






emBark
Help Us, Help Them

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**A SHOULDER
TO LEAN ON**
emBark
ANNUAL REPORT 2023

OUR VISION

A compassionate Sri Lanka where street dogs are valued and receive the love, care and respect they deserve.



OUR MISSION

Working towards improving the welfare of street dogs in Sri Lanka, while fostering a harmonious existence between people and animals

2023 was a busy and challenging year for Embark. We received an overwhelming number of rescue requests, that pushed our team to its limits. Despite experiencing a sharp drop in adoptions, caused as a result of high costs of living and mass migration, we did our best to find homes for 243 puppies.

High cost of living and migration also resulted in a large number of requests to rescue abandoned pedigree dogs. Unfortunately, a lot of Sri Lankans still consider pedigree dogs as a status symbol, and buy from breeders, without considering the lifetime commitment that comes with bringing home a dog.

Despite the challenges, our rescue work continued and we helped over 10,000 dogs in 2023.

Embark's commitment towards improving the wellbeing of Sri Lankan street dogs remains strong, and we stay determined to keep pushing forward as we work towards creating a country, where street dogs receive the love and care that they deserve.

Thank you as always for caring for our beautiful Sri Lankan street dogs and for all the support you have given Embark in 2023.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Otara". The letter "O" is large and loops around the "t", which is written in a cursive style.

Founder - Embark &
Otara Foundation



OUR IMPACT IN 2023

RESCUES/HOSPITALIZATIONS: 573

VACCINATIONS: 3092

TREATMENTS: 6302

STERILIZATIONS: 1003

ADOPTIONS: 243

NO. OF ADOPTION DAYS: 47

NO. OF CLINIC DAYS: 26





OUR WORK

+ RESCUES AND TREATMENTS

VACCINATIONS

STERILIZATION

REHOMING

EDUCATION AND AWARENESS





RESCUES AND TREATMENTS

Rescues and Treatments make up the core component of Embark's work, with 573 dogs being rescued and 6,302 treatments provided in 2023, alone.

Despite Sri Lanka's acceptance of street dogs as part of their communities and neighbourhoods, hit and runs involving dogs and instances of animal cruelty continue, with many injured dogs being left to tend to themselves on the streets.



VACCINATIONS

Embark administered a total of 3,092 vaccinations in 2023. This includes vaccines for Rabies, Parvo and Distemper.

While the general public is well informed on the need for a Rabies vaccines, The DHPL vaccine (for Distemper and Parvo) is still relatively unknown.

The need to create awareness on the importance of both vaccines have also become apparent, with the alarming rise in Distemper cases that were brought to our attention over the year.



STERILIZATIONS

Embark firmly believes in sterilization as the best possible method of street dog population management, and continues to create awareness on the subject, against the cultural misconceptions surrounding sterilization that exist in the country.

In 2023 we successfully carried out 1,003 sterilization procedures.



REHOMING

Our Adoption numbers saw a gradual decline over the year, resulting in some of the lowest adoption numbers we have seen over the years.

With many Sri Lankans facing financial difficulties and many not wanting to make any permanent plans in the country due to migration plans, only 243 dogs found their forever homes in 2023.



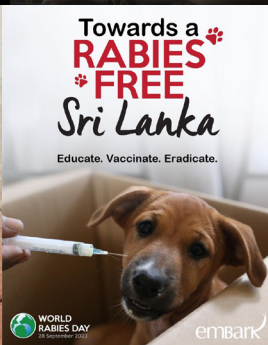
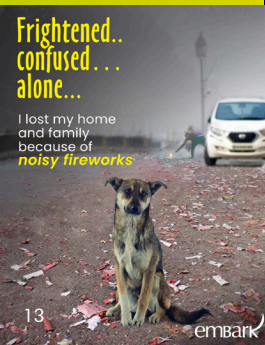
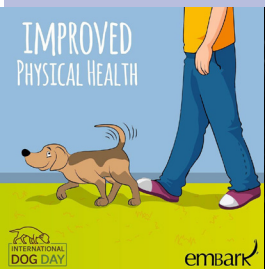


EDUCATION AND AWARENESS

Embark carried out multiple educational and awareness campaigns, primarily through social media, with the purpose of contributing towards the creation of a society that treats all living beings with love and kindness.

ADOPTION DAY

We held 47 Adoption Day events in 2023. The events were held at our Colombo 5 location, the Good Market at Racecourse Grounds, K-Zone Ja-ela and K-zone Moratuwa. With an increasing number of Sri Lankans facing the struggles of economic hardship and making plans to leave the country, we saw a gradual decrease in the number of people who attended the events.



FREE CLINICS

A total of 26 Free Clinics were held throughout the course of the year, where we provided free treatments and vaccinations for pups adopted through us and for pups that were under foster care.



FEEDING ROUNDS

Embark carries out daily feeding rounds in the Colombo 5 area, as well bi-weekly feeding rounds at Colombo Fort.



COMMUNITY CLINICS IN PARTNERSHIP WITH LUSH

Embark carried 6 community clinics in 3 locations in Colombo and neighbouring areas over the period of October - December of 2023.

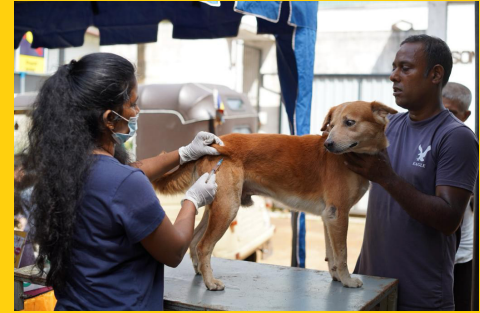
These clinics were carried out in partnership with Lush UK, and we were able to administer a total of 586 vaccines to over 290 dogs, provide medical treatments for 220 dogs and carry out 156 sterilization procedures through this project.

We were also able to rescue 3 street pups from the areas that the clinic was held in, and admitted three adult dogs for further treatment to the hospital.



The clinics were held in Mirihana, Piliyandala and Bandaragama and each dog that was brought to the clinic was administered the Anti-Rabies vaccine during the first stage, as well as the DHPL vaccine (for Parvo and Distemper) during the second stage.

Embark also provided all those who attended the clinics with educational pamphlets that included information on the importance of vaccinations and sterilization.



STERILIZATION CLINICS IN PARTNERSHIP WITH MARCHIG

Embark held a series of community clinics, in partnership with Marchig Animal Welfare Trust over the course of January-March of 2024.

These clinics were held in Rathmalana, Piliyandala and Bandaragama, with 280 sterilization procedures being carried out.

We were also able to administer over 700 vaccines (Anti-Rabies and DHPL) throughout the project, as well as provide 180 dogs with basic medical treatments.

Most of the dogs that were able to benefit from these clinics were 'owned' dogs that had been adopted off the streets.



OUR SPECIAL NEEDS DOGS

Embark believes that everyone deserves a second chance at life, and we try our best to provide a happy, healthy and safe life to all the dogs we rescue - especially our special needs dogs. Which is why we provide lifetime care for over 20 dogs that have been permanently disabled due to the cruel actions of humans.



GIDO



WILEY



PLATON



MUPPET



PINGO



MELISSA



MOSCO

OUR BIGGEST TRANSFORMATIONS

GELLY



Gelly was rescued from Grandpass, with a fracture on one front leg. While our doctors tried their best to save her leg, she had to eventually undergo an amputation.

After she recovered, she was adopted by a kind family who will give her the love and care she deserves.

MALCOM



Malcom, was lying on the streets of Madinnagoda, suffering for a very long time, with multiple pressure wounds. Thankfully he was able to recover under the care of our wonderful vets, his fur started to grow back and he was able to start walking properly again.

Malcom has since returned to his community, who are now taking good care of him.

MACK

Mack was found in Makola, where he had been abandoned by his owners. He was suffering from a very severe skin rash, and was in immense pain.

After two months of treatment, and a lot of love and care, he recovered fully and his fur eventually grew back. Mack was also able to find a loving home in his community.



PIP

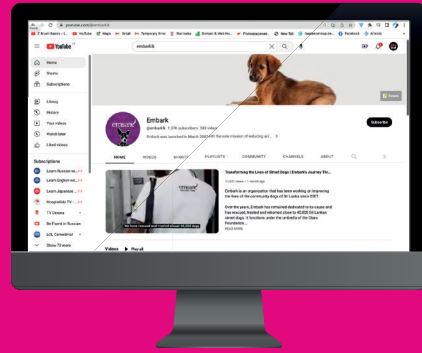
Pip was brought in by a kind human being who found him on the streets. He was partially paralysed due to a spinal fracture and had multiple dog bite wounds on him.


After receiving the necessary treatment, he was able to walk again and found a loving family to call his own, at one of our Adoption Day events.



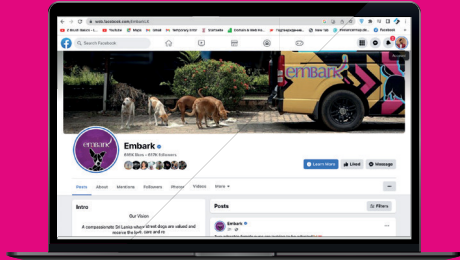


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9,400
 followers

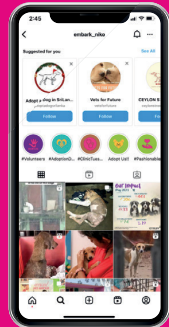



 @embarklk
367,100
 Views

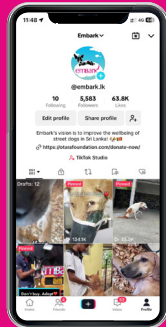
EMBARK ON SOCIAL MEDIA



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656,000
 followers



 embark_niko
47,300
 followers



 embark.lk
9,500
 followers

OUR TEAM



-  Steve Praveen- Operations Manager
-  Warunika Petanagoda- Executive
-  Rashmika Amarasekara- Field Officer
-  Anthony Serpanchy- Field Officer
-  Kemashi Wickramasinghe- Social Media Coordinator
-  Lee Peiris- Fundraising and Partnerships
-  Sumal Ranasinghe- Videographer
-  Ranushka Sandaruwan- Graphic Designer

THE EMBARK CALENDAR 2024



HOW CAN YOU SUPPORT US?

VOLUNTEERING

Embark's operations have always been supported by the team of dedicated volunteers that work with us.

DONATE

The contributions of kind individuals are what helps us to continue the work we do. You can donate, too, by visiting our website embarkpassion.com

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Our social media pages allow us to reach a wider audience and spread the message of compassion towards all living beings

FUNDRAISE

If you are able to, you can get together with with your friends, coworkers and family and organize fundraising events to support our street dogs.

THE OTARA FOUNDATION

The Otara Foundation, founded in 2015, is the parent organization of Embark.

The foundation is focused on environmental and wildlife conservation, as well as animal welfare in Sri Lanka.

It also works towards educating and creating awareness on environmental sustainability and conservation.



OTARA FOUNDATION

Caring for animals and nature