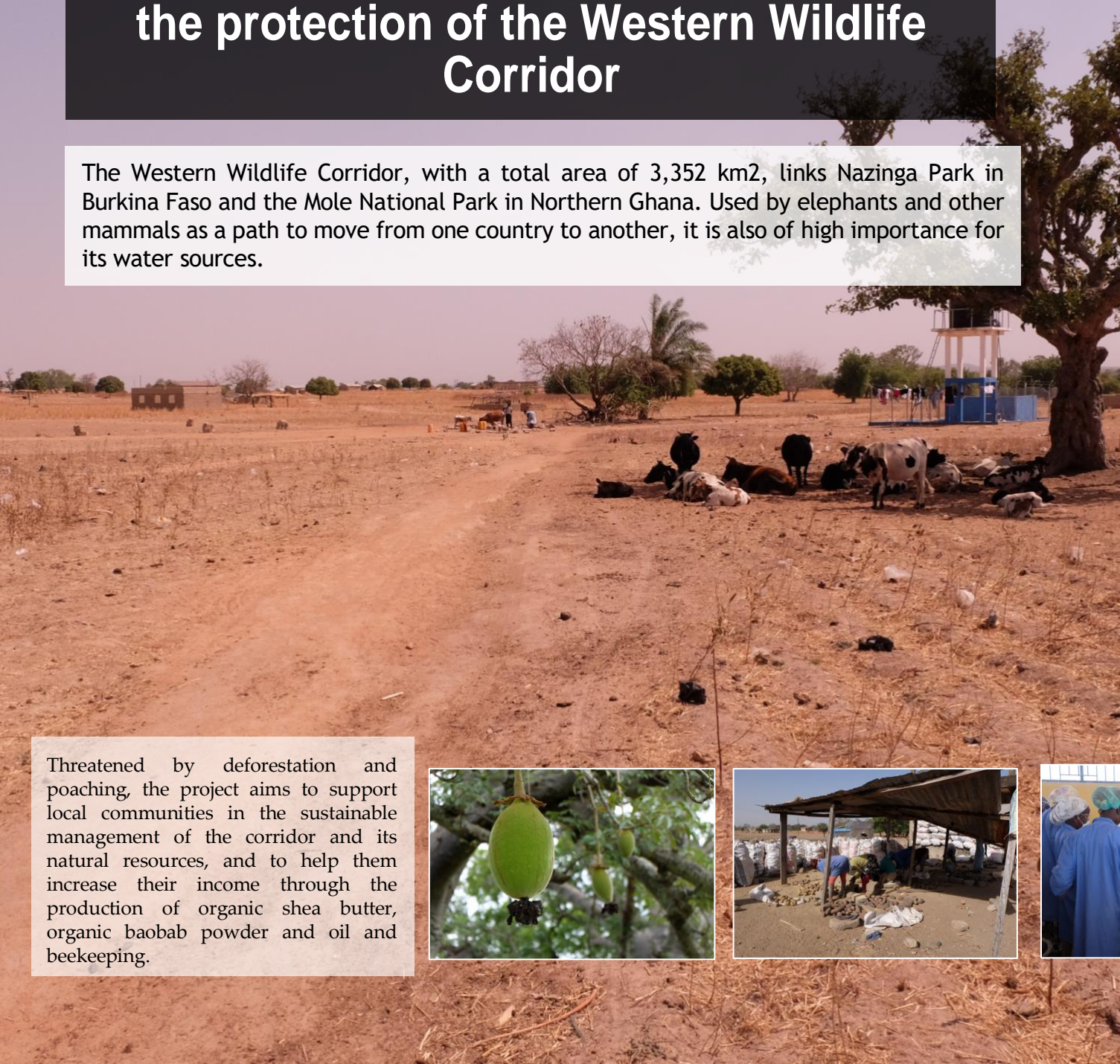


Shea butter and organic baobab powder for the protection of the Western Wildlife Corridor

The Western Wildlife Corridor, with a total area of 3,352 km², links Nazinga Park in Burkina Faso and the Mole National Park in Northern Ghana. Used by elephants and other mammals as a path to move from one country to another, it is also of high importance for its water sources.

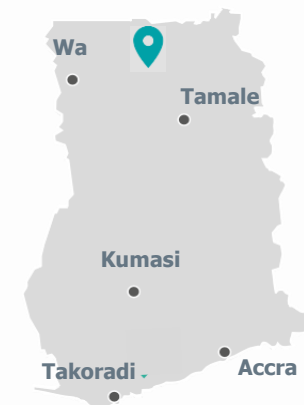


Threatened by deforestation and poaching, the project aims to support local communities in the sustainable management of the corridor and its natural resources, and to help them increase their income through the production of organic shea butter, organic baobab powder and oil and beekeeping.



GHANA

Full cost: 366,000 euros
Duration: 3.5 years
Start: July 2021



A project implemented by:



And supported by:





The site and its biodiversity

The Western Wildlife Corridor is considered one of the most important wildlife sanctuaries in the country, with species such as the elephant (*Loxodonta africana*), the roan antelope (*Hippotragus equinus*), the patas monkey (*Erythrocebus patas*), or the baboon (*Papio anubis*).

Although this area is the driest part of the country, due to its proximity to the Sahara Desert, it has rich and varied ecosystems.

Major issues

Deforestation for charcoal production, illegal logging of rare plant species, clearing for agriculture with the use of bushfires and poaching are all major threats to the corridor today and the project aims to address them.

In addition, illegal mining sites have recently re-emerged in disturbing proportions within this landscape.

If nothing is done, not only will the balance of this ecosystem be destroyed,

but also, the vulnerability of the populations surrounding it will increase.

Committed partners

ORGiiS is highly involved in the Western Corridor landscape in terms of economic development and support to the baobab and shea value chains as a tool for women empowerment and enhancing livelihood but also in terms of wildlife conservation by working with the CREMAs along the Sisili river.

The project and the prospects for change

The project aims to ensure sustainable management of the corridor, by and for the benefit of local communities, through the development of income-generating green value chains and strengthening of community governance structures.

The objectives of the project are the following:

- Contribute to the development of sustainable economic sectors in and around the areas to be protected through the strengthening of the organic shea butter, organic baobab powder and oil sectors as well as the development of a beekeeping activity allowing the diversification of local communities' income.
- Improve biodiversity conservation and the sustainable use of natural resources by:

- (1) Strengthening existing CREMAs.
- (2) Setting up effective community patrols to reduce illegal activities and monitor wildlife in the area.
- (3) Increasing tree cover on the banks of waterways.

- Sustain the model by strengthening the civil society players and by capitalizing and disseminating the project lessons learnt.

Expected results

Biodiversity Conservation

- 51,000 seedlings planted;
- 3 strengthened CREMAs;
- 3 Conservation Funds established with management plan elaborated;
- Support to community patrols with 35 trained and equipped patrollers.

Socio-economic Development

- 3,440 farmers registered and trained in good agricultural practices;
- 60 beekeepers trained and 120 beehives provided;
- 13,000 bags of shea nuts and 200 tons of shea butter produced per year;
- Rehabilitation of a shea butter processing center;
- 130 tons of baobab powder and 4 tons of baobab oil produced per year;
- Organic certification for shea and baobab.

