

RUPFA COMMUNITY LIVELIHOOD PROJECT(RCLP)



Shea Butter Processing Facilities for Women Groups – Kukuo in the Northern Region

Date: 12/10/2018

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Background

Rural Urban Partnership for Africa (RUPFA) is a NGO headquartered in Ghana opposite GAG Blessed home school, Kwashieman- Accra. RUPFA operates in Ghana and other African countries. Its mission is to alleviate poverty, reduce rural urban migration and making the people more self-reliance. RUPFA is registered with the registry general since 2009 and again with the social welfare department. We work inclusively with the local authorities, government institutions and all stake holders. RUPFA achieves its mission through four divisions;

- Community Development
- Environmental Protection
- Mission /Outreach
- Center for policy integration and resources management(CPIRM)

RUPFA under its Community development division attended to the call of the women group in Tampa Kukuio Community in the Northern Region of Ghana. These women are into the production of Shea butter. The organization looking at the working conditions and hardship of these women felt the need to help and improve their livelihood. Northern Region is noted to be one of the poorest region in Ghana.

Tampa Kukuio is a suburb Community of Tamale the capital town of the Northern Region. This is a rural Community, life is hard and survival is difficult. The culture of this area and other Communities within this Region is that women plays the major role of taking care and providing the needs of the family such as providing food on the table, children education, health and many more. Shea butter production is the major occupation and source of income for the women of Tampa Kukuio aside other businesses like petty trading, farming, ground nut and rice processing. Interactions with these women in shea butter production in this Community revealed an average monthly income of GHC 125.00. The women therefore falls below the Ghana average minimum daily wage of GHC 9.68 and as well below the poverty line of US\$1.90 a day according to the United Nations poverty criteria. Interventions must however be geared towards poverty reduction in this area through the promotion of the shea butter industry.

Problem Statement / Challenges

1. The women do not work under a shed. The production is done under the scorching sun. They are exposed to bad weather condition and rain fall halts production. The scorching sun affects their skin and eyes.
2. The improvised mechanized equipment's used in the production is stressful, slows down production and giving a low income with fatigue. They are again exposed to smoke which causes respiratory tract infections, skin and eye problems.

3. Inadequate equipments leading to production difficulties due to the use of largely manual production tools as a major constraints of processing activities
4. They do not have enough capital for their production and so rely on agents who give them the funding for production and buy the Shea butter from them at a price that is not favorable to the women. The women have no control over the pricing. They have become price takers from buyers who pre-finance the production and end up being cheated. This makes it difficult for them to keep the family going in terms of education, health, shelter and providing food on the table. Other micro credit from financial institutions comes with very high interest.
5. Lack of training due to the inability of the women to afford the cost of capacity building organized for shea butter processors and so most of their Shea butter is not of good quality and cannot compete for a better pricing.
6. Inadequate water such as bore hole in the Community causing delayance in production. Woman have to move further from their area in search of water for production.
7. There is no educational center for their children for preschool close to the town

Support

RUPFA is soliciting for funding from philanthropist, Individuals, Donor Organisations and Agencies to:

1. Provide a working shed for these women from this poor region of Ghana- this will prevent and minimize the exposure to the direct scorching sun that affects their skin and eyes.
2. Provide a semi mechanized equipment's for the production process and an improved processing facilities that the women may not be able to afford. This will speed up production, reduce stress and fatigue. They will not only have to depend on the sun for drying their nuts that also delays production. The right semi mechanized equipment's will also prevent or minimize the exposure to excessive heat from the fire, smoke which affects their eyes, skin and respiratory tract.
3. Provision of funding as micro credit will help them increase their production and make more income to sustain their livelihood as well as taking care of their family needs. In the northern Region most women are noted for taking care of the needs of their families.
4. Women will undergo training sessions to improve the quality and quantity of their product. The capacity building training will also help them in record keeping, costing and pricing as well as customer relation.
5. Provision of borehole in the Community will aid production
6. The provision of a preschool educational center for children in this community will also ease the women of carrying them at their back under this hot sun during production. Children will also have the opportunity to develop academically under a good condition.

Some of the Stages



Project Goal

The project is to alleviate poverty in the Community and the surrounding Communities as well as making the people more self-reliance in order to improve their livelihood for their families

Objectives

Development Objectives

The long term objective of the project is to contribute to the achievement of the SDG-1: End poverty in all its forms everywhere.

Immediate Objectives

1. To provide improved working structure for the shea butter processors (women)
2. Provide an improved shea butter facilities /equipment for the production that is safer

3. Improve their livelihoods to cater for their families

Project Objectives

- To improve the potential of shea butter industry in promoting poverty reduction in the Northern Region
- Improve the livelihood of the Community and reduce rural urban migration.

Direct Beneficiaries

- The direct beneficiaries will be the women and girls in the Tampa kukuo community

Indirect Beneficiaries

- Other surrounding communities, Municipal District

Cross cutting issues

The project shall take into account the following

Gender

The project will work to ensure gender. Women would be encouraged to avoid using the girls in the shea butter production but to enroll them in school.

Poverty

The project is expected to alleviate poverty and improve the livelihood of the people

Environment

The project is not to have any adverse effect on the environment

Monitoring / Evaluation

Implementation and Reporting

The project officer will report to the donor as expected and per demand.

The project officer will report to the donor on quarterly basis on project

- CONSTRUCTION

A workshop or shelter will be constructed to cater for 120 women and this will prevent from exposure to the weather.

- EQUIPMENT AND TOOLS

We are going to address the equipment and tools deficits which bring efficiency to undecorated and get best out from the women. The following are some of the equipment and tools to be purchase:

1. Kneeder
2. Dryer
3. Roaster
4. Grinding Mill
5. Crusher



- CAPACITY BUILDING TRAINING

This is one of the important segments that will focus more training. Training in Time Management, Customer Relationship, Report Writing in their local languages. It makes teaching and learning more easier.



BUDGET:

Item	Description	Quantity	Unit	Rate	USD\$
	General Summary				
A	1. Construction of Workshop/ Processing Center with Warehouse and office				30,000.00
B	2. Capacity Building and Hiring of Resources persons				18,000.00
C	3. Purchasing of Equipment or Tools				20,000.00
D	4. Safety Equipments, Health materials and the Working Environment for equipment				12,500.00
E	5. Administration, T & T and Fuel for trips				10,000.00
F	5. Raw Materials eg Shea Nuts, Fuelwood, Water, etc				7,500.00
	TOTAL				98,000.00

