



# AAK Personal Care Shea Ingredients

May 2026

AAK is dedicated to maximize the use of resources throughout the value chain. Our personal care portfolio features shea ingredients primarily derived from the side fraction of shea olein, except for LIPEX 102, which is produced from shea oil.

## Shea Kernel Processing and Fractionation

When shea kernels are crushed, the shea oil is extracted. This oil undergoes fractionation, resulting in a main fraction known as shea stearin—a hard fraction commonly used as a cocoa butter equivalent by chocolate and confectionery manufacturers.

## Utilization of Shea Olein Side Fraction

The secondary fraction from this process is shea olein. While shea olein is mainly sold as biodiesel, AAK has, for nearly forty years, utilized a portion of this side stream to create high-performing shea ingredients for cosmetic customers. Through additional processing, shea olein is transformed into shea butters, clear oils, and esters for use in personal care formulations.

## Our Shea Portfolio

The following range of shea ingredients is made from the shea olein fraction:

- LIPEX Shea
- LIPEX SheaSoft TR
- LIPEX SheaLiquid TR
- LIPEX 205
- LIPEX SheaClear
- LIPEX I'Sens
- LIPEX SheaSolve
- LIPEX SheaLuxe TR
- LIPEX SheaTris

These ingredients are defined by the following characteristics:

- They are derived from a side stream of food-grade shea oil production, where the primary fraction is used for food applications.
- They valorize a secondary fraction of shea oil that would otherwise be used for lower-value applications, such as biofuel.
- They are cosmetic ingredients produced from a by-product of shea oil fractionation.

## Environmental Claims and Regulatory Considerations

For now we do not include the "Upcycled" claim for our shea ingredients. This is because "Upcycled" is recognized as an environmental claim under EU consumer law. As a company, we are committed to providing our customers with information that is **transparent, accurate, and reliable**—this is a core element of our business culture, not only a legal requirement. Given that there is currently **no clear legal definition of “upcycled”**, and in light of the **new legislation entering into force in September 2026**, the proposed wording reflects the most appropriate and defensible claim we can make at this stage.