

#11 | TOGETHER, WE THRIVE

AKASHINGA



Your gift will help provide rangers with the essential gear they need to protect wildlife every day.

An innovative nature conservation organization, Akashinga (formerly the International Anti-Poaching Foundation) creates resilient ecosystems where nature, wildlife, and communities can thrive. In collaboration with local communities, its team of all-female anti-poaching rangers safeguards more than nine million acres of wilderness in Zimbabwe, Mozambique, and Botswana previously reserved for and financed by trophy hunting. Called one of the best community-driven conservation models currently in operation, Akashinga is based on the idea that if a community understands the economic benefits of preserving animals, then it will eliminate poaching without an armed struggle.

Akashinga means “brave ones” in the Shona language of Zimbabwe. Where Akashinga operates, poaching has been eliminated by over 80%, and wildlife has increased by nearly 400%.

Akashinga’s female-centric approach to conservation elevates and empowers communities and women as leaders protecting wildlife and the critical wilderness landscapes they call home. In an industry where men outnumber women by 100:1, Akashinga places women in authentic roles and creates pathways to foster the next generation of female conservation experts. Local women are at the forefront of courageous efforts to restore key wilderness landscapes in innovative ways that work hand in hand with local communities and offer vital sustainable livelihoods. Life for many of Akashinga’s wildlife rangers also means the opportunity to buy property, send their children to school, get a driver’s license, finish their education, and thoroughly provide for their families. Brave ones, indeed.

akashinga.org

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