

CCAA Learning Forum
***08-12 March, 2010, Windsor Golf
and Country Club,
Nairobi, Kenya***

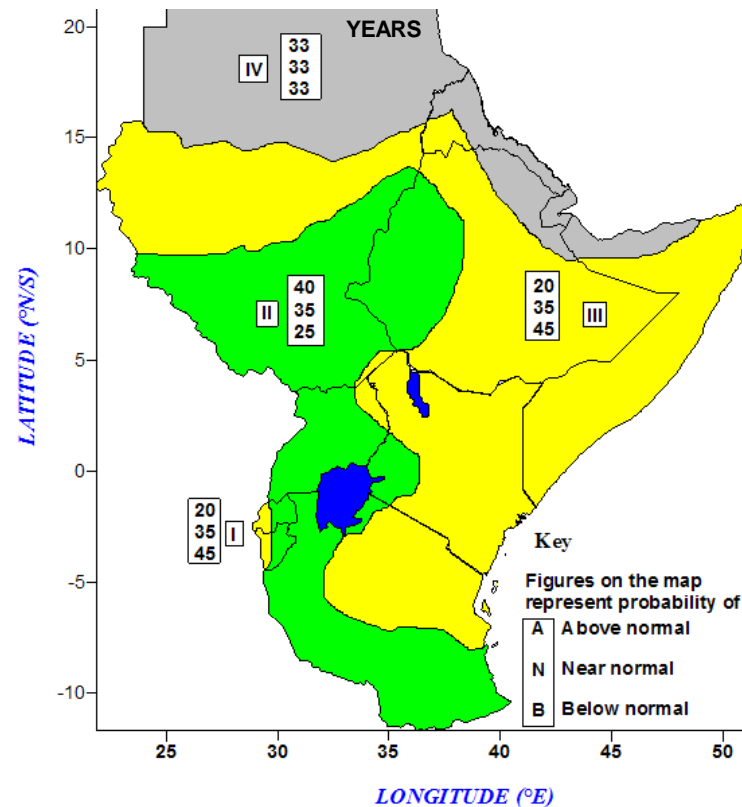
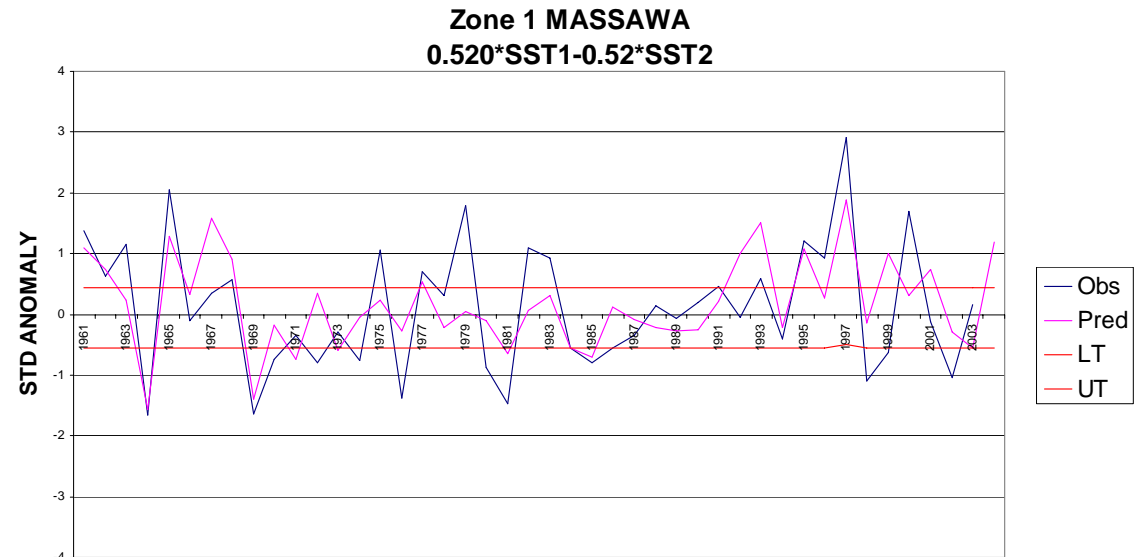
Integrating Indigenous Knowledge in
Climate Risk Management in Support
of Community Based Adaptation

Background

- Climate is closely linked to sustainability of community livelihoods and lives
- Extreme climate variabilities such as floods and droughts often have far reaching environmental, health and socio-economic impacts in many developing countries



- There are tools for monitoring climate
- The Modern-day climate scientists can now be able to provide forecasts sometimes with lead times of over three months
- However, there have been complaints from the users, particularly on interpretation of the products



- IK have developed techniques and strategies for forecasting, and managing climate variability

- This forecasting depends on observation of the natural environment including:

 - Flora

 - Fauna

 - Stars



The Project

- However, there is still a gap in reducing vulnerability in communities despite availability of good modern-day science and IK forecasts
- There is a realization that merging the two sources of information may lead to better climate risk management and hence promote poverty reduction and sustainable development

The Specific Objectives

- Demystify Nganyi community IK and develop sustainable framework for integrating IK and western climate risk science
- Gender Analysis – roles of men and women in access, control and management of natural resources including climate risk management

- Develop and improve the packaging and communication of IK integrated seasonal climate forecasts.
- Investigate the potential impacts of future climate changes on the IK systems
- Develop curriculum that can be used to Integrate IK and western science disaster risk reduction

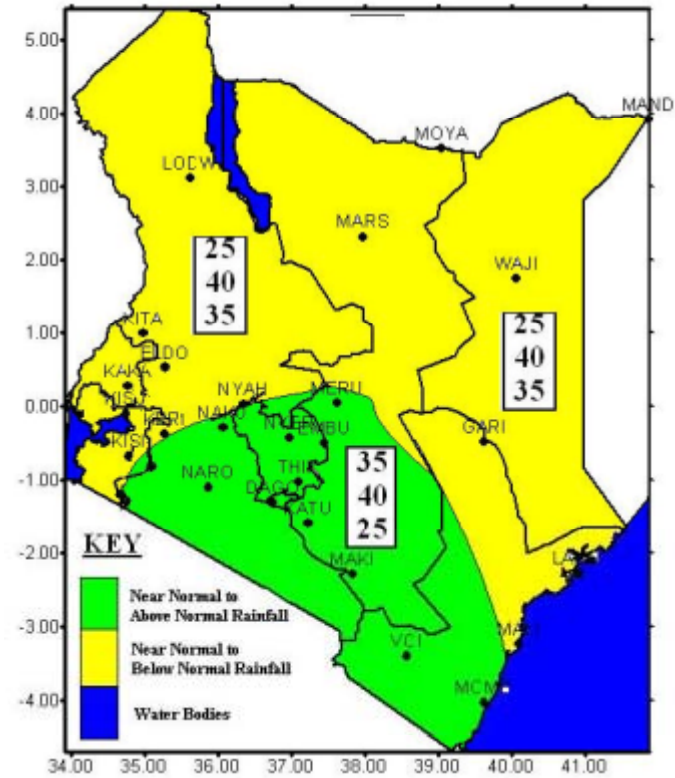
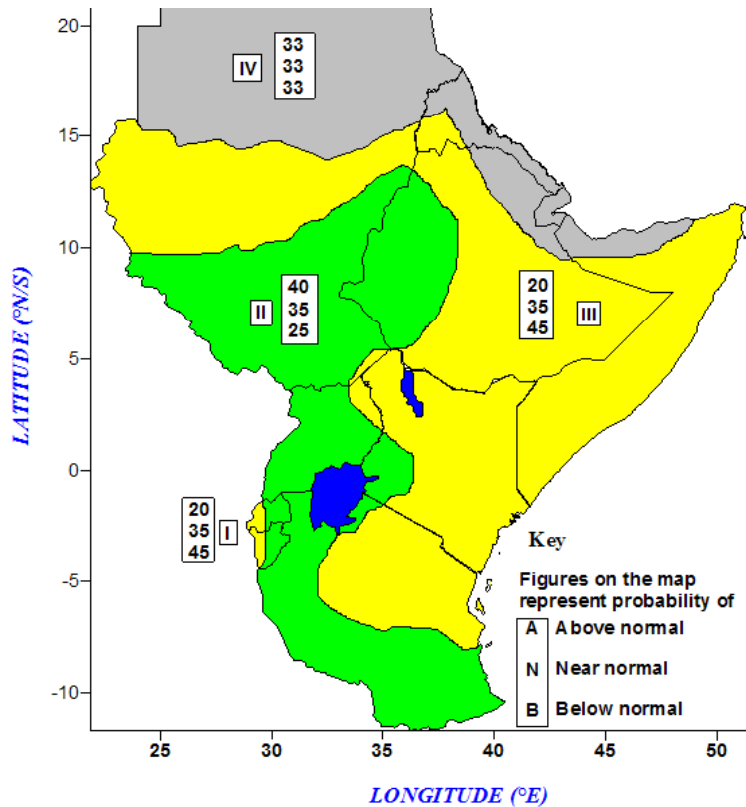
Project Team

- Due to the multidisciplinary nature of climate change, the project team is also multidisciplinary
 - NGANYI core group and community
 - ICPAC
 - KMD
 - KIPI
 - NMK (Kisumu)
 - GLUK

Demystification

- Property rights - KIPI
- The TWO knowledge bases sharing information
 - Indigenous
 - Botany
 - Zoology
 - Cosmology
- Papers and a book on Nganyi history

Integrated forecasts







Interpretation of Forecasts

- Incorporating govt officers from different sectors, we were able to deliver the message in practical, usable terms – not so much meteorological terms!



Dissemination

- The advisories arrived at during the integrated forecasts were translated into the local (Luhya) language
- Brochures
- Radio interviews
- Community meetings



Other Activities

- Climate scenarios developed for 2030, 2050 & 2080 using Precis
- The development of integrated Disaster Management curriculum
 - Draft modern-day
 - Draft IK curriculum
 - Integrated
 - To be presented to GLUK senate for approval

Challenges

- Adaptation is strongly linked to development
 - Project was purely for information provision
 - Acting on the information depends on the capacity of the community
 - Poverty is a major problem
- Even with the incorporation of the Industrial Property Institute as partners, release of information is still restricted