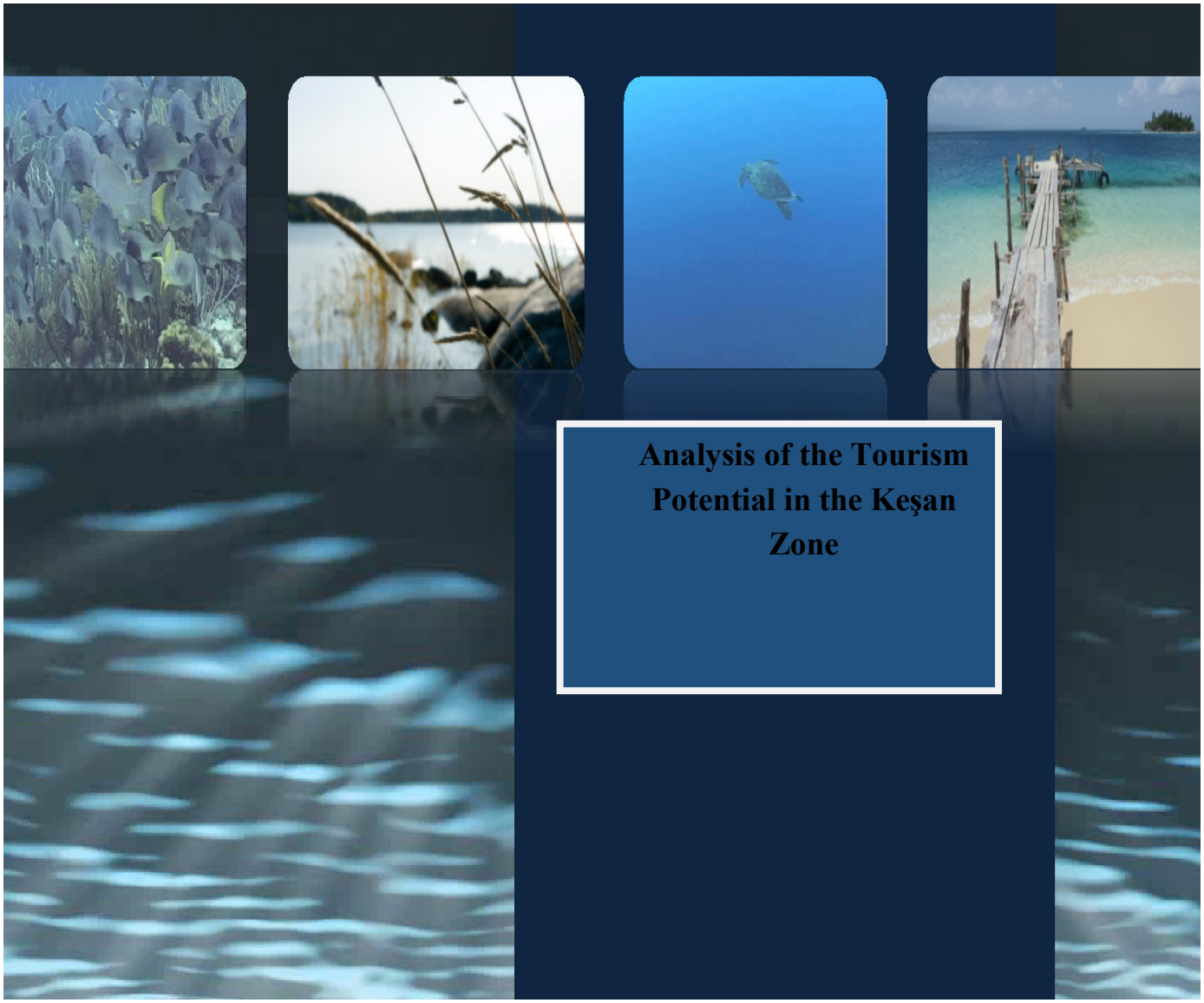
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Analysis of the Tourism Potential in the Keşan Zone

Programme co-funded by the EUROPEAN UNION

FROM BLACK SEA TO AEGEAN SEA – NEW OPPORTUNİTİES FOR TOURİSM AND ACCOMPANYİNG BUSİNESS

KARADENİZ'DEN EGE'YE TURİZM VE TURİZME BAĞLI İŞ KOLLARINDA YENİ FIRSATLAR

2007CB16IPO008-2013-3-019

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Analysis of the Tourism Potential in the Keşan Zone

1. Geographic Structure

The Keşan District is at a distance of 112 km from Edirne. It is located on the eastern side of a plain extending up to the Meriç River in its west. Keşan is surrounded by the Uzunköprü District in the north (47 km), Malkara District of the Tekirdağ Province in the east (26 km), Gelibolu District of the Çanakkale Province in the southeast (60 km), the Saros Bay in the south (45 km), and the Enez District and the İpsala District in the west (70 km and 30 km, respectively).
Its total area is 1087 km² (419.7 sq mi). The district centre covers an area of 17.5 km^2, while its villages and towns 1069,5 km².
The Marmara type of the Mediterranean climate is dominant in our District. The months of autumn and winter are cold and rainy, and those of summer are dry. The climate is milder in the region having a coast to the Saros Bay. Especially the Spring and Autumn are rainy, and the Winter snowy.
A large part of our District is usually covered by flat land and cereal fields. In addition, the southern and south-eastern regions which are consisted of combinations of non-high hills are covered with forests.



There is a mountain called Korudağı originating from the southern part of our District and extending in the direction towards the southeast along the Saros Bay, and the highest hill in our District is the Hızırilyas Hill. It is 371 m high.

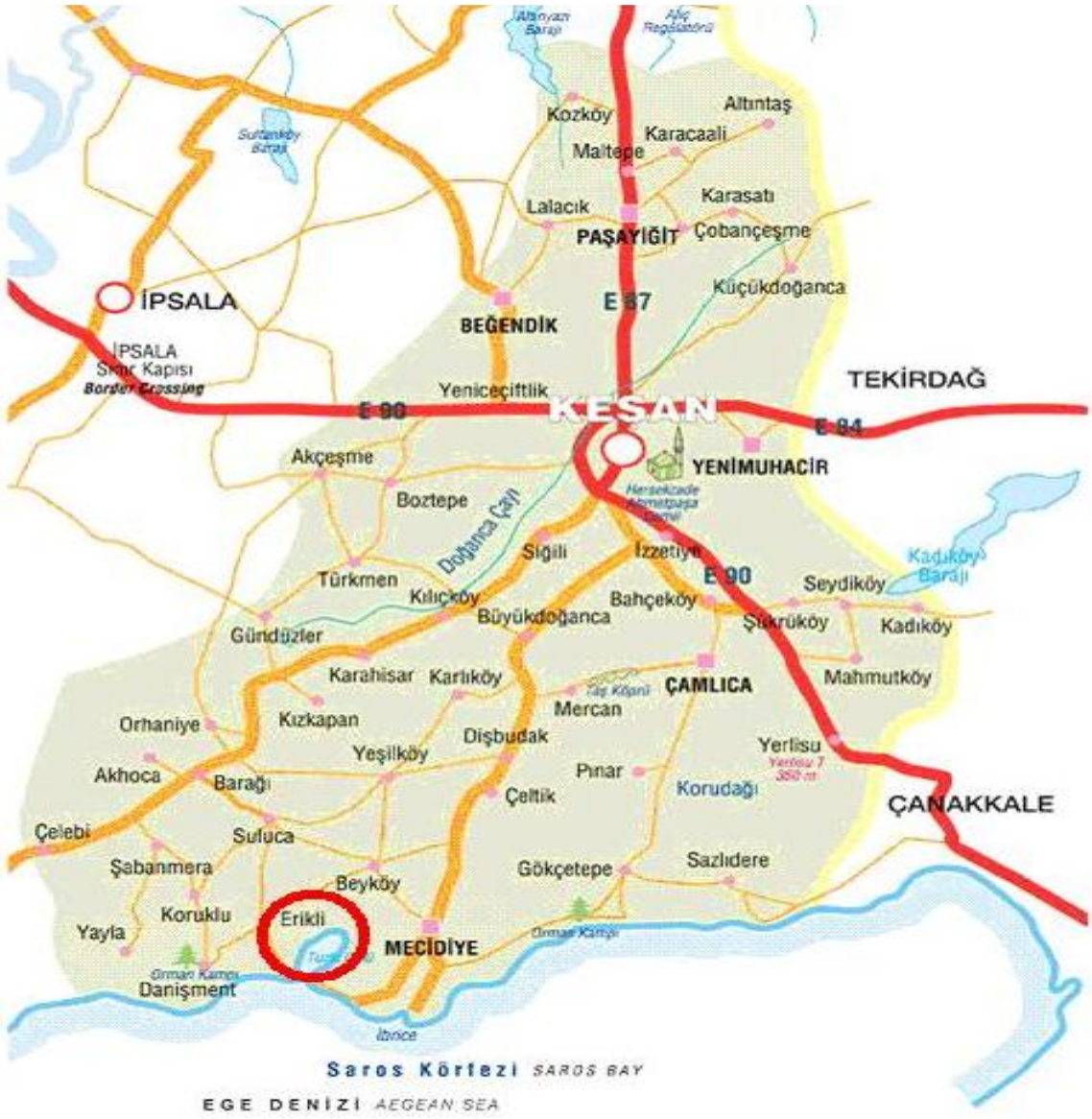
There is no large stream in the District. However, it has the Kaplıca Creek, Kovuklu Creek, Suluca Creek, Gürgen Creek, Karaağaçlı Creek, Beyazdere (White Creek), Killik Creek, Topağaçlar Creek, Çınar Creek, Sazlıdere (Reedy Creek), Karanlık Creek, Asker Çeşmeleri Creek, Manastır Creek, and Eskiköy Creek. The central town of the District is passed by the Kocadere (Great Creek) in the north, and by the Sarıkız Creek in the south.

There is a lake called Tuzla Gölü on the Erikli coast of our District in its southern part, which lake is connected to the sea through a channel. It flows into the sea during high tide, and vice versa during the low. There are the Kadıköy Dam Reservoir watering the Kadıköy Plain, and the Dokuzdere Dam Lake watering the Çamlıca and Bahçeköy terrains.

Almost 100% of the District's population are immigrants from Greece, Bulgaria and Yugoslavia. All of the populations of the villages Suluca, Orhaniye, and Pırnar, and 50% of those of the villages

of Beyendik and Çamlıca are Pomaks. The Yeniceçiftlik Villate is wholly populated by Bosniaks, and all other villages by the locals called Gajals.

The dominant spoken language in the District is Turkish. However, the people of the Orhaniye, Pırnar, and Suluca villages do also speak the Pomak language among themselves in addition to Tukish; while the brunette citizens of the Siğilli, Türkmen and Paşayiğit Villages speak Romany among themselves; and the people of the Yeniceçiftlik Village speak Bosnian.



Dams and Ponds in the Zone
•Mecidiye Pond
•Akhoca Pond
•Dokuzdere Pond
•Mercan Pond
•Koruklu Pond
•Boztepe Pond
•Yenimuhacir Pond
•Karasatı Pond
•Mozalı Pond
•Kocadere Pond
•Orhaniye Pond
•Kadıköy Dam Reservoir
•Dokuzdere Dam Reservoir
•Dam Under Construction: •Hamzadere[1]

2. Socio-Economic Situation and Demographics

2.1. Socio-Economic Situation

As the large part of the land of the District is arable, the people do usually live on farming.

The economy of the District is usually based on agriculture.

* Cultivated Area : 561.002 Da
* Grassland and Meadow : 58.788 Da
* Woodland ve Shrubbery : 386.634 Da
* Non-Agricultural Land : 180.935 Da

There are 1 dam (Kadıköy) and 20 ponds in our District. The existing ponds and dams are fed by rainwater, and offer an annual total catchment capacity of 100 million m^3.

[1] http://www.kesan.gov.tr/default_b0.aspx?content=195

The total area of the grounds which will be opened to irrigated farming upon completion of the cadastral works in 15 villages is 146,000 Da, and the irrigated farming areas in the District will be 247,000 Da, whereupon 44% of the total agricultural land of the District will become suitable for irrigated farming. The existing irrigated area (underground and surface) is 101,000 Da.

The principal cultivable plants are wheat, sunflower, barley, corn, sugar beet, rice and vegetables. (To them are added during the recent years viticulture and fruit growing as the new product patterns.)







Our District houses 24,600 cattle, 55,425 sheep and goats, 35,969 poultry, 23,070 hives of bees.
There are 3 flour mills, 7 rice plants, and 1 instant soup factory operating in our District.
Furthermore, 1 concentrated products plant, 7 dairy farms, 4 ready-made clothing plants, 4 ready-mixed concrete plants, 23 coal pits, 6 quarries can be ranked among the economic resourced of our District.
The district market held on Saturdays has the characteristic of a large regional market. The district market is visited by not only the inhabitants of the neighbouring districts, but also by a great deal of Greek nationals who come for daily shopping trip from Greece. The stock exchange transactions which is another indicator of the commercial life do particularly occur on agricultural and livestock products.





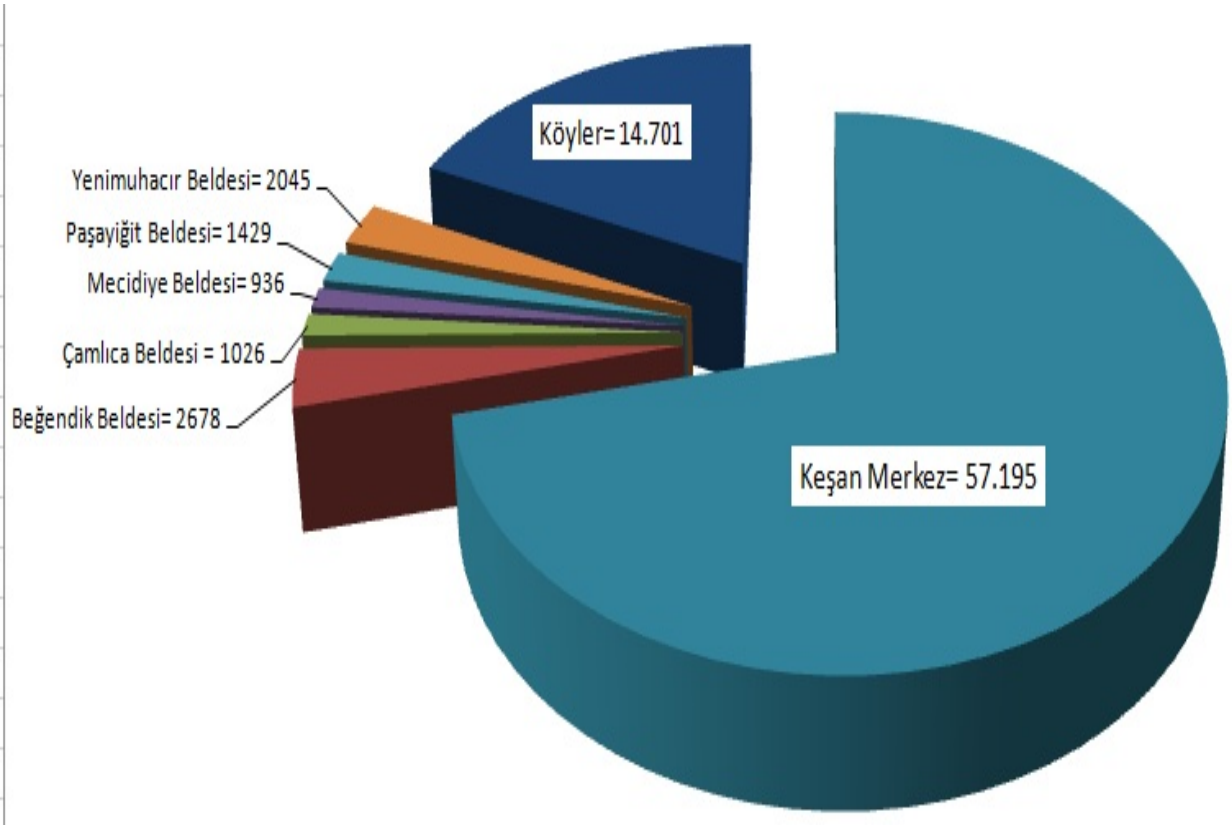
Besides, as the coasts of Thrace in the north of the Saros Bay are highly rich in terms of coastal plains, the tourism sector too can be ranked among the economic resources. [2]

2.2. Demographics

YEAR 2011 POPULATIONS			
KEŞAN	*Total*	*Male*	*Female*
Keşan Central Town	57.195	29.997	27.198
Beğendik Municipal Town	2678	1345	1333
Çamlıca Municipal Town	1026	511	515
Mecidiye Municipal Town	936	442	494
Paşayiğit Municipal Town	1429	720	709
Yenimuhacır Municipal Town	2045	1043	1002
Villages	14.701	7.313	7.388
TOTAL	**80.010**	**41.371**	**38.639**

[3]

[2] http://www.kesan.gov.tr/default_b0.aspx?content=1008
[3] http://www.kesan.gov.tr/default_b0.aspx?content=194



3. Vegetation, Wildlife and Animals (Flora and Fauna)

Thrace also occupies an ecologically important place as its constitutes the passage to Anatolia for many species of animals and plants, and is situated on the routes of the migratory birds flying from north to south and vice versa. Keşan has a geography where the natural areas forests and sea are intertwined in the south-eastern part of Thrace. The central town of the District is positioned in the middles of such natural geography. It is surrounded by forests in the east, north and south. The coastal line of the Saros Bay is the topmost natural asset that needs to be protected. The Saros coasts are included in the Çamlıca and Mecidiye municipal towns of the Keşan Municipality. Hence, the protection of the natural structure of Saros is also under the responsibility of the urban administrations. Particularly the hillsides looking towards the Saros Bay are rich in both fauna and flora. The zone is one that is suitable for the hunting and recreational touristic activities with its forest land, wildlife, beaches, and sea. The main threats for the zone include the unprotected, undue and untimely hunting, opening of partially new agricultural areas, building of secondary residences to serve as summerhouses, wildfires, and the picking of certain fauna and flora

items for various purposes. As the urban borders cover natural and forest land, a concentration of green space is observed. On the other hand, the green spaces inside the urban settlement boundaries are above the national average of Turkey and the provincial average of Edirne. The ratio of green space per person is 7 m^2 worldwide, 10 m^2 nationwide in Turkey, 7 m^2 provincially in Edirne, and 10.37 m^2 locally in Keşan. Operations to create more green land in the town are gradually increasing. The table below shows the urban seedling planting rates.[4]

3.1. Seedlings Planted in and around the City (2011)

Trees and Plants	Quantities
Plane Tree	450 pcs
Acacia	550 pcs
Ligustrum	1000 pcs
Grass cultivation	7100 m^2
Various types of seedlings	15,000 pcs
Tulip bulb planting	100,000 pcs
Tree planting	17,000 pcs

The Natural Vegetation Forests the southern section of the Keşan District is encircled by the Koru Mountains extending from the east to the west. The typical continental climate in which the weather is hot and dry in summer and cold in winter is observed in the inner sections; locally typical Mediterranean climate in the south, where it is hot and dry in summer, and mild and rainy in winter. As a result thereof, red pine and oak constitute the main species in the zone. Also larch (blackpine) is encountered locally.

The tree and bush species of the zone may be listed as follows: Pinus brutia, Pinus nigra, Juniperus oxycedrus, Quercus infectoria, Quercus pubescens, Quercus coccifera, Quercus frainetto, Quercus cerris, Quercus petraea, Carpinus orientalis, Acer campestre, Pistacia trebinthus, Cornus mas, Cercis siliquastrum, Sorbus torminalis, Crataegus monogyna, Phillyrea latifolia, Arbutus andrachne, Spartium junceum, Paliurus spina-christii, Rubus fruticosus, Frangula alnus, Cistus salviifolius, Cistus creticus. Mediterranean climate and maquis shrubland, the typical vegetation thereof, is observed in patched in the southern sections of the zone. This zone contains the plants such as Nerium oleander L. (Oleander), Olea europaea L. (Olive), Spartium junceum L. (Besom), Juniperus L. (Juniper), etc. The rate of the maquis shrubland elements gradually decrease towards the northwest, and avoid penetrating the inner parts anymore.

3.2. Past and Present of the Forests

[4] Keşan İlçe Stratejik Gelişim Planı, s.467

Destruction of the forests had started in the form of obtaining firewood from the trees, and exploiting their branches, leaves and blossoms, which, added by the impact of intensive and irregular pasturage, did lead to lower qualities and quantities in the forests, impairment of closeness, deteriorations up to the individual trees due to the variations in the species thereof. The forest peasantry in the zone used to cut the oaks in order to obtain firewood for winter. Besides, the oaks were pruned by the shepherds to feed animals during winter. The unplanned and unconscious interventions and pressures mentioned above have resulted in the impairment of the structure of the forests in the zone.

Following the suggestions of the academicians of the Faculty of Forestry of the Istanbul University, the General Directorate of Forestry requested in the year 1961 that the then existing impaired forests be restored with fast-growing native tree species. However, it was decided to use Red Pine and other exotic species for afforestation due to the impairment of the existing Korudağı forests, the lack of trees to produce seeds, and the fact that the forest had already lost the ability to regenerate itself. For such purpose an area of 45 hectares was afforested, and 150 thousand of red pine seedlings were planted in the year 1963. The afforestation operations in the Keşan Zone also involved to a considerable extent the species Pinus pinaster, Pinus radiata, Cedrus libani and Cupresus, which can be considered to be exotic for the Zone. New species of hyacinth and windflower were discovered and introduced to the world during the works performed by the Faulty of Letters and Sciences of the University of Thrace.
The topography of the forests in the Districts of Keşan, Enez and İpsala generally consists of less-broken and slightly-inclined lands. The highest elevation is the Hisardağ Hill (423 m) within the Enez District. And the lowest part of the Zone is the Gala Lake and surroundings in the İpsala District. The geological structure consists of Eocene-era flysch structures. Also, flysch structures from upper Eocene and lower Oligocene eras, as well as grelpuding and marls are present. Furthermore; ollven, basalt, serpentine and amphibolites are observed The major geological foundation of the Zone is the flysch structures. It has been observed that the shaly-sands containing the calcium carbonate from such formation are dominant. The deep soils which occurred upon a simple decomposition thereof are particularly noticeable. The richness of the zone in terms of nutrients besides the water economy conditions created by the soil deepness has led to the development of the soils provided with favourable and boosting characteristics for the Red Pine species which is complacent in terms of nutrition needs. The annual average precipitation is 648.8 mm, and the average temperature 14.4°C. The dominant wind is Southwester and usually Northeaster. Average relative humidity is 77%. The climate and the soil structure create a favourable medium for Red Pine.
Struggle Against the Forest Pests: Biotechnical Control: A struggle on an area of 3300 hectares have been planned involving the use of pheromone traps against bark beetle pests, and the works are in progress.

Chemical Control: Chemical spraying treatment is planned to be performed on 2500 hectares which is in progress.
Biological Control: It has been planned to establish or repair 50 islets for the struggle against pine processionary, and the work will begin in November.
Ecological Structure of the Forests: The flora and fauna structure of the forests of our Province are given in Section B.2.
The forests in the Edirne Central District, and the Districts of Lalapaşa, Süloğlu, Havsa, Uzunköprü and Meriç are rather situated in the higher parts of our Province. The Lalapaşa Muhittin Baba hill (601 m) and surroundings, as well as the Uzunköprü B. Hacıdağ Range (159 m) can be mentioned as wide forest areas. The bedrock of the territory is made of ginays, mucochist and amphibolites. Its separation is normal. The soil structure is sandy clay lump and its depth ranges between 30 and 100 cm. The annual rainfall is around 600 mm.

3.3. *Habitat and Communities*

Fauna - During the studies performed by the Faculty of Letters and Science of the Thrace University, 11 parasitoid small bees discovered. 6 bird species were detected who are in danger of extinction in the Region of Thrace. These species are Cygnus (Cygnus olor), Crane (Grus grus), Pied Owl (Strix aluca), Kingfisher (Alcedo athis), Blue Raven (Coracias garrulus) and Hoopoe (Upupa epops). The fauna of the Edirne Province is constituted by the inland water fish, salamanders, frogs, reptiles, birds, and mammals. Faunistic studies involves the airplane bugs, pill bugs, ants, wasps are parasitoid small bees in the Invertebrate Animals; tailed and tailless amphibians, birds and particularly the rodent mammals in the Vertebrate.[5]

3.4. *Habitats in the Lakes*

Tuzlu Lake, Mecidiye Village, Keşan: The Phracnitesaustralis (cav.) Trin. (Gramineae) community was detected on the Northern coasts of the Lake, and the plant community of juncuslitoralis C.A Mey. (Juncaceae) on the Southern coasts thereof. Enez Gala Lake: Comprehensive information about the Gala Lake is given in F.5.9. Pamuklu Lake, Karpuzlu Village, İpsala: Plant group of P. pectinatus is in the water, and those of Sch. Litaralis, T. AngustiFolia and Ph. Australis on the coast and in the mud. The P. pectinatus plant group was detected on 9 representative areas with water depts. of 50-70 cm. Potamegatonlucens, L. (Potomoget- onaceace), which is the other important characteristic of this in-water plant group other than P. pectinatus is a significant species in terms of aboundance and repetition, it was merely seen in this plant group.

[5] Keşan İlçe Stratejik Gelişim Planı, s.523, 524



Among the group, the Pleustophytes such as SalviniaNatans (L.) All. (Salviniaceae) and L. Trisulca, and the Risophytes Trapa Natans L. (Trapaceae) and N. alba are the other in-water plants. No coastal and mud plants were encountered in the group.

3.5. Hunting and Wildlife

Hunter training courses were held in cooperation with the Former Provincial Directorate of Environment and Forestry and the Public Education Centre in line with the Regulations About the Procedures and Guidelines for the Hunter Training and the Issuance of Hunting Licences, effective as of 01 April 2005. The hunting and wildlife of our District is highly rich thanks to its natural structure. The living population is both diversified and crowded. The richness of hunting and wildlife in our District increases the number of hunters, and enhances the hunting culture. There are currently two societies active in the scope of hunting, game and wildlife in our District. These produce projects to protect the hunting and wildlife as well, in addition to the hunting activity.

The Nature Protection and National Parks General Directorate of the Ministry of Forestry and Water Affairs of the Republic of Turkey implemented the Project of Growing Wild Animals for Nature in the year 2005, in order to contribute to nature in respect of the wildlife which had been borrowed from the future generations, by ensuring the sustainability of the wildlife in nature, maintaining the balance of the wild animal populations, and ensuring a controlled hunting without causing the

extinction of the species. Under the scope of the project started to be implemented in the year 2005, 11,400 pheasants in total were placed in nature, 3000 in the year 2005, 2500 in 2006, 2000 in 2007, 2000 in 2008, 900 in 2009, and 1,000 in 2010 (by July), in different predetermined regions across the Edirne Province. The Nature Protection and National Parks General Directorate of the Ministry of Forestry and Water Affairs of the Republic of Turkey has been conducting operations nationwide driven by the principle of ensuring the sustainability of the wildlife and helping the establishment of the ecological balance. One of the operations being performed in order to help the animals find foods under the adverse weather conditions is the seeding works in progress.

Due to its biological diversity and closeness to the geographic boundaries, the Edirne Province has an important position in terms of the wild animal diversity. Its having borders with both Bulgaria and Greece, and its position on the international route of the migratory birds, and being one of the preferential places of stopover of the birds, and the rivers of Meriç and Tunca and many other ones of varying sizes all play a major role in such diversity of wildlife. The wild animals face some unfavourable conditions during their migration period, and need medical treatment. Upon denunciations and requests received by our Branch Directorate, such wild animals are taken delivered by hand within the provincial limits, and referred to the Directorate of Veterinary Affairs of the Edirne Municipality for treatment. Upon completion of their treatment, the wild animals are kept under surveillance for a certain term, then placed back in their proper living media or nature.



4. Infrastructure and Environment

170 km of new sewerage network was laid during the period from 2006 to August 2008, representing a term of completion of 2.5 years.

4.1. Main Sewer and Wastewater Treatment Plant

With the aim of providing the public with a healthier infrastructure, the construction contract for the Keşan Wastewater Treatment Plant was signed with the State Hydraulic Works XIth Regional Directorate of Edirne, and it was stated that a sewer and network line of 6058 km and wastewater treatment plant would be built in such scope.

4.2. Rainwater Channel Project

This is considered as the 2nd largest basic infrastructure projects of the Keşan Municipality with a cost of 4 million 340 thousand 613 TL. A construction of 7 kilometres will be built within the scope of the project.

4.3.Asphalt Production

In order for the Province and its surrounding areas are provided with a network of roads of higher quality, an asphalt plant site consisting of 19 units was established with a capacity of 20 tons/hour, capable to produce 25 tons of hot asphalt per year, to meet the need for asphalt of Keşan and its surroundings. The site where approx. 746 thousand m^2 of hot asphalt and 353 thousand m^2 of surface dressing are produced, sells hot asphalt to the other neighbouring municipalities as well.

4.4. Waste Storage Facility

The Southern Edirne Solid Waste Union, to which the Keşan Municipality is member as well, established a Solid Waste Disposal and Arrangement Plant on an area of 160,400 m^2 at a total cost of TL 5,863,420, TL 1,900,000 of which being funded by donations. The concept of solution of the problem has not involved Keşan only, but Keşan, İpsala and Enez, the southern districts of Edirne, as a whole. A regional union was established under the name "Southern Edirne Solid Waste Union".[6]

5. Transportation and Mobile Connections

5.1. Road Transportation

Keşan is a district located to the southwest of Thrace where important roads intersect thus having an important advantage in terms of transportation. It is along the state road D110 which originates from extending along the coast through Tekirdağ to İpsala and then Greece. Furthermore, there is access to Edirne and accordingly other parts of Thrace through Uzunköprü, and it is right in the center of major roads leading to Anatolia through Gallipoli.

Across Province of Edirne, road transportation is the most densely used method of transportation. The primary road in Edirne is Istanbul to Kapıkule TEM highway (O-3). It divides Thrace Region into two from east to west direction. It connects to Bulgaria with Kapıkule border gate in Edirne. On the other hand, D-550 Keşan-Uzunköprü-Edirne Road connects Province of Edirne to Gulf of Saros. It has been decided to upgrade that road. Moreover, access is provided to southern parts of Province of Edirne through D-110 Keşan-İpsala Road. Keşan center is located between these two major lines.

In Report on Environmental Plan for Edirne with a scale of 1/2500, under title: "Problems and Potential of Keşan District", it is pointed out that development of the city in terms of transportation is curbed by the incomplete Çanakkale to Edirne dual carriageway, lack of railway and seaway transportation, and Keşan fails to challenge centers like Tekirdağ and Malkara as it cannot optimize

[6] http://www.yyplatformu.com.tr/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1720:goz-boyayan-degil-gelecegi-dusunen-belediyecilik-onsayfa&catid=107:edirne-erzincan-giresun-kars-yozgat-ozel-say&Itemid=96

its distance advantage in terms of cross-border trade due to problems such as service quality, parking lots, etc.

Within boundaries of Keşan, there are sate provincial road, district road, village road, tourism road, arable field and forest roads. In the district, the state provincial, district, village and coast roads are asphalt. Though such roads have low standards, there is no transportation problem. Status of roads within the district is detailed below. In the 10th Transportation Forum organized between 27 September and 1 October 2009 by Turkish Ministry of Transportation with broad participation, general decisions concerning whole Turkey were made. 'In the panels, sector-specific project proposals were voted for the first time, and 100 big projects in 100th year were determined in line with "2023 Target". Thus, strategic goals were set which will put Turkey among world's most competitive top ten countries in the fields of transportation and communication in the centenary of Republic, casting light on future 20-year period of our transportation and communication sectors. (10th Transportation Forum, 2009).' The 100 major projects which were identified upon voting during the Forum include decisions concerning Keşan which are listed below.

5.2. Technical Access – Communication

5.2.1. Mass Media

There are 4 daily newspapers (namely Önder, Medya, Volkan, Gündem), 1 weekly newspapers (Halkın Sesi), 1 local periodical magazine, namely "Rapor" (by Keşan Chamber of Industry and Commerce), 8 printing houses, 1 local radio (namely Keşan FM). Keşan has advanced communication infrastructure. Wired communication, wireless communication, internet and GSM networks are available in the center, towns, villages and coastal settlements. No settlement has any communications problem. However, new investments are needed for improving communication, introducing advanced technology. Keşan's communication networks are provided from Turk Telekom's Kalebayırı radio-link station located. GSM transceivers in 16 different locations across the district provide mobile communication. Closed-circuit phone lines are also used for providing internet services. Villages, tows and coastal areas have access to internet. Radio-link station also provided radio communication service.

5.3. Sea Transportation - Airways –Railways

5.3.1. Sea Transportation

Whereas Keşan have a coastline on the Aegean Sea, there is no port suitable for passenger transportation. There is no sea transportation due to its far distance to Istanbul for passenger transportation, poor relations with coastal cities, short travel times by bus transportation. However,

there are regional cooperation attempts and meetings with Greece, in particular, for providing passenger transportation in the future.

Enez port in Enez district of Edirne Province mostly serves as a fishing port. Enez Port is 3m high. The port has a seafood cooperative. The development of Enez Port is curtailed by factors such as Enez's being a border district, and poor industrial development in the district. Any possible ferry services between Enez Port and Gökçeada and Greek Alexandraupoli and Samothrace Island would contribute to domestic and foreign tourism activities, in which case whole Gulf of Saros would benefit.



5.3.2. Air Transportation

Within Keşan, there is a low-standard small scale air base used for military purposes. That base can be improved and offered for civil aviation for Keşan, Gulf of Saros and its vicinity.

5.3.3. Railway Transportation

In terms of means of transportation, railway transportation offers the most important potential following road transportation. Railway line connecting Turkey to Europe through Kapıkule border gate starts from Sirkeci, Istanbul and extends to Edirne. That line is divided into two in Province of Kırklareli, one line leading to Kırklareli through Babaeski, and the other extending up to Pehlivanköy where it is further divided into two with one line passing through Havsa district to Edirne and Kapıkule to pass across border into Bulgaria while the other line leads to Uzunköprü and heads Greece. According to information received from Turkish State Railways Edirne Station Directorate regarding railway usage for passenger and cargo transportation, there are daily shuttle trains between Edirne and Istanbul. There are also daily 3 shuttle trains from/to abroad connecting in Istanbul for cargo transportation.[7]

Keşan Distance Table	
Bursa 379 km	İpsala 28 km
Çanakkale 109 km	İpsala Customs 30 km
Alexandroupoli 78 km	Istanbul 228 km
Eceabat Port 108 km	İzmir 433 km
Edirne 112 km	Kapıkule Customs 130 km
Enez 64 km	Malkara 27 km
Erikli Sea 34 km	Thessaloniki 397 km
Gelibolu 68 km	Tekirdağ 85 km
Komotini 128 km	Uzunköprü 50 km

Infrastructure and sewerage system of city consists of 4 stages. There are 5603 plots covered by those 4 stages, and those plots have waste water connections. The sewerage system is 113.116 km long, and is discharged to Keşan creek. 5 villages and 5 towns lack sewerage system. Southern Edirne Solid Waste Association (SESWA) which will be completed in 2014 and serve 120.000 people during winter and 200.000 during summer was established for closing wild landfill and solve environmental problems arising from solid landfill in the region. It is known that the city suffers

[7] Keşan District Strategic Development Plan, p.507, 508, 509

from traffic slowdown during winter due to rain as a result of insufficient and neglected rain drainage canals.

5.3.4. Communication Lines

DESCRIPTION OF EQUIPMENT	INTENDED USE	QT'Y
Mini link radio-link system	Downtown	17
Mini link radio -link system	Villages and towns	19
BTS	Gsm	7
Phone switchboard	Gsm	7
FM radio transmitter	Radio	2
TV transmitter	TV	1
KTS system	Phone	1
Radio relay	Radio communication	6
Keşan information systems	ADSL and data services	1

Telecom Subscription (2011)		
Number of Telecom and ADSL Subscribers		
	Downtown	**Village**
Line	15187	6717
ADSL	7412	1486

Based on foregoing tables, means of communication in our district are considered to be at advanced level. Whole infrastructure is provided by Telecom. In our district, electric power is mainly used for lighting, and electric services are provided by TREDAŞ affiliated to Tekirdağ Region. The following table shows electric consumptions:

5.3.5. Electric Consumption (2011)

Type of Subscriber	Number	Consumption

	of Subs.	(Kw)
Residence	39.849	48.712.931
Commercial	6.502	15.741.140
Public Body	244	843.854
Industry	36	497.835
Agricultural Irrigation	40	131.486
Lighting	223	4.818.389
Other	1.590	2.648.040
TOTAL	48.484	73.393.675

Regarding status of roads inside the city, it is noticed that roads are narrow. There are only 3 boulevards which is no remedy for relieving traffic. During evening hours, in particular, the traffic almost stops. The city has no pedestrian walkways and cycling tracks. The nearest airport in Thrace is in Çorlu which is 120 km away from Keşan, followed by Istanbul Ataturk Airport which is 200 km to Keşan. To the west, there is Alexandroupoli Airport in Greece which is 60 km to Keşan. There is a small-scale military airfield within the boundaries of Keşan which can be arranged for civil aviation to meet needs of Keşan and Gulf of Saros. This would contracture to development of Keşan, reinforcing Keşan's position as the center of region. Keşan's means of transportation and communication with its region will improve.[8]

6. Medical Services

It is remarkable that while the actual population of center, towns and villages of is 75.576, the number of people receiving medical services is significantly more than that actual population. That figure shows seasonal fluctuations and reaches nearly 250 thousand during summer months, in particular.

In Keşan, there is 1 Keşan Public Hospital (opened in 1914 with 50 beds capacity which was increased to 100 beds capacity in 1984 and 200 beds capacity on 21.11.2004), 1 Private Hospital (Keşan Private Hospital), 10 Health Centers, 1 Tuberculosis Control Dispensary, 1 Maternal and Infant Health and Family Planning Center, 27 Health Houses, and 1 Social Insurances Institute Dispensary. Keşan has 30 Pharmacies, 40 Private Physician's Clinics, 16 Dentists, 2 Private Biochemistry Laboratories, and 2 Private Radiology Laboratories.[9]

[8] Keşan District Strategic Development Plan, p.467, 468.
[9] https://tr.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ke%C5%9Fan

The period between 2003 and 2008 staged important changes in terms of health. In early 2003, we witnessed announcement of a program was prepared based on socialization, in particular, and previous experiences and knowledge, recent health reform studies and successful cases in the world.

All steps taken from the first day of proclamation of our Republic up to present were taken into consideration, all project studies carried out by the Ministry were reviewed, and the positive heritage of the past was embraced. During last few years of implementation of Health Transformation Program, our country witnessed a process of frequent public discussions about changes in health policies, and the actions which have been taken were not only evidently noticeable by service providers themselves but also to by receivers of such services. Regarding health services, issues which were complained about until recently have changed, and people started to discuss patient satisfaction instead of discussions regarding queues, and safety of patients instead of the ability to access health services. Patients who were detained due to lack of money were no more a main point of concern but instead scope of social security and the General Health Insurance have come under spotlight. Problems suffered by emergency patients disappeared and replaced by demands for adequate number and qualities of intensive care beds. Instead of low vaccination rates, inclusion of new vaccines to vaccination program was discussed and realized.

In our District, health services are provided under 3 main categories: Preventive Health, Therapeutic Health and Emergency Health Services. Preventive Health Services are provided by Primary Health Institutions (Community Health Centers, Family Medicine, Tuberculosis Control Dispensary, Maternal and Infant Health and Family Planning Center, Public Health Laboratory). Therapeutic Health Services are provided by Public Hospital, Private Hospital, Private Derman Dialysis Center. Emergency Health Services are provided by Emergency Health Services Station.

Our province adopted Family Medicine system as of 01.12.2006.



In addition to the frequency over the year, considering the increase in population triggered by tourism during summer months, in particular, qualified, competent, continuous, sufficient and effective Emergency Help and Therapeutic Services and Basic Health Services will only be possible with adequate medical infrastructure and adequate number of medical staff. In our province, Family Medicine Pilot Scheme has been introduced as of 01.12.2016, and 1 Community Health Center and 23 Family Medicine Centers were established in our district. With Family Medicine system, it is aimed to give priority to Primary Health Services, thus ensuring accessibility of Health Services, and ensuring that everybody enjoys such services equally and to the extent necessary, and thus improving life quality of individuals and health standards. In 2011, total 1536 patients were transported by ambulance of Emergency Health Services Station No. 1 which entered into service on 01.09.2004 .

Primary health services institutions include 1 Community Health Center, 23, Family Medicine Centers, 1 Tuberculosis Control Dispensary, 1 Maternal and Infant Health and Family Planning Center, 1 Public Health Laboratory. Secondary health institutions include the Public Hospital with (150) Beds, Private Keşan Hospital with (48) Beds, Private Derman Dialysis Center with (15) Beds. Emergency Health Services include Emergency Health Services Station No. 1, Type 1 B (Public Hospital) Emergency Health Services Station, 1st Emergency Health Services Station, for establishment of which an authorization was granted by the Ministry and a building has been searched for establishment. [10]

6.1. Preventive–Basic Health Services

Preventive Health Services starts from prenatal period. Ensuring the mother to keep up a good pregnancy period, nutrition and a healthy life will contribute to health of baby, as well as its healthy growth and development. During postnatal period, basic health services ensures good care, nutrition, vaccination of baby as required, and thus enabling the baby to have a healthy babyhood, childhood and adulthood.

In our country, the Ministry of Health has been carrying out many projects and programs for protection and improvement of health.

Goals of the Extended Program on Immunization

- For maintaining efficacy of vaccination for each antigen, reaching and maintaining 95% vaccination speed across the country,
- Vaccinating 90% of all babies of 12-23 months,
- Detecting and vaccinate children younger than 5 years old (0 – 59 months) who have no or missing vaccines,
- Completing booster vaccination of school-age children,
- Administering appropriate tetanus and diphtheria vaccines to all located pregnant women,

[10] Keşan District Strategic Development Plan 2012-2023, p.342,343.

- Maintaining poliomyelitis-free status of country,
- Eliminating Maternal and Neonatal Tetanus,
- Eliminating local measles virus by 2015,
- To control rubella and Congenital Rubella Syndrome,
- Control diseases associated with Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Hepatitis-B, Tuberculosis, Mumps and Homophilus influenza type b, as well as pneumococcal diseases associated with streptococcus pneumonia,
- Maintain vaccine safety,
- Reinforce record notice system
- Ensure public participation.

A fully vaccinated child means a child who was administered 1 dose of BCG and MMR each, 3 doses of DaBT/DBT, Polio, Hep. B, Hib vaccines each.

6.2. Family Medicine

Family Medicine Scheme (pursuant to Law on Family Medicine Pilot Scheme 24.11.2004/5258) started as a Pilot Scheme on December 1, 2006 in the Province of Edirne (Keşan District). In our District, there are 23 Family Health Centers and 23 Family Medicine Staff Member. 21 Family Health Centers are located in the city center with 2 Family Health Centers located in Paşayiğit and Çamlıca Towns. Family Medicine does not provide primary health services only but also examination and outpatient treatment services. Burden of secondary health services is relieved by examination and treatment of patients. Moreover, pursuant to order of our Ministry, patients that file an application are provided appropriate education depending on their medical condition. Immunization services are delivered through family physicians. During summer season, family physicians are assigned to the polyclinic opened in Erikli Coast under Governor's Approval, and provide medical services to people spending their summer holiday there.

In Keşan, average of seeking medical assistance in primary health services was 3,5 in 2011. Number of examination assumed for primary health services is 5 per year. As there is no mandatory referral chain, we are still below the anticipated targets. The referral rate of Family Health Centers in Keşan District is 0,78. It means patients seeking medical assistance from family physicians are kept in the primary stage of health. In Keşan, total 284.525 examinations were performed by family physician, of which 2.244 were referred.

In our district, ambulatory health services are delivered by family physicians. Thus primary health services deliver routine and regular medical services including vaccination, in particular, as well as family planning, polyclinic services and preventive health services. Ambulatory health services team includes a family physician and family health staff member.

6.3. Inpatient Treatment

In our district, the Keşan Public Hospital started to provide medical services in 1914 with 50 beds, and then the bed capacity was developed in 100 in 1984. As it failed to satisfy demands, an additional building with 100 beds capacity started to be constructed in 1996. The additional building of our hospital entered into operation on 21.11.2004. In 2009, as a result of efforts intended for ensuring compliance of all hospital beds with international standards, the number of inpatient beds has been determined as 175. Emergency service, policlinic floor was opened, giving each physician a separate room and enabling the patients to choose their physician. Other units also provide inpatient treatment.

Keşan Public Hospital, as a inpatient treatment institution, ranks second with 175 beds in Edirne. It has the second place in terms of imaging services. It also has the second place in terms of adult intensive care services. It also ranks second in terms of newborn intensive care services.

One of the most remarkable services provided by inpatient treatment institutions is witnessed in newborn unit. There is a significant difference between rates of normal delivery and c-section delivery. Comparing the average rate across Turkey and the Province, it is noticed that Keşan has high c-section delivery rates which is assumed to be as a result of pressure applied by patients coming from neighboring provinces.

Our medical staff member needs have been determined according to PDC staff standard of Ministry of Health as population of and accidents occurring in our district increase during summer months due to reasons such as our district's having a central geographical location, provision of service to nearby districts and villages, and its close distance to Gulf of Saros, which results in dense patient transport.

In Keşan, rate of seeking medical assistance at primary health services was 3.5 per person in 2011. It secondary health services, it was 6.3. The rate of seeking medical assistance is 9.8 per person. Bed occupation rate of a hospital should be less than 75%. Keşan Hospital's bed occupancy rate is 64%. Occupancy rate of Private Keşan Hospital is 70%. Number of patient beds of Keşan Public Hospital is 175, and Private an Hospital has 48 beds, thus the number of patient beds in Keşan, i.e. 223, is under that average rate. Keşan is known as medical center of its region. The number of people who receive medical assistance in Keşan is around 400.000. During summer, there is a tourism population of 200.000 people. Considering the population capacity of region and the population during summer, a hospital with 400 beds is needed.

6.4. Emergency Health Services

In our district, there are 2 emergency health services stations. One of the stations operates integrally with the public hospital. Our ministry has granted an authorization for establishment of a third

station, and a suitable place has been sought for that station. During summer season, an emergency health station is installed in Erikli Coast fort providing medical services to people spending their holiday there. We have 7 fully equipped ambulances, one of which belongs to the private hospital. One of the ambulances has 4-patient capacity. During bad weather conditions, when the roads are closed due to snow, transportation services are provided by a crawler ambulance from Edirne. In emergency health stations No. 1 and 2, total 1647 cases were addressed in 2011, of which 232 were referred to a hospital in the district, and 74 were referred to a hospital out of the district. Moreover, the rate of answering urban calls was 96%. The rate for answering rural calls in 30 minutes was 94%.

6.5. Maternal and Infant Health

Maternal and infant health is given priority under the health transformation program across the country. Programs carried under that scope ensured significant decrease in both maternal and infant mortality rates.

In order to decrease infant mortality rate even more, it is required to monitor each infant death case, finding its reason, and taking measures in order to prevent any further death cases due to same reason. The applicable system had some problems in terms of reaching death cases and collecting data, as a result of which, a new infant death system has been introduced under Circular No. 31 dated 04 May 2009 for taking necessary measures for all infant deaths and their reasons that take place between 0 and 365 days. Said system entered into effect on 01.06.2009.

The system consists of following stages: “Detection of Death”, “Inspection of Death”, and “Analysis and Announcement of Results”, under which monthly reports are made. Under the system, “Infant Death Inspection Boards” are constituted at provincial level.

Of 936 living babies born in 2011, 4 babies died. In 2011, a maternal death case was witnessed in our district. Of 936 living babies born in 2011, 33 babies had low birth weight. The number of women aged between 15 and 49 who used Effective method in 2011 is 8969 while the number of women aged between 15 and 49 is 19612.

All patients seeking medical assistance for pulmonary disorders in Tuberculosis Control Dispensary were provided services (regardless of whether such patients are covered under social security or not). Patients with TBC diagnosis are also provided free of charge service by the dispensary. Patients who require advanced examination and treatment are referred to next institution (Istanbul Yedikule Pulmonary Medicine Hospital and Süreyyapaşa Pulmonary Diseases Hospital).

In our region, Tuberculosis Control Dispensaries also provide regular services for examination of artisans and soldiers. TBC reports required for employment are also issued by the dispensary.

Recently, the DOT (Directly Observed Therapy) system was introduced for treatment of patients receiving TBC treatment. Such observed therapies are uninterruptedly provided by vehicles leased

by Provincial Coordinator for Tuberculosis Control. The dispensary provides regular services for 3 districts namely Keşan, İpsala and Enez districts. The farthest district to dispensary is Enez, which is 60 km to the dispensary. Number of patients suffering from tuberculosis in 2011 was 50, of which 30 were directly observed therapy patients as follows: 18 in Keşan, 10 in İpsala and 2 in Enez, with 30.

6.6. Environmental Health

Keşan Environmental Health Unit provided district wide service. The primary purpose of management is to provide regular and healthy drinking water. Accordingly, frequent drinking water inspections and analysis are carried out. The table below shows drinking water inspections and studies. Keşan District has central, town and village settlements. The center of district is supplied drinking water from Kadıköy Dam. The dam water is filtered and then supplied to the city. There are two chlorination devices installed. There are 4 chlorination devices in towns, and 1 more device is needed there. Fifteen villages have chlorination devices while 14 villages are considered to have no or unsuitable chlorination device. Drinking and service water needs of our villages are met from underground water resources. The drinking and service water management method of our village is as follows: Water supply of Karacaali Village, Altıntaş Village, Çobanceşme Village, Küçükdoğanca Village, Maltepe Village and Karasatı Village is provided by Association for Providing Service to Villages of Keşan. These villages are supplied water from 2 wells located within boundaries of Sultan village of İpsala district. There are 3 water reservoirs along the supply line. From the 300-ton reservoir located in Yıldıztepe area of Paşayiğit Town, the water is pumped to individual water reservoirs of each village. As there is no automatic chlorination device for disinfection, simple drop chlorination system is used. In order to provide safe drinking and service water to our villages, water disinfection process should be performed by an automatic chlorination device. Association for Providing Service to Villages of Keşan supplies drinking and service water to Şükrü Village, Seydi Village and Mahmut Village from the well drilled to the south of Şükrü Village. It is pumped through water supply line to the water reservoir located in Şükrü Village. Mahmet Village has its own water reservoir. Drinking and service water is disinfected automatic chlorination device. Association for Providing Service to Villages of Keşan supplies drinking and service water to Çeltik Village, Dışbudak Village, Yeşil Village and Bey Village from the well drilled in the forest to the southeast of Çeltik Village. The water is pumped to 100-ton reservoir through water supply line from the pumping station. The water is then delivered to villages from that reservoir. The water is disinfected automatic chlorination device.

The İpsala Esetçe Water Association supplies drinking and service water to Akçeşme Village, Boztepe Village, Türkmen Village, Yeniceçiftlik Village, Kılıç Village and Büyük Doğanca Village from 3 wells located to the west of Sarpdere Village. The water pumped by pumping station is

collected in the 400-ton main reservoir located within boundaries of Korucu Village. Water is distributed to villages from that main reservoir. Water is disinfected by automatic chlorination device installed in the pumping station. Remaining chlorine measurement results which we obtained as a result of analysis of water at certain points in villages were found to be inadequate which shows that the water is not regularly chlorinated. In center, towns and villages of our district, there is no factor which would directly affect drinking and service water resources, causing bacteriological, chemical and physical contamination. Keşan Municipality supplies water from Kadıköy Dam located within Kadıköy as well as 10 wells drilled within Kumdere Village of İpsala District.

There are drinking and service water treatment facilities in place in Kadıköy Dam. And the water is treated by such facilities. In center of our district, the water is collected in 4 main reservoirs. There is a very low bacteriological contamination level resulting from lack of regular and balanced chlorination. In our residual chlorine measurements which we performed at certain focal points which we identified through the supply line in district center, high values are detected in İspatcami Neighborhood and İstasyon Neighborhood, in particular, while negligible residual chlorine values are detected for other areas. Samples which are found to be chemically noncompliant generally result from use of aluminum sulfate, which is used for eliminating turbidity during treatment, above permissible limits as defined under applicable regulations. There is no problem in terms of physical aspects. Actions are taken according to annual program in accordance with public health in Keşan.

Healthy Diet

Under Turkish Action Plan prepared for "Preventing Obesity and Promoting Physical Activity", seminars are provided in cooperation with District National Education Directorate between 23.11.2011 and 22.05.2012 in schools to managers, teachers, parents, and students. It was aimed to raise awareness of the target group regarding "Preventing Obesity and Promoting Physical Activity". Members of target group applying to Family Health Centers are entered to digital Personal Health Record in terms of length and body weight by age group. Body Mass Index of individuals is evaluated by Ministry of Health and family physicians.

10. Private Health Services Private Keşan Hospital entered into operation on June 2009 with 46 beds capacity, as well as an intensive care unit with 6 beds (2 surgical, 2 coronary and 2 internal) and Observation Unit with 4 observation beds. The hospital employs 26 specialist physicians, 4 general practitioners, and 90 assistant medical staff members. The hospital has 1 tomography and MR device.

Private Derman Dialysis Center employs 1 specialist physician, 1 general practitioners, 3 nurses, assistant staff members, in total 14 staff members, and 15 dialysis machines. It provides service to those covered under social security, except for green card holders.

6.7. Addiction

Addiction is an individual's continuing to use drugs which have negative effects on life and health of the individual. In order to provide more efficient services and ensure specialization in terms of fighting Drugs and Drug Addictions, the Ministry of Health Basic Health Services General Directorate organized an affiliated unit "Office for Fighting Tobacco and Addictive Drugs" on 05 July 2007.



Under supervision of the Office for Fighting Tobacco and Addictive Drugs, Provincial Tobacco Control Boards were constituted for carrying out fighting and controlling harms of tobacco and tobacco products.

In fighting tobacco and additive products, preventive services can be classified under two different categories;

In order to reduce demand for drugs, the supply, i.e. availability, of drug should be reduced. For that purpose, there are certain programs such as Family and School-focused Education Programs, Informative Education Programs intended for the Youth, Education Programs for Sensitive Groups, and Consultancy Programs, as well as informative and educating booklets, leaflets, posters.

Under Action Plan for Fighting Addictive Drugs, a survey was carried out in our district. Number of addicts identified a result of said survey are as follows: number of alcohol addicts was 6, number of drug addicts was 3, number of volatile substance addicts was 7, in total 16 addicts. Of those addicts, 2 alcohol addicts and 5 volatile substance addicts were treated by drugs. Drug treatment of 9 addicts is still under progress. There are intensive education, publication and inspection efforts in Keşan for preventing harms of tobacco products.

7. Social Services

7.1. Family

In Keşan District, there is a Women's Guesthouse / Shelter operating under Municipality and Social Services and Children Protection Institution. There is a Women's Guesthouse / Shelter operating under Edirne Provincial Social Services and Children Protection Institution. The capacity of existing Women's Guesthouse in Province of Edirne is 8+2, i.e. 8 women and 2 children.

7.2. Women

In Keşan, the women are classified in three different categories. Most of the women, especially those who graduated primary school and secondary school, are unemployed, while some higher education graduates also prefer not working. Women who own their own business are performing successfully.

7.3. Children

The youth population in Keşan is almost same as Turkey-wide average. The number of children per family is 2 which is quite low. Despite that, children in Keşan face social problems the core reason of which is that nearly 1/3 of the people are poor or have limited income. Moreover, "live the moment" mindset of social groups in poor areas loosen the family bonds, which has primary influence on children. Just like in big cities, the children Keşan can also be categorized on the basis of problems they face.

Studies with volatile matter addict children: Pursuant to prevention of crime as defined under "Duty and Working Regulations for Children Police Department of Turkish Police Department" published

in Official Journal No. 24372 dated 13.04.2011, meetings were held with families of 5 children who were identified to use volatile substances, giving information to such families regarding therapy of their children, and ensuring the families to contact relevant authorities.

Studies intended for children who need protection and care: Minor children who are found to be neglected by their families within the meaning of Law No. 5395 are taken from their families and entrusted to Edirne Provincial Directorate for Social Services.

The Youth

Today, Keşan gives top most priority to education of female and male student. The youth population is on the decrease, and families prefer only one or two children. And these families strictly oppose to employing their children in heavy works and services. Rich families engaged in trade even want their children to find another job. Due the conditions in which the youth are raised nowadays, they are more apt to consumption. From clothing to phone and entertainment, they make no saving.

The youth are getting out of villages. Agricultural activities require great efforts, and youth engaged in agricultural works face difficulties in terms of marriage. For example, in Kozköy, there are nearly 15 to 20 spouses coming from Erzurum. Stallholders, Turkish bagel sellers and heavy services (like porters) mostly involve the Romani youth. Construction industry mostly involves young people from the East. The youth try to find a job in Çorlu – Çerkezköy. The youth does not care about yesterday at all. What matters for them is today. The youth meet smoking and alcohol at very young ages. The consumption rates are quite high. From an external eye, youth of Keşan seems to live free. They do not want to work in heavy works, in mines. Female students are employed as apprentices of artisans, etc. The young people coming to the district from other places are mostly employed for works like textile, stationary, dish washing, and waiter, etc. Most female workers are employed in these fields.…

There are nearly 13.000 young people attending primary and secondary school. The classroom average in primary schools is 20-22 students. In vocational school, the average of students per teacher is 15-20. The average rate per teacher in ordinary high school is 20 students. There are six private teaching institutions. 2200 young people attend such private teaching institutions. Smart students of Keşan leave the district after they graduate from 8th grade.

As high schools mostly receive students according to exam results, it automatically triggers grouping of certain level students. Average and ordinary students are directed to high schools and vocational high schools. We perform poorly in sending students to good universities. We lack success in terms of departments such as Engineering, Medicine, Politics, and sending students to reputable universities…

7.4. The Old

The old population consisting of people aged 65 – 90+ makes up 7% of Turkish population. This rate is 11% in our district. This rate which is more than Turkey-wide average corresponds to 2 per thousand of total population. Regarding female and male distribution of old age population, the old age males constitute 6% of the population of Turkey while the old age women constitute 8% of population of Turkey. In our district, the old age male population constitutes 11% and old age female population constitutes 12%. The main reason which led to a higher old age population rate in our district compared to Turkey-wide average is immigration of our youth population. The old age population rate increased especially due to lack of youth population in our villages.

Services provided by public bodies and institutions

Social Security: Old age is, among others, a significant social risk covered by Social Security Institution. Providing social security to people who are entitled to a pension after a certain period of service constitutes a great part of services intended for the old age people. Most of old people in Keşan are benefiting from social security services of social security institution after retirement. 4% of them receive pension under Law No. 2022.

Social Benefits: Under Social Aid and Solidarity Promotion Law No. 3294, the poor old people who need help and who have no benefit and receive no pension and income from social security organizations can seek benefits of foundations. Social aid and solidarity foundations provide privilege to old age people for any kinds of benefits and aids provided by such foundations. Cash aids rank first. Nearly 57% of old age people benefit from aids and supports of Keşan social aid and solidarity foundation. With the new law, the amount of pension received by widows decreases under Law No. 2022.

Social Services: As a result of industrialization and urbanization, the extended family evolved into nuclear family, people migrated from rural areas to urban areas, women started to get involved in business life, and traditional culture and values have changed as a result of which the old people lost their previous role in the family. Thus, old-age homes are needed for taking care of the old age people.

Health services: Under 5th goal of the policy on health for everybody in 21st century, studies have been started regarding "healthy aging and health of old age". Under studies, the existing situation and problems were indentified, goals, targets and strategies were determined with meetings in and between sectors. Studies are under continuation.

Services provided by nongovernmental organizations and private organizations

Services provided by nongovernmental organizations: foundations, associations and nongovernmental organizations carry out miscellaneous studies and researches as well as organize symposiums, congresses, and meetings regarding the old age and healthy aging.

Services provided by private organizations: In addition to private old-age homes, in big cities, studies our carried out providing care at home services in policlinics by natural persons and legal entities organized as business companies.

7.5. The Disabled

Identifying areas where the disabled people need help, providing the disabled with living spaces where they can freely live without requiring help from others, as well as integrating the disabled to the community.

Infrastructure and superstructure problems: Roads, pavements, public buildings, parks and gardens, schools, residences, means of transportation, and many other areas pose significant problems for integration of the disabled people with the community.

Considering solutions for these problems, the new buildings should be designed in accordance with needs of the disabled people, the public toilets should be designed to meet needs of the disabled people, and the pavements should be designed to enable use by the disabled people.

Transportation Problems: Issues such as stairs, public transportation, disabled vehicles, parking lots, etc. are among problems faced by the disabled people in terms of transportation. Considering solutions for these problems, the stairs should have disabled ramps, means of public transport should have disabled ramp and elevators. Under regulations, it can be made obligatory to make available ramps and elevators for means of transport. It is also quite challenging to buy and sell vehicles designed for the disabled people. We should facilitate the procedures under a regulation. Problems suffered by the disabled people in finding parking lots, in particular, is an important problem. Awareness of normal people should be raised and fines should be imposed on those who breach the rules and occupy spots allocated for the disabled.

Social problems: In employment of disabled people, the employers do not want disabled individuals in their worksites. Such prejudices make it hard for the disabled people to find a job. By increasing the employment quota for the disabled people, the disabled people will be enabled to find job, helping to overcome such prejudices.

Employment problem: Employment problems faced by the disabled mostly include lack of job analysis and occupational descriptions which favor the disabled people, insufficient education and rehabilitation opportunities, failure to rearrange the existing structure by duly considering the disable people, employers' being unwilling and timid in employing the disabled and facilitating their employment, and lack of vehicles specially designed for the disabled.

In Keşan, 76% of populations live in the urban area while 24% lives in rural area. Considering the disabled people, 59% disabled people live in urban area, and 41% of them lives in villages. It indicates that the disabled people mostly live in the villages. Better conditions in villages lead the disabled to live in villages.

Analyzing the disabled living in our district in terms of their place of residence, age, marital status, disability, and relatives, we obtain significant results. In the research, the disabled people are found to be mostly located in Yenimescit neighborhood in the district center. Their ages mostly range between 10 and 30. And most of them are single. Regarding the disability, mostly there are physically and mentally disabled people. And most of the relatives are sisters or brothers.

8. Agriculture

Economy is generally based on agriculture in the District which is endowed with arable soil. The products grown in Keşan are above all wheat, sunflower and rice. Vegetable and fruit growing too are well developed, and the tomato, pepper, zucchini, eggplant, apple, pear, almond, plum and peach are among the most widely grown products. In the Zone where the use of tools and machinery is widespread, the number of agricultural development cooperatives is high as well. In parallel to the actions taken to ensure the supply of animal feed and the improvement of the animal race, the cattle and sheep & goat farming in the region has an important position. A Mercantile Exchange operating in the areas of agricultural products and the livestock trade serves the Zone.

The Keşan District has a rich variety in terms of agricultural products. Beside the dry farming, also irrigated farming crops are available. The lands where irrigated farming is practised are usually those consisting of the alluvial soils of Korudağ, and are of the nature of 1st Class agricultural estate. No marketing problems are suffered, and the products are sold easily thanks to its closeness to a metropolis such as Istanbul. There are dams and ponds in our District in the region beginning from the Tekirdağ province border and extending up to the borders of Enez and İpsala. An increase will be observed in the irrigated farming upon activation of the Hamzadere Dam.

General Info: The surface area of our District is 1,187,360 decares, 47% of which consists of agricultural land, 33% of forest land, 5% of meadow and pasture ground, and 15% of non-agricultural land.

Constituting 47% of the total district area, the agricultural land amounts to approx. 558,059.20 decares. The distribution of such land in terms of agricultural use varies. The highest incidence in the District is that of the field land. The table below shows the agricultural land quantities in the district.

8.1. Education & Publication

Training activities were performed with 3540 farmers in general matters at 50 settlement units. All teams conducted the training activities at the villages for which they are responsible during the

struggle against sunn pest, and 3800 farmers in total were given general information about the control of sunn pest and the other plant protection operations.
Courses are held in our District of which 3 are on the Walnut cultivation, 1 agricultural irrigation, 1 cherry and sour cherry cultivation, 1 rice cultivation, 1 greenhouse farming, 8 feeder cattle breeding, and 1 wheat farming.

Demonstrations
Safflower demonstrations consisting of the "Dinçer" and "Remzibey" varieties on an area of 6 decares in total with 2 farmers in order to develop the safflower farming in the dry farming areas. Upon the harvest of the demonstrations, yields of 101.055 kg/da and 84.366 kg/da were obtained in the varieties "Dinçer" and "Remzibey", respectively. Printed and Visual Publication Operations: Leaflets, brochures, posters and books were distributed in the villages of our District within the scope of the Publication Programme for the Development Orientation of Agricultural Production (TÜGEYP).

Development of the Agricultural Publication and Consultancy Services
Agricultural Consultancy Services were launched with the Directive Regulating the Agricultural Publication and Consultancy Services published on 08 September 2006. By the said Directive, the outlines of the "National Publication Policy" of our country were drawn, the legal infrastructure of the consultancy system was created, and the professions of "publishers/consultants" and the services "publishing/consultancy" were legally defined for the first time. And finally, pursuant to the terms of the Communiqué on the Support Payment for the Agricultural Publication and Consultancy Services published on 21 May 2009, it was decided to sponsor the producers who will benefit from the consultancy services. There are 1 private company, 1 Consultancy Office and 4 Union Branches in our District to provide consultancy services in line with the Guidelines on the Implementation of the Directive for the Development of the Agricultural Publication and Consultancy Services.
Agricultural Production Development (TAR-GEL) Project
Agricultural Engineers and Veterinary Surgeons perform demonstrations, field days, farmer courses, farmer and enterprise visits in the areas of duty under their responsibility.

8.2. Agricultural Products

Rice, sunflower and wheat are the first to mention when it comes to vegetative production in our District. These products in question are cultivated on 475,165 decares representing 83% of the total agricultural areas (571.504 da).



Wheat and Sunflower are cultivated in an alternating cultivation system on the areas a larger part of which are not irrigated. Whereas the rise cultivation varies especially in the Akhoca, Orhaniye, Keşan and Çamlıca Basins depending on the fullness of the dams (especially the dams of the Kadıköy Irrigation Cooperative), and increases in the rate of preference toward rice are observed as its added value is higher in comparison to the other crops. One of the a-major threats is the fact that the salinity content rate increases in the areas where rice is cultivated successively leads to decreased yield in the next year's crop to be cultivated in the same area.

Phytosanitary Operations

Phytosanitary operations are conducted in Keşan in order to meet the local needs and demands in line with the agricultural legislation. Other public institutions and organisations provide support to such operations conducted by preparing a district operation programme each year. The area in which the farmers are involved most frequently in the institution is the phytosanitary operations. The activities being conducted are given in detail.

Sunn Pest Control

The sunn pest control has been being programmed by our Ministry as a Maaged Farmer control since the year 2009, and the programme and implementations for the year 2011 are stated below.

A total number of 10,000 Acacia, Maple and Ash seedlings were provided, distributed and planted in 14 villages of our District, within the scope of the Tree Planting Project for Supporting the Biological Control Operations in the Control of Sunn Pest and Aelia in the rural area of our District. The cost of the seedlings were borne by the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock. Sun pest survey studies were performed on an area of 310,000 da where cereals were cultivated, by 3 teams and 12 personnel in the year 2012, and decision was made to conduct chemical treatment on 125,000 da.

28 issues were taken into the scope of the Programme and monitored as the Managed Farmer Control in our District.

Integrated Control

No great differences develop between the practices of the farmers and the integrated control applications because they are similar to each other in our District.



Economic loss threshold is followed in our plant protection operations, and pesticides in conformity with the instructions are used. The pesticides used do not change although the producers comply with the instructions of the pesticide dealers and the public entities.
Special Survey Operations: Studies related to the Rice White Tip nematode (Aphelenchoides besseyi) are in progress.
Seedling and Sapling Marketplace Checks: 7,810 seedlings were checked in the year 2012, and no seedling or sapling was destroyed.

Recording Operations

Our Producers and the Herbal Product Buyers do not care about being recorded. Year-round training activities were conducted for this purpose.
It is considered that the it would be useful to support the producers participating in the Recording System, and to determine the guidelines of support.

Harvesting and Stubble Checks

52 combine harvesters were checked as the result of the checks of harvesting by combine harvesters performed in our District, through 8 controllers in total, and the average grain loss was found to be by 1.29%. A total of 15 combine harvesters were checked in sunflower farming, and the average grain loss was found to be 1%.

Rice Cultivation

In our district 39,656,800 million tons of rice are produced on an area of 41 744 decares, while 41,400,000 tons of rice are produced on 46,000 decares in the year 2011.

Seed Crop Control Operations

These operations are conducted by our Provincial Directorate. 2 companies produce certified seed crops in our District.

Keşan Grain Storage Facility Status

There is a storage facility belonging to the TMO (Turkish Grain Board) KEŞAN OFFICE, with a capacity sufficient to store 41.000 tons of grain. The types and capacities of the storage facilities are as follows.

8.3. Stockbreeding

The Cattle Breeding Information System Project was launched and Edirne was taken into the scope thereof in the year 1993.

Stockbreeding is currently carried out in approx. 4500 enterprises in the District. The animal assets of our District is 24,670 cattle, 55,344 sheep+goats, and 55,000 poultry. 1.3% of the enterprises where cattle stockbreeding is performed involve livestock fattening, 0.1% milk production, and 98.6% combined stockbreeding.



The animals bred at the milk production enterprises consist of native races at the 3% of the enterprises, whereas cultured cross-bred and cultured at 97%. The ratio of goats are dominant at the 31.5% of the enterprises breeding sheep+goats, and that of sheep are dominant at 68.5% thereof. When we take an overall look at the animal production we see the milk production.

Milk productin in Keşan is conducted in an organised, systematic and planned manner. The milk collection and cooling operation which used to be performed by the Union of Bringing Services to Villages was transferred later to the Keşan Milk Producers' Union. Also the private sector entered the business field of milk collection. The service and standard quality rises as a result of the competition emerging in the milk market. The milk production of the villages is shown as a table and in the figure below

Artificial Insemination Operations

The Cattle Breeders Association which was established in our Province carries out insemination operations through 102 special teams who concluded a protocol with the permission of our Ministry.

Stockbreeding Development Project

Within the scope of the Animal Diseases and Pests Control Programme, approximately 280,000 cattle and 270,000 sheep+goats are vaccinated during the year against foot-and-mouth disease. Approx. 7,000 cattle, 11,000 sheep+goats, and 11 equidae are applied anthrax vaccine, 18,000 sheep+goats and female calves S-19 Young Brucella vaccine, 2,000 sheep+goats Adult Brucella vaccine, and 12,000 sheep+goats Rev-1 Young Brucella vaccine.

177,886 sheep+goats were vaccinated against sheep and goat plague (PPR), 1,565 sheep+goats against sheep and goat smallpox, 165 sheep+goats against enterotoxemia, 950 cats and 9,000 dogs against rabies. 30,000 poultry were applied Newcastle Disease Vaccine; besides 2,377 cattle were screened for tuberculosis, 1,039,169 (cattle, sheep+goats, equidae, poultry and cats+dogs) were applied medical check-up.

The pasture areas in Keşan are not sufficient except for a small number of villages. And the pastures are highly fragmented in the villages having some. Therefore, the pastures too need cadastration and improvement during the cadastral operations. Currently the size of pasture and the number of animals of the villagers run in parallel. The animals assets of the villages having pastures are higher. It is observed that the number and production of animals will increase in the event of improvement of the pastures.

In Keşan, the development of the cattle breeding in particular runs in parallel to the modernisation of the stables. The basic problem of stockbreeding is related to the structure of the stables. Still small numbers of animals are bred in stables adjacent to houses in the villages. Therefore the villages cannot get rid of small-sized and conventional operational systems. The non-optimal stockbreeding operation leads in turn to inefficiency. In addition, the fact that the stables are intertwined with the human life gives rise to many problems including those affecting the health. For purposes of both the development of stockbreeding and the provision of the villagers with a healthy environment, the stables need to be moved out of the villages. The situation of the stables in our villages is set out as a table below.

Poultry Raising

Poultry raising is practised as a family operation primarily for the purpose of meeting the needs of the family. The products exceeding the needs of the family are sold at the local public market. There is no poultry facilities in Keşan aiming at the production of meat and eggs.

Beekeeping

Beekeeping is one of the important means of living in the Keşan District. The Edirne Beekeepers' Union was founded in Keşan, and there are currently 23,070 hives; besides the capacity for the external hives that can be accommodated in the District is 24,410 (Table 2). The honey production

of the District in the year 2011 is 461,400 kg. Besides, there are pine forests in the Gökçetepe and Sazlıdere villages which can serve 10,000 hives populated by bees. Although the honey yield varies by year, the average hive yield is 20 kg.

In the Gökçetepe, Mecidiye, Pırnar, Sazlıdere, and Çeltik Villages of Keşan, the honeydew moth living in the red pine forests is of great importance for beekeeping in the zone. The honey obtained through the cooperation of the bees and the honeydew moths can stand intact and does not become crystallised for longer times.

The Medical Vocational College students of our District represented our country in the USA and came in fourth in the competition participated by 576 groups with their project 'Magnetic Resonance Bee Headphone" by collecting the sound frequencies emitted by the bees as a remedy for the incurable tinnitus.

8.4. Soil and Water Management

As shown in the map (1), our District is classified within the order of inceptisols in the USDA soil taxonomy (classification). Inceptisols are, in respect of their general characteristics, the youngest soils consisting of orthents (OE) which are in the initial (incep) phase, with a high yield capacity, and generally having the I, II and III land utilisation capability; and are suitable for the efficient growth of the products of our zone, but exhibiting a low content of organic materials at the levels of 1-2%. In our District dams and ponds are present within the region beginning from the provincial border of Tekirdağ and extending up to the borders of Enez and İpsala. An enhancement will be observed şn irrigated farming upon commissioning of the Hanzadere Dam.

There are 2 dams and 18 ponds, including one under construction, in the Keşan District. The existing ponds and dams are of the type that are filled by rainwater, and have a water impoundment capacity of 100 million m^3 in total. The areas which will be opened to irrigated farming thanks to the Hamzadere Dam will double the irrigated farming areas in the District.

The Hamzadere Dam and irrigation area is contained within the borders of the districts of Keşan and İpsala. The dam irrigation area covers 17 villages in Keşan, 10 in İpsala, and 4 in Enez. An area of 33,563 ha will be irrigated. The fill-type dam will fill into the dam body the water taken from the Meriç River by using energy, which water will be then fed into the agricultural irrigation system. Mostly wheat, sunflower, barley, and feed crops are cultivated in the Hamzadere Dam area. Vegetable farming is practiced in the form of family gardening. Agricultural data of the villages contained in the dam area are given in the table below.

The Hamzadere Dam will perform four steps of irrigation consisting of the bottom land and hillside land. The land irrigation systems, methods, product pattern, organization forms present a new

situation faced in the zone. Planning is needed in order to be able to ensure efficient yield on the unit basis.

It is true that a transformation will be experienced in the area upon start of the irrigation from the Dam. However, considering the Zone's characteristics such as social structure, land ownership, agricultural culture, etc., it is observed that the irrigated areas will be converted to those for the cultivation of rice. In both the State Hydraulic Works' dam and irrigation planning and the environmental order plan strategies, and in the Keşan Strategic Development Action Plan, the need for the agricultural transformation has been set out.

The basic matters faced in the Hamzadere Dam irrigation area are as follows:

- Shifting to alternative agricultural products
- Introduction of a standard for the rice cultivation areas
- Consolidation and improvement of the pastures
- Consolidation of the farming lands
- Removal of the animal stables as a whole outside the settlement area
- Implementation of soil and water management
- Shifting to agricultural organisation
- Development of production and marketing models

In order to solve the above-listed problem areas, shifting to the agricultural organisation and the planning of product patterns are the primary requirements. For such purpose, training of the farmers, awareness raising meeting, cooperation and coordination works are needed to be performed.

Soil Analysis Operations

835 farmers in total have caused 3,774 soil analyses to be performed at 1 soil analysis laboratory operating in our District, and 80 farmers 87 plant and leaf analyses. Support based on soil analysis has led to a considerable increase in the number of the soil analyses.

Controlled Production used to be performed under the status of organic agriculture as a matter of fact until the early periods of the last century. Production used to be carried out without the use of chemicals. Especially upon the increase of the world population, chemicals started to be used swiftly. Indeed, the intensive use of chemicals along with the mechanisation in agriculture brought about problems in the agricultural areas. Although the yield has increased by 3 to 8 times during such process, it has been seen that this has not brought welfare for the world population. Intensive and wrong applications of input items **has led to environmental problems as a result of the pollution** of the ground waters and the accumulation of harmful chemicals.

8.5. Agricultural Economy – Marketing – Industry

Nearly all of the Industry of our District serves on the basis of agricultural and animal production. Currently 3 flour mills, 1 raw oil plant, 1 feed plant, 8 rice plants, 1 concentrated onion plant, 1 tarhana (a kind of sundried food) and soup plant, and 7 dairy plants operate in our District to process the products of our producers and market the end products in the surrounding provinces with Istanbul at the top.

Agricultural Industry & Agricultural Economy

The local market held in our District on Saturdays is visited by not only the inhabitants of the neighbouring districts, but also by a great number of Greek nationals who come for daily shopping trip from Greece. The market causes the population of the central town of the District to rise to 100,000 people on Saturdayscentre stock exchange transactions which is another indicator of the commercial life do particularly occur on agricultural and livestock products.

Another indicator of the commercial life, the commodity exchange transactions occur at the Keşan Commodity Exchange especially on the agricultural and animal products. The livestock market held in the site of the Keşan Commodity Exchange on Saturdays attracts due interest from the neighbouring districts and provinces as well, and the transactions and operations are performed under the supervision of the Veterinary Surgeons of the Provincial Directorate.

Pesticides & Tools Dealers

There are 11 Plant Protection Products dealers and 8 Agricultural Tools and Equipment dealers operate in our District, 6 of which being private and 5 public. Under the Law No. 5996 on Veterinary Services, Plant Health, Food and Feed, the barcode data of the dealers of Plant Protection Products were taken for 2 times semi-annually, and the Plant Protection Products dealers were inspected 70 times, and the Agricultural Tools and Equipment dealers 41 times for their operations primarily involving the “sales of prescribed plant protection products”. 10 agricultural engineers in our District are licensed to prescribe plant protection products, 6 of whom being public officials.

8.6. Food

1 Food Engineer, 4 Agricultural Engineers authorised as a result of the on-the-job training activities of our Ministry, and 1 Environmental Health Technician serve in the Food Control operations being conducted in our District under the Law No. 5996 on Veterinary Services, Plant Health, Food and Feed. In order to ensure a more effective, faster and more efficient performance of the Food Control services, the related powers were transferred to our District Directorate in the year 2005. The food

control services has been conducted by our Directorate in the Central Town and villages of Keşan as of such date.
In such scope, the "Alo 174" Food hotline was established in order to ensure active participation of the consumers in the process of control. Such hotline was introduced to our consumers through several events organised in our District.

8.7. Feed Plants

The pasture determination limitation and allocation operations started in our District in the year s1999 under the Pastures Law No. 4342, which operations were completed in 2004. 40 settlement units out of 50 have pastures in our District, and the registration operations have been finalised in 40 units.
The pasture areas of the villages and municipal towns of which registration operations were completed have been transferred to the "Pasture Unions" which were created under the law and the related communiqués, of which elections are held every second year. The maintenance and grazing management acts and actions are in line with the decisions taken by the Provincial Pasture Commission are carried out by the Pasture Unions created under the control of the Provincial Directorate. For purposes of meeting the raw feed need which is an essential factor for a profitable stockbreeding activity under the conditions of today where stockbreeding is of importance, the training activities are performed uninterruptedly towards the goal of popularisation of the cultivation of second products especially on the lands contained within the irrigation area for the cultivation of feed plants under the scope of the projects of the Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock.
The pasture improvement and management is a project implemented for the purpose of enhancing the yield of the pastures, and meeting the need for good-quality raw feed. It was applied in the Beğendik and K.Doğanca villages in collaboration with the Thrace Agricultural Research Institute during the years 2007 & 2008, and started in the Orhaniye Village in the year 2009 which is still in progress. The operations to increase of the green contents of the pastures within the scope of the project are applied to the Pastures by providing chemical fertilisers mainly based on nitrogen of which cost is financed from the Special Provincial Administration Budget.

8.8. Vegetable and Fruit Farming

Cultivation of vegetables and fruits which occupy an important place in human nutrition especially with the vitamins, minerals and antioxidants they contain is carried out in almost all of our villages for the purpose of obtaining economic income particularly in the villages covered by the irrigation basin of the Kadıköy Dam, as a family operation, and the products are marketed in at the district market and in the surrounding provinces and districts.



In the Keşan district, within the scope of the Rural Development Project, dwarf apple orchards of 42 decares, dwarf cherry orchards of 12 decares, and vineyard facilities of 55 decares were established. The operations which were started under the project with facilities of 3 decares each have now been started to be established as facilities of 30 or 40 decares each. Table grapes are cultivated on an area of 1,855 decares in our District.

Vegetable Farming

Cultivation of melons and watermelons in our District are especially concentrated at Beğendik, tomatoes at Çamlıca, Bahçeköy, Kadıköy, Seydiköy, Şükrüköy, and Mahmutköy.

Greenhousing: Greenhousing was started in our Zone during the 1990s in the form of greenhouse growing with the aim of both obtaining more products in the unit area, and increasing the income obtained from unit area by ensuring earliness throughout the year. Training operations have been started in order to ensure healthy and controlled cultivation of the alternative vegetables for the nutrition of the local people. In such scope, the first greenhouses were established in the year 1995 (spring roofed high tunnels made of plastics). Greenhousing Vocational Colleges were created as units of the Thrace University in the Havsa and Çorlu Districts for the purpose of popularisation of greenhousing in our Zone. They became widespread especially thanks to the projects made with the Social Assistance and Solidarity Foundation. Our District is suitable for the cultivation of vegetables and cut flowers in high tunnel greenhouses considering its local soil structure and climate data. There are 156 (High Tunnel) greenhouses on an area of 23,147 da in our District as of 2011.

The unoccupied forest land areas are leased by the Forestry Operation Directorate to individuals and village legal entities for 49 years upon approval of the Ministry, allocating walnut and almond gardens. A table showing the Private Tree Planting areas located in the Keşan District and leased to individuals is given below. The almond and walnut production rates will reach very high levels in our District within approx 3 or 4 years.

8.9. Organic Farming, Natural Farming

No organic agriculture is practised in the Keşan agricultural areas, since the investigations and research performed had revealed that they were not suitable for such farming.

The regions where organic production can be performed in the Edirne zone are set out in the environmental arrangement plan. According to the plan data, the villages within the limits of the feet of the Koru Mountain can perform Organic Production.

In our Zone the trend for organic farming only at a part of the enterprises or on some parcels thereof is due to the limited nearness of the land boundaries and the lack of the habits of keeping records at the enterprise facilities, as well as the lack of growing hedge plants on the borders of the land pieces. Also the lack or high insufficiency of biological agents against diseases and pests, and of biological fertiliser agents are other factors. Limited adoption of the use of compost and animal manure, mulching, green manure application and the rotation systems, and the potential decrease in the yield against the continuous increase in the level of consumption. As the marketing of the crops cultivated by organic farming is a new and unclear issue especially for the local market, the organic

production has not developed significantly. The cultivation of dwarf apple is spreading rapidly in the Çamlıca Municipal Town of Keşan. Products can be obtained regularly each year as of the first year of planting of seedlings. Thanks to the early start of the production the recovery of the investment costs occur much faster compared to the other varieties of apple. The costs of production and care, tree trimming and pest control, etc., and those of harvesting are lower. With its that important advantages, the cultivation of dwarf apples has become a brand in the Çamlıca Municipal Town. The first fruit brand used in Keşan has been patented as the GRABUNA ELMASI (Grabuna Apple). The producers who cultivate 3 thousand trees of apples, 100 trees of peaches, and 100 trees of pears are our first fruit producers who received the "Good Agricultural Practices Entrepreneur Certificate" in our Zone.



Distribution and control operations of the producer record books are carried out by our Directorate within the framework of keeping record of the chemicals under good agricultural practices.

8.10. Aquaculture

As our District has a sea coast, hunting of fisheries in the sea and in the lagoons entering the land plays an important role. There are 2 Fisheries Cooperative in our District. The Cooperatives operate

the marine and the fishing ports, and ensure better marketing and exploitation of the fisheries. 789,320 kg of fish was produced annually in our District.

The coral reefs in the Saros Bay house sea creatures of various types and species, which are investigated in many scientific studies by the Çanakkale 18 Mart University.

Following the provision of the ponds located in the inland waters with fish, the Edirne Regional Directorate of State Hydraulic Works have started the production of fisheries through a leasing procedure.

The inspections required under the circulars of our Ministry and the laws regulating the fisheries in the industry of fishing are conducted by a staff of two technical officers authorised at our Directorate.

9. Status of Tourism

9.1.Water Resources

9.1.1. Wetlands

In our province, starting from Ipsala district, Kumdere village, there is a Meriç Delta Wetland Area stretching to Koyuntepe village, Hisarlı Village, Yenice villace and Enez lagons and connecting to Saros gulf. We have no other registered wetland area. In Keşan, there is Tuzla Lake in the form of lagon, which is connected to the sea in Saros shore Erikli region.



9.1.2. Shores

Keşan shores of Saros gulf encompass the coast area stretching from Adilhan village's west part in Çanakkale district to Karaincirli village in Enez district. When we regard Saroz Gulf as Environment, forest and natural life, we should evaluate also its extension up until Korudağ and Mediciye town, because the west side extension of Korudağ stretches in parallel with Saros Gulf and its widest angle is between Adlihan and Çamlıca. When one goes from these two points to the west, the forest land narrows down and ends in Mediciye. While Mecidiyeköy constitutes Korudağ extension of Keşan forestry area in Saros Gulf, the weland stretching till Enez constitutes the starting point of Biosphere in Keşan.

Saroz Gulf is the richest regions of Thrace in terms of land and sea flora-fauna with its under water bio-diversity along with the biosphere and all the coast line between Mediciye-Enez, and with its Korudağ forests and bio-diversity which is integrated with the shore.
Saros , yet has occurred because of the clean sea, away from industrialization , but secondary residences and excursionist are increasing every day along the bay leads to environmental pollution.

Bay and surrounding areas, the most important threat that provide environmental damage Mecidiye is observed in plum and Plateau. Gulf and surrounding natural habitat and consequently the main threats of the environment;

- Keşan and Erikli summer residences' sewerage wastes pour to Salt Lake in Mecidiye coast and contaminate the gulf by reaching to the sea from here,
- The surrounding of Salt Lake was opened to building for second residences,
- The forestry areas in the vicinity of İbrice Fishery Shelter, which is a natural shelter, was opened to mining operations and its natural shelter quality was disrupted,
- The stone pits in Mecidiye destroyed the forest and vegetation areas in the region and at the same time polluted them and damages the natural vegetation,
- Illegal hunting of aquaculture within the gulf and especially elimination of under water diversity due to scoop net and trawling.
- Occupation and destruction of treasury and forestry lands along the shore and in touristic areas and illegal housing,
- Opening the Lost Paradise National Park in Gökçetepe to structuring by reducing it to the status of Natural Park and damaging the natural quality of the region through construction activities in the region,

When Saros Gulf is handled as a whole with Korudağ, Keşan remains as the most powerful actor in the economic development and environment, forest, agriculture and husbandry.

9.1.3 Swimming Water Monitoring Activities

Swimming Water Monitoring Activities, "Swimming Water Quality" EU Directive, number 76/160/EEC. Harmonization of the Directive with the Turkish legislation realized with the "Regulation on Swimming Water Quality" entering into force by being published on Official Journal dated 09.01.2006 and numbered 26048. Our goal is to determine the quality of swimming water in order to protect the human health and environment and to prevent that these waters are contaminated by any kinds of contaminants including the microbiologic ones primarily.

To monitor the swimming waters in our district, inspections were made by the technical commission established by Edirne Province Governorate and it was decided to take samples from 5 points and the Health Group Department took samples at the intervals specified in Annex-1 of the regulation 15 days before the swimming season starts. The samples taken are sent to the Provincial Laboratory of Public Health within the same day and analyzed.

9.1.4. Shore Line

Keşan has 64 km coast line in Saros gulf. Tourism business is carried out it Saros for about 50 years. The tourism activity was created first in the sores as shelters and then as reinforced concrete in the form of detached one-floor second residence. Therefore, the structures are observed on the area which is very close to the shore. While touristic activities go on, the structures remained in the shore side and a legal issue emerged against the legislation. The shores seeing the sea in Saros have been coasts in front of the bays and structures around the coast. And the shore side line started to be moved to these construction areas. In forest regions of the shore, no shore line was drawn as there was no need. In the following table, the shore line in Saros Gulf is seen.[11]

9.2 Tourism Regions - Tourism Types

Keşan host Dardanels intercontinental passage where the European continent is connected to the Asia and the Agean Sea. The foreigners entering from the Bulgaria and Greece border gates in Edirne to Turkey pass from Keşan to arrive the Mediterranean and Agea. And for passages made from Ipsala Customs gate, Keşan cross section is used both for the Dardanels and Istanbul direction. Therefore, Keşan, located in these road sections has the advantage of being a stop and passage point where the foreigners shop and spent leisure time.

Sazlıdere, Gökçetepe, Mecidiye, Erikli, Yayla coasts starting from Saros Gulf has settlements attracting heavy influx of people during the tourism season. The tourists coming mostly from Istanbul, Edirne and the near vicinity prefers the region for the purpose of sea and holiday.

Korudağ forests are natural protected areas and its oak and pine trees stretch till the sea. It is also prominent for its rich flora and fauna. According to the research made, hundreds of plants and more than 40 kinds of animals live in forests of Korudağ. Korudağ contains the 2nd most important ecosystems of Thrace with its rich bio-diversity. Korudağ constitutes the eco-tourism infrastructure of Keşan and it has the most important natural richness which will make Keşan more prominent in alternative tourism.

Keşan not only has natural beauties and richness, but also has historical and cultural values. As it is located at the cross-section of roads, it hosted many civilizations. The culture inventory study made across the province in year 2011 revealed that Keşan has much more prominent historical richness than already known.

The region has important historical data and findings appealing to culture tourism. Especially the discovery of Thrace civilization findings puts Keşan into the forefront in culture tourism. With the Culture Inventory Study, Keşan's cultural values were registered and the existing ones were indicated and it was made possible for transferring them to the next generations. There are 2 Forest Camps, 9 Resting camp parks, 11 Natural and Archeological Sites in Keşan. 37 pieces of Cultural Heritages were registered. In addition, 4 daily newspapers and 2 journals are published.

[11] Keşan District Strategic Development Plan, p.525, 528

In Keşan, having a mass settlement area, a rapid structuring during the Republic Period and especially in the last 20 years draws attention. The constructions belonging to the cooperatives and real persons continue on a speedy pace. And the social life caught up with such fast development. Everyday in Keşan, especially during saturdays when public outdoor bazaar is opened, a very vivid life is seen. Such mobility and vividness influences also the socio-economic life in Keşan.



Saros coast line and Erikli, Yayla, Mecidiye, Enez, Gökçetepe, Sazlıdere touristic areas located here are open to summer tourism involving sea, forest and picnic. Its clean sea and proximity to the sea turned Keşan to the center of focus for summer tourism. Soros Bay, which became famous many years ago with dusky grouper fish discovered by local and foreign fishermen is one of the unique paradises for amateur fishermen. There are 144 types of fish and 170 types of underground aquaculture in Saros. The Gulf is one of the two in the world which may clean itself which is called as autopuration Apart from this, it is convenient also for scuba diving, trekking tourism activities. There are resting accommodations with or without bed in Gökçetepe and Danişment shores belonging to the Ministry of Forestry-Natural Parks.[12]

[12] https://tr.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ke%C5%9Fan

9.2.1. Tourism Regions



9.2.1.1.Saros Gulf

Saros Gulf is surrounded from the south to the east by the Dardanels, Galipholy and Ecebat districts, and from the north by Keşan and Enez districts of Edirne. The settlement places are located mostly in the eastern and northern regions. Saros Gulf located in the northeastern part of the Aegean Sea is between the Galipholy Peninsula in the south and Thrace shores in the North and lies in parallel with the Dardanels Strait with a crystal clean wonder of nature stretching to a shore of 60 km.

Another feature that makes Keşan prominent is its forests and Saros shores. Keşan shore line where the oak and pine trees join with Saros Gulf in the Aegean sea shore is one of the rarest beauties staying away from the influence of industrialization.

Tourism in our region is dependent on Saros Gulf. The first tourism movements in Keşan manifested themselved during 1970s in Sars coast line. A slow progress occurred until 1990s and after that a

very rapid increase happened until 2000s. In parallel with such increasing demand, the coasts of Sazlıdere, Gökçetepe, Mecidiye, Erikli, Danişment and Yayla in the coastal regions served as summer time vacation places for not only Keşan, but also Thrace and Istanbul population. In line with these developments, touristic enterprises emerged especially in Erikli and Yayla coast having a broad sandy beach and service is provided to the summertime tourists there. 144 types of fish, 78 types of sea plant and 34 types of sponges are raised in Saros Gulf. Captain Cousto, coming to the virgin waters of North Agea in 1970s became a fond of Saros Gulf and defined Saros as the north version of "Red Sea" upon making several diving there. Erikli, Vakıf, Karagöl Lagon Lakes which are connected to the sea to the northern side of the Gulf are among the places where birds like flamingo accommodate during their immigration period. The abundant edible salts brought by the rivers poured into the Saros Gulf renders the types in this region rich. The diversity of living creatures which are not seen even in the shores of the Mediterranean, many diving clubs positioned in Istanbul, that it is proximate to Istanbul and has a rich underground world, that there are many water flow roads in Saros Gulf offers a very crystal clear view and draws the attention of many underground photographers with its a great variety of coral reefs.

Being discovered in recent years that it was convenient also for wind surfing, Saros Gulf is pointed out as the greatest candidates to become one of the most prominent resting and water sports centers of the world. The most striking feature of Saros Gulf is that it has broad beaches in front of the valleys stretching to the shore.

Its shore is suitable for sea tourism. Daily tourism is active and houses serve as pensions. Both the forest area of the village and its natural scene is valuable for eco tourism and Agro tourism.

9.2.1.2.Gökçetepe

Its ancient name is Mariz and it is village inherited from the Genoveses. It has a castle dating back to the Byzantine times on a hill seeing the beach. The village has a spectacular view where the sea and the forest joint together. It has a forest camp. It has restaurants, tea garden, wc and shower booths in the shore.

İbrice port is of great importance for diving tourism. İbrice Port is a rarely found place in terms of Diving and handline fishing. The natural structure was not contaminated and it preserved its naturality.

9.2.1.3. Mecidiye

The town has a coast line of 9 kilometers. 5 km of it is the beach and the remaining is the forest and maquis. Its beach of 5 km contains Mecidiye shore, Kale Strait, Uzunkum Beaches, Derindere Bay, Deliliman Bay and İbrice Fishing Shelter. The nature trekking, Scuba, handline fishing, land hunting and sea tourism are common. Accommodation is provided through Home pensioning and small

motels. The most important values of the town in terms of eco-tourism is the stone houses. It is convenient for village tourism.

9.2.1.4. Erikli

With its coast line, salt lake and a great variety of fish family, quails and aquaculture, the sportive activities both above and under the sea are common. It is the area where second houses are mostly populated. Accommodation is provided through Home pensioning and small motels. There are totally 2 Hotels with 86 rooms, 172 beds with tourism operating document. It is also suitable for daily tourism. It also has a camping area.

There is a camping area and facility affiliated with the Forest Regional Directorate between Erikli and Yayla villages. It is an ideal camp area where clean sea and beach with forest coincide. It is covered with oak trees. Its shore is suitable for nature tourism. It provides service during the summer for those who want to erect tent and for daily visitors.

9.2.1.5. Danişment

It has fishing shelter in the shore. The settlements in Yayla shore are populated by secondary houses. The accommodation facilities in the region are mostly small sized pensions and house pensions.

9.2.2. Tourism Types

9.2.2.1. Alternative Tourism

It should be targeted to mobilize the high tourism potential of our district, develop alternative tourism types, promote the touristic values of the regions in the national and international level, and ensuring that it serves for tourism in all seasons and to increase its service and accommodation capacity.

……..

9.2.2.2.Traditional (sea-sand-sun) Tourism

The Aegean shore of our country's thrace soils is covered with Saros Gulf, a crystal clear beach. That the water circulations in Saros Gulf is high and it is not industrialized, makes its sea very clear.

9.2.2.3.Health Tourism

Another feature that makes Keşan prominent is its forests and Saros shores. Keşan shore line where the oak and pine trees join with Saros Gulf in the Aegean sea shore is one of the rarest beauties staying away from the influence of industrialization and they are extremely beneficial. This natural beauty will make it one of the future's health tourism centers.

9.2.2.4.Sport Tourism (aqua sports)

As a result of the resolution of Sportive Tourism Board taken in year 2011, the super water activities, sailing, winds surfing, Kite board, Optimus, Jet-ski, banana, rings, sea bcycle, canon, Handline fishing can be made in totally 16 fields, and also diving scuba can be made in 4 fields. They will continue to increase in variety in the upcoming years.

Mecidiye shore, Kale Strait, Uzunkum Beaches, Derindere Bay, Deliliman Bay and İbrice Fishing Shelter, Yayla, Etikli and other regions are suitable for nature trekking, scuba, handline fishing, land hunting and sea tourism. In addition, an Artificial Reef Project (Submerged Project) was prepared by Edirne Saros Tourism Infrastructure Service Union (ESTAB) to promote Diving Tourism. Therefore, our region is a candidate of being one of the aqua culture sport centers in a short time.

9.2.2.5. Sea Tourism

In Saros Gulf, the sea temperature of Erikli, Sazlıdere, Gökçetepe, Yayla and Mecidiye coasts are extremely convenient for swimming. Mecidiye Town has a coast line of 5 kilometers in Saros Gulf.



9.2.2.6.Nature Tourism

The Korudağ mountains in the south of Thrace, covered with bout 40.000 hectares of red pine trees are extremely convenient for mountain and nature trekking. The natural beauties found among the forests, as well as the village tissue consisting of stone houses and villages preserving their authenticity are suitable for eco tourism. While it meets the needs of people living in a big city like Istanbul for natural life, the region earn the existing potential in the region's people to tourism.



9.2.2.7. Entertainment Tourism

In our region, Erikli and Yayla coast is one of the settlements whose population is increasing the most. As both the under and above of Saros is crystal clean, the guest coming during the daytime may swim at the sea, enjoy the sun and sand, do trekking, amateur fishing, diving, hunting etc. whereby taking advantage of alternative tourism opportunities.

9.2.2.8.Congress and Meeting Tourism

As it is proximate to the border gate and is located at the passage way, Keşan district has the geographical capacity to host national and international meetings. And this will enable our district to be one of the future's congress centers.

9.2.2.9.Shopping Tourism

The district center is at a cross section and at a point of trade in the region. Therefore, it is a center which is preferred by many settlement places in the region for shopping. Furthermore, a great number of tourists in the neighboring countries come to the region for touristic purposes and do shopping from our district.

9.2.2.10. Culture, History and Spiritual Tourism

Keşan district has played a significant role for ages as passage point in mobilization of the armies and cultures from one continent to another. At the district center are 37 pieces of registered structures of cultural assets from the Ottoman period. This potential and historical structures may be restored an put into the service of culture tourism. Its most prominent asset in terms of spiritual tourism is Hersekzade Ahmet Paşa Mosque.[13]



[13]Keşan D

9.2.2.11. Eco Tourism

As a kind of tourism which develops rapidly among the tourism industry is Eco-tourism, which is defined as a kind of tourism which creates economic benefit to the local communities and having the least impact on the environment. Especially the changes in the nature of international demand, increasing education levels and interest and awareness as to the environmental issues increases the demand for eco-tourism travels. The emerging of eco-tourism concept is a new one and the activities which fall within the scope of such tourism type have been carried out for a long time. Eco-tourism is of great importance because of the fact that it combines such activities in natural areas and sensitive ecosystems with certain principles under a discipline.



While Keşan has important richness in terms of eco-tourism, the people of the region cannot benefit from it to the full extent. In shore regions, in parallel with the local tourism policies, it is observed that the local tourism investors prefer mostly the Aegean shores. The geographical and climate conditions suitable for sea tourism has resulted in the intensification of sea tourism investments especially in Erikli part of Saros shore line. In recent periods, it is seen that especially along the 3 main lines stretching to Korudağ region and Saros Gulf, eco-tourism is heavy.

In Korudağ region and Saros Gulf and villages around the road, agricultural products specific to the region, traditional hand craft products are offered to the tourists. The places where these activities

are observed the most are Mecidiye Town, Danişment, Kılıçköy, Büyükdoğanca, Dişbudak, Şabanmera villages, Çamlıa Town and Gökçetepe - Sazlıdere cross section and they are mostly the road side selling points where regional vegetables, fruits and drinks are offered to the holiday makers who go mostly to the coast regions.

Mecidiye District has distinguished itself as a sports diver developing alternative forms of tourism around İbrice and has triggered the formation of this movement with the resort 's restaurant and B & B accommodation and offers divers the opportunity came eating and drinking.

Çamlica Municipality is committed to a vision that will appeal to trekking and tourism, especially for the groups interested in more extreme sports that appeal to starting infrastructure development. In this sense, in year 2006, an ethnographic museum that includes exhibits of ethnographic tools and historical objects have been created, where the tourist and nature sport doers can visit the and initiatives were taken to specify the rotation identification and mapping for trekking and nature spors.

Another settlement which is promising for eco-tourism in Keşan is Yenimhacir Town. The "Paragliding" discovered in year 2011 may enable the town to come to the forefront in a different field in tourism.

In villages and town where such movement is seen, planning initiatives and project implementations geared towards the promotion eco-tourism have become to be outstanding especially as of 2011 and 2012.



The oxygen ratio of Korudağ forests in the region is a determinant factor and it is reflected to the plans foreseeing the development of this reason through eco-system and heath tourism. Therefore, for the purpose of creating the tourism infrastructure in Korudağ region, necessary support should be attained for related production and services through pension operating and authentic agriculture products.

It is necessary to preserve the settlement tissue and the local structure culture in each village, to restore the cultural heritages (such as mosque, fountain and graveyards, etc.) ad to earn the original tissues and ethnographic components to the tourism.

The plans of both the Ministry of Culture and Tourism and the regional plans show that Saros Gulf and Korudağ region has been intended develop in terms of eco-tourism. On the other hand, along with the shores of Saros Gulf and the road lines, orientation towards the new tourism types such as eco-torusim, contolled diving tourism, health tourism, sea sports, wind surfing, underground hunting and yacht contests are foreseen.

9.2.2.12. Tourism Economy

While Keşan economy is fundamentally relied on agricultural production, the tourism inputs affiliated with Saros Gulf is among the top revenues of Keşan economy.

Keşan Bazaar which is opened on Sundays in Keşan, which is the finance and investment center of its hinterland, is a big one appealing heavy interest from all surrounding districts and it keeps the Keşan economy live in this sense.

Also the Greek citizens coming from Greece to do shopping brings an important movement and vividness to Keşan's economy. In today's world, where people frequently speak about the advantages of branding in marketing, Keşan has become the first starting point of brand values supporting the tourism of region. The ever increasing production of vegetables and fruits in the region, and its proximity to Istanbul, which is the biggest metropolitan city of Turkey, the sea and eco-tourism activities affiliated with Saros Gulf all add power to Keşan as the second pillar of tourism economy. Although the sales activities conducted in villages and town on 3 main lines having access to Saros Gulf are only amateurish, they provide a significant revenue to the public of this region. The village markets which were planned to be built along these 3 lines and came to the projecting state will contribute to the regional economy and the local people. There are 6 facilities in Keşan with operating licence, 2 with investment license and 1 in Ipsala district with operating license. The information as to the mentioned facilities have been provided below.[14]

[14]Keşan District Strategic Development Plan, p. 419, 420



9.3. Tourism Infrastructure and Services

9.3.1. Accommodation, Boarding House

In this region, there are 7 boarding houses and 6 tourism facilities (hotels), 2 of which have operating licenses granted by the Ministry of Tourism, while 4 of them licensed by the Municipality and they meet the service conditions and standards as required by the said Municipal licenses and Ministerial tourism facility licenses. In these accommodation facilities, the qualified persons that have received training for this industry are employed for delivering the services to tourists and holidaymakers. The following data and conclusions have been obtained as a result of the researches and analyses conducted in 2011 about the accommodation industry of Saros Bay.

For the accommodation amenities provided at boarding houses operated by private home owners are ambiguous and Boarding House Business and home and summerhouse renting are confused and summerhouse renting is referred to as "Private Home Boarding House Business". The rented homes and summerhouses cannot be inspected, they are not subject to any Standards, and the renting operations are conducted by real-estate brokers by 80%.

Summerhouses are leased out for very high rentals due to lack of inspection, informality, and legal loopholes. Renting summerhouses gives rise to an unfair competition against licensed and certified

tourism facilities, hotels, and boarding houses. It prevent the development of privet home boarding house business. It impairs the region's tourism and service quality. Since private home boarding house business is not conducted in this region (there are only 7 registered and licensed boarding houses in this region), the holidaymaker have no option but to rent summerhouses and profiteering activities are increasingly continuing in the region due to this mandatory choice. This prevents the development of the hotel business in the region. The summerhouses that are not registered as boarding houses or apart-hotels make sales as if they are tourism facilities by misleading the holidaymakers. Profiteers and summerhouse lessors bring about the negative promotion of this region.

Service Sector: The renting operations conducted in this region under the name of private home boarding house business do not have any standard. The holidaymakers cannot find any person to contact in case of probable problems to be encountered at accommodation places.

Informality: The summerhouses are rented informally by 90%. The estimated number of rented summerhouses is around 2500 and 3000 and we think that only 300 to 500 buildings among them are licensed. No rental contracts are signed by and between the lessors and lessees. Summerhouse owners do not make official address declarations; thus, no inspection and control can be done.

As the rented summerhouses are rented under the guise of ordinary house renting by 90%, tax fraud is committed. There is no system or sanctions in place to inspect and control informality and this creates the idea that in the minds of the lessors that "they are overlooking the informality and we face no legal problems"; accordingly, these activities continue. The informality in this region enables the profiteering of "summerhouse renting".

Administrative Chaos: The summerhouses that leased to holidaymakers in this region cannot be inspected as they are not registered as boarding houses or apart-hotels. As the summerhouse rented by holidaymakers are not registered as boarding houses or apart-hotels, they cannot find any agency or administrative unit to contact when they encounter any problem to seek their rights. As the rented summerhouses are registered as private homes, security and inspection aspects become impossible and this leads to an administrative chaos. The administrative chaos and legal gaps in this region paves the way for "summerhouse profiteering" sector.[15]

[15]Keşan District Strategic Development Plan, p. 418, 419.

9.3.2. Museums

*9.3.2.1.**The World's First Underwater Museum***

As one of the world's matchless bays, ESTAB was established for the promotion of Saros Bay and for improving the service quality of this bay. This organization conducts its activities for the Artificial Reef and the World's First Underwater Museum with the theme of Dardanelles Battle for the purpose of developing fishery and supporting tourism, mainly diving.



The real battle scenes are depicted under the water. The museum has an indoor area are 2 thousand 500 square meters and each arm of the starfish represents a country. There, the Dardanelles Battle is depicted with sculptures, boards, figures, and pictures.[16]

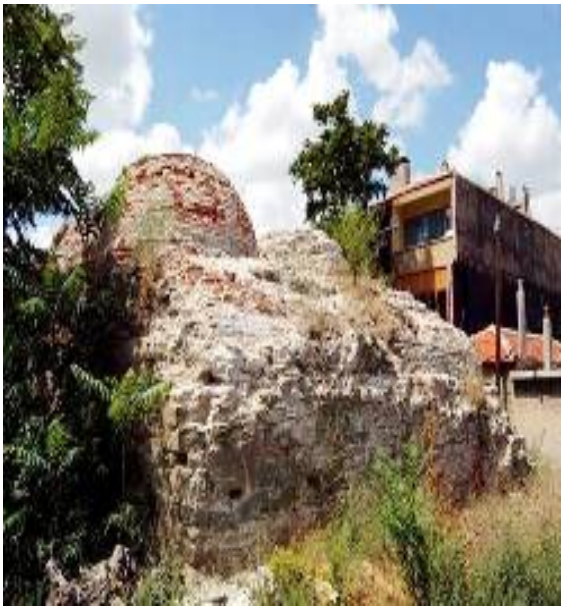
[16] http://www.sarosresif.com/tr



10. Historical and Cultural Heritage

The oldest known name of our district is "Zorlanis". The Neolithic Age started upon the arrival of Luvians that settled in Keşan District and its vicinity in around 4000 BC. Thereafter, the region was rules by the Greek, Persian, Odris, Macedonian, and Byzantine, respectively. The Persian Emperor Darius, the 1st (Darius, the Great) annexed the region to its empire by the end of the 7th century BC as a satrap. Following the separation of the Great Roman Empire into two parts in 395 BC, the district was held by the Eastern Roman Empire (Byzantium).

During this period, the Thracian gradually lost their characteristics under the influence of the Greek Culture following their separation from the Latin Culture.



Keşan District was first rules by the Ottoman during the prriod og Ghazi Suleiman Pasha. The administration of the district was bestowed to Hersekzade Ahmet Pasha during the period of Mehmet, the Conqueror.

Invaded by the Russian twice in 1829 and 1877, the region was attacked first by the Bulgarian at the beginning of the 20th century and then by the Greek during the War of Independence. On the 19th of November, 1922, a Turkish Battalion commanded by Major Mehmet arrived through Malkara and recovered the district from the committee of allied powers.

Although our district is a very old settlement area, it has been called Keşan since the Ottoman period. As a matter of fact, the existing sources indicate that the Ottomans named our district as Keşan.

Keşan is a Persian word derived from the word stem "kesh". Kesh means to pull in Persian and the suffix of "-an" makes this work plural to mean "the pullers".



Following the conquest of the town by the Ottomans in 1359, the immigrants were settled here from Anatolia. The former local people named "Gacal" are said to be their descendance. These nomads, who densely settled in the south of the Thrace, were named "Topkeşan Nomads". The duty of Topkeşan Nomads was to take artillery to and from the battlefield during war. The name shortened over time and has been used as Keşan.

In Anatolia, we can see that this name is also attributed to various objects that functions "to pull". In some regions, the leather harnesses of horses are called "keşan". In the Black Sea Region, a types of waistcloth and scarf made of a special bright fabric are

called keşan. Besides, there is a town named Keşan also in Iran.[17]

10.1.Architectural Structures

10.1.1. Hospital (Medical Vocational High School)

The hospital building, which was constructed by Germans in 1918, takes place amongst the cultural assets of Keşan as a structure that has completely lost its identity. This structure is located in the downtown of Keşan and its was built between 1900 and 1910 with a basement and ground floor of stone material and it is currently used as a school in opposition to its original purpose of serving as a hospital. It still serves as a school building.

The schools building that consists of a basement and ground floor was originally built as a hospital. It served as a hospital until 1986 and it has been used as a school building since then following the removal of the hospital. The entrance of the building and corners thereof have been built outwardly and especially the façade window sides are ornamented. The upper parts of the two windows on the right and left sides of the entrance have triangular frontals and the building's corners are plastered and the rear façade is partially plastered. Basement floor windows have depressed arches.

10.1.2. Keşan Houses

Apart from them, Keşan Houses, the number of which is decreasing at a fast pace, take an important part amongst the cultural assets of Keşan thanks to their different regional style (11). Only a few samples of Keşan Fountains, which are known to have existed in a large number, are still remaining and these fountains have almost completely disappeared. The building that is located in Keşan downtown and made of Keşan stone consists of a basement and ground floor. Especially, its front façade is ornamented. It is privatley owned and still used as a domicile.

Consisting of a basement and a ground floor, this building has square basement windows and rectangular ground floor windows. The building has a high entrance with round arched ground floor entrance door. The basement floor entrance is located underneath the ground floor stairs and especially the window side of the building is ornamented with the use of two-colored stone material. Round arches are used above windows to create the ornamental elements. The façades, other than the front façade, have been plaster covered.

Inns: The Late Ottoman Period inns of Keşan have also disappeared and only some of their structural ruins remain.

[17] http://www.kesan.gov.tr/default_b0.aspx?content=199

Baths: In addition to the ramshackle bath that is related to Hersekzade Ahmet Pasha Mosque, another ramshackle bath building that is related to Yeni Mosque represent Keşan baths. The one that is located next to Hersekzade Ahmet Pasha Mosque is a neighborhood public bath with a simple structure. This bath is no more in service and it is made of stone and brick materials. In the bath's plot, there are illegal single-storey buildings. Its upper cover is cone-shaped and the indoor of the bath is illuminated with the round windows of the upper cover. It is located in Keşan downtown and owned by the General Directorate of Foundations. Made of stone and brick materials, this bath is now ramshackle. Positioned in the east-west direction, the bath was built to serve men. Changing room has a rectangular structure and and the bath has an octagonal pool in the central part. Access to the warm part from the changing room is made through a pointed-arch opening and the warm part's upper part is covered with a dome that has 24 panes. Private rooms are accessed from the warm part and these rooms are also domed. Dome crossings are pendant. The building's water reservoir and furnace are located in the west. [18]

10.1.3. Mansions

The registers dating back to the beginning of 19th century refer to a mansion under the name of Büyük Mansion or Ayan Mansion, which was subsequently referred to as Aynalı Mansion, but today neither the mansion nor its reception building exist.



[18] Ke

10.2. Religious Structures

10.2.1. Hersekzade Ahmet Pasha Mosque

Built in Keşan District of Edirne Province at the beginning of the 16th century, this mosque was constructed by the Ottoman Grand Vizier Ahmet Pasha. Although this structure does not have any epigraph, it is accepted that the small mosque that is referred to in the charter dated the year 917 Hijri (1515 in the Gregorian Calendar) in the Russian Village is this mosque. According the the Turkish traveler Evliya Çelebi, the Russian village was the citadel of Keşan. Besides this land plot that is called Arnavut Farm, many other villages were registered in the foundation's charter in Keşan.

The mosque's narthex, which is though to have three domed parts, has disappeared and and annex structure was built in lieu of it in the Civil Architectural characteristic with very wide eaves. The hand-carved ornaments were repaired in 1304 (1886-87).

The mosque was built with greenish dimension stone with rough joints and it has a square plan in a 12x12 meters size.

It has a lead-covered dome of 950 meters diameter. On each façade, it has six rectangular windows in additions to four upper lancet windows and one window on trimmer skirting. It has a more palatial entrance than the similar building that is located in Hersek Village between Yalova and Karamürsel.

The altar, which originally had stalactites, was subsequently tiled and, during this repair, the tiles were removed to restore the altar structure.

The mosque's dome and squinches have hand-carved ornaments in the 19th century style and the foundation with water reservoir that is built in a pit and descended with 4 stairs is covered with a wooden roof and its restored during this repair.

Most of the mosque's burial area were damages after the removal of inscription thereof for use as paving stones in 1962. The marble gravestone of Perihan Hatun in this burial area dates back to 925 (1519) right after the mosque's construction.

We do not have any information about the relation of the small bath, which served until 1962 and is ramshackle today, with the mosque. Also, there is a foundation in front of the mosque.

Hersekzade Ahmet Pasha was born in 1459 in Herzegovina - Novi. His original name was Stjepan. He was the son of Stjepan Vukcic-Kosacer, the ruler of Southeastern Bosnia. Following the conquest of Bosnia in 1463 by Mehmet the Conqueror, Duke Stjepan entered into the service of the Ottomans. Ottomans completely conquered Bosnia in 1466. Stjepan was engaged in the Imperial service at a small age.

He was renamed as Ahmet. As his family had been known as Hercegovie due to his father's title, he was called Hersekzade. He joined the campaign of Mehmet the Conqueror on Shkodra in 1479 as a governor. He was assigned to Hüdavendigar Sanjak in 1481. Thereafter, he was assigned as the Anatolian Governor.

He joined campaign on Albania in 1492. He then became the Grand Vizier in 1497. He passed during a travel at the current border of Kahramanmaraş Province on 21 July 1517 and he was buried in Hersek Village in Izmit Bay.[19]

10.2.2. Lodges and Monasteries

We only have the existing information from Celveti Islamic Monastery (8) established by Süleyman Zati Efendi (-Deceased in 1175 Hijri - 1762 in the Gregorian Calendar) and Hamdi Baba Lodge, a Bektashi Lodge, in Keşan.

10.2.3. Mosques

There is some information about Keşan mosques in the book of Riyaz-ı Belde-i Edirne (v. 3, p. 109) written by Ahmet Badi Efendi (1839-1910). According to this book, there are three mosques and four small mosques in the town other than Hersekzade Ahmet Pasha Mosque, known as Cami-i Kebir. These mosques are: Cami-i Cedit (New Mosque) built by Hacı Mehmet Ağa, Üst Cami



[19] htt

built by Behram Pasha, and Cami-i Esbat (Isbat Mosque) built by Esbat Bey.

10.2.4. Graveyards

We know that there are graveyards other than Hersekzade Ahmet Pasha Mosque's burial area in Keşan. The burial area of Hersekzade Ahmet Pasha Mosque was predominantly used for the burial of town's prominent and elite people, while the other graveyards were used for the burial of town people. The former Ottoman Graveyards (12) that had been located in Keşan town right next to the settlement area were removed over time and their land plots have been used for settlement. The only Ottoman Graveyard that still exists is Tepe Graveyard and it could have been protected thanks to its location outside the settlement area. The Old Graveyard, one of Keşan's destroyed graveyards, used to be located nearby Keşan Public Marketplace on the land plot of İnönü Primary School. Cherkess Graveyard was located in the south of Keşan Division Building. Zaferiye Graveyard was located in the land plot of current Anatolian Industrial Vocational High School. Another graveyard existed on the upper part of Alacakapı Street. Besides, there was a graveyard known by Graveyard Ridge in addition to another graveyard outside the settlement area in the plateau. The fact that the plains, which are located right next to these slopes, were used by Germans as an airfield during the World War I, are very close to the area known as "Aircraft Field" makes us consider that this area was used as a military graveyard. In addition to them, there was a Christian graveyard in Aşağı Zaferiye Neighborhood next to the first grain silos of Turkish Grain Board. In Tepe Graveyard, which is the only graveyard that still preserves its Ottoman identity in Keşan, there are gravestones with inscriptions in Ottoman along with black and yellow stones. Thanks to these characteristics, Tepe Graveyard is a place that must be included among the most important cultural assets of Keşan and even that must be diligently protected. It is located in Keşan District's Orta Cami Neighborhood and owned by Keşan Municipality. It is the oldest graveyard of Keşan District and the graveyard area is located on a high hill with a possibility of being a tumulus and there are old gravestones in the graveyard area.[20]

10.3. Traditions, Customs, and Handcrafts

The Lost Professions and Handcrafts of Keşan: Each one of the professions that embrace our cultural and ethnological values and that are referred to as handcrafts today emerged for meeting the needs of life and their production developed over time and was made in houses or shops. Many handcrafts and hand-workmanship in Keşan and its rural areas disappeared during the last 50 years.

[20] Keşan District Strategic Development Plan, p. 423, 424.

The handcrafts had a production capacity to meet the basic local needs and they have been replaced by mass production as a result of the industrialization.

Traditional Handcrafts - Dolls: This is a cultural handcraft that survived until the end of 1970's in Keşan and its vicinity. These dolls did not have any commercial aspect and commercial production and they were made by parent as toys for their children from seasonal products and materials such as wood and fabric.

Embroidery: These are the patterns processed onto garments and household goods for decoration purposes and they were applied on many fabric types. They are no more produced as handcrafts due to the invention and popularization of machinery for these purposes. In the past, the hand-made embroidery (etamine, cross stitch, etc...) were the indispensable parts of dowry and they have been replaced by industrial products. Housewives learn them at needlecraft courses.

Knitting: Knitting craft lived its golden era until the end of 1980's in Keşan and regressed upon the development of ready-wear and textile industries. Sweaters, cardigans, socks, and booties were predominantly knitted by housewives with knitting needles. The hand-knitted socks are known as şişon or şaşon in Keian and its vicinity. Knitting tradition is still maintained today and generally the garments such as shawls, scarves, sweaters, and booties are produced. While the locally produced wool was used in knitting socks and booties, the industrially produced yarns are used today.

Needle, Crochet Needle, Weaver's Shuttle, and Bodkin Lace types are seen in the women's handcrafts. Majority of housewives are still practicing these handcrafts. They are generally used as ornaments for table covers and kerchiefs.

The professions that disappeared or under the danger of disappearance: Pottery, Weaving, Quilting, Canering, Matting, Broom Making, Spoon Making, Blacksmithing, Saddle Making, Tinsmithing, Coppersmithing, Shoe Making.[21]

10.4. Cultural Assets of Towns and Villages

10.4.1. Beğendik Town

In the vicinity of this town, there are many late period and Medieval Period settlement areas and necropolis areas, while the hill located in the west of this town and known as Beğendik Citadel is actually in the borders of İpsala. Today, the hill has been removed as a result of the stone quarry operations and there are still stoneware pieces from the Bronze and Iron Ages and also the findings from Roman and Medieval Periods can be seen. All structures and military buildings from the Medieval Period on this hill and in its vicinity have been destroyed by the stone quarry company. A careful research revealed that this hill also is a Roak Altar or, more precisely, a Sun Temple like the

[21] Keşan District Strategic Development Plan, p. 429, 430.

one found in Ortataş Hill or Hora Hill that are within the borders of İpsala District. The stoneware findings in the vicinity of Beğendik from Bronze and Iron Ages are the important clues for the early settlement in this area.

10.4.2. Çamlıca Town

As a significant settlement are for the cultural heritage, we can find important and continuous settlement traces in Çamlıca from the Late Roman Period until the later period. Although destroyed over time, we can say that these findings are in a quite good status. The most important remnant in Çamlıca is Çamlıca Citadel. We can see that this citadel is an important Medieval Period structure and its original construction process can be dated back to the Late Roman Period. Despite the destruction, the citadel is at such a level that is can serve as an important tourism source and scientific studies can provide us with important details regarding its building and utilization processes. The citadel directly faces Keşan Citadel and it is connected to all other citadels and fortified settlement areas. There are settlement areas and graveyards in the vicinity of Çamlıca in connection with this citadel. These are are generally connected to the Medieval Period. Besides, there is a graveyard area belonging to the later periods where the Medieval traditions were maintained and also other areas that have the traces of utilization in other late periods. An interesting carved rock structure is found in Hocadere Canyon. It is seen that the rock structure has a sacred nature in connection with the holy spring.

10.4.3. Mecidiye Town

The stone mosque in the town center and the ramshackle building next to it draw attention for the late Ottoman period. Moreover, there is a graveyard with gravestones that still exist. Mecidiye Town is an important settlement area with its cultural assets. We have the information about a tumulus, which was destroyed, in the vicinity of İbrice Port, an old settlement area of Mecidiye, and a settlement area that dates back to Iron Age. There are archeological data relating to Medieval Period in the vicinity of Ibrice Port. Interesting architectural pieces draw attention among them. The citadel in Italian Bay and Kale Bay in Mecidiye Town is in relation with Roman Period and Medieval Period, while the findings from the Thrace Period and a rock altar can also be clearly seen in the same citadel. Located right on the seaside, the connection of this alter with sea is noticeable and it constitutes an interesting example for the Thrace Period Religious Monuments and cult areas. On the rear slopes of the valley, on which the citadel is located, we can see the traces of a necropolis that evidence the Roman Period and Medieval Period. The remnants of an old village on Domuzdere Road that is located where the citadel valley joins Mecidiye Settlement Area and a necropolis area n the rear part of the citadel are identified and although the front part of this area has been destroyed by a stone quarry, some of the remnants can still be seen. The existence of a small

watchtower or communication tower is evident from its last remnants. This structure is related to the military area on Hızır İlyas Hill and it is also connected to the citadel on the shore. This is a Medieval Period settlement area. Rüstem Baba Lodge (1), which is found in Mecidiye and which was established by Rüstem Baba (deceased in 824 Hijri / 1426 in the Gregorian Calendar) as a respected Bektashi person that played an important role in the Turkification of the Thrace Region, and the graveyard of this lodge are in an extremely bad condition and they are about to completely disappear. This area, which accommodated one of the oldest religious centers of the Ottoman period in the Thrace Region, is important also for being one of the oldest Bektashi monuments in the Thrace Region. In this graveyard, which is about to disappear, we can see the Ottoman graveyards from the end of the 18th century.

10.4.4. Paşayiğit Town

There are late period settlement remnants in the town center and its vicinity. Yıldız Hill, which is located on the north-west of the town, is an important Medieval Period settlement area. The traces of a necropolis can be seen in the south of this area. Medieval Period coins can be found in this area. Although no military structure or fortification traces are found today, the strategic position of this hill and its connection with other citadels and fortifications indicate that this is an important area from the military aspect. Yıldız Hill very clearly sees all other citadels of this area and is connected to them.

10.4.5. Yenimuhacir Town

Teslim Kale, which is located within the borders of Tekirdağ in the east of the town, was destroyed by the Forestry Administration. However, certain remnants can be seen on the ground. Built on a high hill, the citadel is connected not only to all other citadels of Keşan Region, but also to the citadels in Tekirdağ Province. There is a forest observation tower on its summit.

10.4.6. Gökçetepe Village

There are many late period settlement remnants in Gökçetepe and its most important cultural asset is Gökçetepe Citadel. The citadel is in a very bad condition and it is located on a hill that sees the two bays and it is fortified against any attacks from the sea. Even the current status of the magnificent observation tower evidences its former grandeur. It draws attention as a late Medieval Period building.

The area of Genoese Citadel built in Gökçetepe in the Medieval Age is a first degree archeological site and it still preserves its characteristics.

10.4.7. Sazlıdere Village

There are the remains of late period settlement areas and graveyards in the vicinity of this village.

10.4.8. Yerlisu

As a new village, Yerlisu has the abandoned Kuruçeşme settlement area in its pasture. Kuruçeşme is now in a forest and it has been completed abandoned. This area does not have any finding other that these settlement remains.

10.4.9. Mercan Village

The citadel, which is the most important cultural asset of Mercan Village was destroyed during the activities of the Forestry Administration. In spite of the destruction of the Forestry Administration, we can still see the traces that evidence the existence of this citadel that was located on a hill. It is understood that this citadel was connected to all other citadels and fortified settlement areas of Keşan Region. The citadel's general characteristics indicate that it was used in the Medieval Period, while there are signs that its was used in earlier periods too. Moreover, the Bronze Age stoneware pieces were found within the citadel area. The field studies have revealed a graveyard area that is connected to the citadel. Mercan Dede tomb, which is located in Mercan Village, dates back to the 15th century according to traditional narrations and the graveyards that are found in the vicinity of the village and that are related to the Early Ottoman Period evidence this thesis. There are many old graveyards in the vicinity of the village. Besides, old settlement remains can also be seen. In addition to the Roman and Medieval Period remains, the findings from the later Ottoman period have also been discovered. Most likely, there are settlement areas in the vicinity of Mercan earlier than the Roman Period. The early period stoneware pieces evidence this. Two Ottoman bridges have an important place among the cultural assets of Mercan Village. These bridges are one-arch Boyacıderesi Bridge and multispan Kocaköprü Bridge that is a magnificent example of the Ottoman architecture. Both bridges are the examples of classical Ottoman Bridge Architecture.

10.4.10. Karahisar Village

Located on Karahisar Hill behind the village, the citadel is one of the region's most important cultural assets and it has a significant place among Keşan Region's Citadels. In spite of the dense treasure hunting activities and destructions for different reasons, the present status of this citadel makes it possible to work with. Its position with hard access ensured its protection from some aspects. The citadel occupies a wide area on the topmost part of a high hill and it is underground by majority. Certain parts of it have been revealed and partially destroyed by treasure hunters. Karahisar Citadel is connected to the other citadels in Keşan Region and it is located at a very important strategic point. The citadel will possibly be an important touristic attraction center. In connection with Karahisar Citadel, there are remains of the important Medieval Period and late period settlement and graveyard areas in the vicinity of this village. Especially, it is evident that the graveyards in connection with the Medieval Period have a significant place.

10.4.11. Kılıçköy

Within the borders of this village and an on the road to Enez, there is an Ottoman Graveyard that is about to disappear and known as Martyrs' Cemetery among people. This graveyard is also possibly related to the Early Turkish Period of the Thrace Region as it is the case with the graveyard in Seydiköy. The graveyard is in a very bad condition and it will soon disappear.

10.4.12. Erikli Village

The shore strip of Erikli Village is occupied by summerhouses and this village is located on a hill. The village graveyard has black stones besides the Ottoman gravestones. The dates on these stones indicate 1880's. As understood from gravestones, there are signs of late settlement both in the village and in its vicinity. We have learnt that there was a tower on the village shore that can possibly be associated with the Medieval Period, but this tower has been demolished. It is highly possible that this tower was connected to the citadels and fortifications in Keşan Area and also to the military structures in Enez. It is a reasonably estimated that these towers are associated to the Genovese Gattilusio Family that rules Enez and also Northern Aegean Islands and North-West Anatolia's certain parts. There are remains on the road from Mecidiye to Erikli on the north part before entering Erikli on a hill with a flat top from the Thrace Period. It is an interesting discovery that the distance between the Thrace Period altars on this hill and in Kale Bay is very short and it is important especially from the standpoint that the region was a settlement area during the Thrace Period.

10.4.13. Danişment Village

There are remains from a smaller settlement area that could be related to the citadel and wide settlement area in Yayla Village from Roman Period and Medieval Period. There are in situ remains in the village graveyard from the Roman Period. These in situ pieces include architectural elements and also tomb pieces. In the lower part of the village on the upper side of the road to Koruklu village, there is an area where there are many stoneware pieces from the Late Roman and Early Medieval Periods. This area obviously contains the remains of a settlement area. In the vicinity of Danişment Village, there are graveyards that are related to the Medieval Period and also late periods.

10.4.14. Yayla Village

Although destroyed to a large extent, there are remains of a Medieval Period settlement area that is surrounded by walls with a large exposed part. It is located right behind the beach that has access to Saroz Bay that is an archeological area. The existing information that there are traces of an old port

in the front part of the settlement area evidences that this settlement area also functioned as an important port. Although known as Yayla Citadel, it is evident that this settlement area is a Medieval Period settlement area rather than an ordinary citadel. The settlement area surrounded by walls has a rectangular plan and it has been destroyed in recent years in line with the urbanization. It is very well known that this settlement area has three entrances. The demolition of this important archeological area is still remembered by many people. The large size and order of the settlement area in Yayla Village show such characteristics that enable us to identify this area as an interesting coastal settlement area. Although the field findings center on the Medieval Period, it also points out to the Roman Period due to the findings from earlier periods. The settlement remains from late periods can also be found in the village. The archeological sites found in Keşan borders are listed below.

10.5. Theaters, Cinemas, Libraries, Cultural Organizations

Led by the annual international Keşan Festival, the Cultural events that are organized for promoting the cultural inventory are conducted by Keşan Municipality, Towns, and Public Organizations in cooperation. These events have an important place in the promotion of Keşan. The events organized are given below.

* International Keşan Culture and Tourism Festival
* Bocuk Night Feast (first weekend of January)
* Windsurf Contests
* 8 March International Women's Day Event
* 23 April Children's Festival Cultural Events

Cultural Events

* 19 May Concerts for the Youth
* Traditional Dallık Feasts
* Sculpture Symposium (organized in 2010 Festival)
* 1 September World Peace Day Concert
* 19 November Keşan Independence Events
* 3 December World Day of the Handicapped
* Handcraft Course
* Theater Course
* Folk Dances Course
* Painting Course
* Folk Dances Course
* Sports Courses

* Events and contests organized on several days and weeks
* Science, Technology, and Art Events and Sports Organizations

10.5.1. Cinema and Theater

In Keşan downtown, there is 1 cinema with 79 seats. There is 1 stone cinema and theater stage for 300 persons in Çamlıca town and it is not in service.

The cinema was designed by Çamlıca Municipality to serve tourism and host cultural activities.

10.5.2. Library

In Keşan, there is 1 District Public Library and, in towns, there is 1 library in Çamlıca Town with books compiled by Çamlıca Culture and Tourism Associations within the Culture and Art House and 1 library in Mecidiye Town put into service by Mecidiye Municipality. The statistics relating to the last 5 years from Keşan District Public Library are given in a table.

10.5.3. Public Internet Access Center (KIEM)

The Ministry of Transportation, General Directorate of Communication has ut into service this facility with 8 computers in Library's Children Section and it has been serving the readers since 15 September 2008.

In our district, there are 4 daily papers (Medya, Volkan, Gündem, Önder). There are two local periodicals. Eight printing houses, 16 bookstores, and 1 cinema are in service. Besides, the Cultural Center has a Conference Hall for 110 persons and a Theater for 230 persons.

10.5.4. Cultural Activities

The region's local administrations, nongovernmental organization, tourism operators gather to cooperate in administrative terms for promoting the region under the leadership of Keşan Municipality. Among the town municipalities, Çamlıca, Mecidiye, and Yenimuhacir, whish has been lately drawing attention thanks to paragliding and cleaver-processed meat both serve their local people and also play an important role in promoting the region's cultural and touristic values.[22]

Other Activities Relating to Advertisement and Promotion

Nr.	Event	Organization
1	International Keşan Culture and Tourism Festival	Keşan Municipality
2	Bocuk Night	Çamlıca Municipality, Çamlıca Culture and Tourism Association

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3	Windsurf Contests	Keşan Municipality
4	Saros Artificial Reef Project	Edirne Saros Tourism and Infrastructure Services Association
5	EMİTT (Eastern Mediterranean Tourism and Travel Fair)	Keşan-İpsala-Enez Municipalities, Towns, the Chambers and Professional Associations of the Three Towns, Private Sector Representatives for Tourism