



Highlights:

- **The cumulative rainfall** for dekad1_April_2017 was suppressed over most parts of the country except Byimana station in the Southern Province which recorded the highest rainfall amount in April for the last ten days across the country.
- **The soil moisture is still favourable;** from the satellite derived soil moisture index; the soil moisture was maintained because of the wet conditions even though most stations rainfall was ranging below the Long Term Mean (LTM).
- The rainfall during dekad2_April_2017 is expected to **increase in most places** of the country particularly towards the end of the second dekad of April 2017.

I. Introduction

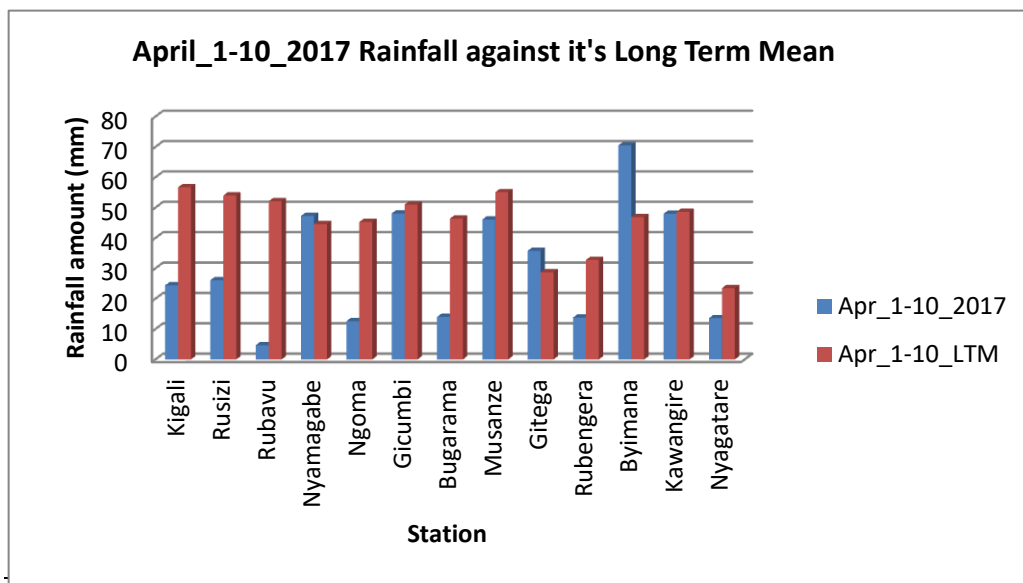
The rainfall during dekad1_April_2017 was below the LTM (Long term Mean) however Byimana station in the Southern Province recorded the highest rainfall amount above the LTM in the country during this period.

a) The table and histogram below indicates the rainfall recorded during dekad1_April_2017 and its LTM:

Cumulative rainfall (in mm) recorded at different stations

Station	Apr_1 - 10_2017	Apr_1-10_LTM
Kigali (Kanombe)	24.4	56.7
Rusizi (Kamembe)	26.1	54
Rubavu (Gisenyi)	4.7	52.1
Nyamagabe (Gikongoro)	47.3	44.6
Ngoma (Kibungo)	12.6	45.3
Gicumbi (Byumba)	48.1	51
Bugarama	14	46.4
Musanze (Ruhengeri)	46.1	55.1
Gitega	35.8	28.7
Rubengera	13.8	32.8
Byimana	70.5	46.9
Kawangire	48	48.6
Nyagatare	13.6	23.5

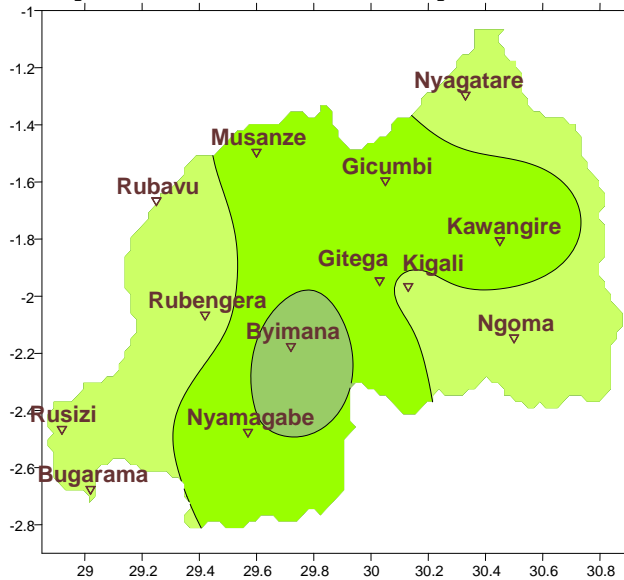
Table1



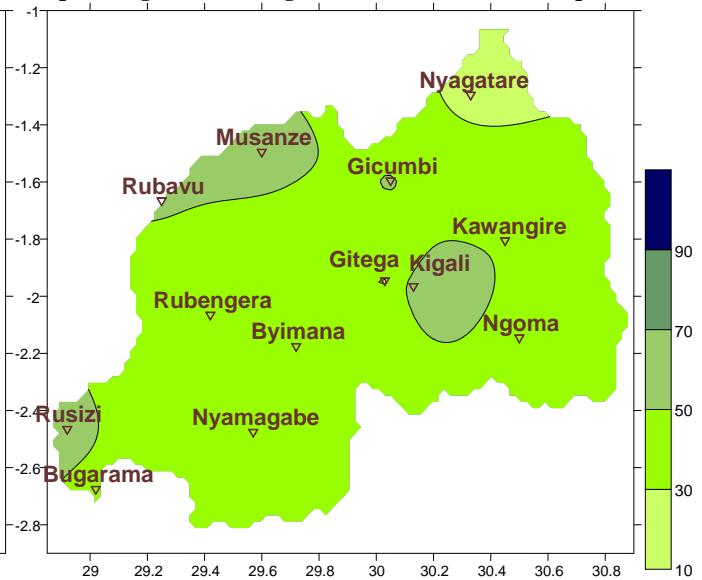
Plot1

- b) **Rainfall analysis:** The maps “**Map 1 and 2**” below show the cumulative rainfall recorded during dekad1_April_2017 and its LTM of cumulative rainfall. The maps “**Map 3 and 4**” show the cumulative rainfall recorded during dekad3_March_2017 and its LTM of cumulative rainfall.

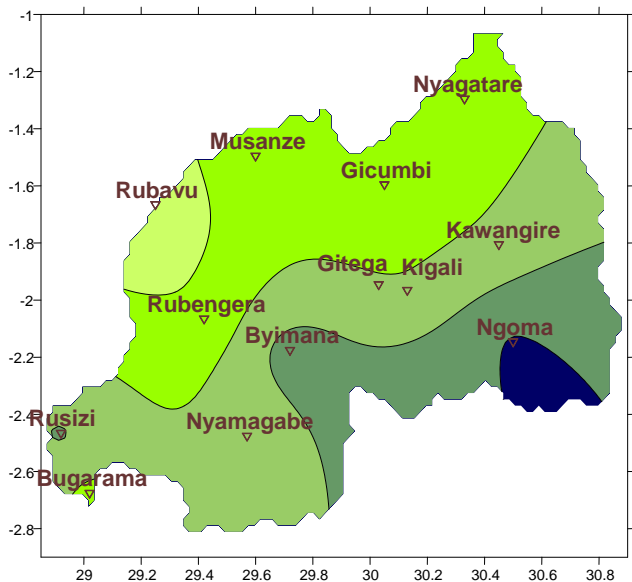
Map1: Total Rainfall (mm): dekad1_Apr_2017



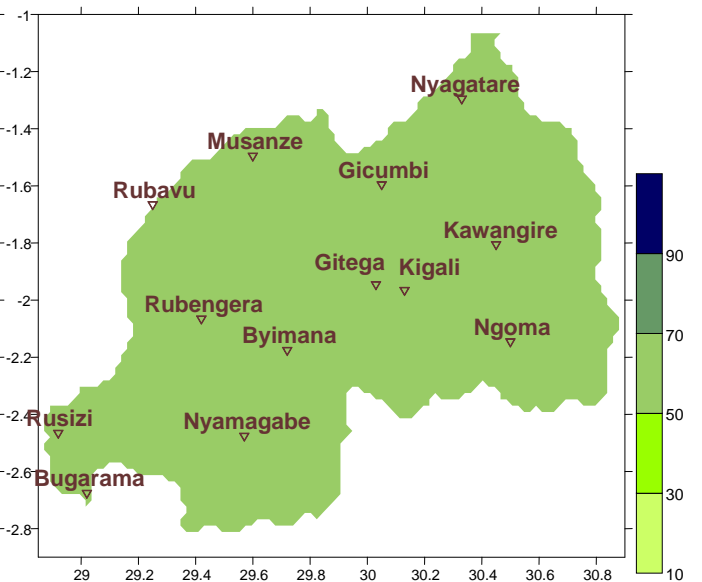
Map2: Long Term Average Rainfall (mm): dekad1_Apr_LTM



Map1: Total Rainfall (mm): dekad3_Mar_2017



Map2: Long Term Average Rainfall (mm): dekad3_Mar_LTM



II. Detailed observed rainfall during the dekad1_April_2017

Cumulative rainfall for dekad1_April_2017 was suppressed in most parts of the country especially the extreme eastern and western parts of the country (see **Map1&2**). During the third dekad3 of March_2017; rainfall was above the LTM in the whole south-eastern parts especially at Ngoma station while the rest of the country was within the range of LTM and below (see **Map3&4**)

a) Eastern Province

All representative stations recorded rainfall which was below the LTM (see **Table1** and **Map1&2**)

b) Northern Province

The stations recorded rainfall amount which was within range of LTM (see **Table1** and **Map1&2**)

c) Southern Province

The stations recorded rainfall amount which was above LTM especially at Byimana station which recorded 70.5mm and was the highest in the whole country (see **Table1** and **Map1&2**)

d) Western Province

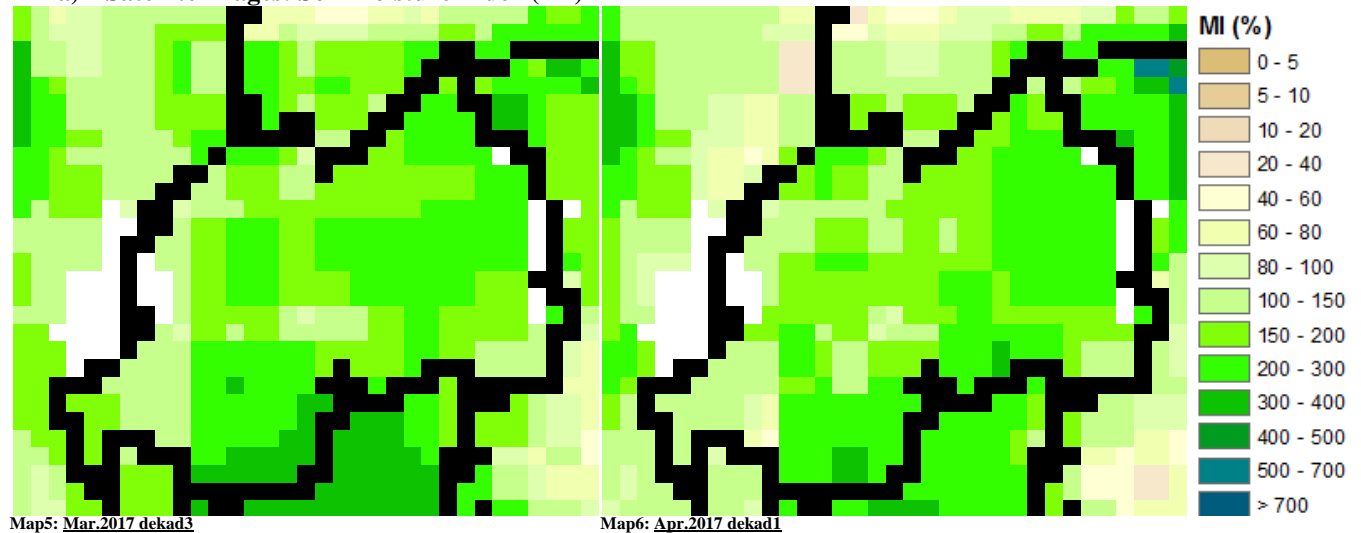
Most of the stations recorded below LTM rainfall (see **Table1** and **Map1&2**)

e) Kigali City

The stations recorded rainfall which was below the LTM (see **Table1** and **Map1&2**)

III. Agricultural impact.

a) Satellite images: Soil Moisture Index (MI)



From the start of dekad3_March to end of dekad1_April_2017; the satellite derived moisture index shows a consistency of moisture content in all parts of the country because the wet conditions that marked the last dekad of March_2017 and the first dekad of April_2017 (see **Map 5&6**)

The distribution of rains during dekad2_April_2017 is expected to increasing in comparison with what was observed in first dekad1 of April_2017 especially towards its end. Farmers are advised to taking advantage of the prevailing wet conditions throughout the country.

Rainfall forecast for dekad2_April_2017

Wet conditions are expected to prevail over most parts of country especially towards the end of this dekad.

N.B: This forecast should be used in conjunction with the daily (24-hour), Three (3), Five (5) and Seven (7) days forecasts issued by the Rwanda Meteorology Agency (Meteo Rwanda)