

REPUBLIC OF RWANDA



MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT

B P: 898, Kigali

Tel: +250 252575813

E-mail: bulletin@meteorwanda.gov.rw

Website: www.meteorwanda.gov.rw



SEASONAL FORECAST FOR MARCH TO MAY (MAM) 2019, N°51

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 2019 season indicates increased chance for normal to above normal rainfall over most part of Western Northern province, Kigali city and southern province (Ruhango, Kamonyi, Muhanga and Nyamagabe Districts).

Normal rainfall is expected in the Eastern province except Kirehe, Gisagara, southern part of Ngoma, Bugesera and Rusizi that will receive depressed rainfall.

In March to May 2019, the above normal rainfall is expected to exceed 510 millimeters, normal rainfall is in the range of 390 and 510mm whereas near normal to below rainfall will be less than 390 millimeters.. The Key factors expected to influence the regional climate during the MAM 2019 season include positive SST anomalies currently present in the tropical Pacific Ocean are expected to remain positive but weaken slightly through the forecast period. The Indian Ocean Dipole index is expected to remain neutral through the March to May 2019 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:

- ❖ Enhanced rainfall is expected over Rubavu, Rutsiro, Karongi, Nyabihu, Ngororero, Nyamasheke bordering Karongi and Nyamagabe, most part of Nyamagabe and Ruhango, Kamonyi, Muhanga,

Musanze, Burera, Gakenke, Rulindo, Gicumbi, Nyarugenge, Kicukiro, Gasabo, Rwamagana and most part of Gatsibo and Nyagatare bordering Gicumbi district and north part of Bugesera.

- ❖ Near normal rainfall is expected over most part of Gatsibo and Nyagatare, Kayonza, Ngoma, Bugesera, part of Ruhango, Nyanza, Huye, Nyaruguru, Rusizi and Nyamasheke districts.
- ❖ Slightly depressed rainfall is expected in Kirehe, Gisagara, southern part of Ngoma, Bugesera, and Rusizi.

Expected onset and cessation dates of MAM 2019

Region	Onset dates	Cessation dates
Most parts of Western province	25th February-07th March 2019	First week of June 2019
Southern parts of Western province, District of Huye, Gisagara and Nyaruguru	15th -25th February 2019	Between the last week of May and the first week of June 2019
Northern Province	25th February-07th March 2019	First week of June 2019
Kigali City	25th February-07th March 2019	Last week of May 2019
Most part of Southern province	25th February-07th March 2019	Last week of May 2019
Eastern province	1st -10th March 2019	Last week of May 2019
South Eastern province (Kirehe, some parts of Ngoma and Bugesera)	1st -10th March 2019	2 nd week of May 2019



THE EXPECTED IMPACTS IN VARIOUS SECTORS

The normal to above normal rainfall expected during the March to May 2019 rainfall season may cause floods and other related disasters such as landslides, water born diseases, destruction of houses and others. All these impacts may lead to loss of life and properties.

The normal to below normal rainfall expected during the March to May 2019 rainfall season may cause unfavorable conditions for crop yield and water scarcity.

Therefore relevant authorities with activities that depend on rainfall and other vulnerable institutions like infrastructures should put in place both preventive and mitigative strategies to minimize loss of life and property.

AMOUNT OF RAINFALL PREDICTED DURING MAM 2019

PROVINCES	DISTRICT	RAINFALL PREDICTED	AVERAGE
UMUJYI WA KIGALI	NYARUGENGE	440-470	400-470
	KICUKIRO	460-470	
	GASABO	470-490	
INTARA Y'UBURASIRAZUBA	RWAMAGANA	390-410	390-460
	KAYONZA	350-390	
	GATSIBO	400-420	
	NGOMA	360-390	
	KIREHE	290-310	
	BUGESERA	290-330	
	NYAGATARE	340-370	
INTARA Y'IBURENGERAZUBA	RUBAVU	470-510	440-510
	NYABIHU	480-520	
	NGORORERO	490-500	
	KARONGI	480-510	
	RUTSIRO	510-530	
	NYAMASHEKE	460-490	
	RUSIZI	440-480	
INTARA Y'AMAJYARUGURU	RULINDO	470-500	450-530
	GAKENKE	430-470	
	GICUMBI	460-490	
	MUSANZE	500-520	
	BURERA	450-470	
INTARA Y'AMAJYEPFO	KAMONYI	420-440	410-430
	MUHANGA	410-430	
	RUHANGO	390-420	
	NYANZA	370-400	
	HUYE	390-420	
	GISAGARA	380-410	
	NYARUGURU	400-420	
	NYAMAGABE	410-430	

The favorable rainfall performance during the season may result into:

- Floods and landslides over some parts of the country.
- Reduced agricultural activities in some areas due to landslides, floods and water logging in some area.
- Damage to Infrastructure in some parts of the country.
- Increased for diseases due to water borne diseases Weather/Climate.

N.B. This outlook is supplemented by daily updates of different timescales (24-hours, 3- days 5- days and 10-days forecasts and regular monthly updates) and advisories issued by Rwanda Meteorology Agency.

Done on 18th February, 2019.

Aimable GAHIGI
Director General

