

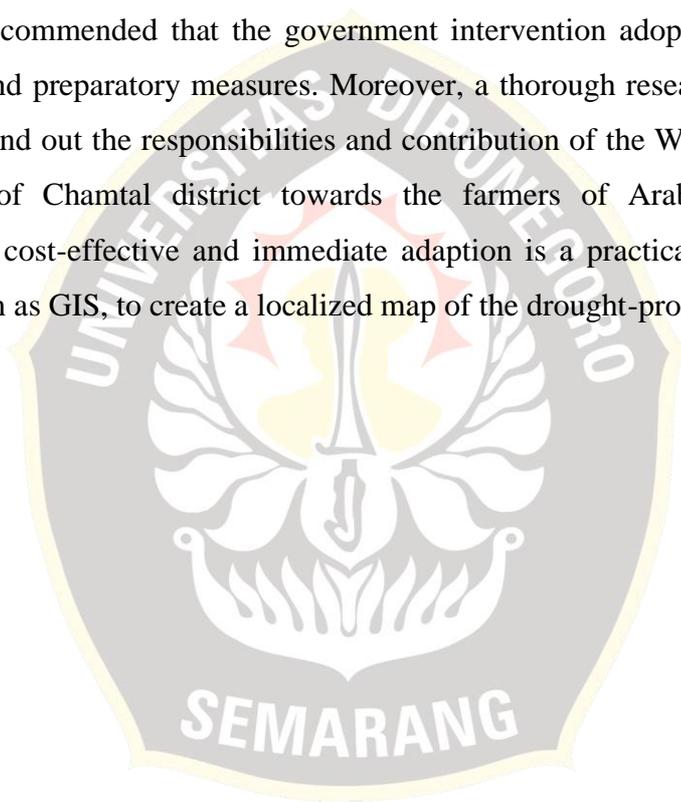
## CHAPTER 5: CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

The study was carried out in the Arabmazari village of Chamtal district, Balkh Province, Afghanistan. The location was recommended by the Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock of Balkh Province as the impact of drought in this village is severe but there are no data in-regards to drought and how people, specifically farmers, deals with drought. Around 30 farmers were selected using the non-probability purposive sampling method. Some coping strategies for crops and livestock included cultivating drought-resistant crops, changing cropping patterns, practicing crop rotation, soil treatment, and providing supplementary feeds for animals. Non-farm coping strategies were sell-ing/pledging assets, migration, seeking employment elsewhere, dropping out of school, and seeking humanitarian aid.

The following hypothesis were proven a) The farmers coping mechanism and strategies towards drought is ineffective: Although farmers coping mechanism towards drought has not stabilized their living situation, however it has temporarily helped them to deal with drought. b) The second hypotheses are that, in periods of drought, Sub-sistence or small-scale farmers requires governmental and non-governmental assistance to cope with drought: as mentioned previously, the coping mechanisms implemented by farmers is only a temporary solution. To have a prosperous and resilient community towards future drought events, the government needs to implement strong and appropriate policies and provide farmers with the tools and facilities to fight drought. c) The third hypotheses are that, the government has failed to provide an effective drought-risk management policy to help farmers in need: based on farmers response, they have not received any guidance, Early Warning System, or awareness campaigns by the government. Some of the farmers only received drought relief in form of money and food which temporarily has helped with their situation but has not stabilized their living condition. There has been no involvement or intervention of the government to Arabmazari's village when it comes to mitigation and preparatory measures. The lack of communication between the responsible ministries and an absence of proper localized and

comprehensive drought risk management GIS data is some of the contributing factors to the misunderstandings and data loss among the responsible bodies that are needed for a successful implementation of long-term projects. The government intervention and inclusion of farmers in the awareness program and decision-making process is necessary to build a farmer's community with a strong resistance against drought.

It is recommended that the government intervention adopt more effective mitigation and preparatory measures. Moreover, a thorough research/survey is to be done to find out the responsibilities and contribution of the Water Association Committee of Chamtal district towards the farmers of Arabmazari village. Currently, a cost-effective and immediate adaption is a practical option for the farmers, such as GIS, to create a localized map of the drought-prone areas.



SEKOLAH PASCASARJANA