



SEASONAL FORECAST FOR SEPTEMBER TO DECEMBER (SOND) 2024, N° 68

The Rwanda Meteorology Agency (METEO RWANDA) is pleased to release the seasonal forecast for the September to December (SOND) rainfall season 2024. According to the global, regional and local climate factors influencing the seasonal rainfall pattern, the National consensus on climate outlook for SOND 2024 season indicated a likelihood of normal rainfall, which is within the range of average recorded rainfall of similar period for 30 years.

This forecast was based on extensive analysis of the atmospheric and oceanic conditions, and it provided valuable information for the planning and decision-making. The SOND is one of the main rainy seasons in Rwanda, which is very important for developmental benefits of socio-economic sectors.

The key factors expected to influence rainfall during the SOND 2024 season are the Sea Surface Temperatures (SSTs), which are likely to remain within the average range over the coming months in the equatorial Pacific Ocean and Indian Ocean. This will result in neutral conditions for both El Niño/La Niña and the Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD). These conditions favor average rainfall over Rwanda. The seasonal forecast for SOND 2024 is analogous to the observed SOND of 2020.

DISTRIBUTION OF FORECASTED RAINFALL

The rainfall amount in millimeters (mm) is distributed as follows:

Rainfall ranging between 300 – 400 mm

This amount rainfall total is expected in Nyagatare, Gatsibo, Kayonza, Ngoma, Kirehe, Bugesera and Rwamagana Districts of the Eastern Province, Gasabo, Kicukiro and Nyarugenge Districts of the City of Kigali, as well as Amayaga areas of Kamonyi, Ruhango, Nyanza, and Gisagara Districts of Southern Province.

Rainfall ranging between 400 – 500 mm

This range of rainfall amount is expected in Gicumbi, Rulindo, and eastern parts of Burera and Gakenke Districts in Northern Province, in Southern Province Districts of Kamonyi, Muhanga, Ruhango, Nyanza, Huye, Gisagara and eastern parts of Nyamagabe. The southern parts of Ngororero and western sectors of Karongi Districts of Western Province.

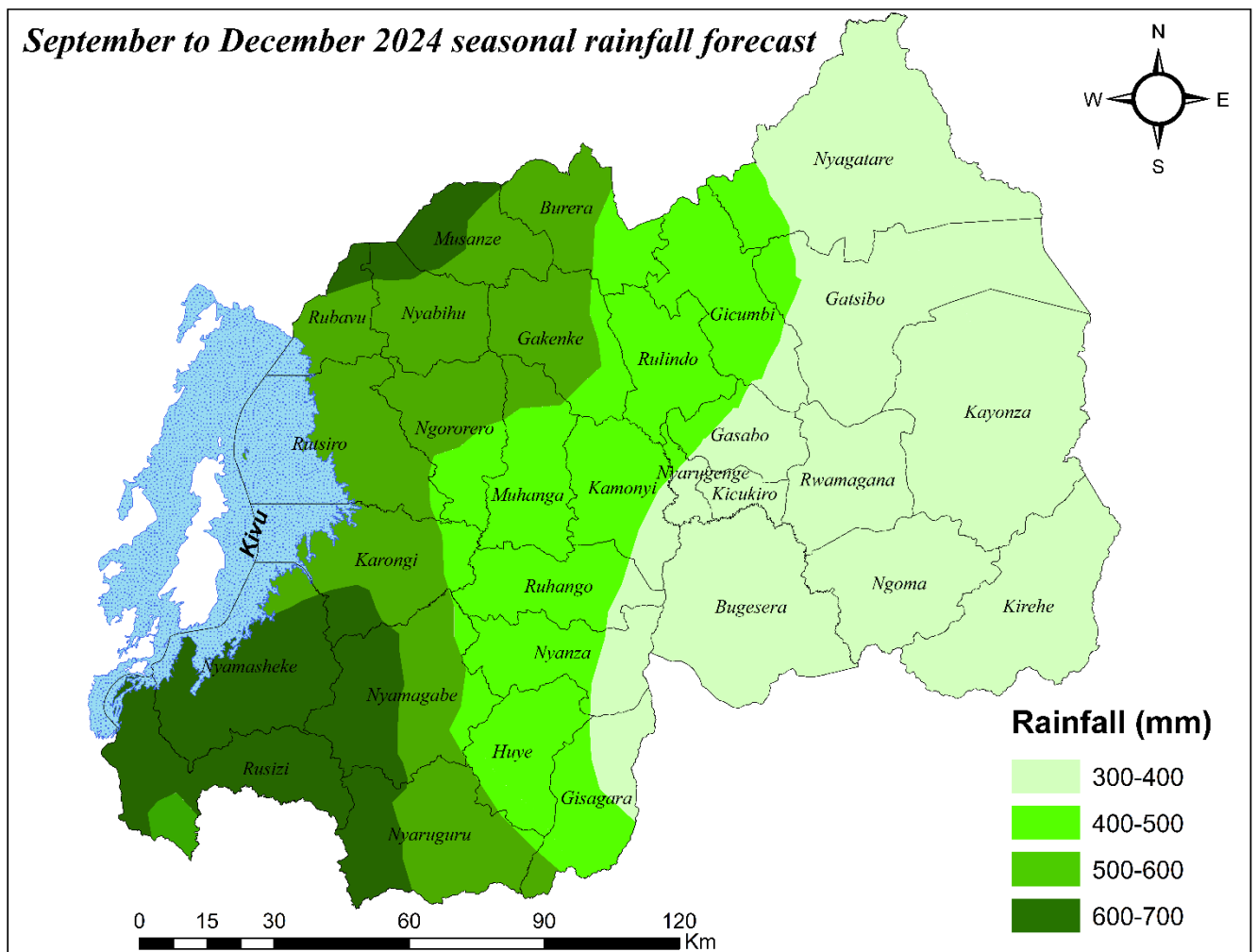


Rainfall ranging between 500 – 600 mm

The rainfall is expected in Burera, Musanze and Gakenke Districts in Northern Province, Nyabihu, Rubavu, Ngororero, Rutsiro, Karongi Districts, and Bugarama plain in Western Province as well as Nyamagabe and Nyaruguru Districts, in Southern Province.

Rainfall ranging between 600 – 700 mm

The rainfall is expected in Rusizi, Nyamasheke, and in southern parts of Karongi District near Nyungwe National Park in Western Province; Nyamagabe and Nyaruguru Districts of Southern Province. This amount of rainfall also is expected in the areas surrounding the Volcano zones in Musanze, Nyabihu and Rubavu Districts.





THE ONSET OR THE START OF RAINS FOR SOND 2024

❖ Between 1st and 10th September 2024

The onset of SOND rains is expected in entire Northern Province, Western Province, in District of Nyamagabe and Muhanga of Southern Province and in Nyagatare District.

❖ Between 11th and 20th September 2024

Rainfall is expected to start in all districts of Southern Province, City of Kigali, and in Eastern Province except in Kirehe District and small parts of kayonza and Ngoma District, then in southern parts of Rulindo and Gicumbi District.

❖ Between 21st and 30th September 2024

The rainfall onset is expected in Kirehe District and proximity small parts of Kayonza and Ngoma District.

THE CESSATION OR THE END OF SOND 2024 RAINFALL SEASON

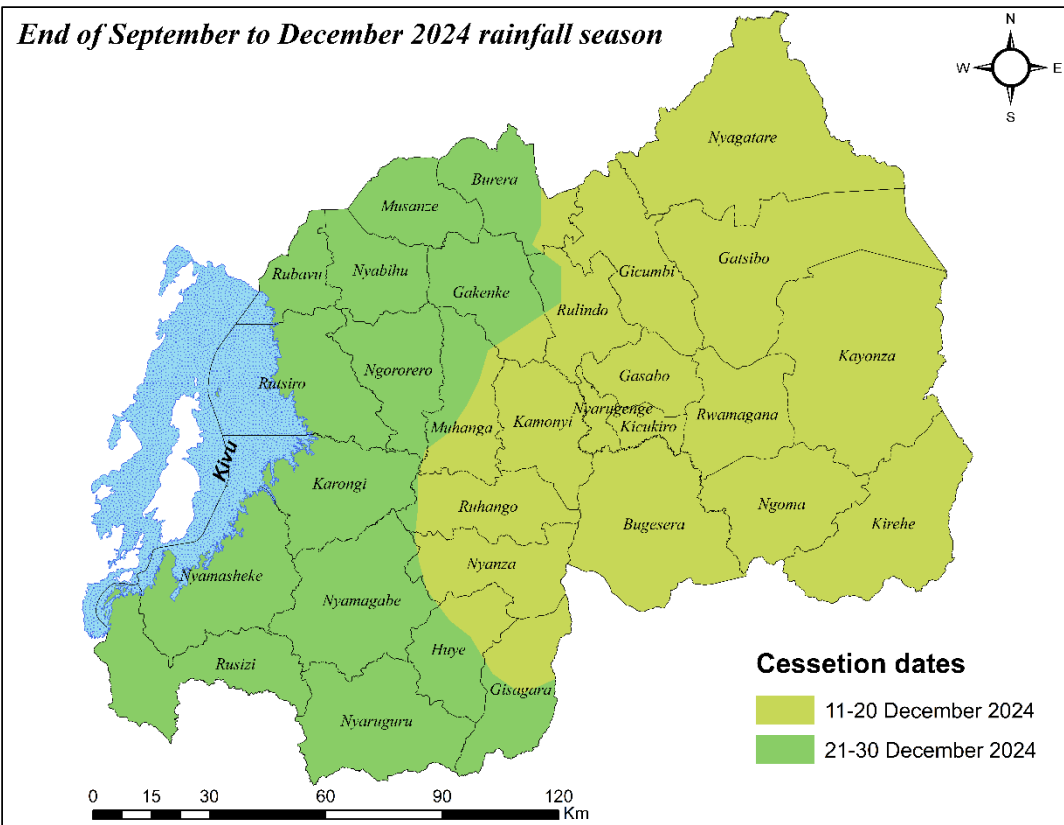
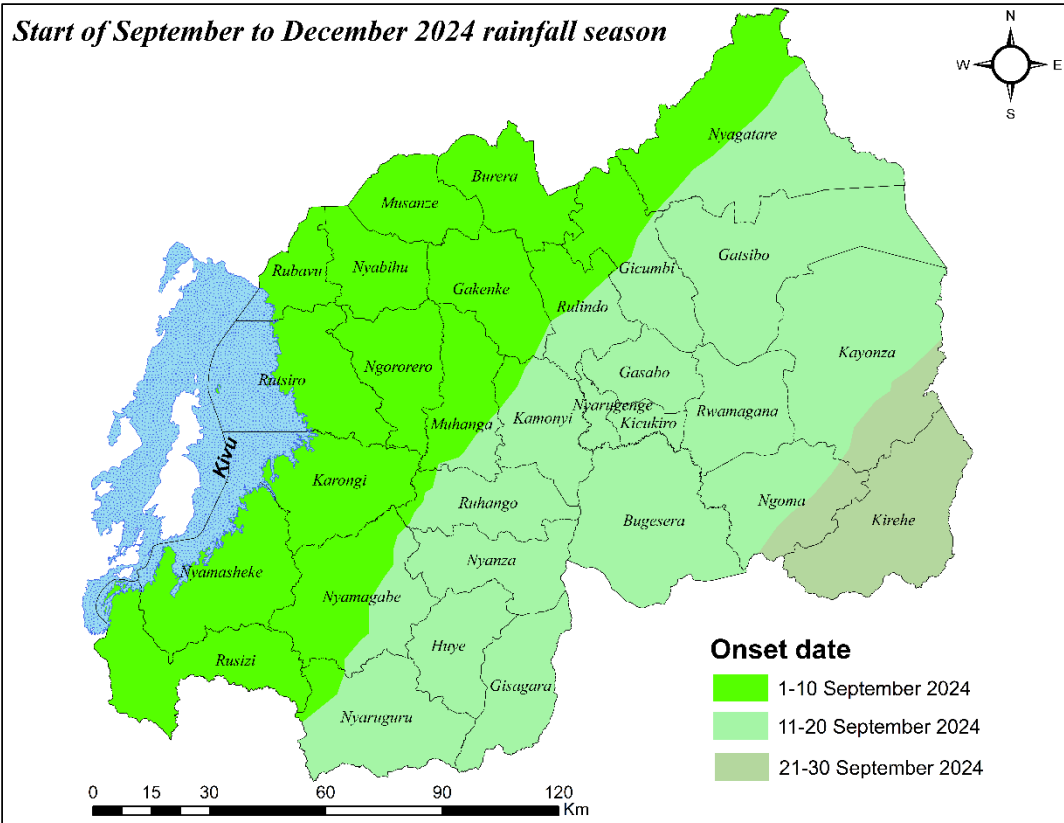
❖ Between 11th and 20th December 2024

The cessation of SOND rains is expected in Eastern Province, City of Kigali, in District of Rulindo and Gicumbi in Northern Province; Kamonyi, Ruhango, Nyanza, Muhanga, Gisagara, and Huye in Southern Province.

❖ Between 21st and 30th December 2024

The cessation is expected in Western Province, in Musanze, Burera and Gakenke in Northern, in Nyaruguru, Nyamagabe, southern parts of Huye and Gisagara District as well as northern parts of Muhanga in Southern Province.

The forecasted rainfall amount, onset and cessation dates of SOND 2024 in different regions of the country are provided in the following maps and table.





| PROVINCE | DISTRICT | EXPECTED RAINFALL AMOUNT (mm) | ONSET DATE | CESSATION DATE |
|-------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| City of Kigali | Nyarugenge | 300 – 400 | 11-20 September | 11-20 December |
| | Gasabo | 300 – 400 | 11-20 September | 11-20 December |
| | Kicukiro | 300 – 400 | 11-20 September | 11-20 December |
| Northern Province | Eastern part of Musanze | 500 – 600 | 1-10 September | 21-30 December |
| | Western part of Musanze | 600 - 700 | 1-10 September | 21-30 December |
| | Northern part of Gicumbi | 400 – 500 | 1-10 September | 11-20 December |
| | Southern part of Gicumbi | 300 - 400 | 11-20 September | 11-20 December |
| | Northern part of Rulindo | 400 – 500 | 1-10 September | 11-20 December |
| | Southern part of Rulindo | 400 – 500 | 11-20 September | 11-20 December |
| | Eastern part of Burera | 400 – 500 | 1-10 September | 11-20 December |
| | Western part of Burera | 500 – 600 | 1-10 September | 21-30 December |
| | Eastern part of Gakenke | 400 – 500 | 1-10 September | 11-20 December |
| | Western part of Gakenke | 500 – 600 | 1-10 September | 21-30 December |
| Southern Province | Amayaga part of Kamonyi | 300 – 400 | 11-20 September | 11-20 December |
| | Remaining part of Kamonyi | 400 - 500 | 11-20 September | 11-20 December |
| | Southern part of Muhanga | 400 – 500 | 1-10 September | 11-20 December |
| | Northern part of Muhanga | 500 - 600 | 1-10 September | 21-30 December |
| | Amayaga part of Ruhango | 300 - 400 | 11-20 September | 11-20 December |
| | Remaining part of Ruhango | 400 – 500 | 11-20 September | 11-20 December |
| | Amayaga part of Nyanza | 300 - 400 | 11-20 September | 11-20 December |
| | Remaining part of Nyanza | 400 – 500 | 11-20 September | 11-20 December |
| | Northern part of Huye | 400 – 500 | 11-20 September | 11-20 December |



| PROVINCE | DISTRICT | EXPECTED RAINFALL AMOUNT (mm) | ONSET DATE | CESSATION DATE |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| | Southern part of Huye | 400 – 500 | 11-20 September | 21-30 December |
| | Amayaga part of Gisagara | 300 – 400 | 11-20 September | 11-20 December |
| | Remaining part of muri Gisagara | 400 – 500 | 11-20 September | 21-30 December |
| | Eastern part of Nyamagabe | 500 – 600 | 11-20 September | 21-30 December |
| | Western part of Nyamagabe | 600 - 700 | 1-10 September | 21-30 December |
| | Eastern part of Nyaruguru | 500 – 600 | 11-20 September | 21-30 December |
| | Western part of Nyaruguru | 600 - 700 | 11-20 September | 21-30 December |
| Eastern Province | Bugesera | 300 – 400 | 11-20 September | 11-20 December |
| | Rwamagana | 300 – 400 | 11-20 September | 11-20 December |
| | Part of Kayonza | 300 – 400 | 11-20 September | 11-20 December |
| | Remaining part of Kayonza | 300 – 400 | 21-30 September | 11-20 December |
| | Part of Ngoma | 300 – 400 | 11-20 September | 11-20 December |
| | Remaining part of Ngoma | 300 – 400 | 21-30 September | 11-20 December |
| | Kirehe | 300 – 400 | 21-30 September | 11-20 December |
| | Gatsibo | 300 – 400 | 11-20 September | 11-20 December |
| | Western part of Nyagatare | 300 – 400 | 1-10 September | 11-20 December |
| | Eastern part of Nyagatare | 300 – 400 | 11-20 September | 11-20 December |
| | Nyabihu | 500 – 600 | 1-10 September | 21-30 December |
| | Rubavu | 500 – 600 | 1-10 September | 21-30 December |
| | Rutsiro | 500 – 600 | 1-10 September | 21-30 December |
| | Eastern part of Karongi | 400 – 500 | 1-10 September | 21-30 December |



| PROVINCE | DISTRICT | EXPECTED RAINFALL AMOUNT (mm) | ONSET DATE | CESSATION DATE |
|------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Western Province | Western part of Karongi | 500-600 | 1-10 September | 21-30 December |
| | Northern part of Ngororero | 500 – 600 | 1-10 September | 21-30 December |
| | Southern part of Ngororero | 400 - 500 | 1-10 September | 21-30 December |
| | Nyamasheke | 600 – 700 | 1-10 September | 21-30 December |
| | Rusizi | 600 – 700 | 1-10 September | 21-30 December |

LIKELY WEATHER RISKS OF THE SOND 2024

METEO RWANDA in collaboration with the Ministry of Environment, Ministry in Charge of Emergency Management (MINEMA) and Rwanda Agriculture and Animal Resources Development Board (RAB), advise the public institutions, NGOs, Private sector and the general public to take note of the forecast and use it to make informed plans and decisions on:

- Intense and frequent lightning strikes especially at the beginning of the season,
- Strong winds,
- Hailstorms,
- Intra seasonal dry spells in drought prone areas,
- Heavy rains triggering strong runoffs and heavy streams on steep slopes and rivers.

Rwanda Meteorology Agency strongly recommends the use of SOND-2024 seasonal forecast complemented with Monthly, 10-days, 7-days, 5-days, daily forecasts and weather warnings in planning and making informed decisions for early action.

For more information, contact METEO RWANDA on its website, social media platforms and toll-free number **6080**.

Done at Kigali, on 23rd August 2024

GAHIGI Aimable
Director General