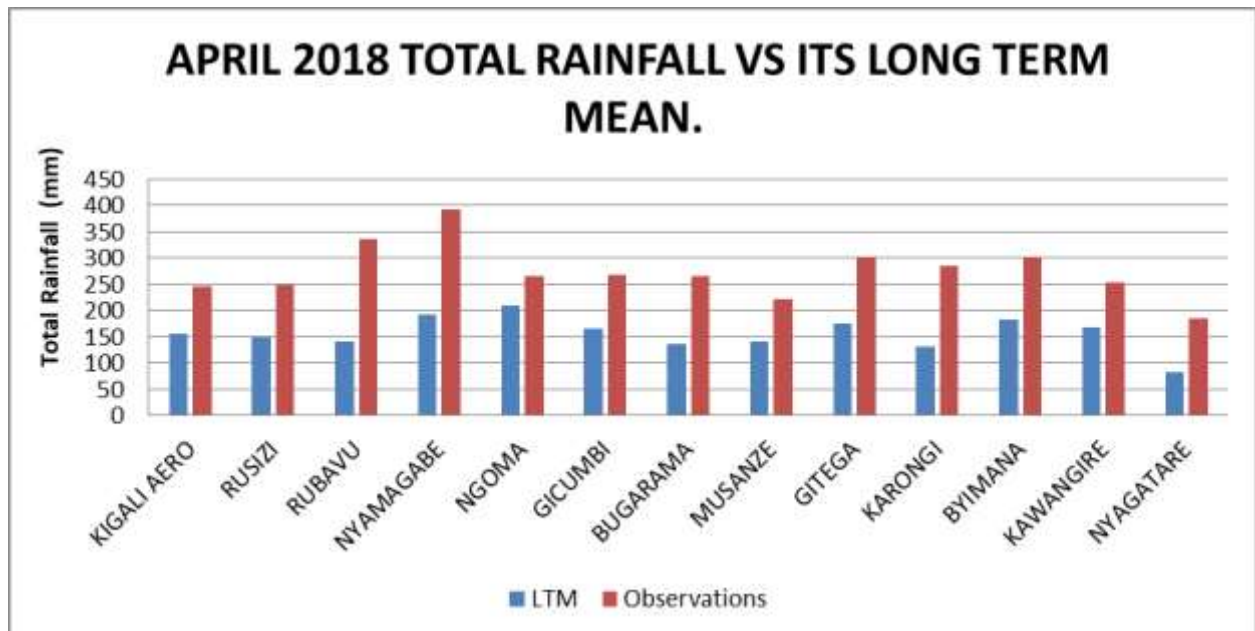


## Comparison of Rainfall performance during April 2018 with its Long term mean over the country



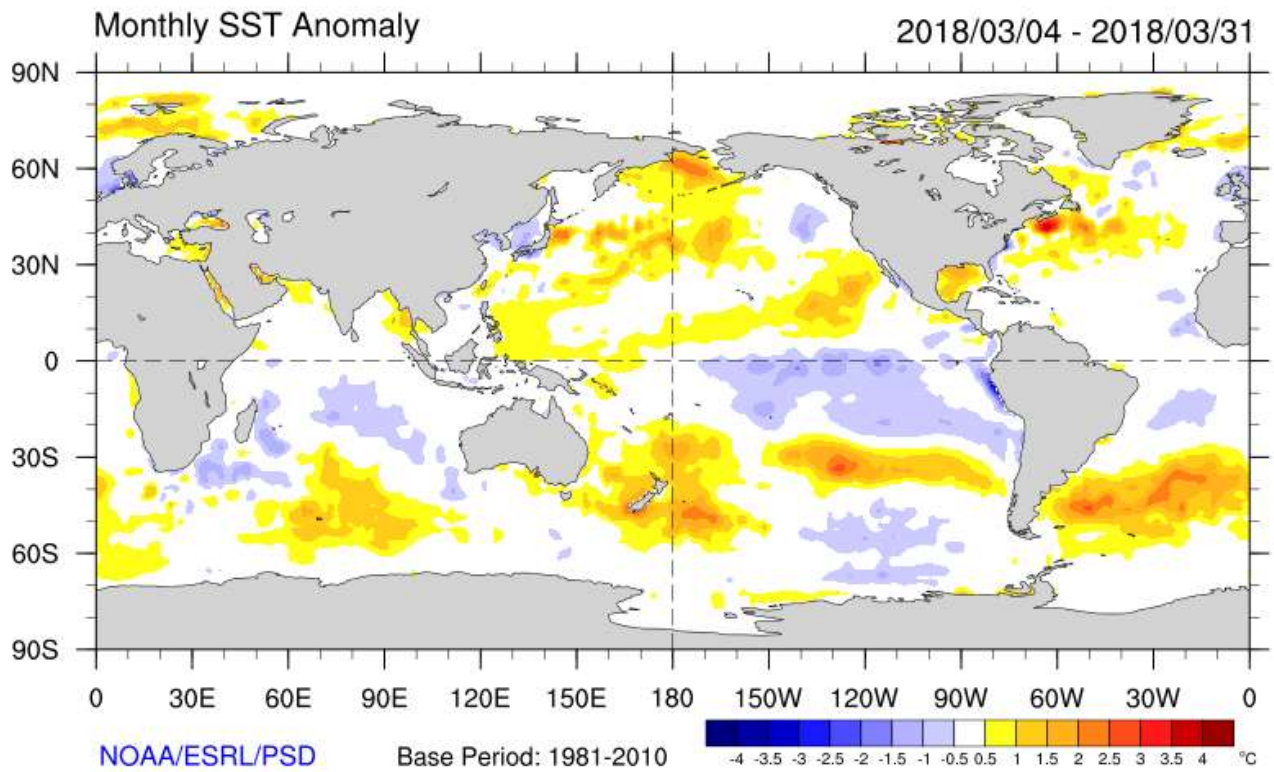
### • REVIEW OF THE WEATHER DURING APRIL 2018

All parts of the country were saturated during the month of April 2018 and 100% of the country recorded normal to above average rainfall compared to April cumulative Long-Term Means (LTMs). This indicates excess of soil moisture over the country which affected slope areas causing land slide and flash floods in low lying areas.

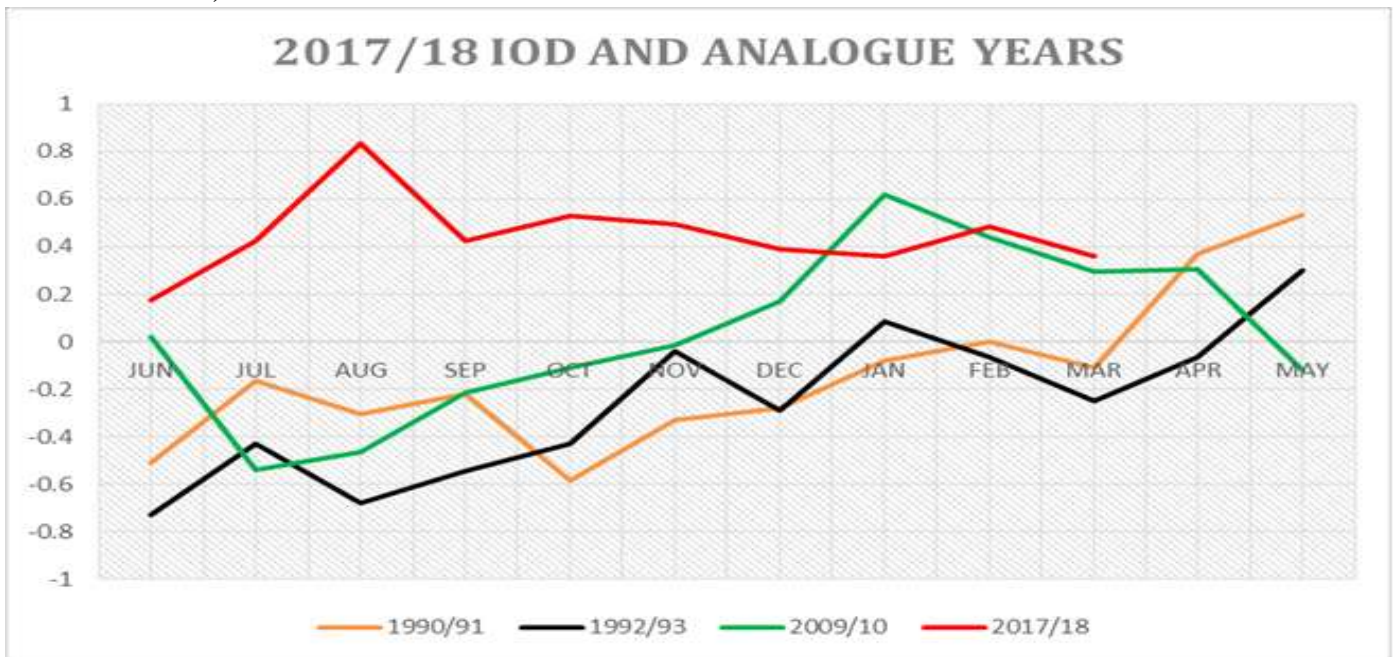
### PREVAILING SYNOPTIC CONDITIONS DURING MARCH 2018

The Sea Surface Temperature (SST) anomaly during the month for the period of 4th to 30th March 2018 showed that central equatorial Pacific Ocean stretching towards the eastern equatorial Pacific region (Niño 4 to Niño 1&2 areas), was dominated by cooler than average SST anomaly, with the area stretching from central towards western equatorial Pacific Ocean showing warmer than average SST this situation presents a negative Oceanic Nino Index (ONI) and a La Niña phase models show an increased likelihood of transition from a negative NIÑO phase to a neutral phase through to the mid second quarter of the year 2018. Near average to warmer than average SST conditions dominated western sides of equatorial Indian

Ocean with average SST conditions over the eastern equatorial Indian Ocean. This pattern has presented a positive phase of the Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD). Models show transition of the IOD from a positive phase to a neutral phase through to the end of second quarter of the year 2018.



Sea Surface Temperature anomalies for the period 04 March 2018 to 30 March 2018 (Source: NOAA/ESRL/PSD)



The Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) during 2017/18 and analogue years.



- **WEATHER OUTLOOK FOR MAY 2018**

The forecast indicates that most parts of the country are likely to experience normal to above rains during the month of May 2018.

The month of May 2018, is expected to be within the range of LTM, average with some localized places recording above normal especially in northern sector of the country.

- North eastern, central, northern and north western we expect above normal rains during May
- South eastern, southern and south western we expect normal during May

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

Done on 2<sup>nd</sup> May, 2018