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# NIGER DELTA DEVELOPMENT FORUM (NDDF) ASABA EVALUATION REPORT

December 2015

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## ACRONYMS

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LGA	Local Government Area
NDDF	Niger Delta Development Forum
NDPI	Niger Delta Partnership Initiatives
PIND	Partnership Initiatives in the Niger Delta

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# 1 INTRODUCTION

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## 1.1 NDDF Background

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The Niger Delta Development Forum (NDDF) is a unique advocacy platform that informs and influences promotion of non-oil pro-poor policies, programs and interventions as well as leverage and advice on how resources from the public, private and development organizations can be effectively and efficiently utilized to promote inclusive and equitable economic growth.

The forum convenes government officials, policy makers, civil society representatives, academics, the private sector, business leaders, entrepreneurs and other interested observers to engage in an open, constructive and interactive policy dialogue, and roundtable discussions on critical development issues.

The first NDDF was held in November 2012 in Port Harcourt and has since become an annual event with three more forums holding in Nigeria, two in Washington D.C. and one in London. In 2014 the first outside the country NDDF was held in Washington D.C. and this year (2015), a forum was held in London in July 2015 and another one in Washington D.C. in October 2015. The November forum which took place in Asaba, Delta State was the fourth forum ever held in Nigeria.

The NDDF envisions a Niger Delta where all persons that are economically active are able to generate income and employment unhindered by constraints from within and outside the market system. The forums are catalytic information sharing and collaboration opportunities for government, private sector, and civil society organizations pursuing approaches for equitable economic growth in the Niger Delta. For many participants, the NDDF provides a platform to connect with other partners to collectively pursue improved development policies and practices in the Niger Delta. The forums which take place in the United Kingdom, United States and Nigeria, are organized by the Niger Delta Partnership Initiative (NDPI) Foundation and its sister organization, the Foundation for Partnership Initiatives in the Niger Delta (PIND).

## 1.2 Objectives of the NDDF Asaba

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The objectives of the Asaba NDDF are to:

- Increase level of awareness and shared understanding among stakeholders of systemic constraints and enablers that shape delivery of non-oil and pro-poor initiatives for inclusive economic growth in the Niger Delta region
- Increase opportunities for advancing inclusive economic growth and development in the Niger Delta region through evidence based policy influence at the state level
- Facilitate commitment of key actors (i.e. government, private sector, civil society, donor community) through dialogue, collaboration with diverse stakeholders and ongoing engagement activities with DEMAND Alliance partners for more inclusive pro-poor development initiatives in the Niger Delta
- Support achievement of the objectives of the overall global NDDF platform and the ongoing global and local economic growth initiatives by promoting multi-sector partnerships for development and investment in the Niger Delta region, focusing on creation of national and regional platforms for reflection among development actors and interested stakeholders.

# 2 METHODOLOGY

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At the end of the forum a survey was conducted using clickers and nine (9) questions were asked to the participants at the forum. The questions were also projected on a screen so that the participants could clearly understand and respond to the questions. The participants responded by clicking buttons that corresponded with the options provided as possible answers.



The questions were designed to solicit for feedback from the forum participants so as to be able to gauge the extent to which they had benefitted from participating in the forum. The questions covered the level of understanding of papers presented at the forum, the extent to which they had formed new networks/collaboration, their satisfaction with the venue and if the objectives of the forum have been met.

The overall aim of the survey was to determine if and to what extent, the objectives of the forum were achieved.

### 3 RESULTS

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A total of nine questions (9) were asked to the forum participants and different number of persons responded to the questions. A breakdown of the responses is as follows:

- Question 1 (networks/collaborations) – 56 persons responded
- Question 2 (achievement of forum's objectives) – 50 persons responded
- Question 3 (quality of paper presentations) – 51 persons responded
- Question 4 (knowledge acquired) - 47 persons responded
- Question 5 (opportunities for experience sharing) – 50 persons responded
- Question 6 (new connections) – 48 persons responded
- Question 7 (overall forum rating) – 50 persons responded
- Question 8 (panel discussions rating) – 48 persons responded
- Question 9 (rating of venue/ambience) – 51 persons responded

#### 3.1 Networks/Collaborations

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The survey results indicate that out of a total of 56 participants, 50 of them (89.29%) said they have developed new networks/collaborations by attending the forum in Asaba while 6 of them (10.71%) said they have not.



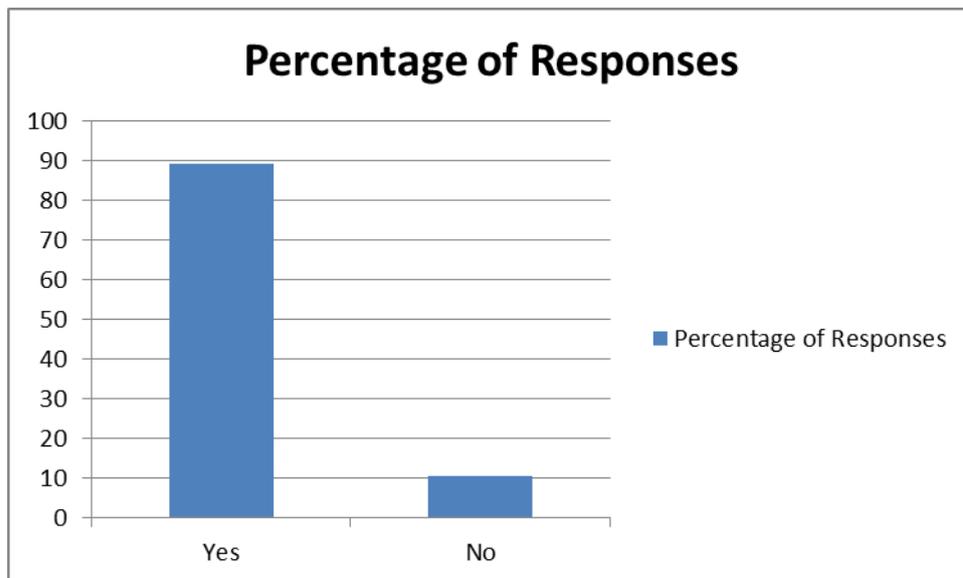
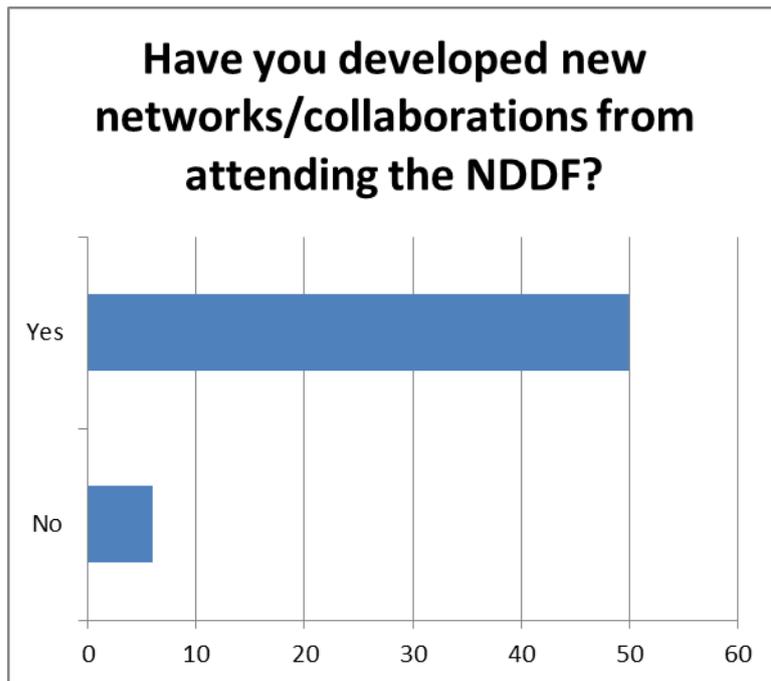


Figure 1: Network/Collaboration

### 3.2 Achievement of Forum Objectives

Based on the survey, out of the 50 persons who responded to the question on the achievement of the forum objectives, 12 of them (or 24%) said that the objectives of the forum were completely achieved, while 36 of them (or 72%) said the objectives were partially achieved. Also 2 persons (4%) said that the objectives of the forum were not achieved.

Based on the findings, at least 48 persons (96%) of the 50 persons surveyed believe that the objectives of the forum were partially or fully (completely) achieved.



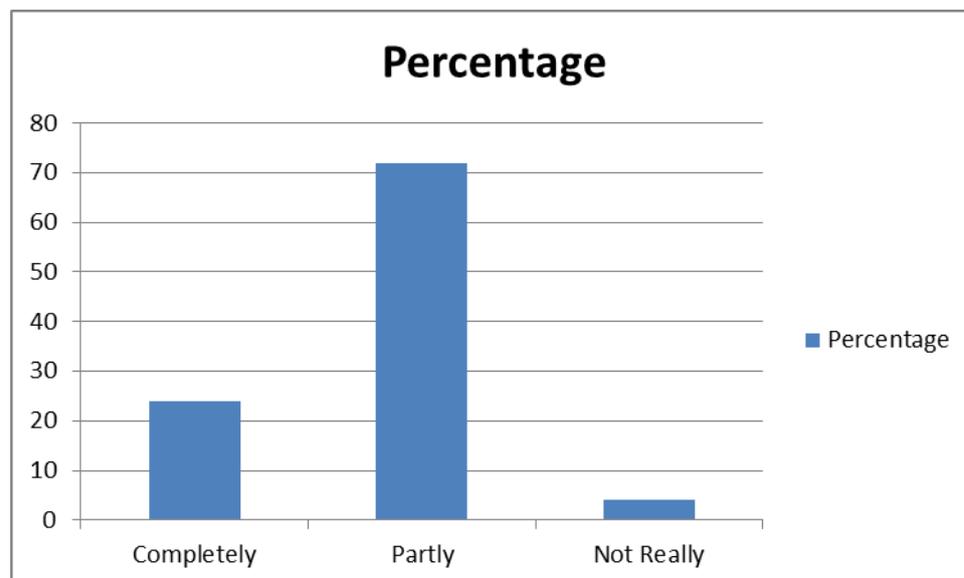
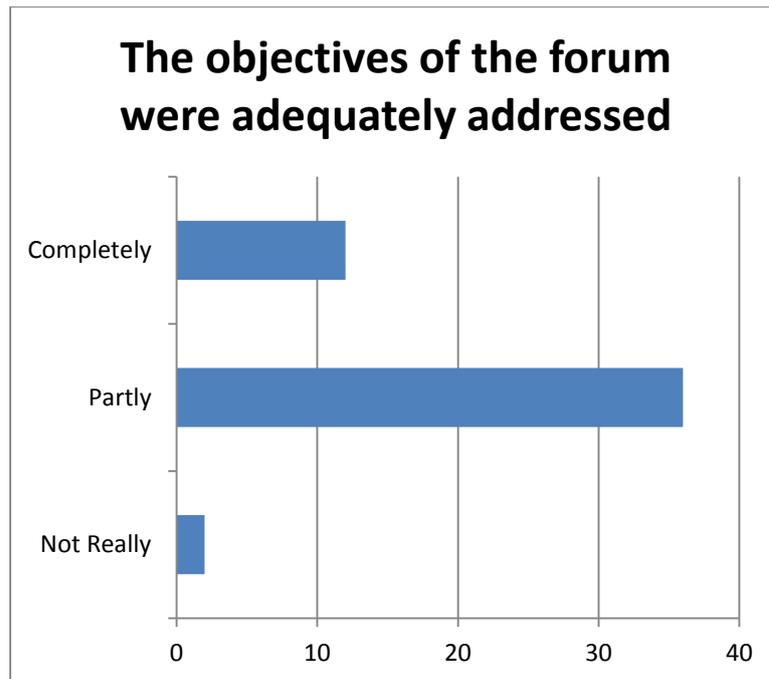


Figure 2: Achievement of Forum Objectives

### 3.3 Quality of Paper Presentation

51 persons responded to the question on the quality of paper presentation and 24 of them (47.06%) said that the presentations were excellent, 25 persons (49.02%) said that the quality was good while 2 persons (3.92%) said that the presentations were fair.

Based on the results 49 persons out of 51 (96.08%) believe that the papers were good or excellent; while only 2 persons (3.92%) believed that the presentations were fair.

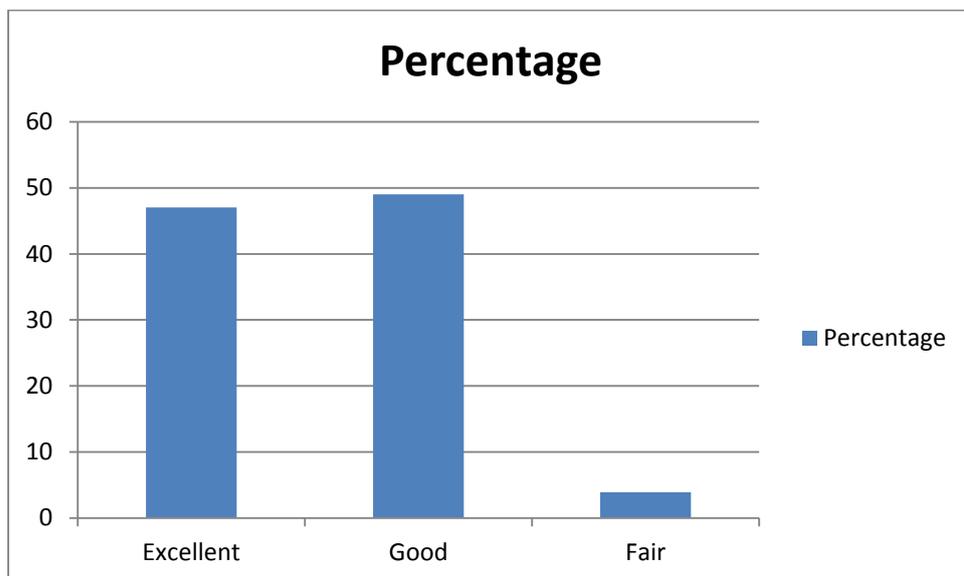
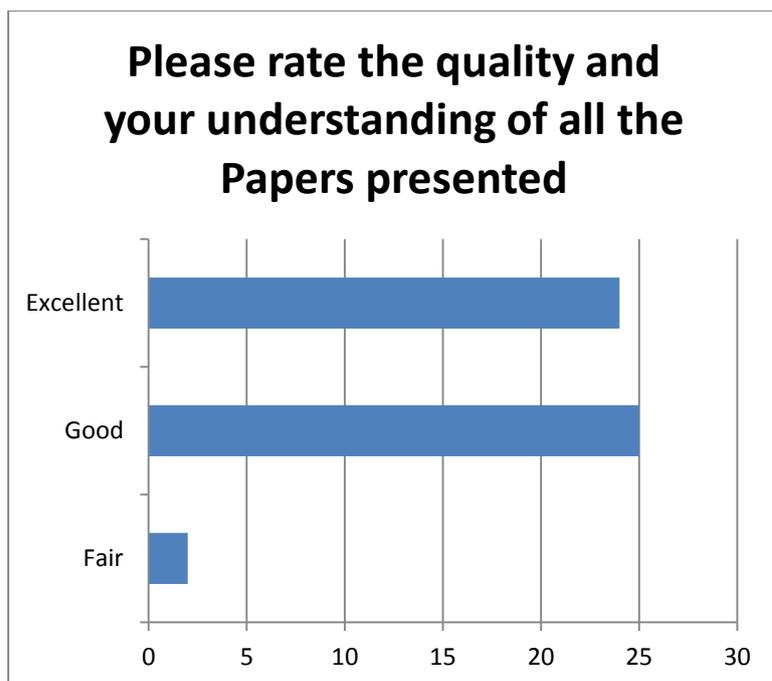


Figure 3: Quality of Paper Presentation

### 3.4 Knowledge Acquired

Out of the 47 persons who responded to this question 39 persons (82.98%) said they definitely acquired new knowledge from the forum that they intend to share with others in their organizations. 8 persons (17.02%) said they partially acquired knowledge that they would share with others in their organizations. There was nobody who said they did not acquire any knowledge from the forum.

This implies that all 47 persons (100%) acquired some form of knowledge during the forum that they intend sharing with others in their organizations.



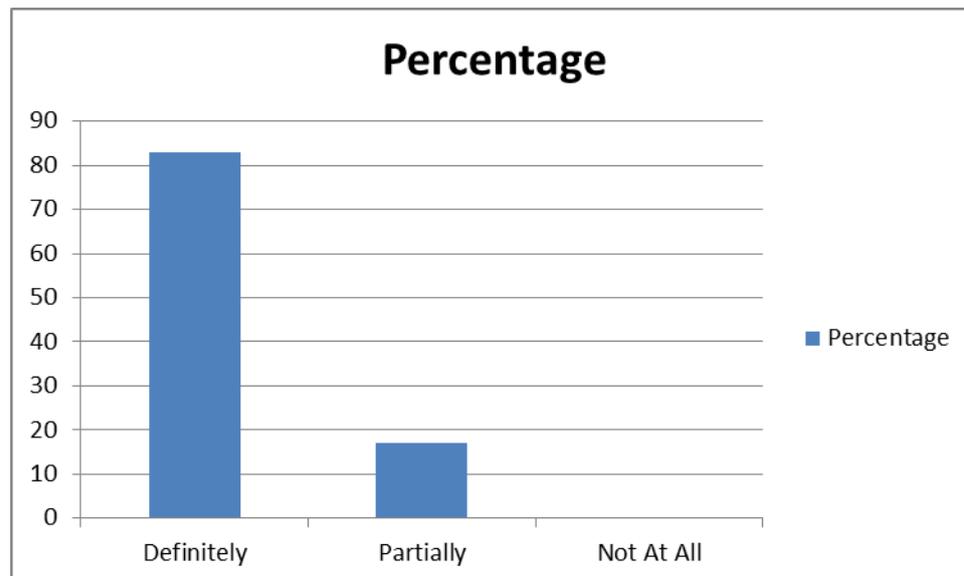
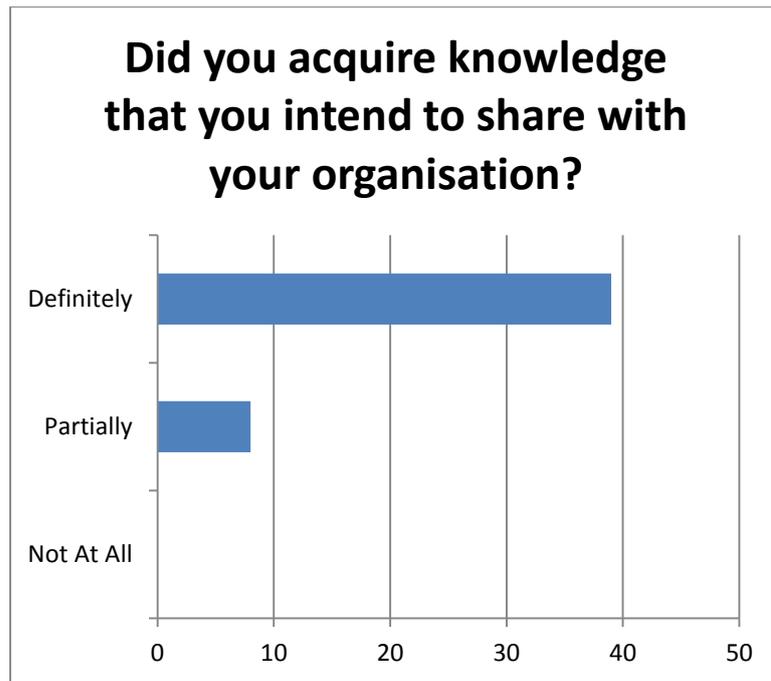


Figure 4: Those who Acquired Knowledge at the Forum

### 3.5 New Connections

50 persons responded to this question and 40 of them (80%) definitely agreed that they made new connections that will be useful to their work; 9 of them (18%) partially agreed that they made new connections that will be useful to their work. On the other hand just 1 person (2%) said they did not at all make any new connections that will be useful to their work.

This implies that 49 persons (98%) agreed that they made new connections that will be useful to their work by participating at the forum.



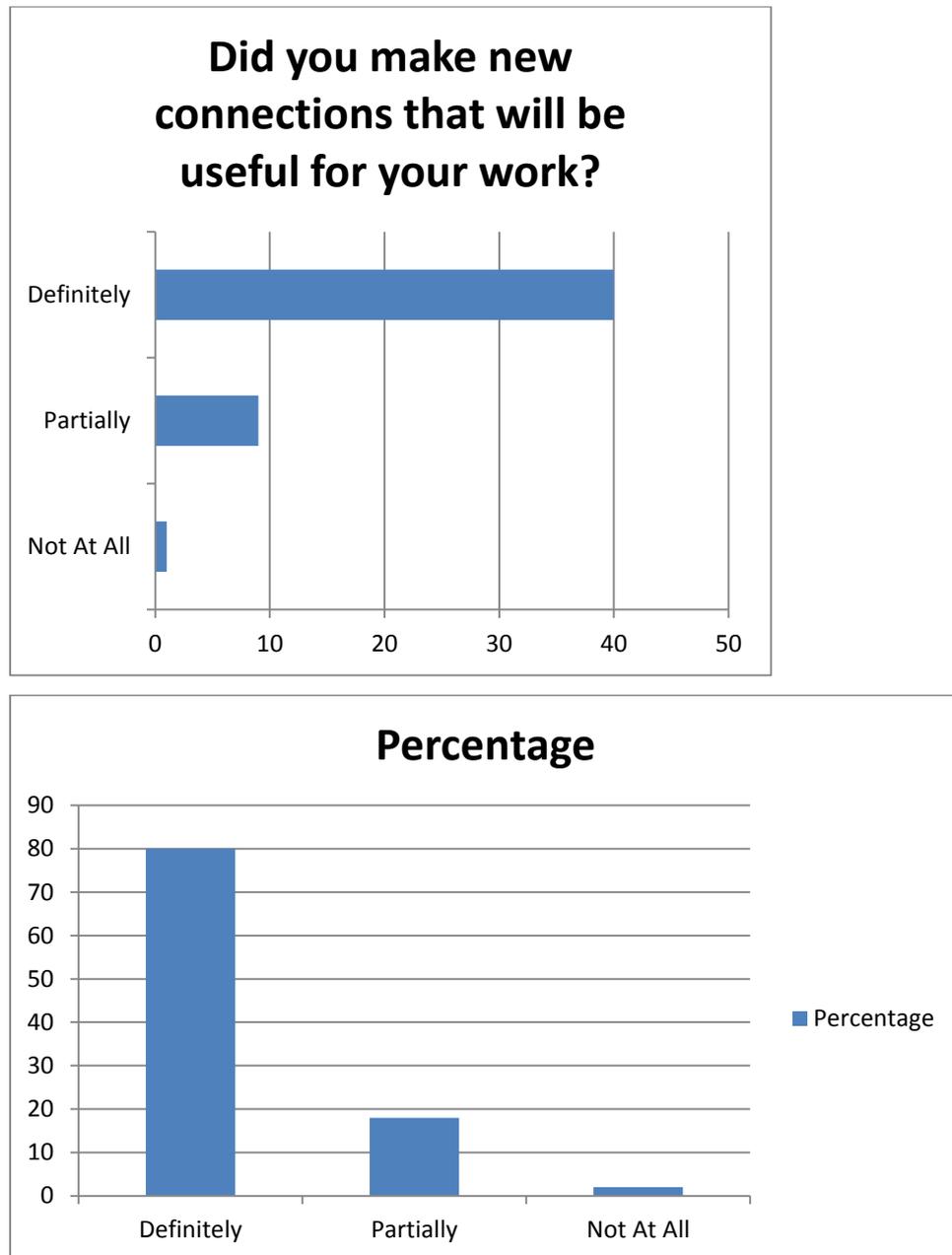


Figure 5: Useful Connections for Work

### 3.6 Opportunities for Experience Sharing

Of the 48 respondents to the question on if the forum provided an opportunity for experience sharing, 23 persons (47.92%) said it definitely did so, while 25 persons (52.085%) said it partially did so. This goes to show that everyone agrees that the forum provided an opportunity for experience sharing to a certain extent.



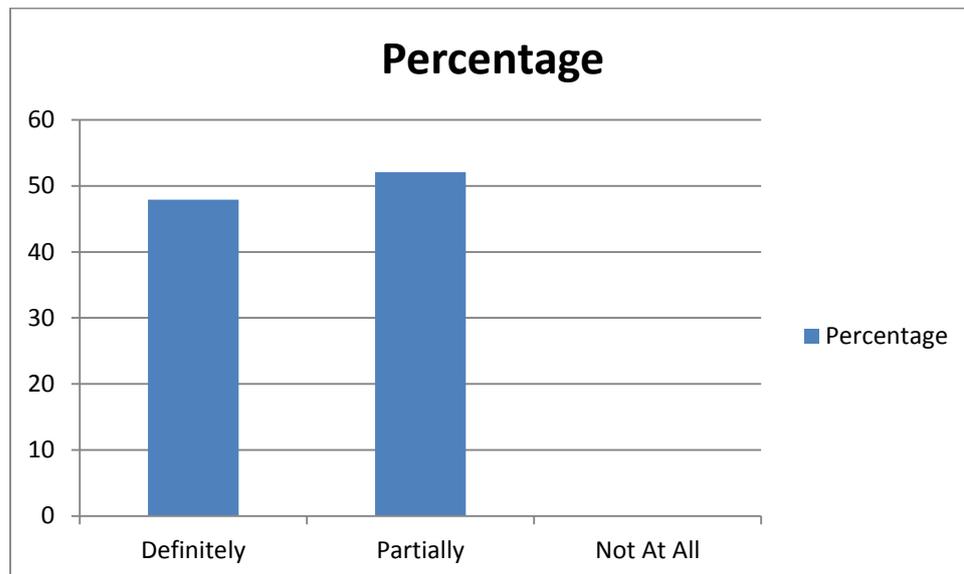
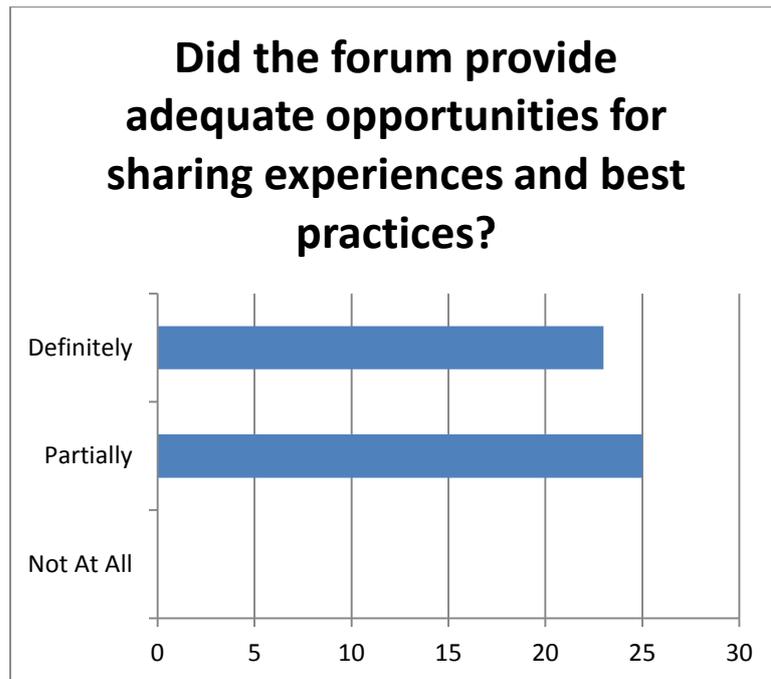


Figure 6: Opportunity for Experience Sharing

### 3.7 Overall Forum Rating

For the overall forum rating, out of the 50 respondents, 1 person (2%) rated the forum as “poor”, 2 persons (4%) rated the forum as “marginal”, 4 persons (8%) rated the forum as “average”; 32 persons (64%) rated the forum as “good”, and 11 persons (22%) rated the forum as “excellent”.

This implies that 43 persons (86%) out of 50 respondents believe that the forum was above average, while 4 persons (8%) believe it was average and only 3 persons (6%) believe the forum was below average.



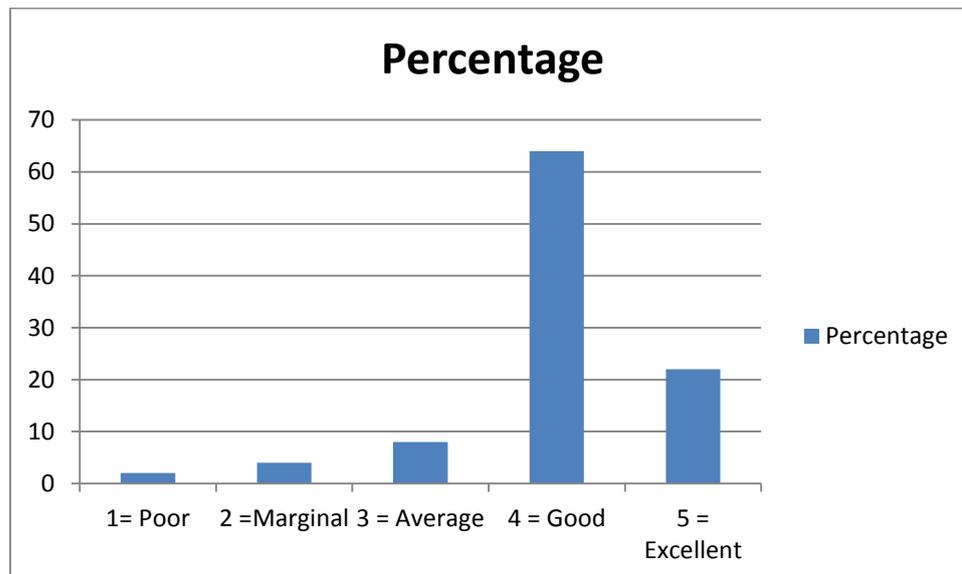
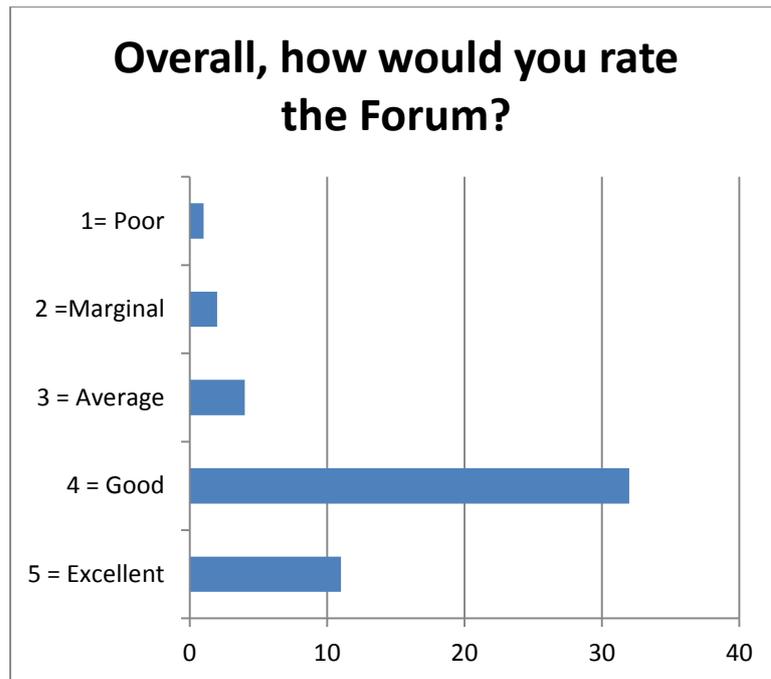


Figure 7: Overall Forum Rating

### 3.8 Panel Discussions Rating

For the panel discussions 48 participants responded to the question on the rating of panel discussions. Nobody rated the discussions as “poor” or “marginal”. 7 persons (14.58%) rated the panel discussions as “average”, while 30 persons (62.5%) rated them as “good” and 11 persons (22.92%) rated the discussions as “excellent”.

The results indicate that all the survey participants believe that the panel discussion were neither poor nor marginal. Furthermore 41 persons (85.42%) believe that the panel discussions were above average.



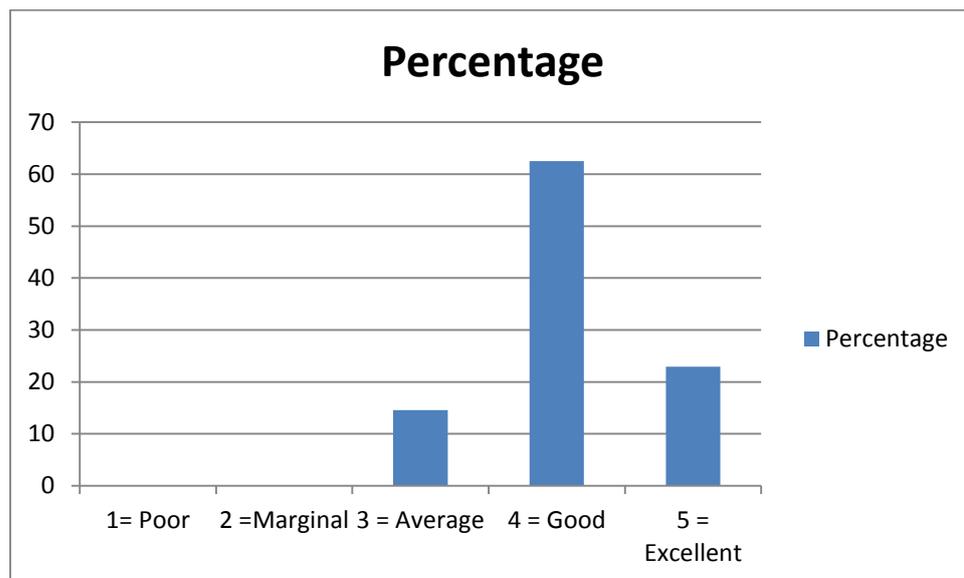
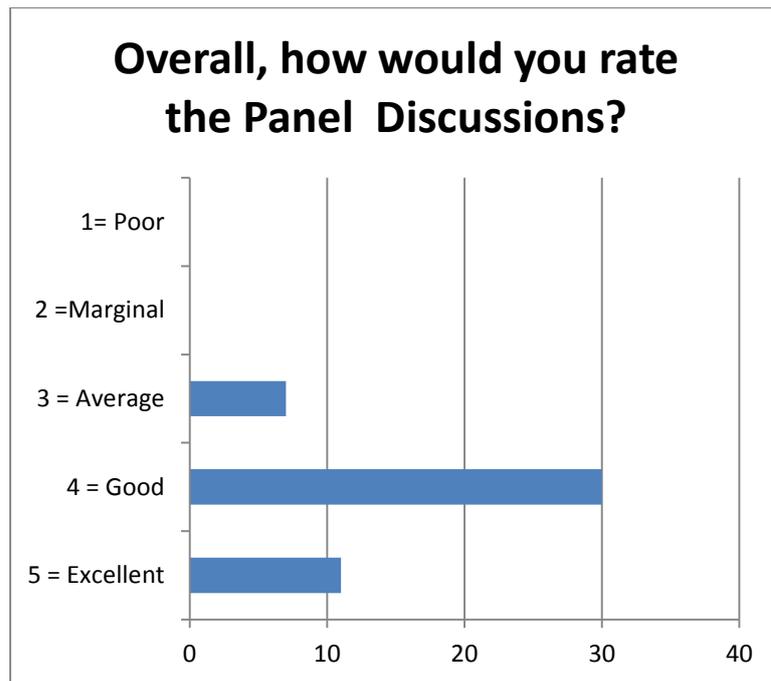


Figure 8: Overall Rating of the Panel Discussions

### 3.9 Rating of Venue/Ambience

51 persons rated the venue/ambience out of which 1 person (1.96%) rated the venue/ambience as “poor”, 2 persons (3.92%) rated them as “marginal”, 7 persons (13.73%) rated the venue/ambience as “average”; while 28 persons (54.9%) rated them as “good” and 13 persons (25.49%) rated the venue/ambience as “excellent”.



This implies that 3 persons (5.88%) believe that the venue/ambience was below average and 41 persons (80.39%) believe that the venue/ambience was above average.

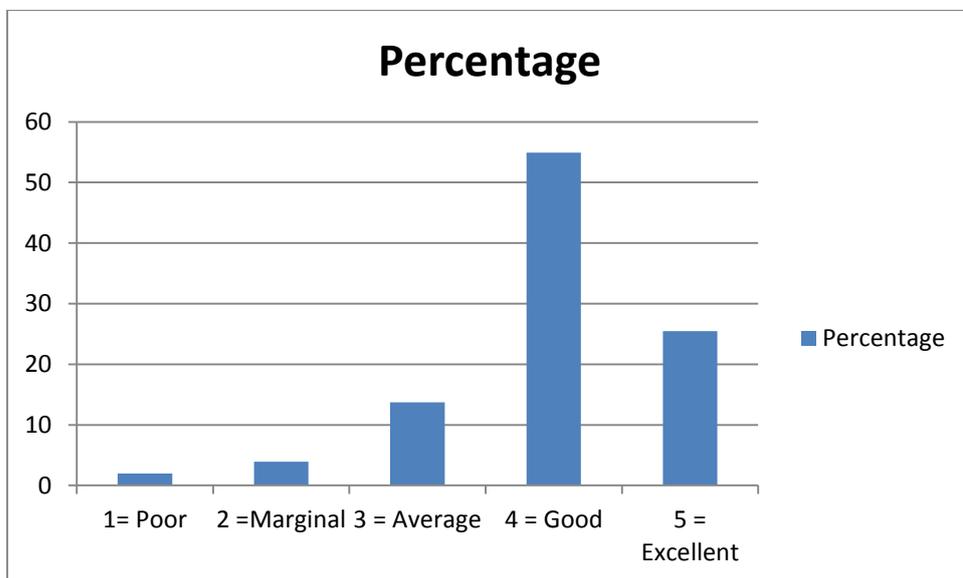
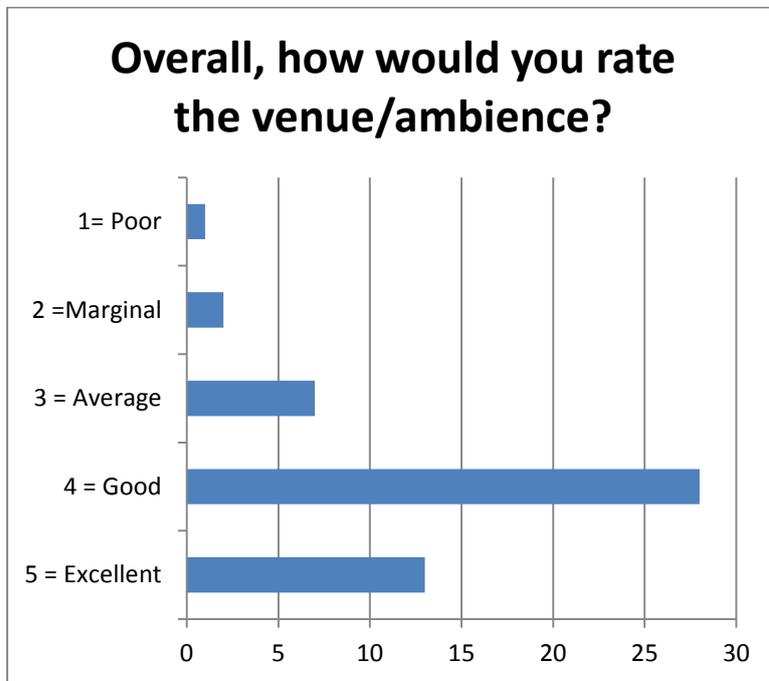


Figure 9: Rating of Venue/Ambience



## 4 CONCLUSIONS

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### 4.1 Forum Objectives

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The results indicate that:

- New networks/collaborations were made during the NDDF held in Asaba
  - Out of a total of 56 participants, 50 of them (89.29%) said they have developed new networks/collaborations by attending the forum in Asaba
- The objectives of the forum were to a great extent achieved
  - At least 48 persons (96%) of the 50 persons surveyed believe that the objectives of the forum were partially or fully (completely) achieved.
- The quality of the papers presented was to a large extent good or excellent
  - 49 persons out of 51 (96.08%) believe that the papers were good or excellent
- There was significant gain in knowledge at the forum that can be shared by the participants with others within their organizations
  - 47 persons (100%) acquired some form of knowledge during the forum that they intend sharing with others in their organizations.
- Participants made connections at the forum that will be useful to their work
  - 49 persons (98%) out of 50 agreed that they made new connections that will be useful to their work by participating at the forum.
- The forum provided participants the opportunity to share experiences and best practices
  - All 48 respondents agreed that the forum provided an opportunity for experience sharing, 23 persons (47.92%) said it definitely did so, while 25 persons (52.08%) said it partially did so
- The overall performance of the forum was good
  - 43 persons (86%) out of 50 respondents believe that the forum was above average
- The panel discussions were good and met the expectations of the participants
  - 41 persons (85.42%) out of 48 participants believe that the panel discussions were above average (i.e. good or excellent).

### 4.2 Event Environment

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Based on the assessment of the participants, the venue/ambience was good (above average).

- 41 persons (80.39%) out of 51 participants believe that the venue/ambience was above average (i.e. good or excellent)



### 4.3 Lessons Learnt and Recommendations

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The Asaba forum based on the rating of the participants was well organized and largely met its objectives. The venue/ambience was also rated as good. The presentations were good and the panel discussions also were focused and met the expectations of the participants as indicated in the survey. We will however need to get more detailed feedback from participants/organizers to ascertain what made this particular forum a resounding success. Also this will provide an opportunity to know what went well and what areas require improvement.

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## 5 ANNEX

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### 5.1 Post Forum Survey Questions

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- 1) Have you developed new networks/collaborations from attending the NDDF?
  - a) Yes
  - b) No
- 2) The objectives of the forum were adequately addressed?
  - a) Completely
  - b) Partially
  - c) Not really
- 3) Please rate the quality and your understanding of all the papers presented
  - a) Excellent
  - b) Good
  - c) Fair
- 4) Did you acquire knowledge that you intend to share with your organization?
  - a) Definitely
  - b) Partially
  - c) Not at all
- 5) Did you make new connections that will be useful to your work?
  - a) Definitely
  - b) Partially
  - c) Not at all
- 6) Did the forum provide adequate opportunities for sharing experiences and best practices?
  - a) Definitely
  - b) Partially
  - c) Not at all
- 7) Overall how would you rate the forum?
  - a) Poor
  - b) Marginal
  - c) Average
  - d) Good
  - e) Excellent
- 8) Overall, how would you rate the Panel Discussions?
  - a) Poor
  - b) Marginal
  - c) Average
  - d) Good



- e) Excellent
- 9) Overall, how would you rate the venue/ambience?
- a) Poor
  - b) Marginal
  - c) Average
  - d) Good
  - e) Excellent

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