



ANNUAL REPORT 2025

Our vision is a Zambia where working donkeys are free from suffering, treated with compassion, and truly valued by the people who rely on them.

Not-for-profit registration no:
120190001631

DIRECTORS MESSAGE



2025 has been a year of growth, learning, and strengthened partnerships for the Zambezi Working Donkey Project. Our work continues to be guided by a simple but urgent goal: to reduce suffering among working donkeys while supporting the people whose livelihoods depend on them.

Throughout the year, our team maintained a consistent presence in communities in Livingstone and Kazungula Districts, delivering practical veterinary care, education, and rescue support - often in challenging conditions. What has made 2025 particularly significant is the strength of our partnerships, which enabled us not only to reach more animals, but also to improve the quality and sustainability of the care we provide. I would like to extend heartfelt thanks to our donors, partners, team members, and the communities we work alongside. Your trust and commitment make this work possible.

Hesther Levy, Director

WE AIM TO IMPROVE
THE LIVES OF WORKING
DONKEYS AND
SUPPORT THEIR
OWNERS IN A
PRACTICAL WAY BY:



Educating people about
how to care for their
animals; a healthy,
happy donkey will be a
worthwhile long term
investment.

Providing training to
make harnesses and
modify carts & ploughs,
ensuring they are
appropriate for equine
use and the job they
need to do.

Rescuing and
rehabilitating animals
in need of short or
long term special
care.



MEET OUR TEAM



Dr Audrine Nkana - Program Manager & Vet

Emmanuel Kashweka - Project Supervisor

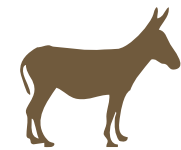
Olası Katonga - Project Assistant

Enock Songolo - Project Assistant

Kabika Likando - Project Assistant



OUR IMPACT 2025 AT A GLANCE



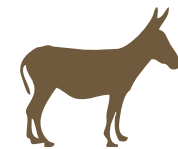
2,621 working animals received essential veterinary care



34 full mobile veterinary clinics and 87 field checks conducted



11 emergency call-outs responded to



37 donkeys rescued for treatment, rehabilitation, or retirement



94 humane harness sets provided, replacing inhumane ox yokes



786 people and families benefiting from working animals



101 villages communities engaged



55 welfare sensitisation sessions, reaching 560 children

These figures reflect sustained field presence, early intervention, and a strong emphasis on education and behaviour change.





Supported Activities

- Mobile Clinics and Fieldwork
- Field Follow-Ups and Welfare Monitoring
- Emergency Response and Rescue
- Rescue, Rehabilitation and Permanent Retirement
- Humane Harnessing, Education and Enforcement

KEY PARTNERSHIP

Animal Aid Abroad remained ZWDP's primary partner supporting frontline field operations throughout 2025. Their sustained funding enabled the delivery of consistent, month-on-month welfare interventions and delivery of mobile clinics, emergency response, rescue and rehabilitation, humane harnessing, and community education. With Animal Aid Abroad's support, the project exceeded annual treatment targets, reaching thousands of working donkeys and strengthening welfare compliance in repeat-visit communities. In 2026 we will be extending the scope of our work with AAA to reach more donkeys and communities who depend on working animals.



@animalaidabroad



PARTNER ACTIVITIES





KEY PARTNERSHIP

Supported Activities

- Diagnostics Laboratory and Clinical Decision-Making
- Surgery and Advanced Treatments
- Training and Veterinary Education



From mid-2025 onwards, WVS support enhanced clinical practice through improved diagnostics, surgical capability, and structured training for vet students. These advances were integrated directly into daily fieldwork, rescue cases, and the operation of the rescue and rehabilitation centre at Maramba Farm. We were honoured to be assisted by WVS equine vet Dr Khouloud Tlili for 3 months, and also received sponsorship for our game-changing new mobile vet clinic vehicle!

Through the WVS partnership, ZWDP is transitioning from a treatment-focused project to a centre of veterinary learning and best practice, ensuring that welfare gains achieved today can be sustained into the future.



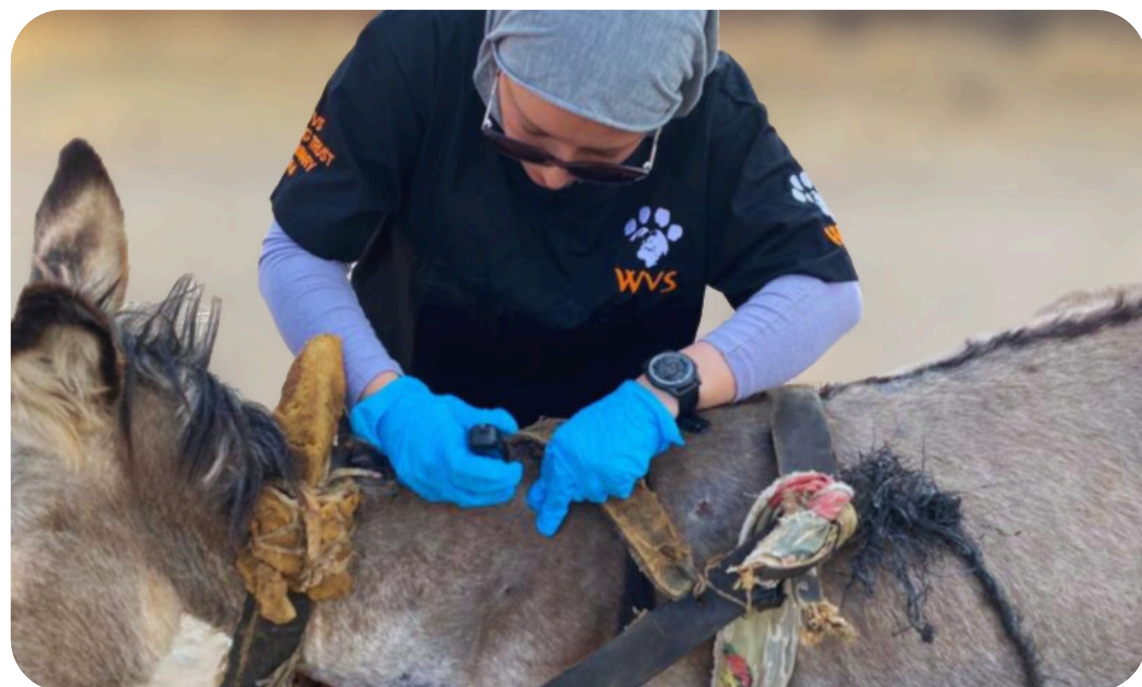
WVS
WORLDWIDE VETERINARY SERVICE



@wvscharity



PARTNER ACTIVITIES



FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

The Zambezi Working Donkey Project is committed to responsible and transparent use of funds. Income during 2025 income was used to support frontline veterinary care and fieldwork, rescue and rehabilitation, our humane harness workshop, education & sensitization programs, and the continued development of veterinary capacity.

Donations supported veterinary supplies & medicines, harness materials, feed, fencing, transport, rescue centre operations, and essential staffing.

A detailed financial summary is available upon request.

Income

Total income: ZMW 1,611,870.15
(approximately USD 80,193)

Income was derived primarily from charitable donations and key partner support, enabling the delivery of consistent, month-on-month welfare services throughout the year.

Expenditure

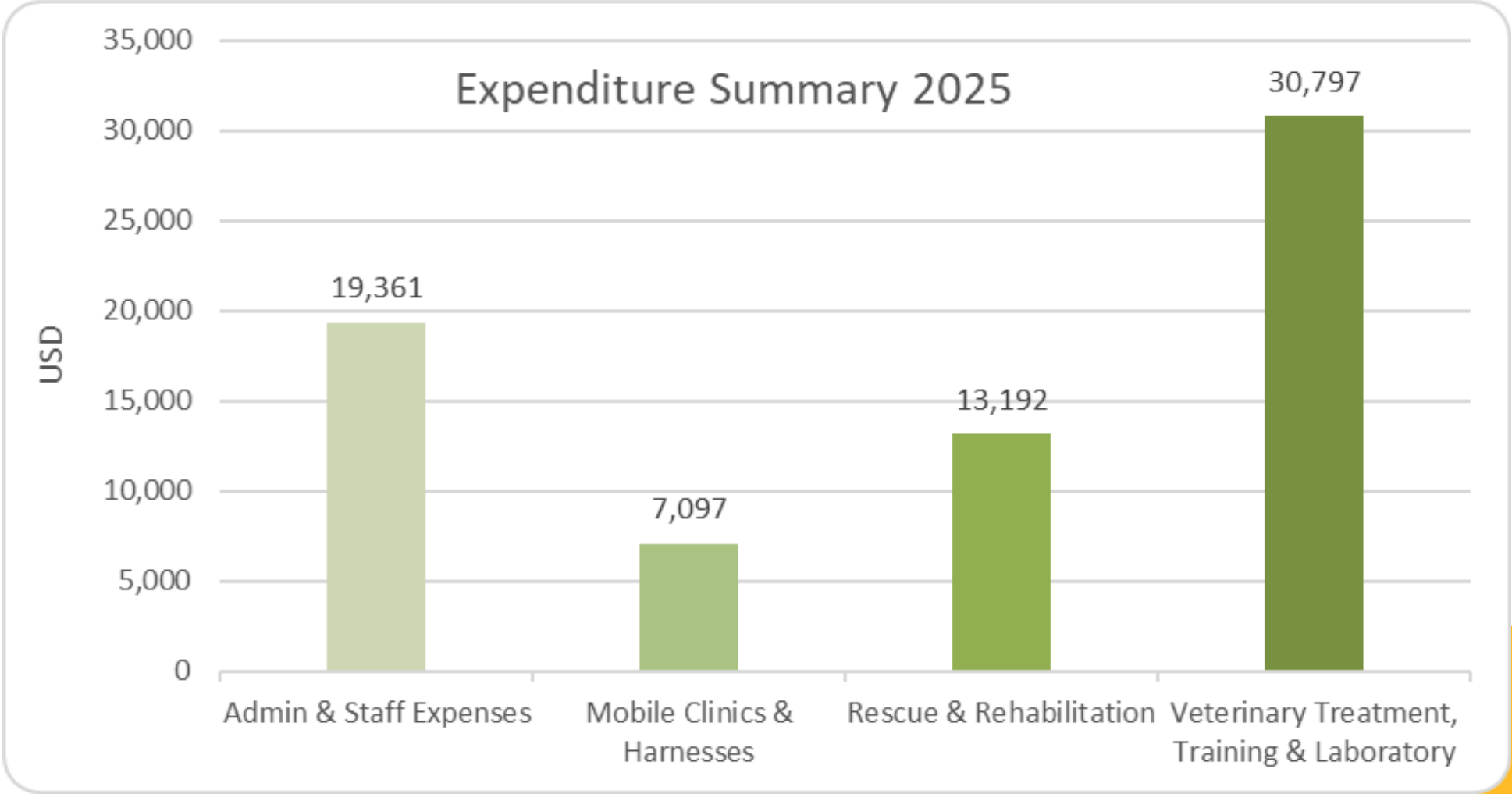
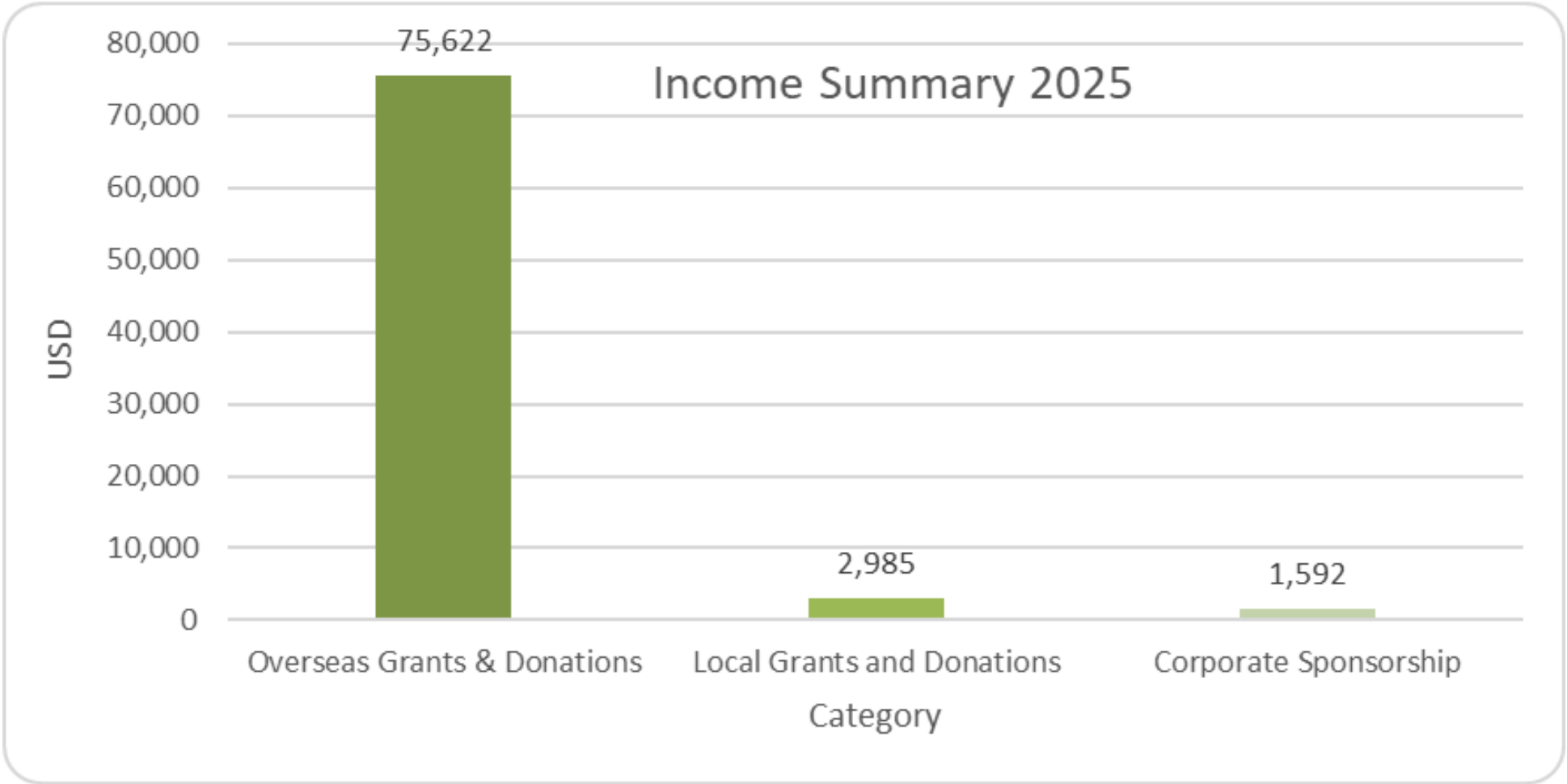
Total expenditure: ZMW 1,415,990.55
(approximately USD 70,447)

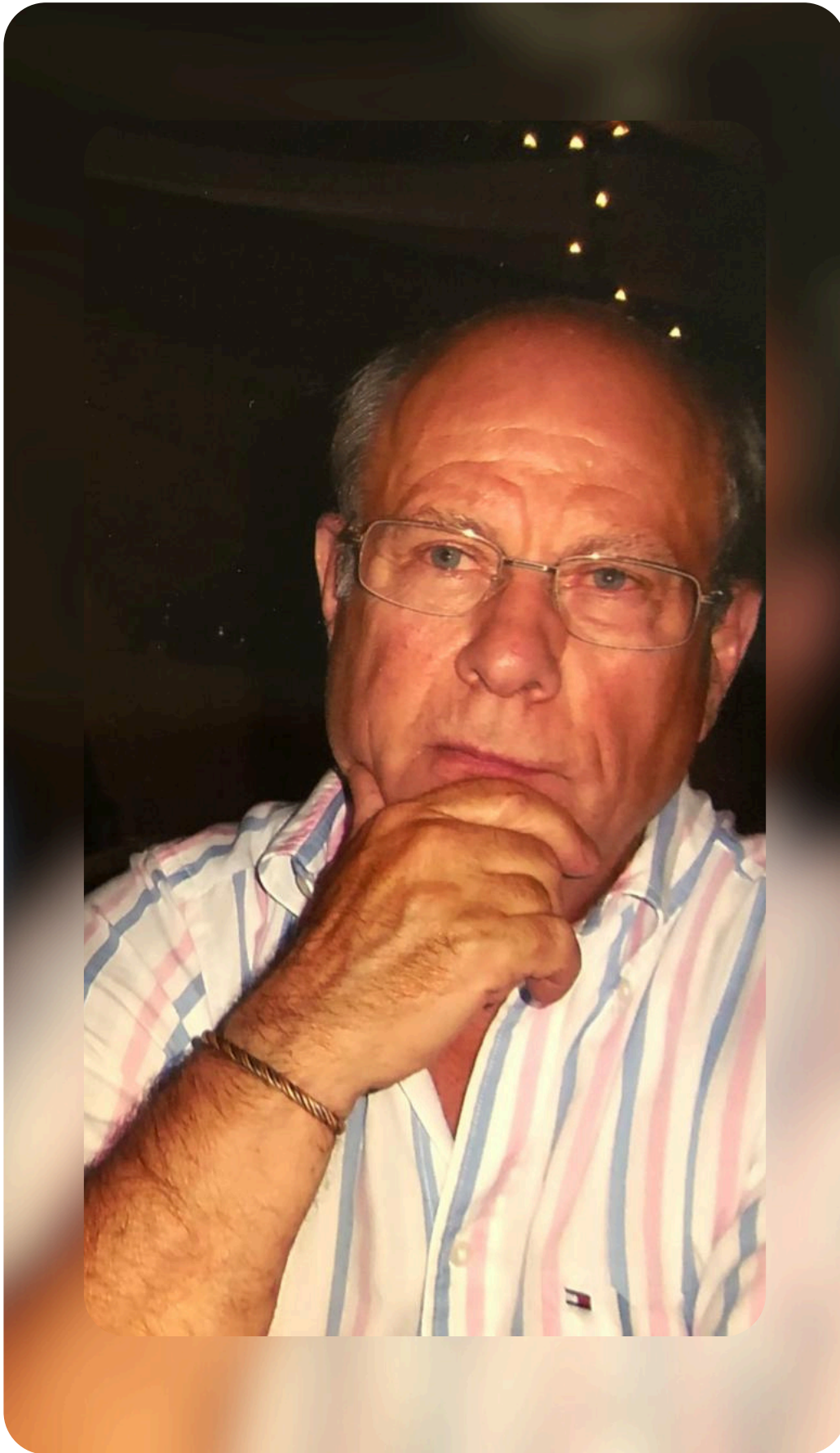
Expenditure was allocated across the following key areas:

- Veterinary treatment, training and laboratory services: 43.7%
- Rescue and rehabilitation: 18.7%
- Administration and core operational costs: 27.5%
- Mobile clinics and humane harnessing: 10.1%

These figures reflect a strong emphasis on direct animal welfare and veterinary service delivery.







IN MEMORY OF MICHAEL JONES



Since ZWDP's inception, under a mango tree way back in 2017, we were encouraged and supported by our beloved friend and mentor Michael Jones. 'Jonesy' to his friends, was one-of-a-kind in his humour, humility, and dedication to supporting a variety causes in aid of marginalised and impoverished communities around the world.

Through his work for the Herrod Foundation, and later in a personal capacity, he helped ZWDP to get 'up and running' in the early days, and we would not be where we are now without his kindness.

Jonesy very sadly passed away in April 2024 and we truly miss him.

In his legacy, as in life, Jonesy remembered the donkeys.
We will be forever grateful and remember him in all we do.

LOOKING AHEAD...

Strategic Objectives 2026



1. **Expand into new geographical areas**, to reach more donkeys and communities where working animals are prevalent, in particular Western Province and other areas in Southern Province.
2. **Community Education** – develop structured animal welfare programs for rural communities and school groups in areas where the use of working animals is high.
3. **Build the capacity of our team** through key hires in crucial areas such as Veterinary, Education and Operations.
4. **Open our Visitor & Education Centre** (operating as 'Maramba Farm Donkey Sanctuary & Farm Tours') to raise awareness and educate visitors, and for sustainable income generation.
5. **Expand our equine veterinary facilities** to include sterile treatment rooms, surgical theatres, and recovery areas.
6. **Become a key partner for University Veterinary programs**, offering internships and practical equine/large animal experience to vet students.
7. **Develop stronger partnerships** with community and government stakeholders, working together to educate and enforce animal welfare laws.



THANK YOU...



We thank our staff, donors, partners, veterinary professionals, volunteers, trustees and the communities we serve. Together, we are improving the lives of working donkeys and the people who depend on them.

Worthy of a special mention for their generous contributions are: Jason Truscott, Eran Wilson & Richard Chapple (for our first ever vehicle!), Project Animal Aid (donated veterinary supplies), Buya Bamba, Horo Koro Farm, and Sarah Meikle (for much needed hay and feed during tough times), Lynne Mendelsohn (Zambezi Animal Welfare Services), Rusco Cable & Transformers, Minor Hotels, Chisi Luna, Victoria Foord, Meryl McLaren, and many other individual and regular donors who make our work possible!



www.zwdp.org
[@zambeziworkingdonkeyproject](https://www.instagram.com/zambeziworkingdonkeyproject)