



Kigali, 20th March 2023

Weather forecast valid from 21st to 31st March 2023

1. **Rainfall forecast:** During the third (3rd) dekad of March 2023, rainfall ranging between 30 and 180 mm is expected across the country. The expected rainfall amount will be above the range of Long-Term Mean (LTM) across the country (The range of LTM varies between 30 and 100 mm). The predicted rainfall will be associated with thunderstorms in many parts of the country. The main drivers of expected above normal rainfall is the active phase of Madden-Julian Oscillation (MJO) (eastward moving pulse of cloud and rainfall near the equator), which brings heavy dense cloud and rain over Rwanda and the region and lower the temperature to be cooler than average. Rainy days are expected to vary between four (4) days and eight (8) days evenly distributed across the dekad.

Higher amount of rainfall during this dekad is expected to range between 150 and 180 mm over eastern and northern parts of Rusizi and Rubavu Distcts, many parts of Nyamasheke District and western parts of Nyamagabe, Nyaruguru, Nyabihu and Musanze Districts. The remaining parts of Western and Northern Provinces, except southern parts of Gicumbi and Rulindo Districts, Nyaruguru and Nyamagabe and few parts of Huye and Muhanga Districts are expected to record rainfall ranging between 120 and 150 mm. The rainfall ranging between 30 and 60 mm is the lowest amount expected over eastern parts of Eastern Province and southern parts of Bugesera District. The rest parts of the country are expected to record rainfall ranging between 60 and 120 mm as per the map below.

2. **Forecast of wind speed:** Moderate to strong wind speed ranging between 4 and 10 m/s is expected across the country. Strong wind speed ranging between 8 and 10 m/s (amber colour) is expected in parts of Kirehe and south-western parts of Kayonza Districts. Slightly strong wind speed ranging between 6 and 8 m/s (yellow colour) is expected over Gisagara, Huye, Nyaruguru, Nyanza, Karongi and Ruhango Districts, remaining parts of Kayonza and Kirehe Districts and few parts of Ngororero, Kamonyi, Muhanga, Nyamagabe, Burera, Musanze and Gatsibo Districts. The rest of the country is expected to experience moderate wind speed ranging between 4 and 6 m/s.
3. **Temperature forecast:** During the third (3rd) dekad of March 2023, the average maximum temperature is expected to range between 18°C and 28°C. Parts of Kigali City, Amayaga region, Bugarama plain, Rwamagana, Ngoma and Nyagatare and over Bugesera District; are expected to experience higher maximum temperature ranging between 26°C and 28°C. The parts of Ngororero, Rutsiro, Rubavu, Nyabihu, Burera and Musanze Districts and western parts of Nyamagabe and Nyaruguru located in Nyungwe National Park are expected to receive lower temperatures ranging between 18°C and 20°C.
4. **Impacts:** Due to accumulated rainfall in the previous dekad, there is an increase of water content in the soil and rise of water levels to the rivers. Given the fact that rainfall is expected to continue in several parts of the country, impacts related to soil erosion, river flooding, catchments and landslides are expected. Farmers are advised to continue with the agriculture activities and control soil erosion. Poor visibility and slippery roads may impede widespread traffic/travel disruption.



For more detailed information on spatial distribution of rainfall, maximum temperature and wind speed, please refer to the following maps below.

