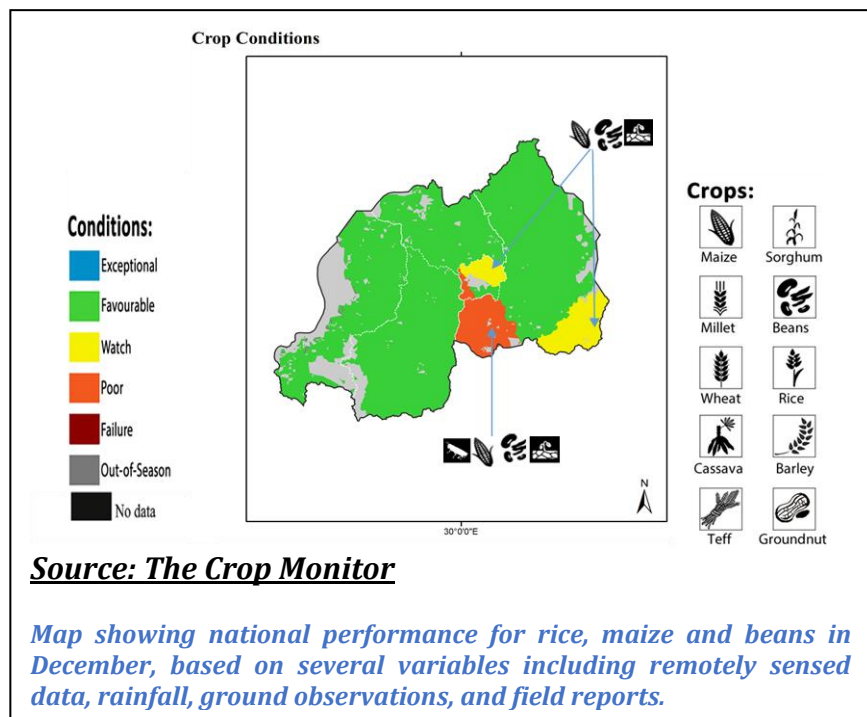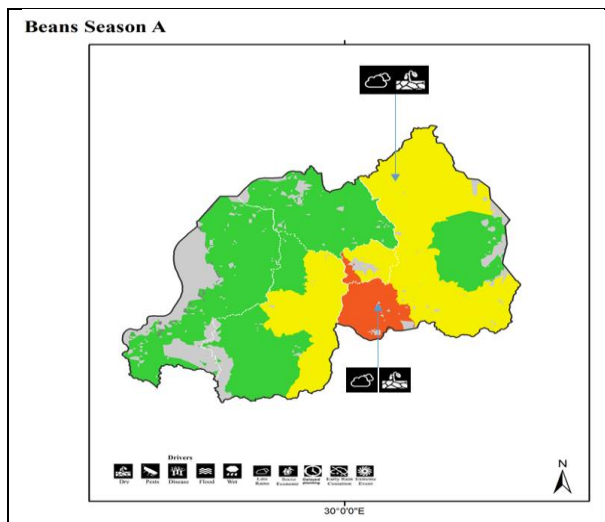# December Overview:

Generally, Beans and Maize crops are at maturity to harvesting stage while Rice is at vegetative stage across the country. During this month, weather conditions were favorable for farming activities. However, the available good climate did not have enough impact due to the late rains and persistence of dry weather conditions observed mostly in the Eastern Province and Kigali City during germination and vegetative phases of Beans and Maize.
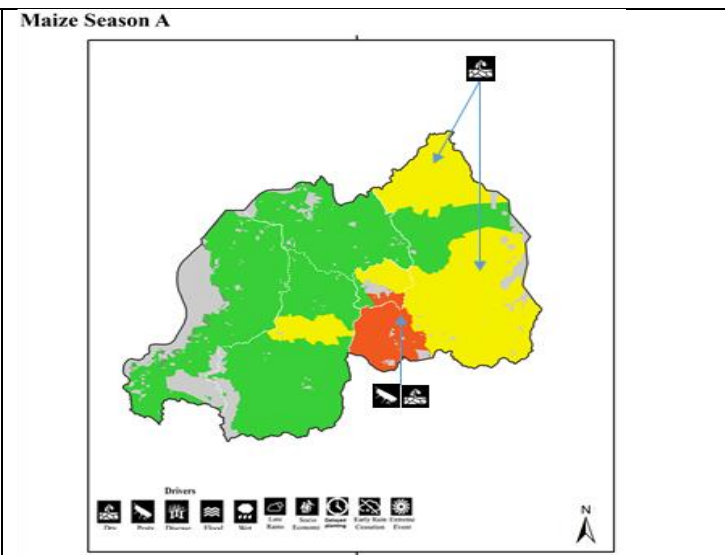

Source: The Crop Monitor

Map showing national performance for rice, maize and beans in December, based on several variables including remotely sensed data, rainfall, ground observations, and field reports.

Risks, Impacts and interventions

Dry weather conditions: For Bugesera, Rwamagana, Kayonza, Nyagatare, Kicukiro, Nyarugenge, Gasabo, Kirehe, Gatsibo, and Ngoma districts, the Maize and Beans crops were affected by late rainfall and dry weather condition experienced from germination to vegetative stages. Farmers are advised to applied irrigation and other agricultural practices to improve water availability in the soil.

Pest management: Bugesera and Nyamagabe experienced slightly infestation of FAW but were controlled and managed.
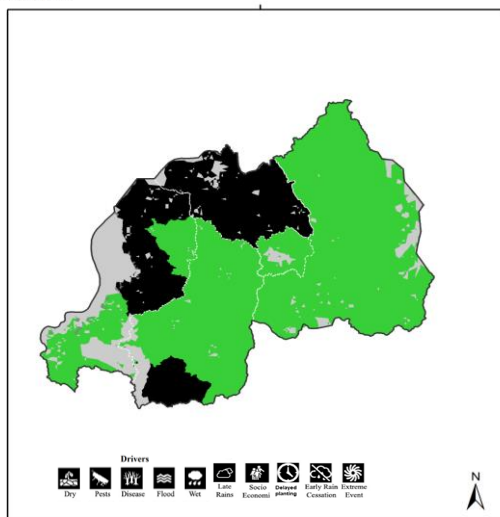

Source: The Crop Monitor

In Amayaga region, Kigali city and Eastern Province, beans are under watch while in Bugesera beans are under poor conditions as result of by late rains and dry weather conditions that experienced during germination and vegetative stages. In the rest of the country including Kayonza district, beans are under favorable conditions and the production will be above normal.

Source: The Crop Monitor

Late rains that caused dry conditions experienced during germination and vegetative phases, affected Maize in Ruhango district, Kigali City and in the Eastern Province except in Gatsibo District. Maize were affected by Fall Armyworm (FAW) in Bugesera. Despite the experienced challenges a good production of Maize is expected.
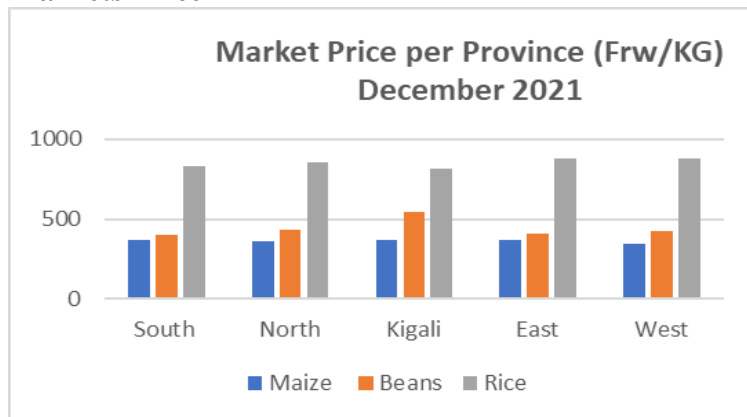
Rice Season A

Source: The Crop Monitor

In most parts of the country where rice is cultivated, a good production is expected due to favorable weather conditions experienced and water availability for irrigation in rice farmland.
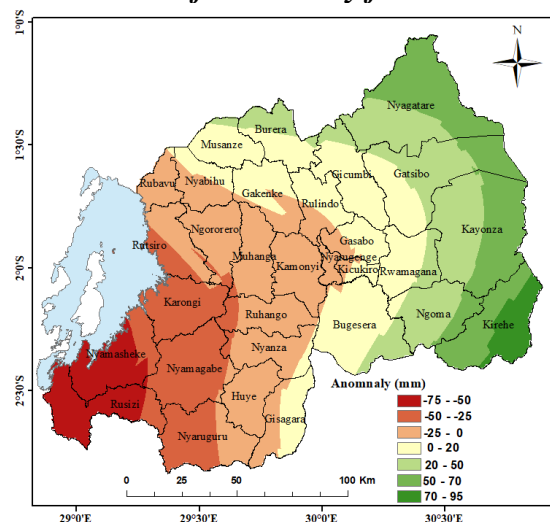
Markets Price

Source: E-Soko

The price of maize, rice and beans at potential markets in the country show a high price of rice, followed by beans at the second place. High price is observed in Kigali city for beans, while the price of rice was high in Eastern and Western Provinces compared to other Provinces. Maize price is very lower compared to rice and Beans.
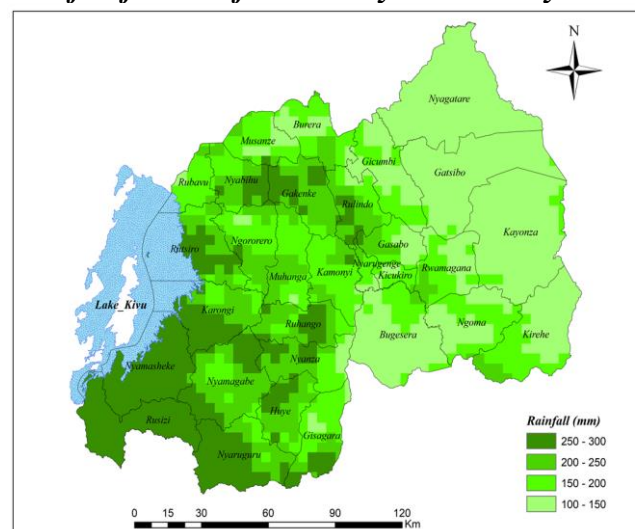
CLIMATE OUTLOOK

Observed rainfall anomaly for December 2021

Source: Meteo Rwanda

The Western and Southern Provinces, experienced rainfall deficit. However, the rest of the country experienced normal to surplus rainfall.

Rainfall forecast for January to February 2022

Source: Meteo Rwanda

Generally, the forecast for January and February 2022 shows that there are chances of having normal to slightly above normal rainfall countrywide.

Advisory: As we are in harvesting period for Maize and Beans and due to the fact that the forecast shows wet weather conditions in January to February 2022. Therefore, farmers are advised to be carefully during postharvest handling activities which may be affected by expected wet weather conditions.

Terms and Definitions

Crop Condition Classes

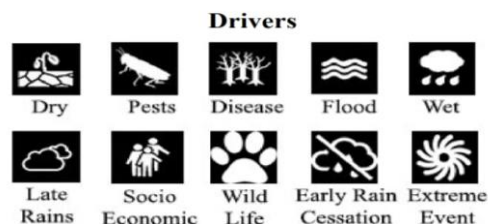|		
■	**Exceptional**	Conditions are much better than average* at time of reporting. This label is used only during the grain filling through harvest stages.
■	**Favorable**	Conditions range from slightly below to slightly above average at reporting time.
■	**Watch**	Conditions are not far from average but there is a potential risk to final yields. There is still time and possibility for the crop to recover to average conditions if the ground situation improves. This label is only used during the planting-early vegetative and the vegetative-reproductive stages.
■	**Poor**	Crop conditions are well below average. Crop yields are likely to be 10-25% below average. This is used when crops are stunted and are not likely to recover, and impact on yields is likely.
■	**Failure**	Crop conditions are extremely poor. Crop yields are likely to be 25% or more below average.

Driver Definitions:

Drivers: Dry, Pests, Disease, Flood, Wet, Late Rains, Socio Economic, Wild Life, Early Rain Cessation, Extreme Event

These represent the key climatic drivers that are having an impact on crop condition status. They result in production impacts and can act as either positive or negative drivers of crop conditions.

Wet: Higher than average wetness, that results in destruction ie due to water logging and leaching of nutrients

Extreme Events: This is a catch-all for all other climate risks (i.e. frost, hailstorms, mudslides etc.)

Late rains: Late start of the season. Flood: Area is flooded

Early Rains Cessation: Rains end earlier than expected in the season

Pests: Destructive insects, birds or animals.

Diseases: Destructive plant diseases.

Dry: Drier than average

Socio-economic: Social or economic factors that impact crop conditions (i.e. policy changes, agricultural subsidies, government intervention, etc.)

Conflict: Armed conflict or civil unrest that is preventing the planting or harvesting of the fields by the farmers.

Wildlife Damage: Crop destruction by wildlife

Partners