

The Global Shea Alliance is inviting speakers to present on various panel sessions at the 2022 International Shea Conference. The theme for this year's event is: "Growing the Future - Strengthening Resilience and Restoration"; and will take place at the Hotel 2 Février, Lomé- Togo, from June 6 to 8. The sub themes for presentations at the conference are as follow:

STRENGTHENING RESILIENCE

For the shea industry, resilience has always meant facing challenges in terms of declining tree populations that affect supplies. With the disruption to trade and livelihoods from the global pandemic, investing in resilience has never been so important. Industry has learnt some hard lessons about disruption and perseverance and, with good strategies, must be prepared to be able to move into new directions and adapt to change. It is essential that we recognise the power and potential of working together as we have a responsibility to our women shea farmers to grow the industry.

Panel presentations will highlight:

- Additional supply sources
- Innovations in parkland restoration
- Additional income opportunities Women's Empowerment

BUILDING NEW

The future is full of promise for the shea industry, if we manage to take advantage of current and upcoming opportunities. There have been new regulations impacting the shea industry including the Africa Continental Free Trade Agreement, the Federal Shea Policy in Nigeria, the Tree Crop Authority in Ghana, the establishment of inter-professions in Togo, Benin, and Côte d'Ivoire, as well as export taxes in some producing countries.

Some new regulations, like the recent proposal to minimise EU driven deforestation and forest degradation, will have a positive impact on the increased demand of shea in food and cosmetics as companies look to shea as a sustainable alternative.

Other new market opportunities will come from changes to regulations in India and Thailand, and follow from recent research into shea oil as well as the creation of new ingredient development.

Panel presentations will highlight:

- New demand trends and opportunities
- International and regional policy implications and opportunities
- National level policies across West Africa
- Addressing trade barriers in EU, US and Asia
- GSA Projects

Please provide a half-page expression of interest including:

- The title of your presentation
- A short overview with key highlights of your presentation
- A short bio + your profile photo

Please send your application to

Cindy Laird at c.laird@globalshea.com; and copy: ndehouindji@globalshea.com by April 25, if you would like to present.