

GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACT ON BUILT HERITAGE AND CULTURAL LANDSCAPES

Climate change over the next 100 years is likely have a range of direct and indirect effects on the natural and material environment, including the historic built environment. Important changes will include alterations in temperature, precipitation, extreme climatic events, soil conditions, groundwater and sea level.

Some processes of building decay will be accelerated or worsened by climate change, while others will be delayed. The impacts on individual processes can be described, but it is difficult to assess the overall risk posed by climate change using current understanding. Linking global changes to the response of the archaeological and historic built heritage remains a challenge.

The pioneering EC project NOAH'S ARK will allow the prediction of the impact of climate change on cultural heritage on a European scale, along with adaptation measures to assist managers in the field of conservation and to support policy and decision makers.

C. Sabbioni ¹, M. Cassar ², P. Brimblecombe ³, J. Tidblad ⁴, R. Kozłowski ⁵, M. Drdácý ⁶, C. Saiz- Jimenez ⁷, T. Grøntoft ⁸, I. Wainwright ⁹ and X. Ariño ¹⁰

1 Institute of Atmospheric Sciences and Climate, National Research Council , Bologna (Italy)

2 Centre for Sustainable Heritage, University College of London (UK)

3 School of Environmental Sciences, University of East Anglia (UK)

4 Swedish Corrosion Institute (Sweden)

5 Institute of Catalysis and Surface Chemistry, Polish Academy of Sciences (Poland)

6 Institute of Theoretical and Applied Mechanics, Czech Academy of Sciences (Czech Republic)

7 Instituto de Recursos Naturales y Agrobiología, Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas, Sevilla (Spain)

8 Norwegian Institute for Air Research (Norway)

9 Ecclesiastical Insurance Group (UK)

10 Biología Medio Ambiente Ltd., Barcelona (Spain)