Additional Material

Ecosystem services

Current recreation and tourism:

Göksu Delta has a great potential for ecological tourism. It is one of unique wetlands in Mediterranean Region with its natural values. Climate conditions are suitable for 8 months tourism session in Mediterranean Region. On the other hand, Göksu Delta is not appropriate for sea tourism as west and southwest parts of Turkey. Summer lasts from end of June to September which period is so warm, dusty and humid. Also winter is very cold and windy until March. However, the Delta is created interest of people and wide range seconder buildings are also found along the delta shoreline.

Current communications, education and public awareness (CEPA) activities related to or benefiting the site:

Visitors center, booklets, facilities for school visits.

Social and cultural values:

Agriculture, animal husbandry and fishing play important role at economical issues in Delta of Göksu. 80 % of the population works in agriculture, whereas 20 % works in tourism, industry, fishery and other various sectors.

Delta of Göksu and its surroundings are quite rich in nature, history and culture. Also History of human settlements at Göksu Delta goes back to Neolithic Age. The building remains near Paradeniz Lagoon, two small buildings built by hewn stone at the beaches near Incekum and various antigue building materials, pillars and other remains can be mentioned as archaeological remnant at the delta. It is estimated that city of Silifke, which is located on both banks of River Göksu, was established in the 3rd century B.C Many remains and historical items dating back to antiquity, Hittite, Roman, Byzantium and Anatolian Seljukian civilizations have been found in and around the city. Taşköprü Bridge on River Göksu, Silifke Castle with 23 towers and 4800 m. circumference, Amphitheater, Necropolis and the ancient city of Seleucia are major historical remains in Silifke. The castle, theatre, arch, church, necropolis and the bath with the depiction of the three beauties (Hera, Athena and Aphrodite) to the 22 km east of Silifke date back to Late Roman period.

Furthermore, Caves of Cennet and Cehennem, which are subsidence formations, are areas of both natural features and historical richness with their ancient remains.