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Sector for Tourism and Local Economic Development

GEOTHERMAL ENERGY, HEALTH RECREATION AND WELLNESS IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF OHRID, LAKE OHRID AND LAKE PRESPA REGION, REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA

Summary

The Municipality of Ohrid is situated in the Lake Prespa and Lake Ohrid Region of south-west Macedonia. Lake Ohrid and Lake Prespa region is well known for its natural and cultural heritage, attracting both national and international tourists.

Regular earthquakes as well as the sulfatara 'Duvalo', situated on a tectonically active NE-SW oriented lineament on the eastern side of the Ohrid Basin in the settlement of Kosel, visualize the tectonically unstable situation of the region. According earlier geological investigations in the beginning of the 20th century and additional information given with the 'Urban Plan for Ohrid Municipality' in 1959, the potential in terms of geothermal energy combined with health recreation and wellness is regarded as reasonable high and justifies the elaboration of a Feasibility Study.



Location of sulphatara 'Duvalo',
(© G. Simonoski, Ohrid, Macedonia).

The following **expected results need to be verified** with the **Feasibility Study**:

- Result 1:** The geographical and hydro-geological situation in the Municipality of Ohrid (within the frame of the geological-tectonically setting of the region) is clearly understood.
- Result 2:** A detailed technical documentation provides evidence on the geothermal potential of the region, focused on the Municipality of Ohrid.

- Result 3:** A detailed economic documentation provides evidence on the feasibility of utilizing the geothermal potential of the region, focused on the Municipality of Ohrid.
- Result 4:** A detailed analysis provides evidence on the effects of the utilization of geothermal energy and geothermal water on the regional tourism sector in terms of volume, structure (age, gender differentiation) and demands of visitors (health recreation and wellness) as well as national competition.
- Result 5:** A detailed analysis provides evidence on the regional development potential (based on the utilization of geothermal water) to increase local (private) income, incorporating the natural and cultural heritage.



Satellite image of Lake Ohrid and Lake Prespa Region in southwest Macedonia.