



SEASONAL FORECAST FOR MARCH TO MAY (MAM) 2020, N°54

March to May (MAM) constitutes an important rainfall season over the equatorial sector of the Greater Horn of Africa (GHA) region as well as over Rwanda. The National consensus climate outlook for the March to May 2020 season indicates increased chance for above normal rainfall country wide.

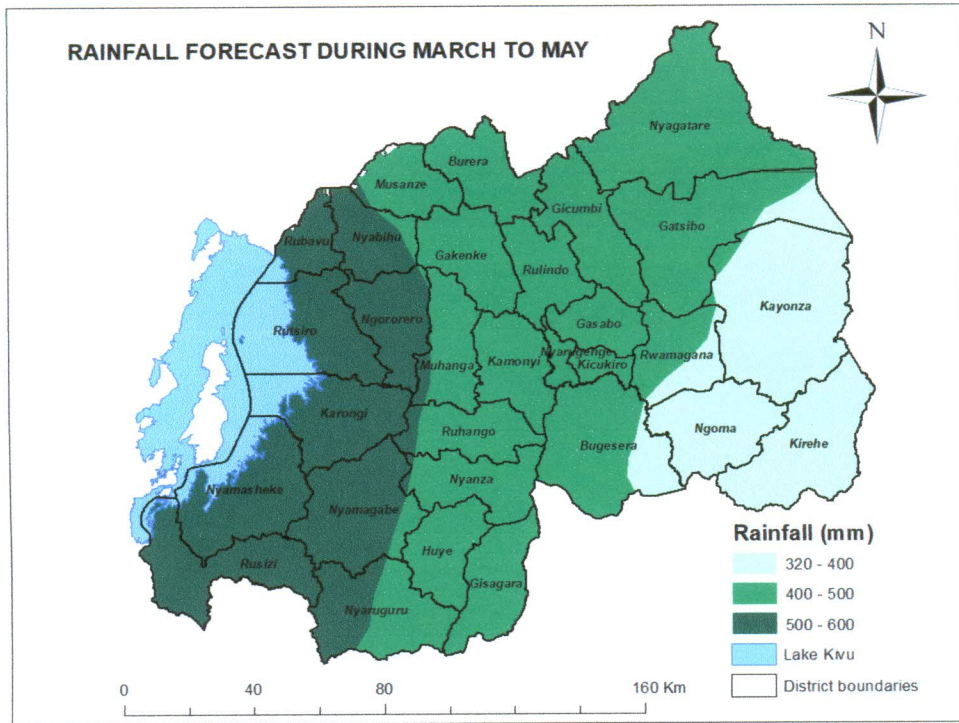
The Key factors expected to influence the regional climate during the MAM 2020 season include positive Sea Surface Temperature (SST) anomalies currently present in the tropical Pacific Ocean that are expected to remain positive but weaken slightly through the forecast period. The Indian Ocean Dipole index is expected to remain neutral through March to May (MAM 2020) period. The influence of the ocean processes will be modulated by regional circulation systems, topography and large inland water bodies.

From the Statistical and Dynamical analysis done for each zone, the seasonal forecast is as follows:

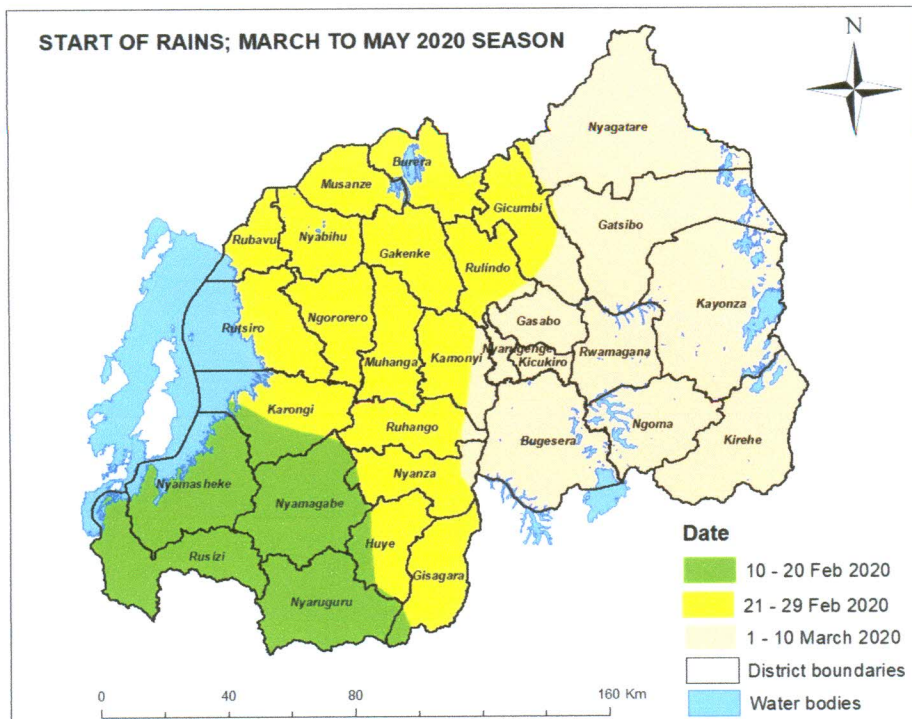
- ❖ **Rainfall ranging between 320 and 400 millimeters** is expected over Ngoma, Kayonza, Kirehe ; the small part of Rwamagana District bordering Ngoma District and the part of Bugesera District near Ngoma District in Eastern Province.
- ❖ **Rainfall ranging between 400 and 500 millimeters** is expected over Northern Province, Kigali City, Southern Province except Nyamagabe District and part of Nyaruguru District bordering Huye and Gisagara Districts, Nyagatare District, Gatsibo District and the remaining part of Rwamagana and Bugesera Districts in Eastern Province.
- ❖ **Rainfall ranging between 500 and 600 millimeters** is expected over Western Province, Nyamagabe District and part of Nyaruguru District bordering Rusizi.



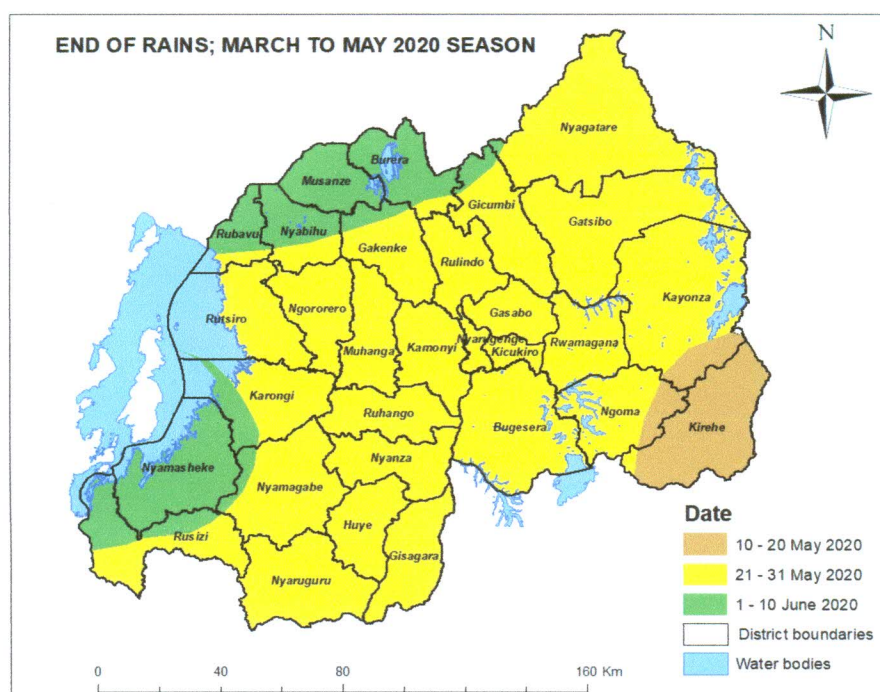
MAM 2020 Rainfall Predicted



MAM Rainfall Onset



MAM Rainfall Cessation



Expected rainfall amount in millimeters, onset and cessation dates of MAM 2020

Provinces	Districts	Rainfall predicted (mm)	Onset dates	Cessation dates
Kigali City	Nyarugenge	440-470	1 st -10 th Mar.	21 st -31 st May
	Gasabo	460-500	1 st -10 th Mar.	21 st -31 st May
	Kicukiro	420-450	1 st -10 th Mar.	21 st -31 st May
Northern	Musanze	440-490	21 st -29 th Feb.	1 st -10 th June
	Gicumbi	470-510	21 st -29 th Feb.	21 st -31 st May
	Rulindo	470-510	21 st -29 th Feb.	21 st -31 st May
	Burera	450-490	21 st -29 th Feb.	1 st -10 th June
	Gakenke	440-500	21 st -29 th Feb.	21 st -31 st May
Southern	Kamonyi	400-490	21 st -29 th Feb.	21 st -31 st May
	Muhanga	410-480	21 st -29 th Feb.	21 st -31 st May
	Ruhango	390-460	21 st -29 th Feb.	21 st -31 st May
	Nyanza	390-470	21 st -29 th Feb.	21 st -31 st May
	Huye	430-520	21 st -29 th Feb.	21 st -31 st May
	Gisagara	400-470	21 st -29 th Feb.	21 st -31 st May
	Nyamagabe	420-510	10 th -20 th Feb.	21 st -31 st May
Nyaruguru	460-550	10 th -20 th Feb.	21 st -31 st May	
Eastern	Bugesera	390-410	1 st -10 th Mar.	21 st -31 st May
	Rwamagana	370-400	1 st -10 th Mar.	21 st -31 st May

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	Kayonza	350-390	1 st -10 th Mar.	21 st -31 st May
	Ngoma	360-390	1 st -10 th Mar.	21 st -31 st May
	Kirehe	320-380	1 st -10 th Mar.	10-20 May
	Gatsibo	400-450	1 st -10 th Mar.	21 st -31 st May
	Nyagatare	380-440	1 st -10 th Marc.	21 st -31 st May
Western	Nyabihu	510-550	21 st -29 th Feb.	1 st -10 th June
	Rubavu	490-560	21 st -29 th Feb.	1 st -10 th June
	Rutsiro	490-540	21 st -29 th Feb.	21 st -31 st May
	Karongi	470-550	21 st -29 th Feb.	21 st -31 st May
	Ngororero	450-520	21 st -29 th Feb.	21 st -31 st May
	Nyamasheke	490-560	10 th -20 th Feb.	1 st -10 th June
	Rusizi	480-540	10 th -20 th Feb.	21 st -31 st May (South of Rusizi bordering Nyaruguru) 1 st -10 th June (North Rusizi bordering Nyamasheke)

The enhanced rainfall expected during the March to May 2020 rainfall season may lead to floods, landslides, water-borne diseases, destruction of infrastructures and others related disasters. Therefore, relevant authorities should put in place both preventive and mitigative strategies to minimize disasters likelihood.

N.B: This outlook is supplemented by updates of different timescales (6 hours, daily, 3- days, 5-days and 10-days forecasts and regular monthly updates) and advisories issued by Rwanda Meteorology Agency.

Done on 24th February, 2020.


Aimable GAHIGI
Director General

