



MENTEE

Sandra Letio

Founder & Managing Director, Pelere Group Limited



Uganda

Sandra Letio is the founder and managing director of Pelere Group Limited, a pioneering Ugandan company that processes Nilotica Shea and oilseeds into high-quality cosmetics and personal care products. She partners with Vitellaria Nilotica shea farmers across Northern, West Nile, and Northeast Uganda to source organic shea fruit, emphasizing sustainability and economic development. Sandra holds a Bachelor of Science in Physics and Mathematics and a First-Class degree in Business Administration. Recognized as a Young Entrepreneur and Ugandan Ambassador (2016–2019), she also served as National Coordinator for the Commonwealth Alliance for Young Entrepreneurs East Africa (CAYE-EA). A dedicated community leader, Sandra has collaborated with global organizations such as the UN, UN Women, UNCTAD, and Uganda National Bureau of Standards. Her accolades include the UNCTAD Best Pitch Award (2016) and Best Ye! Ambassador (2018), and in 2017, New Vision named her one of Uganda's "40 Under 40 Most Elite, Inspirational, and Influential Women." Through sustainable business practices and community empowerment, Sandra continues to drive change and shape Uganda's economic landscape.

Pelere Group Limited

Founded in 2012, Pelere Group Limited is a pioneering Ugandan social enterprise that enhances the value of Nilotica shea butter and oilseeds while promoting sustainability. The company produces organic cosmetics, personal care items, and eco-friendly detergents using responsibly sourced ingredients from local Vitellaria Nilotica trees and partners with over 5,000 farmers under ethical sourcing and fair trade practices. In August 2024, Pelere broke ground on a state-of-the-art facility in Gulu City with a daily processing capacity of 10 tonnes of raw oilseeds, aiming to benefit over one million farmers by 2026. Additionally, its Matugga facility refines and packages products under four brands—bulk raw materials, Pelere Sheabutter, Elevate Naturals, and Tropicare—serving both local and international markets. Pelere Group is committed to fostering economic growth, environmental conservation, and community empowerment through innovation and social responsibility.



MENTOR

Sara Shymko

Executive Director,
Agriculture in the Classroom