



Project title - Ghana Shea Landscape Emission Reductions Project

Project location - Gushiegu Municipal District, Mion District, and Yendi Municipal District in the Northern Region of Ghana

Description of project location and beneficiaries

The project will take place in the Gushiegu Municipal District, Mion District, and Yendi Municipal District in the Northern Region of Ghana. Tree Aid currently works in these three districts as part of the 'Daka River Restoration' project funded by Ecosia, which aims to over 2 million trees in riparian buffer zones, open parklands, and farmlands in 61 villages.

44 community-based nurseries will be supported with tools and equipment such as shovels, pickaxes, garden forks, ropes, wheelbarrows, polypots, shade nets, soil, and seeds. 4 of the 44 nurseries will be upgraded with water supply powered by solar energy and boreholes with overhead water reservoirs to enable tree seedling production. All the trees planted as part of this project will be grown in these 44 nurseries.

Project duration – April 2022 – December 2026

Funding needed – Remaining funding of \$60,083 (€57,000)

Ecosia will be a financial partner for this project, providing match funding to the value of \$240,000.

The Soroptimists would then be funding the remaining costs and would be a sole funder of the following key activities;

Activity 2.1. Set up and register women's cooperatives

3 cooperatives (1 per district) will be formed and supported to attain legal status. Each cooperative will have 400 women members. The function of the cooperatives is for members to work together to aggregate their products to increase volumes, assure quality as well as develop marketing strategies which will help them to attract more regional, national, and international buyers and achieve better profits.

Activity 2.2. Train women cooperatives on group dynamics and cooperative governance

The 3 cooperatives will be provided with tailored training and mentorship to strengthen their governance and management, following a detailed organisational capacity assessment process. The project will also strengthen the cooperative leadership and management and support the development of internal cooperative by-laws. The training will also cover leadership, and communication to ensure that the cooperatives can operate effectively and that the members can work well together.

Activity 2.3. Train women on shea aggregation, marketing, auditing, and warehousing

Coaching on shea aggregation and marketing will take place to help the cooperative members to optimize their shea butter sales. Additionally, the women in the cooperatives will be trained on production costs, value addition, and price negotiation to help their shea butter businesses be cost efficient and profitable.

Activity 2.4. Train women on improved technologies and efficiency (technical training, and product quality)

The 3 cooperatives will each be provided with shea butter processing equipment including a crusher, roaster, miller, kneader, boiler, and motors. Safety equipment including flash lights, basins, gloves, goggles, and overalls will also be given to each cooperative union. Members will receive technical guidance on the equipment and the shea butter production process.

Activity 2.5. Train women on improved business management including contract management and market linkages

The 3 cooperatives will be trained on topics including business management, contract management, market linkages, financial management, record keeping and accountability. Linkages between cooperatives, buyers, and financial institutions will be facilitated to improve the shea sector in the 3 Districts.

Project deliverables and KPI's funded by the Soroptimists;

Activity 2: Strengthen value chains for shea processing	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
# of women cooperatives set up and registered	0	3	0	0	0	3
# of women cooperatives trained on group dynamics and cooperative governance	0	3	3	0	0	3
# of women trained on shea aggregation, marketing, auditing and warehousing	0	0	1200	0	0	1,200
# of women trained on improved technologies and efficiency (technical training, and product quality)	1200	1200	0	0	0	1,200
# of women trained on improved business management including contract management and market linkages	1200	400	400	0	0	1,200
# of warehouses constructed	0	0	0	0	0	0
# of improved cookstoves supplied to women groups	375	375	375	375	0	1,500

Further ongoing technical support, financial management, monitoring, and quality assurance will be carried out with support from Tree Aid UK. The UK Head of Programme Management will maintain project oversight and contact with GSA. Additional support will be provided by the Head of Programme Quality and Advocacy, Monitoring Evaluation and Learning Advisor, and Finance Manager, with oversight from the Director of Programmes.

Thank you to the Soroptimists for your consideration of this project proposal.