

Freetown's TreeTracker — Micropayments for Verified Tree Survival (Sierra Leone)

PES & Nature-Based Solutions · Good practice · Sierra Leone

Quality score: 33/100

Evidence strength: Cautionary / limited

Summary

Freetown City Council pays growers, mostly women and youth, mobile-money micropayments once trees are geotagged and verified via the TreeTracker app. About 250,000 trees were tracked in the first 2020-21 phase toward a 5-million target by 2030, with an 80% survival goal.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Carbon — sequestration / storage, evidenced	1/3
Biodiversity — conservation / improvement, evidenced	1/3
Water & soil — retention, infiltration, erosion control	1/3
Fire resilience — risk reduction, evidenced	0/3
Governance, certification & transferability	2/3

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-09-26

[Freetown City Council](#) — accessed 2026-09-26

[UN Climate Change: Freetown planting five million trees by 2030](#) — accessed 2026-09-26

[C40 Knowledge Hub: Freetown's self-financing urban reforestation](#) — accessed 2026-09-26

[UrbanShift: Freetown TreeTown digital tools case study](#) — accessed 2026-09-26

[Earthshot Prize: Freetown the Treetown, 2023 finalist](#) — accessed 2026-09-26

[The Conversation: why the model may not transfer elsewhere](#) — accessed 2026-09-26

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