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MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT
RWANDA METEOROLOGICAL AGENCY



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Summary

In the first Dekad of December 2019, most parts of the country received heavy rainfall. In this dekad, high rainfall amount was recorded at Nyamagabe (201mm), Bugarama (172.3mm), Rusizi (141.6mm) Byimana (123.2) and Rubengera recorded 103.4mm. On the other hand less rainfall of 20.1mm was recorded at Nyagatare station and Kawangire recorded 35.6mm. The temperature was in normal range. The maximum temperature ranged between 29.6°C in Bugarama and 20.4°C in Gicumbi. Minimum temperature ranged between 12.7°C at Busogo and 19.3°C at Bugarama stations.

1.0 Rainfall Pattern

This section provides the observed rainfall amount, rainy-days and available soil moisture for the first dekad of December, 2019.

1.1 Rainfall Amount

The total rainfall amount for the first dekad of December, 2019 is presented in figure 1. On a daily basis observation, moderate to heavy rains were recorded in most parts of Rwanda. The accumulation of rainfall in ten days ranged from 201mm to 20.1mm. The highest total rainfall was recorded at Nyamagabe (201mm), Bugarama(172.3mm), Rusizi(141.6mm), Byimana (123.2mm) and Rubengera recorded 103.4mm. However, Nyagatare and Kawangire recorded rainfall less than 40mm during this dekad. The Southern and Western region very were wet compared to other parts of the country.

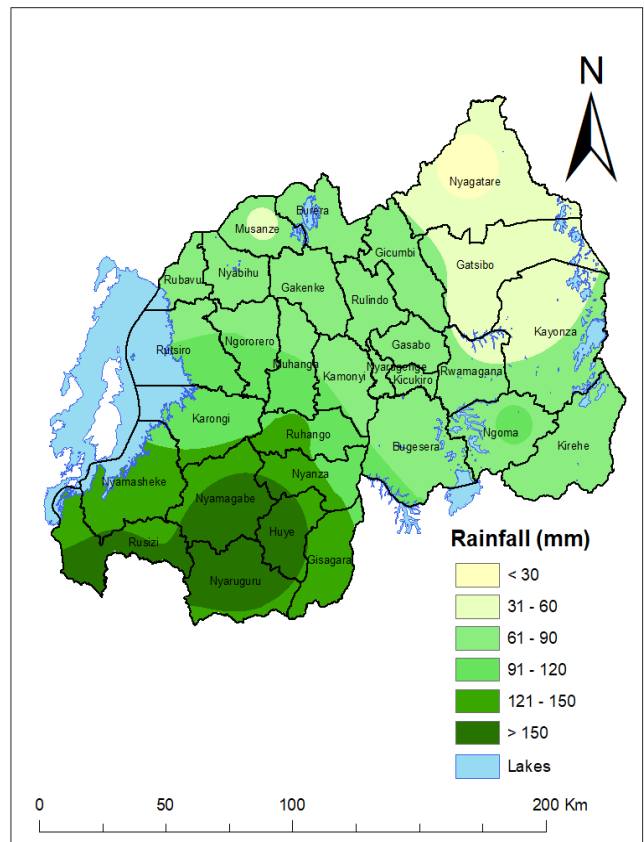


Figure 1: Rainfall amount

1.2 Rainfall climatology in the 1st dekad

The rainfall climatology for the 1st dekad of December is shown in figure 2 below, which indicates that rainfall usually range from 56.9mm to 22.4mm across the country. Comparing the current dekad and the Long Term Mean(LTM) for the same period, it was observed that rainfall in the 1st dekad of December 2019 was above the LTM in most parts of the country leaving Nyagatare station with below normal to the Long Term Mean(LTM).

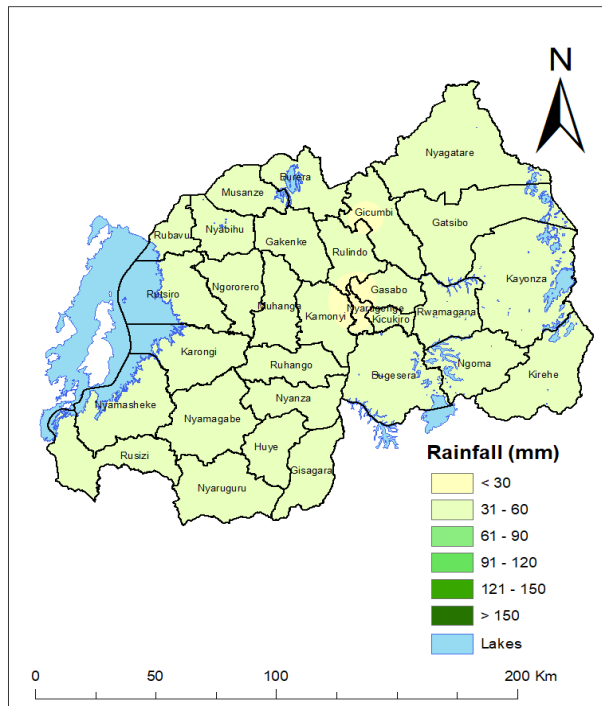


Figure 2: Rainfall distribution in long term

1.3. Number of Rain Days

Figure 3 shows the distribution of number of rain-days for the 1st dekad of December 2019. A total of 5 to 10 days were observed across the country. It can be seen that most parts of the country had days ranged between 6 and 8 days of rainfall. A minimum of 5 days were observed at Kigali-Airport and Kawangire. The maximum of 9 to 10 days were received at Nyamagabe, Rubengera and Gicumbi.

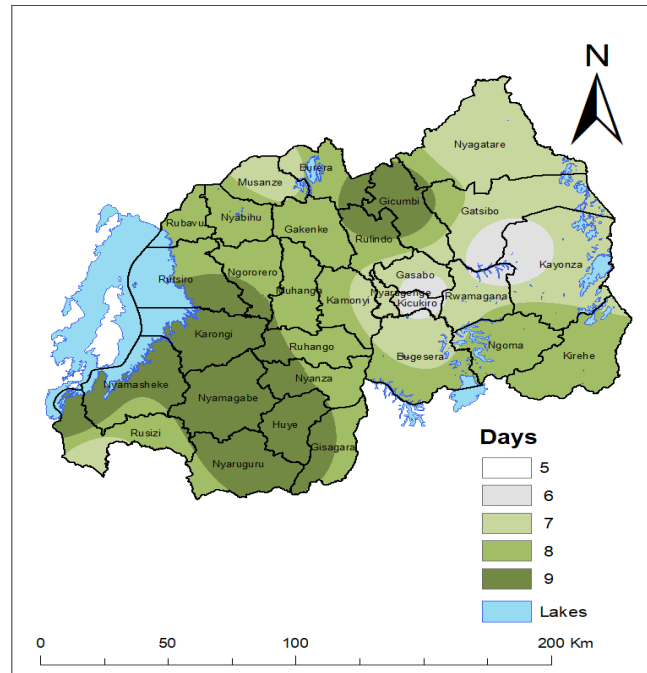


Figure 3: Rainy days

1.4 Soil moisture index

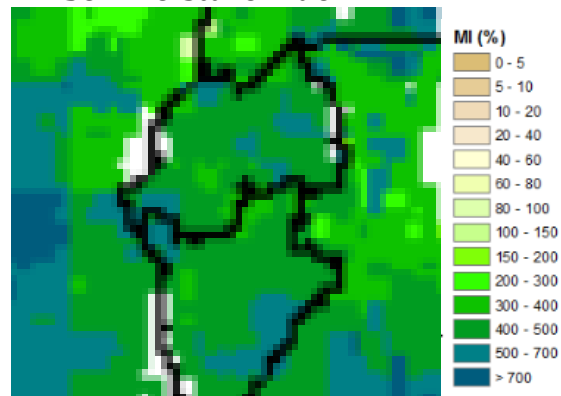


Figure 4: Soil Moisture Index

The distribution of available soil moisture across the country is shown in figure 4 above. Soil moisture increased in most parts of the country due to wet days experienced during this dekad. The expectation is that rain conditions are likely to increase in the coming dekad hence leading to increase of soil moisture across the country especially in the South and West province.

2.0 Temperature observation

The average of maximum and Minimum temperature across the country during the first 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 West, Kigali City and East province were warmer compared to Northern province, Southern province. However, in most parts of the country the maximum temperature ranged between 20.1 and 25.5°C with exception of Bugarama with 29.6°C and Nyagatare with 26.0°C.

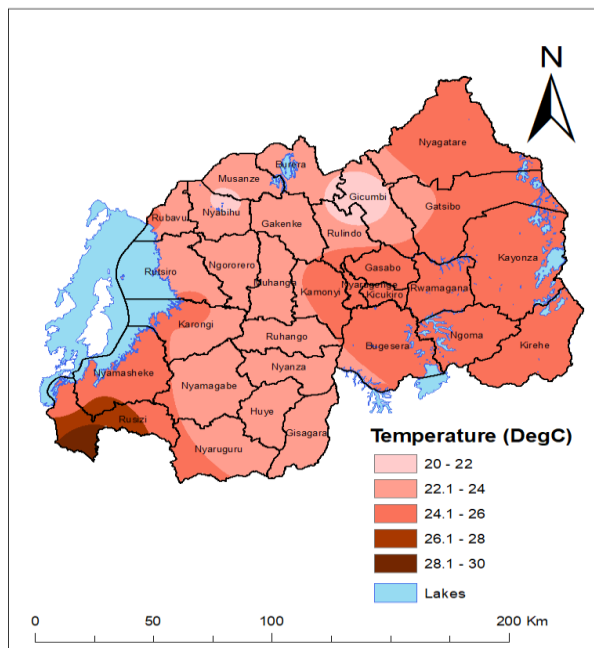


Figure 5: Mean Maximum Temperature

2.2 Minimum Temperature

The average minimum temperature across the country is shown in figure 6 below. The Northern region experienced temperature which were in the range of LTM with a tendency to be above. The minimum temperature ranged from 12.7°C (Busoga) to 19.3°C (Bugarama).

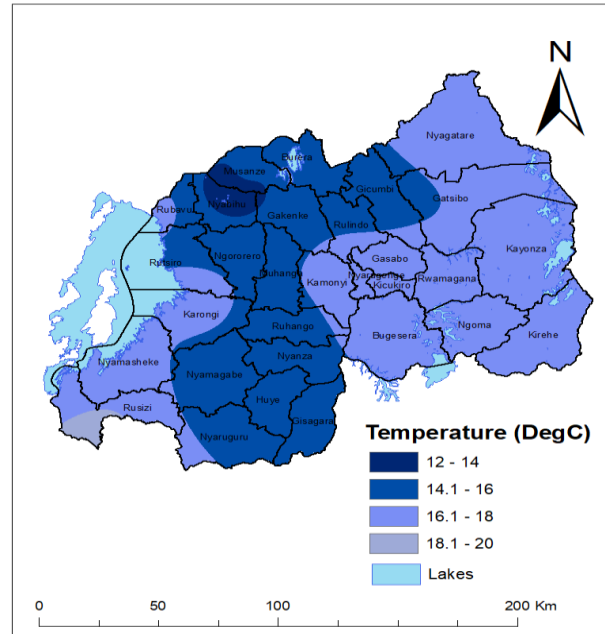


Figure 6: Mean Minimum Temperature

3.0 Weather Outlook and Agricultural for the 2nd dekad (11-20) December, 2019.

3.1 Weather Outlook

Due to warm air from Northern Africa and Cold air from Southern Africa that converge over the region where Rwanda located and the influence of air moisture from Congo and Indian Ocean, localized rains with thunderstorms are expected over most parts of the country; Moderate to heavy rains are expected over the Western, Southern and Northern, provinces while Eastern province and Kigali City are expected to receive light to moderate rains.

3.2 Agricultural Activity/Advisories

The wet conditions are expected to continue in 2nd dekad of December 2019 from 11th to 20th, farmers are advised to work closely with Agriculture officers within their location.

For more meteorological information you can visit MeteoRwanda website:

www.meteorwanda.gov.rw.

