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**Nilotica Shea Alliance (NiSA) Launched to Advance Uganda's Shea Industry Growth**

**Accra, 3 December 2025:** The Global Shea Alliance (GSA) is proud to support the official launch of the Nilotica Shea Alliance (NiSA), a new platform uniting stakeholders across East Africa's nilotica shea sector.

The formation of NiSA is led by Palladium through the Climate Smart Jobs (CSJ) initiative, funded by the UK Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO). The GSA and TASLAF Advocates also play key leadership roles with additional support from the Centre for the Promotion of Imports from Developing Countries (CBI) and the International Trade Centre (ITC) with Strengthening Agribusiness Resilience and Competitiveness (STAR) project financed by Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA).

NiSA brings together co-operatives and collector groups, processors, manufacturers, traders and exporters. The launch marks a major step for the sector, unlocking new opportunities for value addition, innovation and technical training for co-operatives and SMEs.

"NiSA represents a crucial step in strengthening the nilotica shea value chain. Well co-ordinated associations can drive innovation, improve quality, manage parklands sustainably and build stronger market linkages that deliver real impact for producers, communities and the wider industry." Aaron Adu, Managing Director of the Global Shea Alliance.

**Why It Matters**

The nilotica shea sector is expanding but remains fragmented, with uneven quality standards and limited technical support. NiSA will address these gaps and drive long term sector growth by supporting:

- **Economic impact:** An important export commodity with strong potential for value addition in East Africa
- **Climate action:** Sustainable parkland management, restoration efforts and access to climate finance
- **Inclusive growth:** Programmes that place women and marginalised communities at the centre of sector development

NiSA will promote sustainable parkland management, support climate resilience and strengthen data driven policy engagement. The Alliance will enhance quality and value addition through innovation, training and certification, while connecting producers to buyers and expanding regional and global trade. Through strategic partnerships with government, donors and technical experts, NiSA will improve sector intelligence and support greener growth and sustainable livelihoods for thousands of producers.

**About the GSA**

The Global Shea Alliance is a non profit industry association with 849 members from 36 countries, including women's co-operative groups, brands and retailers, suppliers and NGOs. Through PPPs, the GSA promotes industry sustainability, quality practices and standards and demand for shea in food and cosmetics. For more information, please visit <http://www.globalshea.com/>

### About the Nilotica Shea Association (NiSA)

The Nilotica Shea Association represents a transformative initiative bringing together diverse stakeholders across East Africa's shea value chain: co-operatives, collector groups, processors, manufacturers as well as traders and exporters. The Association's mission centers on strengthening sector co-ordination, enhancing market access, promoting sustainable practices and ensuring meaningful inclusion of women and marginalised communities.

### About Climate Smart Jobs (CSJ)

Climate Smart Jobs is a programme funded by the UK Government's International Climate Fund, aimed at transforming agribusiness in Northern Uganda through climate-smart, inclusive and market based approaches. By supporting smallholder farmers, especially women, refugees and host communities, the programme seeks to increase agricultural productivity, boost incomes, and create large scale on farm and off farm employment. Through a combination of market systems development, innovation grants under the Uganda Climate Innovation Fund (UCIF) and support for sustainable land management, CSJ works to build climate resilience, improve access to finance and markets, and promote green growth in agroprocessing and agribusiness.

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