

Position: Consultant

Location: Northern Savanna Intervention Zone, Ghana

Travel: 75%

Start Date: March, 2024


Established in 2011, The Global Shea Alliance (GSA) is a nonprofit industry association based in Accra, Ghana. We currently have 740 members from 38 countries including food and cosmetic brands, suppliers, women's groups, and non-profit organizations.

Through public-private partnerships, the GSA promotes industry sustainability, quality practices and standards, and demand for shea in food and cosmetics. We implement the following activities:



Quality

- Quality trainings for women's groups on kernel collection, processing, and storage.
- Implementation of kernel quality standards in collaboration with members and national/regional standards bodies.
- Small business trainings including accounting, marketing, packaging and formulation workshops.



Promotion

- Annual international conferences in West Africa, Europe, and the United States.
- Annual African cosmetics brand exhibition.
- International policy analysis and advocacy to remove trade barriers.
- Research on shea benefits in food and cosmetics.
- African national association development.
- International consumer and industry media engagement.



Sustainability

- Implementation of multi-stakeholder guidelines for sustainable business practices.
- Large-scale development projects including warehouse construction, business development trainings, health and safety initiatives, parkland management, improved planting materials, and conservation pilot projects.

1.0 Background

The Ghana Shea Landscape Emissions Reduction Project (GSLERP) is a 7-year project, With the Forestry Commission as the implementing partner, UNDP as the Accredited Entity, and GSA as the private partner in the Northern Savannah Zone of Ghana with funding from the Green Climate

Fund (GCF), Government of Ghana, and Private Sector Companies. The project which is in its third year of implementation seeks to enhance forest carbon stock across the savannah landscape by:

- 1) restoring 200,000 hectares of off-reserve savannah forests/woodlands and place them under self-financing community management in Community Resource Management Areas (CREMA);
- 2) restoring 100,000 hectares of degraded shea parklands.
- 3) creating 25,500 hectares of modified Taungya system/forest plantation in severely degraded forest reserves, and;
- 4) implementing an integrated monitoring system and completing the national REDD+ architecture for safeguards, forest monitoring, and reporting systems.

The Global Shea Alliance is the Responsible Party for Output 2 which focuses on restoring 100,000 ha of degraded and threatened shea parklands and supporting shea cooperatives with capacity building, infrastructure, and equipment. As part of this support, the GSA is seeking the services of a consultant to conduct a study on fuel wood consumption by women cooperatives to produce shea kernels and shea butter.

2.0 Objective of the study

Scope

For this study, the consultant will work with at least 26 women cooperatives engaged in the processing of shea in the five regions of the Northern Ecological Zone namely, Northern region, Savannah region, Northeast region, Upper East, and Upper West regions. GSA will assist in the identification of these women's cooperatives.

Specific Objectives

- Identify the type of wood sourced, sourcing methods, and usage in processing shea from the parboiling of nuts to the last stage of butter production.

- Determine the quantity of wood (volume) used by women processing shea from the parboiling of nuts to the last stage of processing using traditional cooking stoves.
- Determine for each cooperative relevant options/opportunities associated with wood savings cooking methods and calculate the reduction for each option along with the social and financial implementation cost.
- Document the results in a report.
- Present findings to stakeholders in a validation workshop.
- Make recommendations based on the findings from the study.

2.1 Expected Results/Deliverables

- Inception report produced.
- Final report with recommendations produced.

3.0 Methodology/Approach

The Consultant(s) is expected to develop and implement a methodology that will address the objectives of the study. This will be presented in an inception report.

4.0 Timelines

The consultancy is expected to be carried out in May 2024.

5.0 Consultant's Qualifications

- At least a master's degree in development studies, agricultural economics/agribusiness
- Knowledge and experience in the Shea sector
- Good knowledge and experience in participatory discussions with women groups and development actors.
- Good knowledge and experience in the charcoal value chain and calculating wood fuel consumption.
- Experience and knowledge in gender issues in the shea sector and livelihood improvement in northern Ghana.

- Knowledge and experience working in northern Ghana and with smallholder farmers and women groups.
- Good spoken, writing, and reporting skills in English. Knowledge of local languages is an asset.
- In addition, the consultant(s) should be prepared to work in the project districts in the Northern, Northeast, Savannah, Upper West, and Upper East regions.

Interested consultants should submit a technical and financial proposal electronically of not more than 8 pages (excluding annexes) including:

- Understanding of the assignment
- Methodology and approach
- Relevant qualifications and experience; including CV(s) of consultant(s)
- Detailed costing including the level of effort, fee rate(s), and other anticipated expenses.
- Three references for similar work conducted in the past four years.

The proposal should be submitted to msakyi@globalshea.com and copied to c.kuukaraa@globalshea.com on or before 17.00 GMT on 14th February 2024.

A pre-award meeting may be held with the preferred consultant or consultants before contracting to clarify their approach, tools, expectations, and budget.