits to collect evidence. The nature of follow up from agencies require catching the offender in act, and this can pose challenges in terms of manpower and resources to carry out site visits if the timings are not known. The role that the feedback provider plays has been crucial in successful outcomes for some of the cases.

In December 2022, ACIU responded to a case of active trap for bulbul, at a Hougang HDB unit and spoke to the owner of the trap. Upon dialogue, we are pleased that the individual obliged and removed the trap (top). Monitoring also showed that no further traps were set.

In the same month, we responded to a pulley bird trap system at a HDB area in Yishun. Our investigations revealed the unit number, which has been handed over to NParks. Hanging parrots were being targetted for this case and the traps were removed and dismantled on-site.

In the same month, another trapping effort was stopped through our mediation and education at a landed estate.



PROMOTING COEXISTENCE



in April 2022, Singapore's Urban Wildlife Working Group members together with other partners in the nature community launched the Our Wild Neighbours (OWN) initiative – a consolidated, country-wide outreach programme to promote coexistence with Singapore's native wildlife. ACRES is one of the core members, and currently manages the campaign programmes funded by Mandai Nature. This campaign website was aptly launched by Minister Desmond Lee.

In this financial year, our wildlife management team handled 990 cases involving human-wildlife conflicts, compared to 1,266 cases in the previous financial year. The reduction is attributed to the decision we made on reducing the number of site visits and optimising the resources we have in hand.

We instead focussed on addressing the issues at the root cause, through a joint campaign launched in April 2022, and through engaging estate managers and educational institutions for education efforts.

When speaking about the vision for 'City in Nature', **Minister Desmond Lee** shared, "Residents will be made more aware of the need to save resources - by switching off lights when they are not in use, recycling more and saving water - and **coexist with the wildlife that will inevitably be drawn into the green urban landscape.**"



COEXISTENCE: CAMPAIGN



The OWN (Our Wild Neighbours) campaign seeks to promote coexistence with wildlife in Singapore, empower members of the public with wildlife etiquette knowledge, and educate the public about ongoing rescue, rehabilitation and release efforts. The website launched is www.ourwildneighbours.sg.

The project funding came through in end 2022, thanks to Mandai Nature, and we appointed a campaigns manager from February 2023 onwards to run this campaign full-time.

Until this period, ACRES and other members continued efforts to create the content for the website, working with amazing volunteers and delivering outreach programmes on coexistence such as the monthly story-telling programmes in NLB (above), nature appreciation walks conducted by OWN volunteers and Ottergrapher Bernard Seah, Macaque appreciation walks by JGIS (Jane Goodall Institute of Singapore) and many more such programmes and efforts, all towards promoting coexistence.



OWN Core Committee at the launch in April 2022: ACRES, Mandai Nature, NParks, Otterwatcher and volunteer Bernard Seah, and the creators of the website Catherine & Amanda.

COEXISTENCE: URBAN BIRDS FORUM

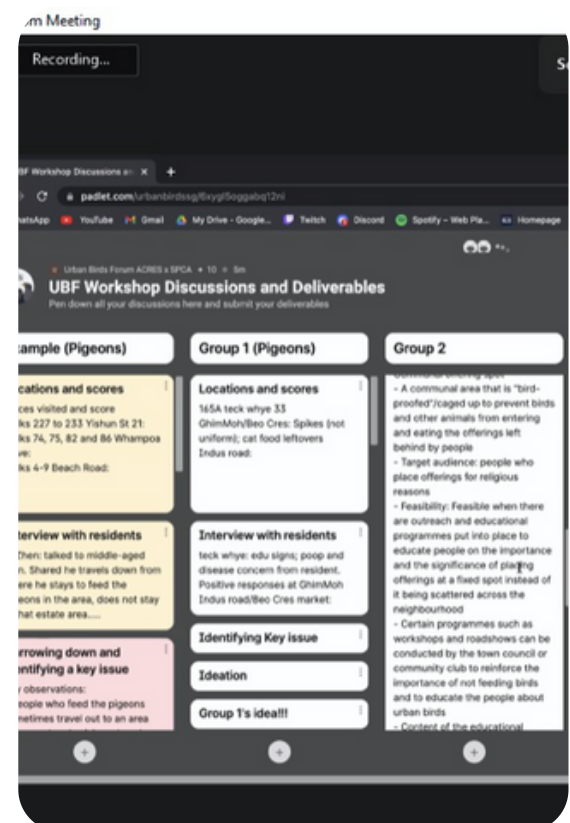


The first-ever urban bird forum in Singapore, co-hosted by ACRES and SPCA, was a virtual event that took place over 2 days on the weekend of 23-24 July 2022. The forum comprised a workshop for students on the first day, and panels of invited speakers including international and Singaporean researchers on the second. The forum was targeted at various local stakeholders, such as NParks, town councils, pest control companies, the media and the public.

The objectives of the forum were:

- To raise awareness about urban bird issues in Singapore, and gain respect and understanding for these birds;
- To explore humane methods for urban bird population management; and
- To spearhead further steps towards public education to minimise human-bird conflict in Singapore.

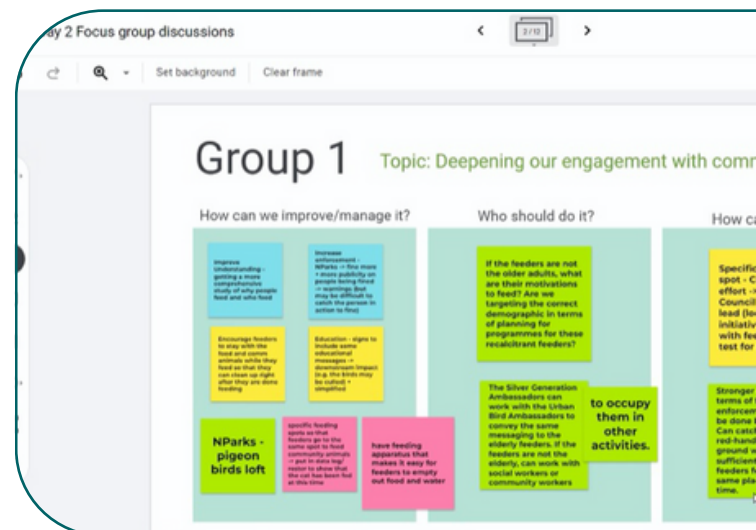
Day ONE workshops saw site visits conducted by participants to an estate where they recorded their observations of local urban birds (rock pigeons, house crows and Javan mynas) and scored the bird management measures in the estate. Some estates surveyed included Jurong West/Jurong Gateway, Clementi West, Whampoa, Teck Whye, Sengkang and Yishun Street 21. During the workshop discussions, 18 participants shared their site visit findings, brainstormed innovative solutions for the issue, and concretised their ideas into plans.



COEXISTENCE: URBAN BIRDS FORUM

Day TWO of the forum hosted two engaging panel discussions on the following topics:

- Ongoing urban bird management measures and ACRES' efforts to engage town councils - Jocelyn Chng, Wildlife Management Team, ACRES
- Responsible feeding of community animals and glue traps - Aarthi Sankar, Executive Director, SPCA
- Sharing from project on pigeon feeder engagement - Nurin Najwa, Ngee Ann Polytechnic Civic Interns Winning project Team 3 sharing on their ideas to heighten awareness on urban birds - Tong Yue, workshop participant
- Study on feral pigeon management at Texas Technological University - Ms Erin Stukenholtz, M.S., Texas Tech University
- Feral pigeon population in Singapore and ecological-based animal management - Dr Tang Qian, National University of Singapore
- Ecological studies of feral pigeons and house crows in Singapore - Dr Malcolm Soh, National Parks Board



Feedback surveys were conducted to find out what actions participants will take post-forum. Most of them recognised the need to curb the food sources availability and need for education and awareness. Full report on the forum can be found [here](#).

COEXISTENCE: DEEPER ENGAGEMENT

ACRES was the partner organisation chosen by Ngee Ann Polytechnic for their Civic Challenge in March 2022. The winning team of the one-day event then partnered with ACRES WMT to plan and conduct an engagement activity in Nee Soon East, to raise awareness about pigeon feeding in the neighbourhood. The team's engagement activity was conducted on 11 June 2022 and was well received, with learning points that were useful for future outreach activities on pigeons. Detailed report of findings from site visits and residents' engagement were submitted to the relevant advisors and town councils for further follow up.

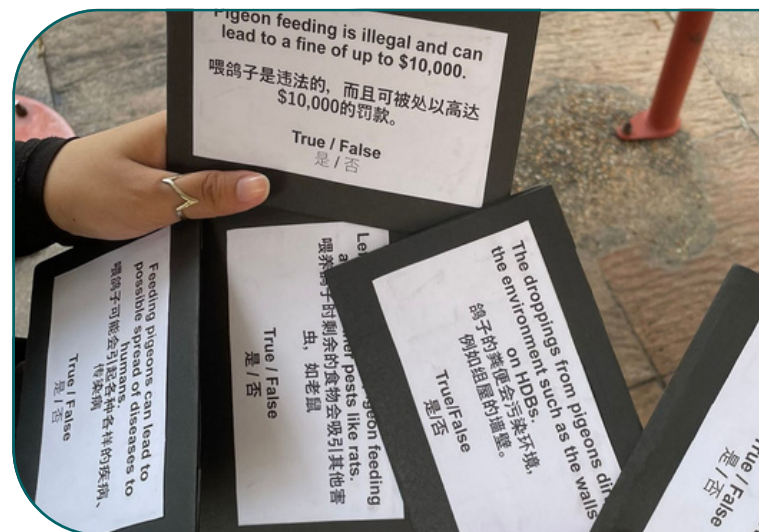
Report on sightings of pigeon feeders

Block 269 & 270 in Nee Soon East Area has residents who consistently feed pigeons, whether by throwing the food through windows or placing it on the grounds. This caused residents who stayed on lower floors to find themselves with their clothes (that are being sundried) to be soiled with pigeon defecation. (The resident who told us about this hinted at them staying on the 2nd floor).

Lack of enforcement and unapproachable pigeon feeders

Most felt that this problem could not be solved as they believe that feeders are generally hard to approach as well as a lack of enforcement.

Residents commented that enforcement could be improved or perhaps there could be a better way of enforcement. Although there is a law with a hefty fine in place, the residents feel that there would still be pigeon feeders as they would not be caught. Once being caught pigeon feeding, most would just continue feeding as there is a lack of strong enforcement and nothing can be done about it. Residents are unable to do anything about it upon spotting a feeder as well as some are unsure of what they should do afterward if the feeders were to just continue feeding. There are also residents who

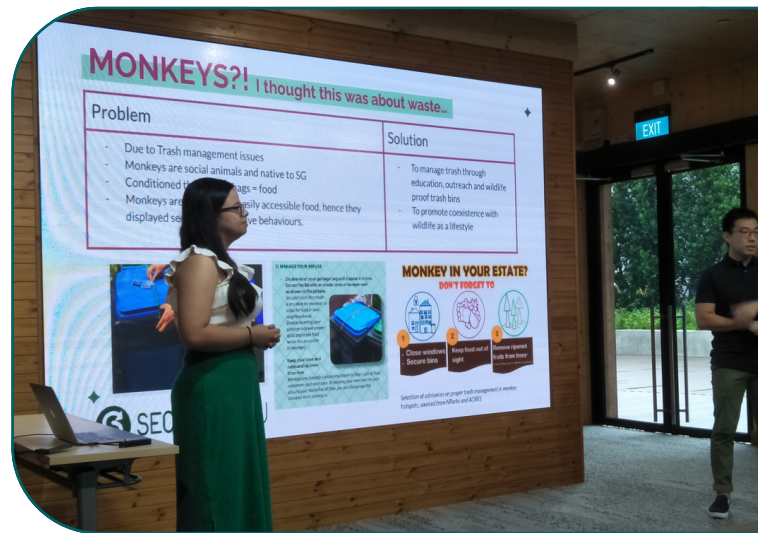


ACRES hopes to engage the youth more to allow them deeper understanding of such issues, and take an active role in animal protection issues in Singapore. We look forward to continue working with Ngee Ann Polytechnic in the coming years.



COEXISTENCE: DEEPER ENGAGEMENT

ACRES was one of the partners of the 7th Zero Waste Bootcamp organised by Secondsguru in 2022. At this annual bootcamp, teams of young people are partnered with various social and community organisations to tackle a challenge related to sustainability. ACRES WMT mentored a team to conduct several site visits and learn about macaque behaviour and etiquette. The team then conducted 2 outreach roadshow booths on 7 and 13 August 2022 to spread awareness about macaque etiquette. Some members of the team even continued as ACRES roadshow volunteers after the Bootcamp ended.



We are grateful for the experience and the hard work put in by Secondsguru. Unfortunately, due to lack of manpower, we could not be engaged in the next round, but we hope to resume partnerships in the future.



COEXISTENCE: DEEPER ENGAGEMENT

From May 2022, more reports of otter sightings and home intrusions in the estate were received, and Grassroots Adviser Ms Nadia Ahmad Samdin, together with the People's Association (PA) staff of Cheng San-Seletar Constituency Office (CO), contacted the Otter Working Group (OWG) to work together to address the situation.

The OWG, which includes NParks, ACRES, otterwatchers and Mr Sivasothi (NUS Department of Biological Sciences), had been monitoring the otters' appearances in the estate since they were first sighted in 2021.

Over the course of May to December 2022, an intensive outreach effort was undertaken in the neighbourhood by the joint OWG and PA team. This included door-to-door visits, a hybrid (online and face-to-face) resident engagement session, a roadshow and trial otter-proofing exercises at two affected houses. From August 2022 onwards, the otters' movements were also studied for two months by NUS undergraduates and otterwatchers to get a better understanding of their behaviour in the estate.

To address this challenge, the team identified two affected houses to install otter-proofing measures. NParks, ACRES and NUS conducted house visits with the relevant homeowners to better understand the challenges at the specific sites.



COEXISTENCE: DEEPER ENGAGEMENT

Materials were then sourced and prepared by ACRES, and volunteers were gathered to install the otter-proofing at the two houses from August to October 2022. Although there were calls from some residents to simply remove otters from the estate, the OWG believes that relocation is not a sustainable, long-term solution. If the environment remains suitable and attractive to certain wildlife, removing one or a few individuals will simply leave a gap for other individuals to occupy. Due to the proximity of Seletar Hills estate to the Sungei Punggol-Serangoon catchment, which is host to several smooth-coated otter families, relocation of this particular family would not stop otters from coming to the estate in the long-term.

While residents might have had reservations relating to the cost and aesthetics of otter-proofing solutions, the trials that were done by the team showed that for some houses, otter-proofing may be as simple as putting a relatively inconspicuous panel at the bottom of the main gate. Preliminary footage from camera traps installed by NUS research students showed that the measures did discourage otters from entering the same house.

Depending on the design and layout of a unit's pond and garden, more complicated and extensive solutions might be needed to prevent otters from entering one's premises and the potential loss of beloved pet fish.

We hope that as Singapore becomes a City in Nature, more residents can embrace the presence of wild animals in their backyards and be otterly good neighbours to our wild friends!

Otter photo by Jocelyn Chng



COEXISTENCE: DEEPER ENGAGEMENT

Green Nudge is a social organisation that works with businesses and communities to support their journey in sustainability. Over 2022-2023, Green Nudge has been a valuable partner and supporter of ACRES, organising several outreach talks and workshops for various segments of the community including families and special needs teenagers.

Feedback from Green Nudge has been very positive and encouraging, and we look forward to working with them in the coming years too!

“

On behalf of the participants, thank you very much for the wonderful session held yesterday! Having been through a few sessions, I thought this session stood out for the participants as they had more opportunity to see and hear about ACRES' work, including touring the space, which helped to reinforce how they came to visit the space.

- Introducing the animals and their names allowed the children to relate to the animals a lot more versus seeing them as an animal species and their back stories (i.e. how they got there and where they will go) makes it a lot more easier to understand the concept of recovery and rehabilitation

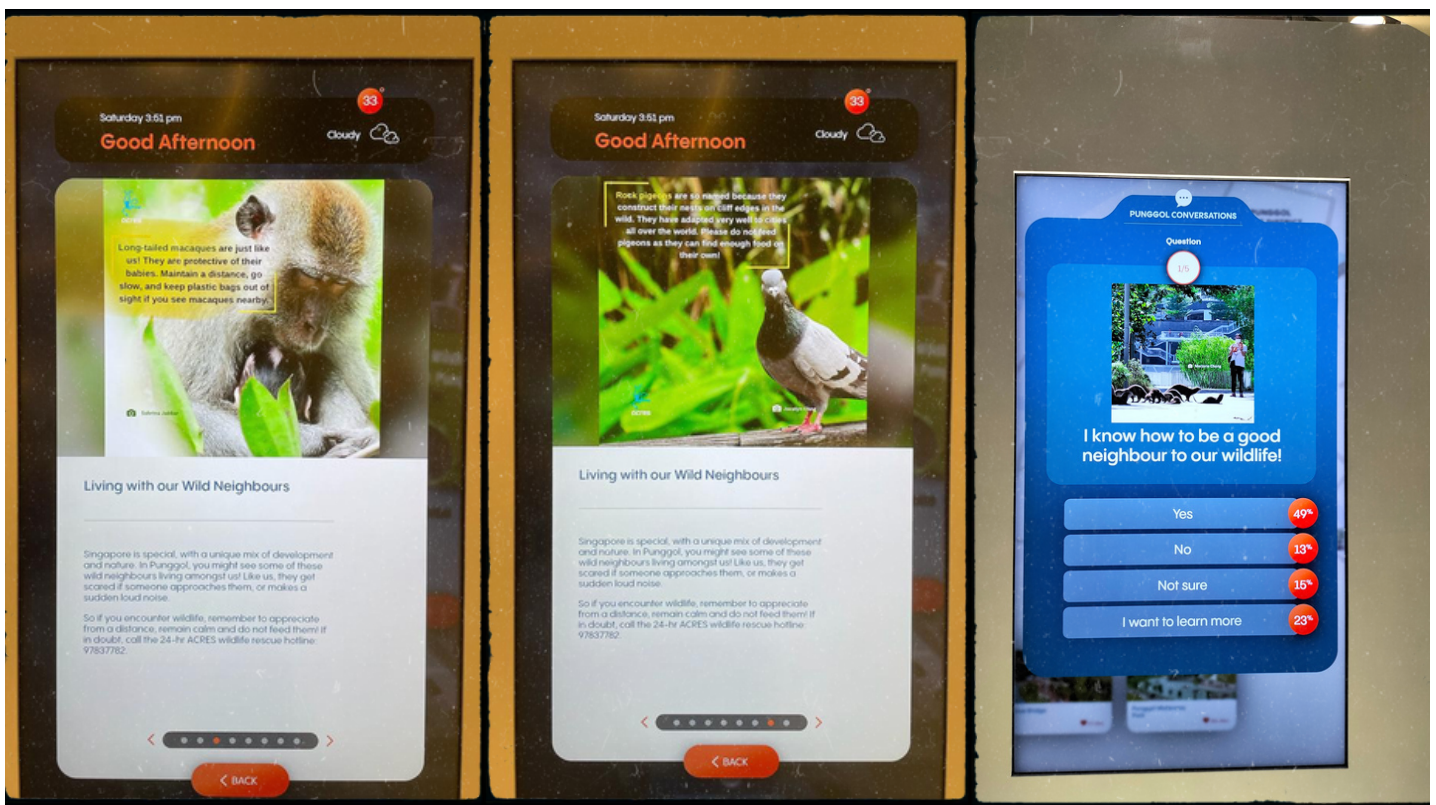
- Use of videos (e.g. how to interact with monkeys in parks) was helpful to break the momentum of slides, which gave a chance for participants to receive information from different types of formats.

”



COEXISTENCE: DEEPER ENGAGEMENT

In September 2022, ACRES was approached by staff of the then-upcoming Punggol Regional Library to collaborate in “creating meaningful, fun, and engaging content revolving around our first theme, Punggol’s Natural Gems.” Working with the library, ACRES Wildlife Management Team then came up with content about our native wildlife, especially those commonly seen in Punggol. The content was successfully launched at the Punggol Regional Library’s opening ceremony on 5 April 2023.



Our gratitude to the National Library Board for this partnership, which allowed us to create engaging and relevant content for the residents and users in Punggol estate, and we look forward to continue working with the National Library Board for the OWN (Our Wild Neighbours) campaign outreach in the coming years.



HUMANE EDUCATION

In this financial year, our humane education team delivered 133 programmes in public and educational spaces, in comparison to 93 programmes in the previous financial year ending March 2022. This is due to lifting of covid restrictions and restarting visits and physical delivery of education programmes.

In the early 2023, we finally were able to shift our virtual programme fully back to our interactive humane education programme by appointing Beng Yong Tang as our new executive under the Humane Education Department. The team acknowledged that in today's digitalized world, there is an urgent call to plant and sow the seeds of kindness and empathy as more people are disconnected from nature.

The Humane Education team continues to form a positive working relationship with the educational institutions across the Red Dot island from all walks of life. ACRES aims to also engage with new customers while also retaining our clients whom have been supporting us for years. Thank you teachers and supporters for believing in us ! Below is the list of institutions that ACRES has delivered our humane education programmes to:

Preschools:

Bright Kids School House @Punggol Field
E-Bridge Infant Care and Childcare Centre @Edgedale
Emile Preschool
Eton House
Learning Vision @ Sengkang Hospital
Lily Valley Preschool
Little Footprints Preschool
MindChamps Preschool @ Raffles Town Club
My First Skool @180B Boon Lay
My World@ Bukit Panjang
Singapore Hokkien Huay Kuan Pre-School
The Little Skool House International Pte Ltd
Trehaus @ Funan Mall Preschool





HUMANE EDUCATION

Primary schools

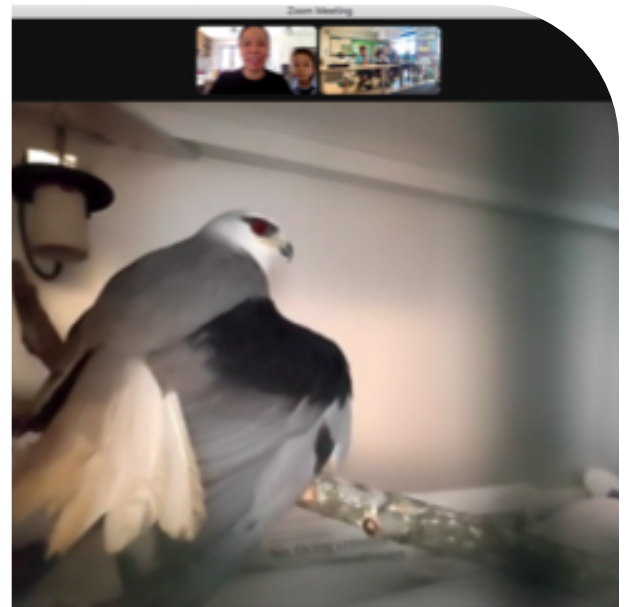
Admiralty Primary School
Anderson Primary School
Anderson Primary School
(Environment Club)
Cedar Primary School
German European School Singapore
Genesis School for Special
Education
Geylang Methodist School (Primary)
Huamin Primary School
Springdale Primary School
Tanglin School
UWCSEA Dover
Westwood Primary School
Zhangde Primary School
Environment Club

Private & Tertiary institutions

Artispique
Global Smart Expansion Consulting Co. Ltd
Green Nudge Strategies Pte Ltd
National Library Board - Chua Chu Kang
Ngee Ann Polytechnic
NTU Earthlink
Republic Poly - Diploma of Environmental
and Marine Science
Scouts Singapore
Singapore Indian Development Association
The Astronaut Collective
University of Exeter in England
Temasek Junior College

Secondary Schools

Canada International School
Chung Cheng High School
Hwa Chong Institution
Methodist Girls' School
Nan Chiau High School
Nanyang Girls' High School
Raffles Institution
Serangoon Secondary School
UWCSEA Dover (Middle School)





VIA PROJECTS

Giving a voice to the animals gets only stronger, when joining hands with the young students and the schools across Singapore. This makes our advocacy work much more meaningful and there is hope to the animal welfare because of the schools' community support! This financial year, the students partnered with us for 55 projects, being mentored by our staff and clocked in 3,602 hours through Values-in-Action projects, in comparison to 2,343 hours in the previous financial year. Below is the list of schools participating in our VIA projects.



Young students doing glass painting on our education centre windows, to prevent bird collisions by minimising reflections from the glass.

Anglican High School
Anglo-Chinese Junior College
Beatty Secondary School
Bukit Batok Secondary School
Bukit Panjang Government High School
Cedar Girls High School
CHIJ Toa Payoh
Commonwealth Secondary School
Dunman High School
Huayi Secondary School

Hwa Chong Institute
Junyuan Secondary School
Nanyang Junior College
Nanyang Technological University
National Junior College
Northbrook Secondary School
Pierce Secondary School
Punggol Secondary School
Raffles Girls School
Saint Andrews Junior College

YOUTH FOR CAUSES

Saint Joseph Institution
Singapore American School
Singapore Hokkien Huay Kuan Preschool
Swiss Cottage Secondary School
Tanglin Trust School
Temasek Junior College
Temasek Polytechnic



Youth For Causes (YFC) is a community initiative that was started by the YMCA of Singapore since 2003, to promote social entrepreneurship and community leadership development among Singapore youth. It provides youth aged 15 to 25 with a platform which includes seed funding, training, and volunteer mentorship for executing self-initiated projects to raise public awareness, funds and mobilize volunteers for social service agencies (SSA) of their choice. YFC complements the “Values in Action” (VIA) programme.

We are fortunate to have 4 teams from 2 schools joining hands to raise both awareness and fund for ACRES this year. From Temasek Junior College, these are the teams: Team Wild, Team Sozo, and Team Call of the Wild (C.O.W). Animal Hustlers is from National Junior College. In total, they have raised SGD **\$12,605.10**.

YOUTH FOR CAUSES



Team Sozo (Temasek Junior College). Special mentioned: Shreya Sharma, Adrika Singh, Tan Jing Wen and Tan Yi Fei. Team Sozo volunteered to help paint the windows of the Education Centre to prevent bird collisions



YMCA-Youth for Causes Programme: Team Wild with Team C.O.W (Temasek Junior College) at Singapore Vegan Festival 2022, focusing on sustainable and cruelty-free living.

Special mention to Team Wild (Caren Leow Jia Ern, Justin Goh Zhe Ming, Changwichukarn Taya and Tan Hui Yu Leina) and Team C.O.W (Rayna Sing, Lingzixi, Anna Ni Houjing and Tan Jiaqi)



FEEDBACK

“ —



We just wanted to thank you and your colleagues so very much for a wonderful presentation and tour for our students on Monday. You were so informative and engaging, and wonderful with the children! We really appreciate your time and thank you for sharing your knowledge and expertise with us.

Sincerely,
Tara and Kendra
(UWCsea Dover)



A good Monday morning to you both and thank you got having our students at ACRES on 10th March! From the students' reflections, it appears that they found the visit very meaningful and enjoyable. Some are even keen to volunteer at ACRES! If you're keen to have them, perhaps we can explore a work attachment during the end-of-year holidays? Do let me know. We look forward to continuing this partnership in the future.

Best regards,
Gina (Nanyang Girls' High School)

— ” —

FUNDRAISING



After a gap of 3 years, ACRES was finally able to host a fundraising gala dinner on 8th October 2022, at One Farrer Hotel.



Thank you for your generosity and support, we not only raised \$128,000 for our animal protection programmes, but also had a fun and meaningful time with 350 supporters.



Our heartfelt thanks to the Guest of Honour SMS Ms Sim Ann for gracing the event.

Our gratitude also goes to all the sponsors, performers and artists and every single individual who supported in many ways as a donor or a volunteer for this event. Our special thanks to the bronze and silver ambassadors who have been long-term supporters for the animals!



CORPORATES



After the Covid-19 restrictions were lifted, we were able to welcome the corporate volunteers once again to our sanctuary to assist with our operations.



A total of 452 corporate volunteers clocked a total of 1,312 hours at our rescue centre, helping with revamping of enclosures, landscaping, gardening and maintenance tasks.



ACCOLADES



ACRES was proud to learn about our Co-CEO Anbu, being featured as one of the successful inspiring women in the second volume of the Doyenne, book launched by the LISHA Women's Wing, presented to her by Madam President Halimah Yacob. Selected by nomination, Anbu shares, *"I am honoured to be featured alongside amazing successful women in Singapore, and hope that the readers will also be inspired about local animal protection efforts"*.



In March 2023, ACRES was presented with the community award by the Cheng San Community Club, acknowledging the contribution to the joint project between PA, NParks, Otterwatchers, NUS and the residents - all towards coexistence with otters in Seletar Hills estate. Our heartfelt gratitude for this acknowledgement.



MEDIA MENTIONS

Nearly 1,000 birds, other wildlife accidentally caught by glue traps meant for rats since 2020



(Clockwise from top left) A wolf snake and a gecko, a baby common palm civet and a kingfisher are among the animals accidentally caught by the glue traps. PHOTOS: ACRES



Shabana Begum

UPDATED 15 MAR 2023, 128 PM SGT



Home News · ACRES raises concerns over horse rides at Geylang Serai Ramadan bazaar as...

ACRES raises concerns over horse rides at Geylang Serai Ramadan bazaar as animals used to entertain for long hours amid heat, noise, and big crowds

ADVERTISEMENT

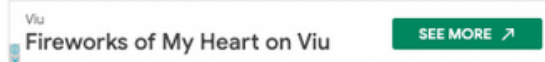


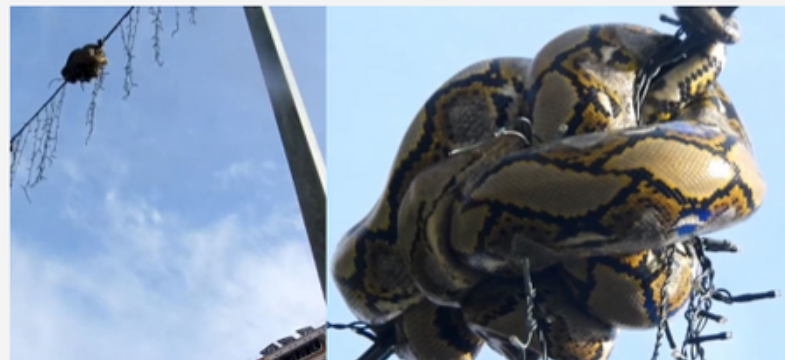
Photo: IG screengrab/gallopstaleofficial

In this financial year, ACRES continued to give a voice to the animals, through mentions on 102 articles on print, radio and TV – mostly national, and some international.

Python coiled around lightings 4-5m above ground at Choa Chu Kang, rescued by Acres

The co-CEO of Acres said that pythons tend to climb up structures if they feel vulnerable or threatened.

Matthias Ang | January 08, 2023, 06:59 PM



Otter-proofing homes among tips for Cheng San-Seletar residents to co-exist with wildlife



Residents learning about otters at a farmers' market held at Nim Meadow Park in Ang Mo Kio. ST PHOTO: ALPHONSUS CHERN



Kok Yufeng
Transport Correspondent

PUBLISHED 3 DEC 2022, 8:44 PM SGT





AUDITED STATEMENTS

43 pages

ANIMAL CONCERNS RESEARCH AND EDUCATION SOCIETY

[UEN. T01SS0121K]

[Registered under the Societies Act 1966 in the
Republic of Singapore]

AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

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Fiducia LLP

[UEN. T10LL0955L]

Public Accountants and
Chartered Accountants of Singapore

71 Ubi Crescent
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Singapore 408571
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STATEMENT BY THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

In the opinion of the Management Committee, the accompanying financial statements are drawn up so as to present fairly, in all material respects, the state of affairs of Animal Concerns Research and Education Society (the "Society") as at 31 March 2023 and the results, changes in funds and cash flows of the Society for the year then ended.

At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Society will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

The Management Committee, comprising the following, authorised the issue of these financial statements on

President	Umapathi S/O N Thirugnanam
Vice President	Satya Dhama Tiwari
Secretary	Andrew Tay Teck Lee
Treasurer	Noelle Seet Siok Lin
Committee Member	Ahuja Alpana
Committee Member	Naomi Catherine Clark-Shen


For and on behalf of the Management Committee,

DocuSigned by:

873B719A2AAE4C7...

Andrew Tay Teck Lee
Secretary

Singapore, 4 September 2023

DocuSigned by:

476558ED8ED3BF...

Noelle Seet Siok Lin
Treasurer

Fiducia LLP

Public Accountants and
Chartered Accountants of Singapore

71 Ubi Crescent
Excalibur Centre #08-01
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Independent auditor's report to the members of:

ANIMAL CONCERNS RESEARCH AND EDUCATION SOCIETY

[UEN. T01SS0121K]
[Registered under the Societies Act 1966 in the
Republic of Singapore]

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Animal Concerns Research And Education Society (the "Society"), which comprise the statement of financial position as at 31 March 2023, the statement of financial activities, statement of changes in funds and statement of cash flows for the financial year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements are properly drawn up in accordance with the provisions of the Societies Act 1966 (the "Societies Act"), the Charities Act 1994 and other relevant regulations (the "Charities Act and Regulations") and Financial Reporting Standards in Singapore ("FRSs") so as to present fairly, in all material respects, the state of affairs of the Society as at 31 March 2023 and the results, changes in funds and cash flows of the Society for the financial year ended on that date.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Singapore Standards on Auditing ("SSAs"). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in *the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of our report. We are independent of the Society in accordance with the Accounting and Corporate Regulatory Authority ("ACRA") *Code of Professional Conduct and Ethics for Public Accountants and Accounting Entities* ("ACRA Code") together with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Singapore, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements and the ACRA Code. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Other Information

Management is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the Statement by the Management Committee (set out on page 2), but does not include the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon, which we obtained prior to the date of this auditor's report, and the annual report, which is expected to be made available to us after that date.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Fiducia LLP

Public Accountants and
Chartered Accountants of Singapore

71 Ubi Crescent
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(CONT'D)

Independent auditor's report to the members of:

**ANIMAL CONCERNS RESEARCH AND EDUCATION
SOCIETY**

[UEN. T01SS0121K]
[Registered under the Societies Act 1966 in the
Republic of Singapore]

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with the provisions of the Societies Act, the Charities Act and Regulations and FRSs, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Society's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Society or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Society's financial reporting process.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with SSAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with SSAs, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Society's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Society's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Society to cease to continue as a going concern.

Fiducia LLPPublic Accountants and
Chartered Accountants of Singapore71 Ubi Crescent
Excalibur Centre #08-01
Singapore 408571
T: (65) 6846 8376
F: (65) 6491 5218

(CONT'D)

Independent auditor's report to the members of:

**ANIMAL CONCERNS RESEARCH AND EDUCATION
SOCIETY**

[UEN. T01SS0121K]

[Registered under the Societies Act 1966 in the
Republic of Singapore]**Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements (Cont'd)**

As part of an audit in accordance with SSAs, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also: (cont'd)

- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements

In our opinion,

- the accounting and other records required to be kept by the Society have been properly kept in accordance with the provisions of the Societies Regulations enacted under the Societies Act, the Charities Act and Regulations; and
- the fund-raising appeals held during the year ended 31 March 2023 has been carried out in accordance with Regulation 6 of the Societies Regulations issued under the Societies Act and proper accounts and other records have been kept of the fund raising appeals.

During the course of our audit, nothing has come to our attention that caused us to believe that during the year:

- the Society has not used the donation moneys in accordance with its objectives as required under Regulation 11 of the Charities (Institutions of a Public Character) Regulations; and
- the Society has not complied with the requirements of Regulation 15 of the Charities (Institutions of a Public Character) Regulations.

DocuSigned by:

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Fiducia LLP
Public Accountants and
Chartered Accountants

Singapore, 4 September 2023

Partner-in-charge: Gan Chek Huat
PAB No.: 01939

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

	2023					
	Unrestricted fund	Restricted funds				Total unrestricted and restricted funds
		Wildlife Campaign Initiatives	CFS - Vegetable Garden	Other Funds	AXA XL Regional Grant	
	S\$	S\$	S\$	S\$	S\$	S\$
INCOME	Note					
Income from generated funds						
Voluntary Income						
Donations	6	938,127	0	0	0	938,127
Activities for generating funds						
Fees	7	127,170	0	0	0	127,170
Fund raising income	6	155,786	0	0	0	155,786
		282,956	0	0	0	282,956
Income from charitable activities						
Grant income						
Mandal Nature		0	66,175	0	0	66,175
Charities Aid Foundation - CISCO GRANT		0	0	1,853	0	1,853
		0	66,175	0	1,853	68,028
Other income						
Merchandise sales		6,097	0	0	0	6,097
Amortisation of deferred capital grants	15	14,110	0	0	0	14,110
CPF transition offset		151	0	0	0	151
Gain on disposal of property, plant and equipment		5,500	0	0	0	5,500
Progressive wage credit scheme		23,446	0	0	0	23,446
Senior employment credit		274	0	0	0	274
Utilisation of deferred income	16	21,308	0	0	0	21,308
Youth for cause grant		4,800	0	0	0	4,800
Miscellaneous income		4,913	0	0	0	4,913
		80,599	0	0	0	80,599
Total income		1,301,682	66,175	0	1,853	1,369,710

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

	2023					
	Unrestricted fund		Restricted funds			Total unrestricted and restricted funds
	General fund	Wildlife Campaign Initiatives	CPS - Vegetable Garden	Other Funds	AXA XL Regional Grant	
	S\$	S\$	S\$	S\$	S\$	S\$
INCOME	Note					
Income from generated funds						
Voluntary Income						
Donations	6					
	938,127	0	0	0	0	938,127
Activities for generating funds						
Fees	7					
	127,170	0	0	0	0	127,170
Fund raising income	6					
	155,786	0	0	0	0	155,786
	282,956	0	0	0	0	282,956
Income from charitable activities						
Grant income						
Mandal Nature						
	0	66,175	0	0	0	66,175
Charities Aid Foundation - CISCO GRANT						
	0	66,175	0	1,853	0	1,853
	0			1,853	0	68,028
Other income						
Merchandise sales						
	6,097	0	0	0	0	6,097
Amortisation of deferred capital grants	15					
	14,110	0	0	0	0	14,110
CPF transition offset						
	151	0	0	0	0	151
Gain on disposal of property, plant and equipment						
	5,500	0	0	0	0	5,500
Progressive wage credit scheme						
	23,446	0	0	0	0	23,446
Senior employment credit						
	274	0	0	0	0	274
Utilisation of deferred income	16					
	21,308	0	0	0	0	21,308
Youth for cause grant						
	4,800	0	0	0	0	4,800
Miscellaneous income						
	4,913	0	0	0	0	4,913
	80,599	0	0	0	0	80,599
Total income	1,301,682	66,175	0	1,853	0	1,369,710

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023 (CONT'D)**

	Note	2022					
		Unrestricted fund		Restricted funds			Total unrestricted and restricted funds
		S\$	S\$	S\$	S\$	S\$	S\$
INCOME							
Income from generated funds							
<u>Voluntary income</u>							
Donations	6	828,079	0	0	432	0	828,511
Activities for generating funds							
Fees	7	184,067	0	0	0	0	184,067
Fund raising income	6	20,472	0	0	2,000	0	22,472
		204,539	0	0	2,000	0	206,539
Other income							
Amortisation of deferred capital grants	15	22,034	0	0	0	1,177	23,211
Amortisation of provision for reinstatement		0	0	0	0	0	0
Jobs support scheme		12,376	0	0	0	0	12,376
Senior employment credit		579	0	0	0	0	579
Utilisation of deferred income	16	3,295	0	0	0	0	3,295
Miscellaneous income		30,389	0	0	0	0	30,389
		68,673	0	0	0	1,177	69,850
Total income		1,101,291	0	0	2,432	1,177	1,104,900

Animal Concerns Research and Education Society
[UEN. T01SS0121K]

Audited Financial Statements
Financial Year Ended 31 March 2023

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023 (CONT'D)**

	Note	2022					
		Unrestricted fund		Restricted funds			Total unrestricted and restricted funds
		S\$	S\$	S\$	S\$	S\$	S\$
EXPENDITURE							
Cost of generating funds							
Fund raising expenses	26	615	0	0	0	0	615
Cost of charitable activities							
Animal protection programme expenses	8	907,185	4	274	1,132	1,398	909,993
Governance and administrative costs							
Administrative expenses	9	229,188	0	0	300	0	229,488
Total expenditure		1,136,988	4	274	1,432	1,398	1,140,096
Net (expenditure)/income for the year		(35,697)	(4)	(274)	1,000	(221)	(35,196)
Total funds brought forward		1,117,702	4	397	5,457	971	1,124,531
Total funds carried forward		1,082,005	0	123	6,457	750	1,089,335

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31 MARCH 2023

	Note	2023 S\$	2022 S\$
ASSETS			
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	11	1,391,118	1,087,342
Fees and other receivables	12	81,674	67,104
		<u>1,472,792</u>	<u>1,154,446</u>
Non-current assets			
Property, plant and equipment	13	564,435	622,616
		<u>564,435</u>	<u>622,616</u>
Total assets		<u>2,037,227</u>	<u>1,777,062</u>
LIABILITIES			
Current liabilities			
Other payables	14	86,671	76,138
Contract liabilities	5	0	396
Deferred capital grants	15	11,287	14,109
Deferred income	16	11,103	1,358
Lease liabilities	17	18,648	20,516
		<u>127,709</u>	<u>112,517</u>
Non-current liabilities			
Deferred capital grants	15	26,661	37,949
Lease liabilities	17	75,448	34,764
Other payables	14	532,216	502,497
		<u>634,325</u>	<u>575,210</u>
Total liabilities		<u>762,034</u>	<u>687,727</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>1,275,193</u>	<u>1,089,335</u>
FUNDS			
Unrestricted fund			
General fund	18	1,208,705	1,082,005
Restricted funds			
Wildlife Campaign Initiatives	19	59,411	0
CFS - Vegetable Garden	20	0	123
Other funds		6,327	6,457
AXA XL Regional Grant	21	750	750
		<u>66,488</u>	<u>7,330</u>
TOTAL FUNDS		<u>1,275,193</u>	<u>1,089,335</u>

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FUNDS
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

	Balance at beginning of year S\$	Net income/ (expenditure) for the financial year S\$	Balance at end of year S\$
2023			
Unrestricted fund			
General fund	1,082,005	126,700	1,208,705
Restricted funds			
Wildlife Campaign Initiatives	0	59,411	59,411
CFS - Vegetable Garden	123	(123)	0
Other funds	6,457	(130)	6,327
AXA XL Regional Grant	750	0	750
	7,330	59,158	66,448
Total funds	1,089,335	185,858	1,275,193
	Balance at beginning of year S\$	Net (expenditure)/ income for the financial year S\$	Balance at end of year S\$
2022			
General fund	1,117,702	(35,697)	1,082,005
Restricted funds			
Wildlife Campaign Initiatives	4	(4)	0
CFS - Vegetable Garden	397	(274)	123
Other funds	5,457	1,000	6,457
AXA XL Regional Grant	971	(221)	750
	6,829	501	7,330
Total funds	1,124,531	(35,196)	1,089,335

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FUNDS
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

	Balance at beginning of year S\$	Net income/ (expenditure) for the financial year S\$	Balance at end of year S\$
2023			
Unrestricted fund			
General fund	1,082,005	126,700	1,208,705
Restricted funds			
Wildlife Campaign Initiatives	0	59,411	59,411
CFS - Vegetable Garden	123	(123)	0
Other funds	6,457	(130)	6,327
AXA XL Regional Grant	750	0	750
	7,330	59,158	66,448
Total funds	1,089,335	185,858	1,275,193
	Balance at beginning of year S\$	Net (expenditure)/ income for the financial year S\$	Balance at end of year S\$
2022			
General fund	1,117,702	(35,697)	1,082,005
Restricted funds			
Wildlife Campaign Initiatives	4	(4)	0
CFS - Vegetable Garden	397	(274)	123
Other funds	5,457	1,000	6,457
AXA XL Regional Grant	971	(221)	750
	6,829	501	7,330
Total funds	1,124,531	(35,196)	1,089,335

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

These notes form an integral part of and should be read in conjunction with the accompanying financial statements.

1. General information

Animal Concerns Research and Education Society (the "Society") is registered and domiciled in Singapore. The Society's registered office and principal place of business is at 91 Jalan Lekar Singapore 698917.

The Society was registered on 24 May 2001 under the Societies Act 1966 and is a charity registered under the Charities Act 1994 since 11 January 2005. The Society has been accorded the Institutions of a Public Character ("IPC") status until 30 November 2022. The Society has renewed its IPC status from 1 December 2022 to 30 November 2023.

The principal activities of the Society is to foster respect and compassion for animals, improve the living conditions and welfare of animals in captivity, and to educate people on lifestyle choices which do not involve the abuse of animals and which are environment friendly.

2. Significant accounting policies**2.1 Basis of preparation**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Financial Reporting Standards in Singapore ("FRSs") and the disclosure requirements of the Societies Act 1966 and Charities Act 1994. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, except as disclosed in the accounting policies below.

These financial statements are presented in Singapore Dollar ("S\$"), which is the Society's functional currency.

The areas involving a higher degree of judgement or complexity, or areas where assumptions and estimates are significant to the financial statements are disclosed in Note 3.

2.1.1 Interpretations and amendments to published standards effective in 2022

In the current financial year, the Society has adopted all the new and revised FRSs and Interpretations of FRSs ("INT FRSs") that are relevant to its operations and effective on 1 April 2022. The adoption of the standard did not have any material effect on the financial statements.

The adoption of these new or amended FRSs and INT FRSs did not result in substantial changes to the Society's accounting policies and had not material effect on the amounts reported for the current or prior financial years.

2. Significant accounting policies (Cont'd)

2.1 Basis of preparation (Cont'd)

2.1.2 Standards issued but not yet effective

The Society has not adopted the following relevant new/amended FRSs, INT FRSs and amendments to FRSs that were issued but not yet effective:

Description	Effective for annual periods beginning on or after
Amendments to FRS 1 and FRS Practice Statement 2 : Disclosure of Accounting Policies	1 January 2023
Amendments to FRS 8: Definition of Accounting Estimates	1 January 2023
Amendments to FRS 12, FRS 101: Deferred tax related Assets and Liabilities arising from a Single Transaction	1 January 2023
Amendments to FRS 1: Classification of Liabilities as Current or Non-current	1 January 2024
Amendments to FRS 1: Non-current Liabilities with Covenants	1 January 2024
Amendments to FRS 116: Lease Liability in a Sale and Leaseback	1 January 2024
Amendments to FRS 110 and FRS 28: Sale or Contribution of Assets between an Investor and its Associate or Joint Venture	Date to be determined

The Management Committee expect that the adoption of the revised standards above will have no material impact on the financial statements in the period of initial adoption.

2.2 Income recognition

Income is measured based on the consideration to which the Society expects to be entitled in exchange for transferring promised goods or services to a customer, excluding amounts collected on behalf of third parties.

Income is recognised when the Society satisfies a performance obligation by transferring a promised good and service to the customer, which is when the customer obtains control of the good or service. A performance obligation may be satisfied at a point in time or over time. The amount of income recognised is the amount allocated to the satisfied performance obligation.

Income is recognised as follows:

2.2.1 Donations

Revenue from donations and sponsorships are accounted for when received, except for committed donations and sponsorships that are recorded when the commitments are signed. Such income is only deferred when the donor specifies that the sponsorship or donation must be used in future accounting periods or the donor has imposed conditions that must be met before the Society has unconditional entitlement. Donations-in-kind are recognised when the fair value of the assets received can be reasonably ascertained.

2.2.2 Service fee

Revenue from rendering of services is recognised once the services have been performed and rendered.

2.2.3 Programme fees

Programme fees are recognised throughout the duration of the programme.

2. Significant accounting policies (Cont'd)**2.2 Income recognition (Cont'd)**

Income is recognised as follows: (Cont'd)

2.2.4 Fundraising

Revenue from special events is recognised when the event takes place.

2.2.5 Other income

Other income is recognised when received.

2.3 Government grants

Government grants are recognised when there is reasonable assurance that the grant will be received and all attaching conditions will be complied with. Where the grant relates to an asset, the fair value is recognised as deferred capital grant on the statement of financial position and is amortised to the statement of financial activities over the expected useful life of the relevant asset by equal annual instalments.

Where loans or similar assistance are provided by governments or related institutions with an interest rate below the current applicable market rate, the effect of this favourable interest is regarded as additional government grant.

2.4 Expenditure recognition

All expenditure is accounted for on accrual basis, aggregated under the respective areas. Direct costs are attributed to the activity where possible. Where costs are not wholly attributable to an activity, they are apportioned on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

2.4.1 Cost of generating funds

Cost of generating funds comprises all directly attributable costs incurred in the fund raising activities such as F&B costs for Gala Dinner.

2.4.2 Cost of charitable activities

Cost of charitable activities comprises all directly attributable costs incurred in the pursuit of the charitable objects of the Society and an apportionment of overhead and shared costs.

2.4.3 Governance and administrative costs

Governance costs include the cost of governance arrangement, which related to the general running of the Society, providing governance infrastructure and ensuring public accountability. These costs include costs related to constitutional and statutory requirements and an apportionment of overhead and shared costs.

2. Significant accounting policies (Cont'd)

2.5 Property, plant and equipment

2.5.1 Measurement

All property, plant and equipment are initially recognised at cost and subsequently carried at cost less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses.

The cost of an item of property, plant and equipment initially recognised includes its purchase price and any costs that are directly attributable to bringing the asset to the location and condition necessary for it to be capable of operating in the manner intended by Management.

Dismantlement, removal or restoration costs are included as part of the cost of property, plant and equipment if the obligation for dismantlement, removal or restoration is incurred as a consequence of acquiring or using the property, plant and equipment.

2.5.2 Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated using the straight-line method to allocate their depreciable amounts over their estimated useful lives as follows:

	Useful lives
Motor vehicles	10 years
Office and other equipment	3 years
Film equipment	3 years
Furniture and fixtures	3 years
Quarantine assets	3 - 5 years
Right-of-use assets – premise	Over the remaining lease term
Reinstatement cost	8 years

The residual values, estimated useful lives and depreciation method of property, plant and equipment are reviewed, and adjusted as appropriate, at each reporting date. The effects of any revision are recognised in the statement of financial activities in the financial year in which the changes arise.

Fully depreciated assets still in use are retained in the financial statements.

2.5.3 Subsequent expenditure

Subsequent expenditure relating to property, plant and equipment that have already been recognised is added to the carrying amount of the asset only when it is probable that future economic benefits associated with the item will flow to the Society and the cost of the item can be measured reliably. Other subsequent expenditure is recognised as repair and maintenance expenses in the statement of financial activities during the financial year in which it is incurred.

2.5.4 Disposal

On disposal of an item of property, plant and equipment, the difference between the net disposals proceeds and its carrying amount is taken to the statement of financial activities.

2. Significant accounting policies (Cont'd)

2.6 Impairment of non-financial assets

Non-financial assets are reviewed for impairment whenever there is any indication that these assets may be impaired. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount (i.e. the higher of the fair value less cost to sell and value in use) of the assets is estimated to determine the amount of impairment loss.

For the purpose of impairment testing of assets, recoverable amount (i.e. the higher of the fair value less cost to sell and the value-in-use) is determined on an individual asset basis unless the asset does not generate cash flows that are largely independent of those from other assets. If this is the case, the recoverable amount is determined for the cash-generating unit ("CGU") to which the asset belongs.

If the recoverable amount of the asset or CGU is estimated to be less than its carrying amount, the carrying amount of the asset is reduced to its recoverable amount.

The difference between the carrying amount and recoverable amount is recognised as an impairment loss in the statement of financial activities, unless the asset is carried at revalued amount, in which case, such impairment loss is treated as a revaluation decrease.

An impairment loss for an asset is reversed only if, there has been a change in the estimates used to determine the assets recoverable amount since the last impairment loss was recognised. The carrying amount of this asset is increased to its revised recoverable amount, provided that this amount does not exceed the carrying amount that would have been determined (net of accumulated depreciation) had no impairment loss been recognised for the asset in prior years.

A reversal of impairment loss for an asset is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

2.7 Financial assets

2.7.1 Classification and measurement

The Society classified its financial assets into measurement category of amortised cost.

The classification depends on the Society's business model for managing the financial assets as well as the contractual terms of the cash flows of the financial asset.

Financial assets with embedded derivatives are considered in their entirety when determining whether their cash flows are solely payment of principal and interest.

The Society reclassifies debt instruments when and only when its business model for managing those assets changes.

(i) At initial recognition

At initial recognition, the Society measures a financial asset at its fair value plus, in the case of a financial asset not at fair value through profit or loss, transaction costs that are directly attributable to the acquisition of the financial asset. Transaction costs of financial assets carried at fair value through profit or loss are expensed in the statement of financial activities.

(ii) At subsequent measurement

Debt instruments

Debt instruments mainly comprise of cash and cash equivalents and Fee and other receivables.

2. Significant accounting policies (Cont'd)

2.7 Financial assets (Cont'd)

2.7.1 Classification and measurement (Cont'd)

(ii) At subsequent measurement

There are three subsequent measurement categories, depending on the Society's business model in managing the assets and the cash flow characteristics of the assets. The Society managed these group of financial assets by collecting the contractual cash flow and these cash flows represented solely payment of principal and interest. Accordingly, these group of financial assets are measured at amortised cost subsequent to initial recognition.

A gain or loss on a debt instrument that is subsequently measured at amortised cost and is not part of a hedging relationship is recognised in profit or loss when the asset is derecognised or impaired. Interest income from these financial assets is included in interest income using the effective interest rate method.

2.7.2 Impairment

The Society assesses on forward looking basis the expected credit losses associated with its debt instruments carried at amortised cost.

For cash and cash equivalents and Fee and other receivables, the general 3 stage approach is applied. Credit loss allowance is based on 12-month expected credit loss if there is no significant increase in credit risk since initial recognition of the assets. If there is a significant increase in credit risk since initial recognition, lifetime expected credit loss will be calculated and recognised.

2.7.3 Recognition and derecognition

Regular way purchases and sales of financial assets are recognised on trade date – the date on which the Society commits to purchase or sell the asset.

Financial assets are derecognised when the rights to receive cash flows from the financial assets have expired or have been transferred and the Society has transferred substantially all risks and rewards of ownership.

On disposal of a debt instrument, the difference between the carrying amount and the sale proceeds is recognised in profit or loss. Any amount previously recognised in other comprehensive income relating to that asset is reclassified to the statement of financial activities.

2.8 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include deposits with financial institution that is subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value.

2. Significant accounting policies (Cont'd)**2.9 Financial liabilities**

Financial liabilities are recognised when, and only when, the Society becomes a party to the contractual provision of the financial instrument and are classified according to the substance of the contractual arrangements entered into. All interest related charges are recognised in the statement of financial activities. Financial liabilities include "Other payables" and "Lease liabilities" in the statement in the statement of financial position.

Financial liabilities which are due to be settled within 12 months after the reporting date are presented as current liabilities in the statement of financial position even though the original term was for a period longer than 12 months and an agreement to refinance, or to reschedule payments, on a long-term basis is completed after the reporting date and before the financial statements are authorised for issue. Other financial liabilities due to be settled more than 12 months after the reporting date are presented as non-current liabilities in the statement of financial position.

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the obligations under the liability is discharged, cancelled or expire. When existing financial liabilities are replaced by another from the same lender on substantially different terms of an existing liability are substantially modified, such an exchange or modification is treated as a derecognition of the original liability and the recognition of a new liability, and the difference in respective carrying amounts is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

2.10 Other payables

Other payables, excluding accruals, are recognised at their transaction price, excluding transaction costs, if any, both at initial recognition and at subsequent measurement. Transaction costs are recognised as expenditure in the statement of financial activities as incurred. Accruals are recognised at the best estimate of the amount payable.

2.11 Provisions for other liabilities and charges

Provisions for other liabilities and charges are recognised when the Society has a present legal or constructive obligation as a result of past events, it is more likely than not that an outflow of resources will be required to settle the obligation and the amount has been reliably estimated.

2.12 Leases

The Society assesses at contract inception whether a contract is, or contains, a lease. That is, if the contract conveys the right to control the use of an identified asset for a period of time in exchange for consideration.

(a) As lessee

The Society applies a single recognition and measurement approach for all leases, except for short-term leases and leases of low-value assets. The Society recognises lease liabilities representing the obligations to make lease payments and right-of-use assets representing the right to use the underlying leased assets.

Right-of-use assets

The Society recognises right-of-use assets at the commencement date of the lease (i.e. the date the underlying asset is available for use). Right-of-use assets are measured at cost which comprises the initial measurement of lease liabilities adjusted of any lease payments made at or before the commencement date and lease incentive received. Any initial direct costs that would not have been incurred if the lease had not been obtained are added to the carrying amount of the right-of-use assets.

2. Significant accounting policies (Cont'd)

2.12 Leases (Cont'd)

(a) As lessee (Cont'd)

Right-of-use assets (Cont'd)

These right-of-use assets is subsequently depreciated using the straight-line method from the commencement date to the earlier of the end of the useful life of the right-of-use asset or the end of the lease term.

If ownership of the leased asset transfers to the Society at the end of the lease term or the cost reflects the exercise of a purchase option, depreciation is calculated using the estimated useful life of the asset. The right-of-use assets are also subject to impairment. The accounting policy for impairment is disclosed in Note 2.6. The Society's right-of-use assets are presented within "Property, plant and equipment" as disclosed in Note 13.

Lease liabilities

The initial measurement of lease liability is measured at the present value of the lease payments discounted using the implicit rate in the lease, if the rate can be readily determined. If that rate cannot be readily determined, the Society shall use its incremental borrowing rate.

Lease payments include the following:

- Fixed payment (including in-substance fixed payments), less any lease incentives receivables;
- Variable lease payment that are based on an index or rate, initially measured using the index or rate as at the commencement date;
- Amount expected to be payable under residual value guarantees;
- The exercise price of a purchase option if it is reasonably certain to exercise the option; and
- Payment of penalties for terminating the lease, if the lease term reflects the Society exercising that option.

In calculating the present value of lease payments, the Society uses its incremental borrowing rate at the lease commencement date because the interest rate implicit in the lease is not readily determinable. After the commencement date, the amount of lease liabilities is increase to reflect the accretion of interest and reduced for the lease payments made.

Lease liability is measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method. Lease liability shall be remeasured when:

- There is a change in future lease payments arising from changes in an index or rate;
- There is a change in the Society's assessment of whether it will exercise an extension option; or
- There are modifications in the scope or the consideration of the lease that was not part of the original term.

Lease liability is remeasured with a corresponding adjustment to the right-of-use asset, or is recorded in the statement of financial activities if the carrying amount of the right-of-use asset has been reduced to zero.

The Society's lease liabilities are disclosed in Note 17.

2. Significant accounting policies (Cont'd)

2.12 Leases (Cont'd)

(a) As lessee (Cont'd)

Lease liabilities (Cont'd)

Short-term leases and leases of low-value assets

The Society applies the short-term lease recognition exemption to its short-term leases of office premise (i.e. those leases that have a lease term of 12 months or less from the commencement date and do not contain a purchase option). It also applies the lease of low-value assets recognition exemption to leases that are considered to be low value. Lease payments on short-term leases and leases of low-value assets are recognised as expense on straight-line basis over the lease term.

Variable lease payments

Variable lease payments that are not based on an index or a rate are not included as part of the measurement and initial recognition of the lease liability. The Society shall recognise those lease payments in the statement of financial activities in the periods that triggered those lease payments.

2.13 Borrowing costs

All borrowing costs that are not directly attributable to the acquisition, construction or production of a qualifying asset are recognised in profit or loss in the period in which they are incurred.

2.14 Borrowings

Borrowings are initially recognised at their fair values (net of transaction costs) and subsequently carried at amortised cost. Any difference between the proceeds (net of transaction costs) and their redemption values is recognised in the statement of financial activities over the period of borrowings using the effective interest method.

Borrowings, which are due to be settled within twelve months after the reporting date, are included in current borrowings in the statement of financial position.

2.15 Employee compensation

2.15.1 Defined contribution plans

The Society makes contributions to the Central Provident Fund scheme in Singapore, a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions to defined contribution pension schemes are recognised as an expense in the period in which the related service is performed.

2.15.2 Short-term employee benefits

Short-term employee benefit obligations are measured on an undiscounted basis and are expensed as the related service is provided. A liability is recognised for the amount expected to be paid if the Society has a present legal or constructive obligation to pay this amount as a result of past service provided by the employee, and the obligation can be estimated reliably.

2. Significant accounting policies (Cont'd)**2.16 Fund**

Restricted fund balances are restricted by outside sources and may only be utilised in accordance with the purposes for which they are established. Designated funds are earmarked for specific purposes and are largely made up of funds allocated at the discretion of the Management committee. These designated funds are treated as restricted funds as they contain funds restricted by outside sources.

The Management Committee retains full control over the use of unrestricted funds for any of the Society's purposes.

2.17 Contingencies

Contingent liabilities are not recognised in the financial statements. They are disclosed unless the possibility of an outflow of resources embodying economic benefits is remote. A contingent asset is not recognised in the financial statements but disclosed when an inflow of economic benefit is probable.

2.18 Events after the reporting date

Event after the reporting date that provide additional information about the Society's position at the reporting date (adjusting events) are reflected in the financial statements. Event after the reporting date that are not adjusting events are disclosed in the notes to the financial statements when material.

3. Significant accounting judgements and estimates

The preparation of the Society's financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of income, expenditure, assets and liabilities, and the disclosure of contingent liabilities at the end of each reporting period. Uncertainty about these assumption and estimates could result in outcomes that require a material adjustment to the carrying amount of the asset or liability affected in the future periods.

3.1 Judgements made in applying accounting policies

In the process of applying the Society's accounting policies, the management has made certain judgements, apart from those involving estimations, which have significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements.

Government grants

Grants to meet operating expenses are recognised as income in the income and expenditure statement on the accrual basis in the year these operating expenses were incurred and there is reasonable assurance that the Society will comply with the conditions attached to it. For certain grants, the agencies reserve the right to withdraw, withhold or reduce the amount of any funds approved but not yet disbursed or to call for the refund of all funds which have been disbursed to the Society if the conditions are not met.

3.2 Key sources of estimation uncertainty

The key assumptions concerning the future and other key sources of estimation uncertainty at the end of reporting period are discussed below. The Society based its assumptions and estimates on parameters available when the financial statements were prepared. Existing circumstances and assumptions about future developments, however, may change due to market changes or circumstances arising beyond the control of the Society. Such changes are reflected in the assumptions when they occur.

3. Significant accounting judgements and estimates (Cont'd)

3.2 Key sources of estimation uncertainty (Cont'd)

Useful lives of property, plant and equipment

Management determines the estimated useful lives and the related depreciation for its property, plant and equipment based on the period over which the property, plant and equipment are expected to provide economic benefits. Management's estimation of the useful lives of property, plant and equipment is based on collective assessment of industry practice, internal technical evaluation and experience with similar assets.

The estimation of the useful lives of the property, plant and equipment could change significantly due to physical wear and tear, technical or commercial obsolescence and legal or other limits on the use of property, plant and equipment. The depreciation is increased where useful lives are less than previously estimated lives.

The carrying value of property, plant and equipment as of 31 March 2023 and 2022 are disclosed in Note 13 of these financial statements.

Based on Management's assessment, no change in the estimated useful lives of property, plant and equipment is required as of 31 March 2023 and 2022.

Impairment of property, plant and equipment

Property, plant and equipment is tested for impairment whenever there is any objective evidence or indication that these assets may be impaired. This requires an estimation of the value in use of the cash-generating units. Estimating the value in use requires the Company to make an estimate of the expected future cash flows from the cash-generating units and also to choose a suitable discount rate in order to calculate the present value of those cash flows.

4. Income tax

The Society is a charity registered under the Charities Act, 1994 since 11 January 2005. Consequently, the income of the Society is exempted from tax under the provisions of Section 13 (1)(zm) of the Income Tax Act, 1947.

5. Total incoming resources

(a) Total incoming resources for the year:

	Note	2023 S\$	2022 S\$
Donations	6	938,127	828,511
Fees	7	127,170	184,067
Fund raising income	6	155,786	22,472
Grant income		68,028	0
Other income			
- Amortisation of deferred capital grants		14,110	23,211
- Gain on disposal of property, plant and equipment		5,500	0
- Utilisation of deferred income		21,308	3,295
- Other miscellaneous grants and subsidies		34,768	12,955
- Others		4,913	30,389
		<u>1,369,710</u>	<u>1,104,900</u>

5. Total incoming resources (Cont'd)

(b) Disaggregation of revenue from contracts with customers

	2023 S\$	2022 S\$
Revenue from:		
Donation		
- Tax exempt	0	0
- Non-tax exempt	358	1,300
	<u>358</u>	<u>1,300</u>
Programme fees	23,895	24,292
Service fees	103,275	159,775
	<u>127,170</u>	<u>184,067</u>
Timing of transfer of services		
- At a point in time	23,895	25,592
- Over the time	103,275	159,775
	<u>127,170</u>	<u>185,367</u>

(c) Contract assets

	2023 S\$	2022 S\$
Amounts received in advance for programme fee	<u>2,410</u>	<u>0</u>

Contract assets primarily relate to the Society's right to consideration for service rendered but not yet billed at reporting date for programme fee. Contract assets are transferred to receivables when the rights become unconditional. This usually occurs when the Society raise the invoice subsequently.

(d) Contract liabilities

	2023 S\$	2022 S\$
Amounts received in advance for Gala Dinner event/ programme fee	<u>0</u>	<u>396</u>

(i) Income recognised in relation to contract liabilities

	2023 S\$	2022 S\$
Revenue recognised in current period that was included in contract liabilities balance at the beginning of the year	<u>396</u>	<u>825</u>

The contract liabilities relate to the ticket sales for Gala Dinner fundraising event and programme fees received in advance. Revenue will be recognised when the events/programmes are held.

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Financial Year Ended 31 March 2023

6. Donations

2023						
	Unrestricted fund	Restricted funds				Total unrestricted and restricted funds
		Wildlife Campaign Initiatives	CFS - Vegetable Garden	Other funds	AXA XL Regional Grant	
		S\$	S\$	S\$	S\$	
Tax deductible donations						
Voluntary Income Donations	696,495	0	0	0	0	696,495
Activities for generating funds						
Fund raising income	144,569	0	0	0	0	144,569
	841,064	0	0	0	0	841,064
Non-tax deductible donations						
Voluntary Income Donations	241,632	0	0	0	0	241,632
Activities for generating funds						
Fund raising income	11,217	0	0	0	0	11,217
	252,849	0	0	0	0	252,849
	1,093,913	0	0	0	0	1,093,913

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6. Donations

	2023					
	Unrestricted fund	Restricted funds				
		Wildlife Campaign Initiatives	CFS - Vegetable Garden	Other funds	AXA XL Regional Grant	Total unrestricted and restricted funds
	S\$	S\$	S\$	S\$	S\$	S\$
Tax deductible donations						
Voluntary Income						
Donations	696,495	0	0	0	0	696,495
Activities for generating funds						
Fund raising income	144,569	0	0	0	0	144,569
	841,064	0	0	0	0	841,064
Non-tax deductible donations						
Voluntary Income						
Donations	241,632	0	0	0	0	241,632
Activities for generating funds						
Fund raising income	11,217	0	0	0	0	11,217
	252,849	0	0	0	0	252,849
	1,093,913	0	0	0	0	1,093,913

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Financial Year Ended 31 March 2023

6. Donations (Cont'd)

	2022					
	Unrestricted fund	Restricted funds				Total unrestricted and restricted funds
		Wildlife Campaign Initiatives	CFS - Vegetable Garden	Other funds	AXA XL Regional Grant	
	S\$	S\$	S\$	S\$	S\$	S\$
<u>Tax deductible donations</u>						
Voluntary income						
Donations	657,636	0	0	0	0	657,636
Activities for generating funds						
Fund raising income	7,705	0	0	0	0	7,705
	665,341	0	0	0	0	665,341
<u>Non-tax deductible donations</u>						
Voluntary income						
Donations	170,443	0	0	432	0	170,875
Activities for generating funds						
Fund raising income	12,767	0	0	2,000	0	14,767
	183,210	0	0	2,432	0	185,642
	848,551	0	0	2,432	0	850,983

The donations were presented in the statement of financial activities as follows:

	2023 S\$	2022 S\$
Voluntary income		
- Donations	938,127	828,511
Activities for generating funds		
- Fund raising income	155,786	22,472
	<u>1,093,913</u>	<u>850,983</u>

During the financial year, the Society issued tax-deductible receipts, for donations totalling \$4899,959 (2022: \$4667,734) pursuant to its Institutions of a Public Character ("IPC") status.

Animal Concerns Research and Education Society
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Audited Financial Statements
Financial Year Ended 31 March 2023

6. Donations (Cont'd)

	2022					
	Unrestricted fund	Restricted funds			AXA XL Regional Grant	Total unrestricted and restricted funds
		Wildlife Campaign Initiatives	CFS - Vegetable Garden	Other funds		
	S\$	S\$	S\$	S\$	S\$	S\$
Tax deductible donations						
Voluntary income						
Donations	657,636	0	0	0	0	657,636
Activities for generating funds						
Fund raising income	7,705	0	0	0	0	7,705
	665,341	0	0	0	0	665,341
Non-tax deductible donations						
Voluntary income						
Donations	170,443	0	0	432	0	170,875
Activities for generating funds						
Fund raising income	12,767	0	0	2,000	0	14,767
	183,210	0	0	2,432	0	185,642
	848,551	0	0	2,432	0	850,983

The donations were presented in the statement of financial activities as follows:

	2023 S\$	2022 S\$
Voluntary income		
- Donations	938,127	828,511
Activities for generating funds		
- Fund raising income	155,786	22,472
	<u>1,093,913</u>	<u>850,983</u>

During the financial year, the Society issued tax-deductible receipts, for donations totalling S\$899,959 (2022: S\$667,734) pursuant to its Institutions of a Public Character ("IPC") status.

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Audited Financial Statements
Financial Year Ended 31 March 2023

6. Donations (Cont'd)

	2022					
	Unrestricted fund	Restricted funds				Total unrestricted and restricted funds
		Wildlife Campaign Initiatives	CFS - Vegetable Garden	Other funds	AXA XL Regional Grant	
	S\$	S\$	S\$	S\$	S\$	S\$
<u>Tax deductible donations</u>						
Voluntary income						
Donations	657,636	0	0	0	0	657,636
Activities for generating funds						
Fund raising income	7,705	0	0	0	0	7,705
	665,341	0	0	0	0	665,341
<u>Non-tax deductible donations</u>						
Voluntary income						
Donations	170,443	0	0	432	0	170,875
Activities for generating funds						
Fund raising income	12,767	0	0	2,000	0	14,767
	183,210	0	0	2,432	0	185,642
	848,551	0	0	2,432	0	850,983

The donations were presented in the statement of financial activities as follows:

	2023 S\$	2022 S\$
Voluntary income		
- Donations	938,127	828,511
Activities for generating funds		
- Fund raising income	155,786	22,472
	<u>1,093,913</u>	<u>850,983</u>

During the financial year, the Society issued tax-deductible receipts, for donations totalling \$4899,959 (2022: \$4667,734) pursuant to its Institutions of a Public Character ("IPC") status.

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8. Animal protection programme expenses

	2023					
	Unrestricted	Restricted funds				Total
	Fund					unrestricted and restricted funds
		Wildlife Campaign Initiatives	CFS - Vegetable Garden	Other funds	AXA XL Regional Grant	
	General fund					
	S\$	S\$	S\$	S\$	S\$	S\$
Campaigns						
Local expenses	4,710	0	0	0	0	4,710
Bank charges	57	0	0	0	0	57
Salaries	92,570	5,332	0	0	0	97,902
CPF contributions and SDL	14,448	1,432	0	0	0	15,880
Miscellaneous	1,727	0	0	0	0	1,727
	113,512	6,764	0	0	0	120,276
Education and community outreach						
Local expenses	4,916	0	0	170	0	5,086
Salaries	76,449	0	0	0	0	76,449
CPF contributions and SDL	11,524	0	0	0	0	11,524
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	859	0	0	0	0	859
Project expenses	1,138	0	0	0	0	1,138
Miscellaneous	316	0	0	0	0	316
	95,202	0	0	170	0	95,372

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Audited Financial Statements
Financial Year Ended 31 March 2023

8. Animal protection programme expenses (Cont'd)

		2023					
		Unrestricted fund	Restricted funds				Total
							unrestricted and restricted funds
	Note	General fund	Wildlife Campaign Initiatives	CFS - Vegetable Garden	Other funds	AXA XL Regional Grant	
		S\$	S\$	S\$	S\$	S\$	S\$
Wildlife rescue							
Local expenses		180,033	0	123	0	0	180,156
Foreign worker levy	10	23,642	0	0	0	0	23,642
Salaries	10	407,880	0	0	0	0	407,880
Staff development and training	10	1,050	0	0	0	0	1,050
CPF contributions and SDL	10	51,507	0	0	0	0	51,507
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	13	22,966	0	0	0	0	22,966
Amortisation of right-of-use Assets	13	19,871	0	0	0	0	19,871
Interest expense on lease liabilities		2,316	0	0	0	0	2,316
Miscellaneous		3,856	0	0	0	0	3,856
		713,121	0	123	0	0	713,244
Total cost of charitable activities		921,835	6,764	123	170	0	928,892

Animal Concerns Research and Education Society
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Audited Financial Statements
Financial Year Ended 31 March 2023

8. Animal protection programme expenses (Cont'd)

	Note	2022					
		Unrestricted fund		Restricted funds			Total unrestricted and restricted funds
		General fund	Wildlife Campaign Initiatives	CFS - Vegetable Garden	Other funds	AXA XL Regional Grant	
		S\$	S\$	S\$	S\$	S\$	S\$
Campaigns							
Local expenses		8,087	4	0	0	0	8,091
Salaries	10	102,678	0	0	0	0	102,678
Staff development and training	10	697	0	0	0	0	697
CPF contributions and SDL	10	17,802	0	0	0	0	17,802
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	13	232	0	0	0	0	232
Miscellaneous		556	0	0	0	0	556
		130,052	4	0	0	0	130,056
Education and community outreach							
Local expenses		4,464	0	0	1,114	0	5,578
Salaries	10	76,475	0	0	0	0	76,475
Staff development and training	10	66	0	0	0	0	66
CPF contributions and SDL	10	12,853	0	0	0	0	12,853
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	13	10,300	0	0	0	0	10,300
Project expenses		2,793	0	0	0	0	2,793
Miscellaneous		908	0	0	18	0	926
		107,859	0	0	1,132	0	108,991

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Audited Financial Statements
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8. Animal protection programme expenses (Cont'd)

	2022					
	Unrestricted fund		Restricted funds			
	General fund	Wildlife Campaign Initiatives	CFS - Vegetable Garden	Other funds	AXA XL Regional Grant	Total unrestricted and restricted funds
	S\$	S\$	S\$	S\$	S\$	S\$
<u>Wildlife rescue</u>						
Local expenses	178,868	0	274	0	221	179,363
Foreign worker levy	24,254	0	0	0	0	24,254
Salaries	374,858	0	0	0	0	374,858
Staff development and training	49	0	0	0	0	49
CPF contributions and SDL	47,077	0	0	0	0	47,077
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	15,979	0	0	0	1,177	17,156
Amortisation of right-of-use asset	19,837	0	0	0	0	19,837
Interest expense on lease liabilities	3,361	0	0	0	0	3,361
Miscellaneous	4,991	0	0	0	0	4,991
	669,274	0	274	0	1,398	670,946
Total cost of charitable activities	907,185	4	274	1,132	1,398	909,993

Animal Concerns Research and Education Society
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Audited Financial Statements
Financial Year Ended 31 March 2023

9. Administrative expenses

	Note	2023					
		Unrestricted fund		Restricted funds			Total unrestricted and restricted funds
		General fund	Wildlife Campaign Initiatives	CFS - Vegetable Garden	Other funds	AXA XL Regional Grant	
		S\$	S\$	S\$	S\$	S\$	S\$
Accounting fee		24,743	0	0	0	0	24,743
Audit fee		8,836	0	0	0	0	8,836
Bank charges		14,620	0	0	0	0	14,620
CPF contributions and SDL	10	7,393	0	0	0	0	7,393
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	13	82,500	0	0	0	0	82,500
Amortisation of reinstatement cost		29,719	0	0	0	0	29,719
Medical expenses		386	0	0	0	0	386
Miscellaneous expenses		9,949	0	0	1,813	0	11,762
Salaries	10	38,471	0	0	0	0	38,471
Staff development and training	10	15	0	0	0	0	15
Telecommunications		658	0	0	0	0	658
		217,290	0	0	1,813	0	219,103

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9. Administrative expenses (Cont'd)

	Note	2022					
		Unrestricted fund		Restricted funds			Total unrestricted and restricted funds
		General fund	Wildlife Campaign Initiatives	CFS - Vegetable Garden	Other funds	AXA XL Regional Grant	
		S\$	S\$	S\$	S\$	S\$	S\$
Accounting fee		30,559	0	0	0	0	30,559
Audit fee		9,174	0	0	0	0	9,174
Bank charges		7,388	0	0	0	0	7,388
CPF contributions and SDL	10	8,141	0	0	0	0	8,141
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	13	83,720	0	0	0	0	83,720
Written off of property plant and equipment	13	54	0	0	0	0	54
Amortisation of reinstatement cost		31,279	0	0	0	0	31,279
Medical expenses		200	0	0	0	0	200
Miscellaneous expenses		11,040	0	0	300	0	11,340
Salaries	10	46,166	0	0	0	0	46,166
Staff development and training	10	33	0	0	0	0	33
Telecommunications		1,434	0	0	0	0	1,434
		229,188	0	0	300	0	229,488

10. Staff costs

	2023 S\$	2022 S\$
Salaries and bonuses	620,702	600,177
CPF contributions and SDL	86,304	85,873
Foreign worker levy	23,642	24,254
Staff development and training	1,065	845
	<u>731,713</u>	<u>711,149</u>

The staff costs were allocated as follows:

Cost of charitable activities		
- Campaigns	113,782	121,177
- Education and community outreach	87,973	89,394
- Wildlife rescue	484,079	446,238
Administrative expenses	45,879	54,340
	<u>731,713</u>	<u>711,149</u>

11. Cash and cash equivalents

	2023 S\$	2022 S\$
Cash on hand	14,506	0
Cash at bank	<u>1,376,612</u>	<u>1,087,342</u>
	<u>1,391,118</u>	<u>1,087,342</u>

At the reporting date, the carrying amounts of cash and cash equivalents approximate their fair values.

12. Fee and other receivables

	Note	2023 S\$	2022 S\$
Fee receivables			
Programme fee		2,500	14,100
Other receivables			
Deposits		39,293	47,263
Donation receivables		14,393	0
Other assets		1,040	0
Contract assets	5	2,410	0
Prepayments		21,358	5,741
Sundry receivables		680	0
		<u>81,674</u>	<u>67,104</u>

Fee receivables are unsecured, non-interest bearing and are normally settle on 30 days' (2022: 30 days') term.

There is no other class of financial assets that is past due and/or impaired.

At the reporting date, the carrying amounts of fee and other receivables approximate their fair values.

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13. Property, plant and equipment									
	Motor vehicles S\$	Office equipment S\$	Furniture and fixtures S\$	Quarantine assets S\$	Right-of-use assets S\$	Renovation cost S\$	Reinstatement cost S\$	Total S\$	
Cost									
At 31 March 2021	193,000	39,308	21,673	9,951	110,757	0	660,000	1,034,689	
Additions	12,462	12,763	0	4,976	0	0	0	30,201	
Written off	0	(9,885)	(1,197)	(1,926)	0	0	0	(13,008)	
At 31 March 2022	205,462	42,186	20,476	13,001	110,757	0	660,000	1,051,882	
Additions	0	0	0	0	59,365	8,650	0	68,015	
Disposal	(103,000)	0	0	0	0	0	0	(103,000)	
At 31 March 2023	102,462	42,186	20,476	13,001	170,122	8,650	660,000	1,016,897	
Accumulated depreciation									
At 31 March 2021	128,592	30,033	20,278	9,951	39,674	0	82,500	311,028	
Depreciation charge	19,597	7,942	540	830	19,837	0	82,500	131,246	
Written off	0	(9,885)	(1,197)	(1,926)	0	0	0	(13,008)	
At 31 March 2022	148,189	28,090	19,621	8,855	59,511	0	165,000	429,266	
Depreciation charge	13,419	7,486	540	1,659	19,871	721	82,500	126,196	
Disposal	(103,000)	0	0	0	0	0	0	(103,000)	
At 31 March 2023	58,608	35,576	20,161	10,514	79,382	721	247,500	452,462	
Carrying amount									
31 March 2022	57,273	14,096	855	4,146	51,246	0	495,000	622,616	
31 March 2023	43,854	6,610	315	2,487	90,740	7,929	412,500	564,435	

During the financial year, the Society acquired property, plant and equipment with an aggregate cost of S\$8,650 (2022: S\$30,201). Cash payments of S\$8,650 (2022: S\$30,201) were made to purchase property, plant and equipment. This included S\$NIL (2022: S\$3,130) donations received from donors for the sponsor on the acquisition of equipment as disclosed in Note 15.

Assets acquired under leasing arrangements

Right-of-use assets acquired under leasing arrangements are presented separately under the category, "Right-of-use assets". Details of the leased assets are disclosed in Note 17.

13. Property, plant and equipment (Cont'd)

The breakdown of depreciation charges are as follows:

	2023 S\$	2022 S\$
Under General Fund:		
Cost of charitable activities		
- Campaigns	0	232
- Education and community outreach	859	10,300
- Wildlife rescue	42,837	36,994
Administrative expenses	82,500	83,720
	<u>126,196</u>	<u>131,246</u>

14. Other payables

	2023 S\$	2022 S\$
Current liabilities		
Accrued expenses	31,080	31,601
Provision for unutilised leaves	48,673	26,542
Other payables	6,918	17,995
	<u>86,671</u>	<u>76,138</u>
Non-current liabilities		
Provision for reinstatement costs	532,216	502,497
	<u>618,887</u>	<u>578,635</u>

At the reporting date, the carrying amounts of other payables approximate their fair values.

15. Deferred capital grants

	2023 S\$	2022 S\$
Current	11,287	14,109
Non-current	26,661	37,949
	<u>37,948</u>	<u>52,058</u>
	2023 S\$	2022 S\$
At beginning of financial year	52,058	72,139
Deferred capital grants received	0	3,130
Amortisation of deferred capital grants	(14,110)	(23,211)
At end of financial year	<u>37,948</u>	<u>52,058</u>

During the financial year ended 31 March 2022, the Society received donations amounting to S\$3,130 for the sponsorship in purchase of 2 units brand new Rcom bird brooder and used TLC-50 intensive care unit for wildlife purpose. The cost of office equipment have been capitalised under property, plant and equipment as disclosed in Note 13.

16. Deferred income

In 2022, this relates to donations received for the rescue van – GBF8590E. This deferred income is to be recognised as income in subsequent accounting periods when the maintenance expenses incurred for the rescue van.

In 2023, the Society received donations for the rescue van, renovation of the Bird Block, trolleys and food for animal care and animal food vouchers. This deferred income is to be recognised as income in subsequent accounting periods when the related expenses are incurred.

There are fuel charges amounting S\$10,000 (2022: S\$500), renovation expenses amounting to S\$8,920 (2022: S\$NIL) and miscellaneous charges for animal food and care and maintenance amounting to S\$2,388 (2022: S\$4,821) and these were utilised against the deferred income account.

	2023 S\$	2022 S\$
At beginning of financial year	1,358	0
Deferred income received	31,053	6,679
Utilisation of deferred income	<u>(21,308)</u>	<u>(5,321)</u>
At end of financial year	<u>11,103</u>	<u>1,358</u>

17. Lease liabilities

	2023 S\$	2022 S\$
Current	18,648	20,516
Non-current	<u>75,448</u>	<u>34,764</u>
	<u>94,096</u>	<u>55,280</u>

Amount recognised in profit or loss:	2023 S\$	2022 S\$
Depreciation of right-of-use assets	19,871	19,837
Interest expense on lease liabilities	<u>2,316</u>	<u>3,361</u>
Total amount recognised in profit or loss	<u>22,187</u>	<u>23,198</u>

17. Lease liabilities (Cont'd)

Total cash outflows:

During the financial year, the Society had total cash outflows for leases of S\$22,865 (2022: S\$22,830).

A reconciliation of liabilities arising from financing activities are as follows:

	1 April 2022 S\$	Addition S\$	Cash flows S\$	Non-cash changes		31 March 2023 S\$
				Accretion of interests S\$	Other S\$	
Liabilities						
<u>Lease liabilities</u>						
- current	20,516	0	(22,865)	2,316	18,681	18,648
- non-current	34,764	59,365	0	0	(18,681)	75,448

	1 April 2021 S\$	Addition S\$	Cash flows S\$	Non-cash changes		31 March 2022 S\$
				Accretion of interests S\$	Other S\$	
Liabilities						
<u>Lease liabilities</u>						
- current	19,469	0	(22,830)	3,361	20,516	20,516
- non-current	55,280	0	0	0	(20,516)	34,764

18. General Fund

The General Fund are expendable at the discretion of the Management Committee in furtherance of the Society's objects and purposes.

19. Wildlife campaign initiatives (Mandai Nature)

Mandai Nature is a non-profit wildlife conservation organization. Its aim is to be the trusted conservation organization in Asia to conserve wildlife and their habitats while benefiting people. The grant was given to ACRES to fund "Our Wild Neighbours" initiative.

Our Wild Neighbours (OWN) is the first joint initiative amongst multiple stakeholders to promote coexistence with wildlife in Singapore. The initiative aims to promote human-wildlife coexistence, equip the public with wildlife etiquette, and raise awareness about wildlife rescue, rehabilitation and release efforts in Singapore.

20. CFS – Vegetable Garden

This fund is a donation from the Community Foundation of Singapore. It is used for the ACRES Vegetable Garden and plants for enclosures.

21. AXA XL Regional Grant

This fund is from the AXA XL Regional Grants Program. It is to be used for the following: (i) to erect sturdy custom-designed outdoor enclosures to create an iguana sanctuary; and (ii) volunteer training and educational talks for AXA XL staff members.

22. Related party transactions

(a) Related party transactions and balances

There was no transaction between the Society and related party for the financial years ended 31 March 2023 and 31 March 2022.

(b) Key management personnel compensation

The remuneration of key management personnel compensation for the financial year was as follows:

	2023 S\$	2022 S\$
<u>Executives' remuneration</u>		
Salaries, allowance and bonuses	104,549	110,023
CPF and SDL contributions	<u>17,736</u>	<u>18,967</u>
	<u>122,285</u>	<u>128,990</u>
Number of key personnel		
No. of executives of the Society in remuneration bands:		
- Below S\$100,000	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>

At the reporting date, none of the Management Committees received any remuneration from the Society.

As at the reporting date, the Society has an average number of staff of 23 (2022: 22).

23. Financial instruments

The carrying amounts of financial assets and liabilities at amortised costs at the reporting date are as follows:

	2023 S\$	2022 S\$
Financial assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	1,391,118	1,087,342
Fee and other receivables (excluding prepayments)	<u>60,316</u>	<u>61,363</u>
	<u>1,451,434</u>	<u>1,148,705</u>
Financial liabilities		
Other payables	618,887	578,635
Lease liabilities	<u>94,096</u>	<u>55,280</u>
	<u>712,983</u>	<u>633,915</u>

24. Financial risk management

The Society is mainly exposed to credit risk, interest rate risk, and liquidity risk.

Risk management is carried out under policies approved by the Management Committee. The Management Committee reviews and agrees on policies and procedures for management of these risks.

24.1 Credit risk

Credit risk refers to the risk that counterparty will default on its contractual obligation, resulting in financial loss to the Society.

i) Risk management

The Society adopts the following policy to mitigate the credit risk.

For banks and financial institutions, the Society mitigates its credit risks by transacting only with a counterparty who are rated "A" and above by independent rating agencies.

The Society has no significant concentration of credit risk.

ii) Impairment of financial assets

The Society does not expect to incur material credit losses on their risk management of financial assets.

Financial assets that are neither past due nor impaired are mainly deposits with banks with high credit ratings assigned by international credit-rating agencies.

There are no credit loss allowance for financial assets at amortised cost as at 31 March 2023 and 2022.

24.2 Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Society will encounter difficulty in meeting its financial obligations due to shortage of funds. The Society exposure to liquidity risk arises primarily from mis-matches of the maturities of financial assets or liabilities.

Management monitors and ensures that the Society maintains a level of cash and cash equivalents deemed adequate to finance the Society's operations.

The table below summarises the maturity profile of the Society's financial assets and liabilities at the end of the reporting period based on the contractual undiscounted repayment obligations:

	Within one year S\$	Later than one year but not later than five years S\$	Total S\$
2023			
Financial assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	1,391,118	0	1,391,118
Fee and other receivables (excluding prepayments)	60,316	0	60,316
	<u>1,451,434</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,451,434</u>
Financial liabilities			
Other payables	(86,671)	(532,216)	(618,887)
Lease liabilities	(23,043)	(82,570)	(105,613)
	<u>(109,714)</u>	<u>(614,786)</u>	<u>(724,500)</u>
Net financial assets/(liabilities)	<u>1,341,720</u>	<u>(614,786)</u>	<u>726,934</u>

24. Financial risk management (Cont'd)

24.2 Liquidity risk (Cont'd)

The table below summarises the maturity profile of the Society's financial assets and liabilities at the end of the reporting period based on the contractual undiscounted repayment obligations: (Cont'd)

	Within one year S\$	Later than one year but not later than five years S\$	Total S\$
2022			
Financial assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	1,087,342	0	1,087,342
Fee and other receivables (excluding prepayments)	61,363	0	61,363
	<u>1,148,705</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,148,705</u>
Financial liabilities			
Other payables	(76,138)	(502,497)	(578,635)
Lease liabilities	(22,829)	(36,147)	(58,976)
	<u>(98,967)</u>	<u>(538,644)</u>	<u>(637,611)</u>
Net financial assets/(liabilities)	<u>1,049,738</u>	<u>(538,644)</u>	<u>511,094</u>

24.3 Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of the Society's financial instruments will fluctuate because of changes in market interest rates. The Society's exposure to interest rate risk arises primarily from their borrowing.

The Society does not expect any significant effect on the Society's profit or loss arising from the effects of reasonably possible changes to interest rates on interest bearing financial instruments at the end of the financial year.

Sensitivity analysis for interest rate risk

At the reporting date, the interest rate profile of the Society's interest-bearing financial instruments was as follows:

	2023 S\$	2022 S\$
Fixed rate instruments		
<u>Financial liabilities</u>		
Lease liabilities	<u>94,096</u>	<u>55,280</u>

The sensitivity analysis is based on changes in the interest rates of variable rate financial instruments.

Sensitivity analysis for interest rate risk is not presented as the Society do not have significant exposure to market risk for changes in interest rate.

At the reporting date, the Society does not have variable rate interest-bearing financial instruments.

25. Fair values

As at 31 March 2023, the carrying amounts of the financial assets and liabilities recorded in the financial statements of the Society approximate their fair values due to their short-term nature.

The fair values of non-current financial liabilities carried at amortised cost are estimated by discounting the future contractual cash flows at the current market interest rate that is available to the Society for similar financial liabilities.

26. Fund raising expenses

	Note	2023 S\$	2022 S\$
Total fund raising income and sponsorship	6	155,786	22,472
Total direct costs of fund raising expenses		<u>35,857</u>	<u>615</u>
Percentage of direct fund raising expenses over fund raising income and sponsorship		<u>23%</u>	<u>3%</u>

27. Management of conflict of interest

During the current and previous financial year, none of the Management Committee received any remuneration from the Society.

Management Committee are required to disclose any interest that they may have, whether directly or indirectly, that the Society may enter into or in any organisations that the Society has dealings with or is considering dealing with; and any personal interest accruing to him as one of the Society's supplier, user of services or beneficiary. Should there be any potential conflict of interest, the affected members may not vote on the issue that was the subject matter of the disclosure. Detailed minutes will be taken on disclosure as well as the basis for arriving at the final decision in relation to the issue at stake.

28. Reserve position and policy

The Society's reserve position (excluding non-current assets) for financial year ended 31 March 2023 and 2022 are as follows:

		2023	2022	Increase/ (decrease)
		S\$'000	S\$'000	%
A	Unrestricted Fund			
	General Fund	1,209	1,082	12%
B	Restricted Funds			
	Wildlife Campaign Initiatives	59	0	100%
	CFS - Vegetable Garden	0	0	N/A
	Other Funds	6	6	0%
	AXA XL Regional Grant	1	1	0%
C	Endowment Fund	N/A	N/A	N/A
D	Total Funds	1,275	1,089	17%
E	Total Annual Operating Expenditure	1,184	1,140	4%
F	Ratio of Funds to Annual Operating Expenditure (A/E)	1.02	0.95	

29. Reserve position and policy (Cont'd)

Reference:

- C. An endowment fund consists of assets, funds or properties, which are held in perpetuity, which produce annual income flow for a foundation to spend as grants.
- D. Total Funds include unrestricted, restricted/ designated and endowment funds.
- E. Total Annual Operating Expenditure includes expenses related to Cost of Generating Funds, Cost of Charitable Activities and Governance and Administration costs.

The Society's Reserve Policy is as follows:

The reserves of the Society provide financial stability and the means for the development of the Society's activities. The Management Committee intends to maintain the reserves at a level sufficient for its operating needs. The Society reviews the level of reserves regularly for the Society's continuing obligations.

30. Impact of Covid-19 (Coronavirus Disease)

Management has not identified any material uncertainties resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic and the aftermath of the pandemic surrounding the Company's business and operations. The ongoing and evolving COVID-19 pandemic, together with the adverse impacts on global and local economies, have heightened the estimation uncertainties, including but not limited to any estimated credit losses. The related impact may be further reflected in the Company's financial statements for the financial year ending 31 March 2024.

Notwithstanding this, the management has assessed that the going concern basis of preparation for this set of financial statements remains appropriate. The Board of Directors is continuously monitoring the COVID-19 pandemic situation and will take further action as necessary in response to the economic and service disruption.

31. Authorisation of financial statements


The financial statements for the financial year ended 31 March 2023 were authorised for issue in accordance with a resolution of the Management Committee of the Society on 4 September 2023.


THANK YOU!




ACRES

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