



Highlights:

- **The cumulative rainfall** for dekad1_February_2018 was suppressed in the northern part of the country and medium to high over the southern part of the country.
- The soil kept the moisture over the country as rainy days were prolonged and distributed country wide.
- The rainfall during dekad2_January_2018 is expected to **be less during the first dates and to increase in most places** of the country towards the end.

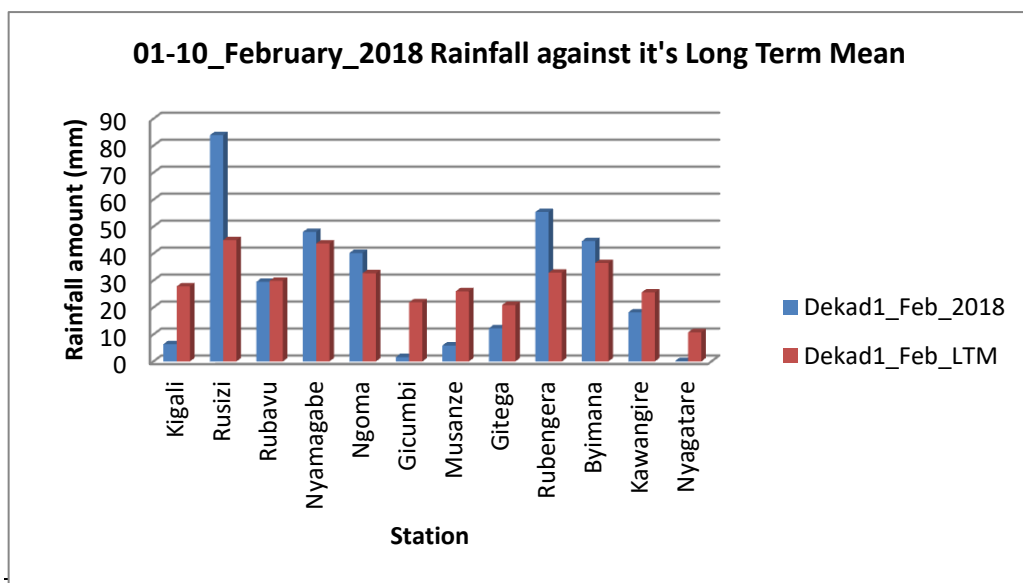
I. Introduction

During dekad1_February_2018; the south especially the south-western part of the country received rain that is the above range compared with the long term mean (LTM). Although the northern part received little rains; but; the north-east was ranging in the normal range while the remaining part was in the below normal

a) The table and histogram below indicates the rainfall recorded during dekad1_January_2018:

Cumulative rainfall (in mm) recorded at different stations

Station	Dekad 1_Feb 2018	Dekad1_Feb_L TM
Kigali	6.4	27.8
Rusizi (Kamembe)	83.9	45.0
Rubavu (Gisenyi)	29.5	29.9
Nyamagabe (Gikongoro)	48.0	43.7
Ngoma (Kibungo)	40.2	32.7
Gicumbi (Byumba)	1.6	21.9
Musanze (Ruhengeri)	5.9	26.0
Gitega	12.3	20.9
Rubengera	55.4	32.9
Byimana	44.6	36.5
Kawangire	18.2	25.6
Nyagatare	0.1	10.8

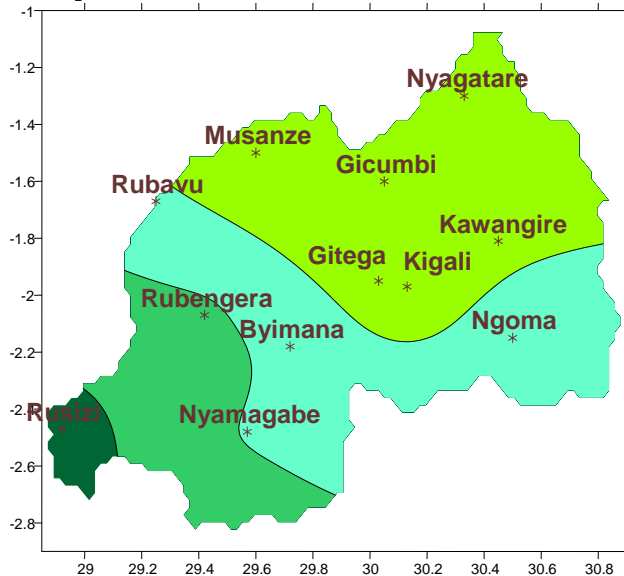


Plot1

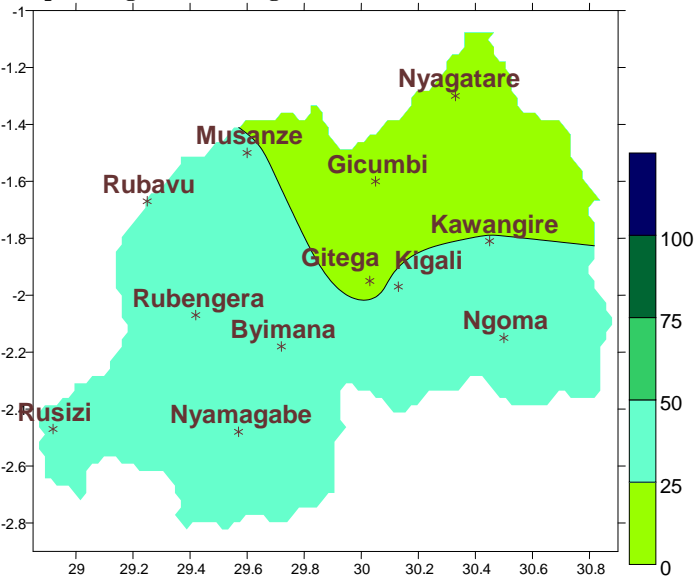
Table1

b) **Rainfall analysis:** The maps “**Map 1 and 2**” below show the cumulative rainfall recorded during dekad1_February_2018 and its long term mean (LTM) of cumulative rainfall. The maps “**map 3 and 4**” show the cumulative rainfall recorded during dekad3_January_2018 and its LTM of cumulative rainfall.

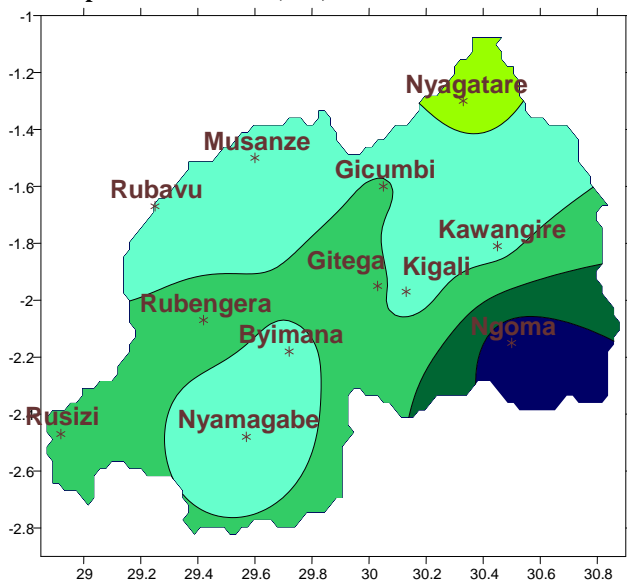
Map1: Total Rainfall (mm): dekad1_Feb_2018



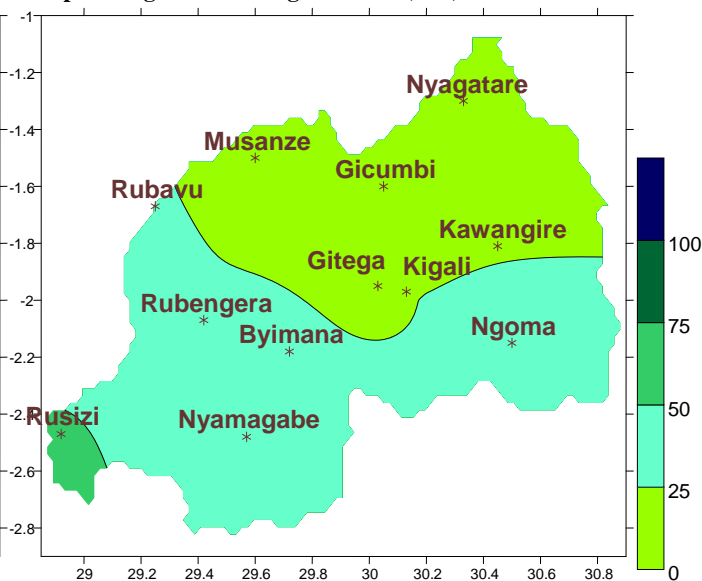
Map2: Long Term Average Rainfall (mm): dekad1_Feb_LTM



Map1: Total Rainfall (mm): dekad3_Jan_2018



Map2: Long Term Average Rainfall (mm): dekad3_Jan_LTM

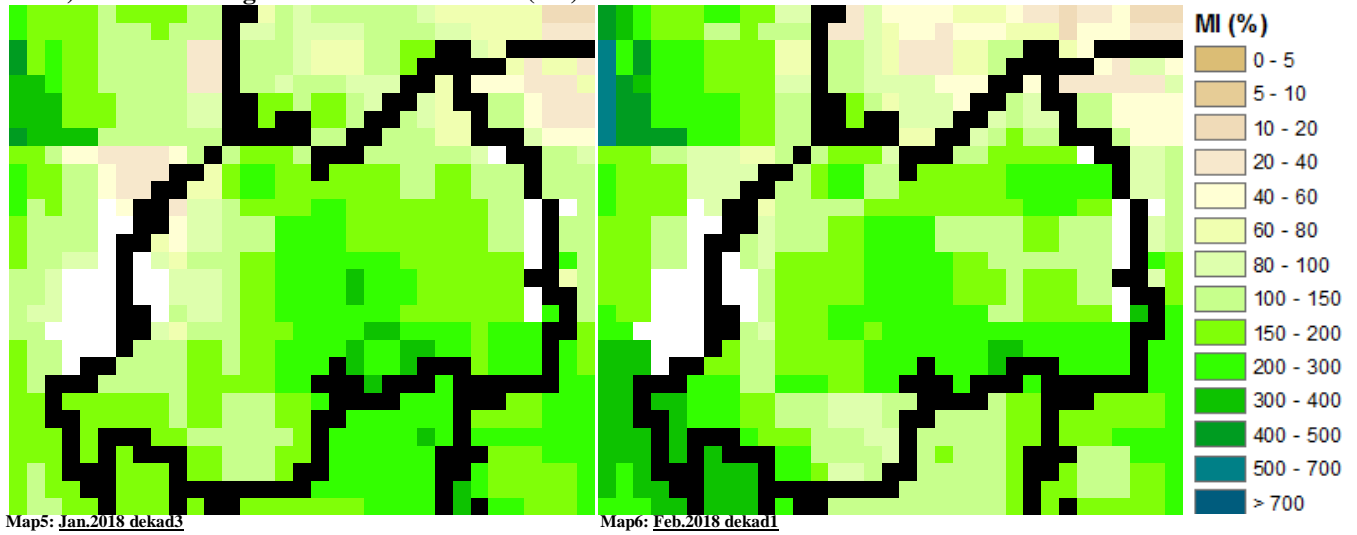


II. Detailed observed rainfall during the dekad1_February_2018

The third dekad of January_2018 (see **Map3&4**); show high rainfall amount in all parts of the country ranging in the above normal except the north-eastern tip (at Nyagatare station) where the observations show a normal range rain distribution; while for dekad1_February_2018; we observe the south especially the south-western part of the country to have received rain that is in the above range compared with LTM (see **Map1&2**)

III. Agricultural impact.

a) Satellite images: Soil Moisture Index (MI)



During dekad3_January to dekad1_February_2018; the satellite derived moisture index was maintained as result of cloudy conditions and rainfall events that occurred during the last 20 days (see **Map 5&6**)

The south-western part received rainfall throughout the dekad1_February_2018 and this resulted in the raise of soil moisture content within the same region; and we observe a reduction in soil moisture content over central parts due considerably suppression of rainfall over the same region

Rainfall forecast for dekad2 February_2018

The rainfall patterns for the second dekad of February_2018 is to reduce during the first dates of the dekad; and then increase as we approaching the end of the dekad

The Eastern part is expected to have less as compared with the rest of the country while the north-western part will receive more rainfall amount but the whole country will range in the normal range compared with the LTM.

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)