Shea nuts are the extracted fruit of a shea tree that grows wild in West Africa. The tree, which can reach between 10 and 15 meters in height, has a short trunk (about three meters) with a diameter of under 1 meter. Its life span is between two to three hundred years. On average, it produces its first fruit when it is fifteen years old and attains full production when the tree is about twenty-five years old.

Properties of processed shea butter:
- Absorbs the sun’s UV-B rays
- Protects the skin
- Stimulates and regenerates skin cells
- Heals
- Prevents sun allergies
- Disinfects
- Anti-oxidising, delays the impact of cell ageing
- Pre- and after-sun product
- Controls blood clotting
- Anti-inflammatory
- Moisturises the skin
- Moisturises the upper layers of the epidemis by preventing cell water from evaporating

Shea butter produced by the Women’s Group of Gnocondémé has been certified organic by Ecocert in accordance with its Ecocert Organic Standard (EOS), which is equivalent to the European Union (EU) regulation and National Organic Program (NOP) standards.

Our shea butter is hand-crafted by the women of the Gnocondémé group, which was established in 2002 in Yona, Burkina Faso. The skills for this traditionally female pursuit are handed down from mother to daughter.

By using this 100% natural soap, you are helping improve the daily living standards of entire families in the village of Yona in Burkina Faso as well as protecting the environment. In addition to giving women equal access to credit and to land as men, this income-generating project enables them to meet their children’s school and health care needs.

Each shea butter-based product is a source of employment for about one hundred women. A naturally occurring product, it is converted into shea butter soap and combined with the beneficial qualities of green clay, honey or neem extract.

The shea butter production process:

1. First, the women fetch water from the borehole. They fill four large tubs with water, which they carry on their heads.
2. Next, the women collect four 80-kg bags of shea nuts to wash in the freshly drawn water.
3. The women then grind the nut pieces finely into a paste. This is set aside for 24 hours.
4. After 10 minutes, the butter rises to the top. On collection, it is rinsed two times in clean water.
5. We produce four types of soap:
   - Natural shea butter (moisturising)
   - Shea butter & clay (healing)
   - Shea butter & neem (antiseptic)
   - Shea & honey (antioxidant)

Rich in vitamins A and D, shea butter moisturises, nourishes, protects and helps heal the skin.

Renowned for its use in the beauty industry, shea butter is also used in traditional cuisine.

« Karité » (shea butter in French) is a Dioula word that means « life ».

We produce four types of soap:
- Natural shea butter (moisturising)
- Shea butter & clay (healing)
- Shea butter & neem (antiseptic)

Did you know that it takes 20 to 25 hours of work to obtain 1 kg of shea butter?