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MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT
RWANDA METEOROLOGICAL AGENCY



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Summary

In the first Dekad of January 2020, most parts of the country received rainfall. Eastern province, Northern and some parts of Southern province received much rainfall compared to the Long Term Mean; the rest of the country received less rainfall. Ngoma received 48.6mm, Gicumbi 44.8mm, Karongi 43.1mm, Kawangire 30.6 and Nyagatare 28.3mm. On the other hand less rainfall of 9.3mm was recorded at Rubavu station, 19.0mm at Ruhengeri station Musanze district and 19.7mm at Nyamagabe station. The temperature was in normal range. The maximum temperature ranged between 30.4. °C in Bugarama and 20.2°C in Gicumbi. Minimum temperature ranged between 11.2°C at Busogo and 19.1°C at Bugarama stations.

1.0 Rainfall Pattern

This section provides the observed rainfall amount, rainy-days and available soil moisture for the first dekad of January, 2020.

1.1 Rainfall Amount

The total rainfall amount for the first dekad of January , 2020 is presented in figure 1.

On a daily basis observation, moderate to light rains were recorded in most parts of Rwanda. The accumulation of rainfall within ten days ranged from 48.6mm to 9.3mm. The highest total rainfall of 48.6mm was recorded at Ngoma station, 44.8mm at Gicumbi, 43.1mm at Karongi, 30.6mm at Kawangire and 28.3mm at Nyagatare station, However, Rubavu recorded rainfall less than 10mm during this dekad.

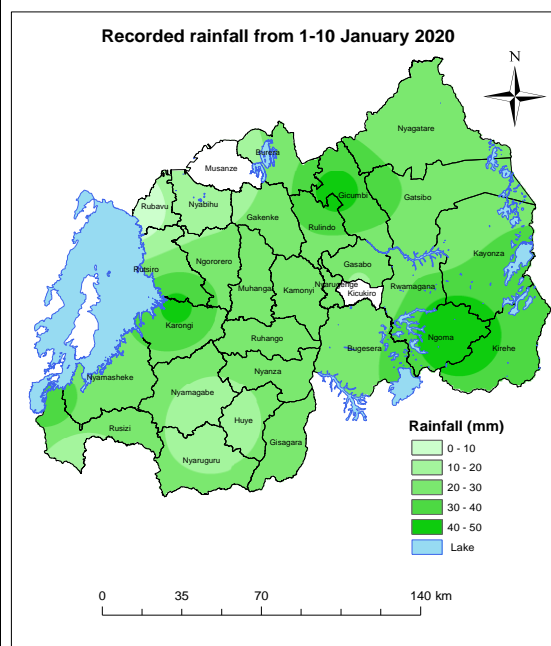


Figure 1: Rainfall amount during D1 January 2020

The Eastern, Northern and central-Western region were wet compared to other parts of the country.

1.2 Rainfall climatology in the 1st dekad

The rainfall climatology for the 1st dekad of January is shown in figure 2 below, which indicates that rainfall usually range from 50.7mm to 2.1mm across the country. Comparing the current dekad and the Long Term Mean(LTM) for the same period, it was observed that rainfall in the 1st dekad of January 2020 was above the LTM in many parts of Eastern province and below normal to the Long Term Mean(LTM) especially in Southern province and Northwestern .

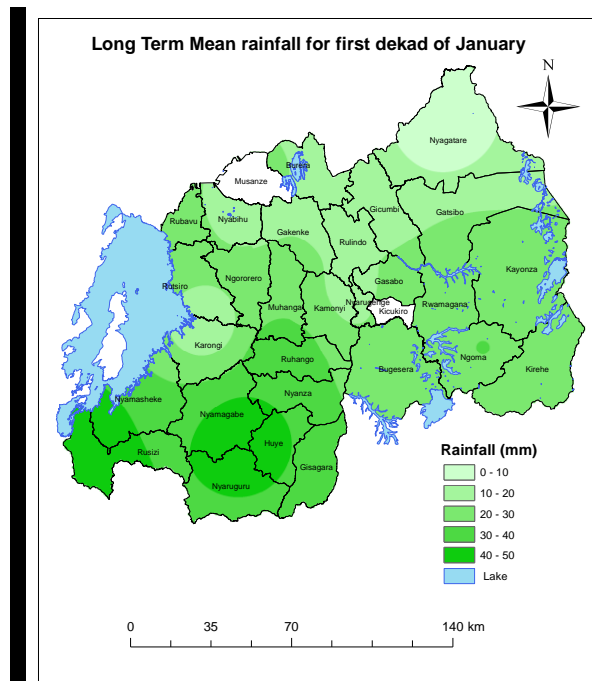


Figure 2: Rainfall distribution in long term

1.3. Number of Rain Days

Figure 3 shows the distribution of number of rain-days for the 1st dekad of January 2020. A total of 4 to 8 days were observed across the country. It can be seen that most parts of the country had days ranged between 5 and 6 days of rainfall. A minimum of 4 days were observed at Busogo. The maximum of 8 days were received at Nyamagabe.

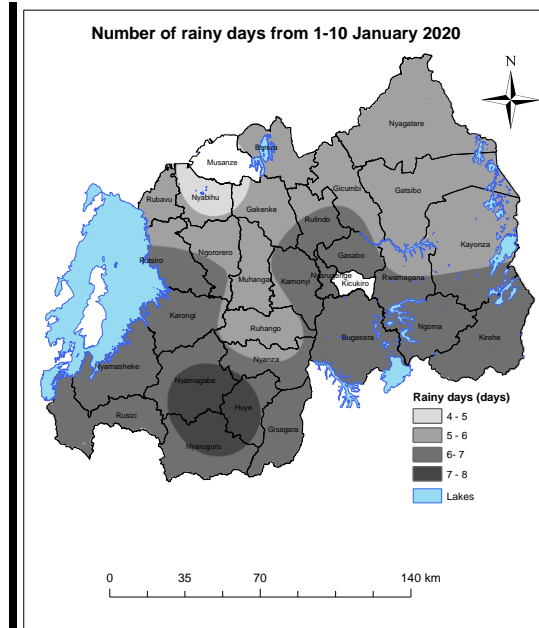


Figure 3: Rainy days

1.4 Soil moisture index

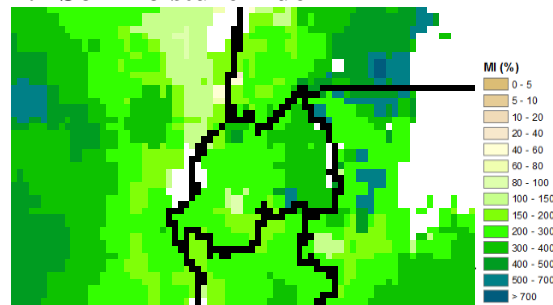


Figure 4: Soil Moisture Index

The distribution of available soil moisture across the country is shown in figure 4 above. Soil moisture in dekad 1 remained high in Eastern Province due to high amount of rainfall received over there; in the remaining parts of the country, the moisture reduced compared to the third dekad of December 2019. In the coming dekad, soil moisture also is likely to reduce in most parts of the country due to expected reduction of rain.

2.0 Temperature observation

The average of maximum and Minimum temperature across the country during the first dekad is highlighted below in this section.

2.1 Maximum Temperature

Figure 5 below shows the actual mean maximum temperature distribution across the country which indicates that the South-western province was warmer compared to Northern province and the rest of the country. However, in most parts of the country the maximum temperature ranged between 30.4°C Bugarama and 20.0°C Gicumbi.

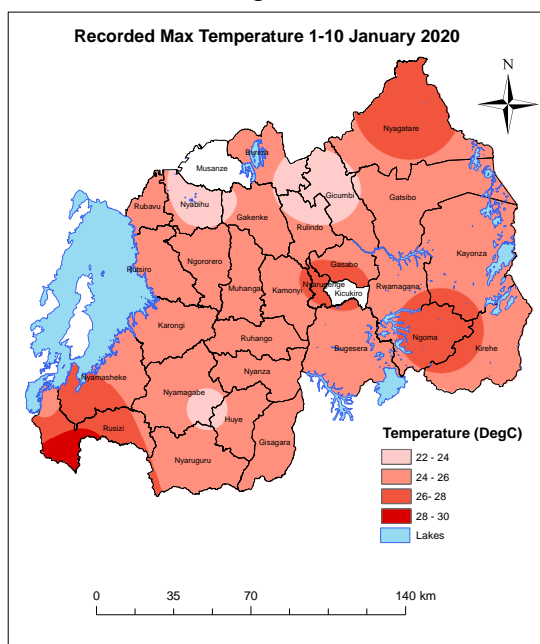


Figure 5: Mean Maximum Temperature

2.2 Minimum Temperature

The average minimum temperature across the country is shown in figure 6 below. The Northern region experienced temperature which were in the range of LTM. During this dekad1, the minimum temperature ranged between 11.2°C at Busogo and 19.1°C at Bugarama.

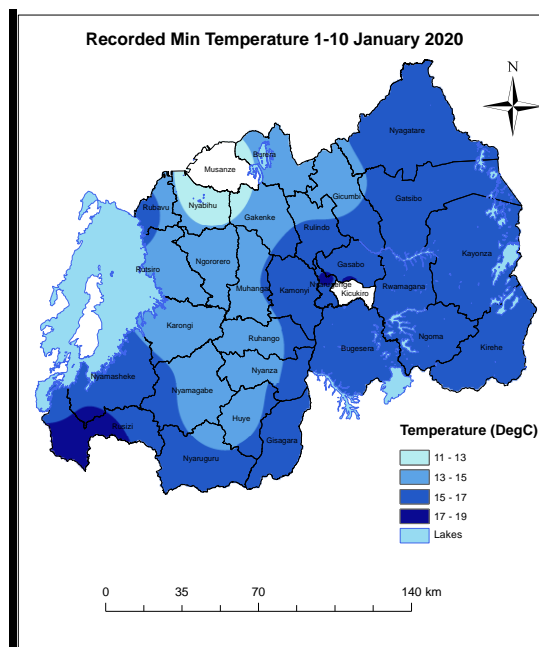


Figure 6: Mean Minimum Temperature

3.0 Weather Outlook and Agricultural for the 2nd dekad (11-20) January, 2020.

3.1 Weather Outlook

In Rwanda, we still have moisture from Congo and Indian Ocean, localized rains with thunderstorms are expected over most parts of the country with a slight reduction over central part of the country. Southeastern province, Southern Province and some parts of Western province are likely to receive high amount of rainfall than the rest of the country.

3.2 Agricultural Activity/Advisories

The wet conditions are expected to continue with a slight reduction in 2nd dekad of January 2020 from 11th to 20th, farmers are advised to work closely with Agriculture officers within their location and advised on post harvesting activities. For more meteorological information you can visit MeteoRwanda website:

www.meteorwanda.gov.rw

