



Evaluation of Climatic Characteristics for Tourism and Recreation in Northeast Anatolia (TRA1 NUTS II) Region in the Example of Erzurum City Centre

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Abstract

Tourism and recreation have numerous benefits to public felicity. Northeast Anatolia (TRA1 NUTS II) Region of Turkey has untouched nature with diverse tourism and recreational potentials, which have been planned to use for the service of socio – economic development of local people in the scope of a strategy, Innovation Based Tourism Development Strategy prepared by Northeast Anatolia Development Agency (KUDAKA in Turkish acronym). Even though the region shelters potentials especially for winter and nature and adventure tourism, general public opinion about its climatic characteristics is generally unfavourable because country's extreme weather events and values are reported from the region. This study was conducted to evaluate climatic characteristics of the region in the sample of Erzurum city for touristic activities all year round using a 37- year (from 1975 to 2011) data set and one of the newly developed tourism climate indices, CTIS (Climate-Tourism-Information-Scheme). It was found from the result of the study that the city and the region do not really have unfavourable climatic characteristics for tourism and recreation activities and it was suggested that both infra-structural investment based on landscape planning should be made and promotional and marketing strategies should be developed and applied in the region through new development programs and projects in order to achieve a sustainable tourism development.

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