

**GHANA SHEA LANDSCAPE EMISSION REDUCTIONS PROJECT (GSLERP)
CONSULTANT TO SUPPORT NGO ENGAGEMENT FOR WOMEN'S COOPERATIVES
UNDER THE GHANA SHEA LANDSCAPE EMISSION REDUCTION PROJECT**

1.0 Background

The Ghana Shea Landscape Emission Reduction Project seeks to restore degraded shea parklands through public-private partnerships. Under Output 2, the project focuses on restoring and sustainably managing shea parklands while strengthening value chains for shea processing.

Activity 2.1 supports the restoration and sustainable management of shea parklands through communication and extension, community-based nurseries, tree planting, farmer management of trees and fallow vegetation, and capacity building of women's cooperatives on sustainable parklands management. Activity 2.2 strengthens shea processing value chains by supporting women's groups, aggregation and marketing, improved technologies and efficiency, technical training, product quality training, business management, contract management and market linkages.

Within this framework, GSA seeks to engage a consultant to support the contracting and coordination of NGOs to work directly with women's groups in 26 shea cooperatives. The NGOs will support cooperatives to reduce wood and water consumption in shea processing and enable 8 selected cooperatives to produce briquettes from shea processing waste. The intervention is intended to reduce pressure on shea parklands, improve processing efficiency, promote circular use of shea waste, and strengthen women's role in sustainable shea value chains.

2. Alignment with GSLERP Components 2.1 and 2.2

GSLERP Activity/Sub-Activity	Project Document Focus	How this Assignment Contributes
Activity 2.1: Restore and sustainably manage the shea parklands	Restoration and sustainable management of shea parklands through communication, extension, tree planting, farmer management of trees and women's cooperative capacity building.	Builds cooperative awareness and practice around sustainable parkland management while reducing fuelwood pressure linked to shea processing.
Sub-Activity 2.1.3	Train and build capacity of women's cooperatives on sustainable parklands management.	Uses NGO-led training to help women's cooperatives connect improved processing, fuelwood reduction, waste reuse and parkland conservation.
Activity 2.2: Strengthen value chains for shea processing	Strengthening women's groups, aggregation, marketing, improved technologies, efficiency, product quality, business management and market linkages.	Improves processing efficiency through reduced wood and water use, briquette production, better records and cooperative-level business planning.
Sub-Activity 2.2.3	Train women's groups on improved technologies and efficiency, including audits, technical training and product quality training.	Supports audits, technical training and adoption of efficient processing practices and briquette technologies.

3. Objective of the Assignment

The objective of the assignment is to support the identification, contracting, coordination and supervision of NGOs to deliver field-level support to women's shea cooperatives in line with GSLERP Activities 2.1 and 2.2.

Specifically, the consultant will ensure that the intervention contributes to:

- Sustainable management and conservation of shea parklands.
- Reduced fuelwood consumption in shea processing.
- Improved water-use efficiency among women's cooperatives.
- Adoption of improved processing technologies and practices.
- Conversion of shea processing waste into briquettes by selected cooperatives.
- Strengthening cooperative capacity, governance and business sustainability.
- Improved alignment between women's cooperative activities and public-private partnership objectives under the project

4. Scope of Services

A. Inception and Alignment with GSLERP Components 2.1 and 2.2

- Review relevant GSLERP project documents and prepare an inception report showing how the NGO-led cooperative support will contribute to Activity 2.1 on sustainable shea parkland management and Activity 2.2 on strengthened shea processing value chains.
- Prepare a methodology, workplan, implementation schedule, cooperative engagement approach, NGO selection criteria, monitoring framework and risk mitigation measures.

B. NGO Identification, Selection and Contracting

- Develop selection criteria for NGOs with relevant experience in community mobilization, women's cooperative development, conservation, sustainable shea processing, clean energy or biomass briquette production.
- Prepare terms of reference for NGO engagement and support the review and assessment of NGO proposals.
- Recommend suitable NGOs for contracting and support the preparation of contracts, deliverables and performance indicators.
- Ensure that NGO workplans are aligned with GSLERP Activities 2.1 and 2.2, including training, technical support, behavior change, monitoring and reporting responsibilities.

C. Baseline Assessment of Cooperative Processing Practices

- Coordinate a baseline assessment across the 26 cooperatives to establish current wood and water consumption patterns, sources of fuelwood and pressure on surrounding vegetation.
- Assess current processing technologies and equipment, shea waste generation and disposal practices, cooperative governance and operational capacity.
- Assess existing knowledge of sustainable parkland management and opportunities to introduce improved technologies and briquette production.
- Generate practical baseline data for measuring progress on wood-use reduction, water-use reduction, waste reuse, technology adoption and cooperative capacity strengthening.

D. Support to Reduce Wood and Water Consumption in 26 Cooperatives

- Coordinate NGO-led training and technical assistance to women's groups in all 26 cooperatives to improve resource efficiency in shea processing.
- Provide practical training on improved boiling, roasting, kneading, washing and drying practices that reduce wood and water use.
- Promote improved technologies and efficiency measures in line with Activity 2.2.3, including audits, technical training and product quality considerations.
- Support water conservation, water reuse and proper water handling practices.

- Create awareness on the link between fuelwood consumption, parkland degradation and emissions.
- Promote sustainable parkland management practices among women's cooperatives in line with Activity 2.1.3.
- Document behavior changes and adoption of improved practices.

E. Briquette Production Support for 8 Selected Cooperatives

- Support the selection of 8 cooperatives to participate in briquette production from shea waste, based on waste availability, processing volume, leadership readiness, willingness to adopt improved technologies and potential to reduce fuelwood demand.
- Coordinate technical support for the production and use of briquettes from shea waste and appropriate biomass residues.
- Train selected cooperatives on waste collection, sorting, preparation, drying, briquette production, moulding, drying, storage and safe use.
- Develop simple operating procedures for briquette production and use in shea processing.
- Support cooperative-level management arrangements for briquette production and assess potential cost savings, income opportunities or internal-use benefits.

F. Cooperative Governance, Business and Sustainability Support

- Strengthen cooperative governance for managing shared equipment, improved processing activities and briquette production.
- Train cooperatives on basic record-keeping for wood, water, waste, briquette production and briquette use.
- Support business planning for briquette production and use, including cost-benefit analysis of fuelwood reduction and briquette adoption.
- Link improved processing practices to product quality, market opportunities and cooperative sustainability.
- Develop sustainability plans to continue activities after project support ends.

G. Communication, Extension and Conservation Messaging

- Ensure that NGO activities include clear communication and extension messages aligned with Activity 2.1.1.
- Develop practical messages on the importance of shea parkland restoration, women's roles in sustainable parkland management, the link between fuelwood demand and degradation, and the benefits of reduced wood and water use.
- Promote the benefits of converting shea waste into briquettes as a practical incentive for improved resource efficiency and conservation.

H. Monitoring, Reporting and Learning

- Develop and implement a monitoring framework to track the contribution of the assignment to GSLEP Activities 2.1 and 2.2.
- Track indicators including NGOs contracted, cooperatives supported, women trained, adoption of wood-saving and water-saving practices, estimated reductions in wood and water use, quantity of shea waste reused, briquette production and use, cooperative governance improvements and lessons for scaling.
- Prepare periodic reports documenting activities completed, challenges, corrective actions, lessons learned and recommendations for scaling across additional shea cooperatives.

5. Expected Deliverables

1. Inception Report: Methodology, workplan, implementation schedule, NGO selection approach, monitoring framework and clear alignment with GSLEP Activities 2.1 and 2.2.
2. NGO Contracting Package: Terms of reference for NGOs, selection criteria, proposal evaluation template, recommended NGOs and draft contract deliverables.

3. Baseline Assessment Report: Assessment of wood use, water use, shea waste generation, processing practices, cooperative capacity and readiness for briquette production across the 26 cooperatives.
4. Cooperative Training and Implementation Plan: Activity plan for NGO-led support to the 26 cooperatives, including training modules, schedule, expected outputs and monitoring arrangements.
5. Briquette Production Plan for 8 Cooperatives: Selection rationale, technical approach, equipment and material needs, training plan, operating procedures and sustainability plan.
6. Communication and Extension Materials: Practical training and awareness materials on sustainable parkland management, reduced wood and water consumption, improved processing efficiency and briquette production.
7. Progress Reports: Periodic reports documenting activities completed, cooperatives reached, women trained, progress against indicators, challenges and corrective actions.
8. Final Assignment Report: Summary of results, contribution to GSLERP Activities 2.1 and 2.2, conservation benefits, value chain improvements, lessons learned and recommendations for scale-up.

6. Expected Results

- NGOs are contracted and effectively supporting the 26 women's shea cooperatives.
- Women's cooperatives have improved knowledge of sustainable shea parkland management.
- The 26 cooperatives adopted practical measures to reduce wood and water consumption in shea processing.
- 8 cooperatives are trained and supported to produce briquettes from shea waste.
- Shea waste is reused more productively.
- Cooperatives maintain improved records on wood, water, waste and briquette use.
- The intervention contributes to reduced pressure on shea parklands and strengthened shea processing value chains.
- Lessons are documented for possible scaling under GSLERP public-private partnership arrangements.

9. Required Expertise

- Shea value chain development.
- Women's cooperatives and producer group strengthening.
- Sustainable shea processing and improved processing technologies.
- Natural resource management, parkland restoration or conservation.
- Biomass briquette production or clean energy solutions.
- NGO contracting, coordination and field supervision.
- Training, behavior change and community extension.
- Monitoring, evaluation, reporting and learning.
- Knowledge of GSLERP, Ghana's northern savannah landscape and public-private partnership approaches in agricultural value chains will be an added advantage.

The proposal should be submitted to msakyi@globalshea.com and copied to c.kuukaraa@globalshea.com on or before 17.00 GMT on Friday, 29th August 2026.

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

