

2013-2014 Winter Season Assessment in Moldova

In **December**, in the Republic of Moldova the weather was mainly warmer than usual and with insufficient precipitation. The monthly average air temperature was $-0,6..+0,5^{\circ}\text{C}$, which on most of the territory was $0,4-1,7^{\circ}\text{C}$ above normal. The maximum air temperature increased to $+14^{\circ}\text{C}$, the minimum decreased to -10°C . The amount of precipitation for the month did not exceed 1-13 mm (5-35% of norm).

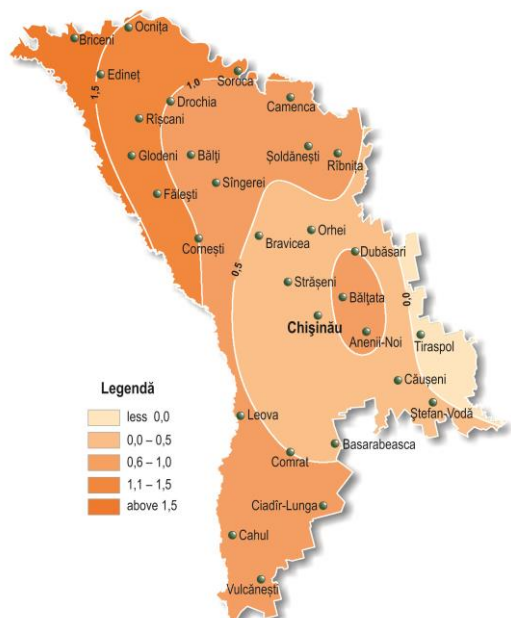


Fig.1. Mean Temperature Anomalies in December, $^{\circ}\text{C}$

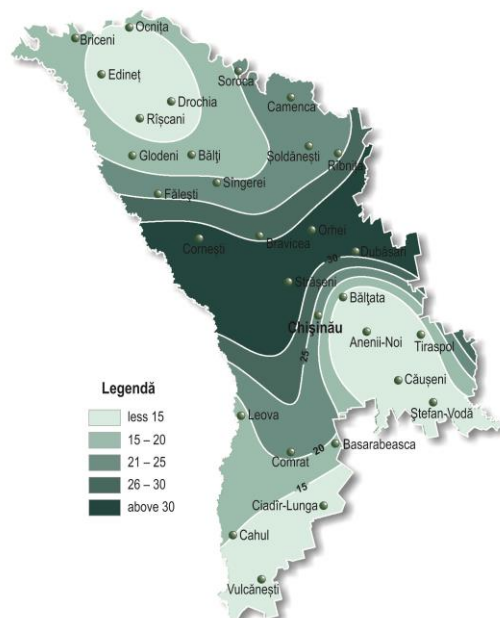


Fig.2. Precipitation Anomalies in December, %

In **January**, in the republic the weather was slightly uneven regarding the temperature and with heavy rainfall. The monthly average air temperature was $0,5-1,3^{\circ}\text{C}$ above normal and was $-0,7..-3,2^{\circ}\text{C}$. The maximum air temperature increased to $+13^{\circ}\text{C}$, the minimum decreased to -24°C . The amount of precipitation for the month was mostly 35-65 mm (140-230% of norm).

Abnormally warm weather was recorded during the first two decades of January, when the average temperature was $5-6^{\circ}\text{C}$ higher compared to normal values and recorded on average once in 15 years. However, during the third decade of January in the country was reported anomalous cold weather. The average decadal air temperature was $6,0-7,5^{\circ}\text{C}$ lower than the norm, recorded on average once in 5-8 years

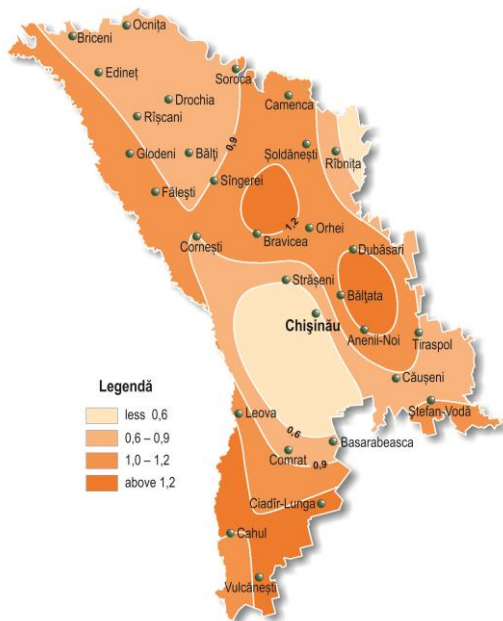


Fig.3. Mean Temperature Anomalies in January, °C

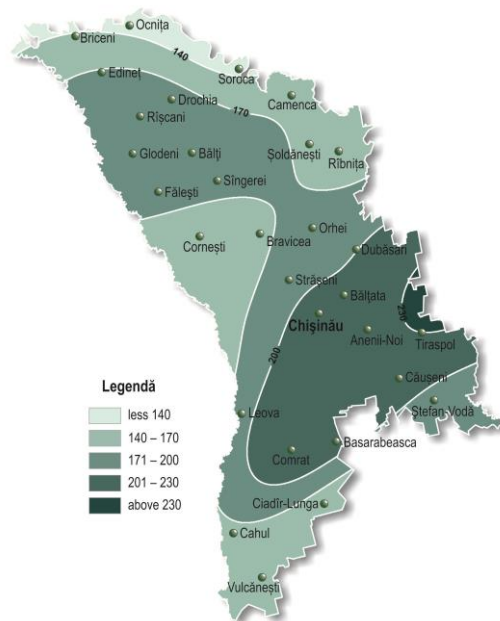


Fig.4. Precipitation Anomalies in January, %

In **February** the weather was warmer than usual and with insufficient precipitation. The monthly average air temperature was $-0,2..-1,6^{\circ}\text{C}$, which is mainly with $0,2-1,0^{\circ}\text{C}$ above norm. The maximum air temperature increased to $+13^{\circ}\text{C}$, the minimum decreased to -27°C . The amount of precipitation for the month did not exceed 5-18 mm (15-55% of norm).

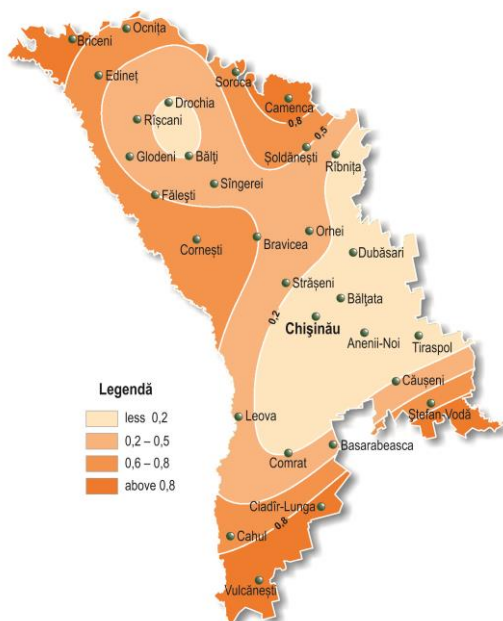


Fig.4. Mean Temperature Anomalies in February, °C

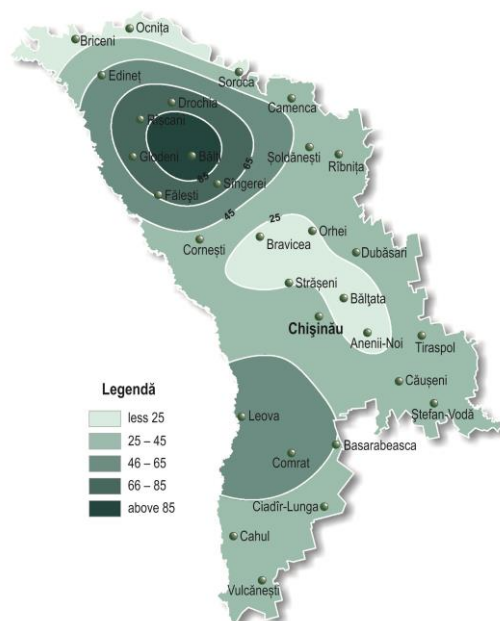


Fig.5. Precipitation Anomalies in February, %

The **winter season 2013-2014** in Moldova was generally warmer than usual and with deficient rainfall on a large part of the territory. The average air temperature for the season was $-0,2..-1,6^{\circ}\text{C}$ being higher than the norm with $0,2-1,2^{\circ}\text{C}$, recorded once in 2-3 years.

The absolute minimum of air temperature throughout the season was -27°C (February), which in winter in the central districts of the country is reported on average every 7-10 years. The absolute maximum has reached $+14^{\circ}\text{C}$ (December).

The amount of precipitation throughout the season on 65% of the country was 47-70 mm (55-75% of the norm). On the rest of the territory their amount has reached 75-95 mm (80-115% of norm).

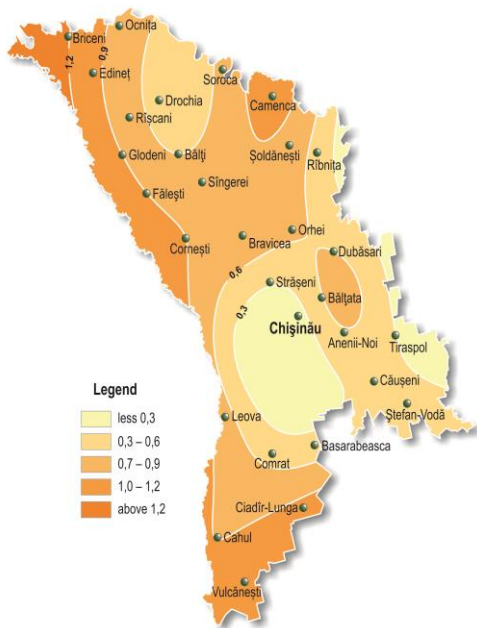


Fig.4. Mean Temperature Anomalies in Winter, °C

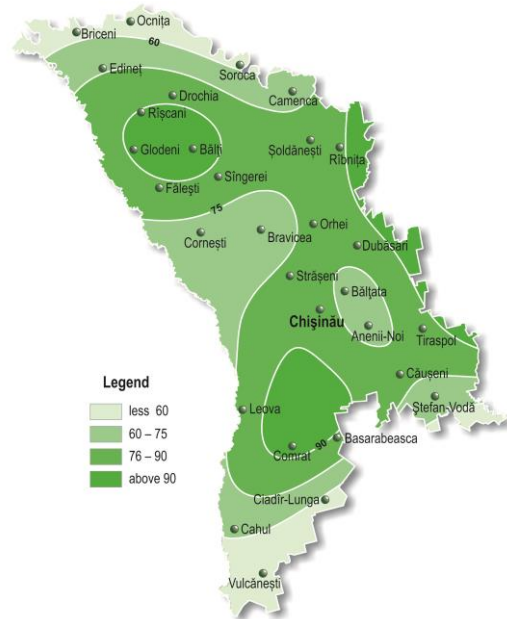


Fig.5. Precipitation Anomalies in Winter, %

The snow cover was established throughout the country on January 21-22 and persisted until the first half of February. Its maximum thickness on meteorological platforms has reached some days 29 cm.

In the period 19 January to 6 February throughout the country were recorded ice deposits with a diameter up to 1-18 mm. Isolated its maximal diameter has reached 24-27 mm, which is considered a meteorological hazards and is possible on the territory on average every 2-3 years. The length of the meteorological hazards was properly leveled to 188 hours and 132 hours, which is recorded on average once in 10-15 years.

The strong glazed frost, the heavy snowfalls and isolated the intensification of wind caused damage to the property of the national economy, disconnected communities from electricity sources and buried the roads in snow.

Also, during the winter season was signaled an meteorological hazards in the form of strong wind with speed up to 27 m/s.

2013-2014 Winter Season Assessment of Moldova Compare to SEECOF-10 Experts Forecast

According to the SEECOF-10 outlook for the winter of 2013-2014 in Moldova, climatology is assigned for all three categories (fig.6).

The winter season 2013-2014 in Moldova was generally warmer than usual (fig.4).

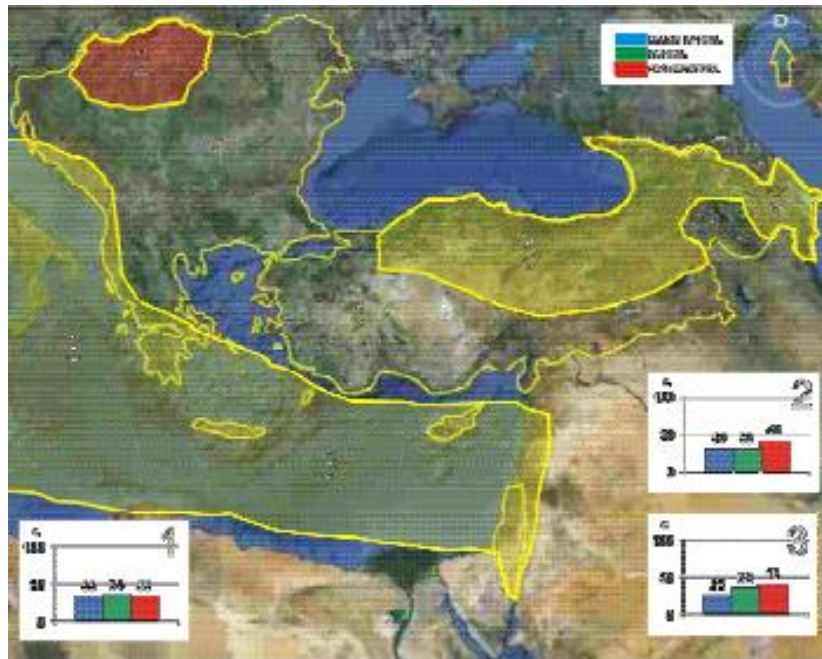


Fig.6. Graphical presentation of the 2013/14 winter temperature outlook

The SEECOF-10 climate outlook for the winter 2013/2014 in Moldova didn't indicate any clear signal for precipitation (fig.7).

The amount of precipitation throughout the season on 65% of the country was less than normal, on the rest - near the norm (fig.5).

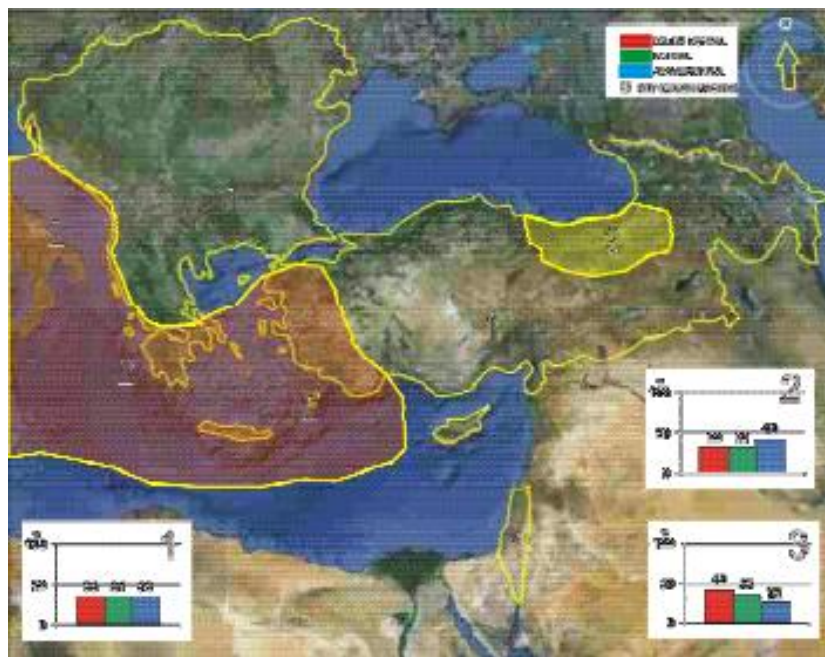


Fig.7. Graphical presentation of the 2013/14 winter temperature outlook