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CLIMATE OUTLOOK FOR 2014 SUMMER SEASON FOR THE SEE&CAUCASUS REGION

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The NHMS of Serbia regularly prepares climate outlooks for our country on the basis of the ECMWF seasonal forecast model outputs, as well as on the basis of the SEEVCCC regional climate model outputs. In this paper we will present the climate outlook for the summer season 2014 for the SEE&Caucasus region, based on all available forecasting material including: outputs from 12 GPCs, WMO Leading Centre for LRF, IRI and SEEVCCC.

In the almost whole SEECOF region there is likelihood for above-average temperature. There is less probability for exceeding the average temperature in most of the Pannonia plain, western, central and eastern parts of the Balkan Peninsula, Jordan and central parts of the Caucasus region (zone 2 in Figure 1), while there is higher probability for above-average conditions in other parts of the SEECOF region (zone 1 in Figure 1). In some parts of continental Turkey (zone 3 in Figure 1) the uncertainty is large: probabilities for below-, near- or above- average conditions are approximately equal.

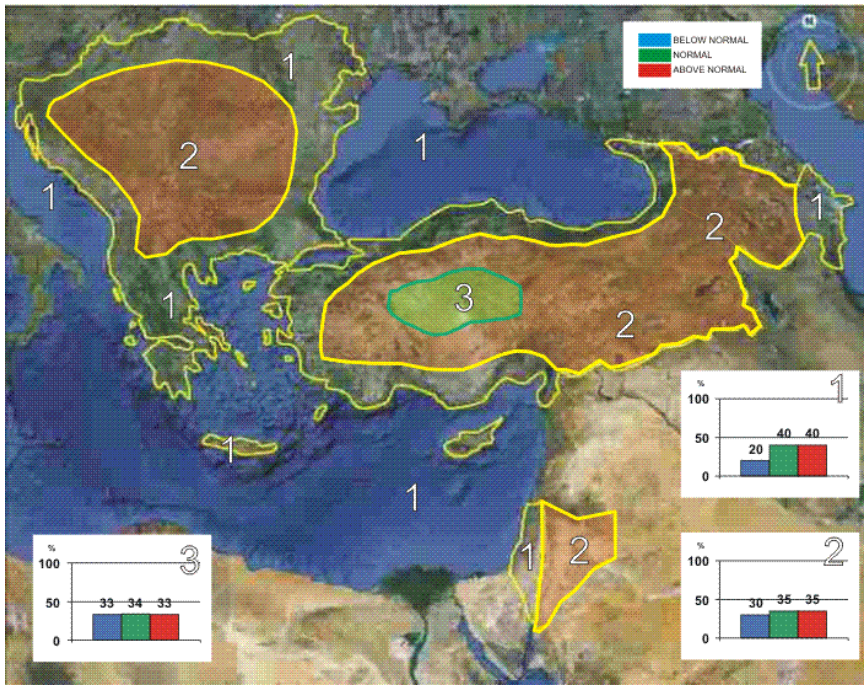

Figure 1. Graphical presentation of the 2014 summer temperature outlook

Uncertainties in regional predictions are larger for precipitation than for temperature. Along the coasts of the Caspian Sea summer season precipitation totals are likely to be near- or below- average (zone 2 in Figure 2). In the Pannonia plain, western, central and eastern part of the Balkan Peninsula, as well as in the continental part of the Caucasus region (zone 3 in Figure 2) the uncertainty is large: probabilities for below-, near- or above- average conditions are approximately equal. On the other hand, in the rest of the SEECOF region summer season totals are likely to be near- or above-average (zone 1 in Figure 2). It must be emphasized that it might be possible that some parts, especially mountainous ones, might locally have near- or above- normal summer season totals, due to episodes of the enhanced convection with high intensity rainfall. Along the southern coasts of the eastern Mediterranean, and in Israel and Jordan, it is not possible to forecast summer season precipitation due to dry season masking.

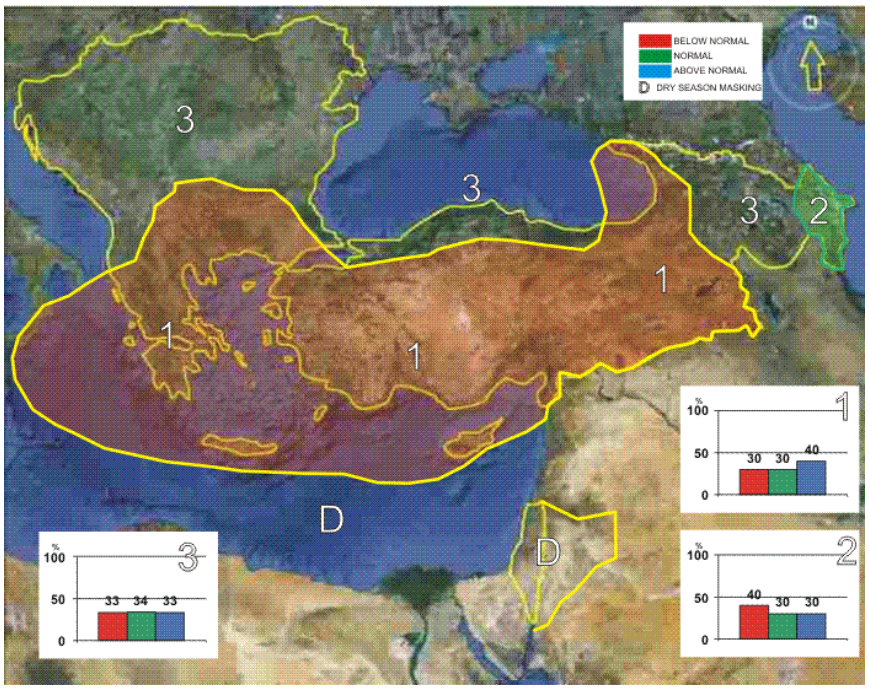

Figure 2. Graphical presentation of the 2014 summer precipitation outlook

Reference:

The maps show the probabilistic consensus forecast for tercile categories of anomalies of seasonal-mean temperature and precipitation, relative to the period 1981-2010.