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22<sup>nd</sup> Euro-Global Summit on

## **Food and Beverages**

February 28-March 01, 2019 | London, UK

## Partial privatization of agro input supply, implication for access/utilization and food security in Nigeria

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There is an increasing recognition that ownership, access and, control over agricultural resources constitutes critical elements in the determination of the well-being of farm households. The study therefore assessed the effect of partial privatization of agro input supply and its implication on access/utilization and food security in Nigeria. Specifically, the study ascertained level of access and utilization of agro input among farmers in the study area, examined effectiveness of agro input supply services provided by public and private organizations, identified farmers preferred agro input delivery system regarding public and private agro input delivery systems and identify constraints to access and utilization of agro input in Nigeria. Multi-stage sampling procedures were used to select eighty (80) respondents for the study. Descriptive statistics and Bivariate regression analysis were used for data analysis testing the hypothesis. Results shows that all the agro inputs listed for verification have low access and utilization level. However, private agro input supply organizations further showed effectiveness in adequacy of input supply in relation to farmers demand while high cost of inputs, untimely and insufficient input supply respectively were major challenges encountered in access and utilization of agro input ti Nigeria. Analysis of the influence of privatization of agro input supply on level of utilization of agro input by farmers established a significant relationship at P<0.001 level. It is therefore recommended that identified government and private agencies should initiate actions towards making a blend of public - private agricultural input supply services which will be compatible and most practical for the country in achieving its food security policy.

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