



World Food Programme

BULLETIN:  
August 2017  
ISSUE 22

# Rwanda | Food Security Update

## HIGHLIGHTS

According to the 47<sup>th</sup> Greater Horn of Africa Climate Outlook Forum (GHACOF 47), rainfall in Rwanda over the period of October-December 2017 will range between near to below normal.

Key staple prices were higher than their respective five-year averages in August by around 30 percent; which translates into weakened purchasing power of the most vulnerable.

June-August period which is usually dry and involves season C, mostly in marshland cultivation, was drier than normal, with a few cases of stormy rainfall which adversely affected up to 288 houses and 178 hectares of crops, according to MIDIMAR.

## OVERVIEW

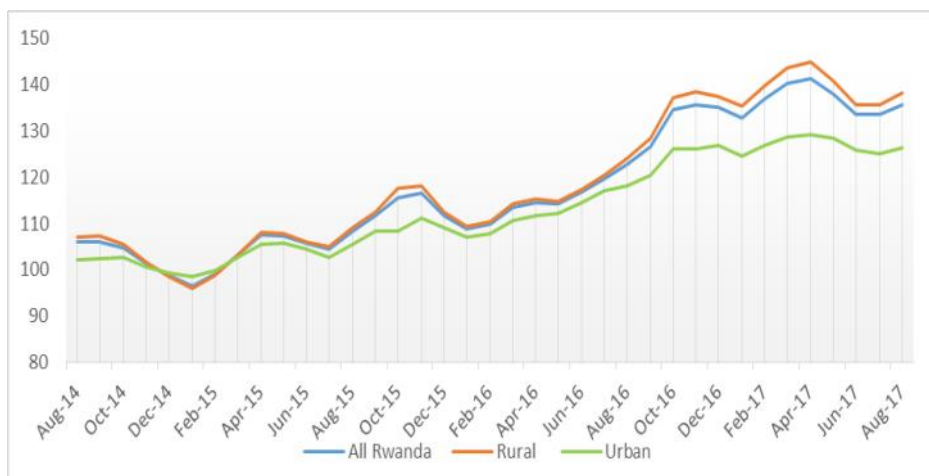
**October to December rainfall is expected to range from near to below normal:** The upcoming season 2018 A is expected to experience near to below normal rainfall as forecasted by the GHACOF 47 (Figure 3). Season A usually involves mainly Maize among annual crops and according to the report, farmers are advised to plan climate related activities accordingly. It is also important to note the need to continuously monitor the rainfall performance on a regular basis, as changes can happen anytime, for a better understanding of the seasonal performance.

**Food prices were higher than average:** Food and non-alcoholic beverages consumer price index in

August was 25 percent higher than two years ago, while 10 and 2 percent higher than last year and previous month, respectively (Figure 1). The signal of inflation reflected in consumer prices increases the food basket cost; which would be lower and increase purchasing power in case of enough market supply. This continues to exert significant pressure on households' resources and ability to meet basic needs, mostly because income levels do not proportionally increase with prices.

Additionally, according to data from the National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda (NISR), main staple prices in August were higher than five-year-average, with an increase of about 30 percent (Figure 2). Prices were also 15 percent higher than same time last year, but stable compared to previous month of July.

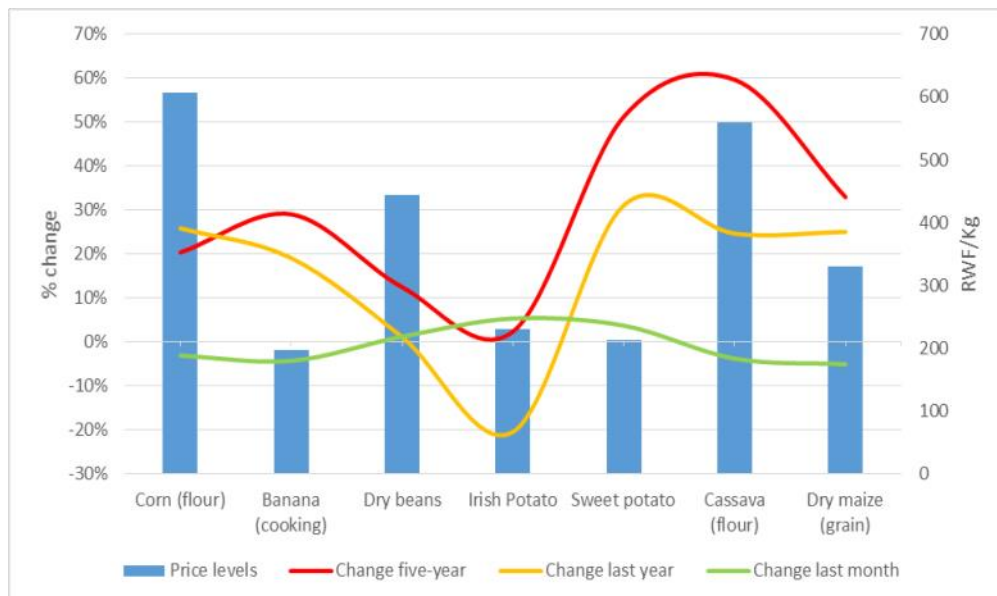
**Figure 1:** Evolution of food and non-alcoholic beverages consumer price index



Source: Based on NISR  
CPI data



**Figure 2:** August 2017 prices (RWF/kg) and anomalies



Source: Calculations based on NISR price data

Moreover, according to MIDIMAR's disaster effects situation August report from the Disaster Communication System, 298 houses and 203 hectares of crops were damaged by rainstorm in localized areas (Table 1).

**Table 1:** Disaster damages per district

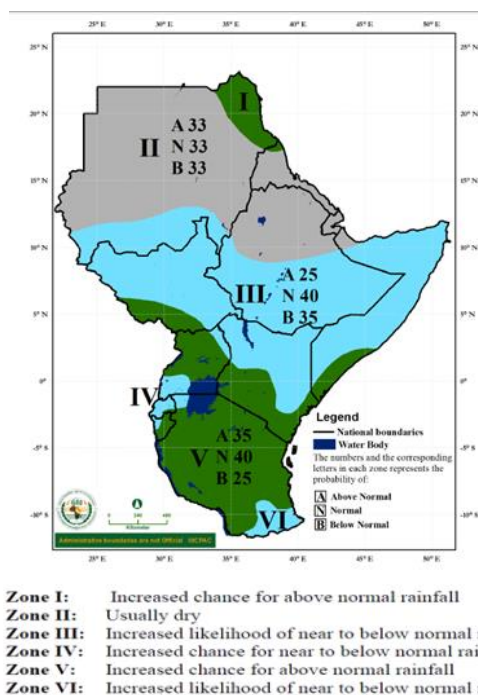
District	Alerts	Deaths	Injured	Houses	Crops Ha.	Lost Cattle	Classrooms	Churches	Admin building	Transm lines
Bugesera	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Burera	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gasabo	1	0	0	58	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gatsibo	3	0	1	22	3	0	1	1	0	0
Gicumbi	2	0	0	8	15	0	0	0	0	0
Gikanga	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Huye	2	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	1	0
Kamonyi	3	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	0
Kayanza	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kicukiro	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kirehe	2	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
Muhanga	2	0	0	12	0	0	0	1	0	0
Ngoma	6	0	0	32	154	2	0	0	0	0
Ngororero	1	0	0	58	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nyagatare	5	0	0	10	10	0	0	0	0	0
Nyamagabe	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	0
Nyamashenge	4	0	0	11	0	0	1	1	0	2
Nyanza	2	0	3	9	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nyaruguru	2	0	0	27	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rubavu	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ruhango	3	1	1	4	12	0	0	0	0	0
Rulinda	2	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rusizi	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rutsiro	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rwamagana	3	0	0	24	22.5	0	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>298</b>	<b>203</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>

Source: Disaster Communication System/MIDIMAR Assessment by 31/8/2017

Prepared by: NIVORUREMA Didier, Operation Room Officer, MIDIMAR

Verified by: HABINSHUTI Philippe, Director DRR, MIDIMAR

**Figure 3:** GHACOF 47 October-December 2017 rainfall forecast



Source: [www.icpac.net](http://www.icpac.net)

Source: [www.midimar.gov.rw](http://www.midimar.gov.rw)

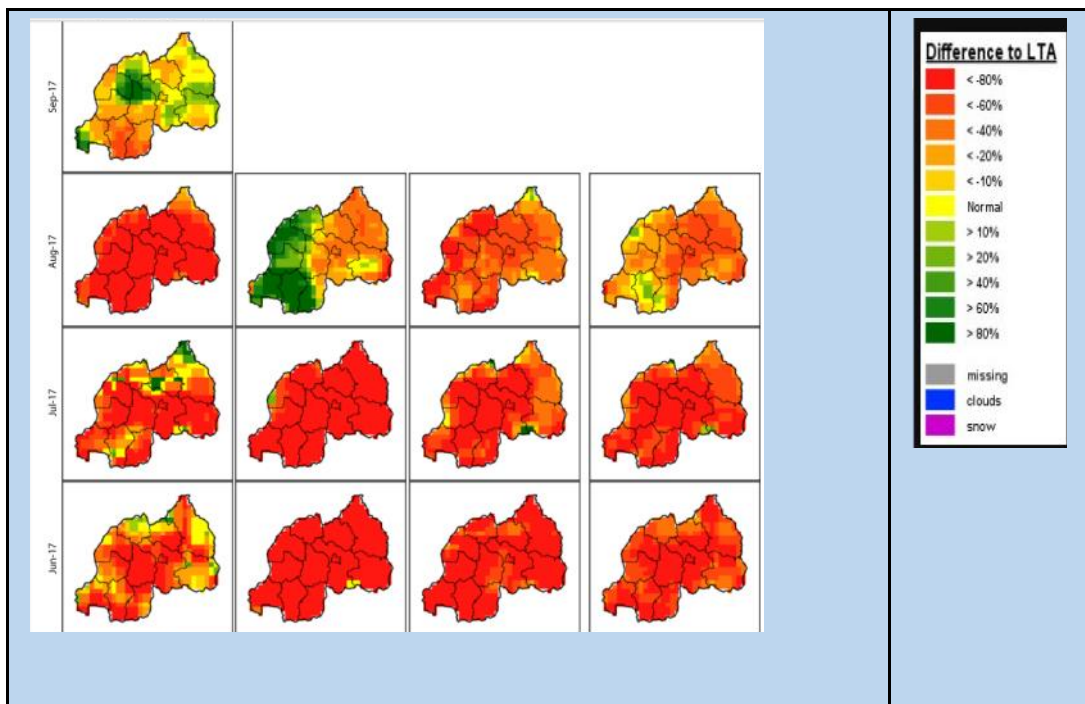


**Figure 3:** Rainfall anomalies.

These depict the deviation of current rainfall from the average. In other words, current rainfall compared to the Long Term Average (LTA) back, might result in positive (above average) or negative (below average) percentages.

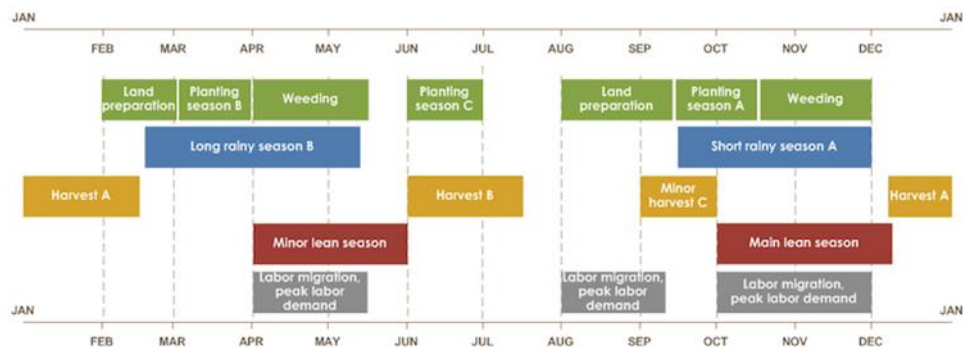
As indicated below, June-August rainfall anomaly levels ranged from 20 to 80 percent below normal.

**1<sup>st</sup> 10 days      2<sup>nd</sup> 10 days      3<sup>rd</sup> 10 days      Monthly**



Source: [www.fao.org](http://www.fao.org)

**Figure 4:** Seasonal calendar



Source: [www.fews.net](http://www.fews.net)