

1. An increasing trend of diffuse CO₂ emission from Teide volcano (Tenerife, Canary Islands): geochemical evidence of magma degassing episodes

German D. Padilla¹, Nemesio M. Perez¹, Pedro A. Hernandez¹, Eleazar Padron¹, Gladys Melian¹, Dacil Nolasco¹, Jose Barrancos¹, David Calvo², Fatima Rodriguez², Samara Dionis², Inigo Hernandez², Giovanni Chiodini³

¹Environmental Research Division, ITER, Tenerife, Spain, ²Volcanological Institute of the Canary Islands (INVOLCAN), Tenerife, Spain, ³Instituto Nazionale di Geofisica e Vulcanologia, Observatorio Vesuviano, Naples, Italy

E-mail: german@iter.es

Multiple soil CO₂ efflux surveys have been undertaken at the summit cone of Teide volcano, Tenerife, from 1997 to 2011, to determine the total CO₂ emissions from the summit cone and to evaluate the temporal variations of CO₂ efflux and their relationships with volcano-seismic activity. Our results reveal significant fluctuations in degassing rate, which do not seem to be masked by atmospheric variations. These geochemical observations provide evidence for the unrest of the volcanic system, as has been suggested previously by anomalous seismic activity recorded in Tenerife during April 22-29, 2004. A new trend of increasing CO₂ efflux and CO₂/CH₄ ratio in fumarolic gas discharges was observed from 2006 to 2009, suggesting that subsurface magma movement is the cause for the observed changes in the total output of diffuse CO₂ emission at summit cone of Teide.