

Dear SEECOF participants,

As we are aware, Regional Climate Outlook Forums (RCOFs) are considered to be a very important process to facilitate the development of consensus-based climate prediction and information for the season having critical socio-economic significance. Such information has been applied in several parts of the world to reduce climate-related risks and support sustainable development.

Sixteenth South East European Climate Outlook Forums (SEECOFs) have been held so far. It is now time to prepare ourselves for the next SEECOF. As you know, it will be a face-to-face meeting. The pre-COF training session will be held in Zagreb, Croatia, on 20 November 2017, preceding the MedCOF-9, PRESANORD-12 and SEECOF-18 meetings. After the pre-COF training session, SEECOF-18 will be held at the same place, lasting 2 days, from 22 to 23 November 2017. You will be officially informed about it very soon. Bearing in mind that there is little time left before the beginning of the meeting, I am kindly asking you to actively participate in the preparation phase of SEECOF-18 (Pre-COF).

SEECOF 18 comprises 2 steps, which all require your participation:

1. On-line Pre-COF

With the aim of working more efficiently, for the preparation phase of SEECOF 18 we will use Forum SEEVCCC as well as we did on SEECOF 16 on line meeting. The purpose of using Forum as means of communication is collection and assembling of NMHSs verification of Consensus Statement forecast for the summer 2017 by your Focal Points. Final version of the verification would be adopted on the very meeting.

(For Pre-COF you could follow Step 1 of SEECOF-17, providing the JJA RA VI monitoring bulletins from the RCC Offenbach and your respective national monitoring results including a brief assessment of the correctness of the SEECOF-17 summer outlook - for whole season and your comments from the point of the user perception).

2. COF

If seasonal forecast is made in your NMHS, please prepare 5-10 minutes presentation of climate outlook for Winter season - December 2017-January, February 2018. Please state the method used for preparing weather outlook for winter season (statistical method, CPT, GDPC numerical products, downscaling of GDPC numerical products).

Note: Please bring along your laptops. Conference room will have wireless connection.

According to SEECOF 18 work schedule, please send, until 16 October at the latest, your respective national monitoring results including a brief assessment of the correctness of the SEECOF-17 summer outlook and your comments from the point of the user perception. Forum rules are also the same for SEECOF-17 on-line meeting. In other words, document should be sent as attachment in English, in MS WORD 2000-2003 format (doc file). Times New Roman or Ariel font should be used in paper format A4 which shall be placed as attachment on SEECOF-18 Forum with the topic

*on-line Pre-COF (or it could be sent as e-mail to the address:
branko.bijelic@hidmet.gov.rs).*

Thank you in advance for your kind cooperation.

Kind regards,
Diana Mijuskovic and Branko Bijelic

Republic Hydrometeorological Service of Serbia
Kneza Visaslava 66
11000 Belgrade, Serbia
Tel: +381 11 30 50 864
Fax: +381 11 30 50 847
e-mail: rhms.intdep@hidmet.gov.rs
e-mail: branko.bijelic@hidmet.gov.rs
www.hidmet.gov.rs