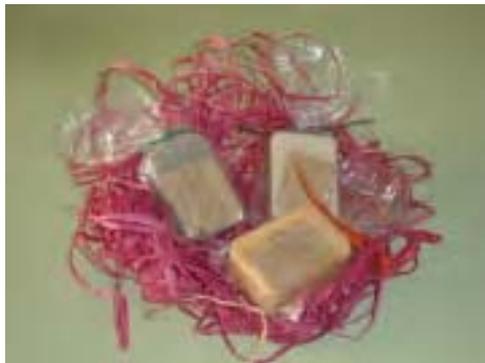




SHEA BUTTER EXPORT GUIDE



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DISCLAIMER

The authors' views expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the views of the United States Agency for International Development or the United States Government.

Shea Butter Export Guide

The **West Africa Trade Hub** (WATH) prepared this Export Guide of best practices for West African businesses that intend to export shea butter products to the United States, Europe and other western markets. The Export Guide is organized into four sections:

I. Customs-related Documentation. Customs and commercial shipping documentation must be completed to customs specifications whether you are a small or larger exporter, your buyer is a very small or very large business, or you are exporting bulk shea butter or finished products.

II. Shea Butter Certifications for International Trade. Certifications of your product, such as Fair Trade, organic, and quality certifications can be marketing tools and/or conditions set by the buyer. Shea butter suppliers or finished-products manufacturers normally bear the costs associated with obtaining certifications; however, these costs may be offset by higher prices. A review of this section should help your business decide what is realistic and target the appropriate buyers (in general, the larger the buyer, the more certifications and quality assurances that will be required).

III. International Quality Standards. International quality standards that profile the chemistry of shea butter are most important to manufacturers of personal care products. Buyers' requirements will vary according to the product (bulk shea or finished), and their size and sophistication. It benefits all exporters, however, to understand the quality standards used in their products and industry.

IV. Labeling and Packaging. Labeling and packaging to meet U.S., European, and other standards is essential to all exporters, large and small, of bulk and finished shea butter products. Eye-catching labeling and packaging sell your product, and in the case of the U.S. market, the Food and Drug Administration has clear and rigorous labeling requirements. This guide aims to provide straightforward advice on these requirements.

Note: If you have any feedback or suggestions which would improve the Export Guide, we would like to hear from you. We expect to update it regularly.



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I. Customs Procedures and Documentation

This guidance addresses the export of shea butter from West Africa to the U.S. market and assumes that a *similar* process applies in all shea butter exporting/importing countries. However, we recommend that you confirm the procedure through local and national export associations, brokers and/or customs agencies within your country and destination.

If exporting smaller quantities, consider forming a cooperative with others. This reduces shipping costs and the required administrative work for documentation. WATH highly recommends the use of a shipping broker to ensure that your shipment reaches your customer at the expected time.

Steps for Clearing Bulk & Shea Butter Products through Customs

Step 1. Confirm the order with your buyer and discuss their requirements as early as possible (documents, certificates, etc). WATH recommends that you make early arrangements for a shipping-broker, or transitaire (ask friends, customs officers, other exporters to suggest a short list of brokers) and negotiate a price for this and future shipments. Continue to communicate with your buyer at all stages of the process to inform them of your progress and to manage their expectations.

Step 2. During the processing and packaging of shea butter it is also important to **liaise with your closest customs office** and ensure you **register as a manufacturer with an export license**. Involving customs throughout the process assures greater transparency and trust, for example, that the shea butter is authentic, clean and free of any security concerns or contraband.

Step 3. **Prepare your paperwork** (share these documents with both your in-country shipping-broker and your international buyer/importer as soon as possible; some processes require registration of these documents 14 days prior to shipping.

- ❑ **Commercial Invoice** – Your responsibility to prepare in advance of shipping; basically a bill for the goods from the buyer to the seller. See [Annex 1](#) for necessary components.
- ❑ **Packing List** – Your responsibility to prepare in advance of shipping.
- ❑ **Certificate of Origin** – Available from national or regional Chambers of Commerce or Export Promotion Centers and required by customs in the country of destination to prove source of products. Must be completed in person with documentation of export (invoice, etc).
- ❑ **Standards Certificate** – Quality analysis as per buyer demands, and recommended that tests show no hazardous contaminants shipped with the product. Check on importing country's regulations, e.g., U.S. Food & Drug Administration requirements. See [Annex 2](#) for sample.

Step 4. **Prepare your product** for shipping. You can load a container at your facility with your assigned customs officer present so that the shipment may be 'sealed' at the production site or you may send individual packages (drums, crates, boxes, etc.) to the port of exit. You or your shipping or customs broker then takes receipt of goods, packs the goods into a container and continues with the export process.



Step 5. You, or preferably your shipping broker, then arranges for the following:

- ❑ **Bill of Lading/Airway Bill** (you or broker to deal direct with shipping line)
- ❑ **Electronic Entry / Declaration** (broker to deal directly with customs, only those registered can process)
 - Note that all export declarations are electronic; thus, we recommend that an exporter use a broker connected to the CNET/CMS (Customs Automated System of Clearance) to render such a service.
- ❑ **Examination/Inspection** by customs either at the regional customs center or at the port. Ensure that you keep proof of inspection.



Step 6. Confirm **buyer/importer has received paperwork** and send shipment.

Step 7. It is the importer's responsibility to complete an **Advance Notice of Shipment** electronically 14 days prior to shipping; it requires **all** paperwork in advance. The Advance Notice of Shipment is currently **not required** for **non-edible** products.

Step 8. The importer arranges with the broker to make the **Entry Declaration** (usually done online). Appraisal / Valuation / Classification occur automatically according to the information entered.

Step 9. A risk management system determines whether customs *may* perform a physical **inspection / examination**. They are less likely to inspect shipments with clean and tidy packaging and all correct documentation.

Step 10. The importer covers **import duty** through **payment or liquidation** (if not pre-arranged per purchase order or contract). Bulk shea butter is currently zero-rated (no tariff) but each importer is responsible for confirming his/her own country regulations and tariffs for shea butter products and to make the requisite payments. Please consult the AGOA (Africa Growth and Opportunity) website at http://www.agoa.gov/eligibility/product_eligibility.html.

Replicate the **exact wording** used in these product definitions on your packing list and commercial invoice to benefit from zero-rated tariff classification. Import duty on finished products such as lotions or soaps varies according to the specific product classification. The following table illustrates U.S. import duty status on some of the most common shea butter finished products.

U.S. Import Duty Status on Selected Shea Products

Product	HTS ¹	Description	Effective Period of Tariff Application	MFN ² (NTR) Tariff
Shea kernels	1207	Other oils, seeds and oleaginous fruits, whether or not broken; applies to palm nuts and kernels, cotton oil seeds, sesame seeds, mustard seeds, safflower seeds, poppy seeds and shea nuts (karité nuts)		Free
Shea butter	1515	Other fixed vegetable fats and oils (including Jojoba oil) and their fractions, whether or not refined, but not chemically modified	1998-2020	Free
	151590	Other		
	15159020 ³	Nut oils, whether or not refined, not chemically modified		
Cosmetic lotions, creams, etc.	3304	Beauty or make-up preparations & preparations for skin care, (other than medicaments), including sunscreen or suntan preparations; manicure or pedicure preparations.		Free
Shampoos and hair-straightening products containing shea butter	3305 33051000 33052000	Preparations for use on the hair: Shampoos Preparations for permanent waving or straightening	1999-2020	Free
Toilet soap containing shea butter	3401	Soap	1999-2020	Free
	340111	For toilet use		
	34011110	Castile soap in the form of bars, cakes, or molded pieces or shapes		

Source: <http://dataweb.usitc.gov/>

¹ Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the U.S.

² Most Favored Nation (Normal Trade Relations)

³ Tariff classification rulings exist for shea butter being exported to the U.S.

II. Shea Butter Certifications for International Trade

As international trade becomes increasingly global and competitive, a number of classifications and certifications can boost your product's appeal and acceptability to the discerning customer – with increased opportunities for higher premiums on fair-trade and organic-certified products. You may have to justify and document certain conditions during harvesting, processing and the subsequent supply chain, usually with third-party verification, inspection or analysis.



1. **Organic (Biologique)** – Defined as coming from sustainable farming systems maintained in the absence of inorganic inputs (pesticides, fungicides, fertilizers, etc). Standards are verified by accredited organizations under regional regulation, e.g., European Union legislation (EEC No. 2092/91) and by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) under the National Organic Program (NOP, see below). Further information on organic agriculture can be found at: <http://www.ifoam.org>. This certification is voluntary; however, note that certain buyers may require or be actively looking for organically-certified products.

Certification and Labeling of Agricultural Products, including Personal Care Products, which Meet NOP Standards

"Agricultural commodities or products that meet the NOP standard for certification under the Organic Foods Production Act of 1990, 7 U.S.C. §§ 6501-6522, can be certified under the NOP and be labeled as 'organic' or 'made with organic' pursuant to the NOP regulations, 7 C.F.R. part 205.300 et seq. To qualify for certification, the producer or handler must comply with all applicable NOP production, handling, and labeling regulations.

There are agricultural products, including personal care products, that, by virtue of their organic agricultural product content, may meet the NOP standards and be labeled as '100 percent organic,' 'organic' or 'made with organic' pursuant to the NOP regulations. Businesses that manufacture and distribute such products may be certified under the NOP, and such products may be labeled as '100 percent organic,' 'organic' or 'made with organic' so long as they meet NOP requirements. Additionally, products that may be labeled '100 percent organic' or 'organic' may also carry the USDA organic seal."

Extracted from a memorandum to all USDA Accredited Certifying Agents, August 23, 2005.

<http://www.ams.usda.gov/nop/indexIE.htm>



2. **Fair, Equitable or Ethical Trade** – Increasingly, suppliers of agri-products are being asked whether producers received a ‘fair’ deal, e.g., safe working conditions, pre-financing, above local market prices for products destined for international markets, and the absence of slave or child labor. A range of options exists, from ‘in-house’ charters such as those that The Body Shop employs, to certification by third-party companies such as The Soil Association or the Fairtrade Labelling Organizations International. Consult the Fair Trade Federation’s website for useful definitions and information: www.fairtradefederation.com. Fair Trade Federation membership is open to traders, retailers, wholesalers and producers who strive to sell 100% fairly-traded products. This certification is voluntary although certain buyers will give preference to, or look for, products certified as Fair Trade.
3. **Quality Assurance** – Typically the buyer will require third-party verification of producer quality and they may demand such technical information in advance of an order. Testing by a laboratory with international standards provides the customer with the assurance that you are providing internationally acceptable quality products. Please refer to this Guide’s section on quality standards.
4. **Traceability** – Major retailers such as chain stores aim to reassure their customers about what happens to their products at all stages of the production process. Since January 1, 2005 the EU demands that all agricultural products be traceable from source (Reg. 178, January 2002). Certain customs procedures also require minimal traceability documentation, i.e., “certificate of origin”. In essence, successful processors and exporters need to document and keep records of all purchasing transactions, processing steps, labor utilized, dates of processing, locations, etc.
5. **EurepGAP** – Established by European retailers in 1997 to define the elements of good agricultural practices (**GAP**). It addresses areas such as Integrated Crop Management (**ICM**), Integrated Pest Control (**IPC**), Quality Management System (**QMS**), Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points (**HACCP**), worker health, safety, welfare and environmental pollution and conservation management. Please check www.eurep.org for further information. Over time, U.S. importers may implement these European requirements as well.

The need for verification and certification with internationally acceptable standards by a third-party requires the use of trained personnel, travel, laboratory equipment, etc., and therefore often incurs high costs that must be justified by increased sales. It is important to prepare well in advance, as some steps can be lengthy, e.g., conversion to organic production typically takes three years with annual costs in some cases exceeding \$4,000 per year depending on the area(s) to be certified. Check what your buyer actually needs or expects.

Quality analysis varies in price—from \$10-30 per analysis per sample up to \$100-600 for a sample grading that covers a range of specifications—so it is worthwhile to get several quotations. Be prepared to make an in-depth web search of each of the topics above and then make a series of inquiries with organizations based in the sub-region, the U.S. and the EU, and elsewhere. Beware of ‘batch fees’ and negotiate a price that covers *ongoing* inspections, multiple analyses, large numbers of samples, etc. In addition to the laboratories mentioned in the Quality Standards Section, a list of international certification organizations currently active in the West African sub-region follows.

- Ecocert (France) – <http://www.ecocert.fr>
- IMO, Institute for Market ecology (Switzerland) – <http://www.imo.ch>
- Lacon-Institute (Austria) – <http://www.lacon-institut.com>
- SGS, Société Générale de Surveillance (Switzerland) – <http://www.sgs.com>
- Skal (Holland) – <http://www.skal.com>
- The Soil Association (UK) – <http://www.soilassociation.org>

III. Quality Standards for International Shea Butter Trade

Buyers in the personal care industry want to know the chemical composition of shea butter. Shea butter contains vegetable oils and fats that are notable as moisturizers, as well as a group of chemicals called *unsaponifiables* that boast many beneficial properties. Buyers will also want to know the potential shelf life for the shea butter or product that you are selling. A brief outline of shea butter's chemical components follows.

Components that depend upon the environment in which the shea trees grow and their individual genetic make-up. This has particular relevance to the market or product using the shea butter.

- **Fatty acids** = in shea these are mainly stearic, oleic, palmitic, linoleic, and arachidic and their relative concentrations define the 'oil profile' and melting-point.
- **Olein** = low melting fraction (triacyl-glycerols high in oleic acid, e.g., O-St-O).
- **Stearin** = high melting fat fraction (high in stearic acid, e.g., St-O-St).
- **Unsaponifiables** = a large group of chemicals found in high concentrations in shea butter (1-19%) that are credited with giving shea butter its therapeutic properties, e.g., antioxidants (oil-soluble tocopherols and water-soluble catechins), triterpenes such as butyrospermol, phenols, sterols and other substances such as karitene and allantoin. High levels are preferable.

Components that depend upon how well the shea kernels and butter were processed, stored, etc. This has particular relevance to shelf life.

- **FFA** = *free fatty acids* that are indicative of degradation (separated through the hydrolytic action of enzymes – lipases – on the triacyl-glycerols), therefore low levels are favored.
- **PV** = *peroxide value*, another indicator of degradation of the long fatty chains through auto-oxidation into peroxides that can later break down into other chemicals including malodorous ketones and aldehydes. Formation often catalyzed by heat, certain metals (e.g., iron and copper) and ultraviolet light.
- **PAHs** = *polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons* form during smoking or roasting over open wood fires and will hinder entry into the 'edible marketplace' in Europe and the U.S. since these are known carcinogens and various legislation has been formulated to reduce public exposure.
- **Moisture content** is often a result of poor storage since 'dry' shea butter absorbs water in humid conditions. High levels are linked with hydrolysis therefore low levels are preferred.
- **Insoluble impurities** are usually the by-products of extraction. Careful filtering can remove these unwanted particles, particularly if the presence of metal fragments is suspected. Using cast-iron grinding plates commonly produces iron particles, and this metal is implicated in peroxide formation.

As an exporter of bulk shea butter or finished products, WATH recommends that you work closely with the producers who supply you with the unrefined shea butter to ensure that they have good work practices in relation to the kernel and butter quality. To maximize shelf life, FFA and PV levels should be as low as possible, ensured by minimizing 'harvest-to-drying' time and reducing

exposure to catalysts of auto-oxidation (heat, metals and ultraviolet light). The following shea butter quality standards developed through ProKarité, a project managed by the World Agroforestry Centre and funded by CFC/FAO (Common Fund for Commodities/Food and Agriculture Organization), are now approved by UEMOA (Union Economique Monétaire Ouest Africaine).

UEMOA Standards for Unrefined Shea Butter

<i>Parameter</i>	<i>1st Grade</i>	<i>2nd Grade</i>	<i>3rd Grade</i>
Free fatty acid (%)	- to 1	1.1- 3	3.1 - 8
Peroxide value (mEq)	- to 10	11 - 15	15.1 - 50
Moisture content (%)	- to 0.05	0.06 - 0.2	0.3 - 2
Insoluble impurities (%)	- to 0.09	0.1 - 0.2	0.3 - 2

Source: www.prokarite.org. These were approved August 30, 2005 for unrefined shea butter, to be officially adopted by all eight UEMOA countries on January 1, 2006.

Unrefined shea butter of **First grade** can serve the needs of the cosmetic and pharmaceutical industries, and for direct consumption. Unrefined shea butter designated as **Second grade** can serve the needs of the food industry (confectionery, chocolate, edible oil, or as a basis for margarines), while unrefined shea butter considered **Third grade** can serve the needs of the soap-making industries, or can be refined for direct consumption.

Many laboratories in West Africa and abroad can test shea butter. Direct inquiries will confirm which analyses are being performed and at what costs. See [Annex 3](#) for a list of laboratories that WATH recommends. We will update the list as we identify others.



IV. Labeling and Packaging

The key to success in international marketing is high quality labeling and packaging. The legality of the product must be proven, products need to reach the marketplace safely and customers need to be attracted to your product. The labeling and packaging guidelines provided here apply to the U.S. market. The EU has its own set of guidelines.

Packaging Bulk Shea

WATH recommends that bulk shea-butter loads are accompanied at all times by highly visible technical specification sheets that highlight the identity of the contents, the quality of the shea butter and the lack of any hazardous chemicals or bio-agents.

WATH recommends three main methods for transportation of bulk shea:



1. Dedicated vegetable oil tankers – shea butter pumped in as liquid and re-heated on arrival.
2. Drums, 50 to 200 liters (c. 10 to 50 gallons) – poured in when liquid and sealed.
3. Plastic-lined cardboard boxes or sacks – cool but liquid shea butter poured into bags using boxes as molds. Do not transport before cooling and ensure cardboard remains dry.

Containers should be washed with detergent (unless factory sterile), and then thoroughly rinsed with clean warm water before use. All shea butter should be filtered when liquid through fine clean cloth and no attempt should be made to stir into the typical 'creamy texture' since all bulk butter will be re-melted prior to use anyway.

Labeling Finished Shea Products

Although not mandatory, WATH recommends labeling West African shea butter products with:

- **Percentage of shea butter**
- **Recommended storage instructions** (e.g., *Keeps under cool, dry conditions in air-tight container away from direct sunlight.*)
- **Estimated shelf life**, depending on quality and refining (e.g., *Shea butter is a natural product, recommended for use within [one or two years] of [production date].*)

While a relatively high degree of variation is permitted on cosmetic product labels, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has a clear set of label requirements. A product label must bear:

- **Legible type:** Ingredients must appear in 1/16th inch type size, unless the label area measures less than 12 square inches. In that case, the type size for the ingredient listing is 1/32nd inch.

- **A statement of identity:** In bold type and oriented parallel to the package base. The descriptor used as the statement of identity must be clear and obvious. It must be either (1) the common or usual name, i.e., "mascara", (2) an appropriate descriptive name, i.e., "shower gel", (3) a fanciful name, i.e., "Vanessa's Beautifying Blend", as long as the nature of the product is obvious, or (4) an illustration or vignette of the intended use, i.e., a picture of a man shaving.



- **The name and address of the product manufacturer, packer, or distributor:** The actual corporate name, or the name used to conduct business must appear. Standard abbreviations may be used. If the packer or distributor name and address are listed, then "Manufactured for" or "Distributed by" must precede the company name. The street address, city, and country must be listed. Include your company's website address if you have one.
- **Net quantity:** Displayed in terms of common U.S. denominations of weight, measure or count, avoiding decimals or fractions. **Weight is expressed in terms of avoirdupois (Imperial) pounds and ounces. Fluid measures are expressed in terms of the U.S. gallon, quart, pint and fluid ounce.** Net contents may be stated using metric measures *in addition* to the Imperial system. The term "net weight" or "net wt." must be used in conjunction with a weight statement, and the term "net contents," "net" or nothing must be used in connection with a liquid statement.
- **An ingredient declaration:** Ingredient listings must use nomenclature found in the International Cosmetic Ingredient Dictionary and Handbook published by the Cosmetic Toiletries and Fragrance Association (<http://www.ctfa.org>). Manufacturers that use ingredients not found in the CTFA publication in their formulations must certify that the ingredients are safe for their intended use. **Ingredients appear in descending order of predominance by weight**, but may be grouped into three categories:
 1. Ingredients other than color additives that are present in the formulation at concentrations less than 1%.
 2. Ingredients other than color additives that are present in the formulation at concentrations greater than 1%.
 3. Color additives.
- **Warnings regarding health hazards:** The U.S. FDA does not require manufacturers or distributors of cosmetics to test the products for safety. However, the agency does strongly urge toxicological or other safety testing. A manufacturer or distributor's product liability insurance carrier may require proof of product safety prior to issuing the insurance certificate. While the FDA does not require product safety testing, if safety is not adequately substantiated by the manufacturer prior to marketing the product, it does require the label statement: *Warning – The safety of this product has not been determined.* WATH recommends that **Contains Tropical Tree Nut Butter** be included on the label due to the potential for allergic reaction.
- ⇒ **Note!** If this product is being sold as **an ingredient destined for consumption**, consult [Annex 4](#) for relevant U.S. FDA standards requiring further refinement to achieve values less than 1% unsaponifiables.

U.S. Cosmetic Labeling Regulations

Improperly labeled or deceptively packaged products are considered misbranded and subject to regulatory action (<http://www.cfsan.fda.gov/~dms/cos-206.html>). Under the FD&C Act, a cosmetic is considered misbranded if:

- Its labeling is false or misleading.
- Its label does not include all required information.
- The required information is not sufficiently prominent and conspicuous.
- Its container is so made, formed, or filled as to be misleading.
- It is a color additive, other than a hair dye, that does not conform to applicable regulations issued under section 721 of the FD&C Act.
- Its packaging or labeling violates the Poison Prevention Packaging Act of 1970 (FD&C Act, sec. 602) <http://www.cpsc.gov/businfo/pppatext.html>.

Useful Websites:

- The Fair Packaging and Labeling Act – <http://www.ftc.gov/os/statutes/fplajump.html>
- FDA and Cosmetics – <http://www.cfsan.fda.gov/~dms/cos-toc.html>
- Is it a Cosmetic, a Drug, or Both? (or is it Soap?) – <http://www.cfsan.fda.gov/~dms/cos-218.html>
- The regulation of cosmetics varies among different countries. Please confirm with regulatory bodies, e.g., Europe: <http://pharmacos.eudra.org/>; Canada: <http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/hecs-sesc/cosmetics/index.htm>
- For a comparison of U.S. and EU guidelines on labeling and packaging, visit the Procter & Gamble website: http://www.pgbeautyscience.com/en_UK/programs/cosmetic_regulation_similarities_en.html

No U.S. regulations are known in regard to tamper-proof sealing for products used for *external* application only.

Annex 1. Commercial Invoice

To include:

- Description of product, terms of sale, details necessary to determine the full cost, insurance and freight price.
- Date, place of shipment, firm name, address of buyer and seller.
- Method of shipment, number, markings of the packages, commercial description, quality, grade, weight, agreed price, unit cost, total free on board (FOB) factory price plus shipping.
- Insurance charges, delivery and payment terms, signature of responsible official.

Annex 2. Technical Specifications Example

This shows an example of a well-presented technical specification document for bulk shea butter from Togo. (Reprinted with kind permission from Olowo-n'djo Tchala.)

AGBANGA KARITE	
Building African Self-Empowerment the Moral Way	
	PO Box 11143 Olympia, WA 98508 info@agbangakarite.com
BP 548 Sokodé, Togo www.agbangakarite.com	Phone: (360) 666-0076 Fax: (360) 252-9999 Togo: (228) 661-01-11
PURE SHEA BUTTER	
INCI NAME: <i>Butyrospermum parkii</i> (Shea Butter) Fruit	
SPECIFICATIONS	
APPEARANCE:	Ivory to Yellowish
ODOR:	Characteristic
MELTING POINT	32-45 °C
PEROXIDE VALUE	<2 meq/kg
FREE ACIDS	3.5% Maximum
MICROBIOLOGY	<20 cfu/g
Total plate count @ 48 hrs	No pathogens present
UNSAAPONIFIABLES	6.5% Minimum
VITAMIN A	1988 IU/100 mg
CINNAMONIC ACID	0.95
CAUTIONS:	This is a natural product that may darken with age. Store in a cool, dark place.
PACKAGING:	154 - 165 lb (70 - 75 kg) plastic pails or 50 lb (25 kg) plastic lined cartons
DESCRIPTION	
Unrefined shea butter is a natural fatty substance that is extracted from the seed kernel of the Shea tree in West and Central Africa. Our shea butter is produced using traditional methods and has not been refined. It is a raw, natural product in its purest form.	
USES	
Shea butter is used as a fatting agent in cosmetic products, topical ointments, creams and lotions. It has a high content of unsaponifiables, which give a pleasant smooth feel to the skin and make shea butter most applicable to facial, hand, and body care products. Shea butter is also recommended for cosmetics such as lipsticks and makeup, sunscreens, and products for sensitive skin. In general, shea butter can be used in most oil based products or in the oil phase of cosmetic and toiletry formulations. Here are some suggested uses: Lip Balms, Lipsticks, Sun Care, After Sun Products, Hand and Body Lotions (oil phase), Facial Moisturizers, Bath Oil, Soaps, Rubs and Ointments, and Body Butters. It is important to use at least 10% or more shea butter in a product if you want it to perform better because of the presence of Shea Butter.	
12-03	

Annex 3. Directory of Laboratories in West Africa for Testing Shea Butter

Bénin: Laboratoire de Pharmacognosie
ISBA Champ de Foire
01 BP 188, Cotonou
Tel: +229 30 90 77
Email: pharmaco@intnet.bj

Burkina Faso: Laboratoire de Technologie Alimentaire
03 BP 7047, Ouagadougou 03
Tel: +226 31 53 21
Email: dta@fasonet.bf

Côte d'Ivoire: Laboratoire de Biochimie et Sciences des Aliments (LaBSA)
UFR Biosciences
Université de Cocody
22 PB 582 Abidjan 22
Tel - Fax: +225 22 440 307/ 22 443 724

Ghana: Ghana Standards Board
PO Box MB 245, Accra-Ghana
Tel: +233 21 500 065/06 / 501 492 / 501 937
Fax: +233 21 500 231 / 500 092
Email: gsbnep@ghanastandards.org; gsbdir@ghanastandards.org
Contact Persons: The Director Chemical Science, Mrs. K. Biritwum / Standards and Certification Director, Mrs. Elizabeth Adetola

Ghana: Food Research Institute
P.O.Box M.20, Accra, Ghana.
Tel.: +233 21 777330/761209/777647
Fax: +233 21 777647
E-mail: fri@ghana.com
Contact person: The Director

Ghana: SGS Laboratory Services Ghana Limited
Monitoring & Analytical Services Laboratory
SCOA Yard, Harbour Road
Community 1, Tema, Ghana
Tel: +233 22 20 50 45
Fax: +233 22 20 50 46
Email: gh.maslab@sgs.com

Mali: Institut d'Economie Rurale
BP 258 - Rue Mohamed V, Bamako
Tel: +223 222 26 06 / 223 19 05/ +223 224 78 53 (Sotuba)
Fax: +223 222 37 75
Email: cr.ra.sotuba@ier.ml
Web: <http://www.ier.ml/>

Nigeria: Top Feeds/SEEP
(Ogba/Ikeja Office)
Block 'D' Plot 4A Wempco Road
PO Box 9911, Lagos
Tel: +234 1 774 40 93/ 773 90 43/ 554 73 71
Fax: +234 1 492 21 64
Email: lifelagos@infoweb.com.ng

Nigeria: Top Feeds/SEEP
(Sapele Office)
354 Ogorode Industrial Estate
PO Box 547, Sapele
Delta State, Nigeria
Tel: +234 54 34 21 02/ 34 21 02/ 34 10 36
Fax: +234 54 34 24 22
Email: lifesapele@infoweb.com.ng

Sénégal: Institut de Technologie Alimentaire
Route des Pères Maristes
BP 2765 Dakar
Tel: +221 832 0070
Fax: +221 328 295
Email: ita@sentoo.sn

Annex 4. U.S. FDA Standards for Shea Butter Use in Edible Products

Code of Federal Regulations
Title 21, Volume 3
Revised as of April 1, 2003
From the U.S. Government Printing Office via GPO Access
CITE: 21CFR184.1702
Page 543-544

TITLE 21—FOOD AND DRUGS

CHAPTER I—FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES (CONTINUED)

PART 184—DIRECT FOOD SUBSTANCES AFFIRMED AS GENERALLY RECOGNIZED AS SAFE (GRAS)

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Subpart B—Listing of Specific Substances Affirmed as **GRAS**

Sec. 184.1702 Sheanut oil.

(a) Sheanut oil is produced from sheanuts derived from the Shea tree *Butyrospermum parkii* and is composed principally of triglycerides containing an oleic acid moiety at the 2-position and saturated fatty acids, usually stearic or palmitic acids, at the 1- and 3-positions.

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(b) The ingredient meets the following specifications when tested using any appropriate validated methodology:

- (1) Saponification value of 185 to 195,
- (2) Iodine value of 28 to 43,
- (3) Unsaponifiable matter not to exceed 1.5 percent,
- (4) Free fatty acids not more than 0.1 percent as oleic acid,
- (5) Peroxide value not more than 10 milliequivalents/equivalent (meq/eq),
- (6) Lead not more than 0.1 part per million (ppm),
- (7) Copper not more than 0.1 ppm.

(c) In accordance with Sec. 184.1(b)(3), the ingredient is used in the following food categories at levels not to exceed current good manufacturing practice, except that the ingredient may not be used in a standardized food unless permitted by the standard of identity: **Confections and frostings** as defined in Sec. 170.3(n)(9) of this chapter, **coatings of soft candy** as defined in Sec. 170.3(n)(38) of this chapter, and **sweet sauces and toppings** as defined in Sec. 170.3(n)(43) of this chapter.

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