
Annual Performance Report

Project/Programme title: Ghana Shea Landscape Emission Reductions Project (FP137)

Accredited Entity: United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Date of Report submission: 15 April 2026

Version number V1.0



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RATIONALE

This report layout is designed to support the drafting of a structured report that assesses, evaluates, documents, and communicates the progress on Funding Proposal (FP) implementation and on its associated Funded Activity Agreement (FAA). The layout aims to provide a clear and comprehensive understanding of key objectives, progress, and risks, drawing on project implementation related data provided by Accredited Entities (AEs). Considering the Green Climate Fund's (GCF) evolving strategic direction toward a Risk-Based Approach, the report is intended to:

- Track quantitative and qualitative progress of the project implementation.
- Highlight critical findings and emerging trends.
- Identify risks and propose actionable mitigation strategies.
- Support evidence-based decision-making.
- Promote transparency and accountability.
- Align with strategic and regulatory frameworks.
- Serve as a foundation for AE engagement on project performance

METHODOLOGY

The report's layout mirrors, to the extent possible, the structure of the Funding Proposal (FP) to maintain coherence with the presented information. However, the FP and the Report differ in scope and strategic intent; thus, while the FP serves a functional role in informing the Report, it does not dictate a strictly parallel structure.

A. PROJECT DATA (Prefilled where possible)

Should any information/data prefilled from Section A.1 to Section A.12 be incorrect or require updating, please inform GCF's Project Lead of appropriate corrective action.

A.1. Date of report submission		15 April 2026												
A.2. Project or programme	Project	A.3. Sector	Public											
A.4. Total Financing (GCF + Cofinance)	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>GCF Financing</td> <td>Mill. USD 30.1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Grants</td> <td>Mill. USD 30.1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Co-Financing</td> <td>Mill. USD 24.4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>InKind</td> <td>Mill. USD 24.4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total Financing</td> <td>Mill. USD 54.5</td> </tr> </table>				GCF Financing	Mill. USD 30.1	Grants	Mill. USD 30.1	Co-Financing	Mill. USD 24.4	InKind	Mill. USD 24.4	Total Financing	Mill. USD 54.5
	GCF Financing	Mill. USD 30.1												
	Grants	Mill. USD 30.1												
	Co-Financing	Mill. USD 24.4												
	InKind	Mill. USD 24.4												
Total Financing	Mill. USD 54.5													
A.5. Total GCF funding disbursed to this date	NA (draft)													
A.6. Implementation period	From 1 January 2018 to NA													
A.7. ESS Category (Refers to GCF revised <u>Environmental and Social Policy</u> and GCF ESS Standards to assess your FP category.)			Category B											
A.8. Executing Entity Information														
Full legal name	Country of registration (or, for intl orgs, country of HQ)	Entity type	Role in project	Focal Point(s) and email(s)										
Forestry Commission of Ghana	Ghana	Public sector – Government (which may be acting through a ministry or department)	Executing Entity	Dr. Joseph Appiah – Gyapong appiah_gypong@yahoo.com										

A.9. Co-Financier information

Full legal name	Country of registration (or, for intl orgs, country of HQ)	Focal Point(s) and email(s)	Ownership Type	Beneficial Owner(s)
Global Shea Alliance (GSA)	Ghana	Mr. Adu Aaron aadu@globalshea.com	Private Sector Organization	Non-Governmental Organizations, Civil Society Organizations management funds
Forestry Commission (FC)	Ghana	Dr. Joseph Appiah – Gyapong appiah_gypong@yahoo.com	Government Entity	Government
United Nation Development Programme (UNDP)	Ghana	Abdul-razak Saeed-Team Lead, Env't & Climate - Programme Specialist CO/GH - abdul-razak.saeed@undp.org	Accredited Entity	United Nations Agency

A.10. Alignment with country NDCs & NAP <i>(NB Only populate if applicable, e.g., if your project/programme specifically contributes to a country's NDC or NAP target/s)</i>				
Country	Date of NDC/ NAP submission	NDC/ NAP objective	Brief description of project's alignment with NDC/ NAP objectives	Percentage of target met with proposed project.Beneficial owner(s)
Ghana	4 November 2021	Reduce absolute GHG by 64mtCO ₂ e by 2030 (both conditional and unconditional programmes) and build resilience of over 38 million people ((cumulatively)).	The Updated Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) of Ghana includes several targets and actions related to forests, restoration, reforestation, forest conservation, and sustainable forest management that GSERP is strongly aligned to: These are 1. Enhance Landscape Restoration: One of the 19 policy actions 2. Promote Gender-Responsive Sustainable Forest Management: It focuses on food and landscape restoration and aims to create over 712,168 jobs, benefit 640,400 people, and achieve an emission reduction of 23,565 ktCO ₂ e. GSERP aligns here by formalizing the shea value chain for over 100,000 people (mostly women). 3. Nature-Based Solutions: The NDC highlights the use of nature-based solutions for promoting eco-tourism, enhancing biodiversity through forest conservation, and landscape restoration. 4. Green Ghana Initiative: This initiative incorporates tree planting to maintain vegetation and landscapes.	9%

A.11. Estimated duration of impact	
A.12 Report to be shared with NDA	Yes ☐ No ☐

B. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Should any information/data prefilled in Section “B” be incorrect or require updating, please inform GCF’s Project Lead for appropriate corrective action.

B.1. Summary

The Ghana Shea Landscape Emission Reductions Project (GSLERP) aims to restore and sustainably manage degraded ecosystems across the Northern Savannah Zone (NSZ). Its primary objectives are to:

1. Restore 200,000 hectares of off-reserve savannah woodlands and forests through strengthened Community Resource Management Areas (CREMAs);
2. Rehabilitate 100,000 hectares of degraded shea parklands via public–private partnerships that enhance livelihoods, especially for women;
3. Establish Modified Taungya System (MTS) plantations and improve fire management in forest reserves; and
4. Strengthen national REDD+ systems, including monitoring, safeguards, and land-use change reporting.

Key Outcomes

The project will restore or improve management on **471,500 hectares**, including CREMA lands, shea parklands, and degraded forest reserves. It will plant **1.75 million shea trees** and **400,000 additional tree species**, restore **25,500 hectares of MTS plantations**, and introduce improved fire management across **220,000 hectares**. These interventions will benefit **100,200 direct** and **540,200 indirect** beneficiaries, with targeted support for women’s cooperatives to increase shea-related incomes and market access. The project also strengthens Ghana’s National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS) and Safeguards Information System (SIS) by integrating NSZ data for better national reporting.

Climate Impact

GSLERP is expected to deliver significant mitigation and adaptation benefits. Over seven years, it will reduce or remove **6.14 million tCO₂e**, increasing to **25.25 million tCO₂e** over 20 years through reduced deforestation, improved fire management, and increased carbon sequestration from forest and parkland restoration. Ecosystem services—including soil fertility, water retention, and biodiversity—will be enhanced, strengthening the climate resilience of communities facing rising temperatures, drought, and land degradation. Women, who rely heavily on shea resources, will experience improved adaptive capacity through strengthened value chains and diversified, climate-resilient livelihoods.

C. RESULTS AND IMPACTS

C.1. Overall Summary of the Project Progress

(This section provides a narrative report summarizing the overall progress of the implementation status of the funded activity progress during the reporting period. 1,500 words)

Overall Project Outcomes

M9.0 – Improved management of land or forest areas contributing to emissions reductions

GSLERP aims to improve management on 471,500 hectares across the Northern Savannah Zone (NSZ), generating an estimated 6.1 MtCO₂e in reduced emissions. During the reporting period, significant effort went into validating the project's baseline and calculating actual emission reductions for 2022–2024. The recalculated figures show cumulative reductions of 1.560375 MtCO₂e by December 2024. Emission reduction and removal values for 2025 are not yet finalized and will be incorporated in the 2026 APR to present total achieved performance up to December 2025.

A7.0 – Strengthened adaptive capacity and reduced exposure to climate risks

This outcome enhances climate resilience for 100,200 people through livelihood diversification, community governance strengthening, and capacity development within CREMAs. During the reporting year, 380 community members (238 men, 142 women) received direct support aimed at improving adaptive capacity through training, awareness creation, and community-based resource management.

PROJECT OUTPUTS AND ACTIVITIES

Output 1: Restoration of Off-Reserve Savannah Woodlands and Forests under CREMA Management

Support to CREMA communities continued, contributing to 200,000 hectares under conservation, restoration, and sustainable use. Governance structures, fire management training, enterprise identification, and land-use planning advanced. A total of 192 community members (130 men, 62 women) were trained in land-use planning and 177 fire brigade members (123 men, 54 women) in wildfire management. Land Use and Investment Plans (LUIPs) continued to be refined, including zoning for tourism, reforestation, core conservation, and enterprise options. Capacity building supported CREMAs in strengthening governance and identifying income-generating opportunities related to ecotourism and restoration.

Activity 1.1 – Structure and empower communities for savannah forest management

Training was delivered to 192 participants, 33% of whom were women, on participatory land-use planning. Activities included zoning for woodlots and mapping locations suitable for tourism development. This process supports the development of comprehensive LUIPs, with community-driven boundary demarcations central to strengthening local ownership and resource governance.

Activity 1.2 – Develop sustainable forest management systems adapted to local conditions

Fire management capacity building was prioritized, training 177 fire volunteers (30% women) to promote early burning and enhance community fire awareness. Additionally, 210 people were trained on access and benefit sharing for timber and non-timber forest products. Several CREMAs updated their forest management plans and inventories to strengthen planning accuracy, sustainable use, and resource monitoring.

Activity 1.3 – Develop enterprises and value chains

Engagements between the Forestry Commission (FC) and the Ghana Enterprise Agency (GEA) advanced efforts to embed Business Advisory Centres into CREMA enterprise development. 11 key stakeholders (5 FC, 6 GEA) collaborated to outline BAC roles and fee structures. Training for 50 CREMA members covered governance of 30 potential tourism sites, supporting CREMAs to integrate enterprise development into LUIPs.

Activity 1.4 – Restore forests through fire management in the NSZ

Fire management was strengthened through implementation of the 2024 communication strategy. 52 community champions were trained to support sensitization campaigns, radio messaging, and information dissemination. Additionally, 40 non-CREMA communities worked with FC's Resource Management Support Centre to develop fire management plans aligned with local conditions and broader landscape restoration goals.

Activity 1.5 – Enabling and support measures for community forest management

Collaboration with FORIG and the University for Development Studies continued, focusing on woodlot establishment, improved management practices, and research to inform profitable and sustainable forest enterprises. A forthcoming study will identify regulatory reforms needed to incentivize community-led forest stewardship and promote sustainable off-reserve forest management.

Output 2: Restoration of Degraded Shea Parklands through Public–Private Partnerships

Restoration of shea parklands continued at scale, reinforcing linkages with private sector partners to strengthen the long-term supply of quality shea kernels. 17,450 hectares were restored during the reporting year, benefiting 19,817 people (18,272 women, 1,545 men). Restoration activities increased tree density, improved biodiversity, and strengthened climate resilience. Training and capacity building for women-led cooperatives enhanced aggregation, processing efficiency, marketing, and business governance.

Activity 2.1 – Restore and sustainably manage shea parklands

A total of 633,239 shea seedlings were transplanted in 2025, bringing the cumulative number planted to 1,162,066, of which 57,589 were grafted. Additionally, 39,151 non-shea native trees (cumulative 774,189) were planted to enhance species diversity. The cumulative area restored since the project's start now stands at 77,450 hectares.

Activity 2.2 – Strengthen shea processing value chains

Support to women-led cooperatives included:

- 4,269 participants trained on aggregation, warehousing, and collective marketing.
- 3,174 participants trained on improved processing technologies and quality control.
- 3,707 participants trained in business management, contract handling, and market linkages. These efforts reduced post-harvest losses, improved product consistency, and strengthened market access.

Activity 2.3 – Enhance the enabling environment for climate-smart shea and financing

The National Shea Commodity Platform (NSCP) was advanced as a coordination and policy mechanism. Two national multi-stakeholder workshops (35 women, 30 men) validated the NSCP framework and governance structure. Five Technical/Expert Working Groups were established, emphasizing inclusivity, gender responsiveness, and alignment with international best practices.

Output 3: Modified Taungya System (MTS) Plantations and Fire Management in Forest Reserves

Structuring of 51 MTS communities advanced, with 1,243 farmers signing contracts detailing benefit-sharing arrangements. Plantation activities in 2025 established 2,885 hectares, complemented by maintenance of 30.9 hectares of seed orchards and thinning operations. Fire management was reinforced through updated plans and equipment provision, with 437 fire brigades trained to protect plantations from wildfire threats.

Activity 3.1 – Structure MTS communities with benefit-sharing arrangements

Past MTS experiences were reviewed to refine implementation approaches. Participatory selection processes identified 51 communities for MTS support. Governance structures such as Taungya Heads were established, and contracts formalized roles and benefit-sharing, ensuring accountability and sustained engagement.

Activity 3.2 – Establish, maintain, and monitor MTS plantations

A total of 2,885.442 hectares of MTS plantations were established during the year. Seed orchards (30.9 ha) were maintained to ensure a reliable seed supply. Annual participatory adaptive management reviews in the 51 communities helped identify challenges and improve plantation performance.

Activity 3.3 – Fire management for plantation protection and savannah restoration

Fire management plans were prepared for plantations and adjacent zones. 437 fire brigades were trained and equipped. Training emphasized early burning, wildfire prevention, community awareness, and rapid response. These efforts significantly reduced fire incidents and protected carbon stocks generated through restoration.

Output 4: Safeguards, Monitoring, and Reporting

Activity 4.1 – Address and respect safeguards

The Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) was finalized. Stakeholders received sensitization on ESIA findings and mitigation measures. The Gender Action Plan (GAP) was updated to reflect evolving implementation. 300 stakeholders were sensitized on safeguards and gender commitments. National REDD+ Safeguards staff collaborated with project teams to engage 11 districts into the national Safeguards Information System (SIS) reporting.

Activity 4.2 – Monitor, report, and verify emission reductions

Forest Reference Levels and land cover maps were updated. MRV sample plots were established across the NSZ. The recalculation of baselines and emission reductions confirmed 1.560375 MtCO₂e in reductions as of end-2024. Emission removals and 2025 figures will be consolidated into next APR.

Activity 4.3 – Monitor and evaluate project outputs



C.2. Performance against the Funding Proposal Logical Framework Indicators

Please ensure that targets are clearly defined and reported using the following categories:

- Note that the baseline, midterm, final and lifetime targets will be prefilled based on your previous Annual Performance Report and/or Funding Proposal. It is imperative that you carefully review, verify and update where relevant.*

Lastly, avoid using commas or periods as thousand separators. Periods should only be used as decimal separators.

Should any prefilled information/data in the Logical Framework be incorrect or require updating, please inform GCF's Project Lead for appropriate corrective action.

GCF Outcome Level: Standardized Indicators

PMF/IRMF Results Management Framework

(PMF) M1 Tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (tCO₂eq) reduced as a result of GCF-funded projects/programmes
(IRMF) Core 1 Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduced, avoided or removed/sequestered

Unit					Tonnes of CO ₂ -equivalent	
Baseline	Target			Previous Year Cumulative Value	Annual value	Cumulative Value <i>(automatically calculated)</i>
	Mid-term	Final target	Lifetime			
0	1,913,000	6,136,000	2,524,000	1,560,000	0	1,560,000

Provide the total GHG emissions reduced, avoided or removed/sequestered (tCO₂eq) as a result of GCF support, disaggregated by result area.

Unit							Tonnes of CO ₂ -equivalent
Disaggregation by: Result Areas (Mitigation)	Baseline	Mid-term	Final target	Lifetime	Previous Year Cumulative Value	Annual value	Cumulative Value
Forestry and land use	0	1,913,000	6,136,000	25,240,000	1,560,000	0	1,560,000

(PMF) M1 Tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (tCO ₂ eq) reduced as a result of GCF-funded projects/programmes (IRMF) Core 1 Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduced, avoided or removed/sequestered							
Provide the total GHG emissions reduced, avoided or removed/sequestered (tCO ₂ eq), disaggregated by Country.							
Unit							Tonnes of CO ₂ -equivalent
Disaggregation by: Project Countries	Baseline	Mid-term	Final target	Lifetime	Previous Year Cumulative Value	Annual value	Cumulative Value
Ghana	0	1,913,000	6,136,000	25,240,000	1,560,000	0	1,560,000

(PMF) A1 and A2 Total number of direct and indirect beneficiaries (IRMF) Core 2 Direct and indirect beneficiaries reached							
Provide the total number of direct beneficiaries (female/male) cumulatively receiving adaptation benefits from GCF-supported interventions, disaggregated by result area.							
Unit							No. of Beneficiaries
Disaggregation by: Result Areas (Adaptation)	Baseline	Mid-term	Final target	Previous Year Cumulative Value	Annual value		Cumulative Value
Ecosystem and ecosystem services	0	50,100	100,200	93,431	21,646		115,077

(PMF) A1 and A2 Total number of direct and indirect beneficiaries (IRMF) Core 2 Direct and indirect beneficiaries reached							
Provide the total number of direct beneficiaries (female/male) cumulatively receiving adaptation benefits from GCF-supported interventions, disaggregated by Gender.							
Unit							No. of Beneficiaries
Disaggregation by: Gender	Baseline	Mid-term	Final target	Previous Year Cumulative Value	Annual value		Cumulative Value
Female	0	30,060	60,120	56,059	12,988		69,047
Male	0	20,040	40,080	37,372	8,658		46,030

(PMF) A1 and A2 Total number of direct and indirect beneficiaries (IRMF) Core 2 Direct and indirect beneficiaries reached							
Provide the total number of direct beneficiaries (female/male) cumulatively receiving adaptation benefits from GCF-supported interventions, disaggregated by Country.							
Unit							No. of Beneficiaries
Disaggregation by: Project Countries	Baseline	Mid-term	Final target	Previous Year Cumulative Value	Annual value		Cumulative Value
Ghana	0	50,100	100,200	93,431	21,646		115,077



(PMF) A1 and A2 Total number of direct and indirect beneficiaries (IRMF) Core 2 Direct and indirect beneficiaries reached						
Provide the total number of indirect beneficiaries (female/male) cumulatively receiving adaptation benefits from GCF-supported interventions, disaggregated by Country.						
Unit						No. of Beneficiaries
Disaggregation by: Project Countries	Baseline	Mid-term	Final target	Previous Year Cumulative Value	Annual value	Cumulative Value
Ghana	0	270,100	540,200	596,865	0	596,865

Livelihoods of people and communities

No indicators/questions defined.

(PMF) A1.2 Number of males and females benefiting from the adoption of diversified, climate resilient livelihood options (including fisheries, agriculture, tourism, etc.) (IRMF) Supplementary 2.1 Beneficiaries (female/male) adopting improved and/or new climate-resilient livelihood options Provide the total number of direct beneficiaries (female/male) adopting diversified or strengthened climate-resilient livelihood strategies (including agriculture, fisheries, natural resource-based, and informal livelihoods), disaggregated by country.
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Unit						Enter unit
Disaggregation by: Project Countries	Baseline	Mid-term	Final target	Previous Year Cumulative Value	Annual value	Cumulative Value
Ghana	0	6,000	13,000	3,646	0	3,646

Ecosystems and ecosystem services

No indicators/questions defined.

(PMF) A4.2 Value (US\$) of ecosystem services generated or protected in response to climate change						
Provide the total estimated value (USD) of ecosystem services protected, restored, or enhanced in response to climate change.						
Unit						United States dollars
Baseline	Target		Previous Year Cumulative Value	Annual value		Cumulative Value (automatically calculated)
	Mid-term	Final target				
220,000	100,000	220,000	0	0		0

(PMF) A4.1 Coverage/scale of ecosystems protected and strengthened in response to climate variability and change						
Provide the total hectares of natural ecosystems protected, restored, conserved, or managed to reduce climate risks to ecosystem services and dependent people and communities.						
Unit						Hectares
Baseline	Target		Previous Year Cumulative Value	Annual value		Cumulative Value (automatically calculated)
	Mid-term	Final target				
440,000	200,000	471,500	0	499,831		499,831

(PMF) A4.1 Coverage/scale of ecosystems protected and strengthened in response to climate variability and change						
Provide the total hectares of natural ecosystems protected, restored, conserved, or managed to reduce climate risks to ecosystem services and dependent people and communities, disaggregated by country.						
Unit						Hectares
Disaggregation by: Project Countries	Baseline	Mid-term	Final target	Previous Year Cumulative Value	Annual value	Cumulative Value
Ghana	440,000	200,000	471,500	0	499,831	499,831

(PMF) A4.1 Coverage/scale of ecosystems protected and strengthened in response to climate variability and change						
Provide the total hectares of natural ecosystems protected, restored, conserved, or managed to reduce climate risks to ecosystem services and dependent people and communities, disaggregated by ecosystem type.						
Unit						Hectares
Disaggregation by: Ecosystem types	Baseline	Mid-term	Final target	Previous Year Cumulative Value	Annual value	Cumulative Value
Grassland	0	0	0	0	499,831	499,831

Optional Co-Benefit Indicators

No indicators/questions defined.

Total number of direct and indirect jobs (measured in full-time equivalents, female/male) created or maintained						
Provide the total number of direct jobs (measured in full-time equivalents, female/male) created or maintained.						
Unit						No. of Full-time equivalent jobs
Baseline	Target		Previous Year Cumulative Value	Annual value		Cumulative Value (automatically calculated)
	Mid-term	Final target				
0	0	0	650	40		690

Total number of direct and indirect jobs (measured in full-time equivalents, female/male) created or maintained					
Provide the total number of indirect jobs (measured in full-time equivalents, female/male) created or maintained.					
Unit					No. of Full-time equivalent jobs
Baseline	Target		Previous Year Cumulative Value	Annual value	Cumulative Value (automatically calculated)
	Mid-term	Final target			
0	0	0	3,646	1,243	4,889

Total number of decision-making positions actively held by women in climate-related governance					
Provide the total number of decision-making positions actively held by women in climate-related governance.					
Unit					No. of Positions
Baseline	Target		Previous Year Cumulative Value	Annual value	Cumulative Value (automatically calculated)
	Mid-term	Final target			
0	0	0	370	0	370

Total ecosystems placed under conservation activities (ha)					
Provide the total ecosystems placed under conservation activities (ha).					
Unit					Hectares
Baseline	Target		Previous Year Cumulative Value	Annual value	Cumulative Value (automatically calculated)
	Mid-term	Final target			
0	0	0	499,831	0	499,831

Project Specific Indicators							
Indicator	Unit	Baseline	Target		Previous Year Cumulative Value	Annual value	Cumulative Value (automatically calculated)
			Mid-term	Final target			
Indicator 3.1 Hectares of MTS plantations set up	Hectares	0	12,000	25,500	6,757	2,885	9,642
Indicator 3.2 Number of nurseries set up	No. of Items	0	22	60	28	8	36
Indicator 4.1 Land cover and land cover change data provided to NFMS	No. of Items	0	0	0	0	7,085	7,085
Indicator 4.3 Annual collection of data according to indicators, verification and documentation	No. of Items	0	6	12	6	12	18
Indicator 4.4 Targeted reports available for Outputs 1, 2 and 3	No. of Items	0	4	8	55	31	86
Number of Taungya farmers	No. of Farmers	0	6,000	13,000	3,646	1,243	4,889
Indicator 1.1 Number of CREMAs with legal right and regulations established	No. of Entities	0	6	10	4	0	4
Indicator 1.2 Number of people trained in efficient wood fuels, NTFPs and timber production	No. of Persons	0	594	1,188	185	0	185

Indicator 1.3: Number of facilities set up to allow communities to invest further into activities (fund)	No. of Items	0	6	10	0	0	0
indicator 1.4 Number of land use and investment plans	Plans	0	6	10	10	0	10
Indicator 2.0: Number of shea and other high value trees planted	No. of Items	0	1,000,000	2,150,000	1,264,740	671,515	1,936,255
Indicator 2.1: Number of women trained	No. of Persons	0	35	70	6,245	20,363	26,608
Indicator 2.3: Number of cooperatives created	No. of Entities	0	20	26	35	0	35
Use by vulnerable households, communities, businesses and public-sector services of Fund supported tools, instruments, strategies and activities to respond to climate change and variability	No. of Households	0	13	26	22	0	22
Number of technologies and innovative solutions transferred or licensed to support low-emission development as a result of Fund support.	No. of Communities	0	6	10	10	0	10
Hectares of land or forests under improved and effective management that contributes to CO2 emission reductions	Hectares	2,700	85,000	200,000	79,658	0	79,658

Activities				
Activity Name	Implementation Progress (%)	Utilised GCF Budget	Allocated GCF Budget	% (Automatically calculated)
Activity1.1: Structure and empower communities for savannah forest management	90	398,707.79	693,038	57
Activity1.2: Develop sustainable forest management systems and adapt them to local conditions	70	326,353.67	785,992	41
Activity1.3: Develop enterprise and value	50	391,380.16	2,090,929	18

Activities				
Activity Name	Implementation Progress (%)	Utilised GCF Budget	Allocated GCF Budget	% (Automatically calculated)
Activity 1.4 Restore forests through fire management in the Northern Savannah Zone	85	221,389.61	532,402	41
Activity1.5: Undertake enabling and support measures for community management of forests	68	120,634.82	705,292	17
Activity 2.1: Restore and sustainably manage the shea parklands	70	5,761,644.03	6,884,200	83
Activity 2.2: Strengthen value chains for shea processing	75	177,258.75	404,023	43
Activity 2.3: Enhance the enabling environment for climate-smart shea and upscaling of finance and investments	60	199,559.19	1,030,918	19
Activity3.1: Structure MTS communities with clearly defined contractual and benefit sharing arrangements	85	308,377.33	492,473	62
Activity3.2: Establish, maintain and monitor MTS plantations	82	6,052,992.32	6,082,009	99
Activity 3.3: Promote fire management and control for plantation protection and for the restoration of savannah forests in the reserves	95	587,493.47	983,090	59
Activity 4.1 Address and respect safeguards	85	490,598.31	537,219	91
Activity 4.2 Monitor, report and verify greenhouse gas emission reduction targets	40	100,409.32	257,597	38
Activity 4.3: Monitor and evaluate project outputs	55	542,614.11	639,629	84

C.2.1. Subprojects

Where applicable, include information on sub-projects. For projects and programmes approved until B.31, the logical framework should focus on the mitigation and adaptation Performance Measurement Frameworks (PMF). For projects and programmes approved from B.32 onwards, the logical framework should reflect the Integrated Results Management Framework (IRMF).

Title	Currency	GCF Funds	Co-Financing	Country	GHG Emissions Reduced	Direct Beneficiaries	Indirect Beneficiaries
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
C.3. Compliance with FAA covenants				Yes ☒ No ☐			
The Gender Action Plan has been updated and is attached with this APR for review and approval by GCF. It is attached with the APR. The Environmental and Social Environmental Plan has also been reviewed and improved. This is also attached.							
C.4. Funded Activity Implementation Arrangements in the Following Year				Yes ☒ No ☐			
The Gender Action Plan has been updated and is attached with this APR for review and approval by GCF. It is attached with the APR. The Environmental and Social Environmental Plan has also been reviewed and improved. This is also attached.							

D. RISKS ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT

D.1. Risk and mitigation measures

As stated in the Board-approved "Risk Appetite Statement," a cornerstone of the GCF's Risk Framework is proactive risk management. This includes risk identification, assessment, monitoring, reporting and appropriate mitigation to minimize and respond to risks, both directly and through partners implementing GCF's projects and programmes.

Risk Management Matrix

A risk is the probability of an event to adversely affect the achievement of the project Impact (its objectives, outcomes, and results). "Inherent risk" refers to the level of risk present before any of the mitigating measures are applied. "Residual risk" represents the level of risk after mitigating measures have been implemented.

Please update the project risk matrix by reviewing and revising information for all previously identified risks, and adding any new risks identified during implementation by selecting the adequate Risk Area in the drop-down menu. For each risk, ensure you provide a clear risk description, outline the potential negative consequences, specify the mitigating measures in place, and complete the severity scoring as required.

For the Integrity Risk Area, an annual reporting (and more frequent and prompt reporting if stated in the legal agreements with the GCF) is required for each of its 3 Risk Sub-areas, as GCF has zero tolerance for Prohibited Practices, for SEAH in Fund-related Activities, and for working with parties and engaging in activities subject to sanctions imposed by the United Nations Security Council. The AE reporting obligations under GCF's policies and in the legal agreement(s) with the GCF include but are not limited to requiring AEs to take action to identify, mitigate and promptly disclose to the GCF any real or perceived Conflict of Interest, any alleged or suspected Prohibited Practice, promptly notify the Fund of any material risks or other indications of money laundering and/or financing of terrorism in relation to the Project and promptly take remedial steps in consultation with the GCF.

The AE shall also provide updates on the risks and mitigating measures under the other Risk Areas when changes to already identified risks or new risks have been identified.

Risk scoring:

For likelihood, please rate on a scale from 1 to 5: 1. Unlikely, 2. Possible, 3. Likely, 4. Almost certain, 5. Certain

For impact, please rate on a scale from 1 to 5: 1. Close to none, 2. Low, 3. Medium, 4. High, 5. Catastrophic

The severity of each risk is automatically computed based on the likelihood and impact of the risk.

Risk 1	Risk 1: Restrictions of rights.		
Risk Origin	Project Related		
Risk Area	Environmental and Social		
Risk Sub-area	Environmental and Social Safeguards		
Description	Restrictions of rights refers to the possibility that project implementation decisions may unintentionally limit or override community rights to land and natural resources. Although national laws formally recognize customary tenure and user rights, these protections can be weakened in practice if project rules, land-use plans, or conservation measures are imposed without meaningful consultation and consent. For example, restrictions on access to forest areas, limits on farming expansion, or changes in resource-use permits could reduce communities' ability to farm, harvest forest products, or maintain cultural practices.		
Consequences	Project policies and regulations if not carefully managed, such decisions may lead to loss of livelihoods, social tension, and reduced trust in project institutions. Vulnerable groups, including women, youth, and marginalized households, may be disproportionately affected where land ownership and decision-making power are unequal.		
Inherent Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Severity
	3 - Likely	3 - Medium	9 - Medium High
Mitigation Measure(s)	Awareness-raising and capacity-building activities will be conducted for key stakeholders to strengthen understanding of roles, rights, and safeguards. Transparent decision-making, participation, and effective grievance redress mechanisms are essential to prevent the erosion of legally recognized community rights.		
Residual Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Severity
	1 - Unlikely	2 - Low	2 - Low
Current Residual Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Severity
	1 - Unlikely	2 - Low	2 - Low

Comments	N/A		
Risk 2	Risk 2: Exclusion, increase in social tensions in migrant-host community relations.		
Risk Origin	Project Related		
Risk Area	Environmental and Social		
Risk Sub-area	Environmental and Social Safeguards		
Description	Exclusion and increased social tensions in migrant–host community relations arises when project interventions unintentionally favor indigenous or landowning groups while overlooking migrants and settlers who depend on the same land and natural resources. In many rural areas, migrants access land through informal or customary arrangements that may not be formally recognized. If project benefits—such as input support, land restoration programs, or alternative livelihood schemes—are tied strictly to land ownership or traditional authority structures, migrants may be excluded. Restrictions on land use, forest access, or farming expansion can further limit their livelihood opportunities, creating perceptions of discrimination and unfair treatment.		
Consequences	There is also a risk that migrants and settlers could be excluded from accessing land and natural resources. Such exclusion can deepen mistrust between host communities and migrant groups, potentially leading to disputes over land, benefit sharing, and participation in decision-making processes. Vulnerable migrants, including women and youth, may be disproportionately affected. Without inclusive planning, transparent criteria, and equitable benefit-sharing mechanisms, project activities may risk exacerbating existing social tensions rather than promoting social cohesion and sustainable development.		
Inherent Risk	Likelihood 2 - Possible	Impact 2 - Low	Severity 4 - Medium
Mitigation Measure(s)	To mitigate the risk of exclusion and rising tensions between migrant and host communities, structured dispute resolution mechanisms will be established at the CREMA, CRMC, and CEC levels. These community-based platforms will provide accessible, transparent, and culturally appropriate avenues for addressing grievances related to land access, benefit sharing, participation, and resource use. By embedding the mechanisms within existing local governance structures, disputes can be resolved early, fairly, and in a manner that reflects customary practices while upholding project safeguards. Clear procedures for filing complaints, defined timelines for response, and documented decisions will enhance accountability and trust among stakeholders. Importantly, migrants, settlers, women, and youth will be encouraged to participate and present concerns without fear of retaliation. Capacity building will be provided to committee members to ensure impartial mediation and conflict management skills. Overall, these localized grievance redress systems will promote inclusion, reduce misunderstandings, and strengthen social cohesion throughout project implementation.		
Residual Risk	Likelihood 1 - Unlikely	Impact 1 - None	Severity 1 - Low
Current Residual Risk	Likelihood 1 - Unlikely	Impact 1 - None	Severity 1 - Low
Comments	N/A		
Risk 3	Risk 3: Land related disputes.		
Risk Origin	Project Related		
Risk Area	Environmental and Social		
Risk Sub-area	Environmental and Social Safeguards		
Description	Risk 3 concerns the potential for disputes arising from the establishment of CREMAs and shea parklands without adequate community consultation, fair compensation, and clearly defined benefit-sharing arrangements. When new conservation or resource management structures are introduced, they may alter existing land use patterns, restrict access to farmland, or redefine rights over valuable resources such as shea trees. If affected landowners, tenant farmers, migrants, and women collectors are not meaningfully consulted, they may perceive the process as imposed or unjust.		
Consequences	Failure to provide appropriate compensation for lost land, reduced access, or livelihood disruptions can fuel dissatisfaction. Inequitable benefit-sharing mechanisms, particularly where revenues or incentives are involved, may intensify mistrust among stakeholders and create internal community conflicts. Vulnerable groups may be disproportionately		

	affected if traditional leadership structures dominate decision-making. Without transparency, participation, and documented agreements, these initiatives risk undermining community support, weakening local governance, conservation and livelihood objectives.		
Inherent Risk	Likelihood 2 - Possible	Impact 2 - Low	Severity 4 - Medium
Mitigation Measure(s)	To mitigate the risk of disputes linked to the establishment of CREMAs and shea parklands, women in leadership positions within CRMCs and CECs will receive targeted leadership training. This intervention aims to strengthen inclusive governance and ensure that decision-making processes reflect the interests of all community members, particularly women who are key users of shea resources and forest products. The training builds skills in leadership, negotiation, conflict resolution, financial oversight, and participatory planning. By enhancing women's confidence and technical capacity, the project promotes more balanced discussions around land use, compensation, and benefit-sharing arrangements. Strong female leadership can also improve transparency and accountability, reducing the likelihood of elite capture or exclusion of marginalized groups. Furthermore, empowered women leaders are more likely to advocate for equitable consultation processes and fair distribution of benefits.		
Residual Risk	Likelihood 1 - Unlikely	Impact 1 - None	Severity 1 - Low
Current Residual Risk	Likelihood 1 - Unlikely	Impact 1 - None	Severity 1 - Low
Comments	N/A		
Risk 4	Risk 4: Restriction of access to land or use of other resources and income		
Risk Origin	Project Related		
Risk Area	Environmental and Social		
Risk Sub-area	Environmental and Social Safeguards		
Description	Risk 4 relates to the potential restriction of access to land, natural resources, and income-generating activities as a result of CREMA implementation. While CREMAs are designed to promote sustainable resource management, their rules may limit farming expansion, grazing, timber harvesting, charcoal production, hunting, or collection of non-timber forest products.		
Consequences	Activities under CREMAs may restrict access to communal lands and resources such as timber and non-timber forest products. Restrictions can significantly affect households that depend on communal lands for subsistence and income. Vulnerable groups including women, migrants, youth, and land-poor households may be disproportionately impacted if they rely heavily on shared resources. Reduced access could lead to declining household incomes, food insecurity, and increased pressure on alternative lands. If these measures are introduced without adequate consultation, livelihood support, or clear communication, communities may perceive them as unfair or imposed. This can generate resistance, non-compliance, or social tension within and between communities.		
Inherent Risk	Likelihood 3 - Likely	Impact 3 - Medium	Severity 9 - Medium High
Mitigation Measure(s)	Alongside broader awareness campaigns engaging men and community leaders to promote women's access to resources. Careful planning, inclusive engagement, and livelihood diversification strategies are essential to balance conservation objectives with community welfare and economic sustainability.		
Residual Risk	Likelihood 1 - Unlikely	Impact 2 - Low	Severity 2 - Low
Current Residual Risk	Likelihood 1 - Unlikely	Impact 2 - Low	Severity 2 - Low
Comments	N/A		
Risk 5	Risk 5: Child labour Given the existing context in the agricultural sector in Ghana and the project landscape, the risk of child labour was raised in the ESIA.		
Risk Origin	Project Related		
Risk Area	Environmental and Social		
Risk Sub-area	Environmental and Social Safeguards		

Description	Risk 5 relates to the potential occurrence or increase of child labour within the project landscape, particularly in Shea value chains. In the NSZ, children often assist their families with farming and processing activities. While light household support may be culturally accepted, there is a risk that increased commercial production, especially expanded shea cultivation and processing, could intensify children's involvement beyond safe and acceptable limits.		
Consequences	Although assessed as low risk, increased demand for shea products could potentially contribute to child labour. Higher market demand and income opportunities may encourage households to rely on child labour to reduce costs or meet production targets. This raises concerns about children's exposure to hazardous tasks, long working hours, or withdrawal from school. Girls may be particularly affected in shea nut collection and processing activities. If not properly addressed, the project could inadvertently contribute to practices that undermine child protection laws and international labour standards.		
Inherent Risk	Likelihood 2 - Possible	Impact 2 - Low	Severity 4 - Medium
Mitigation Measure(s)	Due diligence procedures will assess vendors' and contractors' compliance with child labour standards. Strong monitoring, awareness creation, and enforcement of child protection measures are essential to safeguard children's rights and well-being.		
Residual Risk	Likelihood 1 - Unlikely	Impact 1 - None	Severity 1 - Low
Current Residual Risk	Likelihood 1 - Unlikely	Impact 1 - None	Severity 1 - Low
Comments	N/A		
Risk 6	Risk 6: Exposure to construction and operational hazards		
Risk Origin	Project Related		
Risk Area	Environmental and Social		
Risk Sub-area	Environmental and Social Safeguards		
Description	Risk 6 highlights the human reality behind construction and operational hazards. When new facilities, processing centers, or infrastructure are built, workers, often local men and women seeking income opportunities face daily risks. These may include injuries from heavy machinery, falling objects, sharp tools, dust inhalation, noise exposure, or accidental slips and falls.		
Consequences	Without proper training and protective equipment, even routine tasks can become dangerous. For many workers, this employment supports their families, meaning that a single accident can have serious consequences for household income and well-being. In addition to physical injuries, long working hours and inadequate safety supervision can increase fatigue and stress, raising the likelihood of mistakes. Communities may also be affected if construction sites are not properly secured.		
Inherent Risk	Likelihood 2 - Possible	Impact 2 - Low	Severity 4 - Medium
Mitigation Measure(s)	Addressing these risks requires practical safety measures, clear procedures, protective gear, and continuous awareness training. Protecting workers' health and dignity is not just a compliance issue, it is essential for responsible and sustainable project implementation.		
Residual Risk	Likelihood 1 - Unlikely	Impact 2 - Low	Severity 2 - Low
Current Residual Risk	Likelihood 1 - Unlikely	Impact 2 - Low	Severity 2 - Low
Comments	N/A		
Risk 7	Risk 7: Inefficient use and overexploitation of resources.		
Risk Origin	Project Related		
Risk Area	Environmental and Social		
Risk Sub-area	Environmental and Social Safeguards		
Description	Risk 7 reflects the real impact that resource use can have on people and their daily lives. Shea processing, while a valuable source of income, relies heavily on water and energy. Addressing this risk requires introducing efficient processing technologies, promoting sustainable resource management, and ensuring fair access. By doing so,		

	the project can support economic opportunities without undermining the well-being of the very communities it aims to benefit.		
Consequences	In communities where access to clean water or reliable energy is already limited, increased demand for these resources can create tension and competition among households, farmers, and other local businesses. Women, who are often the primary collectors and processors of shea nuts, may spend longer hours fetching water or waiting for electricity, adding to their workload and stress. Overexploitation of local water sources or fuelwood can also degrade the environment, affecting crops, livestock, and livelihoods. If resources are depleted or mismanaged, the community as a whole bears the consequences.		
Inherent Risk	Likelihood 2 - Possible	Impact 3 - Medium	Severity 6 - Medium
Mitigation Measure(s)	To reduce environmental impacts, woodlots of fast-growing tree species will be established for shea processing, while agrochemical use will be limited through promotion of organic and integrated pest management approaches.		
Residual Risk	Likelihood 2 - Possible	Impact 1 - None	Severity 2 - Low
Current Residual Risk	Likelihood 2 - Possible	Impact 1 - None	Severity 2 - Low
Comments	N/A		
Risk 8	Risk 8: Published articles in the local press on GSLERP		
Risk Origin	Project Related		
Risk Area	Integrity		
Risk Sub-area	Fraud / Bribery & Corruption / Collusion and any other prohibited practice		
Description	News item circulating online from local media networks, relating to activities of the FAA, including, but not limited to, procurement breaches, PSEAH, bribery, etc, some of which incur 0 tolerance will have negative implications on the project and affect intended outcomes of the project.		
Consequences	UNDP and GCF reputation's at stake. Implementation of project activities would be at risk interrupting benefits to communities and for the environment. UNDP and GCF have zero tolerance for Prohibited Practices, for SEAH in Fund-related Activities, and for working with parties and engaging in activities subject to sanctions imposed by the United Nations Security Council. The AE reporting obligations under GCF' policies and in the legal agreement require UNDP to take action to identify, mitigate and promptly disclose to the GCF any real or perceived Conflict of Interest, any alleged or suspected Prohibited Practice, promptly notify the Fund of any material risks or other indications of money laundering and/or financing of terrorism in relation to the Project and promptly take remedial steps in consultation with the GCF.		
Inherent Risk	Likelihood 4 - Almost certain	Impact 4 - High	Severity 16 - High
Mitigation Measure(s)	UNDP will proactively engage the Executing Entity on following procurement requirements as required by the Ghanaian procurement authorities and engage them on awareness with respect to PSEAH. Additionally, UNDP's Communication Unit will proactively monitor local media to identify potential negative news items and engage the EE on addressing and taking needed remedial actions to prevent potential reputational harm		
Residual Risk	Likelihood 3 - Likely	Impact 3 - Medium	Severity 9 - Medium High
Current Residual Risk	Likelihood 3 - Likely	Impact 3 - Medium	Severity 9 - Medium High
Comments	N/A		
Risk 9	Risk 9: Duty bearers and Partners do not deliver on project outcomes		
Risk Origin	Partner Related		
Risk Area	Partner capacity and suitability		
Risk Sub-area	N/A		

Description	One or more of the partner companies do not fulfil the agreed upon project activities or project activities result in adverse social and/or environmental impacts. Implementing agencies and Responsible parties do not for various reasons, including competing demands, have the ability to meet their obligations to manage and guide the Project. Cross cutting elements, and the project's coordination and governance aspects are not well managed resulting in delays, grievances, unmet expectations and unsatisfactory delivery.		
Consequences	Poor publicity for UNDP, potentially impacting the long-term viability of the project and partnerships with the private sector. Withdrawal from the project and partnership, potentially impacting future partnerships with other members of the shea industry. Delayed delivery of targets leading to poor results with knock-on implications on the disbursement schedules, annual reporting to the GCF and overall project implementation efficacy.		
Inherent Risk	Likelihood 2 - Possible	Impact 4 - High	Severity 8 - Medium High
Mitigation Measure(s)	Competent and relevant Project staff and consultants must be hired and hired on-time. The procurement plan and timelines closely adhered-to and monitored. This also includes capacity sourced in operations, procurement and management. Ongoing capacity building continues for duty bearers and communications lines are in place to ensure problems are anticipated or addressed before they become more difficult to address.		
Residual Risk	Likelihood 1 - Unlikely	Impact 2 - Low	Severity 2 - Low
Current Residual Risk	Likelihood 1 - Unlikely	Impact 2 - Low	Severity 2 - Low
Comments	N/A		
Risk 10	Risk 10. N/A		
Risk Origin	Project Related		
Risk Area	Integrity		
Risk Sub-area	Money Laundering (ML) & Terrorist Financing (TF)		
Description	n/a		
Consequences	n/a		
Inherent Risk	Likelihood 1 - Unlikely	Impact 1 - None	Severity 1 - Low
Mitigation Measure(s)	n/a		
Residual Risk	Likelihood 1 - Unlikely	Impact 1 - None	Severity 1 - Low
Current Residual Risk	Likelihood 1 - Unlikely	Impact 1 - None	Severity 1 - Low
Comments	N/A		
Risk 11	Risk 11. N/A		
Risk Origin	Project Related		
Risk Area	Integrity		
Risk Sub-area	Sanctions		
Description	N/A		
Consequences	N/A		
Inherent Risk	Likelihood 1 - Unlikely	Impact 1 - None	Severity 1 - Low
Mitigation Measure(s)	N/A		
Residual Risk	Likelihood 1 - Unlikely	Impact 1 - None	Severity 1 - Low
Current Residual Risk	Likelihood 1 - Unlikely	Impact 1 - None	Severity 1 - Low
Comments	N/A		
Risk 12	Risk 12. N/A		
Risk Origin	Project Related		
Risk Area	Integrity		

Risk Sub-area	Conflict of interest		
Description	N/A		
Consequences	N/A		
Inherent Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Severity
	1 - Unlikely	1 - None	1 - Low
Mitigation Measure(s)	N/A		
Residual Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Severity
	1 - Unlikely	1 - None	1 - Low
Current Residual Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Severity
	1 - Unlikely	1 - None	1 - Low
Comments	N/A		

D.2. Report risk incidents

If any risk (previously identified or not) has materialized, please capture it here as a risk incident.

(this section is confidential)

E. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

E.1. GCF financing

In addition to the financial report in the annex, update the table with relevant GCF financial data for each country and instrument, including amounts and allocation percentages.

Country	Instrument	Currency (as per FAA)	Committed Amount	Disbursed Amount	Expenditure (reporting year)	Cumulative Expenditure	Mitigation	Adaptation
Ghana	Grants	USD	30,100,000	22,721,095	4,360,667.14	16,011,122.64	0%	100%
Total		USD	30,100,000	22,721,095	4,360,667.14	16,011,122.64	N/A	N/A

E.2. Co-financing

Please populate the table with relevant Co-financing data for each Co-financier and instrument, including amounts and allocation percentages.

Co-financier	Instrument	Currency (as per FAA)	Committed Amount	Disbursed Amount	Expenditure (reporting year)	Cumulative Expenditure	Mitigation	Adaptation
Forestry Commission, Ghana	In-kind	USD	15,039,622	8,767,642.67	2,574,985.06	8,767,642.67	0%	100%
Global Shea Alliance	Grants	USD	9,057,153	4,944,958.54	833,362.73	4,944,958.54	0%	0%
UNDP, Ghana	Grants	USD	350,000	321,177	13,000	321,177	0%	0%
Total		USD	24,446,775	14,033,778.21	3,421,347.79	14,033,778.21	N/A	N/A

E.3. Additional Finance Mobilised Beyond Approved Co-financing

Report the realised (cumulative value) and/or expected volume (Final Target) of private/public finance leveraged as a result of GCF involvement in the investment, in addition to and beyond any co-financing originally committed at approval. This datapoint shall be reported separately from official co-financing figures and is intended to capture the catalytic effect of GCF investments and support institutional learning.

GCF Policy: <https://www.greenclimate.fund/sites/default/files/document/policy-cofinancing.pdf>

Institution Type (public/private)	Instrument	Currency	Cumulative Value	Final Target (estimation)
Public	Grants	USD	80,000	80,000
Total		USD	80,000	80,000

File Name: PIMS 6057_APR_2025_Grant-Financial Progress Detail_cleared by QM.xlsx

F. ENVIRONMENTAL & SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS, GENDER, and INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

This section provides an update against the ESS standards agreed as part of the Environmental and Social Action Plan (ESAP) and Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF), as well as Environmental and Social Management System (ESMS), Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA), Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP), Indigenous Peoples Plan (IPP), Indigenous Peoples Plan Framework (IPPF), Resettlement Action Plan (RAP), Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF) when applicable.

F.1. progress on key challenges and updates regarding Environmental and Social Safeguards

Key Environmental and Social Changes

Have there been any changes in the key environmental and social risks and impacts? If you tick 'Yes,' please provide further information.

Yes ☒ No ☐

Environmental and Social Safeguarding Updates

Have there been any change/update on environmental and social safeguarding? you tick 'Yes,' please provide further information.

Yes ☒ No ☐

In 2023, an updated Environmental and Social Management Framework called for an Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) which was conducted and completed in 2023. This ESIA informed the development of a Environmental and Social Management Plan (EMSP) which was completed in November 2025. The ESMP details seven moderate risks and prescribes targeted mitigation measures, indicators, responsible institutions, and timelines. Monitoring of these risks and implementation of mitigation measures began in November 2025. These risks are also detailed in Section D, Risks 1.

F.2. Compliance with laws and regulations applicable to ESS. Gender and Indigenous Peoples.

Have there been any changes or updates regarding compliance with applicable laws and regulations of the country, as well as the relevant conditions or covenants under the FAA?

Yes ☐ No ☒

F.3. ESS standards implementation progress

Does this reporting period include any ESS standards-related activities or updates?

Yes ☒ No ☐

If you tick 'Yes', please provide further information to report on the progress made in complying with the requirements of the relevant ESS standards that were triggered during the approval of the funding proposal and during the reporting period, if any; and the GCF Indigenous Peoples Policy, if relevant, describing achievement and specifying details outlined in the tables below.

Activities implemented during the reporting period, including monitoring

- 2025 was a busy year for activities related to ESS Standards Implementation. After extensive consultations and a larger workshop held in July to present the draft ESMP, with project stakeholders, the ESMP was finalised. Seven risk areas identified in the ESIA and reflected in the ESMP, provides measures to mitigate these challenges. - A Child Labour Monitoring and Remediation System, an Occupational Health and Safety training protocol and a Pest Management Plan were prepared. - Prior to the ESMP, an interim set of management and mitigation measures were developed. A file was sent to GCF in July, regarding all the measures undertaken, with accompanying supporting documents for each measure. After this period and towards the end of the year the following activities were also implemented. - Leadership training for women in CREMA governance took place to enable equal voices in decisions making processes and reduce gender-based exclusion as well as ensure balance stakeholder participation, equitable benefit sharing and reduction of conflict. (ESMP Risk 1, Indicator 1 (restriction of rights) and Risk 4; access to resources). This led to increased agency for women leaders in resource management and executive committees. - Monitoring MTS systems to ensure compliance with mitigation measures for Risks 1, 2 and 4. Training of Forest Range Managers on the revised Gender Action Plan under GSLERP; the overall objective of the training was to strengthen the capacity of FRMs to implement and report on gender-responsive activities. - Training and awareness raising on gender equity as it related to land tenure rights and access to forest resources, and inclusive benefit sharing for women & vulnerable groups in CREMAs. (Risks 1, 2 and 4). - Training Workshop on GAP in the Northern Savannah zone; this activity focused on mainstreaming gender in decision-making and planning within the GSLERP framework.

Outputs during the reporting period

- A final Environmental and Social Management Plan for the Project. - Production of the Child Labour Monitoring and Remediation System, an Occupational Health and Safety training protocol and a Pest Management Plan. Other outputs related to the activities: - Training and awareness raising of 210 (162 men and 48 women) participants on gender equity, land tenure rights and access to forest resources, and benefits sharing for women & vulnerable groups in CREMAs. - Provided leadership training for 72 women holding positions in CRMCs or CECs. - 26 (25 men and 1 woman) Forest Range Managers (FRMs) trained on the Revised GAP. 54 (46 men and 8 women) key stakeholders (39 FC staff and 15 private partners) trained on the GAP - 2 women-led warehouses constructed in 2025 to increase the proportion of women-led activities under Component 2 - 1292 farmers were trained on the selection of appropriate chemicals that are effective and their appropriate times for application when treatment is required. There is a sharp decline in the usage of chemicals on farms and farmers are now embracing organic farming.

Key environmental, social and gender issues, risks and impacts addressed during implementation

- The ESMP identified 7 key risks which are fully explained in the ESMP. In the reporting period some of the key issues pertained to the risks already identified in the interim risk assessment. These include. - Women were not assuming leadership roles in the CREMAs hence their decisions/rights were not considered. Training for women in leadership roles was therefore conducted amongst women in the 10 CREMAs. Women are now motivated to take up leadership roles e.g. Kara Gandawii and Yazori CREMAs secretaries are women. This work will continue in 2026, with CREMA resource management committees and councils. (CRCs and CRMCs) to continue raising awareness and ensuring that members are rotating and that women representation quota's are met. - Gender indicators generally were not considered in the forest district reports to PMU. A total of 26 FRMs were trained to enhance their capacity to identify and report on gender indicators. District reports now include disaggregated gender indicators. - Farmers use inappropriate chemicals on their farms exposing themselves and the environment to dangerous toxins which can affect their health and wellbeing. As noted above, chemical usage is declining. With respect to MTS, new farmers, representing other communities and groups, are being recruited in new locations and in 2026, onboarding activities will be conducted to ensure expectations are met. - Exclusion of migrants and the vulnerable, from acquiring land for farming and access to natural resources was identified among some communities. The training and awareness strengthened governance structures at the CREMA and MTS levels, clarifying roles and responsibilities. Women and vulnerable groups now have better access to farmlands and natural resources.

Any pending key environmental, social and gender issues needing accredited entity's actions and GCF attention

There are no pending issues that require accredited entity's actions and GCF attention.

Remarks/Notes

F.4. Sub-projects information	
Have any subprojects been implemented?	Yes ☐ No ☒
N/A	N/A

F.5. Implementation of the stakeholder engagement plan	
Were any actions undertaken to increase engagement of relevant stakeholders in the project, particularly regarding environmental, social, and gender elements?	Yes ☒ No ☐
Activities implemented during the reporting period	
GSA Partners Learning Workshop: Updated partners on the project performance and gather partner feedback. Stakeholder Validation Forum on National Shea Commodity Platform to harmonize, organize, restructure and synchronize the activities within Ghana's Shea sector. ESMP Workshop to build understanding of the ESMP, monitoring requirements of the seven risks and management and mitigation measures. Stakeholder feedback on the draft ESMP's implementation. GAP training for Forest Managers: Strengthened Forest Range Managers' capacity to implement and report gender-responsive activities. It updated them on the revised GAP, clarified gender indicators and reporting requirements under Output 3 and the MTS and improved the quality of gender and vulnerability disaggregated data collection and reporting. Leadership Training of women in CRMCs and CECs: Discussed women's leadership within CREMA governance by building confidence, decision-making, negotiation, and communication skills. It enhanced capacity to advocate for gender equity, forest conservation, and livelihoods, while promoting peer learning and networking to support inclusive, gender-responsive governance and long-term sustainability. Sensitization and Training of Community Fire Volunteers: Enhanced commitment to early burning for proactive fire management, increased awareness of wildfire causes, prevention. The Training built practical skills in detection, reporting, and suppression. It strengthened community preparedness and rapid response systems, aiming to reduce seedling loss, protect carbon stocks, and safeguard livelihoods. Training Workshop for Stakeholders on GAP: The workshop aimed to mainstream gender in decision-making and planning within the GSLERP framework and also aid participants to measure and assess the numerical impact and benefits on women particularly concerning livelihoods and economic empowerment, using the M&E monitoring tools. Community Champions on Communication Strategy: Sensitized CREMA champions on the Communication Strategy, built their capacity as local change agents, and promoted use of local content for effective messaging. It strengthened community engagement through participatory interpersonal communication and fostered collaboration with local media for sustained behavioural change.	
Dates and venues of engagement activities	
Activity	Date in 2025 Venue
GSA Partners Learning Workshop	29- 30 May Mariam Hotel
Training Workshop for Stakeholders on GAP	2 July Modern City Hotel
Community Champions on Communication Strategy	2-6 July Some Regional Offices & Mole Park
ESMP Workshop	3 July
Modern City Hotel	
Validation of National Shea Commodity Platform structure	2 Oct. Modern City Hotel
Leadership Training of women in CRMCs & CECs	18 – 23 Oct. Across 10 CREMA
Communities	
GAP training for Forest Range Managers	27-28 Nov. Tamale/Damongo/Wa/Bolga
Regional Offices	
Sensitization and Training of Community Fire Volunteers	4-13 Dec. Across 10 CREMA Communities

Sex-disaggregated data on stakeholder engagement participants (male + female = total)				
Activity	Male	Female	Total	
Training Workshop for Stakeholders on GAP	46	8	54	
Community Champions on Communication Strategy	36	16	52	
ESMP Workshop	90	9	99	
Leadership Training of women in CRMCs and CECs	79	72	151	
GAP training for FRMs	25	1	26	
Sensitization and Training of Community Fire Volunteers		462	152	614
	Total	738	258	996
Information shared with stakeholders				
Training information for Stakeholders on GAP: 1. Mainstreaming gender in decision-making and planning 2. Measuring gender Impact on livelihoods 3. Using M&E tools for gender analysis 4. Assessing economic benefits for women 5. Reporting and decision support Information shared with Community Champions on Communication Strategy. 1. Fire management communication strategy 2. Capacity building of local change agents 3. Promoting local leaders and content for messaging 4. Enhancing community engagement through radio and interpersonal communication 5. Fostering collaboration with media for lasting behavioral change. Information on ESMP Workshop: 6. Stakeholder consultations and engagement 7. Participatory governance and grievance redress 8. Gender Action Plan implementation 9. Occupational Health and Safety compliance Information on Leadership Training for women in CRMCs and CEC 1. Negotiation and communication skills 2. Advocacy for gender equity 3. Forest conservation and sustainable livelihoods 4. Gender-responsive governance Information on GAP training for FRMs: 1. Introduction to the revised Gender Action Plan 2. Implementing gender-responsive activities 3. Data collection and management Information on Sensitization and Training of Community Fire Volunteers 1. Early burning, wildfire awareness and prevention 2. Fire detection and reporting skills 3. Fire suppression techniques and safe operations 4. Community preparedness and rapid response systems				
Outputs including issues raised and addressed during the reporting period				
Output 1: Language Barrier limits effective engagement with low-literacy/illiterate groups. Using local facilitators and interpreters improves comprehension and engagement among low-literacy participants. Output 2: Post harvest losses among community members. Warehouses have been constructed to accommodate huge harvest of produce including Shea. Output 3: Persistent cultural and labor-related barriers limiting women's participation in MTS farmer groups. Continuous sensitization of MTS farmers on gender mainstreaming and inclusivity paved the way for women involved in MTS farmer groups. Output 4: Challenges in collecting accurate gender-disaggregated data at the community level. Continuous yearly gender sensitivity training and data collection for project staff and community members. Integrate gender budgeting in all implementation phases and secure funding for targeted gender-responsive interventions. The revised GAP has a budget line for each gender-responsive activity.				

Remarks/Notes
N/A

F.6. ESS forward planning and lessons learned	
Are there any planned ESS activities for the next reporting period or lessons learned to share from this period?	Yes ☒ No ☐
Provide planned activities on environmental and social safeguards for the next reporting period	
In 2026, the project will implement safeguard actions across the seven ESMP risk areas. To address restrictions of rights, it will continue consultations with District Assemblies, communities and migrants by Quarter 2, and by awareness-raising and training for project partners in Quarter 3 on gender equity, land tenure, rights, access to resources and benefit sharing. To reduce exclusion and social tensions between migrant and host communities, the project will establish and facilitate an intercommunal committee in Quarter 3, strengthen the participation of migrants, women and youth in planning and implementation in Quarter 4, and continue monitoring the grievance redress mechanism while implementing recommendations from the 2025 assessment. To address land-related disputes, the revised Gender Action Plan will be shared with communities and used for sensitization during implementation in Quarter 4. To mitigate risks related to restricted access to land, resources and income, the project will deliver a targeted training programme in Quarter 3, in partnership with microfinance institutions and local stakeholders, to support women and marginalized groups, including on financial literacy and access to finance. On child labour, the project will implement the Child Labour Monitoring and Remediation System developed in 2025, undertake due diligence on vendors and contractors in Quarter 3, and display translated posters on national labour laws in project facilities and communities in Quarter 4. To reduce construction and operational hazards, the Occupational Health and Safety Protocol will continue to be implemented in Quarter 2, alongside a case study on smoke-free shea nut processing technology, while first aid kits will be provided at high-risk project sites. Finally, to promote sustainable resource use, the project will establish woodlots, explore repurposing shea by-products into fertilizer or briquettes, and implement pest management measures, with progress reported in Quarter 4.	
Provide any success stories, good practices, or challenges, including those related to the engagement of Indigenous peoples and local communities, promoting Indigenous knowledge and benefits to Indigenous peoples and local communities	
Bushfires remain a major driver of forest degradation and carbon emissions across Ghana's northern savannah. Under GSLERP, interventions focus on restoring degraded reserves, and increasing carbon stocks by reducing fire-related risks through strengthened surveillance and preventive management. In the Upper East Region, particularly in Bolgatanga Forest District, wildfires have repeatedly destroyed young plantations during the dry season. With 2025 plantations covering nearly 350 hectares, the District forest staff working with community fire brigades, adopted proactive measures including constructing fire belts, forming surveillance teams, conducting day and night patrols, and camping in the Red Volta and Tankwiddi East Forest Reserves for continuous monitoring. Navrongo Forest District applies similar rotational patrols, and extended field stays to enable rapid fire response, while also working with MTS farmers on bushfire prevention. These community forest monitoring measures have significantly reduced plantation losses, improved seedling survival rates, and safeguarded emerging carbon stocks from emission reversals. Faster fire detection and suppression have limited the spread of wildfires into restored areas, while strengthened community engagement has reduced intentional burning. Overall, the interventions are protect restoration investments, enhance climate resilience, and secure long-term mitigation gains supported by the Green Climate Fund Please see Annex 2 for more stories	
F.7. Grievance Redress Mechanism - confirmation & grievances	
<i>Please indicate whether the project can confirm the following statement:</i>	
Fully functional and operational Grievance Redress Mechanisms are in place, have been communicated to and are accessible by all stakeholders applicable to this project	
☐ The accredited entity confirms the statement above at project-level, AE-level, and GCF-level grievance mechanisms.	
☒ The accredited entity does not confirm the statement above	
UNDP confirms that an informal working Grievance Redress Mechanism is in place with procedures and responsibilities. However, there are gaps in its dissemination of the information about the GRM at all levels of the project. The following actions have been initiated for completion by end of Q3 of 2026. - Formalise the GRM and align it the existing informal situation on the ground. - Sensitize District staff, CREMA stakeholders, MTS farmers, Shea cooperatives on the GRM & how to report grievances during regular	

engagement on project activities. - Train focal persons in each District to receive and record formal complaints.	
Have there been any grievances received during the reporting period?	Yes ☒ No ☐
<i>Annex 3 is a GSLEP Grievances Report for the Lawra Forest District, in November 2025. It details concerns raised by farmers in various communities like Chum, Jollinyiri, and Kalahi regarding the reforestation project. Key grievances include the high cost of labor and site preparation, issues with seedling quality and survival rates, animal grazing, and inadequate personal protective equipment (PPEs) or incentives. Farmers also reported difficulties with equipment availability, such as tractors for ploughing or tricycles for transport, especially during flooding</i>	
F.8. Implementation of activities and actions agreed in the Gender Action Plan	
In 2025, the GSLEP made progress in advancing gender equality and women's empowerment. To highlight, the GSLEP revised its GAP to tailor its activities to the current project scope. The revised GAP was submitted to the GCF in November 2025 and is still pending approval. This revised GAP and its Note-to-File can be found as an annex to this APR. In addition, key 2025 milestones of the project include: 2 capacity-building sessions for PMU and FC staff (80 participants, 9 women and 71 men) strengthened gender-responsive planning, budgeting, monitoring, and results. - Through measures to increase women's representation in decision-making in community platforms, the project enhanced equitable participation of women and youth in consultations on forest management (120) and fire prevention (152). - In the shea value chain, women's groups received technical training on improved technologies (3,479), shea aggregation and marketing (4,673), and improved business management (3,819), which enhanced collective marketing, income opportunities, and economic empowerment. Challenges included limited gender capacity within the PMU and social and cultural norms limiting women's participation and access to technology, finance, and markets. The project addressed these through sensitization, trainings, improved technologies, and strengthened cooperatives. Gender perspectives were also integrated into MTS agreements and safeguards frameworks.	
Are there GAP implementation activities or progress to report for this period?	Yes ☒ No ☐
<i>Summary on Activities and Actions agreed in the Gender Action Plan (max. 200 words)</i> <i>Provide a progress report on the gender action plan developed during project preparation stage for the reporting period. This will primarily be a report on activities undertaken and results achieved because of completion of an activity. Further, it should also indicate if the project is on track to achieving the intended outcome(s). The reporting should be done for activities, targets and indicators already set in the action plan including on vulnerable groups (youth, poor, female heads of households, etc.) as would have been identified in the gender analysis and action plan. If activities or targets are not achieved as per plan, reasons should be provided, and recourse action should be proposed. Please include reporting on any changes or deviations. Include a Report on implementation challenges and lessons learnt and how these will inform on-going actions and what action will be taken by when to address the challenges faced. Incorporate both quantitative data and qualitative reports on the performance of such actions, and on progress on actions identified.</i>	
GAP Activity	
Overarching Action: Train and build capacity of the Project Management Unit (PMU), Forestry Commission (FC) regional and District staff on how to integrate gender considerations and gender-responsive results into the full project cycle.	
Indicator	
(1) # of staff who have had their capacity built/awareness raised on gender and REDD+ (disaggregated by sex) (2) Evidence of changes in perception/understanding of gender and social inclusion among staff	

Rating of Indicator	GREEN (on track to be met)
Baseline	0
Target, including sex-disaggregation where applicable	70
Annual progress update (Reporting Period)	
Indicator 1: 80 staff representing 99% of the current staff had their capacity built/awareness raised on gender and REDD+ (71 men, 9 women)	
Indicator 2: All 80 staff representing 99% of the current staff demonstrated changes in gender and social inclusion. (71 men, 9 women)	
Cumulative progress update (Entire period)	
Indicator 1: Cumulatively 226 staff have had their capacity built/awareness raised on gender and REDD+. (201 men, 25 women)	
Indicator 2: Cumulatively 226 staff demonstrated changes in gender and social inclusion. (201 men, 25 women)	
Budget	0
Currency	USD
Timeline (Planned completion of activity)	30 June 2027
Responsibility	
Forestry Commission (FC), Global Shea Alliance (GSA), UNDP, Gender and Safeguards Officer	
Remarks/Notes	
The activity is rated GREEN because 99% of the current staff in 2025 have had their capacity built/awareness raised on gender and REDD+ and demonstrated changes in gender and social inclusion, thus the targets for the activity have been met. The project also notes that, at times, new staff come on board who then are also trained.	
GAP Activity	
Overarching Action: Integrate Ghana's REDD+ Gender Sub-Working Group into the institutional structure for the project and allot a seat for them on the project steering committee (PSC)	
Indicator	
Evidence that Ghana's REDD+ Gender Sub-Working Group is integrated into the institutional structure for the project	
Rating of Indicator	GREEN (on track to be met)
Baseline	0
Target, including sex-disaggregation where applicable	1
Annual progress update (Reporting Period)	

Ghana's REDD+ Gender Sub-Working Group is integrated into the institutional structure for the project.	
Cumulative progress update (Entire period)	
Throughout project implementation, Ghana's REDD+ Gender Sub-Working Group has been integrated into the institutional structure of the project.	
Budget	0
Currency	USD
Timeline (Planned completion of activity)	30 June 2027
Responsibility	
FC, GSA, UNDP, Gender and Safeguards Officer	
Remarks/Notes	
None	
F.9. Gender Action Plan implementation review	
Is the gender expert for the project/programme engaged to support the implementation of the gender action plan? If engaged previously, please advise if the gender expert has been retained by the project/programme, including plans to engage another expert if a previously engaged expert has left the project/programme.	Yes ☒ No ☐
<i>The first gender expert hired in 2021 had her contract terminated in December 2024. A new person has been hired at the end of 2025 and is being trained to continue the tasks and activities required to implement the GAP. In the interim, gender support was provided by safeguards staff in the Forestry Commission's Climate Change Department in Accra as well as technical support from the UNDP's Global Gender and REDD+ Specialist.</i>	
Has the implementation of gender action plan/s being implemented according to Funding Activity Agreements and GCF's Updated Gender Policy? Please ensure that the budget is included in the reporting above if it was indicated in the approved or updated gender action plan.	Yes ☒ No ☐
<i>The implementation of the GAP has been carried out in alignment with the provisions outlined in the FAA and in accordance with the updated Gender Policy of the Green Climate Fund. The activities implemented during the reporting period were guided by the updated GAP to ensure compliance with gender responsive and safeguard standards. The updates GAP has not yet been approved and budget will be provided when available.</i>	
Are the planned activities, targets, indicators, timelines, etc. on track during the reporting period?	Yes ☒ No ☐
<i>Given that the hiring process of the new gender and safeguards specialist was delayed in 2025, some of the planned 2025 gender related community forest management activities, forest enterprises, benefit sharing processes around strengthening policy frameworks governing the shea sector were also delayed and will be carried out in 2026. All other planned 2025 activities were carried out in 2025. To illustrate, listed below are some of these. Output 1 The project monitored gender balance among CREMA staff and organised a training preparing women for leadership positions, reducing the risk of exclusion or underrepresentation. Capacity was built within communities on the benefits of having both women and men in CREMA governance to reach the 40% target of women in CREMA governance (currently this is at about 32%) Capacity building efforts around forest management plans to ensure that women were being consulted and included. In all, 151 participants out of which 72 women (representing 48%) were trained in leadership roles, advocacy skills and negotiations. Output 2 Parkland management training targeted women, in farms and community parklands managed by women. In 2025, 7,081 participants, (6,221 women and 860 men), were trained Value chain management training was conducted for women cooperatives to strengthen shea kernel aggregation and marketing, auditing in</i>	

accordance with the annual workplan, reaching 4,269 participants (4,053 women and 216 men). Output 3 Activity conducted to encourage women to participate in the MTS through a sensitization workshop including identification of tree species. The Resource Service Management Centre in Kumasi consulted on the development of fire management plans with communities near MTS. Output 4 Efforts continued to be integrating a gender perspective into indicators for project interventions using the M&E Framework. The gender dynamics of climate resilience were discussed. 80 key stakeholders attended the workshop with 9 women representatives.	
Were there any revisions of the approved GAP during the reporting period? Please submit the updated GAP in Annex section of this APR and ensure that the updated GAP has details on each change.	Yes ☒ No ☐
Yes, in 2025, the project revised its GAP to tailor its activities to the current project scope. The revised GAP was submitted to the GCF for approval on 28 November 2025. As this revised GAP was still under review by the GCF Secretariat in March 2026, the project is reporting against the older version of the GAP above. No new significant risks are identified and the level of ambition of the updated GAP remains the same. Some key changes are summarized below: 1. Some GAP activities and indicators have been revised to be consistent with the project activities presented in the current project work plan and timeline. 2. GAP has also been revised to make it closely aligned with updated gender analysis undertaken as part of the ESIA process and gender measures in the ESMP. 3. In some instances, the targets in the updated GAP have been revised to be reflective of on-the-ground realities with project implementation and baseline data since project implementation. A detailed breakdown of the changes made to the GAP, including associated justifications for each revision, was submitted to the GCF Secretariat in a note-to-file comparison table with the revised GAP, on 28 November 2025.	
Are the reported results on track to contribute to meeting the sex-disaggregated targets for the direct beneficiaries in the funding proposal, if applicable?	Yes ☒ No ☐
The reported results during the current reporting period are on track to contribute to meeting the sex-disaggregated targets for the direct beneficiaries as outlined in the approved funding proposal. Implementation of planned interventions, including community sensitization, sustainable land management training, gender mainstreaming activities, grievance redress mechanism awareness, and capacity-building for forest-fringe communities, has directly supported the targeted women and men beneficiary groups. Progress Toward Direct Beneficiaries Community Engagement: Targeted smallholder farmers, women's groups, and local institutions have actively participated in project activities. • Capacity Building: 10647 beneficiaries have gained improved knowledge on climate-smart agriculture [1933], out of which 928 men representing 48% and 1005 women representing 52%; and sustainable shea landscape management [8,392] out of which 7,385 women representing 88% and 1,007 men representing 12%. • Gender Inclusion: Increased participation of women in training and decision-making platforms aligns with the Gender Action Plan commitments. • Safeguards Compliance: Sensitization on environmental and social safeguards ensures that 322 beneficiaries understand their rights and responsibilities. Of these 255 were men representing 79% and 67 women representing 21%. Monitoring data collected during the reporting period indicates that outputs achieved are consistent with the beneficiary sex-disaggregated targets and intermediate indicators specified in the funding proposal. Overall Assessment Overall, progress remains aligned with the expected results framework on sex-disaggregated targets for the direct beneficiaries, and the project is steadily contributing toward improved livelihoods, enhanced ecosystem management, and emission reductions within the shea landscape for women and men.	
Has the project/programme experienced any implementation challenges that affect gender-related activities? If yes, please include lessons learnt and how they are informing ongoing actions.	Yes ☒ No ☐
The first Gender and Safeguards expert hired had her contract terminated and it took quite a while to find a replacement, which created a gap in the ESS implementation. However, with the hiring of the new expert at the end of 2025, the project is back on track. The project put in place interim arrangements to address this personnel gap. The national social safeguards staff with the Forestry Commission Headquarters in Accra, who have good gender knowledge and supported gender work under the project.	
Were there any best practices identified, or case studies prepared on benefits/activities undertaken as agents of action by women and the female heads of households during the reporting period? Please share any case studies in the text boxes or in the Annex section of the APR.	Yes ☒ No ☐

The W+ Standard was applied to the project with additional financing from the UN-REDD Programme. An initial visit to identify and measure the results of the project identified significant improvements for over 6,000 women across two domains: Knowledge & Education and Income & Assets. An independent verification confirmed a total 122,818 credits were generated by the selected activities, with 58,144 W+ credits under Education and Knowledge and 64,674 W+ credits under Income and Assets. Each W+ Credit corresponds to a 10% change from baseline per each woman within the monitoring period. In Ghana, results were measured for the period May 2023 – May 2025. In the area of Income & Assets, for example, 91% of surveyed women reported income increases due to project activities. Top uses of additional income included household consumption goods (80%), education (71%), and health expenses (57%). Additionally, 56% of surveyed women reported reinvesting in their businesses, indicating a thoughtful balance between welfare and productive use of funds. The standard requires independently-verified measurement and guarantees that at least 20% of revenues from W+ credit sales flow directly to women's groups. Currently buyers are being sought. Photo Story on W+ Standard Results in Ghana and Costa Rica

Provide planned activities on gender elements for the next reporting period

Activity Timeline 1.1 Design and tailor educational and training packages to address any knowledge gaps and particular needs of women and youth - Timeline - Q1 to Q4 1.1 Gender balance sought and tracked among CREMA core staff - Timeline - Q1 to Q4 1.3 Provide trainings on forest-based enterprise development in a manner to encourage women's active participation (e.g. date, time, location, clarification provided on how topic relevant to their livelihoods etc.). - Timeline - Q3 to Q4 2.1 Target and prioritize farm sites that are farmed and/or managed by women - Timeline - Q1 to Q4 2.1 Engage women's groups for extension efforts and parkland management training in a manner to encourage equitable participation of women (e.g. date, time, location, clarification provided on how topic relevant to their livelihoods etc.). - Timeline - Q1 to Q4 2.1 At least 50% of local nurseries created are allocated and run by women's groups - Timeline - Q1 to Q4 3.1 Participation of women and men in the development and signing of MTS contracts - Timeline - Q2 and Q3 3.3 In the formation of community fire brigades, encourage the participation of women - Timeline - Q 4

G. ANNEXES (UPLOADED)

Annex 1: GHG emission reduction calculation methodology (for projects reporting GHG emission reductions) and details on the calculations of the annual and cumulative value.

File Name: GHG emission reduction calculation methodology.pdf

Annex 2: Communication and visibility material

File Name: Photo - Warehouse in Wa.jpg

File Name: Activity 2.1.3_ Photo - Shea parkland managment training.jpg

File Name: Activity 2.1.3_ Photo - Shea Parkland training.jpg

File Name: Activity 2.1.3_Photo - Shea parkland management training.jpg

File Name: Activity 2.1.3_Photo - Shea parkland management training_2_2_.jpg

File Name: Activity 2.1.3_Photo - Shea Parkland management training_2.jpg

File Name: Activity 2.2.2_ Photo - Improved Technology and efficiency Training.jpg

File Name: Activity 2.2.2_ Photo - Improved Technology and efficiency Training_3.jpg

File Name: Activity 2.2.2_ Photo - Shea Aggregation training.jpg

File Name: Activity 2.2.2_ Photo - Shea Aggregation, marketing and Auditing training.jpg

File Name: Activity 2.2.2_ Photo - Shea Aggregation, marketing and auditing training_2.jpg

File Name: Activity 2.2.2_ Photo - Shea aggregation.jpg

File Name: Activity 2.2.3 Photo - Buz mgt training1.jpg

File Name: Activity 2.2.4_Improved Bussiness management training.jpg

File Name: OU0538_1.jpg

File Name: Output 3.1_MTS Governance Training_Photos_1.jpg

File Name: Output 3.1_MTS Governance Training_Photos_5.jpg

File Name: Output 4.1_ESMP Validation Workshop_Photos_9.jpg

File Name: OUTPUT_2.jpg

File Name: Photo - Reburished_Warehouse_Kadia.jpg

File Name: Photo - Refurbished Warehouse.jpg

File Name: Photo - Transplanting Activity.jpg

File Name: Photo - Transplanting2.jpg

File Name: Photos and Description.docx

File Name: Data That Delivers_ W+ Standard Illuminates how Women's Empowerment Fuels Forest and Livelihood Gains _ UNREDD Programm.pdf

Annex 3: List of grievances received

No annexes provided.

Annex 4: Procurement information
No annexes provided.
Annex 5: Updated implementation timetable for the Funded Activity for the following year
File Name: Annex 5_Updated Implementation Plan - GSLERP - Jan - December 2026.docx
Annex 6: Updated Gender Assessment and/or Action Plan
File Name: GSLERP_GAP Activity_NEW Working File_April 2026.docx
Additional Annexes (if applicable)
File Name: Copy of Output 4.3_Training on M_E framework_Minutes.docx File Name: 3.2_Verification of Selected MTS Planting Sites_Report.docx File Name: Activity 2.1.3 Report on Parkland and fallow vegetation Management.docx File Name: Activity 2.1.3 Shea Parkland Management Training Report5.pdf File Name: Activity 2.1.3, 2.2.3 and group dynamics and cooperative governance training report.docx File Name: Activity 2.1.3_Field REPORT ON SHEA PARKLAND TRAINING.pdf File Name: Activity 2.1.3_Parkland Management training_Report.pdf File Name: Activity 2.1.3_PARKLAND MANAGEMENT.pdf File Name: Activity 2.1.3_Shea parkland management TRAINING REPORT.pdf File Name: Activity 2.1.3_Shea Parkland Management_TRAINING REPORT WA.pdf File Name: Activity 2.2.3_Improved Bussiness management training report.docx File Name: Copy of Output 1.4_Training of CREMA Community Champions on Communication Strategy_Report.docx File Name: Output 1.3_Potential Tourist Sites_Report.docx