



Highlights:

- **The overall cumulative rainfall** for dekad2_March_2017 was enhanced over most parts of the country except central part of the country.
- The soil moisture index was significantly high due to rainy and cloudy conditions over most parts of the country which reduced evaporation from soil.
- The rainfall during the third dekad of March_2017 is expected to **continue** in amount and occurrence.

I. Introduction

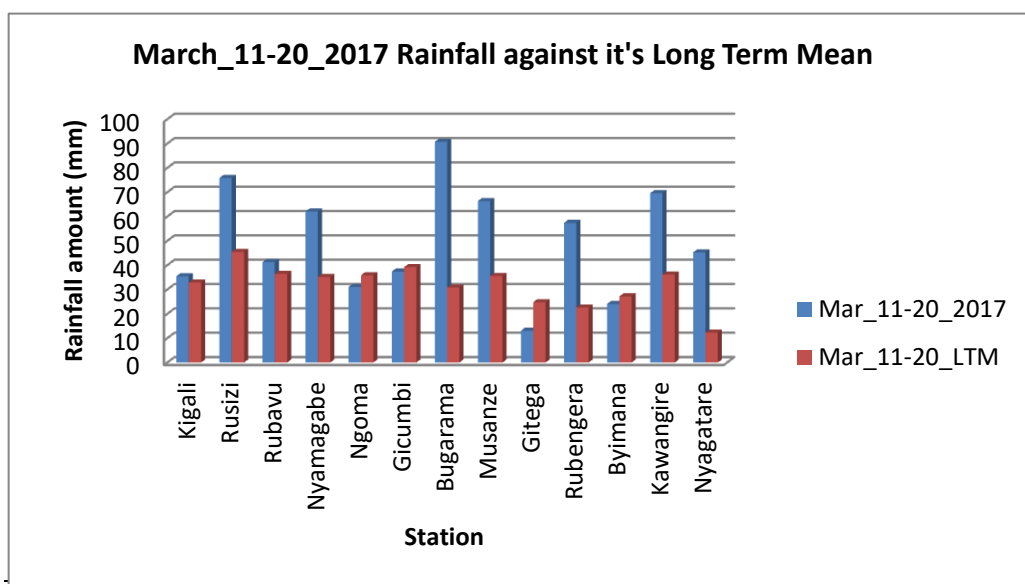
The north and western parts of the country registered enhanced rainfall as opposed to the rest of the country; the central parts recorded rainfall that was in the range which was slightly below Long Term Mean (LTM).

a) The table and histogram below indicates the rainfall recorded during dekad2_March_2017 and its LTM:

Cumulative rainfall (in mm) recorded at different stations

Station	Mar_11-20_2017	Mar_11-20_LT M
Kigali	35.5	32.9
Rusizi (Kamembe)	75.9	45.5
Rubavu (Gisenyi)	41.3	36.5
Nyamagabe (Gikongoro)	62.1	35.2
Ngoma (Kibungo)	31.1	35.9
Gicumbi (Byumba)	37.4	39.2
Bugarama	90.7	30.8
Musanze (Ruhengeri)	66.4	35.6
Gitega	13.1	24.8
Rubengera	57.4	22.6
Byimana	24.1	27.2
Kawangire	69.6	36.2
Nyagatare	45.3	12.3

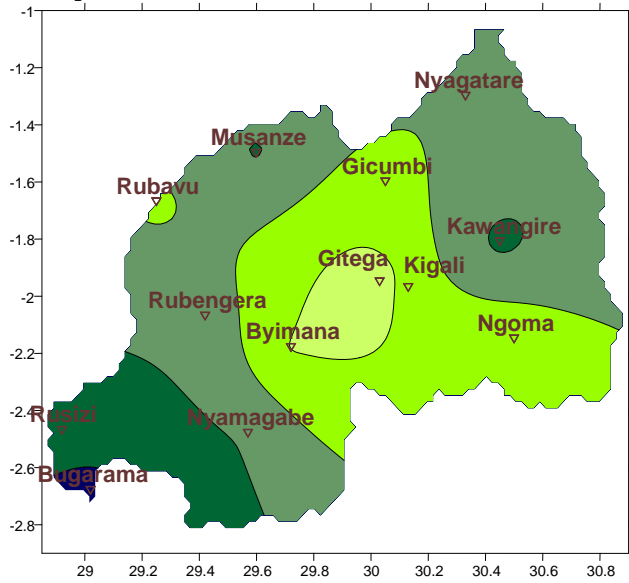
Table1



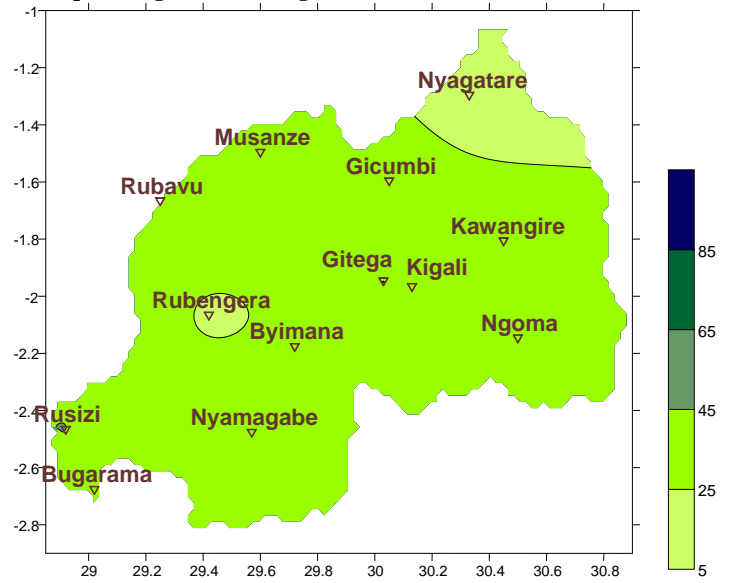
Plot1

b) **Rainfall analysis:** The maps “**Map 1 and 2**” below show the cumulative rainfall recorded during dekad2_March_2017 and its Long Term Mean (LTM) of cumulative rainfall for the same period. The maps “**map 3 and 4**” show the cumulative rainfall recorded during dekad1_March_2017 and its LTM of cumulative rainfall for the same period.

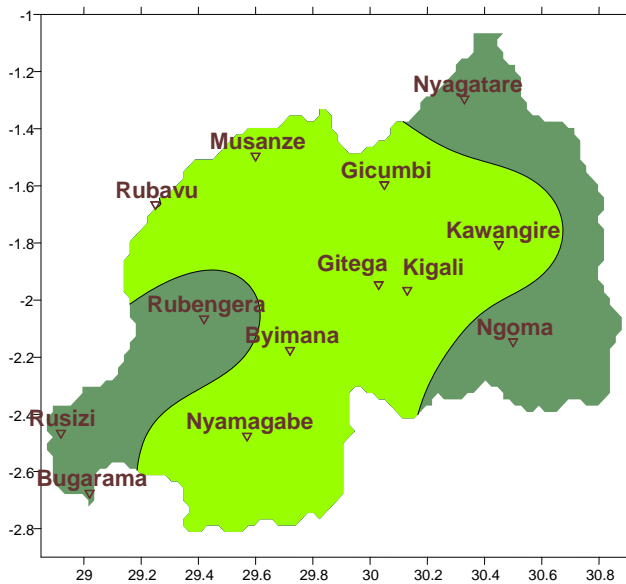
Map1: Total Rainfall (mm): dekad2_Mar_2017



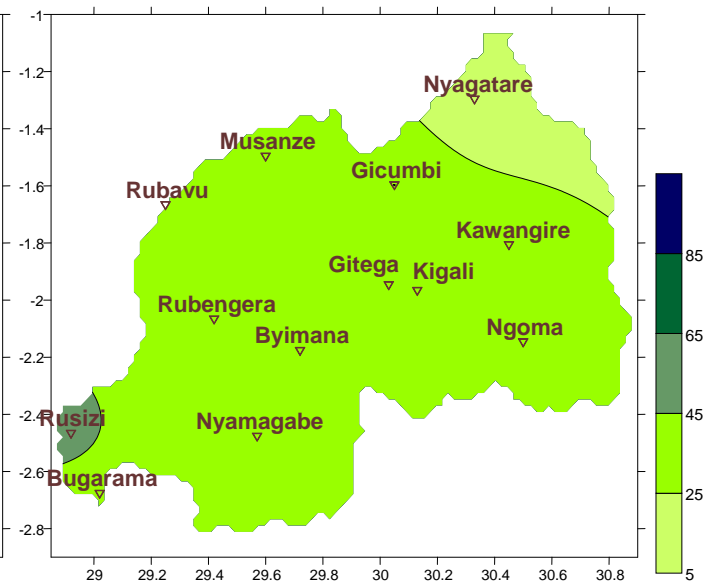
Map2: Long Term Average Rainfall (mm): dekad2_Mar_LTM



Map1: Total Rainfall (mm): dekad1_Mar_2017



Map2: Long Term Average Rainfall (mm): dekad1_Mar_LTM



II. Detailed observed rainfall during the dekad2_March_2017

Cumulative rainfall for dekad2_March_2017 showed intense rainfall over eastern and western parts of the country while the central parts had suppressed rainfall mainly at the stations of Byimana and Gitega (see **Map1&2**). During dekad1_March_2017 the rainfall was within the range of LTM over many parts of the country while the extreme east and the shores of Lake Kivu received the higher amounts of rainfall.

a) Eastern Province

Most stations in eastern province recorded higher amounts of rainfall except Ngoma station recorded rainfall that was within the range of LTM (see **Table1** and **Map1&2**)

b) Northern Province

The Northern Province had an overall rainfall ranging within the climatology of the area (see **Table1** and **Map1&2**)

c) Southern Province

The area received rainfall that was within the range of LTM and slightly below (see **Table1** and **Map1&2**)

d) Western Province

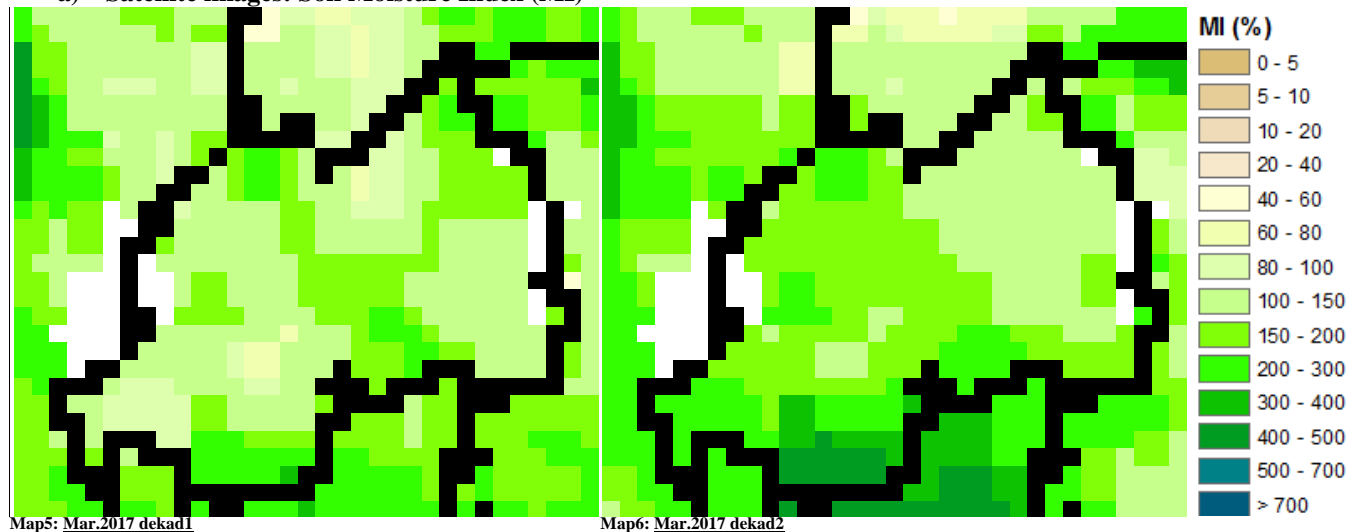
All stations of the Western Province recorded rainfall amount which was above the LTM (see **Table1** and **Map1&2**)

e) Kigali City

The central part where the Capital City is located recorded rainfall which was slightly below the LTM (see **Table1** and **Map1&2**)

III. Agricultural impact.

a) Satellite images: Soil Moisture Index (MI)



During dekad1 to dekad2_March_2017; the satellite derived moisture index showed gradual increase of moisture content in dekad2 as result of cloudy conditions and rainfall over most parts of the country (see **Map 5&6**)

The distribution of rains during dekad3_March_2017 is expected to continue increasing since rain season is progressing and farmers are advised to prepare accordingly.

Rainfall forecast for dekad3_January_2017

We expect increase of rainfall distribution across all the country:

Kigali City; the area is expected to experience cloudy conditions and increase of rain occurrences.

Eastern Region; during the dekad the area will experience cloudy conditions and increase of rain occurrences.

Western Region; will experience enhanced rainy conditions over most parts of the region.

Northern region; will experience rainy conditions over most parts of this region.

Southern Region; the region will experience cloudy conditions and increase of rain occurrences.

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)