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MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT
RWANDA METEOROLOGY AGENCY



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Summary

In the third Dekad (21-31) of January 2020, most parts of the country received moderate to heavy rainfall which was above the Long Term Mean(LTM) in most parts, leaving Kawangire Station with below normal rainfall. In this dekad, high rainfall amount was recorded at Nyamagabe station (158mm), Gitega station (118.2mm), Rubengera station (113.2mm) and Byimana station received 103.5mm. While less rainfall was received at Kawangire station (6.4mm). Generally Southern, Western province and Kigali city were wet compared to the other regions of the country. The temperature was in normal range. The maximum temperature ranged between 28.2°C in Bugarama and 20.5°C in Gicumbi. Minimum temperature ranged between 19.7°C at Bugarama and 12.4 °C at Busogo station.

1.0 Rainfall Pattern

This section provides the observed rainfall amount, rainy-days and available soil moisture for the third dekad of January 2020.

1.1 Rainfall Amount

The total rainfall amount for the third dekad of January , 2020 is presented in figure 1. On a daily basis observation, heavy to moderate rains were recorded in most parts of Rwanda. The accumulation of rainfall in ten days ranged from 158mm(Nyamagabe) which is the highest and the lowest is 6.4mm at Kawangire station. The Southern, western province and Kigali city were wet compared to other regions of the country.

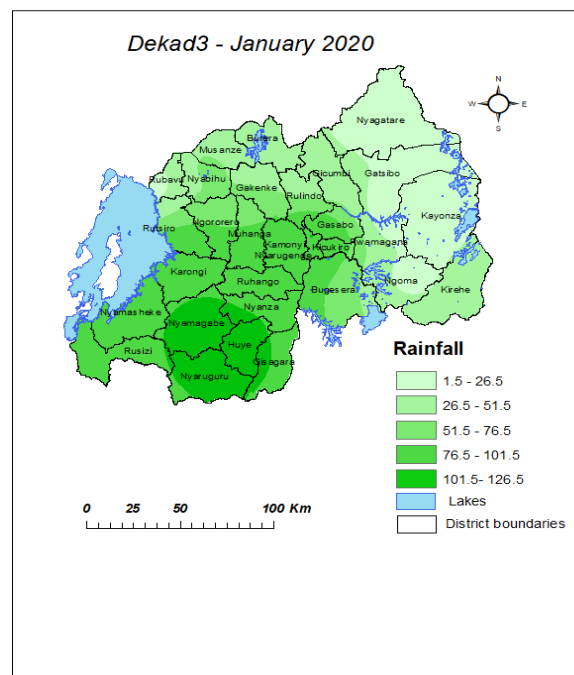


Figure 1: Rainfall amount

1.2 Rainfall climatology in the 3rd dekad

The rainfall climatology for the 3rd dekad of January is shown in figure 2 below, which indicates that rainfall usually range from 51.6mm to 1.7mm across the country. Comparing the current dekad and the Long Term Mean(LTM) for the same period, it was observed that rainfall in the 3rd dekad of January 2020 was above the LTM in most parts of the country except Kawangire station with the below normal to the Long Term Mean (LTM).

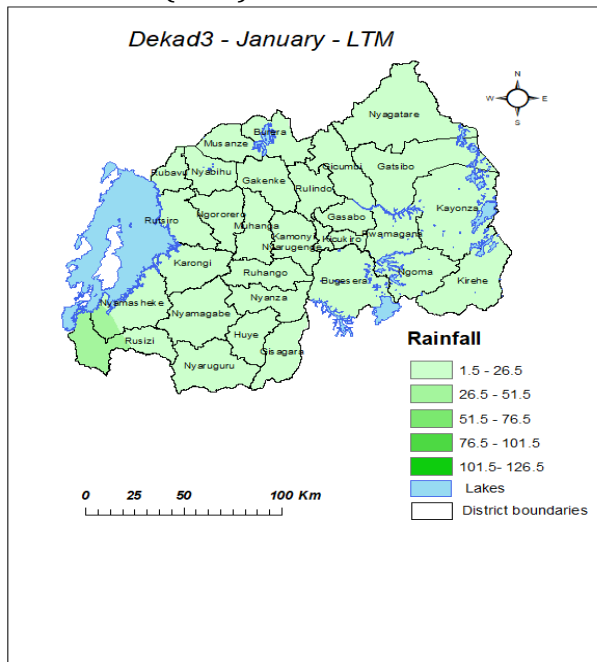


Figure 2: Rainfall distribution in long term

1.3. Number of Rain Days

Figure 3 below shows the distribution of number of rain-days for the 3rd dekad of January 2020. A rainy day is defined as a day with rainfall of 0.85mm or more. A total of 3 to 9 days were observed across the country. It can be seen that most parts of the country had days ranged between 3 to 6 days of rainfall. A minimum of 3 days was observed at kawangire and Nyagatare stations. The maximum of 9 days were received at Rubengera station and 7 days were received at Busogo station.

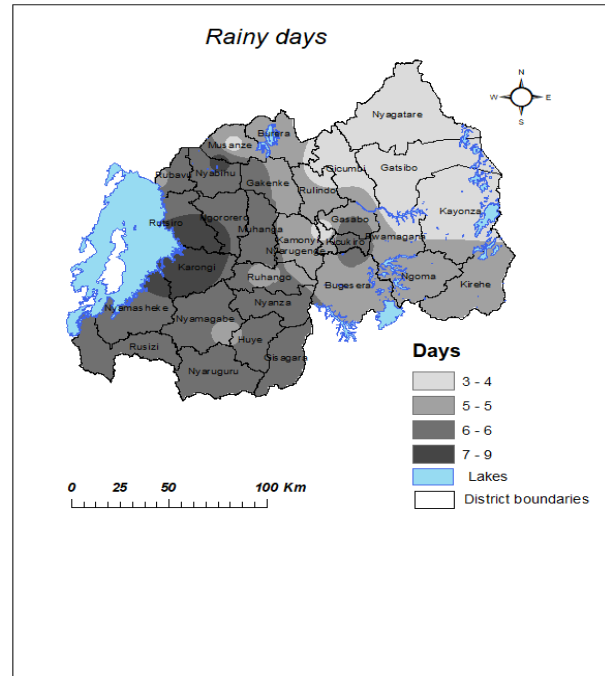


Figure 3: Rainy days

1.4 Soil moisture index

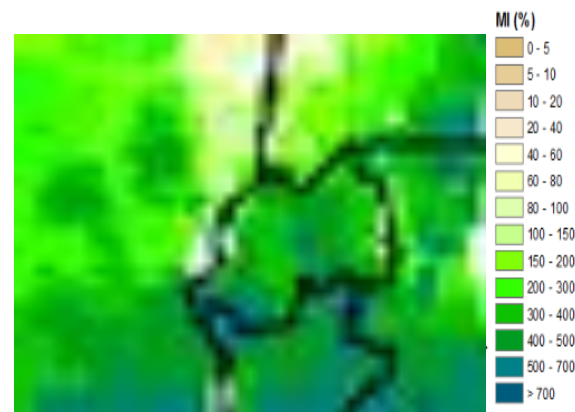


Figure 4: Soil Moisture Index

The distribution of available soil moisture across the country is shown in figure 4. Soil moisture increased in most parts of the country especially in Central, South and South-west due to wet days experienced during this dekad. The expectation is that wet and dry conditions will alternate in the next dekad hence leading to decrease of soil moisture across the country.

2.0 Temperature observation

The average of maximum and Minimum temperature across the country during the 3rd dekad is highlighted below in this section.

2.1 Maximum Temperature

Figure 5 below shows the actual mean maximum temperature distribution across the country which indicates that the Southwest, Kigali City and East provinces were warmer compared to Northern province and Southern province. However, in most parts of the country the maximum temperature was decreasing and ranged between 20.5 and 26.3°C with the exception of Bugarama that recorded 28.3°C.

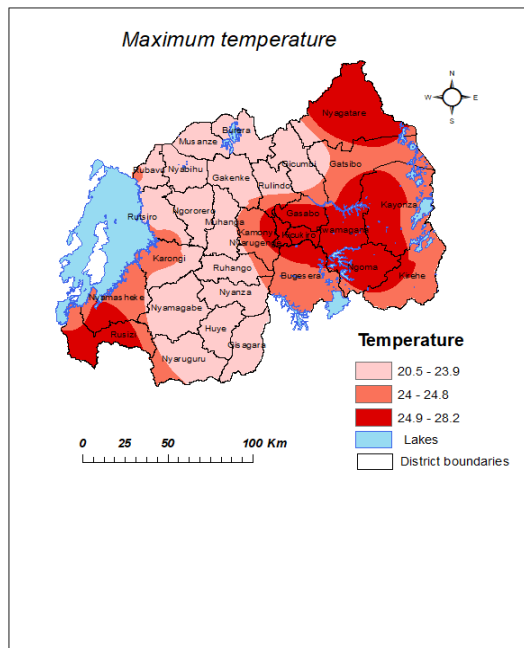


Figure 5: Mean Maximum Temperature

2.2 Minimum Temperature

The average minimum temperature across the country is shown in figure 6 below. The Northern and the southern regions experienced colder temperature compared to other regions of the country, even though the minimum temperature ranged between 12.4 °C (Busogo) and 19.7°C (Bugarama).

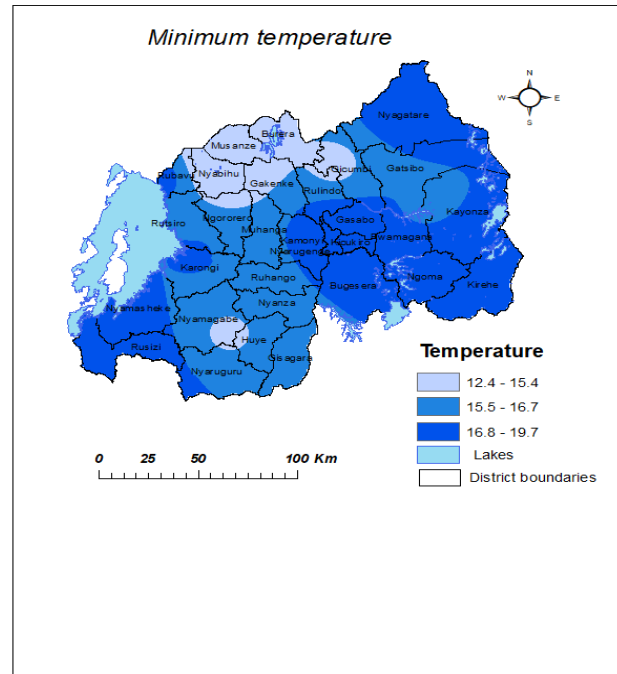


Figure 6: Mean Minimum Temperature

3.0 Weather Outlook and Agricultural for the 1st dekad (01-10) February, 2020.

3.1 Weather Outlook for the 1st dekad of February 2020.

Compared to the 3rd dekad of January 2020; the 1st dekad of February 2020, there will be the reduction of rainfall; expected rainfall will be ranged between 30 and 125 millimeters especially in Southern and South-western provinces.

3.2 Agricultural Activity/Advisories

Dry and wet conditions will be alternating in the 1st dekad of February 2020 from 1st to 10th, farmers are advised to prepare their fields for the next season and are also advised to work closely with Agriculture officers within their location. For more meteorological information you can visit [Meteo Rwanda website: www.meteorwanda.gov.rw](http://www.meteorwanda.gov.rw).