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- 1. October-November-December Rainfall
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## 1. October-November-December (OND) 2023 Rainfall

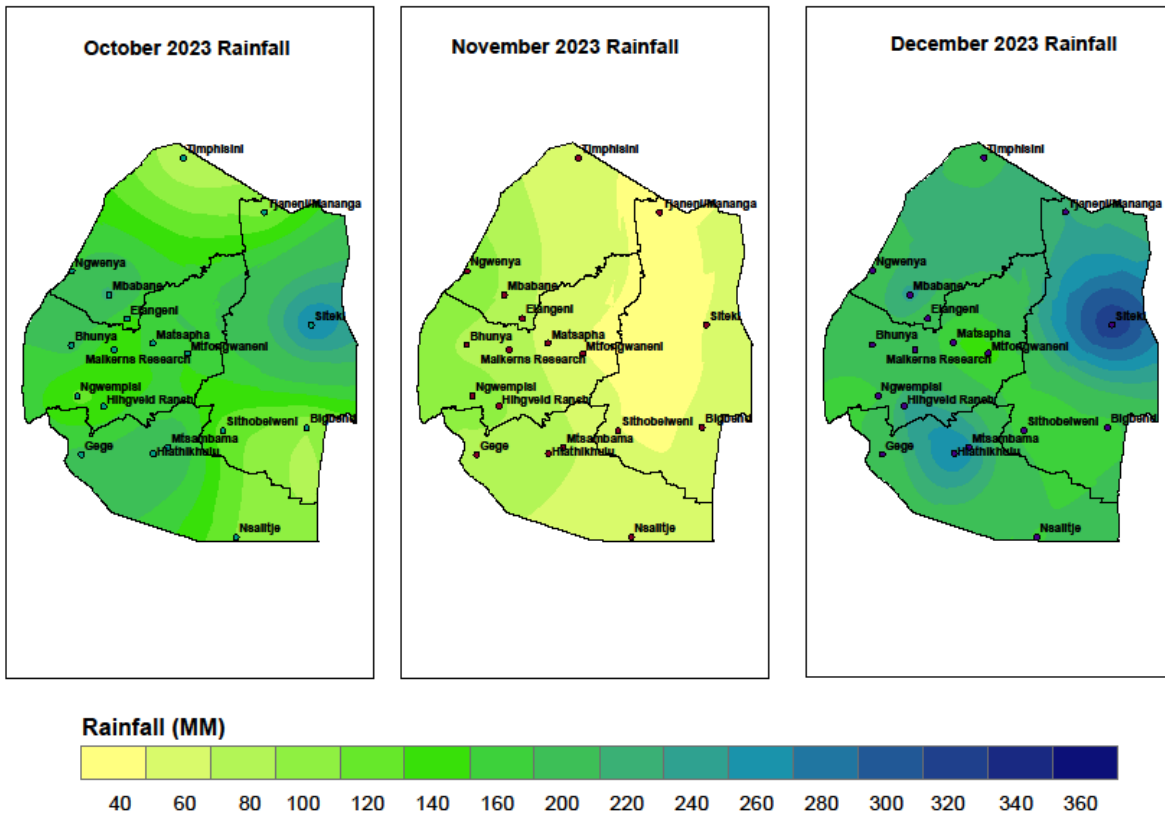


Fig 1. Monthly total rainfall for October-November-December 2023

The start of the rainy seasons in October had relatively good rains. Receiving the least rainfall was the lower Lowveld with Big Bend reporting 81 mm. Areas in the Highveld and the Plateau received the highest amount of rainfall in excess of 210 mm monthly totals. The country average rainfall for October was 146mm and was above the 1990-2020 mean (Normal (N)) of 103mm. October was relatively drier with almost all the reporting stations recording below average rainfall.

There was an upsurge in the rainfall amounts in the month of December where above average rainfall was received in all the reporting stations. Rainfall ranged from 85mm in Sithobelweni in the Lowveld to more than 250 mm in Mbabane in the Highveld. The cumulative behavior of the rainfall in the first half of the rainfall season showed that the country received Above Normal rainfall. The October to December rainfall total was 401mm, while the 1990-2020 long term average is 357mm.

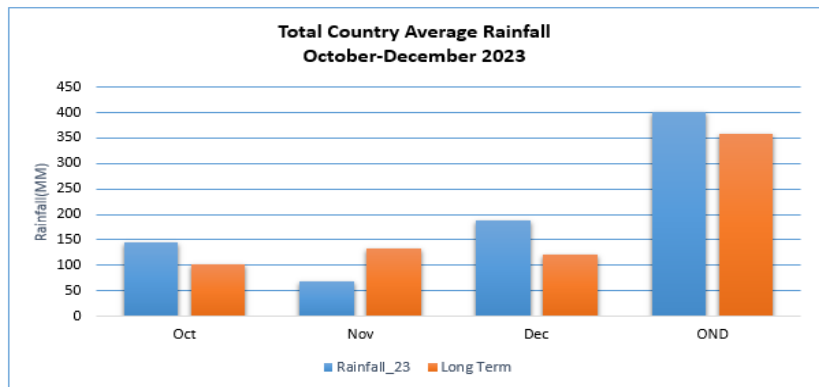


Fig 2. Country monthly total rainfall for October, November, December 2023

2. January-February-March (JFM)2024 Rainfall

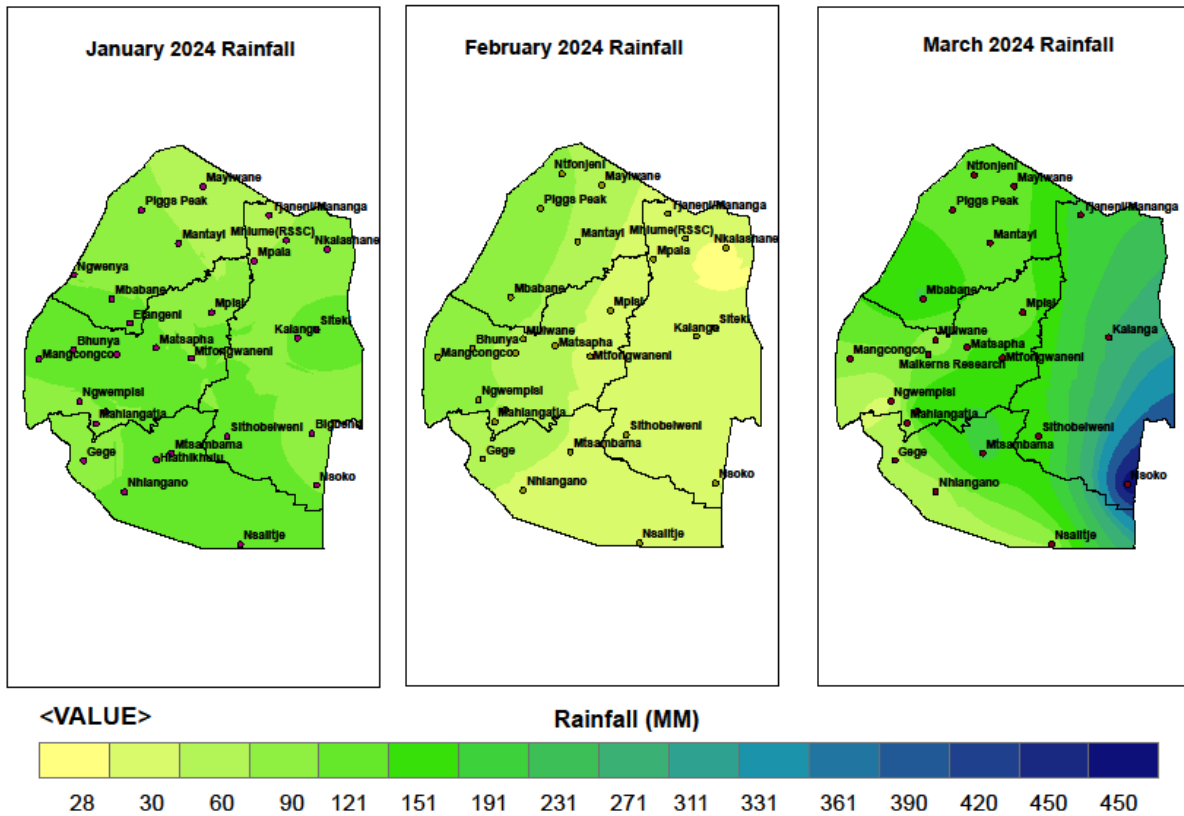


Fig 3. Monthly total rainfall for January-February-March 2024

The second half of the rainfall was marked by periodic dry spells which resulted in lower than average rainfall received in the 2 of the three months under review. January, which is usually the peak of the rainfall season was relatively drier than average. Rainfall received ranged from 83mm in Mhlume to over 250 mm in Siteki in the Plateau. February was reported below average rainfall which ranged from 21mm in Mhlume to 260 mm in Mbabane. February was the driest of the three

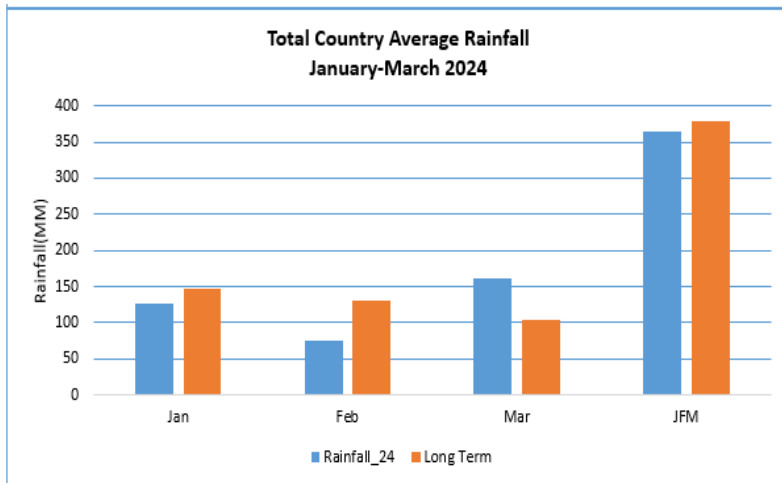


Fig 4. Country monthly total rainfall for January, February, March 2024

Months under review as there was an increase in the rainfall totals in the month of March. Above average rainfall was reported by most stations in March, with the lower Lowveld, represented by Nsoko reporting exceedingly higher than normal rainfall in excess of 400 mm. Climate trends are showing a similar trend where the southern Lowveld is getting more rainfall particular in the second half of the rainfall season.

**Summary in Rainfall Categories**

OND: Above Normal Rainfall (112% N)

JFM: Normal Rainfall (95% N)

October-March: Normal Rainfall (104%N)