



**UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA SARAWAK
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**FACULTY OF ADMINISTRATIVE SCIENCE AND POLICY STUDIES
BACHELOR IN ADMINISTRATIVE SCIENCE (HONS)**

TITLE OF STUDY

**PERCEPTION OF UiTM SARAWAK STUDENTS REGARDING THE
INVOLVEMENT OF STUDENTS IN AGRICULTURAL SECTOR**

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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction

The agriculture sector has contributed to the growth of the Malaysia economy. It has become a foundation of the economic prior to 1970's. During the 7th Malaysian Plan period of 1996 till 2000, agriculture sector remained one of the major sector contributing to the economy after manufacturing and services industries. This sector is able to provide labor enforcement and helps to promote employment.

The first National Agriculture Policy (NAP1) was introduced in 1984. NAP was formulated to lessen poverty and raise efficiency, particularly in the non estate sector or small holding as well as to protect income of rural residence. It emphasis on expand more exports crops estate, especially oil palm and cocoa. Farmers face great difficulties without the government support, partly due to the fluctuation of the commodity price in the market. Profuse investment in infrastructures and developing new land scheme to increase the production of the product, increase the employment and earn more foreign exchange. It has generally been effective in guiding resource allocation as proven in the growth of the value added for agriculture sector from 3.15 in 1981 till 1985 periods to 4.6% in 1986 till 1990 periods. (see Mahfoor, Mad and Ismail, 2000).

NAP2 (1992-1998) has similar objectives to its predecessor. Greater emphasis is placed on the role of private sector participation in short and medium term food production and

CHAPTER 2

LITERATURE REVIEW AND CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

2.1 Introduction

Agriculture has been played an important role in our livelihood and economic development and it is different from other economic activities. Unlike other economic activities, agriculture is essential to human survival. This is because food is essential to life and agriculture is the basis of eco-systems and rural landscapes.

Malaysia is still basically an agriculture country though it is fast developing into industrial country. It has 4.06 million hectares of agricultural land distributed throughout 13 states. In 2006, Malaysian agricultural sector contribute significantly to country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and it has become the third engine of growth next to the manufacturing sector and service sector.

Each universities students has their own unique perception regarding agriculture sector. It might either be positive or negative perception.