

HYDROMETEOROLOGICAL SERVICE OF ARMENIA

Scientific-Research Centre on Hydrometeorology and Ecology

Climatological analysis for winter 2016/2017



YEREV

VERIFICATION OF THE SEECOF-16, CLIMATE OUTLOOK FOR THE WINTER 2016-2017 IN THE TERRITORY OF ARMENIA

Temperature

SEECOF -16, Outlook has predicted 60% probability of temperature to be above the norm for 2016-2017 winter.

Observed temperatures in December were quite low. The temperature was by 3-5 degrees below the norm.

The temperature in January was by 1-3 degrees below the norms across the country, and by 5-6 degrees below the norms in Ararat valley.

In February the temperature was by 0.5 -3 degrees below the norms countrywide meanwhile in Ararat valley it was by 6-8 degrees below the norms.

Verifying the prediction of SEECOF and the observed temperatures we may resume that the outlook forecast was not correct for Armenia.

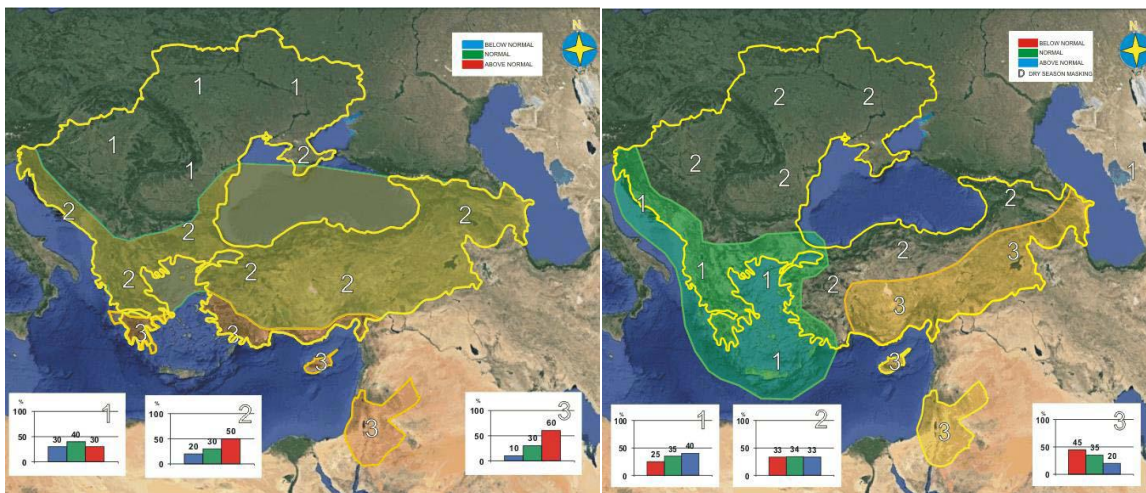


Figure 1. 2016/17 winter temperature outlook

Figure 2. 2016/17 winter precipitation outlook

Precipitations

According to the climate outlook the precipitation was supposed to be above the norms in the Southern parts of Armenia, and no significant signal for the Northern parts.

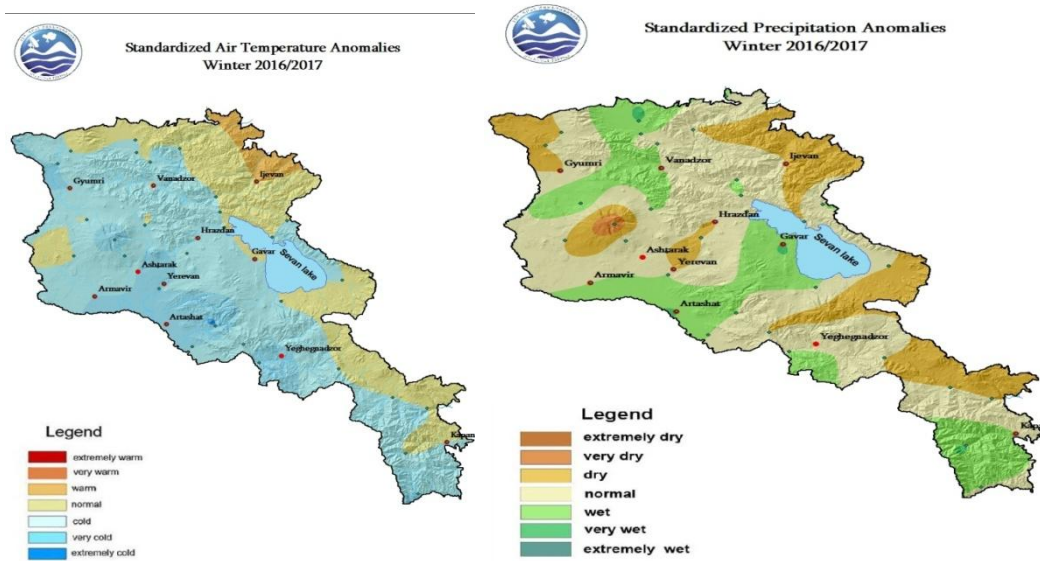
In general the precipitation amount was below the norms (countrywide).

Only in December the precipitation amount was above the norms.

January data shows that the precipitation amount was lower than usual in Ararat valley.

February data confirms low precipitation.

Verifying the prediction of SEECOF and the observed precipitations we may resume that the outlook forecast was not proper for Armenia.



Verification of the SEECOF-16 climate outlook for the 2016-17 winter season:

Country	Seasonal temperature	Seasonal temperature	Seasonal precipitation	Seasonal precipitation	High Impact Events
	Observed	climate outlook	Observed	climate outlook	
Armenia (1)	Below normal (Ararat valley extrimly low)	60 % prob. above normal	Below Normal	No predictive signal	<p>Winter 2016-17 was characterized by long lasting foggy weather: in Shirak Region, Ararat valley, low visibility less than 50 m was observed.</p> <p>Heavy snowfall (20mm/9h) at December 14 In Tavush region, at 28 of January in Gekharkuniq region 23mm/12 hour.</p> <p>Strong wind 25-29m/s at 3 of December in Lori and Gekharkuniq regions</p>

Users' perceptions of the SEECOF outlook

Hydromet Service has submitted a different seasonal forecast according to which the temperatures were predicted to be near the norms.

Seasonal forecast was shared between governmental authorities, public services, private companies, public (via mass media)

Negative feedback was obtained from the users related to the reliability of forecasts.