



## Let's rethink urban planning

**When a disaster strikes an urban area, the international community's first response must be to meet the immediate needs of the people whose lives have been affected. New research by World Animal Protection proves people think of their animals as a top priority. But, all too often, animals aren't included in urban disaster preparedness and response plans.**

More and more people are based in urban areas - in fact, 75% of the world's population is expected to be living in cities by 2050. Many of those people have animals. And if a disaster strikes, they want their animals to be protected. When risk information is not available or mechanisms are not in place to address this human need, both people and animals are more at risk from unnecessary social damage and loss of life. This makes recovery and resilience all the more challenging.

At **World Animal Protection**, we have 50 years' experience of helping people protect animals in disasters. We were there when typhoon Haiyan hit the Philippines. We responded rapidly when Japan was hit by a 24ft tsunami. We were on the ground when Haiti was struck by the 2010 earthquake. So we've seen first hand the problems that happen when animals aren't included in disaster plans.

People refusing to evacuate their homes to stay with their animals... Families flocking to shelters where there are no provisions for animals... Vulnerable communities struggling to recover from a disaster because they've lost their animals and, in turn, their main source of food and income...

**This is why we offer advice and assistance to a range of partners on including animals in their disaster plans. We have worked with the governments of India, Australia, Costa Rica, Dubai and many more. Country by country, government by government, plan by plan, we move the world to protect animals in disasters. Find out more at [worldanimalprotection.org](http://worldanimalprotection.org)**



## What do people really think? Our research reveals that...



**74%**

of people in the US, would take their animals with them in a disaster\*



In Thailand and India at least

**90%**

of people in urban areas think it's necessary to make an emergency plan for their animals\*



In the US, India, Thailand and Brazil, people in a disaster would **take their animals with them first** after their children and other family members\*



While the necessity to make an emergency plan for their animals remains high,

**67%**

of people in Mexico City think there's little or no information available about protecting animals from disasters. And only



**8%**

of people in Mexico City have made an emergency plan for their animals\*

\*Sources: World Society for the Protection of Animals and fastMAP, 2013

x Sources: World Society for the Protection of Animals and the School of Veterinary Medicine of the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, 2013