GHANA SHEA LANDSCAPE EMISSION REDUCTIONS PROJECT (GSLERP)

SUPPLY OF IMPROVED COOKSTOVES TO SHEA COOPERATIVES

1.0 Background

The Ghana Shea Landscape Emissions Reduction Project (GSLERP) is a 7-year project being implemented by the Forestry Commission of Ghana and the Global Shea Alliance (GSA) in the Northern Savannah Zone of Ghana, with funding from the Green Climate Fund (GCF), the Government of Ghana, and the Private sector. UNDP is an accredited entity and implementing partner. 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 placing 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.

GSA is delivering Output 2 which focuses on enhancing carbon stocks through the restoration of 100,000 ha of degraded and threatened shea parklands and increasing climate resilience through economic incentives for shea tree protection at the local, national, and international levels and supporting women collectors to re-stock 1.75 million shea trees in the parklands with higher and quicker yielding varieties of shea and 400,000 other high-value trees within agroforestry systems, increase shea-related incomes by 30-50%, as well as ensure shea future supply through commercial contracts between members of the GSA and women's cooperatives.

Women cooperatives, who operate at various stages of the shea value chain as collectors, processors, or both, are supported with capacity building by private sector players to improve cooperative governance, shea quality, market access, incomes, and

profitability. Besides, the cooperatives are also supported with logistics such as warehouses, tricycles, improved cooking stoves, tarpaulins, and processing equipment, among others, by the private sector to enhance their operations' efficiency.

To establish the grounds for the supply and use of improved cooking stoves to women cooperatives, GSA conducted a study on fuel wood consumption by women cooperatives in the five regions of the North. The results of the study indicated that in terms of shea butter processing technologies used by cooperatives, about 43% of the cooperatives used the Traditional processing methods, whilst 38.1% and 14.29% used Semi-improved and improved processing technologies, respectively. Over eighteen different woody species were identified as preferred species for fuelwood used in shea butter processing. However, **shea, neem, and dawadawa** were ranked as the most preferred species.

Shea and dawadawa are major economic trees in northern Ghana, but they are preferred for fuelwood because of their relatively high availability compared to other alternative fuelwood species. This poses a threat to the sustainability of the shea industry. On average, 0.6 kg of wood is used in processing a kg of shea kernels, and an average of 2.6 kg of wood is used in processing a kg of extracted butter for improved, semi-improved, or traditional. For carbon dioxide emissions, 1.3 kgCO2 and 3.47 kgCO2/kg are emitted per kg of shea kernels and shea butter produced, respectively. However, the average fuel consumption and emissions are significantly lower among cooperatives using shea cake briquettes as biofuels in processing.

The use of improved stoves and roasters also reduces fuel consumption. An average of 1.4 kg of wood is used in processing a kg of butter with the improved stoves, whilst 2.0 – 2.4 kg was used in local and semi-improved stoves. Among wood-saving strategies identified, the use of improved stoves, the use of shea by-products (shea cake and husk) as fuel, and quenching of fire immediately after use were the three most mentioned strategies among processors. This finding implies that the use of shea butter by-products as fuel, coupled with the utilisation of improved processing technologies, could drastically reduce the carbon footprints of shea butter processing as well as

reduce production costs.

Following the above findings, GSA seeks qualified vendors to supply and /or build improved cookstoves for women cooperatives as collectors for parboiling or processors for processing shea butter.

2.0 Objective of the assignment

Scope

For this assignment, it is important first to know women cooperatives engaged in collecting and processing shea in the five regions of North: Northern region, Savannah region, Northeast region, Upper East, and Upper West regions, and how these women operate in the collection, parboiling, and processing of shea into kernel and butter. The key objective is to reduce the consumption of fuel wood and minimize the use of key economic trees, including Shea trees, as fuel wood.

Specific Objectives

- Fabricate and /or supply movable, highly efficient cookstoves that process significant volumes of shea nuts into kernel or butter by women as individuals and as groups.
- Train the women cooperatives on the use of these stoves

2.1 Expected Results/Deliverables

- Brief description of the various and appropriate cook stoves with pictures that answer to the objective of this assignment
- Quotation or unit price (in Ghana Cedis) of the types
- How the delivery of the cookstoves will be done to the selected cooperatives

3.0 Methodology/Approach

Vendors are expected to indicate in writing how they intend to approach the assignment

4.0 Timelines

The assignment is expected to be completed by June 2026.

The proposal should be submitted to msakye@globalshea.com and copied to c.kuukaraa@globalshea.com on or before 17.00 GMT on Friday, 19 June 2026.

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