

# Women working for Borana's wildlife

The security and monitoring of wildlife, especially the protection of rhinos, requires large numbers of highly trained and motivated personnel. Today, our total security team at Borana consists of 115 individuals, 13 of whom are women.

**Izzy Parsons** | Conservancy Manager, Borana Conservancy

In December 2018, 13 women from local communities joined our team. Their roles include patrolling fence lines, acting as gate keepers and monitoring radio communications, many of which are new skills to them. Through this employment, each woman is gaining first-hand experience working as part of a conservation team and helping to provide for themselves and their families.

communities, inspiring other women and girls to take part in conservation.

Each new skill they learn is a chance to show other women that they can be part of conservation, too. They have become role models for girls living in remote places. Employing women as part of the security

team at Borana has had a huge impact. The women employed are seeing a reduction in the general pressure to start a family, helping them to take charge of their own reproductive destiny.

Their reliance on men has also drastically reduced as they now have their own personal income: they no longer have to rely

on financial assistance from fathers or husbands to pay for day-to-day staples, such as food and sanitary items.

We're proud to report a 100% local employment rate for Borana Conservancy's anti-poaching team.

Working with our teams, we are encouraging local communities to see the value in rhino conservation, one of our key driving principles.

Borana Conservancy is home to one of the three 'Key 1' black rhino populations in East Africa. A 'Key 1' rating is given to identify significant populations that are stable or increasing and have more than 100 rhinos.

The initiative has created opportunities that could



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Women working in developing countries invest 90% of their income in their families, compared with 35% for men.

The women working in Borana's security team are gaining new skills and sharing their knowledge.

Their roles are helping to empower other women and girls in the community.

otherwise have been considered unattainable for women living in small remote villages. Our female team members are motivated in their new positions, quickly becoming the face of conservation within our neighbouring

