

Which UPA activities are found in Freetown?

Some of the UPA activities carried out in Freetown include:

Crop production is mainly for cash. Only 15% is consumed or given out as gifts. Most common are vegetables such as sweet potato leaves, cassava leaves, greens, krain krain, sourel, garden eggs, and okra. These vegetables are rain fed in the wet season upland open spaces and within residential backyards. In the dry season, they are irrigated in some open space uplands (mainly using pipe borne and domestic waste water).



Open space Crop production in (?) Freetown.
Photo by FUPAP.

Marketing of UPA produce is done between the farm site (farm gate) and the market (mainly those near their farms) by both men and women.



Harvested crops are sent to nearby markets by traders (Photo by FUPAP)

Livestock production: Most UPA farmers also manage livestock mostly around Freetown for subsistence and economic livelihood needs. The system of livestock rearing is mostly free range (67%) with 33% raising animals in confined housing. Fifty percent (50%) of the farmers raise livestock for subsistence, whilst 33% for

small scale commercial; only 17% raise livestock for large scale commercial purposes. Piggery for example, is cash oriented with only 5% being consumed and given as gift to property owners and renters to improve on the farmer's security of access to land.



Piggery is an UPA activity in Freetown. Photo by FUPAP

Poultry: local ducks and chicken are reared mainly within backyards of residential areas in the East and Central parts of Freetown. Poultry production in Freetown is 30% commercial and 70% backyard and broilers are not produced because they are not cost effective, it costs more to produce the broiler chicken than the prevailing market prices for imported broiler chicken.

Fishing: Aquaculture is relatively of minor importance in Freetown and it is done mainly in the sea though there are two commercial aquaculture sites. There are only three sites which have fishing as a component in their food production activities out of which two fish commercial purposes.



Fishing is a source of employment to farmers
(Photo by FUPAP)