

BINDURA UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE EDUCATION
FACULTY OF SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING
DEPARTMENT OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



Community Perceptions On The Impacts Of Drought On Community Development. A Case
Of Chesa Ward 29.

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B1953887

A DISSERTATION SUBMITTED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT AT BINDURA UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE EDUCATION IN
PARTIAL FULFILMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE BACHELOR DEGREE
HONOURS IN DEVELOPMENT STUDIES.

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APPROVAL FORM

The undersigned confirm that they have supervised the dissertation of student Kupfuyamhandu Tariro, titled **Community perceptions on impacts of drought on community development, Chesa Ward 29, Mount Darwin**. Submitted in partial satisfaction of the Bachelor of Science Honours Degree in Development Studies at Bindura University of Science Education.

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Declaration

I, Kupfuyamhandu Tariro, humbly declare that the material provided in the present dissertation submitted to the Department of Sustainable Development, Faculty of Science and Engineering at Bindura University of Science Education has not been presented, submitted or previous work has been properly accredited and acknowledged.

Tkupfuya

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Dedication

I dedicate this research to the Almighty, who made it possible to create this scholarly presentation. I also dedicate this to my husband and friends, who were a source of silent strength.

Acknowledgements

I'd want to convey my heartfelt gratitude to everyone who contributed in some manner to the development of various concepts for this study. I also want to thank Dr. Manyangadze, my project supervisor, who guided me from the research proposal to the final version of the document, which is now a legitimate academic transcript. My gratitude also goes to my husband, Tafadzwa, for his support. Special thanks to my friends Persistence, Ratidzai, Tawonga, and Tanatswa for their moral support at the start of this programme. Many thanks to the respondents for their participation during the fieldwork. This report belongs to them. May God bless everyone.

Abstract

This research aimed to explore community perceptions on impacts of drought on community development. The study was conducted in Chesa ward 29 in Mt Darwin which is small scale farms, where the people are experiencing drought and being affected. Questionnaire and key informants were used to gather data from the community and key informants like school heads, businessmen, church leaders, headmen, chief and councillor. The questionnaire assessed community on their perceptions on impacts of drought on community development, their attitudes on factors that contribute to the impacts of drought on community development and also how to improve their perceptions on drought. Key informant provided deeper insights into the reasons behind community's perceptions on drought. The study found that 70% have positive thoughts on food insecurity as an impact of drought on community development and some were saying that water scarcity is the major impact of drought on community development. While 76.7% have negative attitudes on infrastructure damage as an impact of drought on community development. On community perceptions on factors that contribute to impacts of drought, 50% of the respondents have positive thoughts on ecological factor where most believed that rainfall follow mountainous areas, while 66.7% show their negative minds on poverty as a factor that contribute to the impacts of drought. Upon measures to improve community perceptions on impacts of drought most people percept education as most powerful measure. These findings are important for policy makers, farmers, development organisations, government and government agencies. Efforts on educating the community about drought should be taken serious to improve community's thought on impacts of drought on community development as well causes of droughts. To conclude, understanding community perceptions on impacts of drought on community development is important in designing and implementing more targeted and effective inventions that build upon and strengthen community resilience and promote sustainable community development.

Abbreviations

GDP	Gross Domestic Product
G7	Group of Seven
OECD	Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organisation
WHO	World Health Organisation
ZIMSTAT	Zimbabwe National Statistics Agency

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CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction

This chapter will explore the study's background, research issue statement, study objectives, primary research questions, study importance, and term definitions.

1.2 Background of the Study

Drought is the most important environmental threat to world societies. Droughts result from a complex interaction of elements such as land use, water management methods, weather, and human activity. Drought has far-reaching consequences beyond national borders and throughout a wide range of global ecosystems. Its effects are felt all around the world, to varying degrees.

For example, Zimbabwe, along with some southern African countries, has experienced drought in recent years, such as in 1991/1992. Drought has had the most devastating effect on much of the sub region, with many countries ranging from central Zambia to central Malawi and Mozambique experiencing seasonal shortfalls of up to 80% of normal rain. This coincided with the start of a long-lived mature El Niño (1991-95). Zimbabwe experienced drought in both 2015 and 2016.

The nature of drought varies greatly. In highly industrialised nations such as the United States and England, the impacts are frequently quantified simply in economic terms as a result of reduced home and industrial water supplies, increased food costs, decreased sales of agricultural machinery, and reduced farm operations in less industrialised societies, such as Zimbabwe, the impact of drought is measured in more sophisticated terms. Rural communities may suffer greater socioeconomic losses as a result of domestic water supply shortages, crop failures, and the extinction of critical livestock resources (Tennakoon, 1986). Although its influence may be exaggerated, there is no doubt that drought has a global impact on the prevalence of famine.

During the drought, plants wither or produce a fraction of their regular harvest. Because of a severe lack of grass, fodder, and water, cattle lose weight, fail to have calves, and even die in large numbers. Thus, the return on investment of money and work in agriculture is regrettably poor. As Wisner and Mbithi (1972) point out, these losses slow the nation's economic progress once a drought ends, because the government and farmers must expend significant investment costs to restore economic activity.

The area had affected by drought in 2008 and it was worsened by economic hardships, also in 2016 the area was also affected. There were some donors who were helping during those hard moments but it was difficult as some have large families. There was educating team which was educating people during drought period on how to survive and also reduce chances of being hit by drought. Also EMA was teaching people to sustain the forests as they are important in maintaining the climate thereby reducing chances of being affected with drought. However this did not work as rural people are very difficult people. As a result, the purpose of this research is to come up with strong and convincing ideas.

This study will evaluate community perceptions of the effects of drought on community development in the Chesa area, as well as strategies that can be implemented to enhance community perceptions of the effects of drought on community development. This study will assist policymakers, local leaders, and the private sector in implementing drought-relief policies and initiatives to ensure long-term community development.

1.3 Statement of the problem

Community development is a general method centred on the values of empowerment, human rights, inclusiveness, social justice, self-determination, and collective action. Kenney and Connors (2017). Community development aims to empower public fellows and build stronger, more connected communities.

In a pre-industrial, pre literate and very backward community, the resource users in encountering drought do everything in their power to mitigate the negative impacts of drought or to adjust to it (Roder and Dupree 1974) when people feel and observe drought and suffer from its effect, they begin to think of drought, attempt to determine its magnitude and even try to understand its causes. They attempt to interpret their sensory situations connected with drought as meaningfully as possible in keeping with the real world situations.

Drought is one of the climate variables that have had the most negative impact on humanity throughout history. Drought is one of the most serious environmental issues confronting people throughout the world, particularly in developing countries. The United Nations predicts that droughts would affect three-quarters of the world's population by 2050. This suggests that substantial steps must be implemented to address the issues.

Concerning drought, Saarinen (1996) points out that each person affected by it is likely to have a different conception of it, depending on vital interest and the effects of those drought on those interest. Thus an agriculturalist, a meteorologist, hydrologist, a sub urban dweller, and an economist even a lay person would not perceive drought in the same way. Everyone would have his or her own perception, but in all those cases there would be overlaps.

Chesa has been affected by drought in 1995, 2008 and 2016. This is because the area receives low rainfall, limited water resources and poor soil conditions. The frequency of droughts has negative impacts on community development. The impacts of drought affect community development as they cause food insecurity. They have caused decline in food production which led to food insecurity and malnutrition in the community.

Droughts have also had a significant impact on the region's water supplies. Many water sources, such as wells and boreholes, have dried up, and the water that remains is often unsafe to drink. This led to an upsurge in waterborne infections including cholera and typhoid. Dams, which provide water for livestock, have also dried up. This resulted in diseases such as red water and others; a huge number of livestock, such as cattle, were unable to bear calves, and some died. This had an impact on agriculture since farmers employed cattle for farming and milk, both of which improved people's health.

Climate change is also causing drought in Chesa. Climate change is affecting the area through changes in rainfall patterns. The region has experienced low rainfall for the past few decades leading to droughts. In addition droughts have been made worse by deforestation in the area, which has increased the severity of soil. Trees are important for evapotranspiration, so when there is deforestation it is reduced and this lead to low rainfall.

Another factor which is causing drought in Chesa might be overgrazing as many farms own a lot of cattle. Overgrazing by livestock and the expansion of agriculture have put a strain on the land and made it more vulnerable to drought. This is because vegetation cover has been removed, which has exposed the soil and make it more prone to erosion. In addition, the overuse of ground water for irrigation has depleted the water table, making it harder to recover from droughts.

There are several remedies to the effects of drought on community development in Chesa. One solution is to enhance water conservation and management. This could include building dams and reservoirs to retain water during the rainy season, as well as implementing drip irrigation to reduce agricultural water use. Furthermore, planting more trees and repairing damaged land may help to improve water retention and prevent soil erosion. People can also be encouraged to practise more sustainable farming practices, such as crop rotation and intercropping. These solutions would necessitate a collaborative effort among the government, farmers, and other stakeholders.

Another solution that could be effective is to improve access to information and technology for farmers. Many farmers in Chesa lack access to weather information, advice on drought resistant crops and farming practices. Providing information to could help farmers to make better decisions about how to manage their land and crops and it could also help to prepare for and respond to drought. In addition the growing of drought resistant crops and other innovative farming methods could help to improve agricultural productivity in the area.

1.4 OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

Aims and objectives of the study are outlined below.

1.4.1 Aim of the study

- To assess the community perceptions on impacts of drought on development of community.

1.4.2 Specific objectives

- To assess community perceptions on impacts of drought on community development, Chesa, Mt Darwin.
- To assess the community perceptions on factors that contributes to the impacts of drought in community.
- To determine the measures to improve community perceptions on impacts of drought in order to have sustainable community development in Chesa.

1.4.3 Specific research questions

- What are community perceptions on impacts of drought on community development in Chesa?
- What are community perceptions on factors that contribute to the impacts of drought in community in Chesa?
- What measures that can be taken to improve community perceptions on impacts of drought in order to have sustainable community development in Chesa?

1.5 Significance of the study

This study looked at how communities perceive the effects of drought on community development. Key informants and questionnaires were used to collect information about respondents' backgrounds, environments, habits, gender, age, marital status, education, and income.

This study looked at the current situation of the community and to analyse the history of the community and also provide recommendations to improve community perceptions on impacts of drought on community development. Human perceptions like feelings and emotions will be used in this study.

The potential benefits of this study on assessment of community perceptions on drought and related factors that contribute to drought enabled to come up with solutions to improve community perceptions on impacts of drought community development and the study will be used by government in policy making.

1.6 Definition of terms

a) Community development.

It is the process of improving an area's economic, social, and environmental conditions by a variety of interventions such as infrastructural development, agricultural modernisation, community empowerment, and so on.

b) Drought

Is a lack of expected or typical precipitations that continue over a season or lengthy period of time and is insufficient to meet demands.

c) Drought impacts

The effects of a drought. These are signs of fragility.

d) Perceptions

Means awareness, views and feelings. It denotes a way of understanding and seeing.

e) Perceptions on drought

The ability to identify and give the threat characteristics of a drought hazard in an area and link them to the total natural and induced environment.

CHAPTER 2: LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Introduction

For many years, academics, policymakers, and development practitioners have been interested in community development. This chapter will present an overview of community perceptions on the effects of drought on community development. It will investigate ways to improve community views of the effects of drought on community development.

2.2 Impacts of drought on community development

Drought can have a number of impacts on community development. According to world health organisation, drought is associated with social disruption, conflict, and political instability" (World Health Organization, 2017). For example, a study of sub-Saharan Africa found that "drought has been associated with human conflict, including raids, looting, violence, and murder" (Hsiang et al., 2013). Also drought can lead to civil conflict, especially in regions with low agricultural productivity and high population density (Ghosh, 2014).

A study in Kenya found that drought can lead to higher rates of school dropout, especially among girls (Quisumbing & Zaman, 2019). The study also found that children who were affected by drought had lower test scores and were less likely to complete primary school. Additionally, children who were affected by drought had lower literacy rates and were more likely to involve in child labour.

Also drought has impact on women's empowerment. Women are often disproportionately affected by drought, as they are often responsible for providing water and food for their families (Aidoo, 2019). Drought can also exacerbate existing gender inequalities, as women may have less access to resources and support during times of drought. Additionally, drought can increase the risk of gender-based violence. When women are affected by drought, they are less likely to participate in local decision-making processes (Mohammad, 2012). This can have long-term impacts on the representation of women in politics and their ability to advocate for their needs and interests. Another aspect of women's empowerment that can be affected by drought is their economic independence. Drought can make it difficult for women to find work and earn a living, leading to a loss of financial independent.

Drought has impacts which affect community development through poor health and nutrition. Drought can have a significant impact on food security, as it result in decline on food production and an increase in food prices (WFP, 2019). This can make it difficult for people to access nutritious food, which can have a negative impact on health, especially among children. Additionally, drought results in contamination of water sources which increase the risk of waterborne diseases such as cholera and diarrhoea. Another health impact of drought is its impact on mental health. Drought can lead to increased rates of depression, anxiety, and stress (Brooks et al., 2016). This is likely due to the stress of coping with loss of livelihoods, households, and loved ones. Additionally, stress of living in a state of uncertainty and vulnerability can take a toll on mental health. Drought can cause a significant increase in

school dropout rates, which can lead to children feeling isolated and hopeless (Amabile et al., 2018). This can have long-term impacts on children's mental health and well-being, as it can lead to feelings of despair, depression, and anxiety. It is important to note that the impacts of drought on mental health can be different for men and women, as men and women may experience different stressors and challenges.

One of the most critical impacts of drought on community development is food insecurity (Moyo et al., 2018). Drought, a period of abnormally dry weather that persists long enough to cause a hydrological imbalance, has severe consequences that ripple far beyond just the parched landscape. Droughts directly hamper agricultural production by limiting the availability of water, a crucial element for plant growth. This decline in crop yields translates to a shortage of food within the community (Funk et al., 2008). With less food being produced locally, communities become increasingly reliant on external sources, often at inflated prices due to scarcity (Devereux & Maxwell, 2001).

Drought damage infrastructure like roads, buildings bridges, hydropower and others. Hydropower plants heavily rely on consistent water flow. During droughts, water shortages can lead to reduced electricity generation, causing power outages and straining the power grid (Moser & Ekstrom, 2012). This disrupts essential services like hospitals, schools, and communication networks and overall community development will be affected. Also drought can cause the ground to become parched and unstable, leading to cracks and potholes in roads (Pedini et al., 2018). This damages transportation infrastructure and increases travel time and maintenance costs. Lastly extreme fluctuations in temperature and humidity that often accompany droughts can put stress on buildings, causing cracks and foundation problems (O'Connell et al., 2020). This can damage homes, schools, and other structures, leading to costly repairs and potential safety hazards thereby affecting community development.

Drought has impact of water scarcity, one of the most immediate and impactful aspects, shaping community perceptions, are water scarcity (Tschakert et al., 2009). Lack of readily available water disrupts daily life and hinders development across various sectors. Water scarcity significantly impacts livelihoods, particularly in rural communities where agriculture is the primary source of income (Smakhtin et al., 2004). Also reduced water availability for irrigation leads to crop failure and livestock loss. This translates to economic hardship, forcing communities to look for alternative income sources or rely on external aid. Lastly, social tensions arise through competition for limited water resources as this can exacerbate existing social tensions within communities (Carles & Bosch, 2018). As water becomes scarce, conflicts can arise over allocation and access, further straining social cohesion. This affects community development.

2.3 Factors that contribute to variations on drought perceptions

Taylor, Stewart, and Downton (1988) and Tobin and Montz (1997) describe perception as the set of judgements, beliefs, and attitudes that people hold. Tobin and Montz (1997) define cognition as assessments, beliefs, and attitudes that lead to behaviour and actions.

According to White (1974), variations in risk perception and approximation can be explained by the magnitude and frequency of an occurrence, which is the current and regularity of personal experience, the weight of the hazard to the earnings interest, and personality characteristics. Thus, situational components can be categorised as those that are related to the socioeconomic setting in which people function. Perceptive factors are divided into two types: character or physiological influences on perceptions and attitudinal influences on expectancies. The following are the variables that influence drought perceptions.

In Zimbabwe, the perception of drought can be influenced by geography. For example, Makwara et al. (2015) discovered that farmers in Zimbabwe's highlands perceived drought differently than those in the lowlands. Drought was seen as less severe by highland farmers than by lowland farmers since drought had less negative consequences for them.

Also, socioeconomic status influences drought perception in Zimbabwe. Moyo and Yeros (2007) discovered that people from lower socioeconomic categories perceived drought to be more severe than those from higher socioeconomic groups. This is because drought is more likely to afflict people in lower socioeconomic groups, resulting in food insecurity and poverty. People in higher socioeconomic classes, on the other hand, may have access to resources that will help them cope with the effects of drought.

Religion plays a significant role in shaping how Zimbabweans perceive and respond to drought (Chitando, 2007). Different religious groups hold varying beliefs about the causes of drought and the appropriate coping mechanisms. The Zion Christian Church, a prominent religious group in Zimbabwe, exemplifies the intersection of religion and drought perception. They believe drought stems from sin and can be overcome through prayer, repentance, and participation in rainmaking ceremonies known as "mutsiro" (Chakaipa, 2003). "Mutsiro" is seen as a way to appease the ancestors and solicit rain for the land (Phiri, 2009). Christians often view drought as part of a divine plan orchestrated by God (Palmer, 1994). Traditional African Religions: Traditional belief systems in Zimbabwe may attribute drought to the displeasure of ancestors or spirits (Chakaipa, 2003). In response, adherents may engage in rituals and ceremonies aimed at restoring balance and appeasing the spirits and ancestors.

In Zimbabwe, the level of education can influence how people perceive the drought. People with higher degrees of education generally have a more scientific understanding of drought, whereas those with lower levels of education have a more personal or spiritual perspective. This variation in thinking can result in differing drought responses. People with a greater degree of education may be more inclined to use modern drought-coping skills, whilst those with a lesser level of education may rely on older methods.

Age can alter Zimbabweans' perceptions of drought. Older people have a better knowledge of drought and its effects since they have more experience with it. In contrast, younger individuals may have less awareness and understanding of drought, but they are more enthusiastic about the future. This can result in varying responses to drought, with older people more prone to plan for the worse and younger ones more likely to hope for the best. For example, during the 2015-2016 droughts in Zimbabwe, older individuals were more inclined to sell livestock and

buy food ahead of time, whilst younger people were more likely to pray for rain and wait for government assistance. This demonstrates that age can affect how people perceive and respond to drought.

Gender is another element that influences perceptions of drought-related consequences. Gender affects drought perception and response in a variety of ways. For example, men may consider drought as a natural occurrence, whereas women may see it as a threat to their livelihoods and well-being. This can result in varied reactions, with males prioritizing technological solutions such as irrigation and women prioritizing coping measures such as diversifying income streams. Men tend to use more technical vocabulary and focus on the physical components of drought, whereas women use more emotive language and concentrate on the social and economic consequences of drought. These linguistic differences reflect the disparities in men's and women's experiences and priorities during drought. For example, during the 2015-2016 droughts, men were more likely to state phrases like "there is no rain" and "we need to irrigate". Women, on the other hand, were more likely to remark things like "it is a bad situation" and "we are struggling to feed our children". This linguistic difference demonstrates how men and women prioritize and experience drought differently. Another example is from Malawi, where men and women use different languages to discuss drought. Men in Malawi prefer to emphasize on the physical effects of drought, using terms like "dryness" and "heat". Women, on the other hand, are more prone to focus on the social and economic implications of drought, using words like "hardship" and "suffering". This example demonstrates how gender disparities in language might represent differing goals and experiences with drought.

2.4 Measures to improve community perceptions on impacts of drought on community development.

Trainings enhance community perceptions of drought Impacts on community development. Droughts pose a significant threat to community development, impacting everything from livelihoods to health. Trainings can be a powerful tool for improving community perceptions of these impacts, fostering a more informed and proactive approach (Benson & Clay, 2004). Trainings bridge the knowledge gap by providing communities with accurate information about drought's various impacts (Tschakert et al., 2009). This includes understanding the causes and consequences of drought, such as water scarcity, food insecurity, and infrastructure damage.

Education also plays a role in shaping community perceptions of drought impacts on community development. Droughts pose a significant threat to communities, disrupting livelihoods, straining resources, and hindering development. Education plays a crucial role in shaping community perceptions of these impacts, fostering a more informed and proactive approach (Benson & Clay, 2004). Also education programs can equip communities with knowledge about the causes and consequences of drought (Tschakert et al., 2009). This includes understanding the role of climate patterns, human activities, and ecological factors in drought occurrence.

Awareness campaigns can be a powerful tool for improving community perceptions of these impacts, fostering a sense of shared responsibility and promoting proactive adaptation

strategies (Moser, 2016). Campaigns can bridge the information gap by providing clear and concise information about drought's causes, consequences, and early warning signs (Tschakert et al., 2009). This knowledge empowers communities to understand the threats

Water conservation and management is another measure. This could involve the construction of dams and reservoirs to store water during rainy season, the use of drip irrigation to reduce water use for agriculture. In addition, planting more trees and restoring degraded land could help to increase water retention and reduce soil erosion. Also people can be encouraged to adopt more sustainable agricultural practices such as crop rotation and intercropping. These solutions would require a coordinated effort from the government, farmers and other stakeholders.

Another solution that could be effective is to improve access to information and technology for farmers. Many farmers in Chesa lack access to weather information, advice on drought resistant crops and farming practices. Providing information to could help farmers to make better decisions about how to manage their land and crops and it could also help to prepare for and respond to drought. In addition the growing of drought resistant crops and other innovative farming methods could help to improve agricultural productivity in the area.

Also youth engagement can play a role in improving community perceptions on impacts of drought on community development. Young people are active participants in drought mitigation and adaptation strategies. This can create youth led initiatives, educational programs and mentorship opportunities to cultivate future generations of drought resilience leaders.

2.5 Community development situations

Below are community development situations.

2.5.1 Community participation

Community development is a process in which the government and the general public debate and act on a specific issue. This method has a social conditioning effect since it promotes more attentive connections among individuals, communities, and organisations. According to Idachaba (1980) and Ndangara (2005), community advance projects must be determined by residents' desires and preferences rather than urban political economy demands like being unemployed, food scarcity, and rural-urban migration.

Community involvement is defined as the direct participation of community members in decision-making processes and issues affecting their well-being (UN, 2018). Resident's involvement and participation in decision-making can aid in community development since it involves identifying problems, developing solutions, and implementing those solutions. New involvement requires identification with the movement, which can only be achieved via contribution in socioeconomic development scheduling, management, action, and assessment. It requires both corporal and emotional work.

Decentralisation has given the rural community rule the authority to draft, gadget, and weigh the local financial plan. It is clearly distinct from the former state-led community development system, in which the public was more of a part of development and enterprises came mostly

from the upper village levels (Bebbington et al. 2006; Antlöv 2000; Evers 2000; Widianingsih 2005). According to Rasyid (2002), Indonesian decentralisation focuses on decision-making at the ordinary level of government in command to support resident initiatives. The locality is expected to be actively involved in community development.

2.5.2 Infrastructure development

It entails constructing transport infrastructure, such as bridges and highways, in order to minimise remoteness and enhance connectivity to markets and resources (World Bank, 2019). Physical facilities such as roadways, water supply, and sanitation, as well as technological facilities such as internet access, can all contribute towards economic advancement and growth. Aschauer (1989c), Fernald (1999), Demetriades and Mamuneas (2000), Calderon and Servén (2004), Briceno et al. (2004), and Olorunfemi (2008) have all looked into the link between transportation infrastructure and the development of the economy. Aschauer (1989c) used panel data from 1966 to 1985 to evaluate the economic impact of government spending on growth in (GDP) Gross domestic product in the (G7) Group of Seven.

Demetriades and Mamuneas (2000) used panel data analysis of 12 OECD countries to determine the impact of transport investment on production and demand. They observed that transit expansion has long-term beneficial impacts on production and demand. Calderon and Servén (2004) found that transport expenditures boosted economic growth in 16 of 17 economically disadvantaged nations and 21 of 29 advanced nations.

The findings of this investigation are pretty comparable with that of Briceno et al. (2004), who undertook a complete examination of around 102 researches and arrived at a similar result. According to Calderon and Servén's (2004) empirical study on regional disparities and infrastructure investment, improving transportation infrastructure could potentially improve employment opportunities and decrease income disparities. Similarly, different types of facilities like water supply and electrical power, may assist communities maximise their revenue while reducing their gap in income with urban areas (Wan, Zhang 2015).

2.5.3 Investment in education

Funding in schooling and medical care may boost employment and stimulate the economy (UNDP, 2019). Schooling is an important driver of growth, particularly in rural areas with limited access to education. Investing in education is essential for building the ability and skills required to drive the economic expansion of a nation and progress.

Growth of communities is an important driver of economic expansion and improvement in society in emerging nations. Education remains one of the most vital component of community development. Investing in education can improve rural communities' socioeconomic condition by giving people with the skills, knowledge, and resources they require to live better lives. This literature review investigates the role of education as a socioeconomic factor that promotes community development.

Learning also encourages unity in society and the growth of communities in remote regions. Education is an important component of community development because it equips people with the skills and knowledge they need to live better lives. Education can help people learn new

skills, obtain better employment, and make more money (Adeyemo & Ogunbameru, 2018). Education can also help to promote gender equality and alleviate community poverty (UNESCO, 2015).

Investing in education can lead to better community health outcomes. Individuals with a higher education level are likelier to engage in healthy habits including good nutrition and hygiene (Adeyemo & Ogunbameru, 2018). Education can help raise knowledge of health issues including HIV/AIDS, malaria, and other infectious diseases.

Education may assist in promoting organic farming techniques that conserve biodiversity like water. Individuals with greater educational attainment are more likely to participate in community activities such as local governance, participation in civic life, and volunteerism (UNESCO, 2015). Education can also encourage diversity in culture by exposing students to different societies and customs. Investment in educational opportunities can boost agricultural output in rural regions. Professional producers are more inclined to use modern methods of agriculture to boost crop productivity and reduce losses after harvest (Adeyemo & Ogunbameru, 2018). Education may also encourage environmentally friendly agriculture methods that protect natural resources like water and soil.

Finally, investing in education is crucial for promoting community development. It equips people with the skills, knowledge, and resources they need to further their professions. Education can help to improve unity in society, community growth, equality between sexes, and poverty reduction in rural communities. Investing in education can boost mental health and agricultural efficiency in the countryside.

2.5.4 Promotion of small scale industries and entrepreneurship

Small-scale industry and entrepreneurship may contribute to developing communities (Aghion et al, 2018). Fostering community entrepreneurs and startup companies can improve economic development and create employment possibilities. Small-scale industries and entrepreneurship are important drivers of community development. Promoting these attributes contributes to economic progress and community development.

Small-scale industries, according to Akinboade et al. (2016), play a noteworthy part in community progress by creating jobs, producing revenue, and contributing to community economic growth. According to the authors, small-scale industries can be improved by a range of strategies, including providing access to financing, training and capacity building, and establishing a business-friendly environment.

Similarly, Oluwaseun et al. (2018) investigated the effects that entrepreneurship has on community growth in Nigeria. Entrepreneurship has been shown to benefit community development by producing jobs, alleviating poverty, and increasing economic progress. Access to funds, training, capacity building, and government assistance are all important aspects of promoting community entrepreneurship.

In another study, Adeyemo et al. (2019) looked into the influence of microfinance organizations in encouraging small-scale businesses in Nigeria. The research discovered that

these organizations have a crucial role in facilitating access to money for small-scale businesses, hence supporting their development as well as their growth. The authors also noted that government programs aimed to boost microfinance institutions, which would increase their effectiveness in encouraging small-scale businesses.

In addition, Oladele et al. (2020) conducted a study on the obstacles that small businesses confront in Nigeria, as well as their impact on community development. Small-scale industries in Nigeria confront some challenges, including lack of capital, poor infrastructure, limited business administration skills, and government regulations. They believed that addressing these concerns could boost the growth and development of small businesses, hence benefiting community development.

To summarise, the promotion of small-scale industries and entrepreneurship has been regarded as an important aspect of community development. The studies reviewed in this literature review identified a variety of tactics that can be used to promote small-scale business industries and entrepreneurship, including access to financing, education and capacity building, government support, and establishing a favorable atmosphere for business operations. Addressing the obstacles that small scale industries face is equally critical in fostering their expansion and growth.

2.5.5 Increased agricultural production

Increasing farming production benefits community economics (Jogo et al, 2019). Agriculture is an important area in rural settlements, and investing in agronomic production can help to promote food security and economic development. While additional aspects are included, some scholars believe that agricultural development is still the most effective tool for reducing community poverty (Irz et al, 2001). Accessing fresh water and hygiene can improve public health and increase productivity (WHO, 2019).

Furthermore, recognising, supporting traditional understandings and practices, such as indigenous farming systems, can contribute to long-term community development (Chipika et al., 2017). Community-led development efforts support to guarantee that resources fit local needs and are efficiently used.

One of the numerous obstacles experienced in establishing and sustaining community development projects is their failure to control funding to accomplish technical, social, and financial objectives (Arrossi, Bombarolo, Hardoy, Mitlin, Coscio, & Satterthwaite, 1994:77). Political, physical, infrastructural, social, and cultural barriers can all impede the success of community development programs.

2.6 Factors contribute to the impacts of drought

Drought is not a one-size-fits-all phenomenon. The severity and impact of droughts can vary significantly depending on several factors, including a region's ecology (Dai, 2011). The type and density of vegetation in a region play a crucial role in water cycling. Areas with sparse vegetation or low plant diversity tend to have higher evaporation rates, leading to drier conditions and increased susceptibility to drought (Vicente-Serrano et al., 2018).

Poverty is another factor contributes to impacts of drought .Poverty-stricken communities often lack the financial resources necessary to invest in water management infrastructure like irrigation systems or rainwater harvesting facilities (Adger et al., 2007). This makes them heavily reliant on rain-fed agriculture, leaving them more susceptible to crop failure during drought also many impoverished communities depend heavily on natural resources like agriculture or livestock rearing for their livelihoods (Turner et al., 2003). Droughts can devastate these livelihoods, pushing people deeper into poverty and limiting their capacity to cope with the crisis.

Lack of support from government and NGOs also contribute to drought. Their absence in helping exacerbate drought impacts and hinder a community's ability to cope (Nyong et al 2007). Without government or NGO support, communities may lack resources for drought preparedness initiatives. This includes early warning systems, water conservation measures, and infrastructure development for drought resistance (Adger et al., 2007). The absence of such preparation leaves communities vulnerable to droughts. Also effective drought response requires coordinated efforts from governments and NGOs to provide emergency relief, food assistance, and livelihood support (Below et al., 2012). Insufficient support in these areas can lead to food insecurity, malnutrition, and economic hardship during droughts.

2.7 Theoretical framework

The literature review reviews the existence of various categories of meanings as attached by interacting individuals in a given social setting. The experience of drought hazard attains local interpretations. In any area, there is some localized knowledge of drought and its causes and people respond to the drought in their own way depending on their philosophies of drought and the way they perceive it. The social interpretation is evident. The symbolic interactionism theory can be used to capture the community perceptions of drought in the study area.

When seen a disaster, drought management becomes a cause of social conflict within a society. This conflict is more felt in recovery phase where with the increasing scientific knowledge in disaster management, it becomes necessary to integrate the disaster mitigation mechanisms within the national development planning programs. The social conflict theory will help us to capture the concept of linking disaster and development.

2.7.1 Symbolic interaction theory

How people perceive themselves and their situations is the key to human behavior and adaption in any given environment. Whatever might be the magnitude, the frequency of the impact of drought, the important thing is the people's definition of the situation. The lay perceptions are in fact crucial instruments in local environment. They relate to the perceived causes of drought and the rational response to them.

The relevant thing is not the scientific conception of the drought but its subjective picture painted by the victims. For this study, it is imperative to understand how community people perceive drought as a disaster, how they can mitigate it in their day to day life towards sustainable development.

2.7.2 Social conflict theory

Lewis Coser's conflict functionalism (1956) serves as the foundation for social conflict theory. This theory seeks to clarify and solidify a conceptual framework for understanding social conflict. It demonstrates functionalism's ability to address issues of change and conflict. Coser urges us to see conflict as a natural element of the social process, not as a problem.

Because of this emphasis on the functional attributes of conflict and conflict as a factor leading to high levels of social integration, social conflict is suggested as a theory to use in understanding the interaction between disaster managers and development planners, particularly given the assumption that conflict may increase social adjustments, adaptation, and integration.

2.7.3 Disaster management theory

Humans are vulnerable to natural and technological disasters. The goal of disaster management theory is to ensure timely and appropriate action in a disaster event while minimizing possible losses. The four major parts of disaster management are mitigation, readiness, response, and recovery, which include relief assistance, rehabilitation, and reconstruction phases of the catastrophe cycle (UNIDRO, 1992).

The growing body of research on the relationship between disasters and progress highlights four aspects. That is, setbacks in development programming break the backs of development initiatives; rebuilding after a disaster provides significant opportunities to launch development programmes; development programmes can increase an area's susceptibility to disaster; and development programmes can be designed to reduce susceptibility to disasters and negative consequences.

2.7.4 Application of theories

This study is being done in light of a new understanding of the link between disasters and development. Every disaster brings death and destruction, frequently wiping out years of development programming and delaying the gradual path of improvement in third-world countries, wasting vital resources.

For many years, the cause-and-effect relationship between disasters and social and economic development was ignored. Disasters were not a concern for ministries of planning and finance, as well as development planners. At best, development planners assumed that disasters would not occur and, if they did, that they would be handled most effectively by donor countries and relief agencies. Disasters cannot be used to evaluate development initiatives, either in terms of the disaster's influence on the development Programme or in terms of whether the development programmes enhanced the chance of a disaster or the potential negative impacts of the disaster (Stevenson 1994).

Disasters were considered as an emergency response rather than long-term development programming. When a disaster happens, the response may be focused on emergency needs and cleanup. Disaster-affected areas may appear to be unlikely candidates for development. The postwar environment was regarded too chaotic to encourage institutional changes targeted at

long-term growth. Nations must undergo institutional and structural adjustments to boost economic growth, reduce inequality, and eliminate absolute poverty.

Drought can severely harm a country's long-term prospects for sustained development, prompting governments to dramatically adjust their economic growth priorities and initiatives. At the same time, crises frequently generate opportunities for advancement. They can foster change and give motivation to pursue development projects such as job training, home construction, and land reform. However, insufficient management of the relief and rehabilitative response may have long-term negative effects on development, thereby increasing vulnerability to future dangers.

2.8 Chapter conclusion

The section examined the available texts on community perceptions of the effects of drought on community development. The literature review identified themes such as drought impacts, community development conditions, drought causes, and strategies to improve community views of drought's impact on overall community development.

CHAPTER 3: METHODOLOGY

3.1 Introduction

This chapter discusses the data collection methods employed, the veracity of the results, and the ethical considerations raised. Leedy (1985) describes methodology as an operational framework for organising facts to clarify their significance. Polit and Hungler (1995) define research methodology as the procedures, tactics, and strategies used to acquire and assess data for a research project. It specifies the study's target population, sample size, data collection procedures, data validity and reliability, and data presentation and analysis. This study will use first-hand qualitative data collection methods such as questionnaires and key informants. A variety of varied data collection methods was employed to avoid errors induced by the

application of a single technique. However, it is important to recognise that these techniques may produce both qualitative and quantitative data.

3.2 STUDY AREA

Chesa Ward 29 is small-scale farms on communal property in Mt Darwin district, Mashonaland Central province, Zimbabwe, roughly 155 km from the capital city Harare. It is situated between Mount Darwin and Rushinga. Chesa Ward includes Nyajenje, Mutaku, Kongiri, Nyamhara, Jawara, Chiwenga, and Nhoru. According to ZIMSTAT 2022, the area's population is roughly 5000. The areas are small-scale farms. People in Chesa rely on food and livestock production for income. They cultivate crops such as tobacco, maize, and groundnuts. There is mining in the Mukaradzi River, and they sell their agricultural products, particularly during the rainy season when the river is full of water. The study area Chesa Ward of the Mt Darwin district is located in one of the seven districts located in Mashonaland Central province of Zimbabwe.

Chesa is located in an agro-ecological zone that collects an annual total rainfall of 550 to 700mm and yearly temperature range of 25 to 36 degrees Celsius. The area is classed as region 3 in the agro-ecological categorization system. Drought was encountered in both 2008 and 2016. The area was devastated and exacerbated by acid rain, which dried up the surviving drought crops.

3.3 Research design

The study design is the structure which connects the observed data to the study's questions, up to the findings and conclusions. To produce compelling data on community perceptions on impacts of drought on community development, Chesa ward 29, Mount Darwin, the researcher used descriptive research approach. This design enables the use of both qualitative and quantitative data. Questionnaires and key informants were used as data gathering methods.

3.4 Sample size

According to ZIMSTAT 2022, the study area is home to around 5000 people. A sample of 40 participants from two sites (Nyajenje and Mutaku) had the possibility to participate. There were 30 community members and 10 key informants, including a councillor, two village heads, two school heads, two church leaders, two business community members, and one chief. The study region includes seven areas: Nyajenje, Mutaku, Nhoru, Chiwenga, Nyamhara, Kongiri, and Jawara. Two areas will be used: Nyajenje and Mutaku. Forty persons will be targeted, with twenty in each location.

According to Bartlett et al. (2001), for population of 5000, a sample of 40 can be considered appropriate when the research aims to explore general trends and perceptions, rather than make precise population estimates. He suggested that for explanatory studies with categorical variables, a sample size of 30-50 can often provide sufficient statistical power to detect medium to larger effect sizes.

3.4.1 Sampling procedure

Creswell (2014) describes simple random sampling as the process of selecting a small number from a large population with an equal chance of being chosen (Cooper and Schindler, 2014). This method decreases bias throughout the selection process, resulting in representative samples. The researcher utilised ordinary random sampling. This strategy gives responders an equal opportunity to express their ideas. The researcher gained permission from the village heads, councillors, and chief to conduct the research. The village leaders informed the community about the research. They also discussed how to approach their members in order to do the research. The chief and councillor were also information and seek time and permission because they were other significant informants in the study.

3.5 Data collection methods

Both qualitative and quantitative data was collected. Qualitative data provide insights on how people are feeling and what they are experiencing. Also qualitative data involve talking one on one and asking open ended questions. Quantitative data can be measured and expressed in numbers.

3.6 Data collection tools

Sidhu (1984) defines research instruments as data gathering tools that the researcher deems required and relevant for the study. There are different methods for collecting data, and the choice of data collection equipment is determined by its design, dependability, and validity, as well as the nature of the data being gathered. In this study, the researcher will collect data from participants using questionnaires and key informants. Data were collected using open and closed-ended questions. This makes it easier to extract specific and general information.

The study was carried in Chesa ward 29 of Mt Darwin district and the ward is made up of 7 locations. A total of 5000 people are living in the ward with 160 households. The researcher will randomly select 5 households' heads in 2 locations. Then 40 respondents will be gathered.

3.6.1 Questionnaire

Farrant (1980) defines questionnaires as "sets of carefully created questions planned to provide organised information in particular subjects". Nachimias and Nachimias (ibid) also stated that the questionnaires communicate the study's objectives, and the responses to such questions provide information for hypothesis testing. The questions also inspire respondents to offer relevant information. Each questionnaire included factual and opinion questions. In this regard, Nachimias and Nachimias (ibid) explain that accurate questions are intended to obtain objective information from respondents about their background, environment, habits, gender, age, marital status, education, and income. Factual questions are thought to be easier to formulate than other types of investigations. Sidhu (ibid.) describes a questionnaire as "a form created and distributed to gather responses to specified inquiries. He described a questionnaire as a lazy man's method of gathering information. It is also less expensive in terms of time spent gathering data from a big number of individuals, money, and travel, and it may be implemented across cultures.

In addition, open-ended questions were used to collect data. According to McMillan and Schumacher (1989), open-ended questions allow participants to write or respond however they

want. Open-ended questions need the least level of control from the respondent and can capture idiosyncratic variances. The researcher employed open-ended questions to extract information about general and specific individual replies, allowing respondents to express their thoughts, opinions, and attitudes in their own words.

Nachimias & Nachimias (ibid) contended that closed questions allow respondents to pick between predefined responses. It only allows certain responses, such as multiple options, true or false, and yes/no questions. Closed form, often known as structured or closed-ended. Closed questions can be responded more quickly than open-ended inquiries. If the goal of the research was to produce more generic responses, a closed form was the ideal alternate method of data collection.

The researcher used a standardised or structured questionnaire to collect data from respondents. The questionnaire has the following advantages: it allowed the researcher to collect data in a short amount of time, it allowed the researcher to protect responders' anonymity, it distributed at a reasonable cost in terms of period, money, and effort, and it was simple to administer. However, there was no control over who replied to the questionnaire, thus the intended respondents were not the ones who did. To alleviate this issue, the researcher gathered data using a combination of questionnaires and interviews to guarantee that the intended respondents really contribute the required information.

3.6.2 Key informants

The study's data was collected using an interview schedule. Interviews are data collecting tools that entail asking questions of individuals or groups of people to gain information about a specific issue. In the context of community perspectives on the effects of drought on community development, interviews were conducted with councillors, church leaders, chiefs, school heads, headmen, and members of the business community.

Interviews are justified by its capacity to produce rich qualitative data that capture people's experiences and perceptions of drought. They also enable academics to delve deeper into certain topics and issues that other methodologies cannot capture. According to Flick (1998), interviews allow respondents to express their opinions. Through interviews, the researcher was able to get valuable data from different respondents and creating platform for discussion.

3.7 Reliability

Barbie (same) defines dependability as "a matter of whether a particular technique applied repeatedly to the same object would yield the same results each time". Reliability essentially determines how consistently an instrument measures. Thus, reliability implies that if the indication is used by multiple people at different times in the same conditions, the results should be consistent. In this study, the use of questionnaires helped to improve reliability. The questionnaires were mostly composed of closed-ended questions that were simple and unambiguous. The responders were generally aware with the issues raised in the questions. In interviews, utilising semi-structured interview plan increases reliability. This ensured that each respondent received the same questions. Additionally, the study tool was pretested or piloted.

3.8 Validity

According to Bell (1993), "validity tells us whether an item measures or describes what it is supposed to measure or describe". According to Haralambos et al. (1990), data is valid if it accurately portrays the topic at hand. In research, validity is classified into two types: content validity and construct validity. Content validity relates to how thoroughly the measuring instrument covers the topic of interest. According to Churchill (ibid), content validity refers to the extent to which a measure, such as one used to test spelling skills in English, captures the domain or attributes of the items.

3.9 Data analysis

There are few different tools that can be used for collecting data on community perceptions on the impacts of drought on community development for example questionnaires and key informants. Qualitative data will be analysed using key informants and quantitative data will be analysed using questionnaires. Descriptive statistics was used for summarising and presenting the collected data. This includes tables, pie charts, and graphs. This is good for quantitative data.

3.10 Targeted population

The study has a target of 40 respondents which include 30 community members and 10 key informants like 2 business people,1 councillor, 1 chief,2 school heads,2 church leaders and 2 headmen .

3.11 Ethical considerations

This study took into account informed permission, privacy, anonymity, secrecy, and protection against bodily harm, mental discomfort, or danger. Respondents were also informed that this research was purely for academic purposes.

3.12 Chapter conclusion

The chapter's key subjects were research methodology and study area, and the researcher used both a qualitative and quantitative approach. This chapter focused mostly on data collection methods, such as research instruments, sampling tactics, and targeted populations. In addition, data was collected using a questionnaire and key informant interviews. So, by collecting both qualitative and quantitative data, research findings became more meaningful.

CHAPTER 4: RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

4.1 Introduction

Results from questionnaires and key informants clearly showed that people were indeed have different perceptions on impacts of drought in their community. The results clearly provided an analysis of the people's perceptions of drought and its impact on community development in the sampled community in categorization with research and question objectives. The objectives of this research were answered in line with the findings found from the study to make it easier for interpretation, presentation and analysis, the researcher present data in form of graphs, charts and tables as indicated below in this chapter. Data presentation will be in to categories namely questionnaire for community and key informants. Findings discussed in this chapter were linked to chapter two's literature review.

4.2 Demography profile for respondents

A sample of 40 respondents was used in the study. According to the table below, there were 30 respondents who were responding to the questionnaire which was 75% of the sample size and 10 respondents were responding to the interview guide for key informants which is 25% of the sample size. The demographic profiles of the respondents are shown on table 4.1 below

Table 4.1 demography profile of respondents

VARIABLES	QUESTIONNAIRE N=30	KEY INFORMANTS N=10
GENDER		
Males	20 (66.7%)	7 (70%)
Females	10 (33.3%)	3 (30%)

EDUCATIONAL LEVEL		
Primary	5 (16.7%)	0 (0%)
Secondary	10 (33.3%)	5 (50%)
Tertiary	15 (50%)	5 (50%)
MARITAL STATUS		
Single	6 (20%)	1 (10%)
Married	20 (66.7%)	8 (80%)
Divorced	4 (13.3%)	1 (10%)

From the data on table 4.1 above, on gender issue, 20 males were answering the questionnaire and 7 males on key informants. On the side of females, there were 10 respondents on questionnaire and 3 females on key informants. On education level, to start with those who attended the questionnaire, there were 5 with primary level, 10 with secondary and 15 with tertiary level. Under key informants, there was 0 under primary, 5 on secondary, lastly 5 under tertiary level. Under marital status, those responding to questionnaire, 6 were single, 20 were married and 4 were divorced. Under key informants 1 was single, 8 were married and another 1 was divorced

4.2 Community perceptions on impacts of drought on community development.

The questionnaire included a section where respondents expressed their ideas on the effects of drought on community development. The respondents selected one choice from three impacts. There were three options: strongly agree, agree, and disagree. The effects included water scarcity, infrastructure damage, and food insecurity.

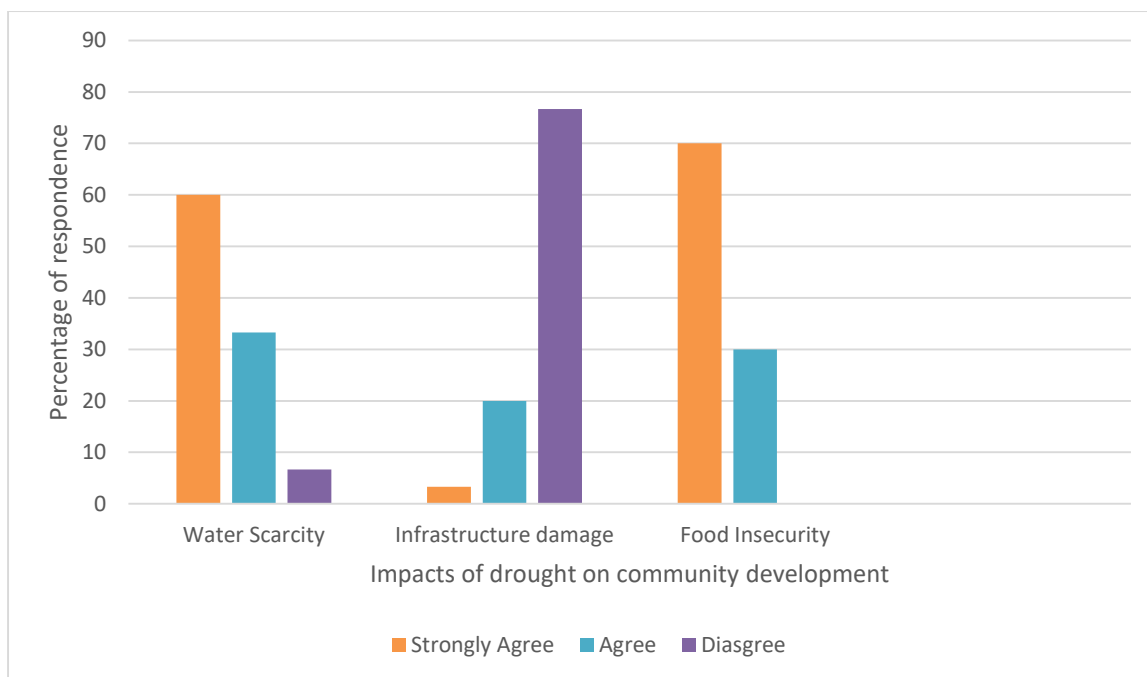


Fig 4.1 People’s opinions on impacts of drought on community development and the number of respondents

Source: primary data

4.2.1 Water scarcity

According to the data in fig 4.1 the majority of people, 18 out of 30, or 60% of the sampled size, strongly agree that water scarcity is affecting community development, followed by 10 respondents, or 33.3%, who agreed, and finally 2 respondents, or 6.7%, disagreed that water scarcity can affect community development. Many people claimed that drought made it difficult for communities to obtain clean water for drinking, sanitation, agricultural, and industrial purposes. Some gold panners claim that mining activity is reduced during the drought, lowering their living standards.

4.2.2 Infrastructure damage

According to the data in fig 4.1 the majority of respondents (23%) disagree that infrastructure damage can affect community development, followed by 6 respondents (20%) who agreed, and finally 1 person (3.3%) who strongly agreed that drought-related infrastructure damage can affect community development. Perhaps this was due to a lack of information about droughts and community development.

4.2.3 Food insecurity

Figure 4.1 shows that the majority of respondents, 21 (70%) strongly agreed that food insecurity affects community development, followed by 9 people (30%) who agreed and no one disagreed. This demonstrates that food security is a key social aspect in promoting community development, and the majority of Chesa residents prioritize food security.

Based on the information acquired from key informants, it is obvious that people's perceptions have a variety of effects, including socially, economically, and psychologically. The ten

important respondents' responses to the questionnaire provided to them were numerically expressed and presented in the form of a pie chart, as illustrated in fig 4.2 below.

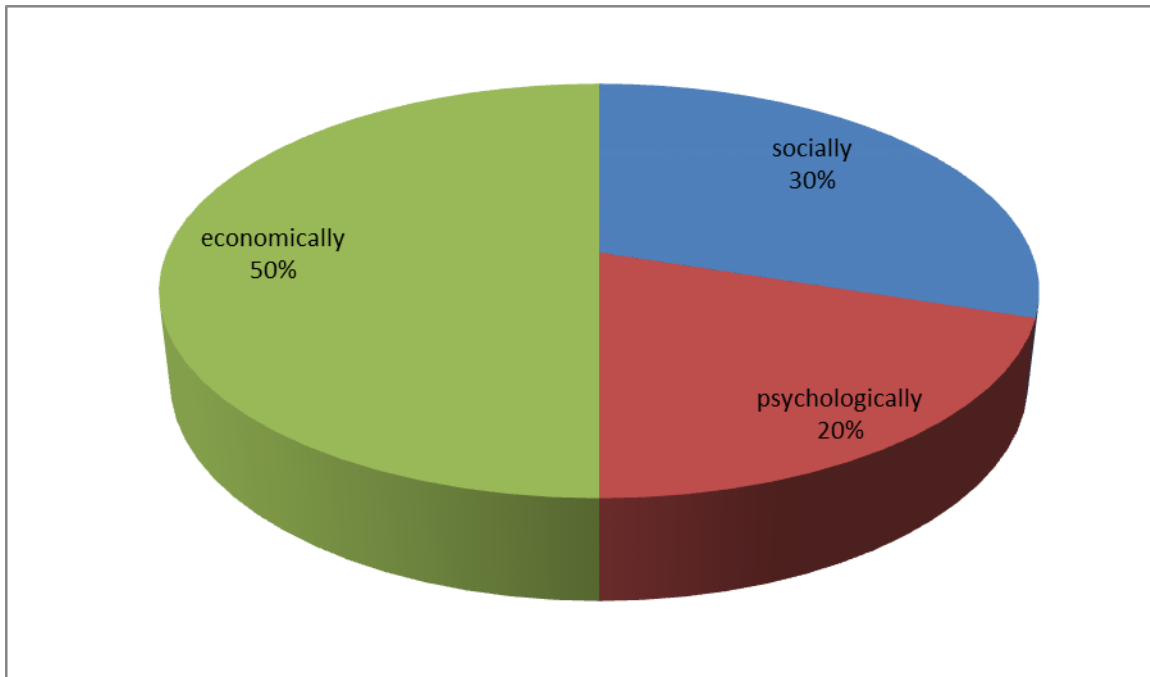


Fig 4.2 Community perceptions on impacts of drought

Source: primary data

The table above shows that 50% of the key informants indicates that the community were affected by drought financially or economically which is 5 out of the total number of ten, 30% of them had an assumption that community affected socially and its 3 out of the total number of 10 and then 20% had assumption that people affected and it's obvious that its only 2 out of 10 had that notation.

One of the business women pointed out that:

“Projects are affected during drought period. I am engaged in agriculture, both animal and crop. I used to go a long distance in search of water for my poultry project. This made me to limit the number of animals to keep and also the markets are affected as the local people cannot afford. So there is no development which can take place. Sometimes I faced some conflicts on those queues during fetching water as there was water rationing.”

She added that:

“Most of the people in the community think food security is community development forgetting of other factors like economic factors which are important on community development. People in the community don't have sense of development and there is lack of community participation. There are poor roads in the community but when headman raises the issue on programmes to

maintain roads, many people don't go but when there is food for work almost everyone go. So by this community development cannot take place."

4.3 Community perceptions on factors that contribute to the impacts of drought

The responses from the questionnaire indicate that there were several factors which contributed to drought in the sampled area. There were factors like poverty, lack of support from government and donors and ecological region. The respondents were ticking on one section on every factor and there were three sections like strongly agree, agree and disagree. The results are shown on fig 4.3 below

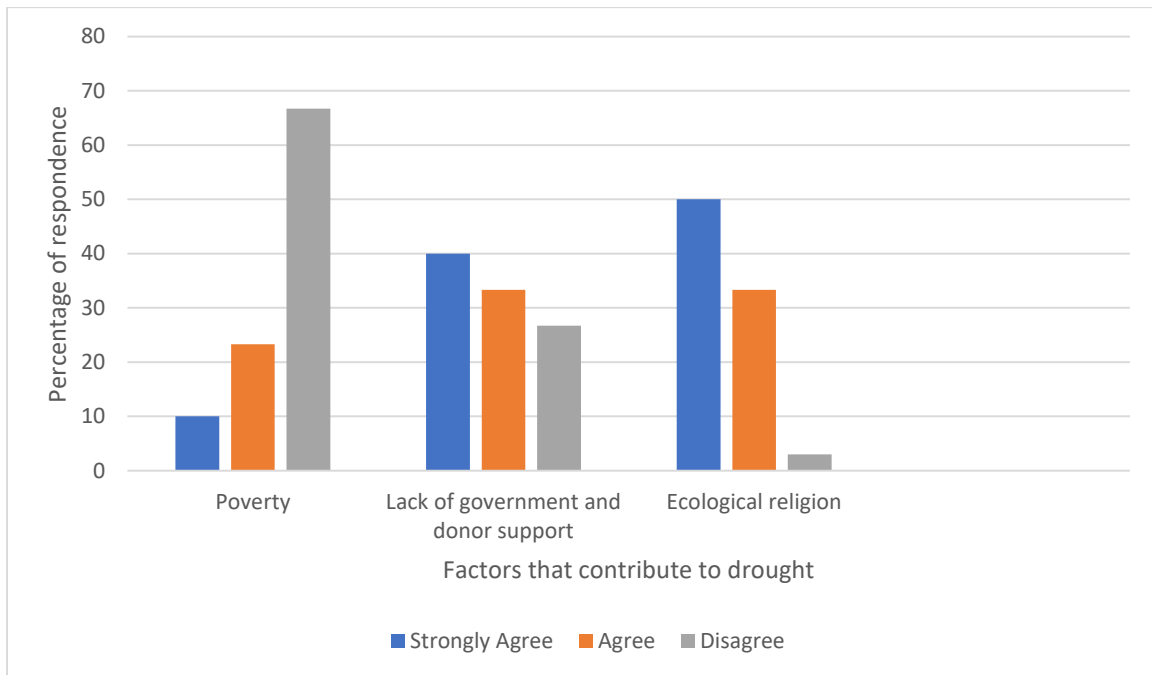


Fig 4.3 factors that contributes to the impacts of drought and people opinion

Source: primary data

According to the data above, the majority of respondents (20, or 66.7% of the sampled size) disagreed that poverty is a factor that contributes to the effects of drought, followed by 7 respondents (23.3%) who agreed, and finally 3 respondents (10%) who strongly agreed. Perhaps this was due to religion, as the majority of respondents were apostles who felt that drought was a punishment from God, as well as that drought and rainfall difficulties were for God. This has a negative impact on community development since people differ on the core causes of the drought, and suffering continues.

On the issue of lack of support from the government and donors, 12 respondents (40%) strongly agreed that lack of support from the government and donors is a factor that contributes to the effects of drought, followed by 10 people (33.3% of the sampled size) who agreed, and finally 8 respondents (26.7%) who disagreed. Perhaps this was due to laziness, and many people believe in the donor syndrome to help their society.

In terms of ecological region as a factor that contributes to the effects of drought, 15 respondents (50%) strongly agreed, followed by 10 people (33.3% of the sampled size) who agreed, and finally 5 respondents (16.7%) disagreed that drought has to do with ecology. Perhaps this was due to beliefs, as most people believed that rain falls in mountainous locations.

In addition to the information from the key informants, there were other two key informants; (a school head and a businessman) said that:

"The majority of people in the community believe that the drought is God's punishment for misdeeds. Such people cannot contribute to local development since they engage in a variety of environmentally destructive activities. This leads to people engaging in negative behaviors against the community, resulting in drought. "This issue is not taken seriously, and people continue to suffer because of these useless minds."

One of the church leaders exposed that:

"Assistance from donors and the government is critical to reducing vulnerability to drought because they can give aid such as dam construction, which improves precipitation levels. However, I fault the community for its sloth. They are misusing the farms. The farmers must produce more so that markets in the within the community can grow, resulting in more income and community growth. They must innovate themselves rather than relying on the government or donors. Drug usage is affecting the younger generations, who are accountable for community development. They use donor syndrome to accomplish this. There is no attention given to this issue, and the drought may continue to have an impact on the community and its progress. People must work to bring development within their area, no one can develop our community the country is too big for the government and donors to help every community"

Chief Matope came out with the point that:

"Poverty cause drought indirectly people through cutting down trees on a daily basis for building materials, firewood, and tobacco curing. Poverty is resulting in drought as people are cutting down trees each and every day to have resources for building, for fire wood and tobacco curing. This is due to poverty; people do not have the money to buy petrol, build advanced houses or buy coal for tobacco curing, and they are unaware that this contributes to climate change and drought, which harms community development and causes setbacks."

4.4 Measures to improve community perceptions on impacts of drought in order to have sustainable community development.

The questionnaire asked respondents to choose one alternative for each measure. There were three options: strongly agree, agree, or disagree. There were three measures: community education, awareness campaigns, and training. Table 4.2 illustrates this information.

Table 4.2 Measures to improve community perceptions on impacts of drought on community development and people side of view.

Source: primary data

Measure	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree
Trainings	17 (56.7%)	5 (16.7%)	8 (26.7%)
Awareness campaigns	19 (63.3%)	4 (13.3 %)	7 (23.3%)
Education	20 (66.7%)	7 (23.3%)	3 (10%)

According to the statistics above, 17 respondents (56.7% of the sampled size) strongly agreed that trainings are vital in improving community attitudes of drought in order to achieve sustainable community development, followed by 8 respondents (26.7%) who disagreed, and finally 5 respondents (16.7%) who agreed. Perhaps it was because they lacked knowledge.

Regarding the awareness campaign, 19 people, or 63.3%, strongly agreed that awareness campaigns can change their ideas about drought, followed by 7 respondents, or 23.3% of the sampled size, who disapproved, and finally 4 agreed, or 13.3% of the sampled size, agreed. This could be because drought issues are not prioritized, particularly on radios used to inform people about the drought.

On the question of education as a measure to enhance community attitudes, 20 respondents, or 66.7%, strongly agreed that education can improve community perceptions of drought affects, followed by 7 respondents, or 23.3%, who agreed, and 3 respondents which is 10% who disagreed, accounting for 10% of the sampled size of the sampled number. It has been demonstrated that the majority of people are unaware about the implications, causes, and repercussions of drought on community development. So education is required to eliminate people's worthless thoughts about drought in order to achieve sustainable community development.

From the key informants, as stated earlier ten respondents gave responses and recorded in table 4.3 below.

Fig 4.3 Indigenous knowledge on drought

Source: primary data

Indigenous knowledge	Number of respondents
Prediction of drought	2 (20%)
Early warning	7 (70%)
Response to drought	1 (10%)

According to the data presented above, the majority of key informants rely on early warning systems, accounting for nearly 70% of the sampled population, followed by those who rely on

drought prediction (20%) and drought response (10%). The majority of key informants agreed that early warning systems should monitor rainfall patterns, soil moisture, and stream flow levels. This promotes a sense of control during the drought. This promotes a sense of control during droughts.

Other church leader stated that:

“Youth engagement is necessary to enhance community perceptions of the effects of drought on community development by developing student-led initiatives, educational programmes, and mentorship opportunities to grow the next generation of drought resilience leaders.”

The councilor revealed that:

“I advocate for increased training, particularly among the youth, so that they understand drought and how it affects community development. This youthful generation must have development ideas since they are the most engaged group working in developing communities.”

One of the school headmasters pointed that:

“Drought education should be taken seriously.” Everyone in the community must understand drought and its effects on community development. Most people are unaware of the causes of drought and their effects on community development, and many assume that rainfall follows mountainous areas and dryness is an act of God. So development cannot occur with such individuals, implying that they must be aware. With such kind of people which means they must know.”

4.5 Discussion of results

4.5.1 Community perceptions on impacts of drought on community development

According to the data, the majority of respondents stated that drought causes food insecurity, which is their primary concern because they cannot survive without food. This was corroborated by (Jojo et al., 2019), who stated that farming productivity improves community economics and is crucial in rural areas. This contributes to improved food security and economic growth, while (Irz et al., 2001) feel that agriculture is the most effective strategy for food security in reducing community poverty.

A high number of respondents strongly agreed that water constraint had an impact on community development. Some key informants stated that their initiatives are impacted by the drought, and they are experiencing queue problems when getting water. (Smakhtin et al., 2004) demonstrated that water scarcity has an influence on livelihoods, particularly in rural areas where agriculture and projects remain the primary source of revenue. (Carles & Bosh, 2018) have demonstrated that completion on finite water supplies can create social tensions within communities, resulting in conflicts over allocation and access.

According to the study, the majority of individuals believe that drought-related infrastructure damage has a negative impact on community development. This was completely challenged by (Pedini et al., 2018), who noted that drought causes the ground to become dry and unstable,

resulting in fractures on buildings and potholes in roads, as well as a negative impact on community development.

One of the key informants who revealed that the community prioritizes food security and lacks participation in community development initiatives such as road building programmes, but when it comes to food for work programmes, almost everyone goes, was supported by (Idachaba, 1980), who stated that community advance projects must be determined by resident desires and preferences rather than economic demands such as unemployment and food scarcity.

4.5.2 Community perceptions on factors that contribute to drought.

The study found that drought is linked to elements of nature, such as mountainous areas receiving more rainfall. This was demonstrated by (Dai, 2011), who stated that the ecology of a region has an impact on drought. For example, areas with scant vegetation have higher evaporation rates, resulting in drier conditions and increased sensitivity to drought.

The study also found that the majority of people felt that poverty could not cause drought. They believed that drought is a matter of God and that poverty has nothing to do with drought, which was refuted by (Adger et al., 2007), who stated that poor communities frequently lack the financial resources required to invest in water management infrastructure such as dams that maximise precipitation. This impacts community development.

Some major informants stated that idleness contributes to drought. Most individuals are waiting for the government to improve their area while the country is too large. The younger generation must have developing minds. This was consistent with (Idachaba, 1980), who argued that community advancement projects should be guided by residents' needs and preferences rather than economic demands such as unemployment and food scarcity.

Also, a substantial majority of participants agreed that drought is caused by a lack of help from the government and donors, which was corroborated by (Nyong et al., 2007), who investigated how a lack of government and donors leads to more drought impacts and hinders a community's ability to manage. Community members may lack the funds to pursue development ideas, and the government can provide financial assistance.

4.5.3 Measures to improve to improve community perceptions on impacts of drought on community development

According to the survey, the majority of respondents identified education as a means of improving perceptions of the effects of drought on community development, with the majority claiming to have no information. This was demonstrated by Tschakert et al. (2009), who noted that education programmes can provide communities with knowledge about the causes and implications of drought on community development.

Furthermore, a large number of respondents agreed that trainings are important in changing community minds about the effects of drought on community development, which is consistent with (Tschakert et al., 2009), who stated that trainings bridge the knowledge gap by providing communities with accurate information about drought's various impacts.

Finally, the study found that most people strongly agreed that awareness campaigns can help to improve community perceptions of the effects of drought on community development because people are always aware of drought and how to cope with it. This was confirmed by (Moser, 2016), who stated that awareness campaigns foster a sense of shared responsibilities while also promoting proactive adaptation strategies.

4.6 Chapter conclusion

This chapter displays the research findings in tables, pie charts, and graphs. It provided information on community perspectives of drought's impact on community development in Chesa Ward 29. Also discussion of the results was provided in this chapter

CHAPTER 5: SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 Introduction

This chapter outlines summary, suggestions, and conclusion and recommendations of the study.

5.2 Summary of study

The project is guided by objectives. The research instruments included a questionnaire and key informants. A deeper understanding of how drought affects community development is vital for economic growth and poverty eradication, and this information was used to generate study findings. Respondents were selected using simple random sampling. Primary data were gathered through questionnaires distributed to Chesa Ward 29 residents as well as important informants such as heads of schools, chiefs, councilors, business owners, religious leaders, and headmen.

The study discovered that communities are experiencing drought-related impacts such as water scarcity, infrastructure damage, food insecurity, livestock loss, asset loss, reduced agriculture production, school dropouts, and child marriages, and that these are threats to community development because there is no improvement in education, equality is reduced, high rates of poverty because cattle are symbols of wealth, and it is difficult to fight hunger. According to the study, the vast majority of respondents strongly agree that drought has a negative influence on community development by causing food insecurity and lack of water. The study suggests that food security and water availability are critical to community development.

The study investigated whether ecology is a factor contributing to drought when rainfall is coupled with mountains. It also demonstrated that drought occurs when the government and donors do not provide adequate help. To summarise, most people are unaware of the causes of drought, which has an impact on community development.

Furthermore, the study found that many individuals in the community saw dryness as an ecological element since they believe rainfall follows mountainous areas. They also argued that a lack of support during a drought could hinder community growth. Most individuals revealed that drought is an act of God, and that it is a punishment from God for the many crimes committed in the area, affecting community growth in Chesa. They reveal that matters concerning water are for God, not us humans. To summarise, the community does not understand the causes of the drought.

When asked how to improve community perceptions of drought impacts, the majority of respondents said education. This means that the majority of people are unaware of the causes and consequences of drought, and as a result, they engage in drought-causing activities, stifling development. It is crucial to recognize that there is room for improvement in how the community perceives drought in order to achieve sustainable community development. People are doing things that contribute to climate change, but they do not believe it, and development suffers as a result. There is a need for education, awareness initiatives, and drought training.

5.3 Conclusions

Responses from Chesa ward 29 residents revealed that the community perceives drought's impacts on community development as food insecurity, water shortages, infrastructure degradation, early marriages, communal asset loss, and the loss of animals. The majority of respondents strongly agree that drought has an influence on community development, namely food insecurity. This was a good perception because no community growth can take place without enough food. Also, the majority of respondents were opposed to an idea that drought affects community development through infrastructure damage, which was a terrible perception because infrastructure development leads to economic growth and this sector needs greater attention as it provides more revenue for the community. For example, standardized highways can support community development by allowing individuals to readily access markets with their agricultural produce. Many people strongly agree that water shortage has an impact on community development. This was a positive impression of the effects of drought on community development since they stated that agricultural projects were harmed and animals died, which is a sign of prosperity in Chesa.

When asked about community perceptions of variables that contribute to drought's impact on community development, respondents identified difficulties such as a lack of government and donor help, ecological region, and poverty. Most people have positive perceptions of ecological regions, which is a bad perception because there are factors such as human activities that contribute more to climate change, resulting in drought, and economic factors such as poverty, which leads to limited resources for dam construction, increasing evaporation and precipitation. Furthermore, many people have negative perceptions of poverty as a factor contributing to drought, which are inaccurate because poverty is associated with a lack of funds to build dams that boost rainfall. To summarise, people require more information on the causes of drought.

Furthermore, most people indicated positive attitudes towards education as a means of improving the effects of drought on community development, which was a good thing given their lack of education. In addition, a large percentage of respondents had good impressions of awareness campaigns and trainings as strategies to mitigate the effects of drought and promote community development. To summarise, people have positive impressions of drought mitigation measures, but more attention is required for those actions to be effective.

5.4 Recommendations

Based on findings, the following specific issues are recommended for further research.

- Conduct community driven vulnerability assessments which empower community members to assess their own risks and needs, fostering sense of ownership and accountability to find solutions.
- Organize community forums and discussions to share information about drought, impacts, causes and solutions. This fosters a collaborative approach and empowers communities to take ownership of their resilience.
- Proactive preparedness like early warning systems that monitor rainfall patterns, soil moisture and stream flow levels allow communities to anticipate drought and take

proactive measures. This can involve implementing water conservation strategies, planting drought resistant crops or regulating water usage. This reduces anxiety and fosters a sense of control during droughts.

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APENDIX 1: QUESTIONNAIRE FOR CHESA COMMUNITY

TOPIC: COMMUNITY PERCEPTIONS ON IMPACTS OF DROUGHT ON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT.

I Kupfuyamhandu Tariro a student at Bindura University of Science Education and in partial fulfillment of the Bachelor in Science Honors degree in Development Studies. I'm carrying out a research of community perceptions on impacts of droughts on community development, CHESA. I'm interested in your area because it is the area of which is previously affected by the impacts of drought. The information i am going to collect here is for academic purpose and you have been selected to participate in this process and your response will be strictly confidential. Your cooperation will be greatly appreciated.

SECTION A: Background

1 a) Name of the village.....

b) Sex.....

c) Age

Under 20	21-30	31-40	41-50	51 +

d) Educational background

None	Primary	Secondary	Tertiary	Others

e) Marital status

Single	Married	Divorced	Separated	Widowed

f) Occupation

Farmers	Business persons	Civil servants	Others(specify)

g) What is your monthly income in USD?

Below \$200	\$200-\$400	\$401-\$600	Above \$600

SECTION B: Community perceptions on the impacts of drought in community development

2 a) Are you aware of the impacts of drought, yes..... no.....

b) Which year(s) were severely affected by the drought.....

c) During period of drought, do you reduce household expenditure ? no.... yes.....

c (i) If yes please specify

Do you	YES	NO
Send children to live with relatives		
Withdrew children from school		
Reduce food intake (cut down meals)		
Experience water crisis for domestic use		
Others specify.....		

d) Where did you get most of assistance from the below in each of the years?

Government	Non-governmental organization	Individuals

e) During the drought period do you dispose your assets? Yes....., no....

e (i) if yes specify the type of asset.....

f) What are your views on impacts of drought? Tick one option at each impact.

Impact	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree
Water scarcity			
Infrastructure damage			
Food insecurity			

g) What are the major impacts of drought in your community at?

.....

SECTION C: Community perceptions on the factors that contributes to the impacts of drought in community

3 a) what are the causes of drought? Tick one option on each factor

Factor	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree
Poverty			
Lack of support from government and donors			
Ecological region			

SECTION D: Measures to improve community perceptions on impacts of drought in order to have community development.

4) a) Do you have a solution on the impact of drought? Yes....., no.....

b) Do you need any help from community members to minimize the impacts of drought? Yes....., no.....

c) What are the possible solutions to mitigate the impacts of drought in future?

.....

d) What are your views on measures to improve perceptions on drought? Tick one option on each measure.

Measure	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree
Trainings			
Awareness campaigns			
Educate the community			

THANK YOU

APENDIX 2: KEY INFORMANTS

TOPIC: COMMUNITY PERCEPTIONS ON IMPACTS OF DROUGHT ON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT.

I Kupfuyamhandu Tariro a student at Bindura University of Science Education and in partial fulfillment of the Bachelor in Science Honors degree in Development Studies. I'm carrying out a research of community perceptions on impacts of droughts on community development, CHESA. I'm interested in your area because it is the area of which is previously affected by the impacts of drought. The information i am going to collect here is for academic purpose and you have been selected to participate in this process and your response will be strictly confidential. Your cooperation will be greatly appreciated.

SECTION A: BACKGROUND

1 a) Name of the village.....

b) Sex.....

c) Age

Under 20	21-30	31-40	41-50	51 +

d) Educational background

None	Primary	Secondary	Tertiary	Others

e) Marital status

Single	Married	Divorced	Separated	Widowed

f) Occupation

Farmers	Business persons	Civil servants	Others(specify)

g) What is your monthly income in USD?

Below \$200	\$200-\$400	\$401-\$600	Above \$600

SECTION B: IMPACTS OF COMMUNITY PERCEPTIONS ON IMPACTS OF DROUGHT ON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT.

1a) How do people in this community perceive drought in general?

.....
.....
.....

b) What are the impacts of those perceptions on overall community development?

i) Social

.....
.....
.....

ii) Economic

.....
.....
.....

iii) Psychologically

.....
.....
.....

SECTION C: COMMUNITY PERCEPTIONS ON FACTORS THAT CONTRIBUTE TO THE IMPACTS OF DROUGHT ON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT.

2a) what are the factors influencing perceptions on drought?

i) Situational factors

.....
.....
.....

ii) Physiological factors

.....
.....
.....

SECTION D: MEASURES TO IMPROVE COMMUNITY PERCEPTIONS ON IMPACTS OF DROUGHT ON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT.

3) Which indigenous knowledge in drought impact reduction?

a) Prediction of drought

.....
.....
.....

b) Early warning system

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.....
.....

C) Response to drought

.....
.....
.....

THANK YOU

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