Presentation of the CAROdog Website

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The CAROdog website is a new management database supporting the principle of responsible ownership of dogs in Europe.

The goal is to strengthen the sustainable approach to stopping canine overpopulation in Europe through systematic EU-wide birth control strategies and programmes instead of killing healthy animals – for ethical reasons and to eliminate animal and human health risks.

Interested target groups, for example professionals like veterinarians, politicians on all levels such as mayors, persons in legal professions, such as prosecutors, animal welfare organisations and citizens of the EU in general, are provided with the necessary information and practical advice regarding the matter. Users will find all kinds of information in eight categories.

Based on the structural improvement of animal welfare policy in Art. 13 of the Lisbon Treaty (TFEU) with its enlarged scope, CAROdog is supporting the new approach of the EU Commission for the planned second Animal Welfare Action Plan including companion animals.

The message of this project is that if every dog has a responsible owner who knows the natural behaviour and the needs of the dog, and who educates and takes care of it, including identification and registration, veterinary prevention and birth control, then canine over-population in Europe and the suffering of hundreds of thousands of stray dogs might finally decrease.

Project partners and initiators are the international animal welfare organisation VIER PFOTEN/FOUR PAWS and the OIE reference laboratory Istituto G. Caporale, Teramo, Italy, along with the European Commission (DG SANCO) and the Federation of Veterinarians in Europe (FVE), which have members on the CAROdog editorial board.

The portal was launched on 9 September 2010, presented by the Belgian Presidency, and is a growing scheme. The website is in English, but flyers are available in 13 languages.