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Workshop Evaluation Report & Proceedings

Partnership for Enabling Market Environments for Fertilizer in Africa (PEMEFA) Presentations and Workshop on Creating an Enabling Environment for Private Sector Investment in Fertilizer Value Chains in Sub-Saharan Africa

February 22, 2018 - Jinja, Uganda



PREPARED BY PEMEFA FOR THE ALLIANCE FOR AFRICAN PARTNERSHIP

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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1.0: INTRODUCTION

1.1 BACKGROUND

This report summarizes the content of and participants' feedback on presentations and workshop sessions led by the Partnership for Enabling Market Environments for Fertilizer in Africa (PEMEFA) on February 22, 2018, in Jinja, Uganda, as part of a broader 4-day workshop organized by the International Fertilizer Development Center (IFDC) on "Developing Private Sector Agro-Input Markets: Lessons Learned and Emerging Perspectives on Subsidy Programs". PEMEFA's activities on February 22 involved 48 workshop participants from Uganda and other countries in sub-Saharan Africa (SSA). These included public and private sector representatives, representatives from the donor community and non-governmental organizations, and farmers.

The workshop consisted of seven sessions covering different discussion and lecture topics, as well break-out group activities such as field trips and case studies. The overall objectives of the PEMEFA activities at the workshop were: (i) to build the capacity of workshop participants to understand the key features of an enabling environment for private sector investment in fertilizer value chains, and to advocate for change to improve the enabling environment in their home country; (ii) to raise awareness of the empirical evidence on the types of policies (including fertilizer subsidy programs and others), laws, and regulations that facilitate versus hinder fertilizer business and smallholder access to affordable, good quality fertilizers; and (iii) to disseminate the preliminary findings of and solicit feedback on the draft PEMEFA synthesis report on empirical evidence and knowledge gaps related to enabling environments for fertilizer business in SSA. PEMEFA's activities on February 22 included the following presentations and workshop sessions (with associated objectives listed below each one):

1. **Presentation on the "Economic Rationale for Fertilizer Quality Regulations" (presented by Joshua Ariga).**

This presentation explored the need for regulations and economic benefits that accrue from implementation. It also broadly touched on preliminary findings from IFDC's fertilizer quality survey in Kenya.

Objectives:

- a. To highlight the economic rationale for fertilizer quality standards
- b. To recommend fertilizer regulations and regulatory reforms that can result in improved fertilizer quality

2. **Presentation on "The Importance of an Enabling Environment for Market Entry of New Fertilizer Products" (presented by Maria Wanzala-Mlobela).**

This presentation was a summary of key issues on policy and regulatory environments in Africa, including the status of existing policy and regulatory frameworks, rules on business registration, introduction of new products and import regulations, and state taxes and capacity for fertilizer quality control. The presenter also provided recommendations to bridge gaps.

Objectives:

- a. To summarize the status of fertilizer policies, laws and regulations in SSA and the implications for the introduction of new fertilizer products into these markets
- b. To make some recommendations for changes in regulations that will ease fertilizer business in general and expedite the introduction of new products into the market

3. **Presentation on “Legal Frameworks: Existing Statuses, Lessons, and the Way Forward”** (presented by Katrin Kuhlmann).

This presentation included good regulatory practices as well as a description of effective enabling environments for fertilizer. It included comments on regional harmonization as well.

Objectives:

- a. To build participants’ capacity to understand and interpret current regulatory frameworks, and to highlight common challenges, regulatory tradeoffs, and gaps in implementation
- b. To build participants’ capacity Linking regulation with advocacy at national and regional levels
- c. To identify priorities for drafting and revising fertilizer regulatory frameworks (at the national and regional levels)

4. **Workshop component** (facilitated by Katrin Kuhlmann and all other PEMEFA team members) – small group discussions and report back in plenary. The group discussions were based on the following guiding questions, as well the Synthesis Report.

Guiding questions:

- a. Based on what you’ve heard, what do you think are the key policies/regulations that are hindering private sector performance in fertilizer markets in SSA? Why?
- b. Other than subsidies, what do you think are other important government interventions related to the fertilizer sector? Why?
- c. Based on your answers to (a) and (b),
 - i. What would you advise the government of Kenzanda [a fictional case study country used throughout the IFDC workshop] to do at the national level? Why?
 - ii. What would you advise dealing with at the regional level? Why?

5. **Presentation on “Creating an Enabling Environment for Private Sector Investment in Fertilizer Value Chains in SSA: Empirical Evidence and Knowledge Gaps”** (presented by Maria Wanzala-Mlobela and Nicole Mason).

This session touched on why the enabling environment is important for general private sector development, and specifically for the fertilizer sector. It included a brief

description of fertilizer markets and strengths and weaknesses of extant frameworks, lessons learned, and ways forward.

Objectives:

- a. To share the preliminary findings of the synthesis report with the participants
- b. To get feedback from the participants on how to improve the report

Methodology: A semi-structured questionnaire was circulated at the end of PEMEFA's activities on February 22 and asked questions related to the day's sessions. A total of 33 completed questionnaires were received and analyzed. Completed questionnaires' responses were coded and entered in Excel for descriptive analysis. Simple frequency statistics were used in this report.

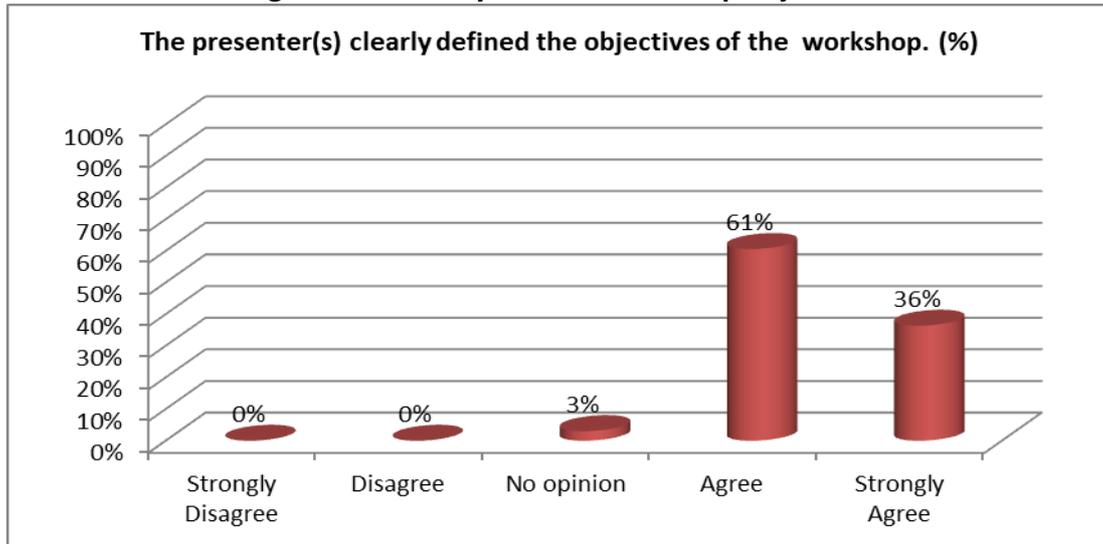
This report summarizes participants' responses to the 10 sections on the evaluation form, namely questions related to: i) The presenters clearly defined the objectives of the presentation/workshop sessions; ii) The objectives of the presentations/workshop sessions were accomplished; iii) The extent to which participants will utilize the information from the presentations/workshop sessions; iv) The presenters presented the material in a well-organized and effective manner; v) The presenters were knowledgeable on the subject; vi) Presentations/workshop sessions met participants' needs and learning objectives; vii) The presentations/workshop sessions content was practical; viii) The participants felt the presentations/workshop sessions were beneficial; ix) General information on the participants, including country of work, type of organization, gender, and age; and x) Any other comments.

2.0 WORKSHOP EVALUATION

2.1 THE PRESENTERS CLEARLY DEFINED THE OBJECTIVES OF THE PRESENTATION/WORKSHOP SESSIONS

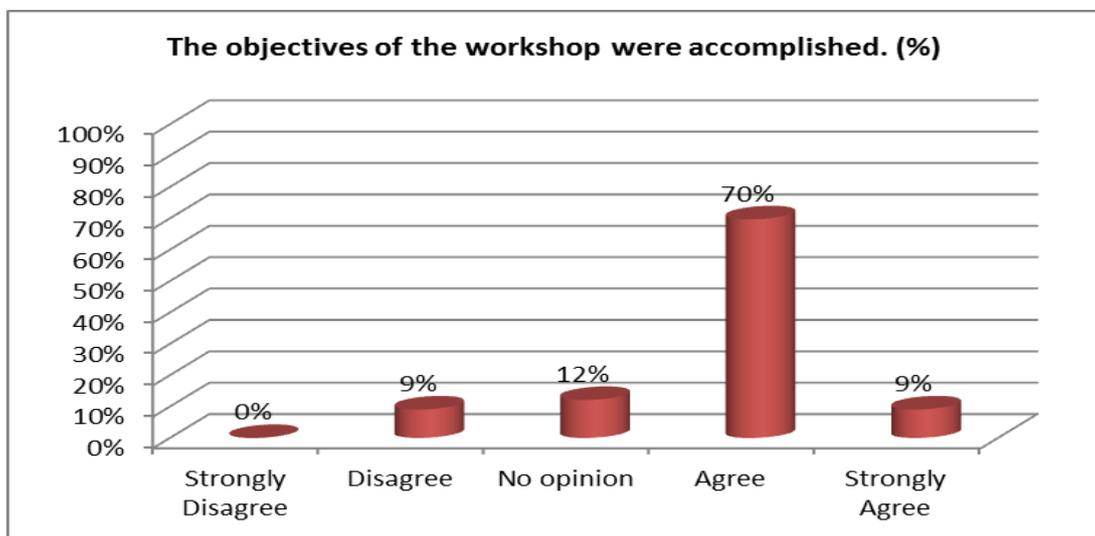
Overall most of the participants clearly understood the objectives of the presentation/workshop sessions with 61% agreeing and 36% strongly agreeing. Nonetheless, 3% had no opinion as indicated in Figure 1.

Figure 1: Clearly defined workshop objectives



2.2 THE OBJECTIVES OF THE PRESENTATIONS/WORKSHOP SESSIONS WERE ACCOMPLISHED

Figure 2: Accomplishment of workshop objectives

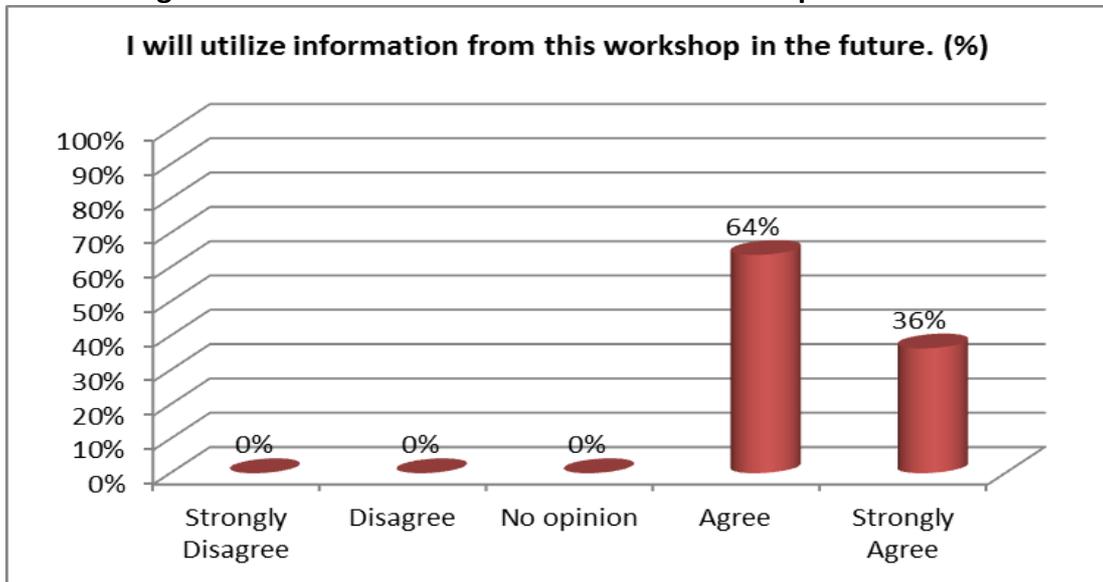


Seventy-nine percent of the participants felt the objectives of the workshop were accomplished while 12% had no opinion and 9% disagreed as indicated in figure 2.

2.3 FUTURE UTILIZATION OF INFORMATION FROM THE PRESENTATIONS BY PARTICIPANTS.

Overall all participants indicated that they will utilize the information from presentations and 36% of those are highly likely to utilize the information (Figure 3).

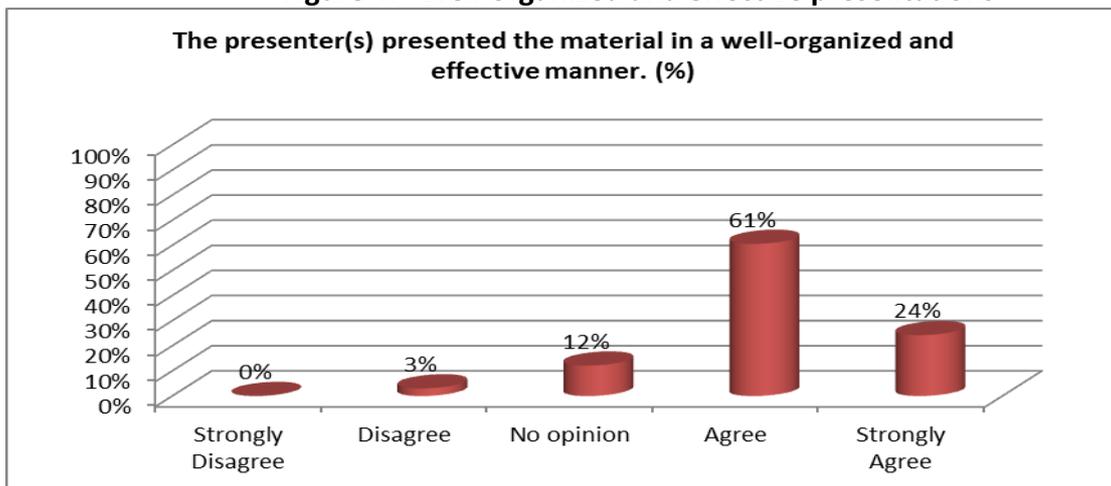
Figure 3: Future utilization of information from presentations



2.4 THE PRESENTERS PRESENTED THE MATERIAL IN A WELL-ORGANIZED AND EFFECTIVE MANNER

When asked to rank the organisation and effectiveness of the presentation, 61% agreed with the notion that presented material were well organised and effective, followed by 24% who strongly felt they were well organised and effective. Nonetheless, 12% had no opinion and 3% disagreed as indicated in figure 4.

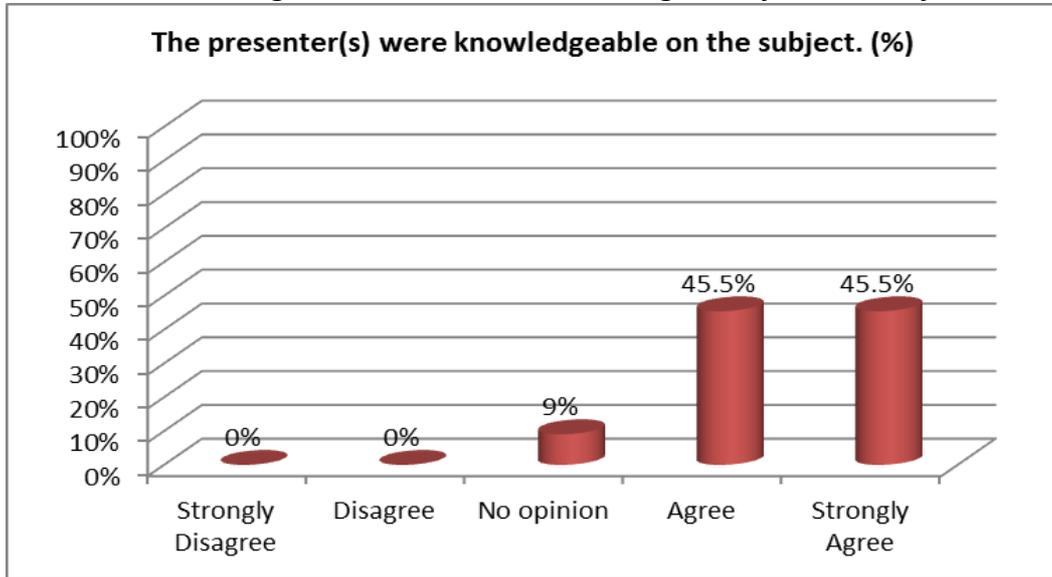
Figure 4: Well-organized and effective presentations



2.5 THE PRESENTER WERE KNOWLEDGEABLE ON THE SUBJECT

About 91% of the participants indicated that the presenters were knowledgeable on the subject with half of them strongly agreeing. Nevertheless, 9% had no opinion as indicated in figure 5.

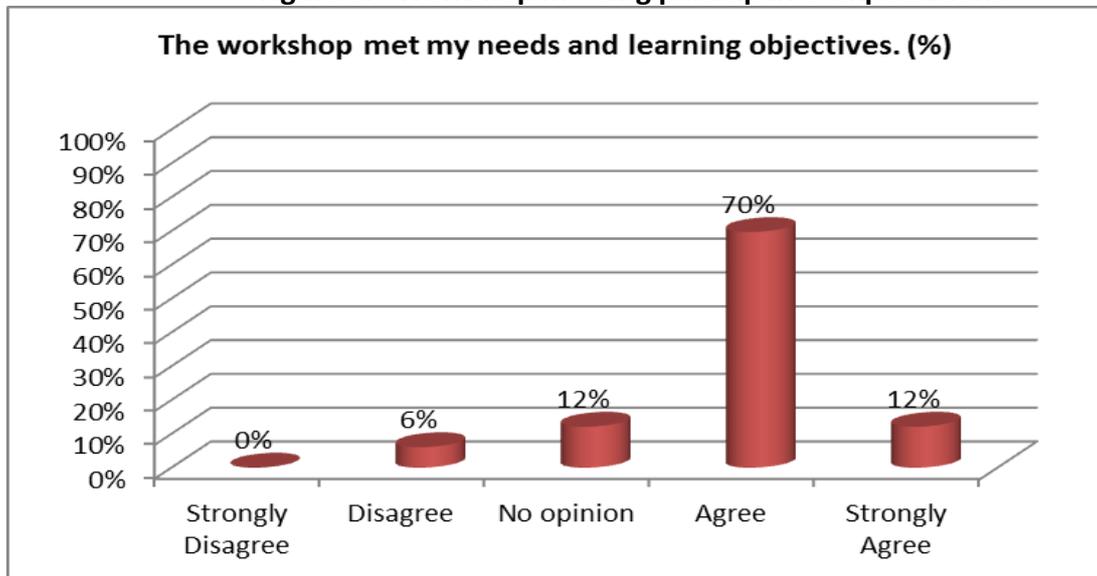
Figure 5: Presenters' knowledgeability on the subject



2.6 PRESENTATIONS/WORKSHOP SESSIONS MET PARTICIPANTS' NEEDS AND LEARNING OBJECTIVES

About 82% of the participants' expectations were met as indicated in figure 6, although 6% disagreed and 12% had no opinion.

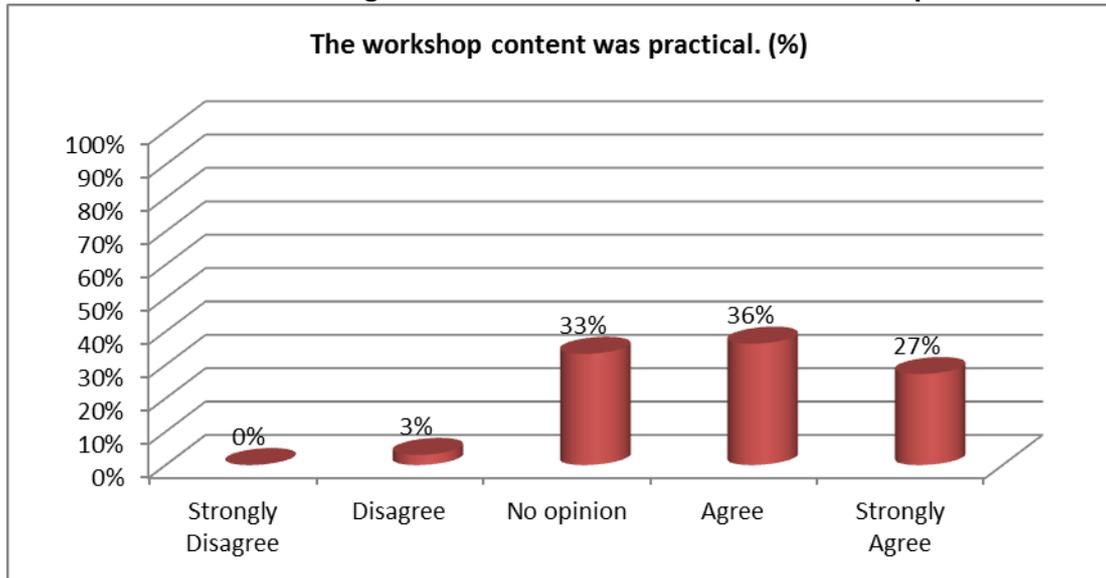
Figure 6: Workshop meeting participants' expectations



2.7 THE PRESENTATIONS/ WORKSHOP SESSIONS CONTENT WAS PRACTICAL

About 63% of the participants viewed the workshop content as practical. However, 33% had no opinion and 3% disagreed as illustrated in figure 7. Given this feedback, the PEMEFA team will work to improve the practicality of the content for future workshops.

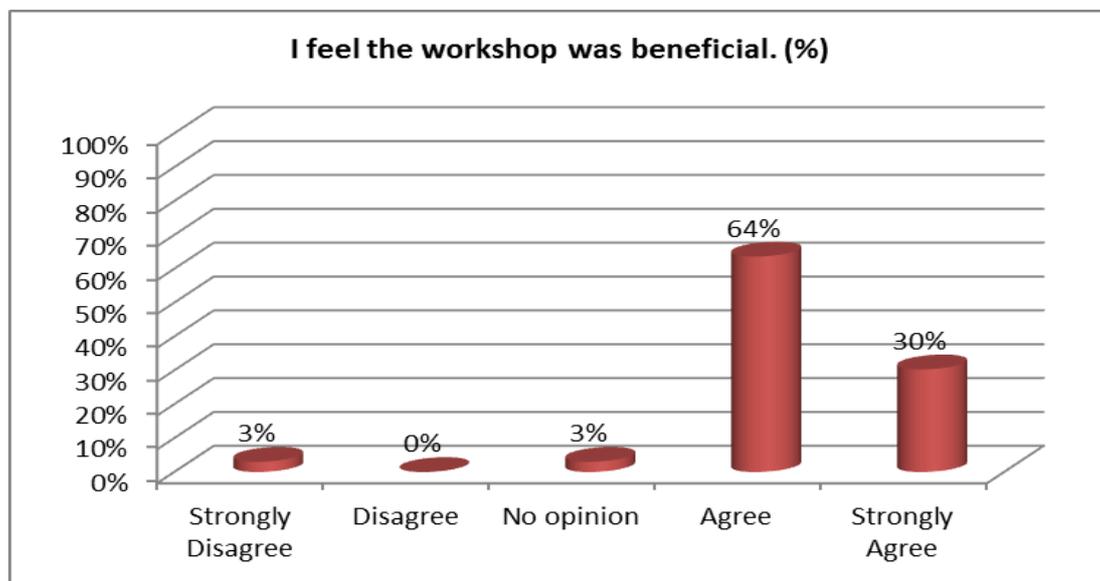
Figure 7: Practical content of the workshop



2.8 THE PARTICIPANTS FELT THE PRESENTATIONS/ WORKSHOP SESSIONS WERE BENEFICIAL

The majority of participants (94%) indicated that the workshop was beneficial with 30% of them strongly agreeing. However, 3% of the participants strongly disagreed and 3% had no opinion as indicated in figure 8.

Figure 8: Workshop was beneficial

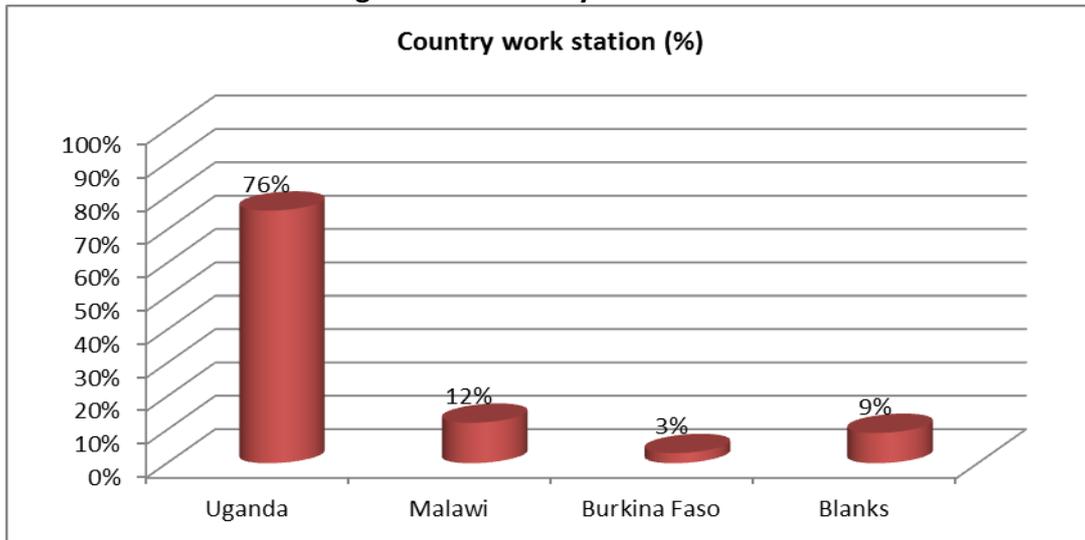


2.9 GENERAL INFORMATION OF THE PARTICIPANTS

2.9.1 Country of participants

Most of the participant to this workshop came from Uganda with 76%, followed by Malawi with 12% and Burkina Faso with 3%; 9% of respondents did not list their country as indicated in figure 9.1. Information from IFDC (the main workshop organizer) indicates that participants hailed from 7 total countries.

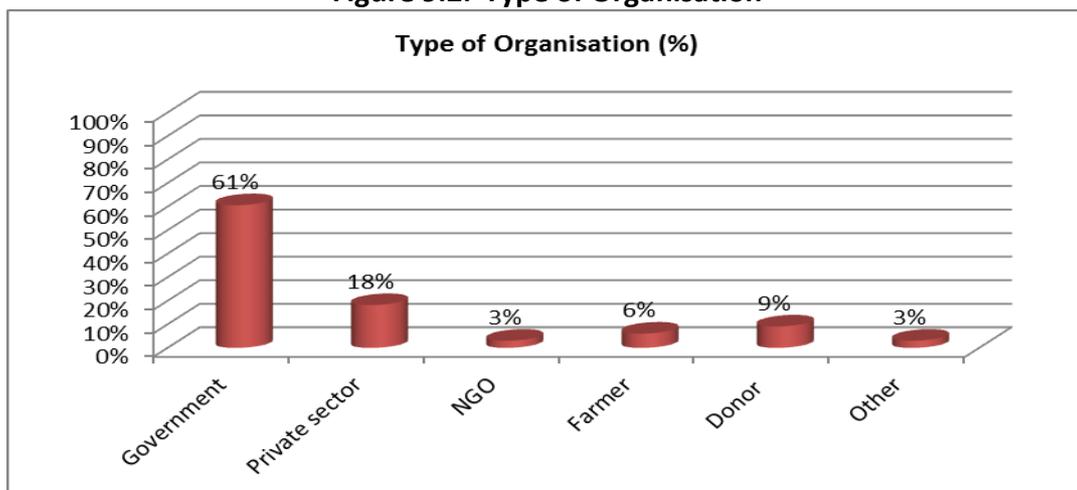
Figure 9.1: Country work station



2.9.2 Type of organisation participants work for

Almost every value chain player in the fertilizer value chain was represented in the workshop. The largest contingent came from the government with 61%, followed by the private sector with 18%, and the donor community with 9%. Farmers, NGOs, and others were represented by 6%, 3% and 3% respectively as indicated in figure 9.2.

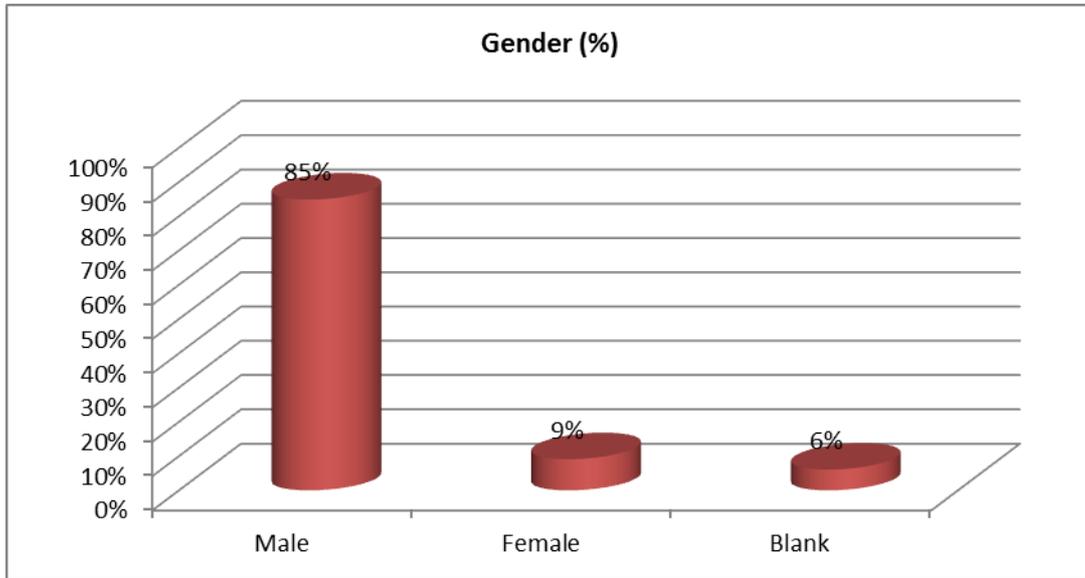
Figure 9.2: Type of Organisation



2.9.3 Gender of participants

Most of the participants were male participants at 85%; 9% of participants were female and 6% did not list their gender as indicated in figure 9.3.

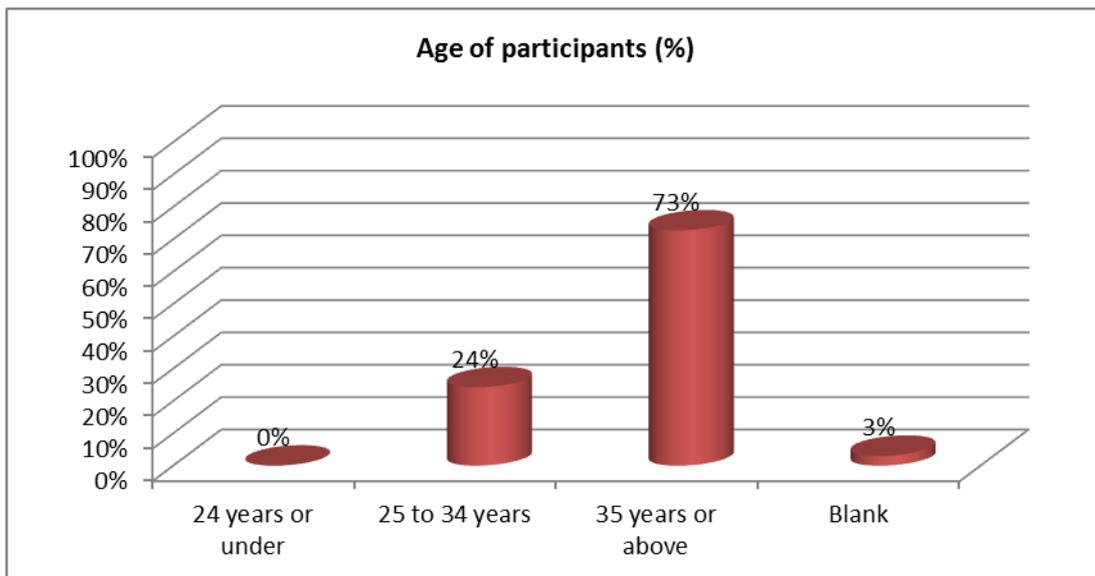
Figure 9.3: Gender of participants



2.9.4 Age of participants

A substantial number of the participants (24%) were youth (aged 25-34) while most of the participants (73%) were age 35 and above; 3% of respondents did not list their age group, as indicated in figure 9.4

Figure 9.4: Age of participants



2.10 ANY OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

Participants indicated the following as some of the general workshop recommendations

- i) The program was overloaded
- ii) The need for more workshops
- iii) The need for more interaction on how the content of the workshop can be integrated in the Ugandan Subsidy program

3.0 APPENDIX

Appendix 1: Workshop Evaluation Questionnaire



**Partnership for Enabling Market Environments for Fertilizer in Africa (PEMEFA) Presentations on
Creating an Enabling Environment for Private Sector Investment in Fertilizer Value Chains in SSA (Session VI)**

February 22, 2018 – Jinja, Uganda

Evaluation Form

We greatly appreciate and value your feedback on today's PEMEFA presentations and workshop sessions. Please help us evaluate and improve them by completing this form and returning it to the registration desk. Thank you!

1. Using the scale below, please indicate your agreement or disagreement with the following statements by circling the most appropriate answer:

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	No Opinion	Agree	Strongly Agree
The presenters clearly defined the objectives of the presentations/workshop sessions.	1	2	3	4	5
The objectives of the presentations/workshop sessions were accomplished.	1	2	3	4	5
I will utilize information from these presentations/workshop sessions in the future.	1	2	3	4	5
The presenters presented the material in a well-organized and effective manner.	1	2	3	4	5
The presenters were knowledgeable on the subject.	1	2	3	4	5
The presentations/workshop sessions met my needs and learning objectives.	1	2	3	4	5
The presentations/workshop sessions content was practical.	1	2	3	4	5
I feel the presentations/workshop sessions were beneficial.	1	2	3	4	5

2. What part(s) of the presentations/workshop sessions were most useful to you?

3. What part(s) of the presentations/workshop sessions were least useful to you?

4. Any other comments or feedback?

5. In what country do you work? _____

6. What type of organization do you work for? (Please circle one.)

Government Private Sector NGO Farmer Donor Other (specify) _____

7. Sex (Please circle one): Male Female

8. Age (Please circle one): 24 or under 25 to 34 35 or above

9. Name and email address (optional): _____

THANK YOU FOR YOUR FEEDBACK