

**Cities Farming for the Future**

**FREETOWN,  
SIERRA LEONE**



## **Urban and Peri-urban Agriculture in Freetown**

A Five Year Rolling  
City Strategic Agenda  
(2009-2013)



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- ❖ Njala University
- ❖ Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food Security
- ❖ Ministry of Lands and Country Planning
- ❖ Ministry of Health and Sanitation
- ❖ Freetown City Council
- ❖ National farmers Association of Sierra Leone
- ❖ Institute of Agricultural research

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## BACKGROUND

The Sierra Leone civil strife which occurred between 1991 and 2001 internally displaced an estimated 60 per cent of the rural population to urban areas. After the cessation of hostilities, a significant number of rurally displaced persons refused to be repatriated to their rural communities, rather many preferred to migrate into the cities in search of jobs and improved living conditions. Even prior to the civil strife, rural-urban migration has continued to occur in Sierra Leone, increasing from 5.87% in 1963 to 15.53% between 1990 and 2004. This increased population created high pressures on food supplies and urban facilities and services. As a country emerging from civil war, the government of Sierra Leone cannot provide the quality food required by the population. Therefore the government is compelled to rely on foreign aid and importation of many food items which are expensive and are often unaffordable by many resource-poor Sierra Leoneans.

In recognition of the magnitude of the food crisis, the President of the Republic of Sierra Leone, Dr Tijan kabbah in 2002 launched a national Food Security Programme named “Operation Feed the Nation”. In launching the programme, His Excellency President Tijan Kabba declared that by the year 2010, no Sierra Leonean must go the bed hungry every night.

The main thrust of this programme was to significantly augment domestic food production through increased food production in all agricultural production systems including urban and peri-urban agriculture (UPA).

Majority of the rural migrants are skillful farmers who developed a keen interest in urban agriculture as the best option for food supply, survival and for achieving sustainable livelihoods. Many internally displaced persons (IDPs) who fled their homes during the war quickly embarked on their traditional farming skills and made a decent living to sustain their families.

Urban and peri-urban agriculture has always been practiced in Freetown as a source of food, income and employment. It contributes substantially to the local economic development of Freetown and the country as a whole. Major crops grown are different types of vegetables, including cassava leaves, potato leaves, sorrel, “krain krain”, amaranthus, okra, tomatoes and other local/indigenous vegetables. Rice is grown as a sole crop in the lowlands of the periphery (i.e. east and west) of Freetown during the wet season. Livestock reared in urban areas include poultry (chickens, pigeons, Guinea fowl, ducks, etc), rabbits in urban areas and mostly goats and sheep in peri-urban areas.

Within Freetown, agriculture is an important economic activity, providing productive employment to over 1400 people of which 1105 are females and 285 are males. Furthermore, UPA provides income and economic livelihoods for producers and their households. Incomes obtained from agriculture are used to pay school fees, rent, medical bills and meet other important domestic expenditures such as payment for electricity, water and other urban services. Urban agriculture is also a source of permanent full time or part time employment to many urban dwellers. Agricultural inputs such as tools, fertilizers, and pesticides are purchased from proceeds of urban agriculture.

Although urban agriculture had long been practiced by Freetown dwellers, its importance was not recognized and supported by policymakers. However, after the civil war, urban agriculture was perceived as a major contributor to the achievement of food security in Sierra Leone, especially in Freetown. Moreover, urban agriculture provides fresh vegetables and fruits to urban dwellers. In many

instances, consumers may even purchase vegetables on the farm sites to ensure that they are fresh and succulent.

The mountains along the Peninsular in Freetown have been inhabited by people who exploit the vegetation there leaving the mountains bare of vegetation, resulting in major soil erosion problems. Through urban agriculture, most of these areas have been rehabilitated with valuable vegetables that provide a cover for the land thereby drastically reducing water erosion.

In many cities where urban agriculture is practiced, it is well documented that urban agriculture ameliorates the micro climate through the cultivation of flowers and ornamentals that provide beautiful scenery and a fresh fragrance. In addition, most of the urban waste generated is decomposable organic materials. These wastes can be easily converted to organic compost manure that can be used for vegetable production, thus assisting in cleaning the environment.

The agricultural sector review of Sierra Leone sponsored by the government of Sierra Leone, FAO and World Bank recognized the importance of urban and peri-urban agriculture in poverty alleviation and ensuring food security. Consequently local and international Non-governmental Organizations initiated urban and peri-urban agriculture programmes in Freetown.

A major project titled Freetown Urban and Peri-urban Project (FUPAP), within the frame of the Cities Farming for the Future (CFF) program of the International Network of Resource Centres on Urban Agriculture and Food Security (RUAF) was launched in 2006 by the International Water Management Institute (IWMI), Responsible RUAF Centre for Anglophone West Africa. The goal of this project was to support city authorities in recognizing the benefits of urban agriculture whilst addressing urban poverty, food security and improved urban environmental management. The vision and mission of the FUPAP multi-stakeholder forum were outlined as follows:

## **VISION**

***By 2011, urban and peri-urban agriculture in Freetown is recognized as significantly contributing to the achievement of urban food security, reducing urban poverty and its activities well integrated into the Municipal planning process for a vibrant, clean, green and beautiful city.***

## **MISSION**

***'The promotion and development of urban and peri-urban agriculture initiated through a multi-stakeholder forum involving stakeholders and a conducive political environment that will facilitate its integration into urban planning to ensure sustainable implementation of UPA activities for improved livelihoods of urban dwellers.***

# **CHALLENGES AND STRATEGIC INTERVENTIONS TO PROMOTE THE DEVELOPMENT OF URBAN AND PERI-URBAN AGRICULTURE (UPA) IN FREETOWN**

Despite the significant role played by UPA in poverty alleviation, food security and addressing the issue of unemployment in Freetown, many problems associated with it remains. Through an exploratory study, several problems constraining the development of UPA in Freetown have been identified and characterized. These include pressure for land and security on tenure, lack of clean water for production, inadequate and untimely supply of farm inputs, and inadequate post-production handling and management. In an attempt to address these issues, the Freetown Urban and Peri-urban Project (FUPAP), adopted the approach known as “Multi stakeholder Processes for Action Planning and Policy formulation (MPAP)” which involved the participation of various institutions and organizations in a joint diagnosis of the challenges confronting UPA development in Freetown through exploratory studies.

Several challenges that constrain UPA production in Freetown prevent the sector to derive its full potential of contributing to the city’s Gross Domestic Product (GDP). Some of these challenges include;

## **1. Promotion of urban and peri-urban agriculture**

There is a vital need for public awareness of the strategic importance of urban agriculture among stakeholders in order to solicit common agreement and commitment in creating an enabling environment for the development of urban agriculture. This can be achieved partly through formulation or revision of Acts and Bye-laws, and education programmes for the promotion of urban and peri-urban agriculture.

## **2. Capacity strengthening and assistance to urban farmers**

Urban farmers in Freetown require capacity strengthening in critical aspects of urban agricultural production such as soil and water management, pest control and management, storage, processing (value addition), and marketing of their products for maximum returns. Capacity strengthening can be achieved through well planned and organized participatory training in these topics as well as in strengthening of Farmer Associations in advocacy and negotiation skills

## **3. Land Availability/Security and Management**

Land is an important factor constraining the development of UPA in Freetown. There is a fierce competition for the use of land between urban agriculture and development of residential areas. Most of the wetlands, presumably owned by the government, have been encroached upon for estate development. As a result, urban farmers are constantly being ejected from traditional lands used for urban farming.

Large parcels of coastal land are available along the Atlantic Ocean in Freetown. However, this land has a perennial problem of high salinity caused by sea water intrusion. Farmers have been forced to abandon their fields and crops when sea water floods their crops and cause huge losses. This land can be reclaimed and developed for urban farming.

Land for urban agriculture in Freetown is inadequate and insecure. Therefore, the Government needs to formalize the use of its land for urban agriculture activities especially along the coast. Land-use for urban agriculture should also be integrated into urban planning, ensures the protection of zoned lands and establish a legal framework to protect farmers from ad hoc eviction by landowners.

Recycling of organic waste for urban agricultural use should be integrated into waste management plan.

#### **4. Water management**

Access to safe drinking water is a serious problem in Freetown. There is frequent and prevalent shortage of water in the city, and this has equally constrained urban farmers in urban agriculture production efforts. Water for irrigation of crops, is not available especially during the dry season. Therefore, dry season crop production depends on stream flows (75%) and this limits production. Farmers cultivate the valley bottoms during this period where land is also limiting. This is aggravated by the lack of appropriate irrigation systems and basic irrigation tools such as watering cans. Most farmers use the splashing method which is inefficient.

Farmers should be assisted to acquire and adopt basic irrigation tools such as watering cans, treadle pumps, etc for efficient water use, to develop treatment systems and reuse of wastewater in urban agriculture using appropriate, cheap and safe technologies. Salty mangrove wetlands could also be effectively managed for urban agriculture.

#### **5. Crop pests and diseases**

Crop pests remain a major problem for urban farmers. Insect pests such as grasshoppers, thrips and rodents pests, mainly mice and rats cause extensive crop destruction in urban farms. Farmers lack the basic technical knowledge in pest management to deal with these pests. Farmers have therefore resorted to using ineffective substances such dangerous chemicals to control pests.

#### **6. Agricultural inputs**

Agricultural inputs such as seeds, fertilizers, and pesticides and livestock feed, drugs and vaccines, concentrates are unaffordable, especially for resource poor urban farmers. Most of these farmers are organized into groups and associations which remain rather dormant. This situation has not allowed the associations to access farm inputs and credits because only functional groups qualify for such assistance. Farm input supply by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food Security, MAFFS, is inadequate to meet the needs of urban farmers, therefore input supply efforts need to be complemented.



## **7. Marketing, storing and processing of urban agriculture products**

Existing poor marketing infrastructure offers very little marketing opportunities, especially to farmers in the comparatively less dense areas with low density of commercial and public transport system. Fresh farm produce cannot be moved quickly to the major marketing centres in the city centre.

Inadequate storage facilities and poor post-harvest handling and management techniques reduce their shelf life and results in high losses of perishable vegetables.

Urban farmers lack value-addition techniques that will enable their products attract competitive prices. These farmers also require assistance in improved transportation network to ensure easy access to markets especially for farmers in the east and west end of Freetown, education in process and storage mechanism and provision of appropriate processing and storage facilities and the re-establishment of valuable market relationships with hotel, tourism and hospitality industries.

Furthermore, the government should regulate import of agricultural produce to minimize competition with local food producers.

## **8. Promotion of investments in and financing urban agriculture**

Majority of urban farmers are poor and lack the necessary financial capacity to expand their urban farming activities. Urban farmers in Freetown do not have access to micro-loans or other forms of financial assistance. Urban farming is intensive and requires huge quantities of fertilizers, manure, seeds and other farm inputs. These inputs are expensive and most urban farmers are so poor that they cannot afford these inputs; therefore they are restricted to subsistence small-scale farming.

There is a need to design micro-credit programmes to assist farmer's process and commercialize their products, develop non-traditional agricultural programmes (rabbitary, grasscutter, snail, mushroom, etc) that requires less land area for production.

The Government should also grant subsidies on expensive agricultural inputs such as fertilizers, pesticides, tools, animal feed concentrates seeds, etc.

## **9. Monitoring and evaluation and research in urban agriculture**

Proper and periodic gathering of information on urban agriculture is vital to the sustenance of urban agriculture in Freetown. Therefore, proper monitoring and evaluation networking and research in urban agriculture are needed to ensure that emerging issues are adequately addressed on time to effectively promote urban agriculture.

## **10. Regulatory policies for urban agriculture**

Urban agriculture in Freetown had been disadvantaged by prohibitive policies regarding land use, environmental and health hazards, unattractive monetary policies and poor coordination and networking of urban agricultural projects/programmes. There is a need to develop enabling guidelines and policies for land use and environmental/health standards, the establishment of legal framework to regulate interests on loans charged by financial institutions, and set up institutional arrangements for proper networking and coordination of urban and peri-urban agriculture related projects.

## **ADDRESSING THE PROBLEMS OF URBAN AND PERI-URBAN AGRICULTURE IN FREETOWN**

Initiatives to understand and find possible solutions to the problems of urban agriculture commenced in 2006 by the Freetown Urban and Peri-urban Agricultural Project (FUPAP). This project involved members of the Multi-stakeholder Processes for Action Planning and Policy Formulation (MPAP) and supported the following major activities.

1. The project supported a series of exploratory studies which included urban agriculture inventory, stakeholder analysis, land use mapping, and policy review and gender aspects of urban agriculture. The urban agriculture inventory documented different farming activities in the Freetown Municipal boundary. The stakeholder analysis profiled all the stakeholders in urban agriculture in Freetown, while Policy review analysis reviewed all existing policies affecting urban agriculture. Land Use Mapping mapped out all used and unused land, and other resources in Freetown, while the Gender case Analysis documented specific roles of men and women in urban agriculture. The exploratory study reports have been synthesized into a short Policy Narrative.
2. After the exploratory studies, a Multi-stakeholder forum on urban agriculture was organized where development issues for intervention in urban agriculture were identified and a joint Action Plan developed. The emerging issues for intervention to promote the development of Urban Agriculture in Freetown included:
  - The promotion of UPA through awareness creation and sensitisation
  - Capacity building and assistance to UPA farmers through educating farmers on storing, processing and marketing UPA Products.
  - Regular assessment of the UPA situation in Freetown
  - Water management (acquisition of irrigation tools, treatment of waste water, management of saline water)
  - Land availability (Government to formalize use of land for UPA, incorporate land use for UPA into urban planning, formulate a legal framework to protect urban farmers)
  - Marketing, storage and processing (regulate importation of agricultural produce, link farmers with hotels and tourism, improve transportation)

The issues considered for Action Planning were:

- Value addition (efficient sealing and drying of agricultural produce)
- Production and processing (through the establishment of Farmer Field Schools,( FFS) Training and adoption of integrated pest management (IPM) practices, distribution of improved and certified seeds, supply and use of appropriate fertilizers, and production systems.).
- Marketing (linkages with hotels and transport unions,
- Targeting and supporting the youths and farmer groups.

3. The Multi-stakeholder forum then formulated a Pilot Project titled "Value addition to UPA products towards increased marketability", which was implemented by the MPAP team. The objective of this pilot project was outlined as follows: to

- develop the capacity of urban farmers in value addition including , processing and packaging,
- improve agricultural production practices through facilitation and training in the use of improved irrigation practices, and integrated pest management
- facilitate acquisition of farm inputs and
- Strengthen capacities in post-production handling of vegetables.

The Pilot project was implemented in two urban Farming Communities, namely Congo Water and Potor Levuma in Freetown. The following intervention strategies were implemented:

- Farming communities at these sites were provided with basic farm inputs such as tools, fertilizers and seeds to assess the effect of timely supply of farm inputs on farmers production levels
- Irrigation facilities such as hand dug wells were improved by further deepening and concreting them. In addition, the farmers were provided with a treadle pumps and were trained in basic irrigation application and pump maintenance techniques.
- Farmers were trained in integrated pest management and Post-production techniques
- Demonstration was made in the safe handling of vegetables, processing and packaging for the supply of safe and hygienic vegetables for consumption.

## **POTENTIALS AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR DEVELOPING URBAN AND PERI-URBAN AGRICULTURE IN FREETOWN**

Urban agriculture holds high potentials for supporting efforts to achieve national food security and national development. Policymakers and other relevant stakeholders have now realized the importance of urban agriculture, and are prepared to promote and support its development and expansion. Several opportunities exist for the promotion of urban agriculture; these include:

1. *Political commitment* – The Agricultural Sector Review of Sierra Leone sponsored by the Government (GoSL) of Sierra Leone, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations and World Bank recognized urban agriculture as vital to poverty alleviation and food security. The promotion of UPA will therefore be championed by government
2. *Marketing* – The hotel and tourism sector continues to provide a large and expanding market outlet for UPA farmers. Unfortunately, during the war, this market deteriorated due to the effects of the civil strife. Now that the war is over UA farmers are expected to exploit the wider market to sell their produce.
3. *Waste management* – Over 90% of the urban waste generated in Freetown is degradable organic materials which can be easily converted into compost manure for use in vegetable production. Unfortunately, these wastes still continue to litter the streets of Freetown causing environmental pollution and health hazards. With the expansion of urban agriculture activities, these wastes can be effectively used for crop production whilst simultaneously improving on the micro-environment.

## THE FREETOWN CITY STRATEGIC AGENDA: GOAL AND OBJECTIVES

One of the principal outputs of the FUPAP project was the participatory development and design of a **Five Year (2009-2013) Rolling Freetown City Strategic Agenda**. The overall goal of the Freetown City Strategic Agenda is to promote the development of urban and peri-urban agriculture that will significantly contribute to urban poverty reduction, food security and improved urban environmental management. With this objective and vision the following activities were prioritized for actualization of the development of urban and peri-urban agriculture in Freetown.

1. Embark on a general public awareness about the benefits of urban agriculture and facilitate access to and sharing of information on urban agriculture.
2. Develop the agricultural production and marketing capacities of urban farmers
3. Improve irrigation facilities and access to quality water for urban farmers
4. Improve value addition to UPA Products to improve their shelf life and marketability
5. Create an enabling environment for processing, storage and marketability of urban and peri-urban products
6. Establish guidelines, policies and regulations that are conducive for efficient, sustainable land use and environmentally friendly urban and peri-urban agriculture in Sierra Leone
7. Create an easily accessible micro-credit and financial arrangement for farmers to have access to financial assistance for UPA.
8. Promote and support research in urban agriculture as a means of solving crucial problems relevant to the development of urban agriculture in Sierra Leone.

### Sustainability of the City Strategic Agenda

The major feature and merit of the MPAP process is institutionalization and integration of urban and peri-urban agriculture into different stakeholder institution policies. In this regard, sustainability is guaranteed. For instance, Njala University, a major agricultural training institution, has incorporated urban and peri-urban agriculture into its agriculture curriculum,. The Freetown City Council has put modalities in place for the full integration of urban and peri-urban agriculture into its city planning agenda. The Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food Security, MAFFS has developed enabling policies for urban agriculture to enhance increased food production and achieve urban Food security. Similarly, other stakeholder institutions are expected to make necessary provisions for the full integration and operation of policies towards the promotion of urban and peri-urban agriculture in Sierra Leone. In addition, the strategic agenda will be periodically reviewed to integrate emerging issues and modify implementation plans.

# **INSTITUTIONAL ROLES IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CITY STRATEGIC AGENDA**

Development of urban agriculture adopts the Multi-stakeholder Processes for Action Planning and Policy Formulation (MPAP) where each institution is perceived as a major stakeholder with a specific functional role. The following institutions are identified and expected to fully participate in the implementation of this strategic agenda.

## **1. Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food security (MAFFS)**

MAFFS has the national mandate to implement government policies on urban agriculture in the Freetown municipality. It provides extension services through the dissemination of information on appropriate technologies and training of farmers and other target beneficiaries in improved agricultural production storage, processing and marketing methods. It has the human and technical capacities that will be required for the implementation of the strategic agenda activities. The extension staff of MAFFS will mobilize the target beneficiaries and also offer training in extension services on issues identified and described in the log frame of the agenda.

## **2. The Freetown City Council (FCC)**

The FCC is the political administrative office of the [Freetown Municipality](#). In the context of the decentralization arrangement, political and economic development is decentralized to the lower level of governance and the city council thus becomes the key institution for planning and implementing community development programmes.

FCC programmes on agriculture are planned and implemented through a sub-committee on agriculture. This sub-committee is composed of councilors who approve agricultural plans and allocate resources for agriculture activities within the city council. In addition to approving and allocating resources for agricultural development, the sub-committees develop and advise on operational policies, guidelines and regulations and advise on their implementation.

## **3. National Association of Farmers of Sierra Leone (NAFSL)**

The NAFSL is the umbrella organization for Farmer groups and Associations in Sierra Leone. It has nationwide presence with area and district groupings. Within the [Freetown Municipality](#), the NAFSL has organized target farmer beneficiaries into smaller associations, thus creating the critical mass that is required for effective implementation of the [City Plan](#). The NAFSL Secretariat in Freetown will be involved in the mobilization of its members for field activities. Its leadership structures are well organized and recognized and opportunities exist to exploit it for lobbying government and other institutions for policy reviews and support.

## **4. The Njala University (NU)**

The NU is a research, and tertiary education and training institution that also provide technical services. Such services will include the development of agricultural innovations for the target beneficiaries, training of project staff and on-farm demonstrations and education of farmers. Challenges and constraints that may require short-term research will be undertaken by this institution.

The NU will also provide technical services in formulating and packaging lessons learned in the implementation of the [strategic agenda](#) into policy briefs and recommendations, as well as conduct short term case studies on the agenda.

## **5. Ministry of Lands and Country Planning (MLCP)**

The MLCP is responsible for land use policy formulation and planning, and thus plays a crucial role in land use allocation for agriculture as well as enforcement of regulations on land use. Most of the lands ([83.51%](#)) used for agriculture by the UPA communities are government lands and are supposed to be protected by the MLCP. One major challenge for urban farmers is security of tenure due to increasing value for other land uses rather than for agriculture, and urbanization. The MLCP, as one of the participating institutions of FUPAP, will enforce its land use plans within the Freetown Municipality. It will also be involved in identifying open spaces that could be zoned and protected for urban agriculture activities, such as urban greening, horticulture and livestock grazing.

## **Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)**

During the past 4-5 years, FAO has introduced and trained farmers in integrated production and pest management practices in Farmer Field Schools (FFS) .FAO thus has the capacity for training farmers and also providing inputs and strengthening capacities of the agricultural extension agents. Under the [Strategic Agenda](#), collaboration will be established with the FAO, using the FFS concept to train farmers on IPM. FAO's role will include advocacy to mobilize additional funding to support implementation of the strategic agenda.

## **Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs)**

At the time of the FUPAP organized forum, no development NGO consider working on UPA in Freetown. However, it is envisaged that with time and through the awareness creation by FUPAP, NGOs will show interest and be willing to implement agricultural activities in and around Freetown. They will be added to the forum.

## PROJECT LOG-FRAME FOR THE STRATEGIC AGENDA

The following project log-frame has been designed to target the 8 strategic objectives outlined for the five year strategic agenda.

### Strategic objective 1

#### Provide adequate and reliable quality farmland for UPA

Sub-Objective	Strategies	Activities	Expected Outcomes	OVIs	Implementing Responsibility	Time Frame (2009-2013)			Indicative Budget (000 Leones)	Potential Donor Agency
						1 (yr)	2-3 (yrs)	4-5 (yrs)		
1.1 To ensure land availability /security for production for UPA 1.2 To develop guidelines for land use regulations that promote UPA development 1.3 To enforce existing regulations on land use	Instituting formal government action on land use through legal framework on urban planning in consultation with other stakeholders Consultation and consensus building Consultations and collaboration	1.1.Take inventory and mapping of government lands	Land available for UPA	20% additional land available for UPA	MAFFS, Law Department Ministry of Lands NAFSL		X		5,000,000	Ministry of Lands and Country Planning, FCC, EU EU, GoSL, DFID FUPA P
		1.2 Draft legal framework for access to the lands for UPA	-Legal framework for UPA farmers to have access to land	Legal framework document available	Law Department			X	3,000,000	
		1.3 Lobby policy makers and sensitize stakeholders accordingly	- Stakeholders committed to UPA		FUPAP, FCC, MAFFS	X			2,000,000	
		2.1 Hold workshops and seminars to formulate guidelines	-Guideline developed Compliance to regulations	Guideline document	Ministry of lands, FCC, MPAP	X	X		2,500,000	
						X	X			

1.4 To demarcate zones in the urban landscape for UPA	with key stakeholders in the community Research methodology	3.1 Hold meetings to sensitize public	Preparation of land use maps and reports	MoU between all stakeholders in enforcing regulation on land use	Ministry of lands, Law Department, FCC				2,000,000	FUPA P, FCC  GoSL, FCC, DFID  Ministry of Lands and Country Planning, EU
		3.2 Carry out media sensitization		Maps and reports	Ministry of lands, FCC			X	9,000,000	
		3.3 Carry out geophysical and socio-economic inventory and land use planning		Land demarcated and maps developed						



**Strategic objective 2:**

**Create and promote general public awareness about UPA contribution to food security and sound environmental management**

Sub-Objective	Strategies	Activities	Expected Outcomes	OVIs	Implementing Responsibility	Time Frame (2009-2013)			Indicative Budget (000 Leones)	Potential Donor Agency
						1 (yr)	2-3 (yrs)	4-5 (yrs)		
2.1 Create awareness among policy makers and other stakeholders to support the development of UPA	Undertaking educational programmes in institutions, public places, and the media to create awareness	2.1 Carry out media and public meetings to promote UPA	Stakeholders aware of the operations of UPA	Stakeholders actively participating	MAFFS FCC NAFSL	X	X	X	2,500,000	
		2.2 Set up a coordinating committee to handle UPA matters	UPA Activities Streamlines	Coordination committee in place and operational	MAFS, FCC, NAFSL	X			8,000,000	
	Ensure the coordination of UPA activities to elicit support from all stakeholders	2.3 Set up a Task Force to work on FCC Acts and Bye-Laws	Appropriate regulations to facilitate UPA put in place	Task force in place and regulations enforced	MAFS, FCC, Law Department		X		2,000,000	

### Strategic objective 3

Create a compatible financial arrangement for farmers to have access to financial assistance.

Sub-Objective	Strategies	Activities	Expected Outcomes	OVIs	Implementing Responsibility	Time Frame (2009-2013)			Indicative Budget (000 Leones)	Potential Donor Agency
						1 (yr)	2-3 (yrs)	4-5 (yrs)		
3.1 To ensure the promotion of investment in and financing of UPA	Creating of appropriate mechanisms for farmers to access funds for UPA activities	3.1.1 identify and assess funding conditions 3.1.2 sensitize beneficiaries and link them to the funding sources	Funding sources identified and beneficiaries aware of conditions  Beneficiaries have access to banks and funding	50% of UPA farmers will have access to funds  10% increase in investment for UPA	MAFS, Financial Institutions, Line Ministries NAFSL NAFS, FCC, Legal Department NAFSL FAO ADSL BSL MAFS and NGOS	X	X	X	1,500,000  1,500,000  1,500,000  1,000,000  300,000,000	MoDE P, FUPA P, MAFFS NAFSL FUPA P, FCC, MAFFS FUPA P FUPA P, MAFFS BSL, EU
3.2 To establish community village\peoples/ Bank	Putting in place appropriate governmental policies that create conducive environment for investment in urban agriculture  Collaboration with GOS, the BSL, NGOs and other commercial banks	3.1.3 Identify financial programmes that can assist UPA farmers  3.1.4. Encourage governmental and other institutions to provide reasonable conditions for investment and funding of UPA  3.1.5 Establish new community banking institutions	Financial programmes available to assist UPA farmers  Favourable conditions for funding and investment formulated. Cross-cutting issues on UPA related projects identified and operational	1 Modus operandi developed for all UPA projects and programmes			X			

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#### Strategic objective 4

**Develop the capacities, both human and materials, of urban farmers**

Sub-Objective	Strategies	Activities	Expected Outcomes	OVIs	Implementing Responsibility	Time Frame (2009-2013)			Indicative Budget (000 Leones)	Potential Donor Agency
						1 (yr)	2-3 (yrs)	4-5 (yrs)		
4.1. To Improve the knowledge base of UPA Farmers	Training farmers on improved agricultural activities	4.1.1 Train farmers on basic accounting and farm budget 4.1.2 Train Farmers on improved agronomic practices through the FFS concept.	Numeric Record keeping Farm budget Production levels Health and Nutrition Rational use of net income	30% farmers able to Keep input/output records Prepare reasonable farm budgets	MAFS DFTN/FAO NGOs in UPA Councils R-PSD Project  Chamber of Commerce		X	X	3,000,000 3,000,000 3,000,000	MAFFS, NU, NGOs
4.2. To provide viable, reliable, and improved seed	Providing a reliable source of good quality seeds for UPA farmers	4.1.3 Train farmers on financial management and use					X			
	Training farmers to develop seed bank	4.2.1 Train farmers on seed production, processing and storage for self reliance	Ready seeds/tools for UPA activities	50% of the farmers have access to tools		X	X	X	3,000,000	SMP, NU
			Increased		MAFS R-PSD			X	1,500,000	

sources	Institute measures ensure the availability of farm inputs for UPA farmers	4.2.2 Monitor participatory supplies and use	production due to improved seeds	Positive report on impact assessment	program me		X		2,500,000	FUPAP, NAFSL
To ensure availability of farm inputs	Inclusion of storage training education into FFS curriculum	4.2.3 Train farmers to establish their old contacts with agencies/suppliers for sustainability			Councils		X		1,500,000	
	Provision of storage using appropriate technology	10.1 Identify source of farm inputs	Farmers have access to farm inputs	50% of farmers have access to inputs	NGOs in UPA			X	15,000,000	FUPAP, NAFSL
4.3 To Educate farmers on storage mechanisms and provide appropriate storage facilities	Provide cold rooms at market places to ensure preservation of UPA products	10.2 Procure and distribute farm inputs			Chamber of Commerce					FUPAP, NAFSL
		4.3.1 Organize workshop on storage practices for UPA farmers	Storage systems improved	5 storage facilities constructed	NAFSL, FCC, MAFFS		X		2,500,000	
	Provide solar panel storage devices	4.3.2 Improve existing slaughter houses and construct new ones	Availability of fresh supply of agricultural produce in the market	2 trainings held annually		X		X	20,000,000	FUPAP RUAF
	Sensitize	4.3.3 Hold farm meetings	Farmers educated on storage mechanisms	2 meetings annually with UPA farmers held	MAFS, FCC NAFSL NGOs	X	X	X	2,000,000	
		4.3.4 Hold radio discussions, jingles, and use posters to educate farmers and	Fresh	50% increase in Quantity of		X	X		2,500,000	MAFFS FAO
							X		2,000,000	MAFFS FUPAP
										MAFFS

4.4. To reduce post harvest losses	farmers on the importance of proper storage mechanisms	public 4.3.5 Encourage the salting of meat for storage 4.3.6 Encourage the pounding of some vegetables for storage 4.3.7 Encourage the production of fruit juices	livestock produce in the markets  Fresh fruit juices in the markets  Existence of functional facilities  Improvement of the livelihood of farmers	fresh meat available in the market  50% increase in Quantity of fresh juices available in the market  10 functional facilities in place in place	PEMSD (MAFS)  Local Government  NGOs Chamber of Commerce and Agriculture Livestock and Veterinary Division (MAFS)					8,000,000	FUPAP
	Improving processing, storage and marketing facilities						X	X		5,000,000	MAFFS FAO
	Instituting IPM practices	- Identify existing facilities -Improve these facilities					X			25,000,000	
	Promoting animal hygiene practices	- Build/provide new ones -Sensitize and Train farmers					X			250,000,000	FUPAP
4.5. To promote crops and livestock health management practices			Healthy crops and animals	15% increase in the quality of the produce in the market						3,000,000	MAFFS MoHS FAO
							X			15,000,000	
										150,000,000	
4.6 To empower farmers to assess		4.5.1 Carry out inventory of pest diseases Identify source of agro-chemicals		60% farmers adopt IPM and 50% livestock treated for diseases	Crops Protection Division (MAFS) PEMSD						
	Train farmers on assessment methods of agrochemicals for	4.5.2 Procure and distribute agrochemicals for	Production levels of plant and animals		NAFSL	X	X			2,000,000	MAFFS FAO
											Min. of

their production levels.	production levels	UPA farmers Undertake treatment measures	determined	Mortality due to diseases reduced by 20%	PSDP		X		5,000,000	Finance		
		4.5.3 Lobby and advocate for increased tariffs on competing imported food crops/commodities			MTI		X		5,000,000	MAFFS MoLCP MAFFS, FUPAP		
					MoDEP		X					
				50% of UPA farmers perceive project as useful	MAFS/P EMSD NU NAFSL						2,000,000	MAFFS FUPAP
							10% of UPA farmers employed					
				8.1 Carry out crop cutting surveys on UA cultivated field								
				8.2 Measure yield of crops and animals								
		8.3 Carry out area measurement										
8.4 Establish yield study												

## Strategic objective 5

### Ensure the availability of year round good quality irrigation water

Sub-Objective	Strategies	Activities	Expected Outcomes	OVIs	Implementing Responsibility	Time Frame (2009-2013)			Indicative Budget (Leones)	Potential Donor Agency
						1 (yr)	2-3 (yrs)	4-5 (yrs)		
5.1 To provide all year round wholesome irrigation water for UPA farmers	Developing and improving the available water resources for UPA farmers all year round	5.1.1 Dig shallow wells for irrigation	Flourishing vegetable farming in the dry season	50% increase in high quality vegetables in the markets	LWDD/MAFS	X	X	X	15,000,000	FCC
		5.1.2 Dig deep wells and fix treadle pumps			SALWACO				105,000,000	FCC
		Divert streams to irrigate valley fringes			Councils					RUAF, EU
5.2 To provide wholesome water for irrigation	Preventing and protection of contamination of irrigation water	5.1.3 Build/check retention dams for irrigation water	Quality produce/better prices	30% of farmers	NGOs in UPA	X	X	X	500,000,000	FCC
		5.1.4 Build spring boxes to collect clean water for irrigation	More net income	Livelihood patterns improve	R-PSD Project				15,000,000	UNDP, FAO
		5.1.5 Build gravity fed systems for D/S irrigation	Better livelihood	Farmers' success stories	MoHS, MAFFS				50,000,000	MAFFS, FCC
5.3. To ensure adequate supply of quality water for farm production	Carrying out hydrological investigation Developing small irrigation schemes	5.1.6 Train farmers on:	Clean water for irrigation	Positive report on impact assessment and functionality of the irrigation	MoHS, MAFFS	X	X	X	10,000,000	FUPAP
		-Water sharing	Healthy environment for UPA farmers		MAFFS, FUPAP				5,000,000	FCC, MoHS
		-Payment of minimal fee for irrigation water	Contaminant-free		LWDD/MAFS					FCC,
		-operation simple repair and maintenance			SALWACO					
		-monitor and evaluate schemes in a participatory way								

5.4 To provide the right tools for irrigation purpose	Providing support to simple irrigation schemes	5.2.1 Sensitize /advocate not to dump refuse in the valleys	vegetables	schemes	University	X			30,000,000	MoHS FCC, MoHS
		5.2.2 Identify/provide refuse disposal points along valleys	Information on water availability for UPA	Regular Water and plant	NGOs in UPA	X	X		500,000,000	EU
		5.2.3 Link with city council to regularly collect waste	System for distribution and transportation water in place	analysis for contamination	Councils		X		200,000,000	MAFFS, FCC, FUPAP
		5.2.4 Provide VIP latrines for communities along valleys			LWDD	X			5,000,000	UNDP, FAO
		5.2.5 Train on environmental health and sanitation	Reservoir for water storage in place	Positive report on market and consumer survey	NU	X			5,000,000	FUPAP
		5.2.6 Legislate/review to punish defaulters			LWDD (MAFS) SALWACO GUM Study report	X			30,000,000	FAO UNDP,F AO
		5.2.7 Dig shallow well for laundering	Ready seeds/tools for UPA activities	Study report	Year-round availability of good quality water	X	X		6,000,000	
		5.2.8 Collect water and plant samples for contamination analysis		Year-round availability of good quality water	Year-round cultivation of food	X			5,000,000	FAO FAO, UNDP,E U
		5.3.1 Carry out discharge measurement			Ministry of Work and Technical Maintenance	X		X	4,000,000	
		5.3.2 Carry out groundwater		Year-round cultivation			X		30,000,000	FAO,



		<p>investigation</p> <p>5.3.3 Design layout of irrigation system</p> <p>5.3.4 Construct water harvesting structures</p> <p>6.1 Identify tools making workshop and importers for UPA farmers</p>		<p>n of food</p> <p>50% of the farmers have access to tools</p>	ce					5,000,000	MAFFS
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## Strategic objective 6

### To add value to UPA Products towards improving Marketability

Sub-Objective	Strategies	Activities	Expected Outcomes	OVIs	Implementing Responsibility	Time Frame (2009-2013)			Indicative Budget (000 Leones)	Potential Donor Agency
						1 (yr)	2-3 (yrs)	4-5 (yrs)		
6.1 To improve the transportation network to ensure easy access to markets, especially for farmers in the east and west of Freetown	<p>Set up a working group to lobby the stakeholders (FCC), line Ministries and donor agencies on the improvement of road network Sensitizing the communities to undertake self-help projects on road rehabilitation</p> <p>Improving water transportation to facilitate marketing</p> <p>Establishing of</p>	<p>1.1 Hold meetings with FCC authorities and line ministries</p> <p>1.2 Develop and submit proposals to donor agencies (World Bank) on road transport network rehabilitation</p> <p>1.3 Organize self-help activities on road reconstruction and</p>	<p>Road maintenance and improved transportation network becomes an issue on the development plan of FCC, line ministries and donor agencies</p> <p>Price stabilization for UPA products</p>	<p>2 Working group in place and functioning</p> <p>2 meetings annual held with stakeholders with positive outcomes</p> <p>60% of UPA communities sensitized</p> <p>10% increase in Self-help activities increased (new construction, reconstruction)</p> <p>Group selling of UPA products in progress</p>	FCC MAFS MOW SLRA					

6.2 Assist farmers to re-establish their pre-war relationships with the hotel and the tourism industry	market site between Kingtom, up to the back of Connaught Hospital at the shore	rehabilitation 1.4 Organize annual urban and peri-urban agricultural marketing field day; donating prizes for outstanding performance for farmers	Increase in farmers' incomes  Waste minimized  Possible areas of intervention identified  More produce available in the market	50% increase in Quantity of UPA products in the market  2 consultative meetings held Annually	MAFS Ministry of Trade and Industry  SL Tourism Board					
	Provide credit facilities for farmers to own special vegetable/meat transport delivery vehicles.  Improving the SL Tourist Board to:  Link hotels, restaurants and entertainment centres to producing Organization of agro ecotourism schemes (for both local and foreigners)  Sensitize	3.1 Organize sales schedules/cooperative marketing  3.2 conduct a survey to identify possible areas	A healthy partnership existing between hoteliers, farmers and contractors	Weekly availability of Prices of farm produce to						335,750  4,000

6.3 Improve the marketing mechanisms of UPA	<p>stakeholders on the re-establishment of the pre-war relationship</p> <p>Encouraging group sale/cooperative marketing</p> <p>Strengthening farmer associations to cooperate in marketing</p> <p>Provision of up-to-date market information for UPA farmers</p> <p>Training of farmers on the use of market statistics and information to plan their production process</p>	<p>of interventions</p> <p>3.3 Empower farmers to produce more by giving them farming inputs</p> <p>3.4 Hold meetings with stakeholders and contractors</p> <p>9.1 Conduct Market surveys Collect market price data</p> <p>9.2 Use various methods of planning for production using the data collected</p>	Farmers trained on the use of market price data and market information for planning production	farmers Cost of input information provided on weekly basis Monthly information on the type of market services available to farmers	NU MAFS PEMSD NAFSL NGOs					
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## Strategic objective 7

### Creation and regulation of Guidelines and policies conducive for efficient, sustainable and promotion of UPA

Sub-Objective	Strategies	Activities	Expected Outcomes	OVIs	Implementing Responsibility	Time Frame (2009-2013)			Indicative Budget (000 Leone s)	Potential Donor Agency
						1 (yr)	2-3 (yrs)	4-5 (yrs)		
7.1 To develop guidelines for land use regulations that promote UPA development	Consultation and consensus building	1.1 Hold workshops/seminars to formulate guidelines	Guideline developed	Guideline document	Law office MAFS, FCC,NA FSL MLCP				42	
7.2 To enforce existing regulations on land use	Consultations and collaboration with key stakeholders in the community	1.2 Hold meetings to sensitize public 12.2 Carry out media sensitization	Compliance to regulations	MoU between all stakeholders in enforcing regulation on land use Maps and reports	Stakeholders Police ML&CP NAFSL  MAFS(L WDD) ML&CP Farmer beneficiaries				56  300	
7.3 To demarcate zones in the urban landscape for UPA	Research methodology	1.3 Carry out geophysical and socio-economic inventory and land use planning	Preparation of land use maps and reports	Quarterly Reports on workshops Conservation activities					250	
7.4 To	Empowerment and	1.4 hold sensitization workshops to	Behavioral change in favour of environmental consideration	Health facilities in	NAFSL NaCEF FCC					

<p>establish environmental and health standards for UPA</p> <p>7.5 To network and coordinate all UPA activities</p>	<p>consultation with stakeholders</p> <p>Consultation and coordination with stakeholders</p>	<p>discuss need for hygiene and environmental sanitation</p> <p>1.5 identify and assess all UPA projects and interventions</p>	<p>and improved health status</p>	<p>place Document on cross-cutting issues developed</p>	<p>Mothers MAFS</p> <p>MAFS FCC NAFSL EU</p>					
<p>7.6 To establish legal framework to regulate the interest rates charged by local/private money lenders</p>	<p>Consultation and collaboration with money lenders</p>	<p>3.1.6 Review and regularize interest rates charged by money lenders</p>	<p>UPA activities streamlined</p> <p>Financial institutions that provide loan schemes at the village /community level established</p>	<p>Loan repayment period extended by 6 months for UPA farmers</p> <p>30% increase in loans Disbursed</p>	<p>MAFS INGOS Ministry of Interior MAFS, Ministry of Justice</p>				800	35

# Strategic objective 8

## To strengthen extension services and M&E as a tool for efficient UPA production

Sub-Objective	Strategies	Activities	Expected Outcomes	OVIs	Implementing Responsibility	Time Frame (2009-2013)			Indicative Budget (000 Leones)	Potential Donor Agency
						1 (yr)	2-3 (yrs)	4-5 (yrs)		
8.1 To improve the knowledge base of the extension Services	Improving upon extension services delivery	1.1. Increase the number of female extension personnel	Effectiveness and efficiency of the extension services for UPA is strengthened	15% Increased output in agricultural production (quality and quantity)	MAFS, NGOs in UPA Councils R-PSD Project				1.5	
8.2 To improve farmers' adoption of improved technologies	Training of farmers in improved technologies through FFS	1.2 Improve condition of service through improved remuneration and incentives							10	
8.3 To provide socio-economic data for UA farmers.	Conduct of Surveys	1.3 Provide mobility (motorbikes and bicycles)	Availability of relevant socio-economic data e.g. income levels demographic characteristics of farmers etc	Improved livelihood situation of UPA farmers Farmers' appreciation of UPA					6	
		1.4 Train and re-train extension personnel							3	
		1.5 Provide communication /coordination mechanisms							1	
									<b>21.5</b>	
			Yields and	1 Survey report annually						
				1 Data base sheet generated	MAFS/					

8.4 To assess the production level of UPA	Undertake crop cutting survey on UA cultivated fields	1.1 design questionnaire to collect data	production level determination	2 Production report annually	PEMSD					
8.5 To determine market statistics	Conduct market surveys	1.2 Use personal observation as a means to collect data	Market information bulletin produced	Weekly Market information produced	MAFS/ PEMS D NAFSL Press				3,000	
	Conduct survey	2.1 Carry out area measurements 2.2 Establish yield study plots 3.1 carry out market price data collection	Electronic and print media information of the market Pre and post farm losses report	Weekly Market media collection  80% of crops and livestock losses documented and identified						
8.6 To empower farmers on the use of M & E as a management tool in their production processes	Training of farmers on the use of M & E tool	4.1 Administer questionnaire 4.2 Carry out field visits 4.3 conduct field experiments 4.4 Conduct desk-top review		60% of UPA farmers trained	MAFS/ PEMS D NAFSL NU					
	Farmers' training	5.1 identify farmers 5.2 use each of the M&E tools to collect data	Farmers trained in M&E as a management tool Farmers are able to use M&E as a management	50% of UPA farmers' understand the M&E methods as management tool  Recommendation on farmers' recommendations					1000	
	Periodic assessment									



8.7 To measure the contribution of UPA to food production	of socio-economic services provided e.g. employment, food distribution, market information processing	5.3 Compile and process data 5.4 process and analyze data 5.5 Draw conclusions and make recommendations	tool  Farmers are able to produce and evaluate reports on the farm	60% of UPA of Farmers trained twice and 2 Training manuals and guidelines produced annually	MAFS/ PEMSD FUPAP ,NAFSL					
8.8 To measure the contribution of UPA to socio-economic services	Analysis of the impact of urbanization on UPA	6.1 Identify potential trainers 6.2 Train twenty (20) Farmers in simple book keeping	Farmers are able to make a recommendation to improve production	30% of processing and information services provided annually	MAFS/ PEMSD NAFSL Press					
8.9 To reduce the negative impacts of Urban development on UPA	Provision of policy framework on urbanization with respect to UPA	7.1 Conduct survey 7.2 Conduct interviews 7.3 Conduct farm visits 7.4 Conduct market surveys  8.1 Conduct socio-economic impact assessment and survey	Improved services Increased employment opportunities Production of information bulletins  Related problems identified  Mitigation measures recommended	50% Increase in the area under cultivation  5% Decrease in the level of deforestation over time  10% increase in Improved quality and quantity of water resources for UPA	MAFS/ PEMSD NAFSL NUC					

		8.2 Analyze and disseminate findings with recommendations	<p>Increase in cultivated land area</p> <p>Decrease in the level of deforestation</p> <p>Decrease in the pollution of water resources for UA</p> <p>Increase in water outlets</p> <p>Increase in production levels and thus market opportunities</p>	50% Intensity of UPA activities and 10% increase in marketing of produce	<p>MAFS/PEMSD NAFSL NU FCC</p> <p>MAFS NAFSL, MOJ MLGC D, FCC, WARD C, NACEF , MEP MODE P MLCP</p>				<p>3,000</p> <p>8,000</p>	
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## **MONITORING AND EVALUATION**

The Multi-stakeholder team implementing the FUPAP, and staff of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food Security (MAFFS) will have the overall responsibility for monitoring and evaluating progress in the implementation and achievements of the objectives of the strategic agenda. Members of the MPAP team have undergone adequate training in Monitoring and Evaluation, and have created the necessary stakeholder platform for participating institutions. This multi-institutional approach enables a thorough M&E exercise to be done. Progress on implementation will be determined, constraints identified and appropriate actions taken to keep the implementation of the plan on track.

## **POTENTIAL SOURCES OF FUNDING FOR THE CITY STRATEGIC AGENDA**

Urban and Peri-urban agriculture has now been accepted as a major contributor to national food security and reduction of urban poverty. Donor international and national development partners and agencies, have therefore expressed interest in the promotion of and support for urban and per-urban agriculture. These agencies include the following:

### **1. The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations**

The FAO has always supported the food security initiatives of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food security. Urban and peri-urban agriculture is identified as one of the potential areas of producing food production factored into the "Operation Feed the Nation" programme for which the FAO has continued to provide financial support.

### **2. United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)**

The UNDP provides financial support to agricultural development initiatives in Sierra Leone based on recommendations of the FAO.

### **3. International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)**

IFAD maintains presence in the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food Security to support agricultural development initiatives of the Ministry, and to support the achievement of national food security. IFAD is therefore a potential financial agency that may support UPA activities prioritized by MAFFS.

### **4. The African Development Bank (AfDB),**

AfDB has an outstanding record in supporting agricultural development in Sierra Leone. As an international organization, it deals directly with the Government of Sierra Leone through its line Ministries. The opportunity therefore exists for providing financial support for UPA activities through the MAFFS.

#### **5. The Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food Security (MAFFS)**

This Ministry is charged with the responsibility to articulate all agricultural activities within the country. It received financial support from the Central government and external funds from international organizations. The Ministry has established the Food Security Secretariat with the necessary manpower and facilities to coordinate food security initiatives in the country. UPA activities can be implemented within the Food Security Secretariat, and can be funded either through the "Operation Feed the Nation" programme or "Support to Agriculture" funds.

#### **6. Freetown City Council (FCC)**

Freetown City Council is the administrative organ for the Freetown Municipality activities. It plans and executes development initiatives for the city. It enjoys greater autonomy and receives funds from Central government, international organizations like DFID, EU, etc, and through taxes collected within the city. Recently, the Decentralization Secretariat was established to devolve some of the central government activities to local governments. Through this initiative, the FCC receives direct funding from MAFFS for support of agricultural programmes. Furthermore, the Agriculture Committee of FCC articulates the agriculture affairs of the council. Support from UPA can be solicited from FCC.

#### **7. The Resource Centre on Urban Agriculture and Food Security (RUAF)**

RUAF is an international organization with headquarters in the Netherlands. Its main objective is to support city authorities to realize the benefits of UPA to achieving food security, alleviate urban poverty, create employment opportunities and create and maintain a clean city environment. RUAF provides financial support through regional offices to many parts of the world. Such funds are used to develop the capacities of UPA farmers and develop and implement enabling policies to sustain UPA. To receive funding from RUAF, project proposals need to be developed with clear cut objectives which are consistent with those of RUAF's UPA development goals and objectives.

#### **8. International Non-governmental Organisations (NGOs)**

Many NGOs have implemented several UPA programmes, particularly after the war in 2002. NGOs can provide support to UPA farmers in form of inputs (seeds, fertilizers, and

tools) .Some NGOs such as Action Aid, World Vision, CARE International, may provide financial support to UPA farmers.

### **9. Bank of Sierra Leone (BSL)**

BSL is the Central Bank of the Republic of Sierra Leone. It is .responsible for regulating other commercial banks. As a national, non-profit making institution, it has the powers to establish community banks to enhance regional economic development. It may not directly provide funding for UPA but may facilitate other financial institutions to establish micro-credit loan facilities for UPA farmers.

### **10. National Association of Farmers in Sierra Leone (NAFSL)**

NAFSL is the parent organization for all farmer groups in the country. NAFSL advocates on behalf of farmers and lobby on their behalf. NAFSL has a membership in the MPAP team formed in Freetown to articulate UPA activities especially in the Freetown Municipality. NAFSL may provide limited funds to support UA, and may also act as an agent to seek funds for UA development activities in Freetown.