RESPONSIBLE TOURISM

USE OF RENEWABLE ENERGY

We are proud to say that all our camps run on 100% renewable solar energy. Mukambi Safari Lodge was also the first in Zambia to install the most environmentally-friendly battery technology (LiFePO4). The Freedom Won battery gave Mukambi the opportunity to reduce its carbon footprint and in turn, negative environmental impact whilst maintaining an excellent standard of service. Thanks to this technology, the battery can withstand the high ambient temperatures in Zambia without impacting its lifespan.

Responsible tourism is of the utmost importance and Mukambi Safari Lodge, along with staff accommodation and all facilities, operate entirely from the prevalent sun and the Freedom Won battery.



PLASTIC FREE

Mukambi strives to be plastic-free. We have exclusive reusable water bottles for our guests which also serve as a great keepsake. We have introduced biodegradable straws, glass refillable amenities and biodegradable packaging on all our goods from Lusaka. Plus, we use eco-friendly cleaning products. We have a flourishing vegetable garden which supplies many of our herbs and vegetables, which not only reduces packaging and transport but also adds a delicious homegrown flavour to your meals.

RESPONSIBLE TOURISM

CONSERVATION

Conservation is key for responsible tourism and is a huge part of what we do in Kafue National Park. At Mukambi we work closely with several NGOs, including the Zambian Primate Project (ZPP), Zambia Carnivore Programme (ZCP), the Department of National Parks and Wildlife and African Parks where we support anti-poaching and other conservation goals. The Zambian Carnivore Programme (ZCP) is a non-profit Zambian registered organization dedicated to the protection of Zambia's large carnivores and their ecosystems.

Together with the Zambia Department of National Parks and Wildlife, ZCP have a three-pronged approach to their work:

- 1. Conservation Science: aimed at identifying and evaluating the primary threats to Zambia's large carnivores and their ecosystems through long-term, field-based work.
- 2. Conservation Action: Guided by science, our actions are aimed at addressing both immediate and future threats such as snaring, habitat loss, disease, wildlife trafficking, and other factors.
- 3. Conservation Empowerment: To ensure sustainability, we endeavour to make our efforts as Zambian-led as possible. We develop conservation leadership through training, employing and educating aspiring conservationists in all aspects of the work. We also conduct an array of educational programmes at both primary and secondary school levels. From there students are encouraged and offered full support to enrol for international graduate degree programmes. We also run intensive training programmes tailored for women in conservation, conservation biologists and wildlife vets.

ZCP currently work with the country's largest remaining populations of wild dog, cheetah, lion, leopard and spotted hyena, primarily through three field-based projects: the Luangwa Valley, the Greater Liuwa Ecosystem, and the Greater Kafue Ecosystem. Their collaborative work provides the only scientific data on large carnivores and their prey throughout much of Zambia, and they are proud that their findings are utilized extensively in guiding conservation policy in the country.

AFRICAN PARKS:

African Parks is a non-profit NGO founded on conserving Africa's wildlife and remaining wild areas, with an added focus on socio-economic development for the surrounding local communities. The organisation is now working with the Zambian government to better manage the Kafue National Park.

ZAMBIAN PRIMATES PROJECT:

Zambia Primate Project (ZPP) is one of the world's most successful primate rescue and release projects. Their mission is to rescue, rehabilitate and release back to the wild monkeys and baboons that are victims of the illegal wildlife trade in Zambia. Mukambi Safaris owner Edjan is a proud board member for ZPP and advocates the hard work done to protect these wild animals.

RESPONSIBLE TOURISM

SUPPORT OF LOCAL COMMUNITIES

Long-term conservation can only be accomplished by working closely with the local communities. Some of our community projects have included digging a borehole for clean drinking water, giving the Mukambi Women's Group an outlet for their handmade crafts in our curio shop, and a Women's group who produce honey in the South of the park. We also have a job training programme which has given 50 members of the local community permanent employment.

Guests at Mukambi can visit the projects to learn more about conservation and the local communities.

THE AZIMAI WOMEN'S GROUP

We are proud to support The Azimai Women's Group, made up mainly of our staff members' wives. They get together on a Saturday afternoon to make various crafts that they then sell to several lodges throughout the Kafue National Park. Their wares include bags, clothing (dresses, shirts, headbands) made from local chitenge material, baskets (made of recycled plastic bags), beaded bracelets and other travel-friendly trinkets. This initiative allows a creative outlet for the women and creates an extra source of income for their families.





STAFF DEVELOPMENT

- 1.Guide Training: For the guides to train and write their guiding exams
- 2. First Aid Training
- 3. Mukambi sends a chef and either a waiter/room attendant to do a 2-week placement at a lodge/hotel in Lusaka. This offers great exposure to other work environments other than Mukambi.
- 4. Chef's training at a leading Hospitality College Fairview in Lusaka
- 5. Masseuse training at a reputable Spa Relax Destination Parlour in Lusaka

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RESPONSIBLE TOURISM

COMMUNITY SCHOOL

The Mukambi Community School was founded in 2006 to provide a good standard of education to our staff's children and the local community. The results have been fantastic and the well-equipped school now provides 45 local children with a high standard of education, as well as permanent employment for five teachers. The school received generous funding from a donor a couple of years ago which meant that they could invest in iSchool Tablets. The high-tech devices allow the pupils to engage in active learning as well as

developing key IT skills for later in life. And of course, it goes without say that conservation is an important subject at the school with our ever responsible tourism goal in mind. Every year all the grade 7 pupils graduate with flying colours and go on to attain places at secondary schools and universities throughout Zambia. Two former students have been sponsored in their tertiary education at leading universities in Lusaka. The school is supported by a charity called Cikoko, which you can read more about below.







POSITIVE IMPACT TRAVEL:

The sustainability of the lodge allows the continuation of community and conservation projects in the Kafue National Park. As a safari company we work closely with the local community and conservation programmes for a sustainable future and the protection of a vital ecosystem - not only the wildlife but the livelihoods of the people.

As the old African proverb says ~ Alone you can go fast but together we can go far.