

Ghana Shea Landscape Emission Reductions Project

Nia Spilsbury, Trusts & Foundations Officer

5th October 2023



About Tree Aid



- Working with communities in Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Ghana, Mali, Niger, and Senegal
- Working in Ghana since 1994
- Tackling poverty, the effects of the climate crisis, and food security through the power of trees
- Grown 27,616,546 trees and restored over 167,000 hectares of vital land





The project so far

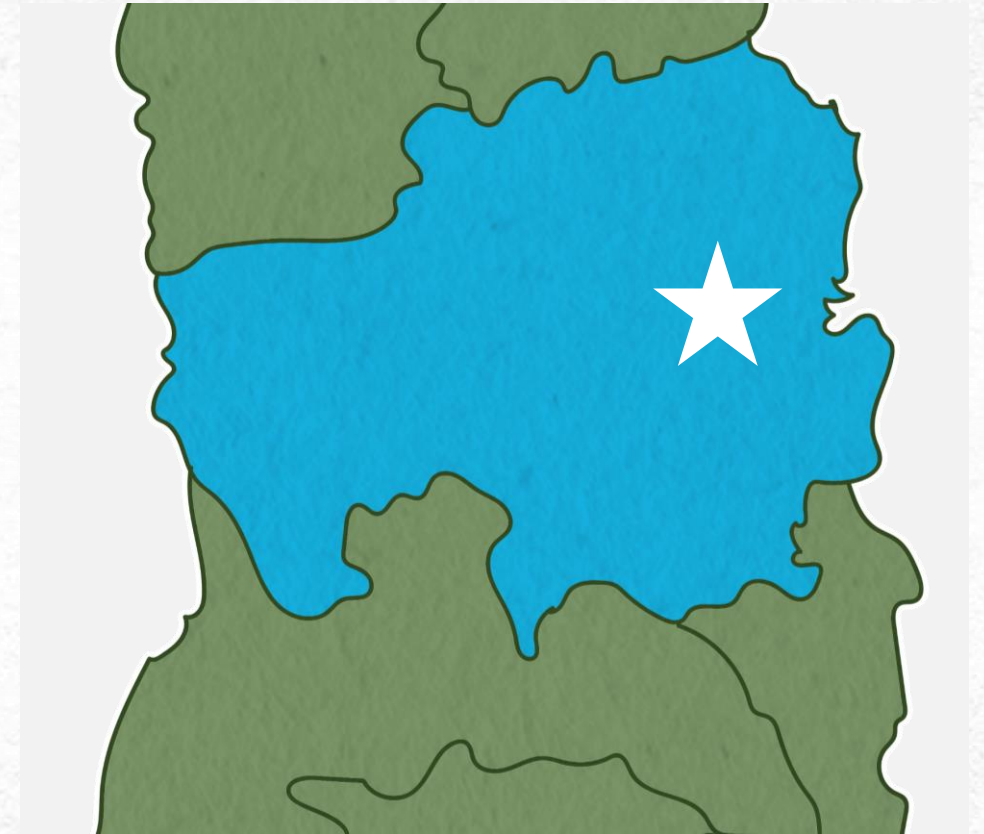
Overview and progress update



Project location and need



- Gushiegu Municipal District, Mion District, and Yendi Municipal District, Northern Region Ghana
- The Northern Region has the highest poverty rates in Ghana, affecting 1.3 million people
- Rural women (71%) are more likely than men (37%) to be engaged in unpaid family work and non-agricultural self-employment activities than rural men
- There is a high number of **shea trees** in the region, but trees are not exploited sustainably and are cut to create space for farming and charcoal processing



Project Overview



Donors: Global Shea Alliance with match funding from the Soroptimists and Ecosia

Aims: Grow 2 million trees in riparian buffer zones, open parks and farmlands near 61 villages

Dates: September 2022 to June 2025

Districts: Gushiegu Municipal District, Mion District, and Yendi Municipal District, Northern Region Ghana

**Global
Shea
Alliance**



Project Progress (June 2022 – June 2023)



Output 1: Restore and sustainably manage shea parkland

- 4 nurseries established or upgraded to GSA standards
- Nurseries are equipped with solar water pumps and shade nets
- 2022 shea season was missed, resulting in a shortfall of seedlings
- 168,000 poly pots have since been filled and seeded with shea seeds
- 63,000 non-shea seedlings produced by project nurseries and 300,000 produced by partner nurseries
- 200 female extension volunteers were identified and elected across the 30 project communities
- 205 (171 women and 34 men) people were trained on agroforestry practices, soil and water conservation, best agronomic practices, agro-silvo pastoral land use, and general shea tree growing and management

Photos



Shea Seedling production



Project Progress (June 2022 – June 2023)



Output 1: Strengthen value chains for shea processing

- 26 Village Tree Enterprise groups (VTEs) established to form 3 cooperative unions
- Women's groups in 3 communities identified to form 4 further VTEs
- 6 VTEs in 4 communities trained on cooperative development by the Department of Cooperatives, attended by 130 people in total (121 women and 9 men)
- Members of all 26 VTE groups trained on VSLA activities, group dynamics, and cooperative governance (563 total)
- 285 people took part in training on how to create fuel efficient cookstoves, and 293 stoves have been produced

Photos



Community training



Photos



Women taking part in training to construct fuel-efficient stoves



Key Performance Indicators



Activity 2: Strengthen value chains for shea processing	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Total
# of women cooperatives set up and registered	0	0	3	0	3
# of women cooperatives trained on group dynamics and cooperative governance	0	0	3	0	3
# of women trained on shea aggregation, marketing, auditing and warehousing	0	600	600	0	1200
# of women trained on improved technologies and efficiency (technical training and product quality)	0	600	600	0	1200
# of women trained on improved business management including contact management and market linkages	0	600	600	0	1200
# of warehouses constructed	0	0	1	0	1
# of improved cookstoves supplied to women groups	0	293/300	600	600	1500

Challenges



- Rainstorm damaged shade nets erected at Lakaldo community nursery, nursery women and community members worked together to reinforce the nets to mitigate against any further damage.
- Challenges with shea seedling raising at the beginning of the project.
- Prolonged period of drought May - June 2023 meant that community members were preoccupied with their farm work hence limiting their availability to take part in other project activities.





Next steps

Looking ahead to year 2



Year 2 Activities



- Facilitate the planting of non-shea tree species
- Train women on sustainable parkland management techniques
- Train women on shea aggregation, marketing, auditing, and warehousing to support their businesses
- Train women on business management, including contract management and market linkages
- Support cooperatives with 2 shea processing centres and construct 1 warehouse



Year 2 funding



What will the additional €60,000 from the Soroptimists' 100 x Trees for Life foundation cover?

Support Cooperative Union with one warehouse to increase produce mobilization and storage for quality assurance, produce availability and access

Support cooperative unions with one shea processing machines and ensure installation and functioning of the machine

Train cooperatives on warehouse receipting system and general

Traditional shea processing



Example equipment



Example warehouse



Thank you

Any questions?

