

ANALYSIS OF THE "GURI I PLAKËS" AREA AS AN OPPORTUNITY FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF RECREATION, TOURISM AND ECONOMY, REPUBLIC OF KOSOVO

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Citation: Çadraku, H.S. (2023). ANALYSIS OF THE "GURI I PLAKËS" AREA AS AN OPPORTUNITY FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF RECREATION, TOURISM AND ECONOMY, REPUBLIC OF KOSOVO. *GeoJournal of Tourism and Geosites*, 49(3), 1109–1122. <https://doi.org/10.30892/gtg.49326-1110>

Abstract: Space has an essential character for human life and activity. The reduction of touristic, recreational, sports spaces, etc., are affecting the quality of life and the health of the community in many urban areas of our country. Natural, hereditary values, etc., are of great importance for present and future generations, as a living environment for tourism and, physical and mental recreation. Tourism as an economic activity aims at the economic utilization and maximization of the natural and artificial values that a certain area, region or country has. This paper aims, based on the research results, to bring to every reader authentic data and information that show what it offers and what are the possibilities to form a tourist, recreational and sports center in the "Guri i Plakës" area, after considering the economic benefits that can be generated from this area. The work materials were: notebooks for keeping notes from the field work, handheld GPS for measuring coordinates where necessary, meter tape also for measurements, cameras, topographical maps at scale 1:50 000, geological and hydrogeological map (1:200 000), etc. The "Guri i Plakës" - in (eng: Old Woman's Stone) study area has an area of 125.08 hectares. 104.98 ha or 83.93% belong to the Municipality of Drenas (Glllogoc), while 20.10 ha or 16.07% belong to the Municipality of Obiliq. The research work identified two groups of values which make this area interesting for the development of tourism and recreation and are: natural and artificial values. The natural values include: the Drenica river the Dobroshec water source, the "Guri i Plakës", the Dora Stone (Guri Dora), the Folds in the Paleozoic formations, the karst relief in the limestone rocks. The Drenica River represents the main watershed in the "Guri i Plakës" research area. Relatively rich in aquatic flora and fauna. The study area is located in the central part of Kosovo, between coordinates 42° 40' 20" N, 20° 56' 40" E and belongs to the territory of Municipality of Drenas (Glllogoc) and Kastriot (Obiliq). It has an area of 125.08 hectares, with hilly mountainous relief with an altitude of up to 712 m. Important natural and artificial values have been distinguished in the study area. The proposed area "Guri i Plakës" has a physical and geographical position quite favorable for the development of a center (mini-center) for the development of tourism and recreation. Tourist activities (transit type or type of tourism) can be developed there, including activities such as: walking, camping, fishing, partly cycling, photography, recording video clips, part of the activities related to traditional nutrition (traditional food). The "Guri i Plakës" area can be used as a miniature laboratory because it contains many educational, research, scientific research components, etc. Lastly, the development of this area brings social, economic, etc. benefits for the entire community in its vicinity and other local and international visitors.

Key words: area, Guri i Plakës, tourism, recreation, economy

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INTRODUCTION

Natural, hereditary values, etc., are of great importance for present and future generations, as a living environment for tourism and, physical and mental recreation. Attractive natural forms, created in different geological periods such as special topographic, hydrographic geomorphological forms, etc., present values that can be assessed in terms of heritage, tourism, recreation and economic benefits. Tourism as an economic activity aims at the economic utilization and maximization of the natural and artificial values that a certain area, region or country has. According to Savanchiyeva et al. (2023), the tourism sector is the most important economic sector, the most important employment area and the most important source of income for the population, also Ivancsóné Horváth et al. (2023) point out that tourism is one of the leading sectors of the world economy. Yuliawati et al. (2019) and Duarte et al. (2020) in their works emphasize that geotourism promotes entrepreneurship with a local character and made market access for micro, small and medium enterprises. In this sense, the study area "Guri Plakës", presents a potential for local promotion and development, which goes in the spirit as the above-mentioned authors emphasize in their works. In economic terms, heritage values and tourism are a source of income and contributors to increasing social welfare through employment, increasing family income, raising living standards and sustainable development (Çadraku, 2022). Their economic, cultural and heritage exploitation and valorization brings multiple benefits directly for the residents of the area and indirect benefits for all visitors (tourists).

However, touristic and economic development depends on factors; spatial, material, social, institutional, etc. In an area, such as this one, which was taken in the research and analysis, it is aimed to show the natural and artificial values (constructed by human activity), as well as to show on the basis of the achieved research results that the in "Guri i Plakës" area there are natural and artificial values that can be maximized economically, always maintaining the natural balance or as many researchers emphasize in their works, the use of these values in harmony with the concept of integrated management of natural resources (World Commission on Environment and Development, 1987). The development of the

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"Guri i Plakës" area as a recreational brain center has been analyzed based on several indicators; social, economic, health, spatial, cultural, educational, scientific, etc. The social indicator of the last decades, the transformations in the territory of Kosovo, among other things, were also manifested with the development and increase of the standard of living.

This development and this increase in the standard of living is increasing more and more the demand for environments in which the residents of certain areas can spend moments of a social character with their family and friends. So, these environments have importance and role in socialization, communication, sharing different moments with family and friends, maintaining and creating bridges between people from different areas and countries.

However, according to Ivancsóné Horváth et al. (2023) the development of tourism would be desirable for the people living there, but this can only be done in a sustainable way, bearing in mind the importance of nature conservation as well. Demographic indicators - the study area is located in close proximity to the municipalities: Drenas, Obiliq and Fushë Kosovë. According to the data from the development plans of these municipalities, the number of inhabitants in them is: Drenasi 58531 inhabitants (Municipality of Drenas, 2022), Obiliqi 21549 inhabitants (Municipality of Obiliq, 2022) and Fushë Kosovë 34718 inhabitants (Municipality of Fushë Kosova, 2022). Employment - according to the data in the Municipal Development Plan (MDP) of Glogoc (2020-2028, page 58) it is shown that in the Municipality of Drenas unemployment is high (30%), where according to gender, 47% are male and 13% are female. The economic indicator-economic growth reflects on a stability and well-being for every people. Practice has shown that economic sustainability creates a satisfaction for people in the environment where they live and work. Economic sustainability does not favor the element of movement of residents from rural to urban areas or even from one country to another. The health indicator - physical activity, sports and recreation play a dominant role in terms of human health. The dynamics that are being experienced today by all the inhabitants of planet earth, where people's work and activities are mainly connected to indoor spaces (closed offices with artificial microclimatic conditions) and surrounded by technical and technological equipment (telephones, computers, etc.) is being shown as a factor which in not a few cases is affecting the general health of people. The spatial indicator - the growing trend of economic, industrial, urban development, etc., is affecting the occupation of spaces with objects, economic centers, industrial areas, road infrastructure, etc., thus bringing about the lack of spaces for certain urban and semi-urban areas with a recreational character (tourism, sport, recreation, etc.).

Cultural indicator - cultural identity has been and remains a distinguishing value of the peoples of every area, region and country. Preservation of culture, cultural infrastructure, etc., represents a challenge that requires mobilization from all social and institutional mechanisms. Cultural heritage and its preservation made people in every country feel good. The educational indicator - level of education represents an irreplaceable component for a sustainable development, good well-being, behavior, respect and preservation of the identity and values of an area, region and country. Scientific indicator - scientific achievements have been and remain closely related to the space where we live and work. There, the idea for a phenomenon, phenomenon, etc. begins and is generated, which is forwarded, researched, tested, developed, implemented-realized and made available to the general public. Potential pandemic situations, such as COVID 19 two years ago, require environments where people can spend relaxing and generally calming moments.

In the Municipal Development Plan 2020-2028 of the Municipality of Drenas, in the vision on page 21, it emphasizes the promotion of cultural heritage, tourism and sports, also on page 22, in the point of development goals and objectives, economic development in goal 4 emphasizes the promotion of rural tourism development. In the Development Plan of the Municipality of Obiliq (2020-2028) in point 2.3.8., page 36 elaborates on tourism, where it is emphasized that tourism as a sector has limited development. However, in this plan, it is emphasized that tourism should be developed based on the natural potential of the territory of this municipality. Also, in the Development Plan of the Municipality of Fushë Kosova (Municipality of Fushë Kosova, 2022) it is emphasized the need to develop tourism through the use of the natural, heritage and cultural potentials of the administrative territory of this municipality. So for what was said above, as well as supporting the Municipal Development Plan of Drenas 2020-2028, of the Municipality of Obiliq and Fushë Kosovë, the idea of researching and analyzing the "Guri i Plakës" area as an opportunity was strengthened even more for the formation (creation) of a space with a touristic and recreational character.

Therefore, this research (paper) goes in the spirit of the development plans of the municipalities within which the researched area is located and those in its vicinity. Therefore, the vision and purpose expressed in the MDP (2020-2028) of the Municipality of Drenas (Glogoc), the planning and treatments related to the development of tourism, heritage and culture in the Development Plans of the Municipality of Obiliq and Fushë Kosovë, was an impetus to undertake a research initiative and to carry out an analysis about the "Guri i Plaka" area and to answer questions: What natural value does this area have? What is the natural and artificial heritage of this area? What would be the options to develop a (mini) center for tourism and recreation in this area? Would there be multifunctional benefits for individuals and legal entities if this area is developed?. Seen from this point of view and for what was emphasized above, it comes to a moment of reasonableness which led me to develop this research (idea proposal) which is treated (elaborated) in this paper.

LITERATURE REVIEW

In written and electronic literature there are various definitions (definitions) related to cultural, natural heritage and tourism given by the author from all over the world, but nevertheless they all retain their substance for the purpose to which they are attributed. Below are the definitions (definitions) related to these names which are dealt with in the dictionary of the Albanian language and the legal acts that regulate these fields. The dictionary of the Albanian language treats inheritance from the aspect of law as: passing by law or by will the property of someone who dies to his descendants; the right to inherit an asset, while from the biological aspect as: the ability of living beings to maintain the

similarity of the characteristic features and functions of the organism from generation to generation. The theory of heredity. The phenomenon of heritage, and as heritage, cultural heritage (Dictionary of Today's Albanian Language, 2022). According to Law No. 02/L-88, cultural heritage includes: architectural heritage, archaeological heritage, movable heritage and spiritual heritage (Official Gazette of the Republic of Kosovo, 2008).

Table 1. Some scientific publications by local and international authors regarding the potential, heritage and tourism in the Republic of Kosovo and other countries of the world

Name of the scientific article	Author	Year of publication	DOI, UDC, ISSN
The heritage, tourism and economic values of Mount Blinaja, Kosovo	Hazir S. Çadraku	2022	https://doi.org/10.34624/rtd.v39i0.27706
Identification and restoration of the traditional water mills in Lipjan	Besa Jagxhiu, Hazir Çadraku	2021	https://doi.org/10.1556/606.2020.00206
Geoheritage of the Central Part of Kosovo – its Tourism Potential	Besa Jagxhiu, Hazir Çadraku	2021	UDC: 551.4.03:338.48(497.115)
Assessment of water quality in Blinaja River Basin (Kosovo) using the Canadian Water Quality Index (WQI), Journal of Survey in Fisheries Sciences, 10(1) 29-47.	Çadraku HS, Beqiraj A.	2023	Journal of Survey in Fisheries Sciences 10(1) 29-47 2023
Morphometric Analysis of Llap River Watershed (Kosovo)	Hazir S. Çadraku	2023	Rev. Roum. Géogr./Rom. Journ. Geogr., https://doi.org/10.59277/RRG.2023.1.04
Analyzing of Morphometric Parameters and Designing of Thematic Maps Using Raster Geoprocessing Tool. Civil Engineering Journal Vol 8(No 9 (2022)):1835- 1845,	Hazir S. Çadraku	2022	https://doi.org/10.28991/CEJ-2022-08-09-06
Monitoring of Water Flow in the Springs of the Golesh Massif, Kosovo.Ecological Engineering & Environmental Technology 2022, 23(5), 109–123.	Hazir S. Çadraku	2022	https://doi.org/10.12912/27197050/151760
Content of the Label Paper and the Variation of Physico-Chemical Parameters in Bottled Water in Kosovo. Journal of Ecological Engineering 2022, 23(11), 122– 131.	Hazir Çadraku	2022	https://doi.org/10.12911/22998993/153453
The Landscape of the White Drin is a Tourist Attraction in the Development of Local Tourism	Bekë Kuqi, Afrim Selimaj	2022	https://doi.org/10.12912/27197050/154922
Tourism in Kosovo at the Time of the COVID-19 Pandemic	Millaku B, et al.	2022	https://doi.org/10.21744/lingcure.v6nS1.2166
Tourism Development in Kosovo and its Consequences (SARS-COV-2)	Petrit Hasanaj, Bekë Kuqi	2022	https://ikm.mk/ojs/index.php/kij/article/view/5554
Tourism Development and Frequency of Nationalities in Kosovo Tourism	Millaku B, et al.	2021	https://doi.org/10.14505/jemt.v12.4(52).10
Challenges in the Tourism Industry During COVID-19 Pandemic in Kosovo	Kuqi B, et al.	2021	https://doi.org/10.18280/ijstdp.160417
The impact of COVID-19 (SARS-CoV-2) in tourism industry: evidence of Kosovo during Q1, Q2 and Q3 period of 2020	Kuqi B, et al.	2021	doi.org/10.1080/20430795.2021.1883986
The E-Marketing Strategy Process in the Tourism Industry - Case Study Kosovo and Albania	Behrije Ramaj-Desku	2021	https://doi.org/10.31341/jios.45.1.8
Sustainable tourism development – analysis of tourism development in Kosovo	Tahiri A, et al.	2020	doi:10.15240/tul/004/2020-2-007
Kosovo Tourist Offer as Part of Tourism Development	Selimaj A, et al.	2019	ISSN: 2411-5681
Geotourism and territorial development: a systematic literature review and research agenda	Duarte A, Braga V, Marques C, Sá AA.	2020	Geoheritage. 2020;12:65. doi: 10.1007/s12371-020-00478-z
The Role of Tourism Management for Sustainable Tourism Development in Nature Reserves in Hungary	I. Horváth, Z., Kupi, M., & Happ, E.	2023	GeoJournal of Tourism and Geosites, https://doi.org/10.30892/gtg.49306-1090
Geoproduct development as part of geotourism at geopark Belitong	Yuliawati AK, Rofaida R, Gautama BP, Hadian MSD.	2019	In 1st International Conference on Economics, Business, Entrepreneurship, and Finance (ICEBEF 2018) (110–112). Amsterdam, The Netherlands: Atlantis Press; 2019
Geosite Assessment and Communication: A Review	Frederico et al.	2023	https://doi.org/10.3390/resources12020029 , https://www.mdpi.com/journal/resources
Geoparks and Geosites	UNESCO, WA Wimbledon	1995	https://www.isprambiente.gov.it/en/
GEOSITES - inicjatywa Międzynarodowej DoH Nauk Geologicznych na rzecz ochrony dziedzictwa geologicznego.	Willian A.P. Wimbledon	1999	Polish Geological Institute Special Papers, 2: 5-8.
Geomorphosites and geotourism	Panizza M and Piacente S.	2008	Rev. Geog. Acad. 2008, 2, 5–9.

According to the dictionary of the Albanian language, the term tourism is defined as: Trips to different countries, which are usually organized by a group of people on vacation, to have fun, to see rare things, great works, natural beauties, etc.; the activity for the organization and development of these trips, while the law No. 04/L-176 (Official Gazette of the Republic of Kosovo, 2013), defines tourism as: the activity of persons who travel and stay in places outside their usual environment for no more than one (1) consecutive year for entertainment, work and other purposes, which are not related to the exercise of any activity. In the document the Development Plan of the Municipality of Drenas (Glllogoc) 2020-2028

(Municipality of Drenas, 2022) on page 167, point 3.3.12., cultural, natural heritage and tourism are dealt with. Referring to the MDP (Municipal Development Plan of Glllogoc 2020-2028), it results that in relation to tourism on page 101, a map titled: Map of the extent of natural and cultural heritage assets, showing the natural and cultural assets in the territory of the Municipality of Drenas (Glllogoc). On page 31 of the NAP, from the aspect of heritage, tourism, etc., the place called "Çuka e Godancit" (which belongs to the prehistoric period, registered with unique number in the database 3706) is mentioned as a natural heritage, while the train station is a cultural heritage. Dobroshec (year of construction 1936, with unique number in the database 4115). 11 natural monuments according to the MDP (2020-2028) have been identified (page 99).

On page 100 point 2.8.3. Tourism - a description is given about cultural tourism, ecotourism, etc., with a focus on their development and promotion. Regarding the name natural heritage in Law No. 03/L-233 (Official Gazette of the Republic of Kosovo, 2010) does not have a specific definition, but there are definitions which in principle manage to cover aspects related to natural heritage. So, according to the law No. 03/L-233 (Official Gazette of the Republic of Kosovo, 2010) we have the definition of nature values as follows: parts of nature that deserve special protection in order to preserve biological and landscape diversity because of their sensitivity or because of scientific, cultural, aesthetic, educational, economic and other public interests. Written and electronic documents related to touristic, recreational, heritage, cultural areas, etc., for the territory of the Republic of Kosovo can be found in the administrative and academic institutions of the Republic of Kosovo such as: State Agency of Archives of Kosovo, Ministry of Industry, Enterprise and Commerce-Department of Tourism, Kosovo Agency for Environmental Protection, etc., then in the Academy of Sciences and Arts of Kosovo, University of Pristina "Hasan Prishtina"-Faculty of Mathematical-Natural Sciences, etc. In recent years, the Kosovar author and other international authors have published a considerable number of works (scientific articles) which are shown in Table 1.

STUDY AREA

The study area is located in the central part of Republic of Kosovo (Figure 1). It lies between coordinates 42° 40' 20" N, 20° 56' 40" E. Administratively, it belongs to the Municipality of Drenas (Glllogoc) and Kastriot (Obiliq). It has an area of 125.08 hectares, with a hilly mountainous relief with an altitude of up to 712 m. The climate is medium continental (Pllana, 2015). The average annual air temperature is 11.66°C (KEPA, 2022). The coldest month is January with -0.2°C, while the warmest month is August with 22.1°C (Table 2) (KEPA, 2022). The average annual rainfall in the research area showed a value of 649.9 mm (for the period 2001-2020 at the Prishtinë station) (KEPA, 2022). The lowest rainfall is shown in the months of February and August, while the highest in the months of May and October (Table 3).

Table 2. Average monthly temperatures (Prishtinë station)

Pristina station	I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	XI	XII
	-0.2	1.9	11.4	11.4	15.6	19.7	22	22.1	16.5	12	6.5	1.1

Table 3. Average monthly rainfall (Prishtinë station)

Pristina station	I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	XI	XII
	51.4	38	50.9	57.1	69.5	58.1	54	43	49.8	66	56	57

The values of solar radiation for the period 2002-2020 show a minimum value of 29.4 hours (year 2002, December) and a maximum value of 370.8 hours (year 2007, month of July) (KEPA, 2022), while in 2020 there was a total of 1806.9 hours of solar radiation (KEPA, 2022). According to Pashkov et al. (2023) meteorological parameters (air temperature, atmospheric pressure, wind speed, air humidity, solar radiation intensity, etc.) can have values that both contribute to and hinder the preservation and promotion of health. The hydrographic network is characterized by the Drenica river, which represents the main catchment of this area. According to the state of water 2015 report (<http://www.ammk-rks.net/>), water flows in the Drenica river are as follows: $Q_{min} = 0.02 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$, $Q_{avg.} = 1.52 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$, $Q_{max} = 32.80 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$ (KEPA, 2015).

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The research work until the finalization of this paper was carried out in two phases: the first phase was carried out in the field and the second phase in the office. More than 20 days of fieldwork were carried out with the aim of getting to know the study area and collecting data and information, including measurements and photographs related to natural and artificial objects in and near the study area. The second phase was carried out in the office, which had the purpose of preparation, selection,

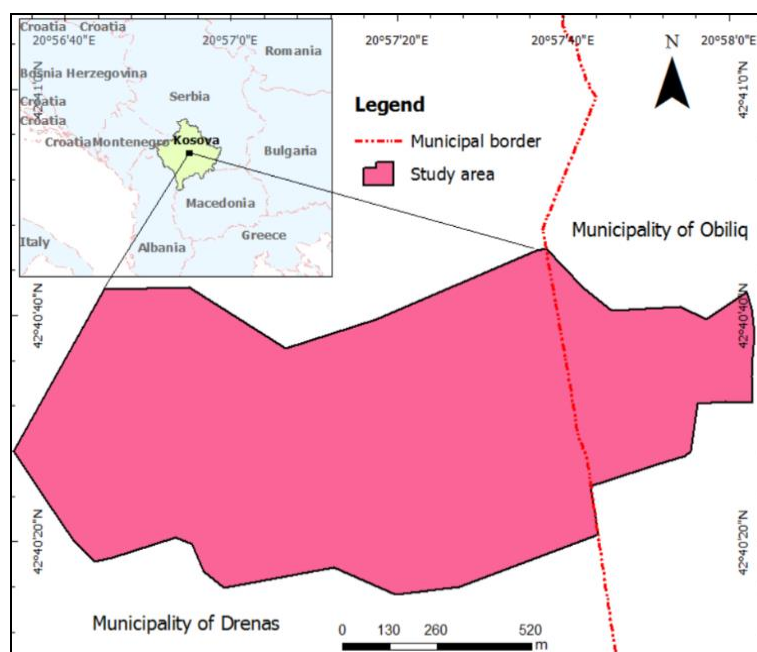


Figure 1. Location of study area (Source: own study, Çadraku, 2022)

processing, analysis, interpretation, drawing conclusions and recommendations, including writing, building tables, the graphic part, etc., until the finalization of the work. For the logistical aspects, a land vehicle was used, while the work materials were: notebooks for keeping notes from the field work, handheld GPS for measuring coordinates where necessary, meter tape also for measurements, cameras, topographical maps at scale 1:25 000 (KCA, 2022), geological and hydrogeological map (ICMM, 2006), 10 liter graduated container for eventual measurement of water quantity in the sources identified in the study area and near it. Satellite images from the Advanced Land Observing Satellite (ALOS) platform with a high resolution of 20 x 20 m are also used for analysis (ALOS, 2022), cartographic information (topography 1:25000, aerial photographs of 2018, etc.), which are available on the geoportal of the cadastral agency of the Republic of Kosovo (KCA, 2022). The word program was used for writing the paper, the excel program was used for the construction of tables and certain calculations, the ArcGIS 10.5 software was used for the construction and design of maps, analysis and elements. The data generated and presented in this paper are authentic and most of them are generated (created) for the first time in the country.

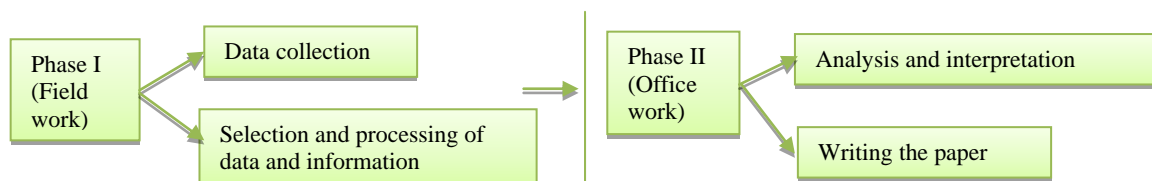


Figure 2. Flowchart of this paper’s methodology (Source: own study, Çadraku, 2022).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The "Guri i Plakës - in English Old Woman's Stone" study area has an area of 125.08 hectares. 104.98 ha or 83.93% belong to the Municipality of Drenas (Gllogoc), while 20.10 ha or 16.07% belong to the Municipality of Obiliq. Hilly-mountainous relief with an altitude of 500 m to 715 m above sea level of the study area showed that it favors the element of movement through it for all ages (Figure 3) (with the exception of children aged 0-5 years and the elderly with health problems with difficulty walking without an escort). The research work identified two groups of values which make this area interesting for the development of tourism and recreation and are: natural and artificial values. The natural values include: the Drenica river (Figure 4), the Dobroshevc water source, the "Guri i Plakës", the Dora Stone, the Folds in the Paleozoic formations, the karst relief in the limestone rocks (Figure 5). The Drenica River represents the main watershed in the "Guri i Plakës" research area. Relatively rich in aquatic flora and fauna. Based on the State of Nature report 2008-2009 and the Red Book of the Fauna of Kosovo, (KEPA, 2009, Ibrahimimi et al., 2019), the types of fish are present in the Drenica River as shown in Table 4.

The water source in Dobroshec (Spring Dobrosheci) is positioned at the coordinates: 42° 40' 08" N, 20° 56' 55" E and altitude Z = 579 m (Figure 6). It represents a vital resource for the study area and beyond, especially in terms of drinking water supply. In terms of education, it is important for the connection between theoretical work and practical work for students, especially for hydrology and hydrogeology students.

"Guri i Plakës" - is positioned at the coordinates: 42° 40' 26" N, 20° 57' 36" E and altitude Z = 568 m (Figure 7), it is about 15 m high. This rock was split in 1936 by a French company during the construction of the Fushë Kosovë-Klinë-Pejë railway line. Since 2006, "Guri i Plakës" (Old Woman's Stone) has entered the list of category III protected geomonuments, according to IUCN (The International Union for Conservation of Nature) with code MN-034 and an area of 0.05 hectares (KEPA, 2021).



Figure 3. Recreational activity-example (Source: own study)

Table 4. Types of fish (Source: KEPA, 2009; Ibrahimimi et al, 2019)

No.	Type name	No.	Type name
1	<i>Squalius cephalus</i>	10	<i>Chondrostoma nasus</i>
2	<i>Leucaspis delineatus</i>	11	<i>Cyprinus carpio</i>
3	<i>Gobio obtusirostris</i>	12	<i>Alburnoides alburnus</i>
4	<i>Rutilus rutilus</i>	13	<i>Scardinius erythrophthalmus</i>
5	<i>Alburnoides bipunctatus</i>	14	<i>Cobitis eongatoides</i>
6	<i>Barbus balcanicus</i>	15	<i>Barbatula barbatula</i>
7	<i>Phoxinus phoxinus</i>	16	<i>Silurus glanis</i>
8	<i>Rhodeus amarus</i>	17	<i>Perca fluviatilis</i>
9	<i>Carassius gibelio</i>	18	<i>Barbus rebeli</i>

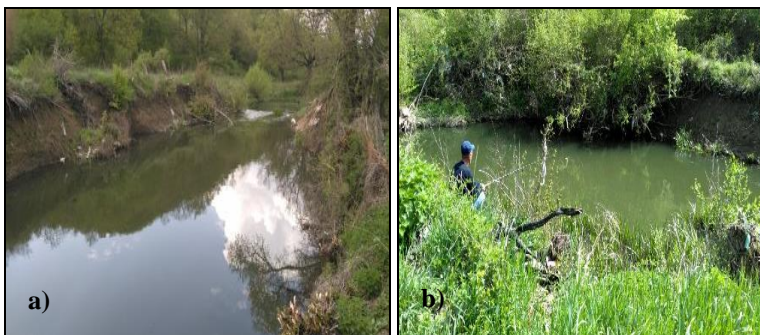


Figure 4. a) Drenica River, b) Fishing activity (Source: own study)

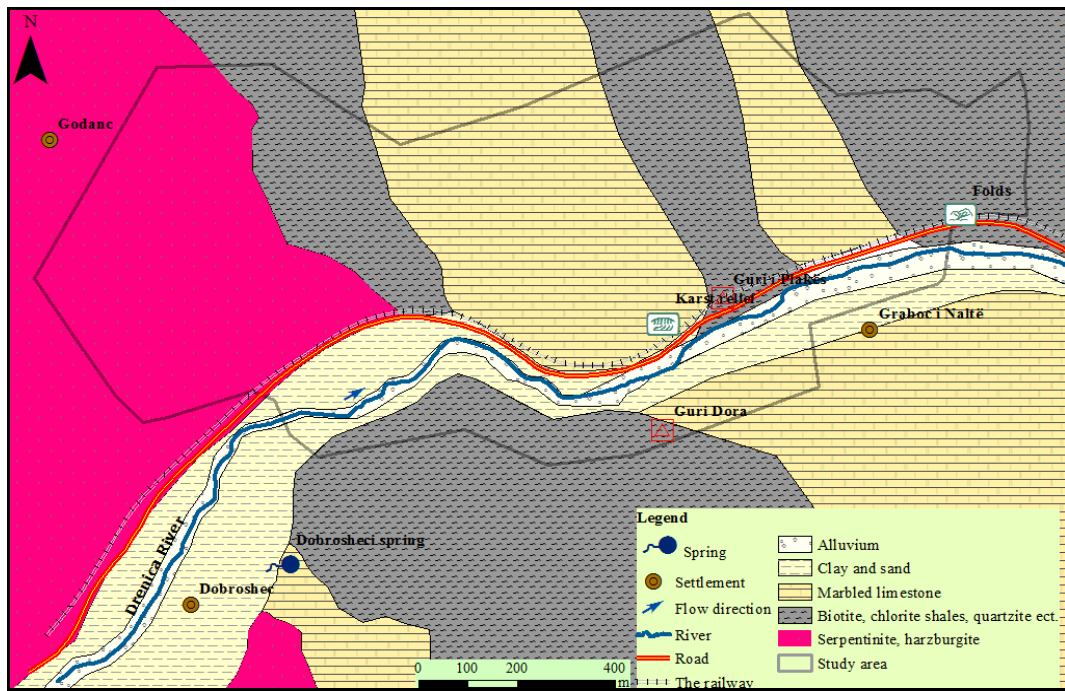


Figure 5. Geological map of the study area (Source: own study, map: Çadraku, 2020)

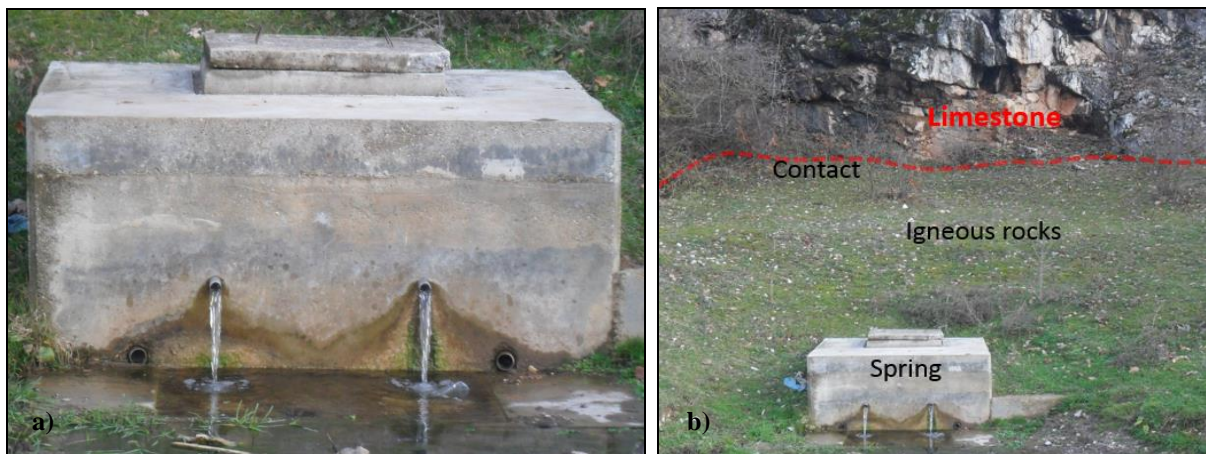


Figure 6. a) Dobroshec water source, b) Spring drainage contact between limestone and igneous rocks (Source: own study)



Figure 7. a) The height of the Gurit të Plakës, b) Guri i Plakës delineated by the Fushë Kosovë-Pejë railway (Source: own study)

"Hand" stone - baptized with the name "Hand" (by the author of this article). It is positioned at the coordinates: 42° 40' 19" N, 20° 57' 32" E and altitude Z = 597 m (Figure 8). It presents unique values in the country. This natural monument with a geomorphological character (rock) is recommended to be preserved and protected by institutions with legal acts as a value of natural heritage, for educational, touristic purposes, etc.

Folds - bending of rocks in the form of slabs that have different shapes and sizes (Shkupi, 1984), is positioned at the coordinates 42° 40' 32" N and 20° 57' 55" E with altitude Z = 566 m. It was formed in Paleozoic rocks (shales) (Figure 9). It presents an attractive geosite, created by various geological processes. Pasquaré Mariotto et al. (2023) emphasize that geosites can be related to a great deal of topics within the Earth science field. According to the commonly accepted definition "a

geosite can be defined as a site location area or territory in which it is possible to identify a geological or geomorphological interest for conservation (Wimbledon, 1995, <https://www.isprambiente.gov.it/en/>, Wimbledon, 1999). According to Panizza (2001, 2009), Panizza and Piacente (2008) geosites are represented by geomorphological features and processes, which are part of geomorphodiversity and are called geomorphosites. According to Panizza et al. (1993), Hobléa et al. (2018) geosite are landforms that have acquired aesthetic, scientific, historical, cultural and socio-economic values. Therefore, these values which are present in this study area represent importance not only from the touristic and economic point of view, but also serve as an educational part for pupils and students. In (Figure 9 a and b) shows such a value (geosite) and there the folds elements such as: fold axis, limbs, hinge point, axial plane, can be treated practically. It is recommended to be preserved and protected by the institutions of the Republic of Kosovo for scientific purposes for pupils and students of the earth science-geology profile, etc.



Figure 8. a) The natural appearance of Stone "Hand", b) "Hand" stone modeled in the shape of a hand (Source: own study)

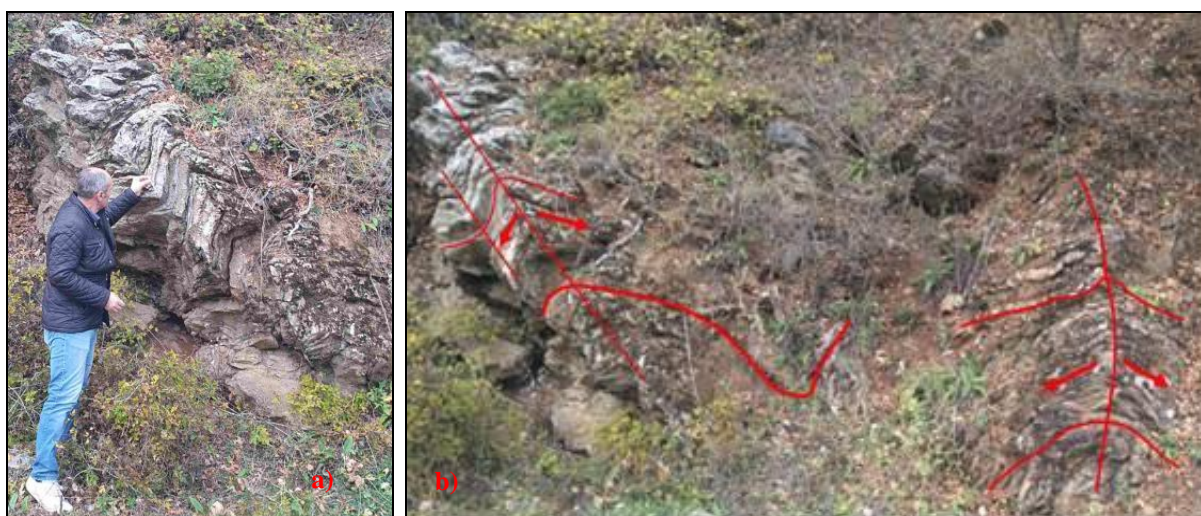


Figure 9. a) Folds, b) The elements of the folds (axis and limb) (Source: own study)



Figure 10. The karst relief (Source: own study)



Figure 11. The rock relief (Source: own study)

The karst - represents the totality of phenomena related to the activity of surface and underground water on rocks that are relatively more soluble in water. In the study area, karstic relief is present in Permian limestones. In (Figure 10), is shown the karst relief positioned at the coordinates coordinates $42^{\circ} 40' 24''$ N and $20^{\circ} 57' 30''$ E, with altitude $Z = 578$ m.

Relief - in the ultrabasic rocks (Figure 11) in "Çuka e Godancit", positioned at the coordinates: $42^{\circ} 40' 28''$ and $20^{\circ} 56' 45''$, with altitude $Z = 530$ m. Based on the decision No. 116/2015 dt. 09.10.2015 (MCYS, 2022) Castle-Çuka of Godanci belongs to the prehistoric period and has a unique number in the database 003706. Several cultural heritage sites constructed by human activity have been identified in the study area.

This group of values includes: the railway with the engineering facilities connected to it (such as: bridges, aqueducts, retaining and protective walls, channels and signaling devices) and water mills. All these engineering works represent value and importance for the construction age of the railways (over 86 years), as well as for the type of material used for their construction. These works have heritage, cultural, educational, educational and touristic importance, which today (2022) can be used not only as heritage and touristic value but also from educational aspect, especially for profiles of construction technical schools and students of profiles in engineering of construction and infrastructure.

Behram's Mill - is located at the coordinates: $42^{\circ} 40' 36''$ N and $20^{\circ} 58' 02''$ E, with altitude $Z = 568$ m (Figure 12). This mill is estimated to have been built around the 1950s, while it was restored in 2019. It presents historical, hereditary, cultural, educational, scientific value, etc. Today (2022) is an object that preserves tradition, history, heritage and culture, which can be of interest to tourists (local and foreign visitors) who frequent this area.

Bajram's Mill - is located at the coordinates: $42^{\circ} 40' 30''$ N and $20^{\circ} 58' 04''$ E, with altitude $Z = 560$ m (Figure 13). This mill is also estimated to have been built in the 1950s. It had a function of sustaining life for the residents of the area, because it mainly grinded grains, the flour of which was used for cooking (preparation of bread) and food for the residents. Today it remains a heritage, cultural value, etc., thus testifying to the history and tradition and to keep it alive from generation to generation.



Figure 12. Behram's Mill (Source: own study)



Figure 13. Bajram's Mill (Source: own study)

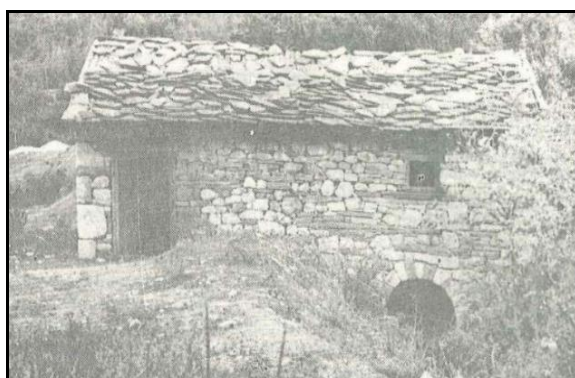


Figure 13. Bajram's Mill (Photo: Labus D., 1976)



Figure 14. The train station in Dobroshec (Source: own study)

These two mills were active (at work) until the last two decades, while now, as seen in the photo, they have been restored, preserving the traditional, historical values, etc. The proposed area for tourism and recreation "Guri i Plakës" gives added value. It is recommended to be saved, protected, maintained, etc., by public institutions of the Republic of Kosovo. At a distance of about 700 m (Figure 14), from the border of the study area, there is the Train Station in Dobroshec (Dritan), located at the coordinates $42^{\circ} 40' 03''$ N and $20^{\circ} 56' 35''$ E, with an altitude of 567 m.

It was built in 1936 (86 years ago). Once in good condition and very frequented and functional, today (2023) partially functional and frequented, while in a not good condition (Figure 14). Based on the decision No. 116/2015 dt. 09.10.2015, the train station in Dritan (Dobroshec) was included in the list of cultural heritage for contemporary protection with unique number in the database 4115 (MCYS, 2022).

Animals and Birds - the study area is relatively rich and frequented by wild animals and birds which add touristic value to the study area. **Animals** - the study area is frequented by wild animals such as: *Canis lupus*, *Vulpes vulpes*, *Sciurus vulgaris*, *Martes foina*, *Meles meles*, *Mustela putorius*, *Capreolus capreolus*, *Sus scrofa*, *Lepus europaeus*, *Erinaceus roumanicus* (KEPA, 2022), some of them live and some of them are in transit in this area. According to (KEPA, 2009, Ibrahim et al, 2019) in the study area there are several types of reptiles such as: *Darevskia Praticola*, *Podarcis tauricus*, *Zootoca vivipara*, *Algyroides nigropunctatus*, *Lacerta viridis*, *Podarcis muralis*, *Lacerta agilis*, *Podarcis erhardii*, *Dolichophis Caspius*, *Testudines*, *Testudo hermanni*, *Testudinidae*, *Natrix tessellata*, *Vipera ammodytes etj.*, *bretkosat*; *Triturus cristatus*, *Bombina variegata*, *Pelophylax ridibundus etc.*, *lacertis*; *Zootoca vivipara*, *Lacerta viridis etc.* **Birds** - are found in the researched

area: *Cyanistes Caeruleus*, *Passer Domesticus*, *Euphorbia Cyarissias*, *Columba Palumbus*, *Columbia Livia*, *Garrulus Glandarius*, *Corvus Cornix*, *Matricaria Chamomilla*, *Lyscinia Meganchynchos*, *Dendrocopos Major*, *Rumex Crispus*, *Blackbird*, *thrush*, *Accipiter brevipes*, *Aquila chrysaetos*, *Ardea cinerea*, *Gyps fulvus*, *Aythya nyroca* (Ibrahimi et al, 2019).

Economic benefits

Taking into account the number of 114,798 inhabitants who live in the Municipalities: Drenas, Obiliq and Fushë Kosovë, as well as about 250,000 inhabitants who live in the Municipality of Prishtina, then the distance from the "Guri i Plakës" research area which is 8 km (straight line) from the municipality of Drenas, the Municipality of Obiliq 9 km, the Municipality of Fushë Kosovë 12.20 km, the Municipality of Prishtina 15 km and from the Prishtina International Airport "Adem Jashari" 12.40 km, without entering in deeper elaborations (of the character of the existing infrastructure) we can say that the development of the proposed area for recreation and tourism "Guri i Plakës" gives arguments that it brings multiple benefits. The research highlighted that there are several options for sharing the benefits that will be generated in the case of the development of this recreational, tourist area.

Option I - would be, the distribution of economic benefits based on the spatial aspect, the percentage participation according to the administrative territory of the Municipalities.

Option II - would be based on the value of investments from the Municipal units on which the researched area is located

Option III - if the area is given with concessions (law on public-private partnership), the company that takes it with the concession separates from the good material benefits based on the legal acts of the Republic of Kosovo (that is, state coercions of the nature of taxes, payments, etc.).

Table 5. Evaluation of economic benefits only for weekends (Source: own study, assumed-estimated by the author of the paper, Çadraku, 2022)

No. Visitors (weekends)	1 Euro bill	Total	Weekend days (per month)	Total	Weekend days (per year)	Total
100	1	100	9	900	104	10400
200	1	200	9	1800	104	20800
300	1	300	9	2700	104	31200
400	1	400	9	3600	104	41600
500	1	500	9	4500	104	52000
600	1	600	9	5400	104	62400
700	1	700	9	6300	104	72800
800	1	800	9	7200	104	83200
900	1	900	9	8100	104	93600
1000	1	1000	9	9000	104	104000
1100	1	1100	9	9900	104	114400
1200	1	1200	9	10800	104	124800
1300	1	1300	9	11700	104	135200
1400	1	1400	9	12600	104	145600
1500	1	1500	9	13500	104	156000
1600	1	1600	9	14400	104	166400
1700	1	1700	9	15300	104	176800
1800	1	1800	9	16200	104	187200
1900	1	1900	9	17100	104	197600
2000	1	2000	9	18000	104	208000

Table 6. Evaluation of economic benefits only for weekends (Source: own study, assumed-estimated by the author of the paper, Çadraku, 2022)

No. Visitors (weekends)	2 Euro bill	Total	Weekend days (per month)	Total	Weekend days (per year)	Total
100	2	200	9	1800	104	20800
200	2	400	9	3600	104	41600
300	2	600	9	5400	104	62400
400	2	800	9	7200	104	83200
500	2	1000	9	9000	104	104000
600	2	1200	9	10800	104	124800
700	2	1400	9	12600	104	145600
800	2	1600	9	14400	104	166400
900	2	1800	9	16200	104	187200
1000	2	2000	9	18000	104	208000
1100	2	2200	9	19800	104	228800
1200	2	2400	9	21600	104	249600
1300	2	2600	9	23400	104	270400
1400	2	2800	9	25200	104	291200
1500	2	3000	9	27000	104	312000
1600	2	3200	9	28800	104	332800
1700	2	3400	9	30600	104	353600
1800	2	3600	9	32400	104	374400
1900	2	3800	9	34200	104	395200
2000	2	4000	9	36000	104	416000

Opton IV - any other option is not excluded. The two residential buildings (houses) with their grounds located within the researched area for recreation and tourism are proposed to adapt residential units and to be allowed to

exercise economic activity (hostel type, preparation and sharing of traditional foods) in order not to enter expropriation procedures that increase the cost of investments and development of this area. The owners of the two houses within the area must pay taxes or payments in accordance with the legal acts and the benefits that derive from the exercise of service activities (inns, traditional foods) per visitor (tourist). The other two objects; Restaurant "Guri i Plakës" and Farma, which are located at the eastern end of the study area, exercise their activities and functions in harmony with legal acts and share the benefits according to the value determined as tax or payment by the state institutions of the Republic of Kosovo. There will also be economic benefits for the residents of the neighborhood on the northeastern slope of the village of Graboc i Naltë, who can restore their nearly abandoned houses and properties as inns and environments for traditional cooking (traditional foods), etc. In the following, an assessment is shown in relation to the incomes and exits with a monetary value character if this area were to be developed (Table 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9).

Option I - if the researched area would be frequented only on weekends (Saturdays and Sundays, on average 9 days per month or 104 days a year, with a price of 1 euro entrance ticket) then the minimum income only from the entrance ticket payment are shown in Table 5. If we also take into account 12 days of official holidays (MIA, 2022), then we will have an annual total of $104 + 12 = 116$ days off. If we were to take into consideration that for each day the area proposed for tourism and recreation would be visited by: 100, 250 or 500 visitors, then the revenues would be as in the Table 8.

Table 7. Evaluation of economic benefits only for weekends (Source: own study, assumed-estimated by the author of the paper, Çadraku, 2022)

No. Visitors (weekends)	5 Euro bill	Total	Weekend days (per month)	Total	Weekend days (per year)	Total
100	5	500	9	4500	104	52000
200	5	1000	9	9000	104	104000
300	5	1500	9	13500	104	156000
400	5	2000	9	18000	104	208000
500	5	2500	9	22500	104	260000
600	5	3000	9	27000	104	312000
700	5	3500	9	31500	104	364000
800	5	4000	9	36000	104	416000
900	5	4500	9	40500	104	468000
1000	5	5000	9	45000	104	520000
1100	5	5500	9	49500	104	572000
1200	5	6000	9	54000	104	624000
1300	5	6500	9	58500	104	676000
1400	5	7000	9	63000	104	728000
1500	5	7500	9	67500	104	780000
1600	5	8000	9	72000	104	832000
1700	5	8500	9	76500	104	884000
1800	5	9000	9	81000	104	936000
1900	5	9500	9	85500	104	988000
2000	5	10000	9	90000	104	1040000

Table 8. Evaluation of economic benefits for weekends and holidays (Source: own study, assumed-estimated author of the paper, Çadraku, 2022)

No. Visitors (weekends)	1 Euro bill	2 Euro bill	5 Euro bill	Weekend days (per year)	Total (Euro) per day			Total (Euro) per year		
250	1	2	5	116	250	500	1250	29000	58000	145000
250	1	2	5	116	250	500	1250	29000	58000	145000
250	1	2	5	116	250	500	1250	29000	58000	145000
500	1	2	5	116	500	1000	2500	58000	116000	290000
500	1	2	5	116	500	1000	2500	58000	116000	290000
500	1	2	5	116	500	1000	2500	58000	116000	290000

Table 9. Evaluation of economic benefits for one year (Source: own study, assumed-estimated by the author of the paper, Çadraku, 2022)

No. Visitors (weekends)	1 Euro bill	2 Euro bill	5 Euro bill	Day in the year	Total (Euro) per day			Total (Euro) per year		
100	1	2	5	365	100	200	500	36500	73000	182500
250	1	2	5	365	250	500	1250	91250	182500	456250
500	1	2	5	365	500	1000	2500	182500	365000	912500

CONCLUSION

Based on the analyzed data and information, we conclude that the proposed space "Guri i Plakës" as a whole represents a touristic and recreational potential which can be valued in economic terms for the general good. The research analysis showed that the proposed area "Guri i Plakës" has a physical and geographical position quite favorable for the development of a center (mini-center) for the development of tourism and recreation. Tourist activities (transit type or type of tourism) can be developed there, including activities such as: walking, camping, fishing, partly cycling, photography, recording video clips, part of the activities related to traditional nutrition (traditional food). Its water values can be used rationally through sports, recreational, scientific research activities, etc. The area offers opportunities for lecturers, students and students to organize visits with the purpose of practical, research and study work in the modules related to: geography, geology, hydrography, hydrology, hydrogeology, regulation of rivers, road infrastructure, railways, etc., while groups of fishermen can organize fishing competitions. For students of hydrology and hydrogeology, the hydrographic network with the Drenica River and water sources is of interest in this area. So this area can be used as a miniature laboratory because it

Option I - this option (variant) plans to build two rope lifts on the walking path, as well as one lift which is placed from "Guri Kurrizi" (in eng. Backbone) (the northern slope of the study area) and goes to the southern slope to "Guri Dora" (in Eng. Stone Hand) (Figure 15).

Option II - this option (variant) plans to build two suspension bridges with a combined construction of steel, concrete and ropes on the walking path, as well as an elevator which is placed from "Guri Kurrizi" (the northern slope of the study area) and passes on the southern slope to the Dora Stone (Figure 16).

Option III - this option (variant) plans to build two rope lifts on the hiking trail, as well as one lift from "Guri Kurrizi" (northern slope of the study area) to "Guri i Plakës" (center), then from the Old Woman Stone (Guri i Plakës) to the southern slope to the Dora Stone (Guri Dora) and from the Dora Stone to the "Kurrizi Stone" (Figure 17).

Option IV - this option (variant) plans to build two suspension bridges with a combined construction of steel, concrete and ropes on the walking path, as well as an elevator which is placed from Guri Kurrizi (the northern slope of the study area) to "Guri i Plakës" (center), then from "Guri i Plakës" to the southern slope to "Guri Dora" and from "Guri Dora" to "Guri Kurrizi" (Figure 18).

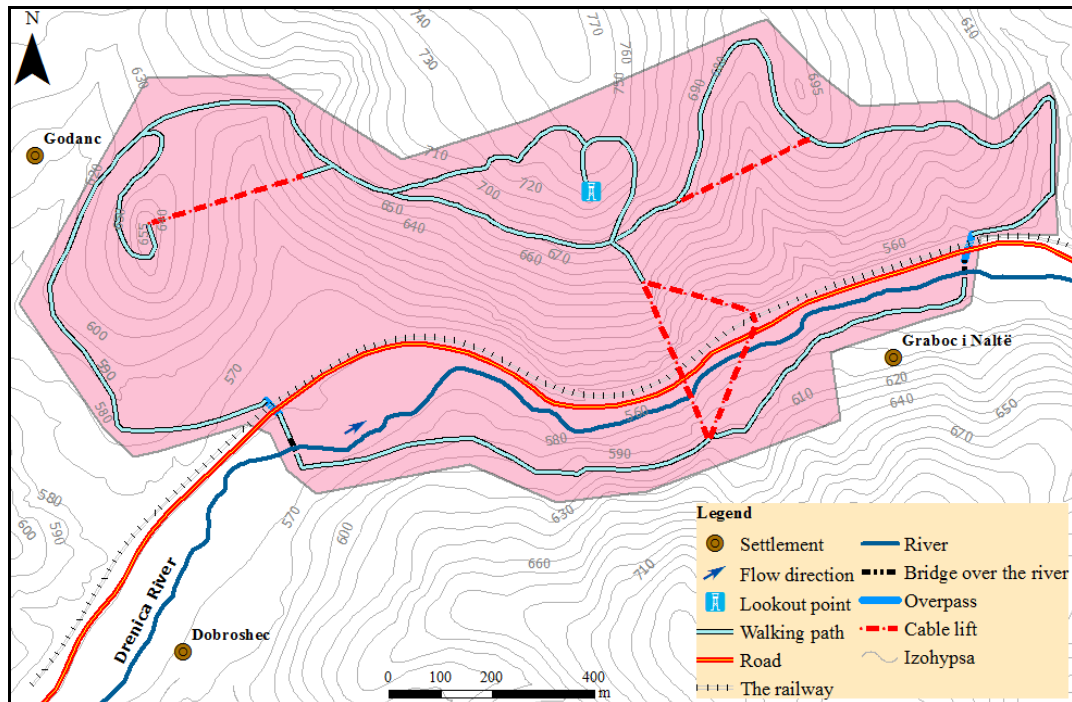


Figure 17. Map for the development of the third option (Source: own study, Çadraku, 2022)

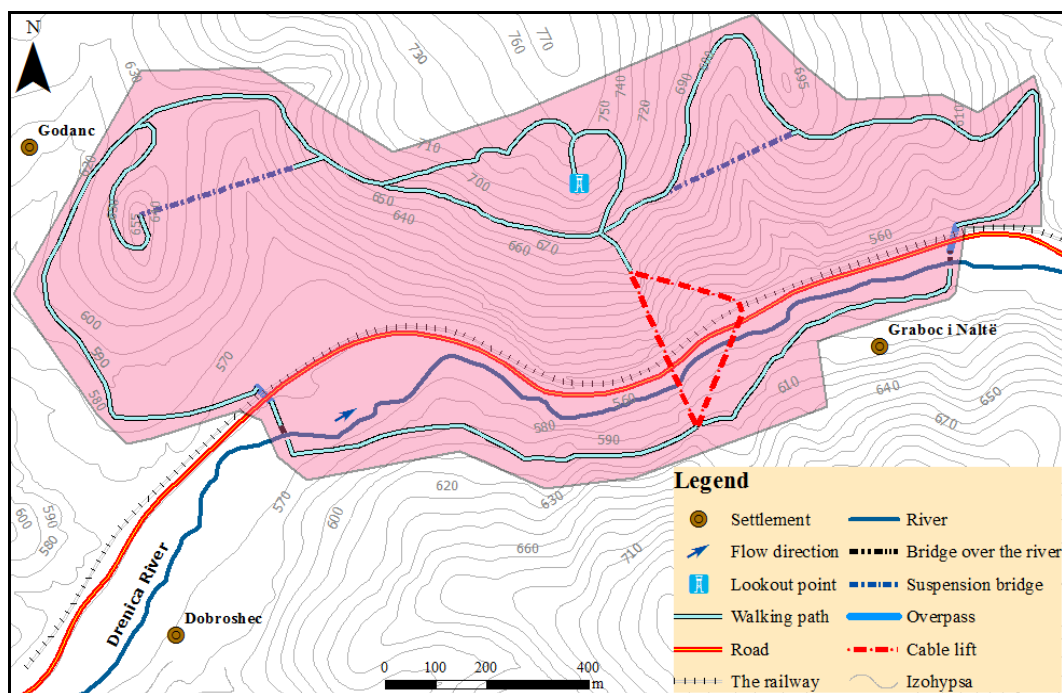


Figure 18. Map for the development of the fourth option (Source: own study, Çadraku, 2022)

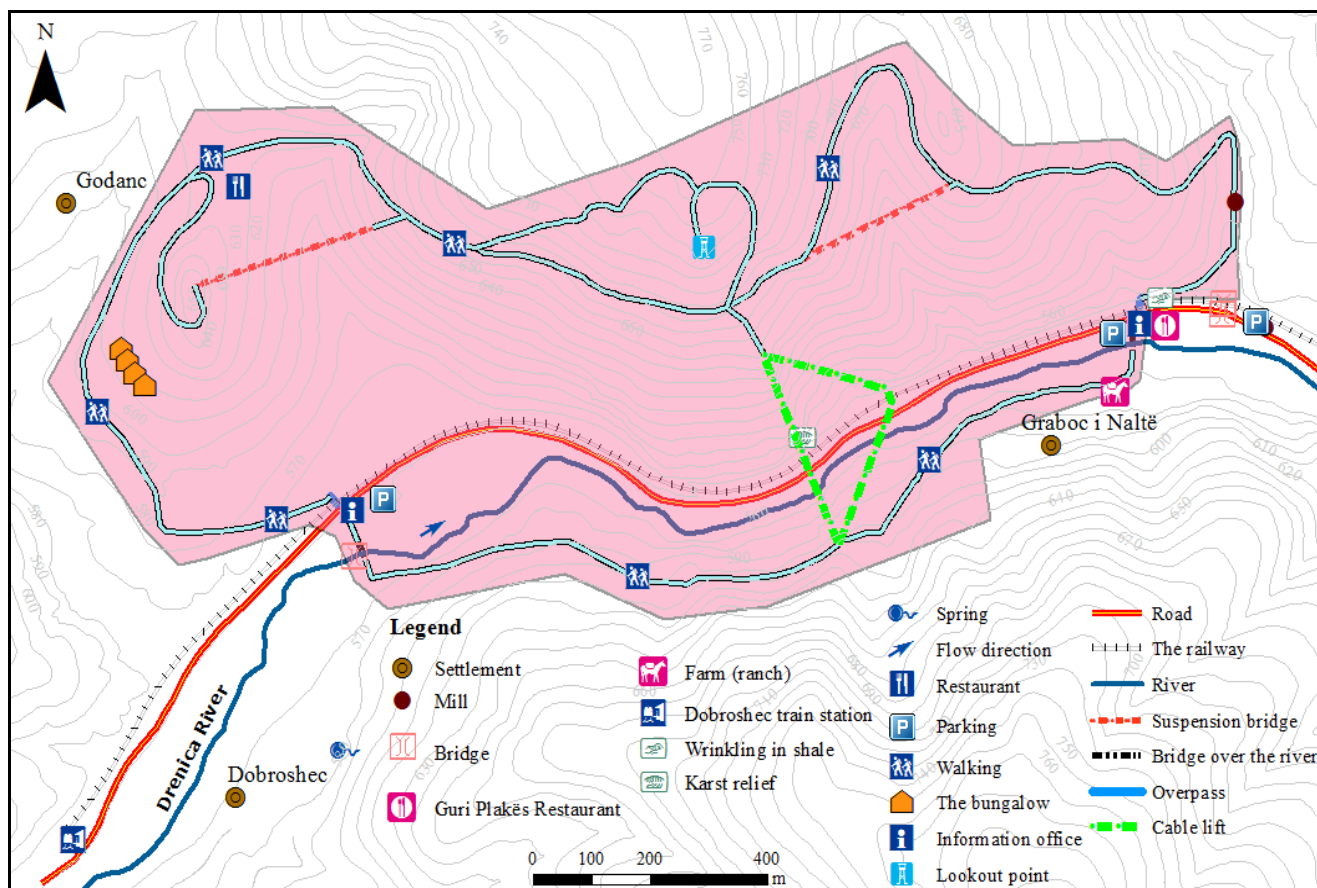


Figure 19. Map for the development of the final detailed option (Source: own study, Çadraku, 2022)

Figure 19 shows in more detail all the infrastructure and other supporting components of the study area.

It is recommended that the proposed area for the development of tourism and recreation can be achieved through investments from the budget of the Municipalities combined with grants or donations from local and foreign organizations and companies. Through the budget of the Municipalities and the Ministry of Culture, Sports, through the law on Public and Private Partnership, through long-term loans. The material goods that benefit from the provision of the services of this (mini) center can be divided according to the options proposed above.

Author Contributions: Conceptualization, H.Ç.; methodology, H.Ç.; software, H.Ç.; validation, H.Ç.; formal analysis, H.Ç.; investigation, H.Ç.; data curation, H.Ç.; writing - original draft preparation, H.Ç.; writing - review and editing, H.Ç.; visualization, H.Ç.; supervision, H.Ç.; project administration, H.Ç. All authors have read and agreed to the published version of the manuscript.

Funding: Not applicable.

Institutional Review Board Statement: Not applicable.

Informed Consent Statement: Not applicable.

Data Availability Statement: The data presented in this study may be obtained on request from the corresponding author.

Acknowledgments: On this occasion, I would like to thank my family for their logistical and financial support in carrying out the research work in the field, and especially my wife who helped me in collecting the data.

Conflicts of Interest: The authors declare no conflict of interest.

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Article history: Received: 26.05.2023 Revised: 01.08.2023 Accepted: 04.09.2023 Available online: 27.09.2023