



Gender-sensitive Training Workshops in Malawi: Effectiveness on Farmer Knowledge Gains and Market Access Metrics

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Abstract

Agricultural productivity in Malawi is influenced by a variety of factors including gender dynamics and market access. However, limited research exists on the effectiveness of gender-sensitive training workshops in enhancing farmers' knowledge and improving their market connections. Surveys were conducted with a sample of 150 randomly selected female farmers who participated in at least one workshop over two years. Data collection included pre- and post-training assessments to measure learning outcomes and post-workshop market engagement activities. Female participants showed statistically significant improvements in knowledge related to crop management, which translated into a 25% increase in the likelihood of accessing new markets compared to those who did not participate in workshops. Gender-sensitive training works effectively in improving farmers' knowledge and market connectivity. The study provides empirical evidence that supports further investment in gender-focused agricultural development programmes. Policy makers should prioritise funding for gender-sensitive training initiatives as a key strategy to boost female farmer productivity and economic empowerment. Additionally, continuous monitoring and evaluation of such programmes are recommended. Agricultural Training, Female Farmers, Market Access, Gender Sensitivity

Keywords: *African geography, gender dynamics, qualitative research, participatory methods, agricultural productivity, market integration, empowerment studies*

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