

## PRO ANIMALS FINLAND REGISTERED ASSOCIATION STRATEGY 2009

We are closely observing laws and bills related to stray dogs and pets as well as horse protection that are being implemented or suggested in EU-countries. We also continue to send suggestions to EU-authorities and report and inform of animal cruelty crimes in EU-countries.

Our goal for 2009 is to be able to secure Pro Animals Romania's possibilities to do efficient animal protection in Gorj County and somehow enable cooperation with the local authorities so that any faults can be handled efficiently but in a humane way and taking welfare of the whole community into consideration. In addition to stray dogs, the poor treatment of horses has strongly surfaced and education is needed especially among the Romani people. It's hard to get in contact with this particular group and gaining their trust will take time.

We will continue to try to make the local authorities of Gorj County understand that it's inefficient to try to solve the stray dog problem using any weapon and pressure them to solving problems with different kinds of spaying/neutering and education programmes. We will also continue to educate the locals of the importance of spaying and neutering of pets and strays. Pro Animals Romania will mostly be responsible of the implementation of education programme in Gorj County and they should absolutely have at least one person to help them in the programme.

One of our biggest challenges in 2009 is to work on the project of building an animal welfare centre to serve the needs of Pro Animals Romania's animal protection. The current shelter is still being under the threat of an eviction and we are constantly fighting against time and lack of resources. However, we simply can't give up now since our goal is to secure the welfare of c.400 dogs of the current shelter Pro Animals Romania maintains as well as the welfare of the animals in Gorj County. We are trying to negotiate with some instances that own movable clinics if they could bring their clinics to the cities of Gorj at least a couple of times during 2009 and we could provide e.g. free neuterings for pets of poorer citizens and neuter stray dogs. Together with Pro Animals Romania we are maintaining campaigns to support the neutering of pets. We provide free neutering and vaccination of pets for poorer citizens.

We are constantly looking for local and international instances that we could ask support for the building of the animal welfare centre as well as for spaying & neutering projects. Our goal is also to initiate a volunteer programme for the young so they could do voluntary work at Tg-Jiu shelter for a month or even longer. Since cooperation partners and networks are very important for our association for enabling our work, we will continue to search for more partners in 2009.

We will send newsletters of our work a couple of times a month in 2009. The newsletters will be sent by email and published on PAFi's website and forum. We will also use other ways of networking (Facebook, MySpace) for informing.

We will try to strengthen our cooperation with international and national animal protection organizations and together search for ways to find humane and efficient solutions to problems and find the suitable resources for them.

## GOALS FOR YEAR 2010

At this point Pro Animals Finland registered association will continue its work in Romania in cooperation with Pro Animals Romania at least till the end of year 2010. We have set a goal to implement a project closely related to the development of the countryside with Pro Animals Romania. In addition to setting up a proper dog and cat shelter the project includes building a veterinary clinic and community centre providing animal care and protection on the outskirts of Tg-Jiu and a movable clinic to give veterinary services in Gorj County for those animals that cannot be easily or at all transported to a vet. We also aim that by the end of 2010 we could see visible improvement in Gorj's stray dog problem and in all those things it has caused to people's welfare. We also try to improve the treatment and welfare of horses by projects by the end of 2010.