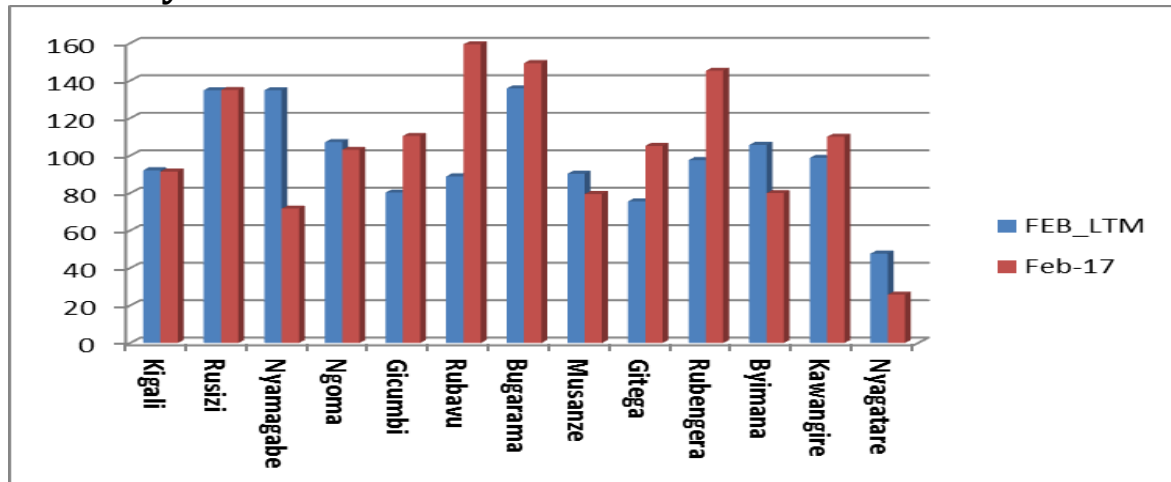




Comparison of Rainfall performance during February 2017 and Long term mean of the country



• REVIEW OF THE WEATHER DURING FEBRUARY 2017

Most parts of the country were generally wet during February 2017. Several parts of the country recorded substantial amounts of rainfall compared to the February Long-Term Means (LTMs).

• PREVAILING SYNOPTIC CONDITIONS DURING FEBRUARY 2017

- During mid-February 2017 the tropical Pacific SST anomaly was close to 0.0C, in the ENSO-neutral range. Although most of the atmospheric variables across the tropical Pacific are now approximately ENSO-neutral, one or two still show a weak La Niña pattern. In particular, the pattern of cloudiness and rainfall in the central and western tropical Pacific remains indicative of a weak La Niña condition. The collection of ENSO prediction models indicates SSTs are likely to remain neutral through May 2017, with a chance for El Niño development later in the year.
- The St. Helena high-pressure system remained moderately high. The Mascarene high-pressure system high-pressure was weaker for most of the month. The Meridional (North-south) arm of the Inter-Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) was mainly over the south eastern parts of Africa, while the zonal arm was mainly situated in South west of Africa



- **WEATHER OUTLOOK FOR MARCH 2017**

The forecast indicates that most parts of the country are likely to experience near-average rainfall during the Month of March 2017.

We expect to receive near-average (Normal) rainfall over the Eastern region, some parts of Southern, Northern and central region. Western and some parts of Southern region are expected to experience Near-average (Normal) to above normal rainfall during the month of March 2017.

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

Done on 2nd March, 2017.