



Highlights:

- **The cumulative rainfall** for dekad1_February_2017 was suppressed over most parts of the country with rainfall records which was below Long Term Mean (LTM) except for localized stations in Kigali and southern province.
- The western parts received frequent rainfall during dekad1_February_2017 with increased soil moisture content over north western and south western tip of the country.
- The rainfall during dekad2_February_2017 is expected to **increase in most parts** of the country towards the end of dekad2.

1. Introduction

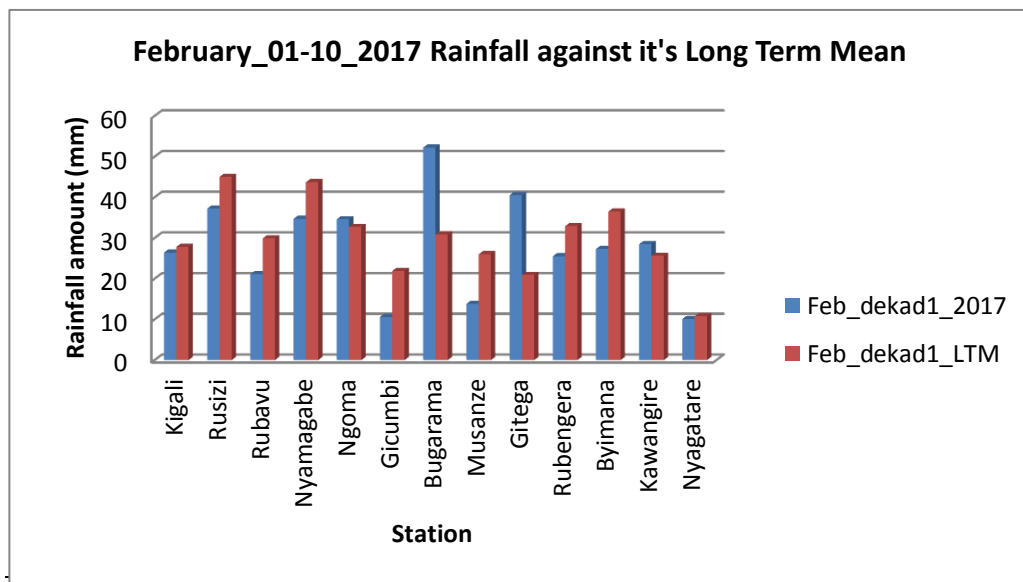
During dekad1_February_2017 the southwestern and central parts of the country, Bugarama station and Kigali-Gitega station recorded rainfall which was above the Long Term Mean (LTM); while the rest of the stations recorded almost within the range of LTM and below.

a) The table and histogram below indicates the rainfall recorded during dekad1_February_2017:

Cumulative rainfall (in mm) recorded at different stations

Station	Feb_d ekad1_2017	Feb_de kad1_L TM
Kigali	26.4	27.8
Rusizi (Kamembe)	37.2	45
Rubavu (Gisenyi)	21.1	29.9
Nyamagabe (Gikongoro)	34.7	43.7
Ngoma (Kibungo)	34.6	32.7
Gicumbi (Byumba)	10.6	21.9
Bugarama	52.2	30.9
Musanze (Ruhengeri)	13.8	26
Gitega	40.5	20.9
Rubengera	25.5	32.9
Byimana	27.3	36.5
Kawangire	28.5	25.6
Nyagatare	10.1	10.8

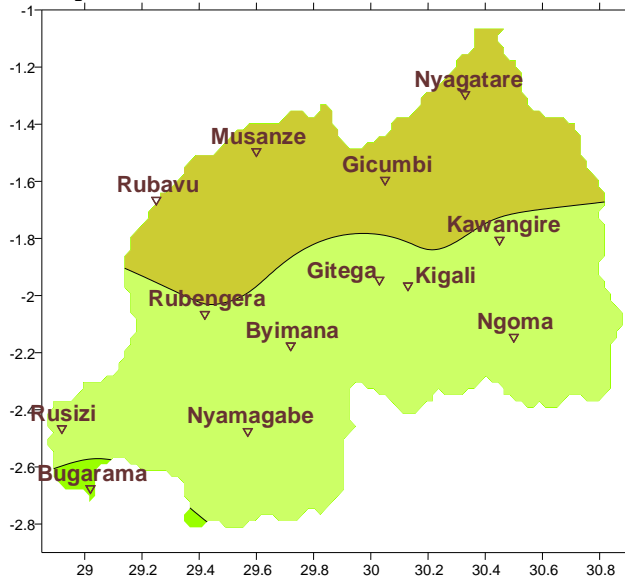
Table1



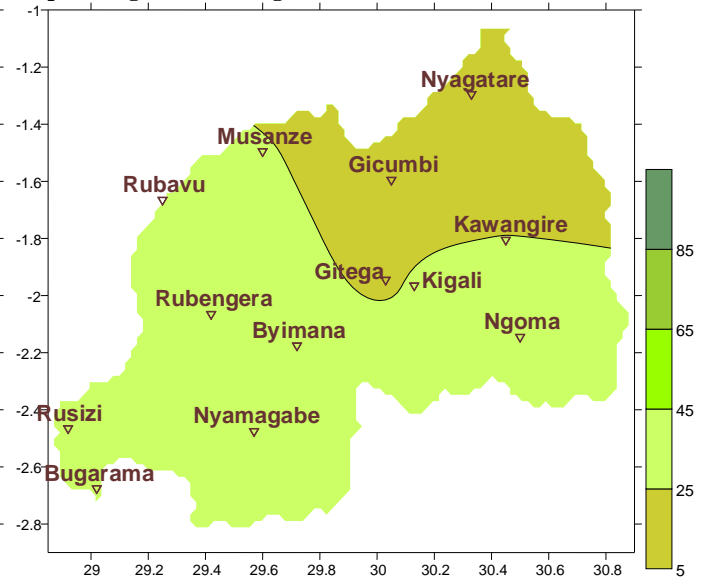
Plot1

b) **Rainfall analysis:** The maps “**Map 1 and 2**” below show the cumulative rainfall recorded during dekad1_February_2017 and it’s Long Term Mean (LTM) cumulative rainfall. The maps “**map 3 and 4**” show the cumulative rainfall recorded during dekad3_January_2017 and it’s LTM cumulative rainfall.

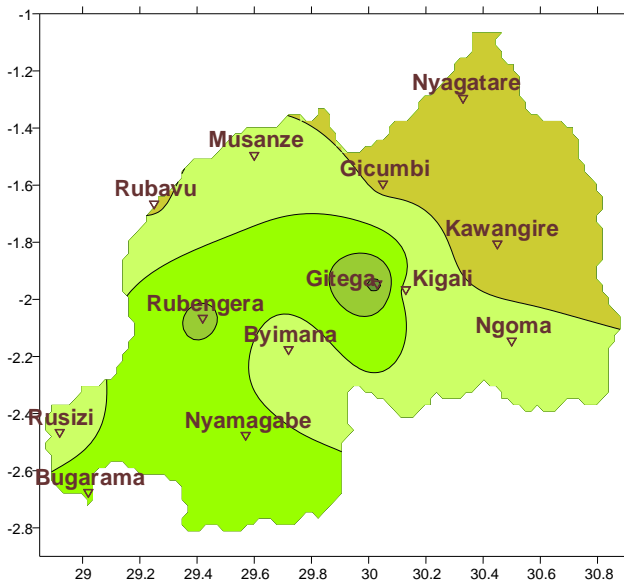
Map1: Total Rainfall (mm): dekad1_Feb_2017



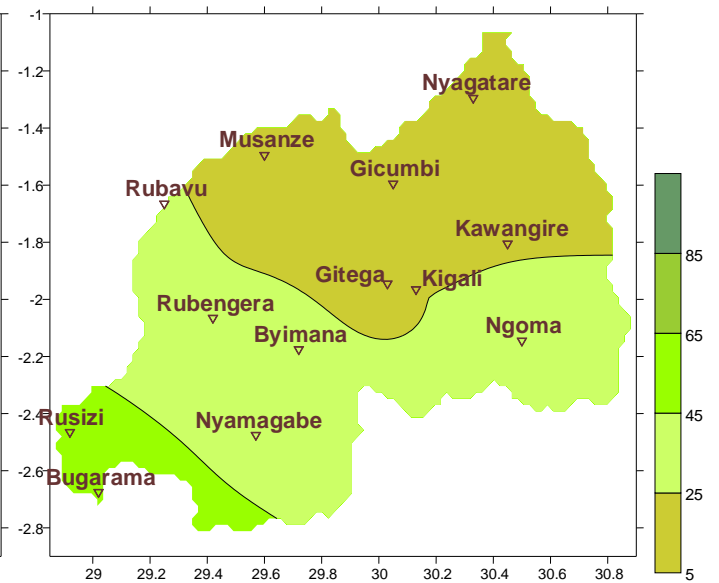
Map2: Long Term Average Rainfall (mm): dekad1_Feb_LTM



Map1: Total Rainfall (mm): dekad3_Jan_2017



Map2: Long Term Average Rainfall (mm): dekad3_Jan_LTM



I. Detailed observed rainfall during the dekad1_February_2017

Cumulative rainfall for dekad1_February_2017 was suppressed over northern half of the country (see **Map1&2**) while the rest of the parts received rainfall which was within range of the LTM. The rainfall which was recorded during dekad3_January_2017 (see **Map3&4**) was more enhanced than LTM.

a) Eastern Province

All representing stations recorded rainfall which was within range of the LTM (see **Table1** and **Map1&2**).

b) Northern Province

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

c) Southern Province

Some localized stations in the province recorded significant rainfall which was above the LTM (see **Table1** and **Map1&2**).

d) Western Province

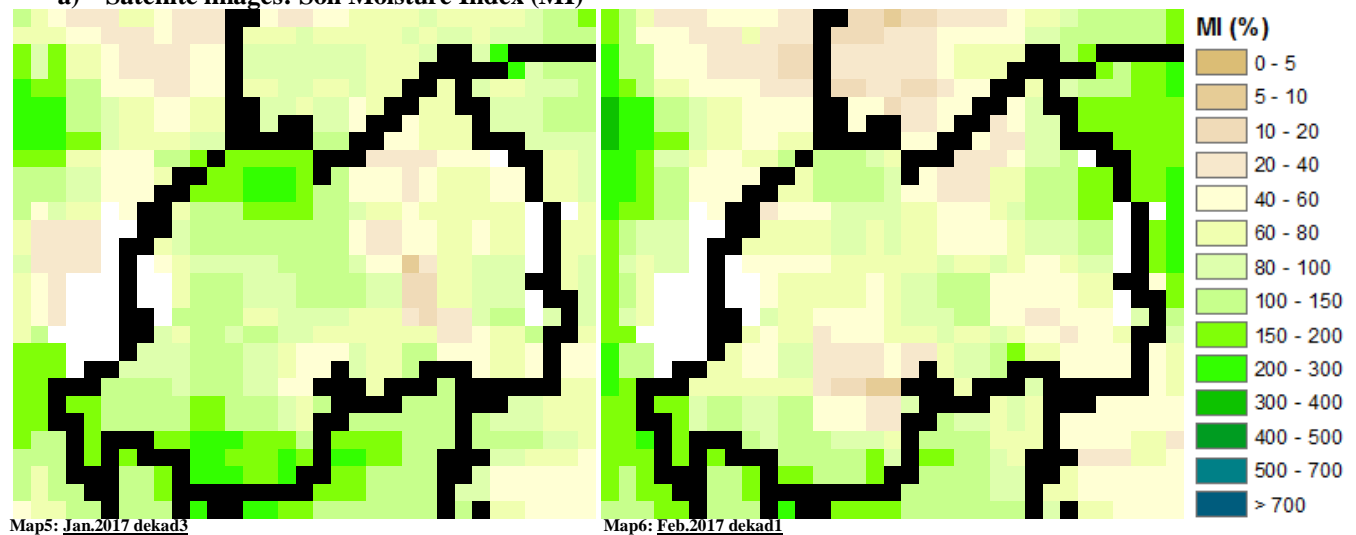
The records from the western province were below the LTM (see **Table1** and **Map1&2**).

e) Kigali City

The central part of the country recorded rainfall which was significantly above the LTM (see **Table1** and **Map1&2**) especially at Kigali-Gitega station.

II. Agricultural impact.

a) Satellite images: Soil Moisture Index (MI)



During dekad3_January to dekad1_February_2017; the satellite derived moisture index was slightly wet which was due to the previous two dekads that were cloudy and rainfall conditions was more frequent. The Dekad1_February 2017 was slightly suppressed compared to the dekad3_January_2017 (see **Map5&6**).

The wetter conditions are expected during the coming dekad2_February_2017 and farmers are expected to prepare adequately.

Rainfall forecast for dekad2_February_2017

We expect increase of rainfall distribution across many parts of the country during dekad2_February_2017

Kigali City: Will experience cloudy conditions and light rain towards the end of the dekad.

Eastern Region: Will experience cloudy conditions and light rain towards the end of the dekad.

Western Region: Will experience cloudy conditions associated with rainy conditions over most parts of the region.

Northern region: Will experience cloudy conditions and light rains especially the western part of this region.

Southern Region: Will experience cloudy conditions and light rains especially the most south and western part of this region.

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)