



## Partnership Policy

Version Number	v1.0
Approved by International Board	4 June 2015
Next Review	June 2017

**World Animal Protection is a global animal protection organisation comprising affiliated entities working together in support of an agreed global strategy and bound through collaboration agreements to adhere to a set of corporate policies, principles and values.**

### I. Scope

1. All World Animal Protection staff, volunteers (which term includes board members) and contractual third parties.
2. All World Animal Protection entities.

### II. Policy

Working in partnership has potential benefits for World Animal Protection's achievement of its strategic objectives, engaging as it does with diverse stakeholders.

For the purposes of this policy, World Animal Protection defines partnership as 'ongoing, formal or structured collaborative working between organisations which are otherwise distinct/independent of each other, in pursuit of a common goal, where each partner has a responsibility/accountability to the other(s)'.

Partnerships and integrated working require a culture of shared ownership and common working arrangements across organisational, professional and cultural boundaries. The policy will set out the rationale, parameters and expectations for World Animal Protection partnerships with other organisations, institutions and agencies at any level. Together with its corresponding protocol, it aims to:

- define the nature of World Animal Protection's approach to partnership working, based on its agreed values
- set out World Animal Protection's values as relating to working relationships with partner organisations
- clarify expectations within both World Animal Protection and its actual and potential partners
- support decision-making on engaging in partnerships and on their management.

It includes those partnerships which are envisaged on a funding and/or sponsorship basis.

1. Every partnership should present evident opportunities to progress towards our strategic goals and/or our operational targets.
2. World Animal Protection will consider partnerships with organisations, institutions and agencies in the public, private and voluntary sectors which can lend their knowledge, expertise and assets to us to contribute to our achieving our strategic objectives and especially positive change for animals.
3. World Animal Protection will consider a range of factors in determining decisions on potential partnerships, including the overall 'fit' of the relationship, the values, reputation and credibility of the partner under consideration, the respective benefits and risks to World Animal Protection of the relationship. We will choose to reject partnerships if the resources invested in collaboration will not produce as strong a return on investment as they would if applied to the issue directly.
4. World Animal Protection will always carry out a 'due diligence' scrutiny of an appropriate nature and extent when exploring a new partnership relationship.
5. World Animal Protection will consider partnership arrangements of varying types according to its strategic and tactical needs and the perceived benefits. The nature and level of a partnership will be made clear in the partnership agreement, which will include objectives and commitments.
6. World Animal Protection may choose to enter partnerships with organisations whose policy and practice conflict with our own where furtherance of our strategic objectives may be expected to result.
7. All new formal partnership arrangements must be appropriately authorised.
8. All new and existing partnership arrangements must be properly documented, including through clear and properly formulated partnership agreements.
9. World Animal Protection will manage partnerships in line with relevant legal and regulatory requirements and learning from good practice examples locally and internationally.
10. All formal partnerships must have agreed termination dates (subject to renewal) and exit strategies built into them from the outset. Agreements must also contain suitable arrangements for premature termination of an agreement.
11. All partnerships must be monitored and reviewed at appropriate intervals.
12. World Animal Protection will evaluate partnership proposals from other organisations, institutions and agencies in a positive, timely and proactive manner, bearing in mind our desire to foster good relationships regardless of whether a partnership is formed.