



Sustainable Shea Initiative Update

In June 2016, USAID and Global Shea Alliance launched a 5-year, 13 million USD partnership to undertake women's empowerment and environmental conservation activities in shea producing communities. Below are updates on the project implementation.

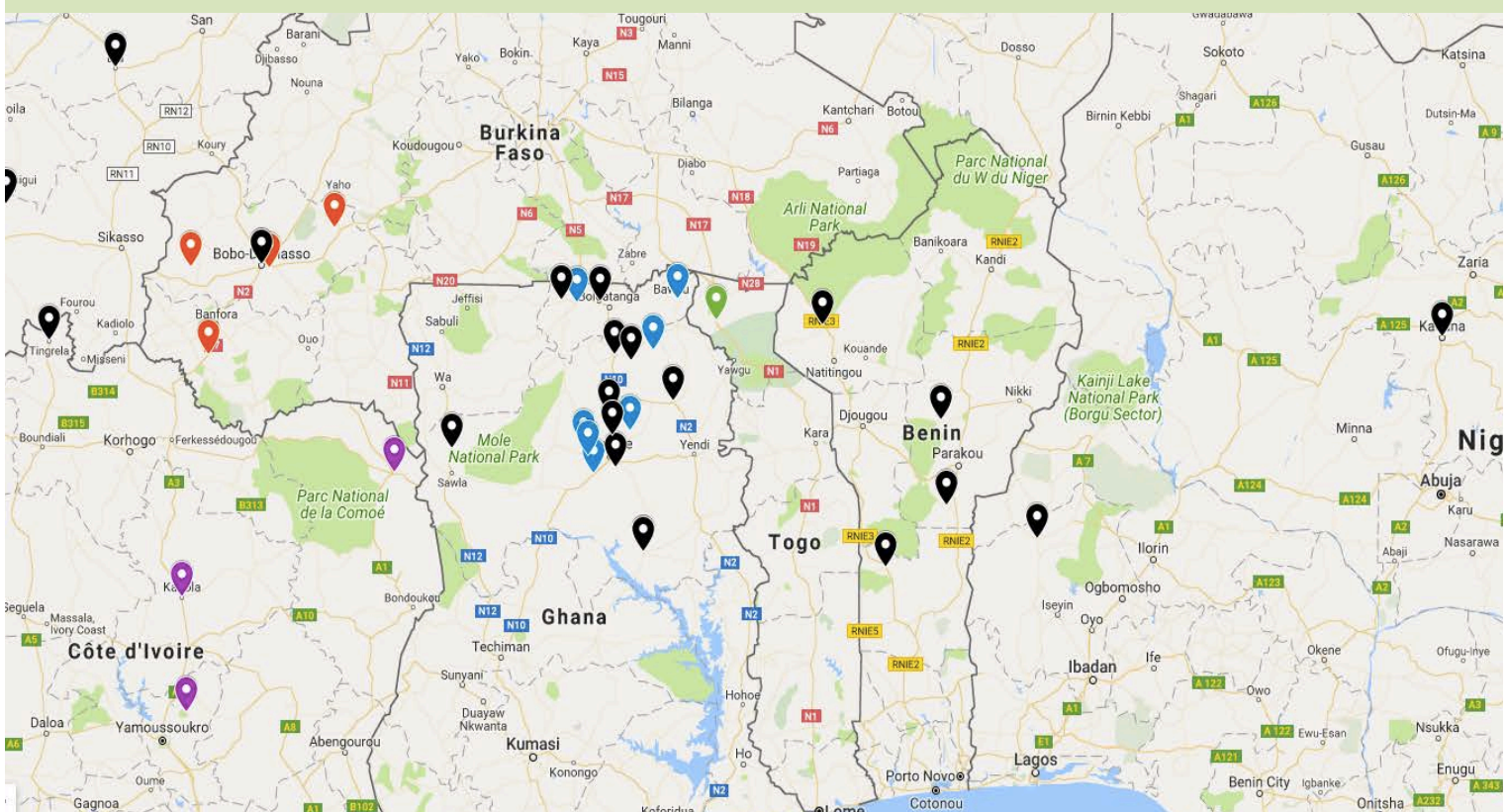
The GSA established 11 public private collaborations to implement activities in Benin, Burkina Faso, Ghana, Mali and Togo. The collaborations consist of 29 members, 14 private sector companies and 15 non-profits, and bring valuable expertise and resources to support women collectors and processors.

The GSA has an active call for registered sustainability partners to participate in this project:
www.globalshea.com/news/past/165/Matched-Grant-Call-for-Proposals-for-GSA-Sustainability-Partners

The 29 partners will achieve the following outcomes during a committed three-year period:

- 184 warehouses constructed
- 180,000 women trained in business development
- 47,000 women trained in parkland management
- 30,000 hectares of shea parkland protected
- 144,000 new seedlings planted

Sustainability Partner Warehouse Locations



Member Snapshots



Sekaf Ghana and Savannah Integrated Rural Development Aid

GSA sustainability partners, Sekaf Ghana Ltd and Savannah Integrated Rural Development Aid donated a newly constructed 40 MT warehouse to women shea collectors in the Wayamba community of northern Ghana. Through business development and leadership trainings from the USAID Sustainable Shea Initiative 408 women from three communities established a new cooperative to manage the warehouse. The partners expect each woman to store an average of five bags, and realize up to 30% more income for quality organic nuts, over the prevailing village price.



SNV and Sundial Brands

In preparation for this year's shea season, GSA sustainability partner, SNV; (Netherlands Development Organisation) provided access to over 1,500 "shea rollers" for women collectors at subsidized prices in the three northern region of Ghana. The project is in partnership with Sundial Brands Community Commerce programs, through The Sofi Tucker Foundation.

The "shea roller" (seen demonstrated) is a wire basket affixed to a wooden handle that scoops and holds shea fruits as it rolls along the ground. The roller has also been introduced to women in other countries, including Benin, Burkina Faso and Cote d'Ivoire by other GSA sustainability partners. Members report that innovation results in reduced incidents of snake bites, backaches and waist pains, as well as increase in the quantity of fruits collected.

The activity aligns to the GSA sustainability program work stream number three "pilot projects to improve health and safety of women shea collectors." GSA members in seven West African countries are implementing a variety of innovations to improve working conditions for women shea collectors and processors.



RPBHC and OLVEA

Global Shea Alliance sustainability partners RPBHC and OLVEA recently supported the formation of a women's group for 600 shea collectors in Séréké village, Burkina Faso. The partners are constructing a 100MT warehouse for the women and also providing trainings on cooperative formation and warehouse management. Using the trainings and warehouse, the women will aggregate greater volumes and trade as a group.



Association Karité Benin (AKB)

Global Shea Alliance (GSA) sustainability partner, Association Karité Benin (AKB) has secured a credit line of 117,000,000 CFA (\$210,000) from micro-finance institutions, that will benefit over 2,790 women shea collectors from groups in Northern Benin. The working capital is being distributed by the cooperatives to its women members, so they can meet pressing cash needs and aggregate 750 tons of kernels per year. The aggregation allows cooperatives to earn up to 50% more profit per kilo, than an individual member sale in a village market.

International Events and Promotion

Nigeria Sustainability Strategy Workshop

In collaboration with (NASPAN), Nigeria's national shea association, the GSA held workshops in Lagos from April 24-25 and in Abuja on July 18. More than 250 stakeholders attended and developed a national sustainability strategy to implement GSA's sustainability program and the USAID Sustainable Shea Initiative. Additionally, GSA signed up 15 new members and 20 new sustainability partners.



Ghana Sustainability Strategy Workshop

The GSA held a forum on its sustainability program and the USAID's Sustainable Shea Initiative in Tamale, Ghana on August 10. The workshop was attended by 90 stakeholders. Participants produced a national sustainability strategy in partnership with Shea Network Ghana.



Upcoming International Events



Sustainability Strategy Workshop October 11, 2017

In collaboration with Cote d'Ivoire's national shea association, FIKA-CI, the GSA is organizing a sustainability strategy workshop. For more information, please contact GSA Communications and Events Manager, Vanessa Nyarko at vnyarko@globalshea.com



Middle East Organic & Natural Expo Dubai December 11-13, 2017

The GSA is sponsoring African-based cosmetic companies to attend the exhibition and market their products to distributors and retailers. This exhibition is the only dedicated trade fair of its kind in the Middle East and North African region, attracting more than 4,000 visitors every year.

GSA Africa, North American and European Conference Dates Announced!

Shea 2018

Abuja, Nigeria

March 12-13, 2018



European Conference

Amsterdam, Netherlands

April 16, 2018



North American Conference

Washington D.C

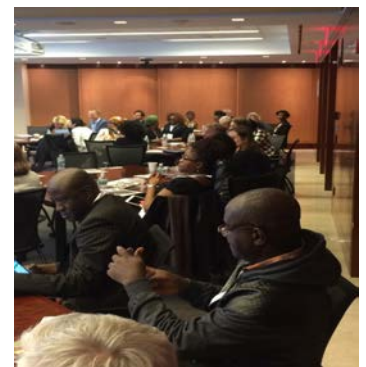
May 14, 2018



Please contact GSA Communications and Events Manager, Vanessa Nyarko at ynyarko@globalshea.com with any questions.

U.S. Conference Overview

On May 1 the Global Shea Alliance held our annual US conference at the Sidley Austin headquarters in New York. 35 people attended to participate in panel discussions on functionality, sustainable sourcing and consumer messaging.

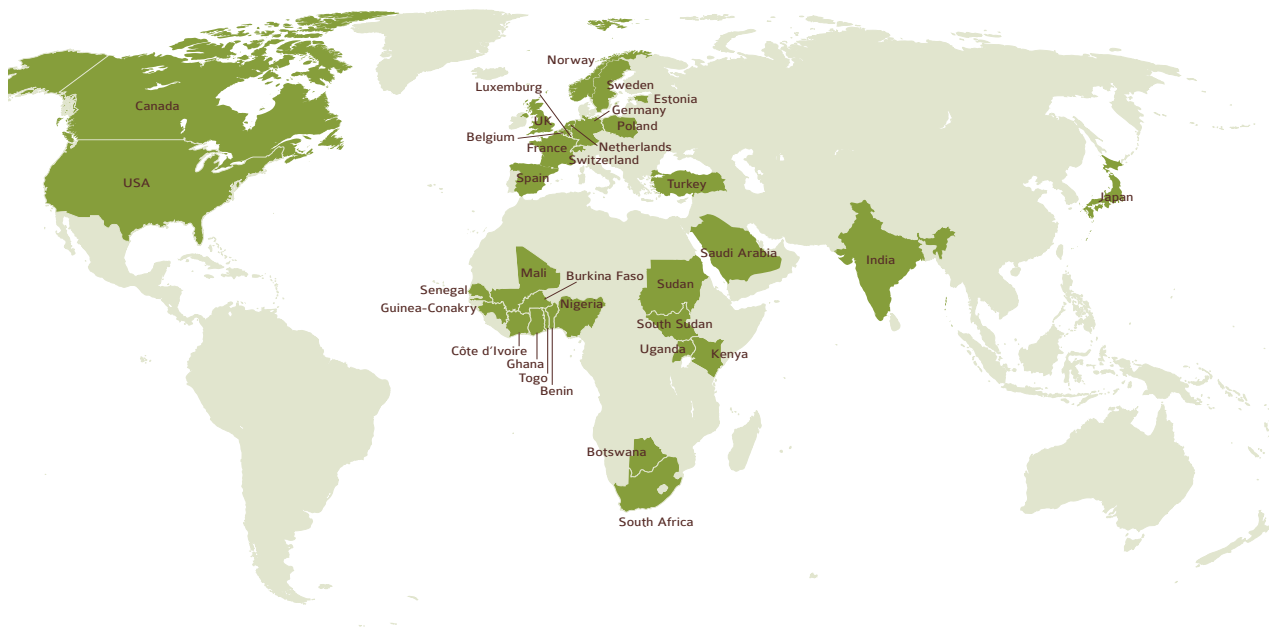


European Development Days Overview

In June, the GSA and sustainability partners Laboratoires M&L, Naasakle, International Trade Center and Fuji Oil participated to the European Development Days (EDD) in Brussels, Belgium. The EDD is Europe's leading forum on international cooperation and development. GSA members highlighted the importance of the shea value chain to women's empowerment and environmental conservation in Africa and also discussed opportunities to partner to implement development projects in collaboration with the private sector.



New GSA Members -The GSA registered 28 new members from 11 countries, bringing our total membership to 450 members from 33 countries.



Actions et Developpement Durable a la Base	Benin	Supporter	Small
African Gone Natural	USA	Brand	Small
Afrikarite	Cote d' Ivoire	Supplier	Small
Alpha Karite	Cote d' Ivoire	Supplier	Small
CRAAK	Burkina Faso	Supporter	Small
Diamante Luxury International	South Africa	Brand	Small
Distriprest	Cote d' Ivoire	Supplier	Small
Entrepreneurs Du Monde	France	Supporter	Small
FORDA	Ghana	Supporter	Small
INERA	Burkina Faso	Supporter	Small
Kenson Farms Ltd	Nigeria	Supplier	Small
LAAM Shea Products	Ghana	Supplier	Small
Merchant Masters	Ghana	Supplier	Small
Nuts to Butter	Nigeria	Supplier	Small
Original Bradford Soap	USA	Brand	Large
Ori Botanics Skincare	Canada	Brand	Small
Rongead	France	Supporter	Small
Selah Foods	Nigeria	Supplier	Small
Shea Genius Co	UK	Supplier	Small
Shea Tree Ghana Ltd	Ghana	Supplier	Small
Suhcare Ltd	Ghana	Brand	Small
Tease Cultural Village	Ghana	Supplier	Small
The Naturals Cooperative	USA	Brand	Small
The Nice Group Ghana Ltd	Ghana	Supplier	Small
The Right Shea	Ghana	Supplier	Small
Timiniya Tuma Company Ltd	Ghana	Supplier	Small
Trevari Group Limited	Nigeria	Supplier	Small
Tsamer Nigeria	Nigeria	Supplier	Small

GSA Sustainability Partners - A full list of GSA sustainability partners is as follows:

3F Ghana Limited	Ghana	Supplier
5th Harvest	Nigeria	Supplier
A Rocha Ghana	Ghana	Supporter
AAK	Sweden	Supplier
Actions et Developpement Durable a la Base	Benin	Supporter
Adunni Ori Ltd	Nigeria	Brand
Agence Deli Internationale	Burkina Faso	Supporter
Agribusiness Consult LTD	Ghana	Supporter
Ahoy & Brou Company	Cote d'Ivoire	Brands and Retailers
Alaffia	United States	Brands and Retailers
Always Higher Int'l Ltd	Nigeria	Supplier
Association Karité Bénin	Benin	Supporter
AWAN	Nigeria	Supporter
Aznop Nig Ltd	Nigeria	Supplier
Batafo Nig.Ltd	Nigeria	Supplier
Bells Shore	Nigeria	Supplier
Beltway Eng.Ltd	Nigeria	Supplier
BirdLife International	United Kingdom	Supporter
Body Basics Absolute Wellness	United States	Brands and Retailers
Center for Optimal Rural Development	Ghana	Supporter
Concern Universal	Ghana	Supporter
CRAAK	Burkina Faso	Supporter
Daolus Organics Products-Nigeria,	Nigeria	Brand
Development Frontiers	Ghana	Supporter
FADEFSO	Burkina Faso	Supporter
Farm Invest	Cote d'Ivoire	Supplier
FIKA-CI	Cote d'Ivoire	Supporter
Fludor	Benin	Supplier
Form International	Netherlands	Supporter
Fott Tradesworld Ltd	Nigeria	Supplier
Fresco Premium Agro Ltd	Nigeria	Supplier
Gamut Ventures	Nigeria	Supplier
(Wilmar Africa Ltd	Ghana	Supplier
Goldmet Nigeria Limited	Nigeria	Supplier
ICCO Cooperation	Mali	Supporter
ICRAF (World Agroforestry Center)	Kenya	Supporter
IDEAL Providence Farms	Ghana	Supplier
INERA	Burkina Faso	Supporter
International Trade Center (ITC)	Switzerland	Supporter
INTIC 4 DEV	Togo	Supporter
Jaksally Youth Group (Jaksally)	Ghana	Supplier
Jonkelly Logistics	Nigeria	Supplier

Just Shea	United States/Ghana	Supplier
Karethic	France	Brands and Retailers
KARINOR	Cote d'Ivoire	Women's Group
Karite LLC	United States	Brands and Retailers
Koladex Nig.Ltd	Nigeria	Supplier
Laboratoires M&L	France	Brands and Retailers
Lawal International	Mali	Supplier
IOI Loders Croklaan	Ghana	Supplier
LuckyKat Lotion	USA	Brand
Markenge Home for Orphans & Widows	Nigeria	Supplier
MEDA (Mennonite Economic Development Associates)	Ghana	Supporter
Mega Group Inc.	USA	Supplier
Naasakle Ltd	Ghana	Supplier
NASPAN	Nigeria	Supporter
Natura	Benin	Brands and Retailers
Natural Nigerian	Nigeria	Brands and Retailers
New Vision Royal	Ghana	Supplier
NNSC Network of National Shea Cooperative	Nigeria	Supporters
Nuts for Growth Ltd	Ghana	Supplier
Obylistic Int'l Ltd	Nigeria	Supplier
Ofinbyfor AgroProcessing	Nigeria	Supplier
Organic Agro Ltd	Nigeria	Brand
PBC Shea Ltd	Ghana	Supplier
Peter White: Independent Consultant	United States	Supporter
Presbyterian Agric Services	Ghana	Supporter
Raw Material Research & Development Council	Nigeria	Supporters
REKAF	Burkina Faso	Women's Group
Rongead	France	Supporter
RPBHC	Burkina Faso	Women's Group
Salid Agriculture Nigeria Ltd	Nigeria	Supplier
Savannah Basics	Ghana	Brand
Savannah Fruits Company	Ghana	Supplier
SeKaf Ghana	Ghana	Brands and Retailers
Shea Network Ghana	Ghana	Supporter
Shea Origin	Nigeria	Supplier
Shea Radiance	United States	Brands and Retailers
Sheabutterguys	UK	Supplier
SheaTherapy	United Kingdom	Brands and Retailers
Simon Paul Enterprise ltd	Nigeria	Supplier
SIRDA	Ghana	Supporter
SNV Ghana	Ghana	Supporter
SO.A.TA.F-Sarl	Mali	Supplier

Sokaiko Shea butter & Agro Products Ltd.	Nigeria	Supplier
Strategic Development Alliance	Ghana	Supporter
Sun-life Import	USA	Supplier
Sundial Brands	United States	Brands and Retailers
Tangrof Nig. Ltd	Nigeria	Supplier
TechnoServe	Ghana	Supporter
The Body Shop	United Kingdom	Brands and Retailers
The Clorox Company	United States	Brands and Retailers
The Hershey Company	United States	Brands and Retailers
Tivom Company Limited	Ghana	Supplier
Tona	Togo	Women's Groups
Tree Aid	United Kingdom	Supporter
Truviamedia Enterprise	Nigeria	Supplier
Tuareg NMT Agro Ltd	Nigeria	Supplier
Tungteiya Womens' Association	Ghana	Women's Group
Twelfth Farm	Nigeria	Supplier
Vic-CoE Great Ltd	Nigeria	Supplier
Vidhaldi	United Kingdom	Supplier
Widows and Orphans Movement (WOM)	Ghana	Supporter
Wilbahi Investment Ltd	Nigeria	Supplier