Research in Tanzania: Generation and Use

By

Justine Liberio, STIPRO

Third STIPRO Annual Research Workshop 3-4 July 2013, Blue Pearl Hotel, Ubungo Plaza, Tanzanite Hall.

PRESENTATION OUTLINE

- Introduction
- Problem statement
- Objectives of the study
- Justification of the study
- Conceptual framework
- Research methodology
- Findings
- Conclusions
- Recommendations
- Area for further research

INTRODUCTION

- The contribution of research is important in development of any country.
- The main goal of research is to serve as an instrument through which to improve people's living standards by stimulating growth and increased productivity in critical productive sectors of the economy (National R&D Policy, 2010; Hill, 2007).
- At the level of enterprises, research can bring about product innovations, product improvement, increased service efficiency, effectiveness, and improved performance in the market place.

INTRODUCTION…..

- This study is on-going and is part of “Closing the Loop Project” coordinated by Research Policy Institute, Lund University, Sweden.
- The current findings are the views from researchers.
- This study is dominated by the researchers from universities.

PROBLEM STATEMENT

- Tanzania has for many years been undertaking significant scientific research in areas of agriculture, manufacturing and health.
- However, the research results have less been translated into tangible products, processes and services for development purposes (National R&D Policy 2010; Sumner & Harpham, 2007; Coe et al., 2002).

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

General Objective

- This study aimed at investigating the status of research carried out in selected universities and R&D institutions, in order to provide information on how the research results can be better integrated in a national development strategy.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY…..

Specific Objectives

- To determine the social and economic relevance of the research carried out in research institutions.
- To determine status of dissemination of research results.
- To identify sources of funding of research.
- To determine challenges facing researchers in carrying out researches.

JUSTIFICATION OF THE STUDY

- Information from this study will ensure the awareness, understanding, and ownership of research outputs by decision-makers at all levels, with goals of increasing the relevance and utilization of research outputs, thereby enhancing the influence of the researches in socio-economic development of the country.

CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

- Research means: Scientific and systematic search of pertinent information on specific topic.
- Research use is influenced by the following factors: 1. Supply side; Research methodologies, Dissemination strategies, Timing, Personal qualities, and the Role of research institute.
- 2. Demand-side; Institutional receptiveness, Personal receptiveness, Content, Technology, and Implementation of policies based on research.
- 3. External; Role of funding Agency and Domestic policy ie. Political/economic contexts (Hovland, 2005; Coe et al., 2007; Summer & Harpham, 2007; Molass & Tang, 2007)

CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK…..

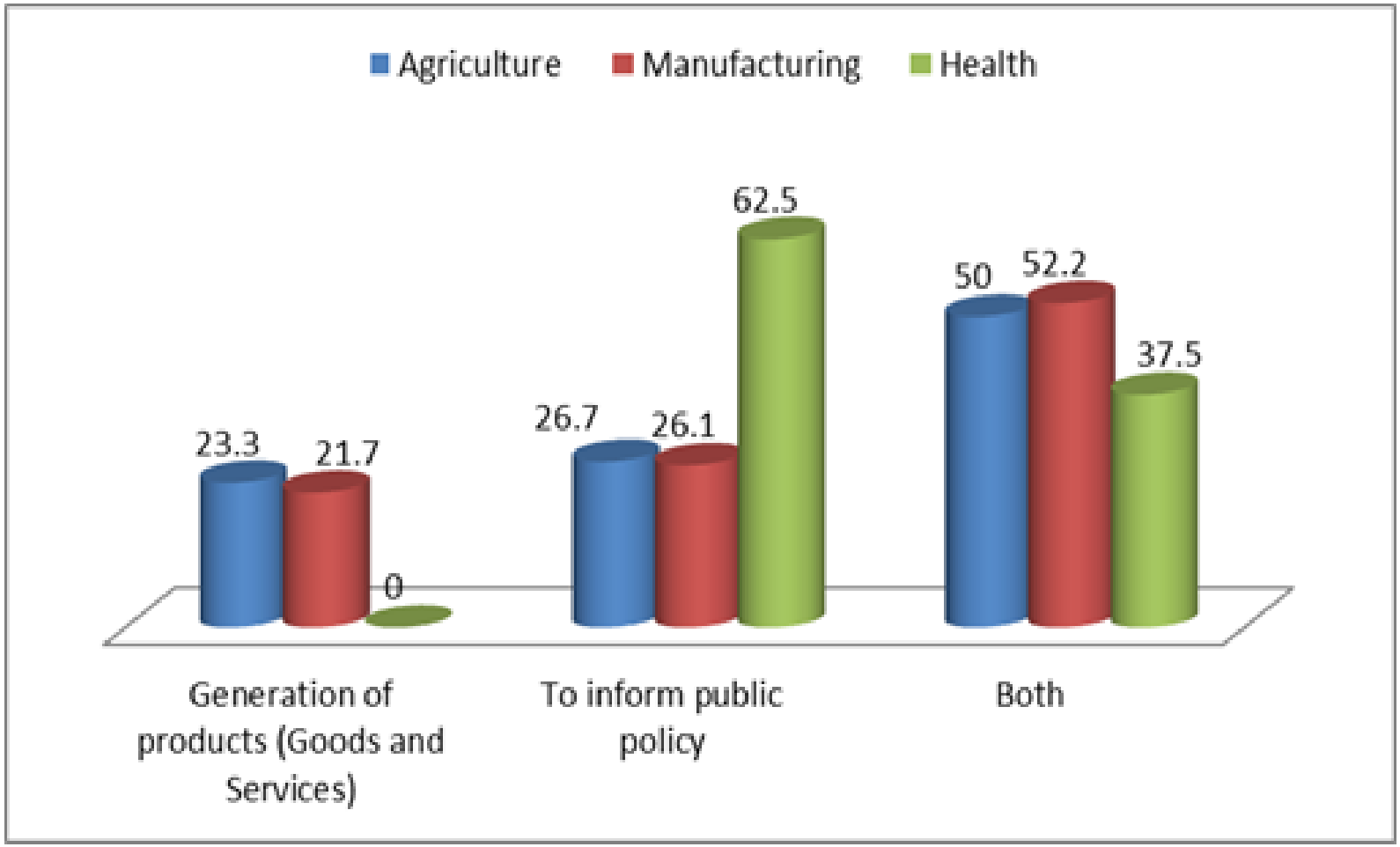
RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

- Study Areas: Agriculture; SUA & MARI. Manufacturing; CoET & TIRDO. Health; MUHAS & NIMR.
- Research Design: Cross-sectional
- Study Population: Researchers
- Sampling Procedure: Purposive sampling; Snowballing
- Sample Size: Agriculture; n=30, Manufacturing; n=23. Health; n=16. (Total n=69: Universities n=51, R&D n=18)
- Type of Data: Both; Primary & Secondary
- Data Collection Instruments: Semi-structured questionnaire, in-depth interviews, observations and Review of literatures.
- Data Analysis: Descriptive and content analyses.

FINDINGS

SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC RELEVANCE OF THE RESEARCH

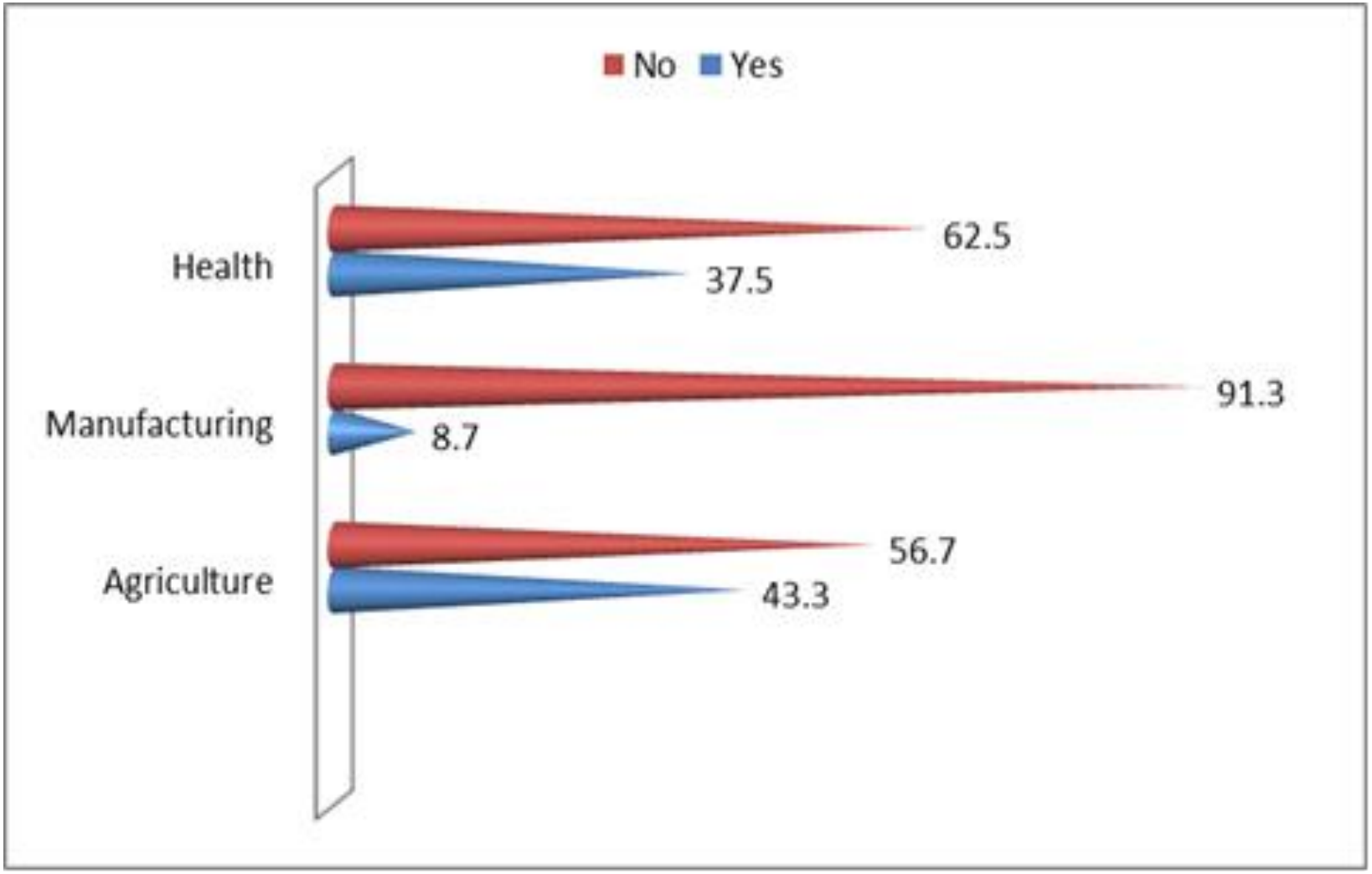
Purpose of research



Factors considered when formulating research project

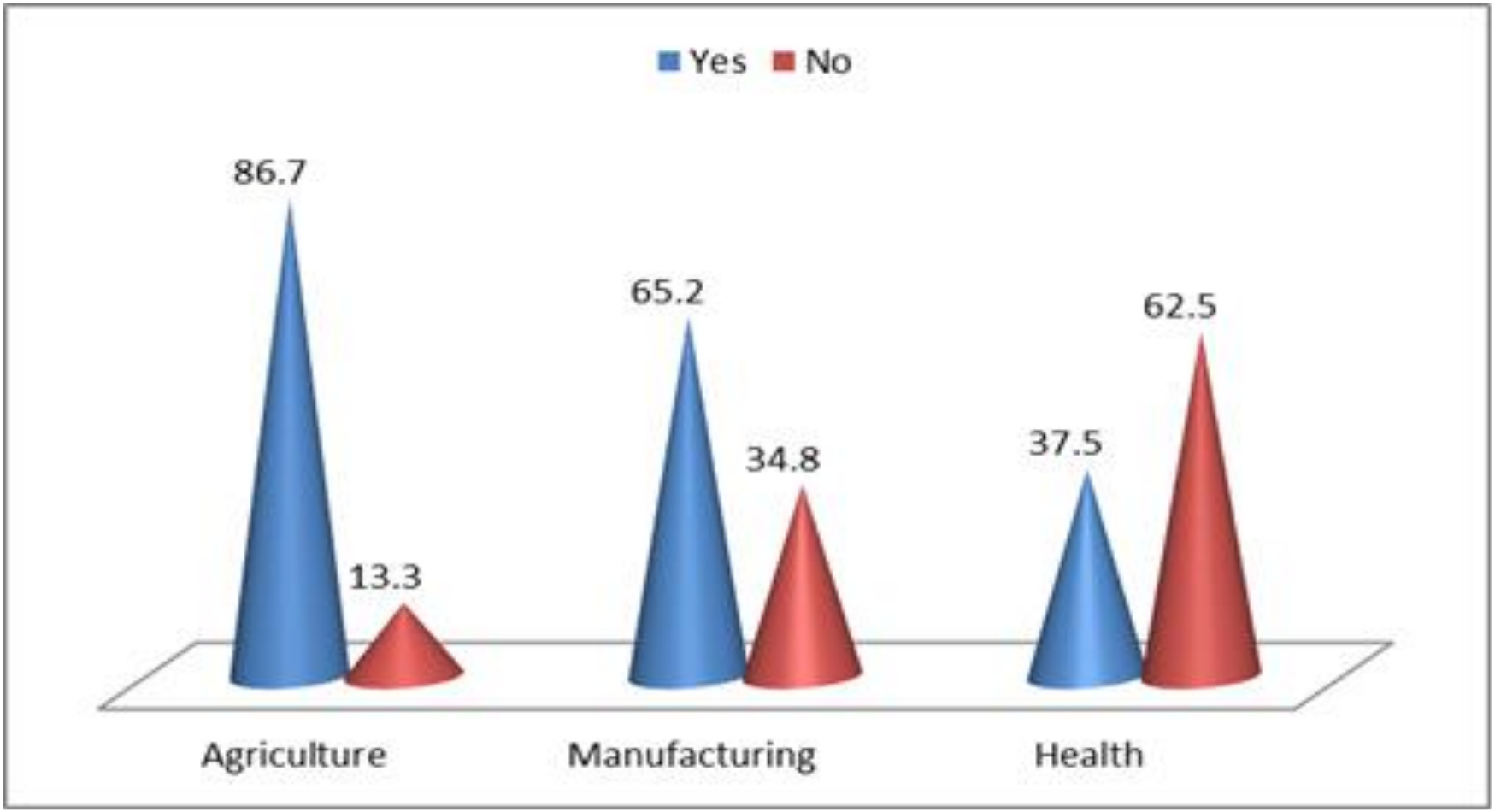
Research Area	Compliance with national development goals		Compliance with faculty/department research priorities		Compliance with priorities of funding agencies		Academic impact	
	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent
Agriculture	13	44.8	4	13.8	21	72.4	6	20.7
Manufacturing	11	47.8	10	43.5	18	78.3	9	39.1
Health	9	56.2	6	37.5	14	87.5	4	25.0

Participation of policy makers/users in research team

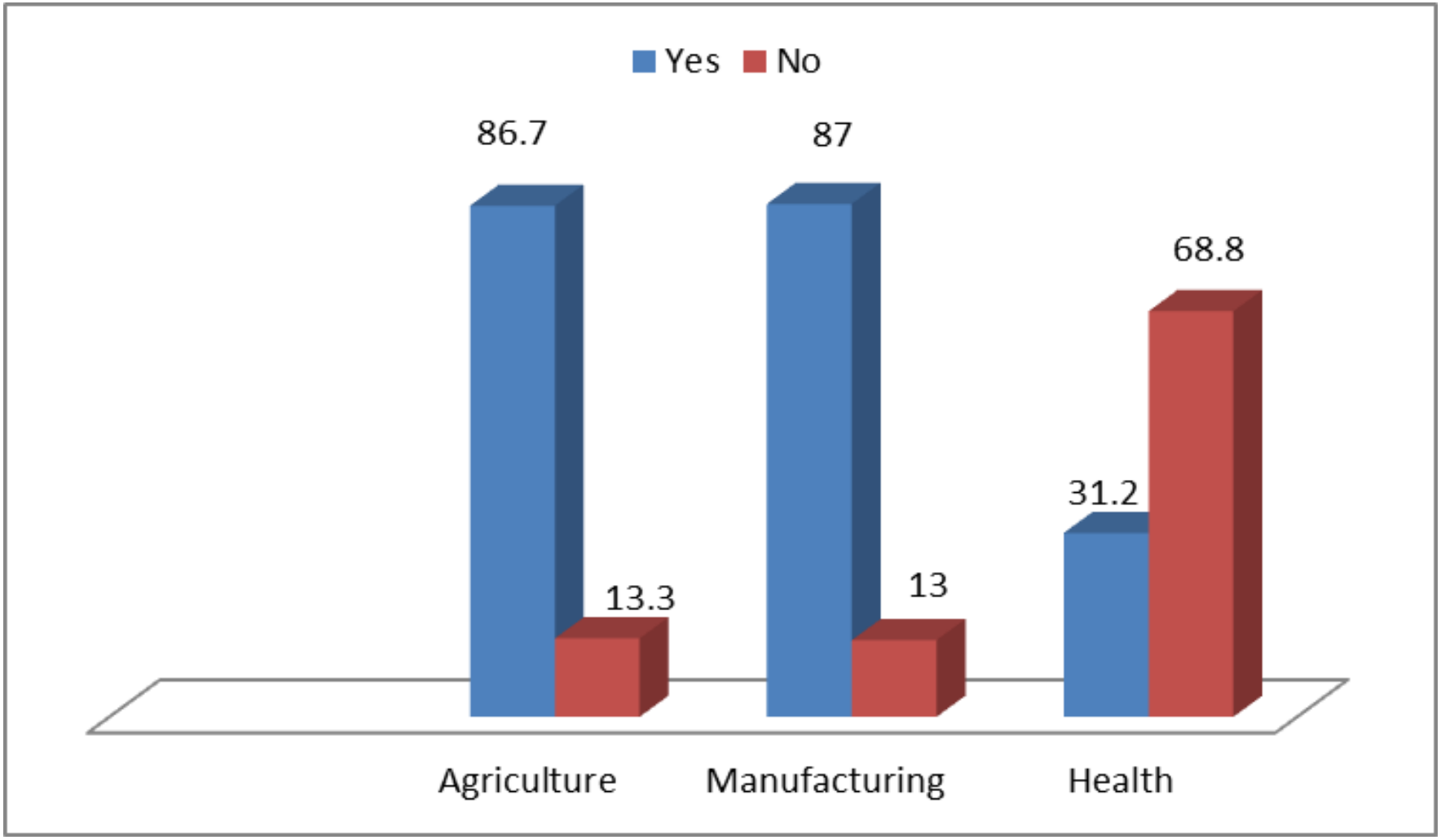


DISSEMINATION OF RESEARCH RESULTS

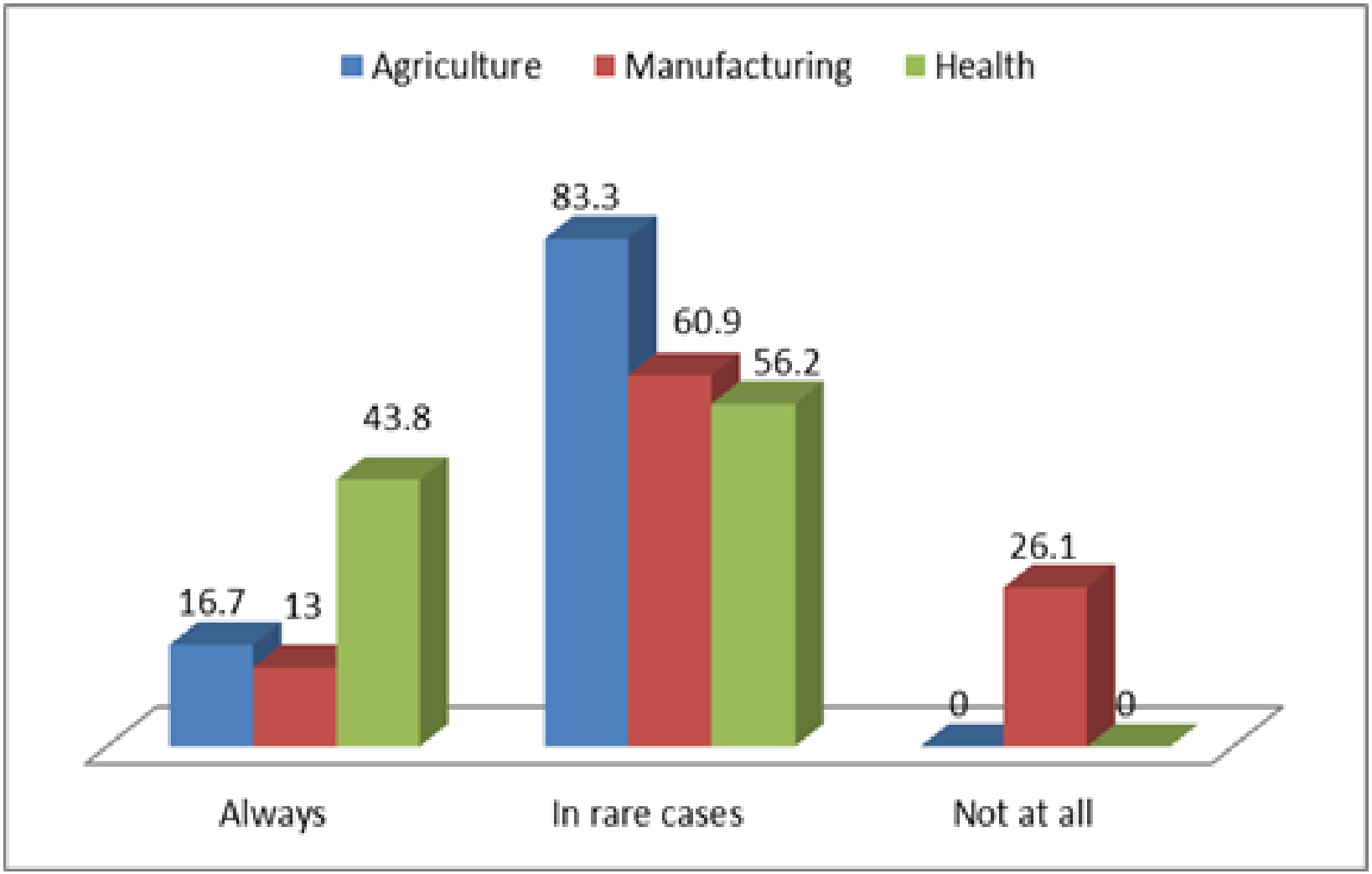
Existence of TT policy



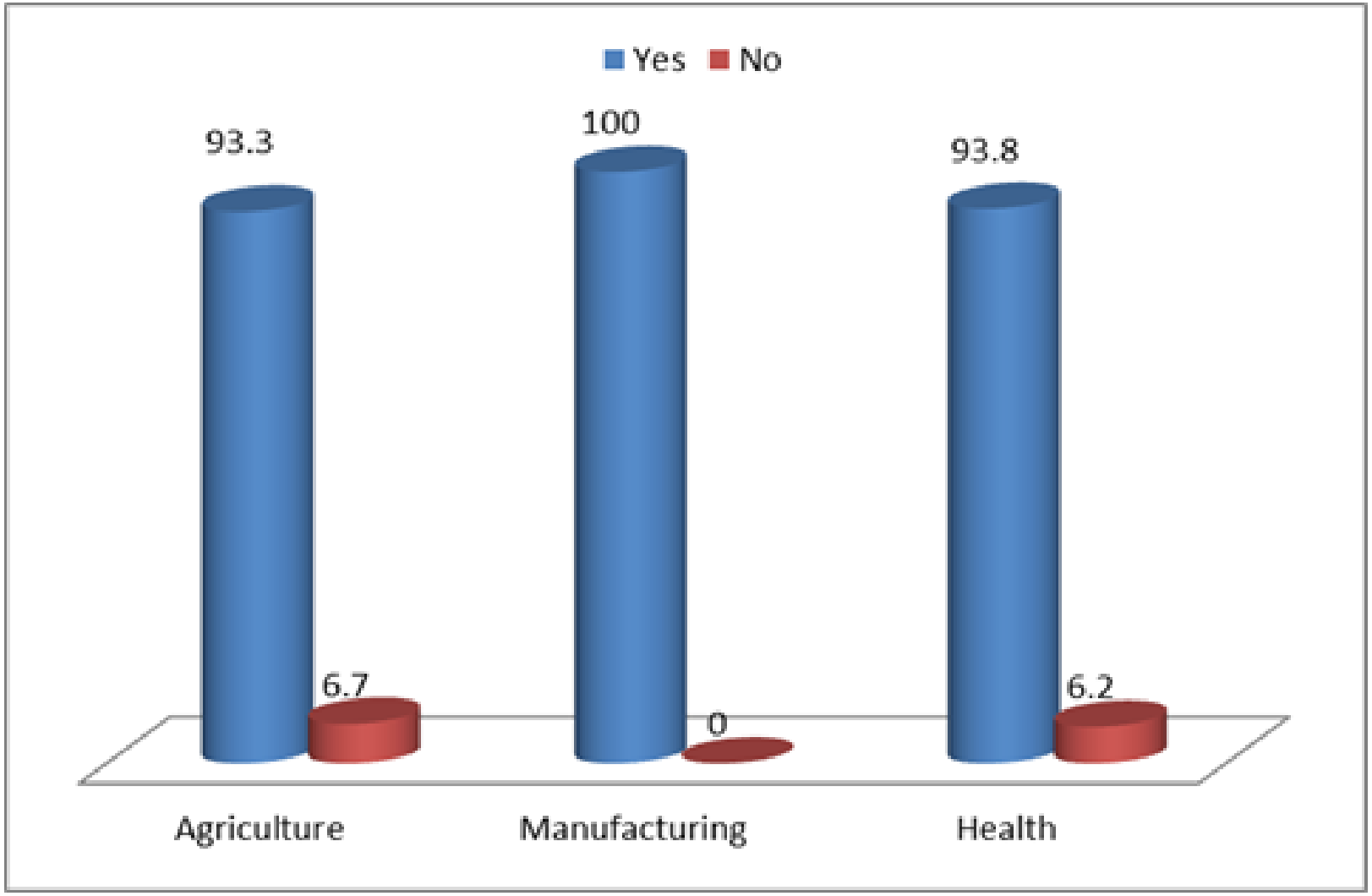
Existence of TT Units



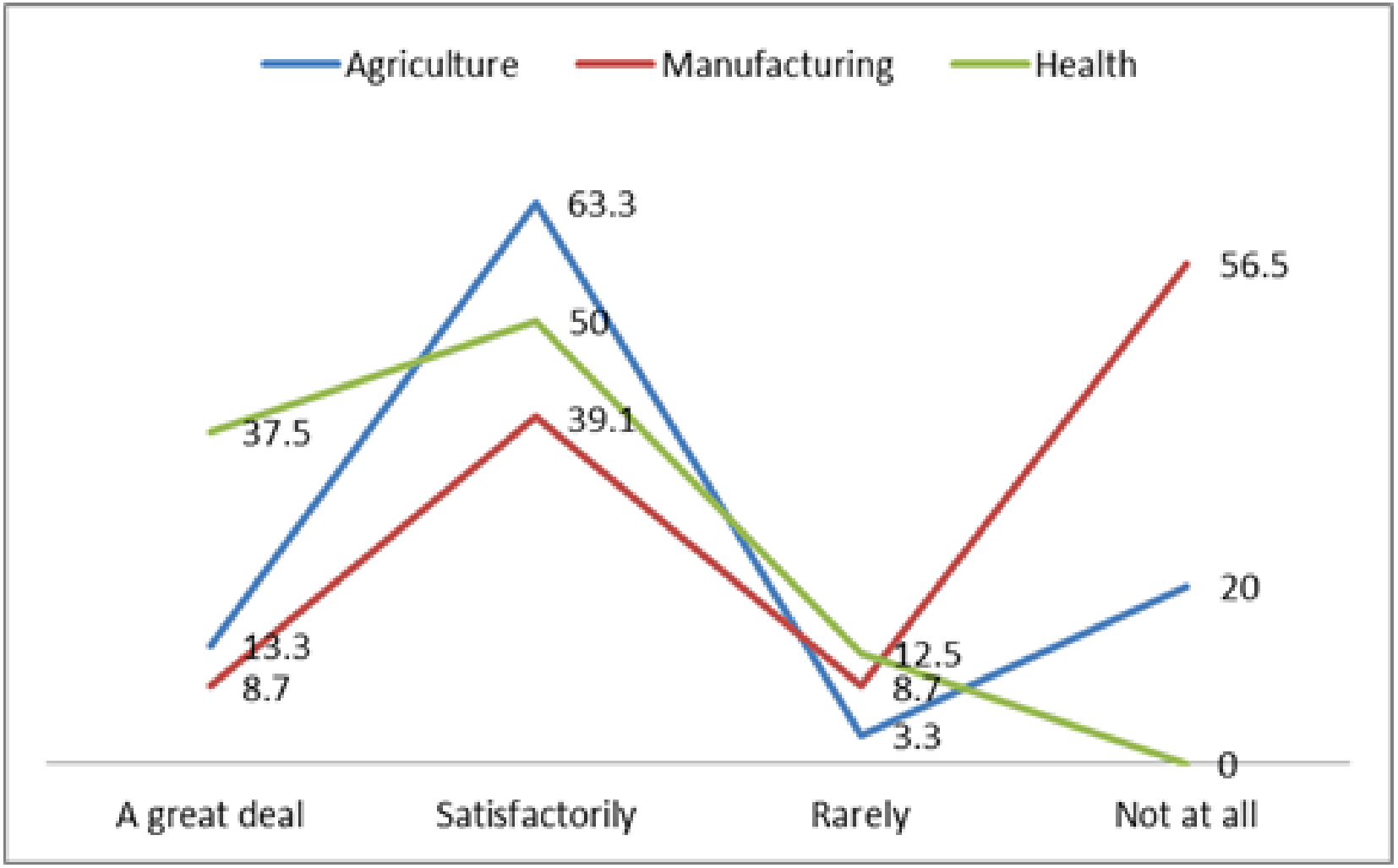
Sharing of research results with policy makers/users



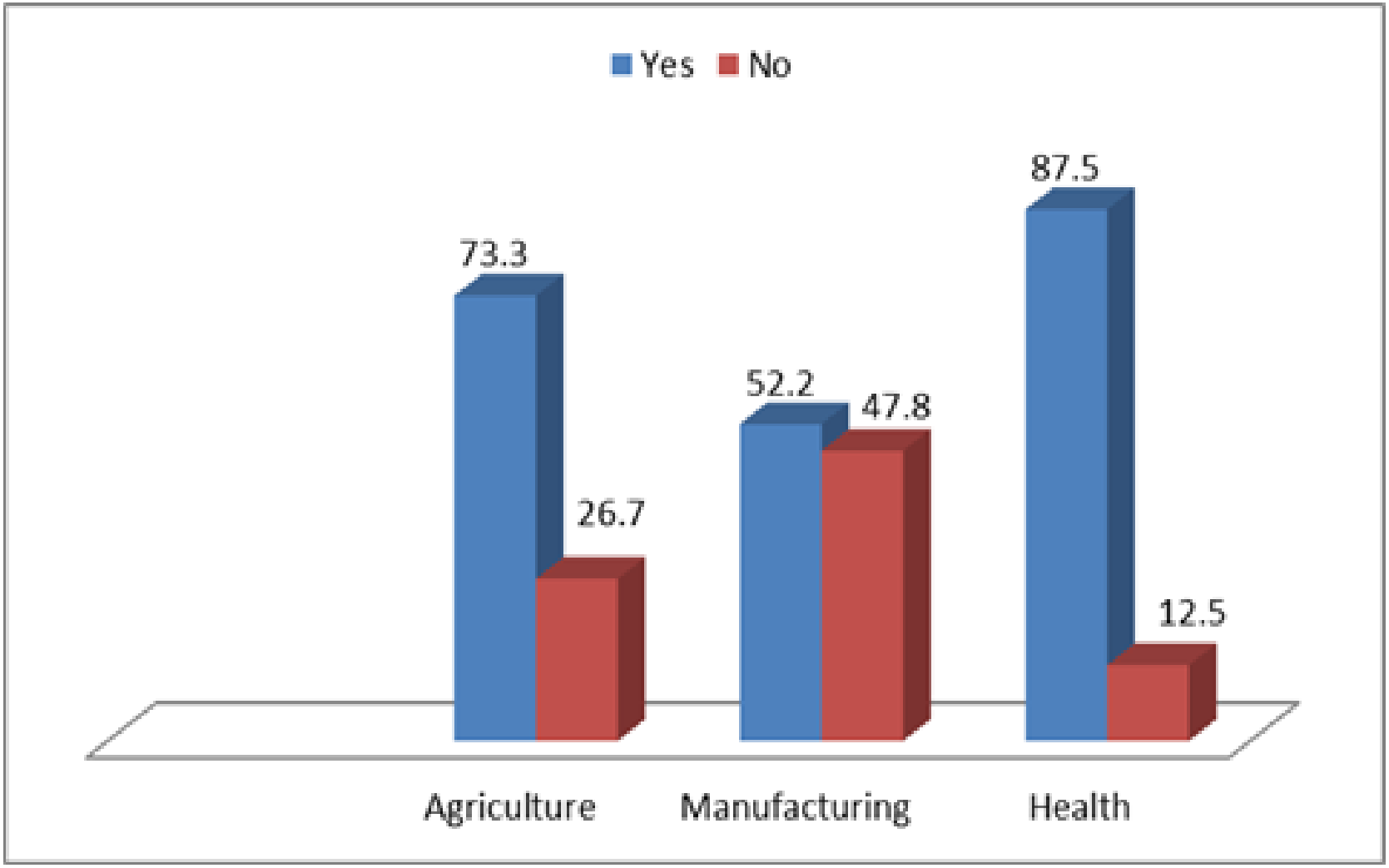
Gap of collaboration btn scientific community and policy makers/users



The extent of use of research results



Impact of research results



Type of impact of research results

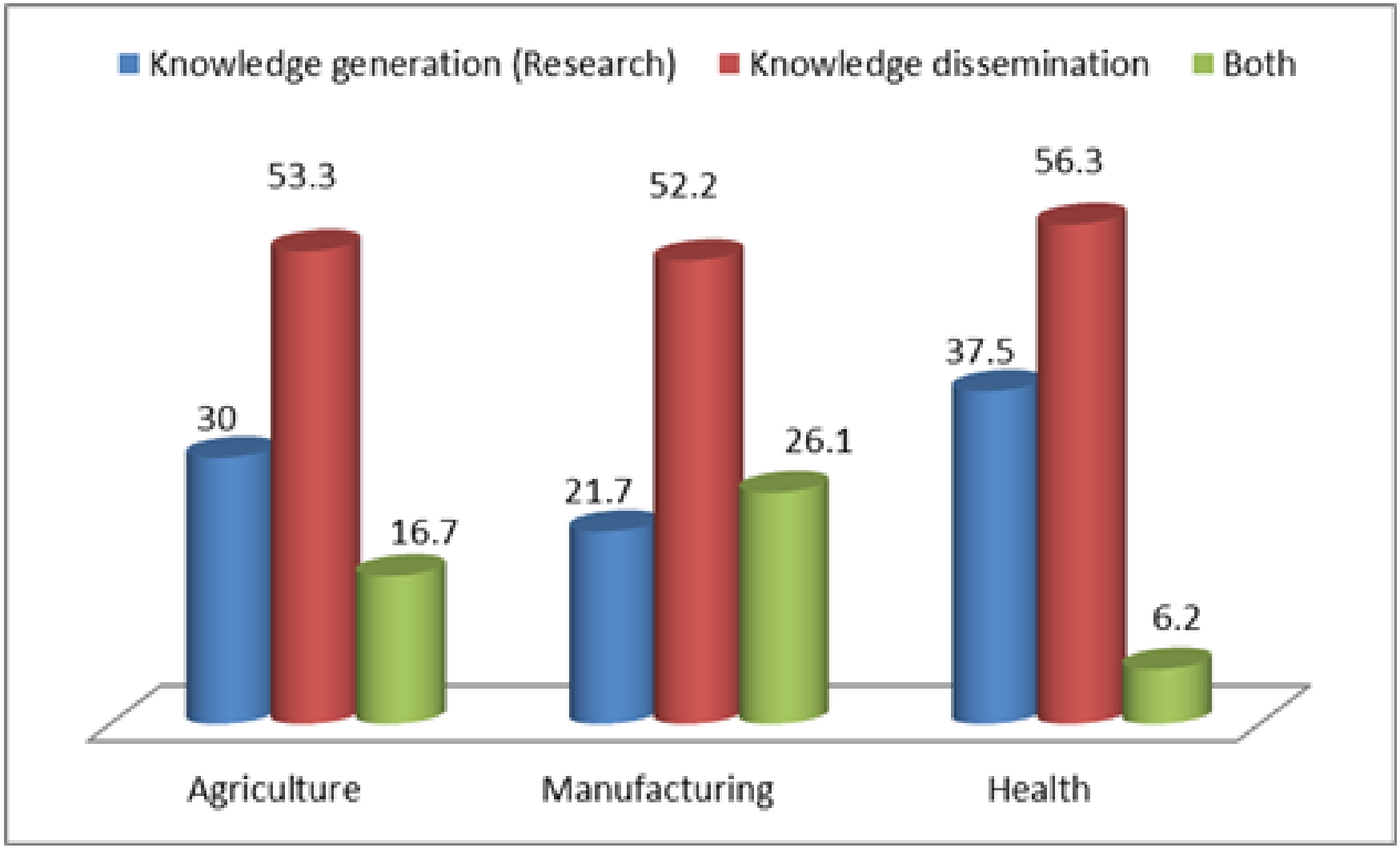
Research Area	On policy		On social development		On economic development	
	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent
Agriculture	11	50.0	18	81.8	17	77.3
Manufacturing	1	8.3	8	66.7	10	83.3
Health	13	92.9	8	57.1	4	28.6

FUNDING OF RESEARCH

Sources of funding of research

Research Area	Government funding		Donor funding		Fund from Private Sector		Own fund	
	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent
Agriculture	22	73.3	27	90.0	7	23.3	4	13.3
Manufacturing	18	90.0	18	90.0	10	50.0	7	35.0
Health	16	100.0	16	100.0	7	43.8	0	0.0

Underfunded process of research



Challenges facing researchers

According to researchers,

- Limited funds from Government and donor because the institutions are not autonomus.
- Poor motivation among reserchers interms of working conditions.
- Little collaboration with other researchers in the region/sub region.
- Lack of technology transfer depertment and good policy to support the programme.

CONCLUSIONS

- Researchers from Universities and R&D institutions carry out researches for the purpose of informing policy and generating products (goods & services).
- Researchers are constrained by the following: Inadequate funding, poor working environment, inadequate mechanisms for technology transfer and lack of collaboration between researchers and policy makers/users of research results.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Government should allocate enough fund for research in order to ovoid over dependence on foreign funding.
- Improving working environment of researchers ie. Capacity building.
- The need of putting explicit policies on technology transfer.
- To establish strong linkages between researchers and policy makers & end users of research output.

AREA FOR FURTHER RESEARCH

- The same study should be done by employing a large number of institutions.

END OF MY PRESENTATION

THANK YOU ALL FOR LISTENING