

Gahaya Links Cooperative

Rwanda

The Gahaya Links Artisans are a group made up of over 4000 female artisans from 52 different artist cooperatives from Rwanda, who produce traditional baskets and bead working.



This artistic process has been passed down from mother to daughter for generations. The artisans' baskets are handwoven from local plants and feature designs which represent Rwandan history and culture. Many of the woman engaged in Gahaya Links are refugees who were

widowed and orphaned by the 1994 Rwandan genocide. These women have sold their art to escape poverty, to empower women following

the genocide, and to keep their cultural traditions alive. The artists use sisal, papyrus, bamboo, and sweet grass. They also use beads sourced from other countries to create their traditional beadwork designs.



For Gahaya Links, **#artsaves** women and children widowed and orphaned after the Rwandan genocide.