

Vandana Shiva



FOOD SOVEREIGNTY ADVOCATE 1952-Present



Dr. Vandana Shiva is an environmental activist from India. She is perhaps best known for her advocacy for agriculture and food. She has actively promoted the importance of organic farming and diverse planting practices as opposed to

monocultures and genetically modified organisms.

DID YOU KNOW?

She founded "Navdanya", an initiative that established over IOO seed banks across India.

She has assisted organizations around the world with campaigns against genetic engineering.

Dr. Vandana Shiva completed her Masters and PhD in Ontario!



Dian Fossey

GORILLA RESEARCHER 1932-1985

Dian Fossey was an American primatologist known for her research and conservation efforts to protect the Mountain Gorillas in East Africa. Her research is believed to have helped to save the Mountain Gorillas from extinction.

DID YOU KNOW?

Dian Fossey wrote a book called "Gorillas in the Mist."

She kept track of individual gorillas by sketching and photographing "nose prints."

Today, the Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund International is a charity established in her memory to protect mountain gorillas.

Biodiversity Leaders Card Deck

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Winona LaDuke



FOUNDER, THE WHITE EARTH LAND RECOVERY PROJECT 1959-Present



Winona LaDuke is an Indigenous American land rights activist and environmentalist who works on issues of culturally-based renewable energy, sustainable development, and food systems. She founded The White Earth Land Recovery Project to help preserve and restore traditional practices, including working to protect wild rice (an Indigenous plant) from being genetically engineered and patented.

DID YOU KNOW?

When Winona LaDuke was 18 years old she spoke to the United Nations about issues concerning Indigenous Peoples. In 1985, Winona LaDuke established the Indigenous Women's Network, to engage Indigenous women in political and cultural processes.

In 2007, Winona LaDuke was inducted into the National Women's Hall of Fame.



Jolie Kavugho Songya

FOREST RANGER IN THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO 1990-Present

In the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), forest rangers protect rare species like gorillas from poachers. Jolie Kavugho Songya is one of less than 30 female forest rangers of the nearly 600 rangers in Virunga

National Park, DRC.

DID YOU KNOW?

In the DRC, education is limited for girls, and 1/2 adult women cannot read or write.

Jolie Kavugho Songya's father was a forest ranger, which is where she learned about the job.

The Virunga National Park did not allow women to apply to be forest rangers until 2013!

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Wangari Maathai



FOUNDER, THE GREEN BELT MOVEMENT AFRICA 1940-2011

Wangari Maathai is a Kenyan woman who founded the Green Belt Movement in 1977 to counter deforestation. This Movement led to over 30 million trees being planted by women, and the Movement has spread across Africa.

DID YOU KNOW?

Wangari Maathai saw tree planting as a way to promote democracy, women's rights, and international solidarity.

Wangari Maathai won the Nobel Peace Prize in 2004! Wangari Maathai was the first woman in East and Central Africa to earn a doctorate degree.



Margaret Murie



"THE GRANDMOTHER OF THE CONSERVATION MOVEMENT" 1902-2003



Margaret Murie, also known as "the grandmother of the conservation movement," was an American conservationist and writer who is well known for her support in establishing the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge in Alaska.

DID YOU KNOW?

Margaret wrote about growing up in Alaska in her book "Two in the Far North."

The Arctic National Wildlife Refuge protects 78,000 Km2 of land today.

Margaret Murie was one of the first women in America to take a leading role in conservation.







FOUNDER, JANE GODALL INSTITUTE 1934-Present

Jane Goodall is a scientist, conservationist and pacemaker who has lived with and studied chimpanzees in East Africa for over 60 years. In 1977, she founded the Jane Goodall Institute to support chimpanzee research at the Gombe Stream National Park, in Tanzania. She is an international voice for the need to protect chimpanzees and their habitat.

DID YOU KNOW?

Jane Goodall founded the Roots & Shoots program to engage youth in environmental conservation. In 1960, Jane Goodall helped the world figure out that chimpanzees make and use tools.

Jane Goodall was named a United Nations Messenger of Peace in 2002.

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Farwiza Farhan



FOUNDER, HAKA 1986-Present

Farwiza Farhan is known for her work to protect the last remaining wilderness of the Leuser Ecosystem in Indonesia. She founded HAkA in 2012, a non-profit organization that advocates against human expansion into the Leuser Ecosystem, including protection against developments like

palm oil plantations.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Leuser Ecosystem is one of the last known places where orangutans, tigers and elephants still coexist.

Farwiza Farhan believes in having local communities protect ecosystems.

In 2017, Farwiza Farhan received the Future For Nature Award for her conservation work.