

BACKGROUND:

- Climate change has already affected the livelihoods of many smallholder farmers relying on rain-fed agriculture
- The cattle corridor in Uganda is one of the highly climate change and variability affected region.
- Farmers in the cattle corridor have reported change in rainfall patterns and experienced increased floods and drought events over the past few years.
- This presents a challenge they have to adjust to and cope with.

OBJECTIVES:

- assess resilience of rural communities to climate change and variability in Uganda
- identify their coping practices/strategy to the challenge brought by climate change and variability

METHODOLOGY: The study was conducted in Soroti district by a group of 10 local community members and district local government, and 15 DAAD Alumni from Eastern Africa attending a DAAD sponsored seminar in the district. Soroti is located in the cattle corridor of Uganda. The region is known for its dry conditions, frequent and prolonged drought spells; and flood events. Two sub-counties were randomly selected for the study and the summer school participants were sub-divided into four groups. Resilience focused income level, education, domestic energy use, health-water-sanitation issues and exposure to flood and/or drought events. Survey tools were developed to collect information at household level. In addition, historical data were assembled and analysed.

RESULTS: Communities have low level of resilience to climate change and variability,

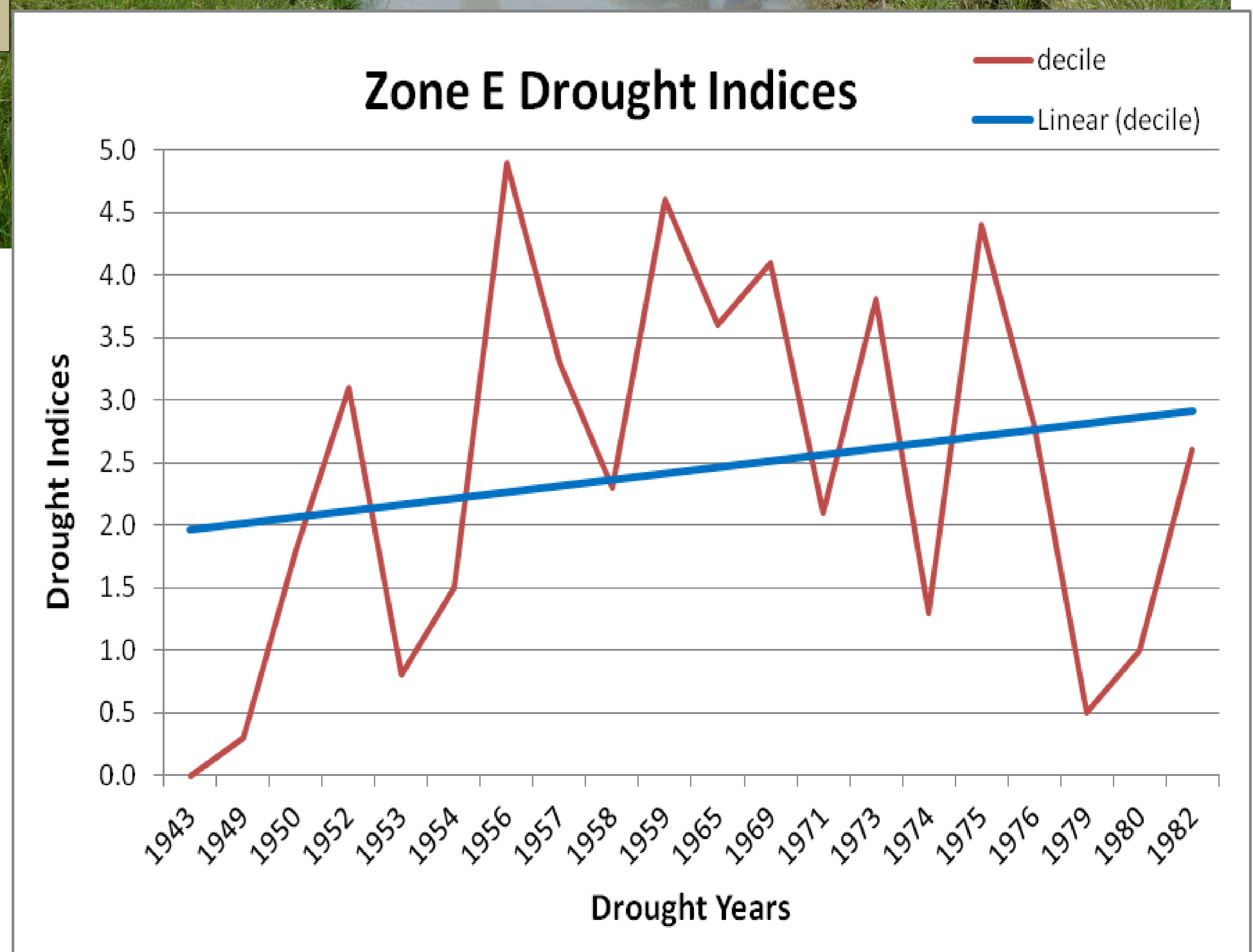
- characterized by
- low income level,
- Limited access to land and inputs,
- low level of education and technical know how;
- limited to market access and lack of labour.

In addition, they were exposed to poor sanitation conditions, limited access to clean water. The exposure to floods and drought events was increasing overtime.

A strategic plan to address current challenges was participatory developed.



Participants to the DAAD Alumni Seminar in Soroti Uganda 13-23 November, 2011



Drought events in Soroti Uganda (Mulinde, 2012)