



The Savannah Fruits Company / Butterwise

FAIR TRADE DEVELOPMENT FUND REPORT

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SFC CERTIFICATION DEPARTMENT



FAIR TRADE DEVELOPMENT FUND PROJECTS

The Fair-Trade Development fund is a fund that is paid by the Savannah Fruits Company's clients specifically allocated towards the development and benefit of the **18 communities** that produce their clients' Organic Fair for Life shea butter orders. The disbursement and use of the Fair-Trade Development fund follows a mutual decision and consent of both **8 shea butter processors cooperatives** and **10 shea nut collector's cooperatives**. Every cooperative has an established Premium Management Committee (PMC) which has the responsibility of proper oversight of how the funds are used. Once a year, a meeting is organized with cooperative committee members/representatives to create a needs assessment of options of how funds will be used. Various suggestions from representatives are collected and the final decision is made by the PMC for implementation. From the funds received, **70%** of the funds go to shea nuts collectors' cooperatives and the remaining **30%** goes to shea butter collectors' cooperatives. These Fair-Trade Development funds benefit **13,786 organic shea nut collectors** and **1,314 organic shea butter processors in Northern Ghana**.



Where we are
TODAY

FAIR FOR LIFE PRINCIPLES

Fair for Life is a certification programme for fair trade in agriculture, manufacturing and trade. It was created in 2006 by the Swiss Bio-Foundation in cooperation with the IMO Group, then taken over by the Ecocert Group in 2014 to meet a specific demand from organic farming stakeholders.

Beyond the inherent concept of fair pricing, and from the very beginning of its creation, Fair for Life has been aware of the notion of **responsible supply chains**: having a long-term vision, making a sincere commitment and acting responsibly throughout the supply chain.

The label encourages a supply chain business model that aims at the resilience of each link. Fair for Life certification is a tool that enables the valorisation and protection of exemplary supply chains, where stakeholders have chosen to act responsibly by implementing good economic, social and environmental practices. By following the framework defined by Fair for Life certification, producers, processors and brand owners can secure their sales and supplies, thanks to tools such as **long-term contracts** that include **fixed prices and volumes, and by establishing a real partnership between them.**

Fair Treatment of Staff and Members

- Labour contracts and fair remuneration for all staff
- Suppliers contracts and fair prices
- Timely and convenient payment of premiums to beneficiaries
- Zero tolerance for discrimination or harassment
- Social Security for all staff
- Health Insurance for all staff and staff immediate family members



Production Safety and Efficiency

- Safe environment for production
- Hygienic and safe workplace and equipment
- Proper safety measures: Fire extinguishers, emergency exits, first aid boxes and protective clothes.
- Proper labelling with caution signs for risk prone areas

Adherence to labour Regulations

- Zero Tolerance for Child or Forced Labour
- No exploitation of children
- Only light or non-hazardous work for children older than 12 years
- No compulsory or involuntary labour, slavery or debt bondage
- Respect national as well as international labour regulations

Environmental Conservation Practices

- Minimize usage of water and fuel wood
- Recycling of waste products for energy production
- Avoid indiscriminate cutting of trees
- Zero tolerance for the use of prohibited chemicals
- Proper measures to prevent air and water pollution

DEVELOPMENTAL PROJECTS AND SERVICES

COMMUNITY PROCESSING EQUIPMENT

Access to proper processing equipment is one of the key determinants of production volumes for all shea butter cooperatives. Equipment are frequently replaced by all communities when worn out to ensure efficient production. This year, the collector cooperatives invested **GHS55,290.00** in upgrading their equipment. Milling machines, electric motors, kneading machine, storage basins, buckets, and water storage tanks were procured by 3 cooperatives. Some of the processing equipment purchased are shown in the pictures below.



Improved Design Kneading Machine above



Water storage tank and basins used for manual kneading and cooking shown to the left and above at Wechiau and Kavilli Processing centers

BOREHOLE FOR COMMUNITY PROCESSING CENTER

Access to water for coconut oil processing has been particularly challenging for the Ellenda community. Through this development fund, a new borehole has been drilled to provide potable water for both processing and drinking. The borehole was constructed with a water storage tank and water pumping machine. The total cost of this project was **GHS 20,200.00** and **benefits 85 local organic coconut processors.**

BOREHOLE FOR ELLENDIA COCONUT OIL PROCESSING CENTER





HEALTH AND SAFETY

Health and safety constitute some of the major issues confronting both shea nut collectors and shea butter processors. As a result, all communities have designated community first aid nurses to assist in delivering first aid services. SFC **organized first aid training** for all community first aid nurses on how to address minor injuries and administer pain relievers such as paracetamol among others. All communities under the cooperatives procured their own first aid items at a cost of **GHS43,200.00**.

Each community has a **fully stocked first aid box** with all required medications that are used at any time the need arises. Addressing safety, the Bole Noyini Shea Pickers Cooperative identified PPEs such as gum boots and hand gloves as one of their pressing needs which were supplied to members at a cost of **GHS6,600.00**. Equally, the Suntaa Nuntaa Shea Processors Cooperative and the Jomoro Coconut Development Cooperative in Wechiau and Half Asini respectively **identified PPEs such as overall coat, hand gloves, gum boots, and ear plugs** as the next pressing need to work on in the future. See pictures below for the distribution of first aid kits and PPEs to Dejang and Sonyor communities.



First aid Distribution by Certification Team at Dejang



PPEs distribution – Sonyor

FURNITURE

Whenever there is a community meeting for either training, sensitization, or demonstration exercises or any special occasion, it becomes difficult securing a shaded location and proper seating for those attending the occasion. Having proper seating encourages attendees to stay for the entire duration of the event or training instead of becoming uncomfortable and being tempted to leave to focus on their other daily activities. Some of the cooperatives identified this as one of their most pressing needs and have gone ahead to purchase plastic chairs to take care of that challenge of seating. Cooperatives such as Damongo Sunkpa Shea Pickers Cooperative, Tumu Gbarakan Shea Pickers Cooperative and Sawla Sunta Maal Cooperatives have procured a **total of 350 Plastic chairs** at a cost of **GHS26,625.00**. These chairs are used during community gatherings and cooperative meetings.



Plastic Chairs distribution – Sawla Sunta Mal Coop pictured above and to the left



Plastic Chairs distribution – Jilinkong Community





STORAGE & WAREHOUSING

Warehousing for organic storage has been a common challenge for all SFC shea nuts supplier cooperatives. This has pushed most of these cooperatives to store nuts in their homes creating a risk of contamination and causing discomfort as shea nuts collectors have limited indoor space and are forced to sleep in the same space as where the shea nut bags are stored. All the collector cooperatives have decided to use part of their FT development fund to build community nuts storerooms. Last year the cooperatives spent an amount of **GHS24,610.00 on building shea nuts storerooms**. This year, the cooperatives invested GHS201,325.00 in the construction of 17 mini storage facilities in communities such as Kantu, Kpanfa, Kaljiisa, Adasung, Nakong, Kologo Nayire, Katuisa, Disabouri, Wantugu, Yishe, Gbambu, Nyeko, Zokuga among others. The collector cooperative is planning on building similar storerooms in the rest of the communities over time. See below pictures of some the storerooms built in the communities.



CONCLUSION

SFC fair trade partners have been proactive in the payment of the development fund which enables our members in **8 organic shea butter processing** cooperatives and **10 organic shea nut** collector cooperatives to carry out improvement projects that addresses their specific needs. Some of the cooperatives have earmarked water and sanitation, more storerooms, PPEs, and production equipment such as mechanized kneaders as key challenges they would like to address. Though expensive, we are optimistic that within the next three years these issues will be addressed. SFC has a supply chain in neighboring Francophone countries (Burkina Faso, Togo and Cote D'Ivoire) which is also **fair for life certified** and engages **31,754 women**.



SUMMARY OF EXPENSES BY COOPERATIVES 2021- 2022

Name of Cooperative	Activity	Amount (GHS)
Gushegu Collectors	Warehouses and community first aid	37,265
Savelugu Collectors	Warehouses and community first aid	18,658
Navrongo Collectors	Warehouses and community first aid	27,508
Chiana Collectors	Warehouses and community first aid	41,200
Tumu Collectors	Plastic chairs and community first aid	9,800
Wechiau Collectors	Warehouses and community first aid	79,943
Sawla-Tuna Collectors	Warehouses, Plastic Chairs and community first aid	15,835
Bole Collectors	Personal Protection and community first aid	9,800
Damongo Collectors	Plastic Chairs and community first aid	17,825
Kpalbe Collectors	Warehouses and community first aid	23,800
Coconut Development Cooperative	Borehole, Personal Protection (gum boots, hand gloves, overall coats), and cutlasses.	45,000
Wechiau Numbo Processors	Upgrade on waste pit, covers for machines, electric kneader, works on drainage	31,670
Kanvilli Processors	Water storage tank, and processing equipment	10,580
Gupanarigu No1 Processors	Processing equipment and Washroom	8,000
Kumbungu Kukuo Processors	Milling machine, and House power electric motor	11,300
Total Cost of Projects		388,184