

Verification of the seasonal winter outlook over The Republika Srpska, Bosnia and Herzegovina

1. SEECOF-28, MedCOF-19 Climate outlook for the 2022_23 winter season:

The outlook for the DJF 2023 winter temperatures in the Republika Srpska and Bosnia & Herzegovina was likely to be near or above-normal thermal conditions, with 40% probability for both, relative to the 1981–2010 base period.

Observed data showed exceptionally warm winter season over the whole territory, with above-normal temperatures, based on the tercile method (Figure 1 above). The outlook for temperature was partially correct.

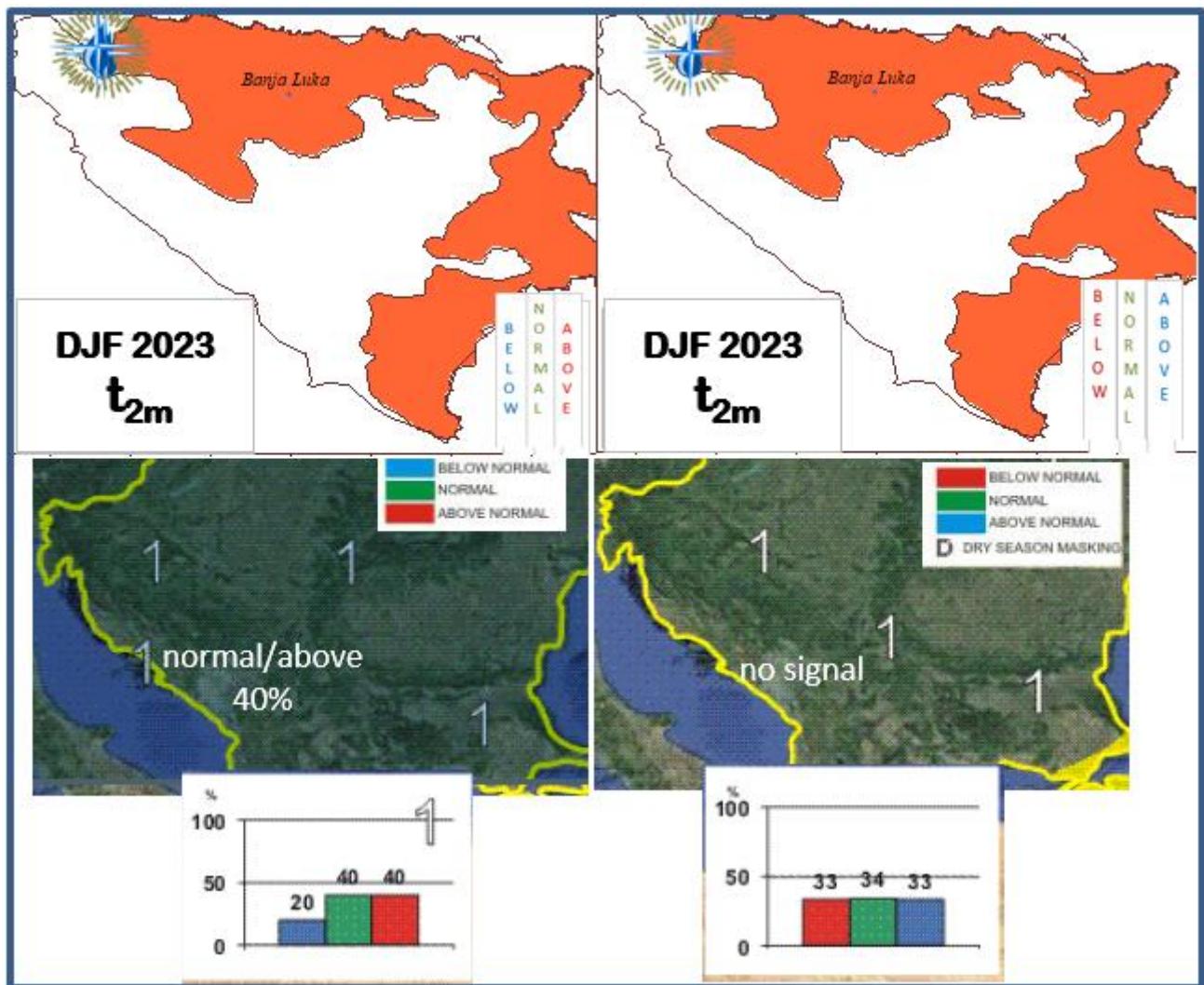


Figure 1: DJF2023 Temp 2m (left) and PRC (right); outlook (below), observed values (above)

Outlook for precipitation pattern indicated usual weather conditions, according to climate types (no signal). Based on the climatological monitoring of precipitation, the winter 2023 was above normal over the whole territory of the Republika Srpska. The outlook for precipitation was not correct.

2. A more detailed visualisation of analysed climate indices follows:

- ❖ thermal conditions exceptionally above normal; 4th warmest winter season since 1950 year with a mean temperature higher by 2.6°C with respect to the 1991-2020 climatology.
- ❖ Exceptionally above normal precipitation amount; 4th wettest winter season

Temperature

Table 1. DJF-2023 t_{mean} (degC) statistics over RS (ref 1981-2010)

Station	1981-2010 t_{mean}	STD	z (SPI)	NORMSDIS $T(z)$ (percentile)	PercRank 2023	2023 t_{mean}	departure	33,33	66,67	50,00	tercile anom.categ
Бања Лука <i>Bana Luka</i>	1.5	1.7	1.98	0.98	0.98	5.0	3.5	0.7	2.6	1.4	<i>above</i>
Приједор <i>Priedor</i>	1.5	1.5	1.82	0.97	0.97	4.3	2.8	0.5	2.2	1.1	<i>above</i>
Нови Град <i>NoviGrad</i>	1.2	1.7	1.82	0.97	0.97	4.3	3.1	0.5	2.2	1.2	<i>above</i>
Добој <i>Doboj</i>	1.3	1.6	1.98	0.98	0.95	4.5	3.2	0.7	2.2	1.3	<i>above</i>
Бијељина <i>Bijeljina</i>	1.6	1.8	1.91	0.97	0.98	4.9	3.4	0.6	2.6	1.5	<i>above</i>
Соколац <i>Sokolac</i>	-2.4	1.5	1.89	0.97	0.95	0.5	2.9	-3.1	-1.5	-2.4	<i>above</i>
Билећа <i>Bileca</i>	3.9	1.1	1.49	0.93	0.95	5.6	1.7	3.6	4.4	4.0	<i>above</i>
Гацко <i>Gacko</i>	-0.5	1.2	2.46	0.99	0.98	2.5	3.0	-1.0	0.2	-0.4	<i>above</i>
Чемерно <i>Schemerno</i>	-2.1	1.3	1.88	0.97	0.95	0.3	2.4	-2.8	-1.4	-2.0	<i>above</i>
Требиње <i>Trebine</i>	6.2	1.0	1.89	0.97	0.98	8.0	1.9	5.9	6.8	6.3	<i>above</i>
Дринић <i>Drinic</i>	-0.5	1.6	1.71	0.96	0.95	2.2	2.7	-0.9	0.4	-0.3	<i>above</i>
МркГрад <i>MrkonicG</i>	0.3	1.7	1.76	0.96	0.97	3.3	3.0	-0.3	1.2	0.3	<i>above</i>
Фоча <i>Focsa</i>	0.7	1.3	2.29	0.99	1.00	3.7	3.0	0.3	1.7	0.7	<i>above</i>
Višegrad <i>Višegrad</i>	1.1	1.5	1.78	0.96	0.97	3.7	2.7	0.2	1.8	1.0	<i>above</i>

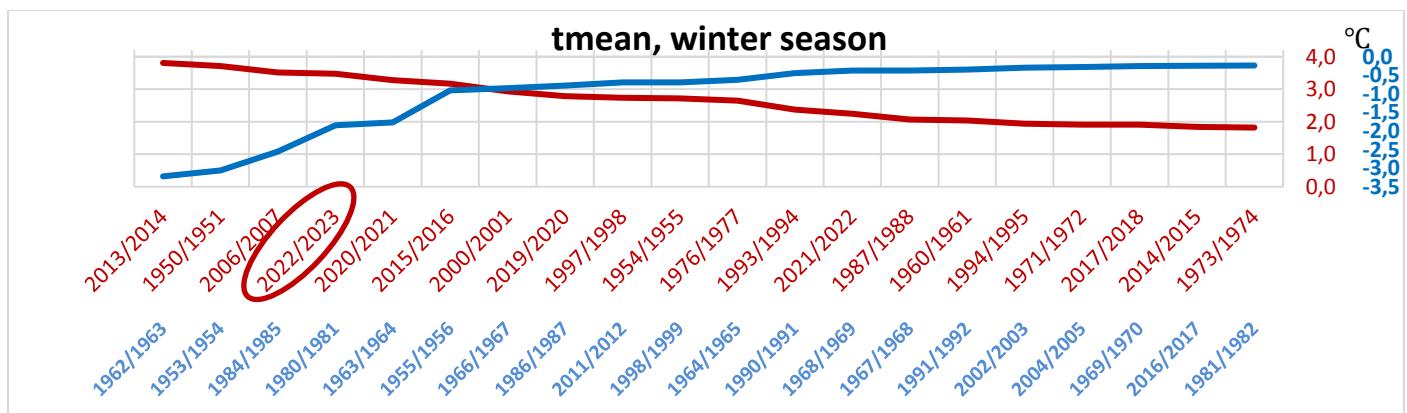


Figure 2: warmest(red) / coldest (blue) DJF seasons over the RS over the 1950-2023

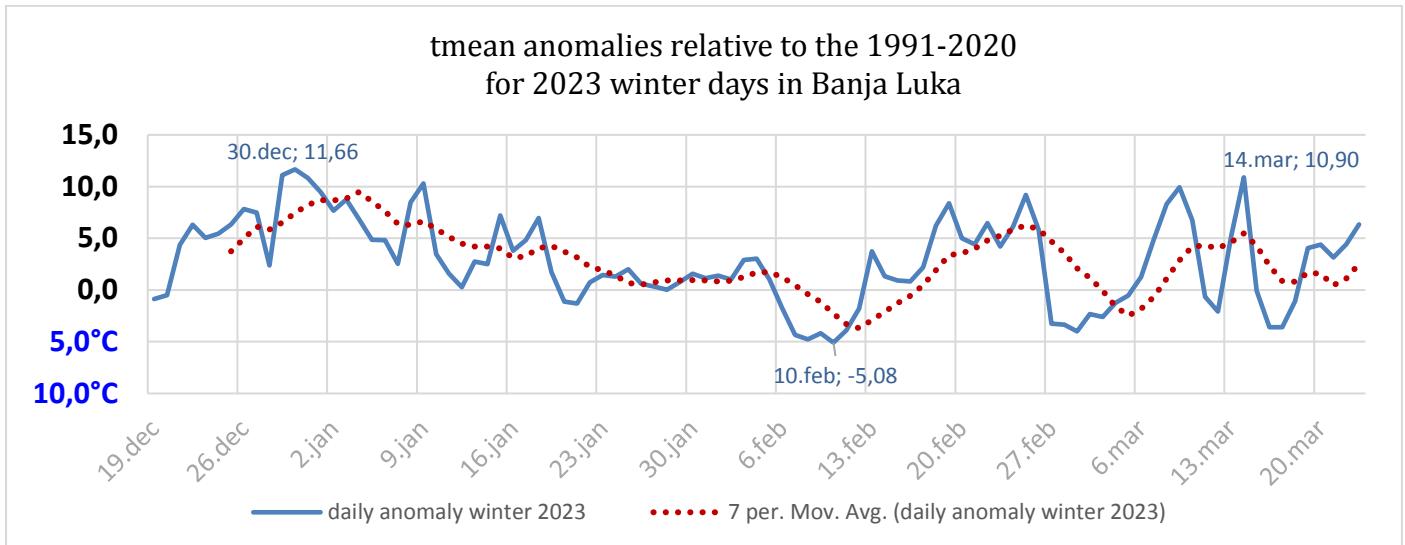


Figure 3: At daily level, in Banja Luka Ttmean differ from minus 5,1 to 11,7C, regarding 1991-2020 base period

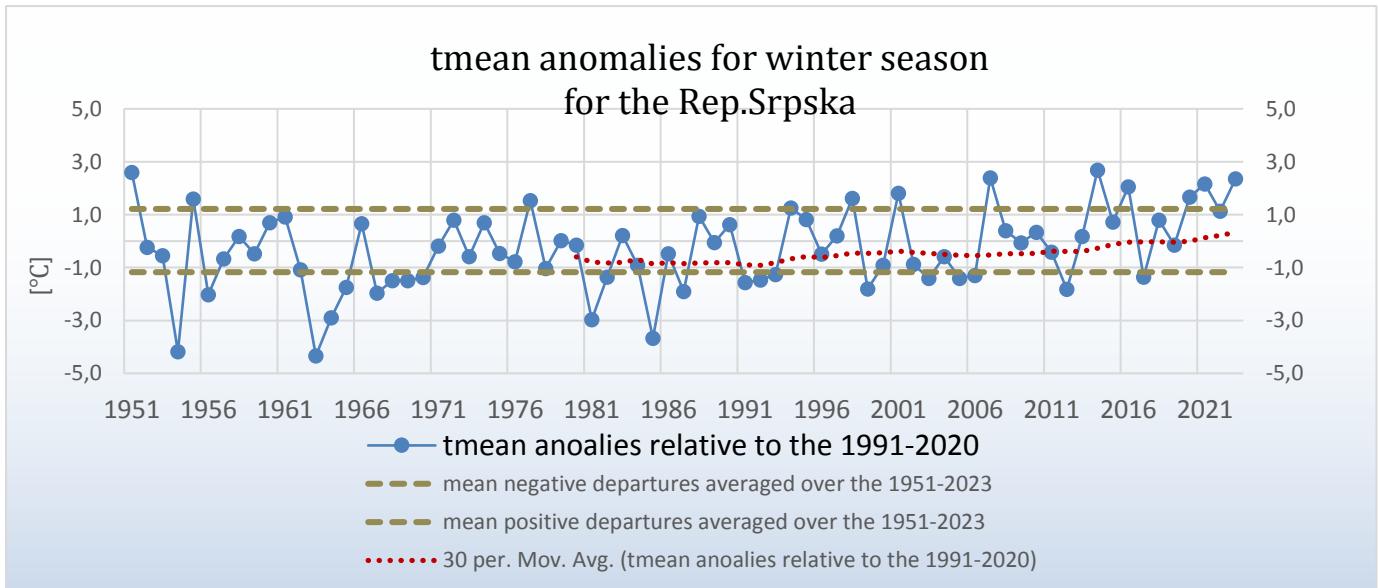


Figure 4: tmean anomalies for winter season 1951-2023 averaged over the Republika Srpska

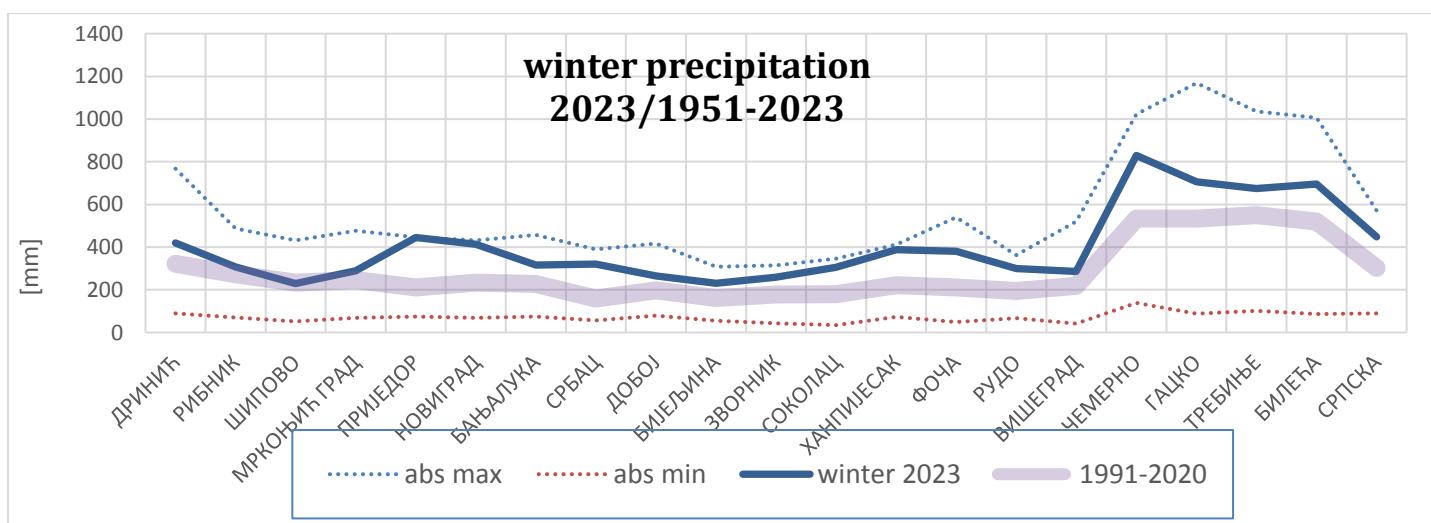
30-year moving average of *tmean anomalies* (climate) for climatological winter season is settled within the climate average over the last 4 decades (Fig 4, red line). The highest positive deviations in particular year (weather) were in 2014, 1951, 2007 and 2023. The biggest negative deviation were in 1963, 1954, 1985, 1981, 2012...

The coldest winter in this century was in 2011/2012 (-1.5°C) due to the extremely cold February month (-5.3°C) .

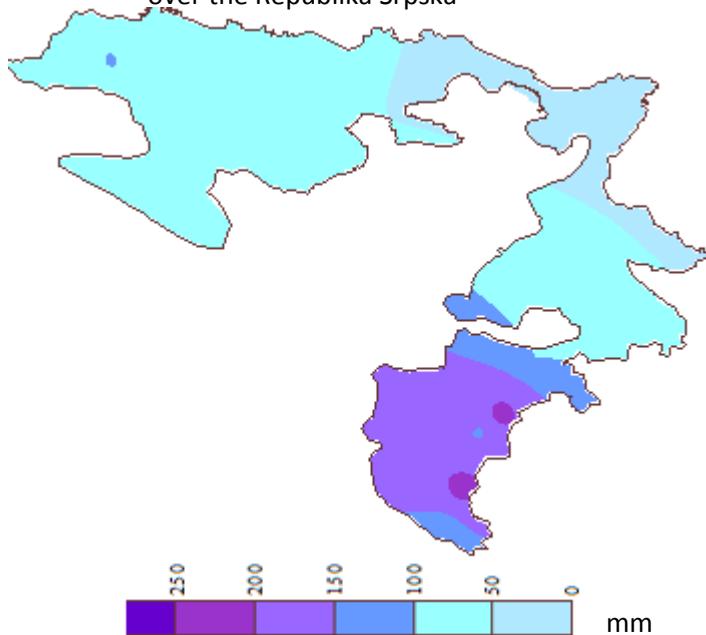
Precipitation

Table 2. DJF-2023 precipitation (mm) statistics over the Republika Srpska climatological stations (ref 1981-2010);

Station	normal	STD	<i>z</i> (SPI)	NORMSDIST (<i>z</i>) (percentile)	PercRank 2023	DJF 2023	% from normal	suf/deficit %	33,33	66,67	50,00	tercile anom.categ
Бања Лука <i>Bana Luka</i>	222	74	1.26	0.90	0.90	315	142	41.8	203	252	228	<i>above</i>
Приједор <i>Priedor</i>	199	67	3.68	1.00	1.00	445	223	123	161	230	204	<i>above</i>
Нови Град <i>NoviGrad</i>	233	84	2.13	0.98	0.97	413	177	77	195	265	237	<i>above</i>
Добој <i>Doboy</i>	190	58	1.27	0.90	0.92	264	139	39	180	217	199	<i>above</i>
Бијељина <i>Bijeljina</i>	160	50	1.40	0.92	0.93	230	144	44	140	190	163	<i>above</i>
Соколац <i>Sokolac</i>	173	66	2.00	0.98	0.95	306	176	76	151	209	178	<i>above</i>
Билећа <i>Bileca</i>	476	207	1.06	0.86	0.80	696	146	46	402	613	519	<i>above</i>
Гацко <i>Gacko</i>	485	230	0.96	0.83	0.79	705	145	45	392	573	488	<i>above</i>
Чемерно <i>Schemerno</i>	497	211	1.58	0.94	0.93	829	167	67	435	622	536	<i>above</i>
Требиње <i>Trebine</i>	553	228	0.53	0.70	0.69	674	122	22	456	661	573	<i>above</i>
Дринић <i>Drinic</i>	304	116	0.99	0.84	0.79	419	138	38	255	367	323	<i>above</i>
Фоча <i>Focsa</i>	163	73	2.99	1.00	0.93	381	234	134	159	228	174	<i>above</i>
МркГрад <i>MrkonicG</i>	234	79	0.70	0.76	0.72	289	124	24	207	279	250	<i>above</i>
Фоча <i>Focsa</i>	163	73	2.99	1.00	0.93	381	234	134	159	228	174	<i>above</i>
Вишеград <i>Višegrad</i>	268	124	0.15	0.56	0.74	287	107	7	163	228	189	<i>above</i>



Precip anomalies for January 2023
over the Republika Srpska



Monthly amount of precipitation in January, 2023 was exceptionally above the multi-year average. Čemerno, Sokolac, Novi Grad and Prijedor reached highest precipitation amount for January month since 1950 year.

Nevesinje registered the highest monthly amount of precipitation in Srpska (380mm/month) and Gacko the highest daily amount (128mm/day).

Monthly amount ranged from 78mm (eas) to 380mm (South);

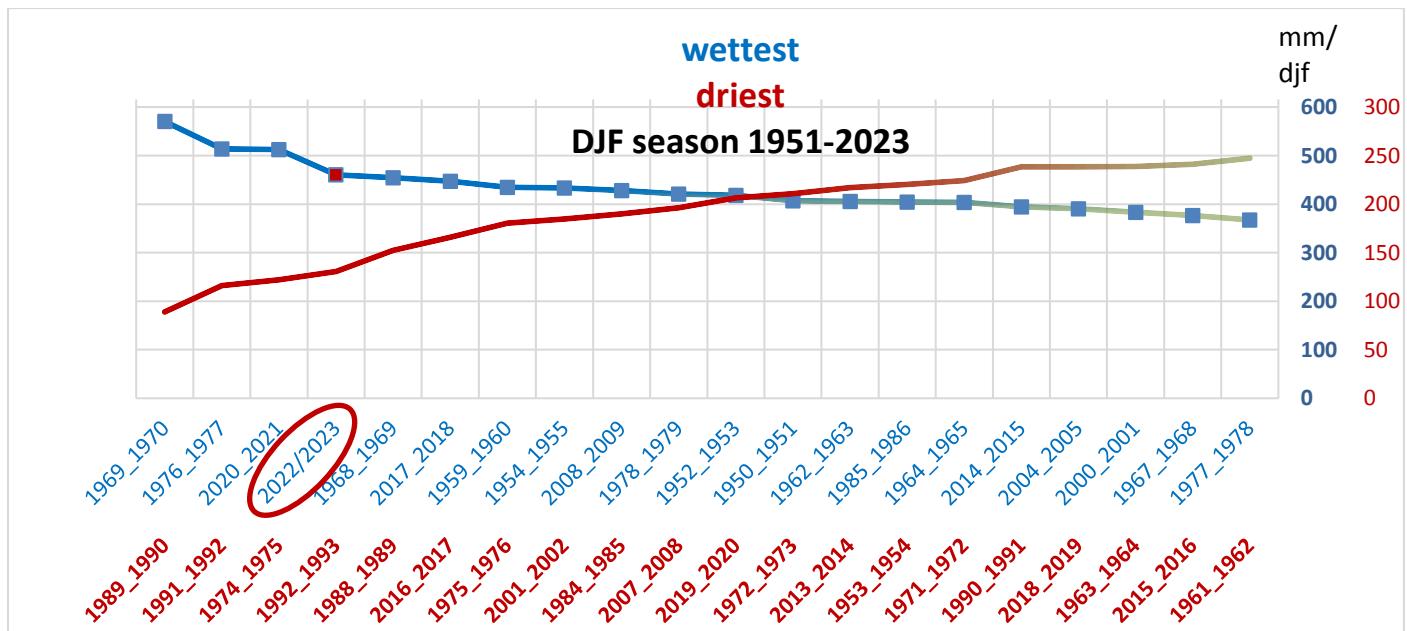


Figure 5: 2023 was 4th wettest winter season since 1951 year.

3. High impact events:

- Local floods and landslides

Gacko, 18.01.2023: water entered the houses, interrupted travel communication with Nevesinje. Three residential buildings in the village Fojnica near Gacko were flooded and water entered those buildings. Residents of these homes were evacuated.

Nevesinje road communication was interrupted due to the outflow of the Zalomka river.

4.Verification of the SEECOF-28 & MedCOF-19 climate outlook for the 2023 winter season

Country	Seasonal temperature (DJF)		Seasonal precipitation (DJF)	
	Observed	SEECOF28, MedCOF-19 climate outlook	Observed	SEECOF28, MedCOF-19 climate outlook
The Republika Srpska - Bosnia and Herzegovina	<u>above normal</u>	mormal-above normal	<u>above normal</u>	No signal

The outlook for winter 2023 mean temperature was partially correct; precipitation was not correct.