



## **Tourism-Driven Conservation Financing: A Scalable Model for Lasting Impact**

### 1. The Opportunity

Across the global philanthropic landscape, significant investments are being made into biodiversity conservation, climate resilience, and community development. However, the majority of these interventions remain dependent on grant-based, time-bound funding cycles, often requiring continuous external support to sustain impact.

What is largely missing is a model that embeds conservation within a self-sustaining economic system – one that reduces long-term dependency on philanthropy while strengthening impact over time.

### 2. The proposed ABCF Approach

At the African Bush Camps Foundation (ABCF), we operate a fundamentally different model:

**“We embed conservation within a functioning tourism economy – creating a system where landscape and biodiversity protection and revenue generation reinforce one another.”**

### 3. How the Model Works:

#### 3.1. Tourism Generates Revenue

High-value, low-impact safari tourism generates consistent income through bed night levies and guest contributions.

#### 3.2. Revenue Funds Conservation and Community

These funds are reinvested into wildlife protection, habitat conservation, education, healthcare, and livelihoods.

#### 3.3. Communities Benefit Directly

Local communities gain employment, enterprise opportunities, and increased economic resilience.

#### 3.4. Communities Become Custodians

As conservation delivers tangible benefits, communities become active stewards of their natural resources.

#### 3.5. The System Reinforces Itself

Healthy ecosystems enhance tourism experiences, which in turn increases revenue—creating a self-sustaining cycle of impact.

### 4. Why This Matters

This model represents a shift from dependency to sustainability:

- Reduced reliance on continuous donor funding through blended financing.
- Aligned incentives across stakeholders – communities, conservation, tourism, and funders.
- Long-term, landscape-scale impact through connected ecosystems.
- Increased return on philanthropic capital, as each investment leverages additional revenue streams.

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Rather than funding isolated projects, this approach builds a “living system” where conservation and biodiversity is continuously sustained by economic activity.

5. Our Positioning

Most conservation models depend on ongoing fundraising to survive. At ABCF, conservation is embedded within a functioning economic engine – ensuring that landscapes and communities are supported not only by philanthropy, but by the very landscapes they protect.

6. The Opportunity for Partnership

We are not seeking to fund standalone interventions. We are inviting partners to help scale a proven, integrated model where conservation, community, and economic value are intrinsically linked.

By investing in this system, partners enable long-term, self-reinforcing impact across some of Africa’s most important landscapes – delivering measurable outcomes for biodiversity, climate resilience, and community wellbeing.

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