

Press Release

New Impressions and good Experiences from Russia - Co₂olBricks Project Partner Meeting and International Seminar in Veliky Novgorod

From 20. – 23. February 2012 the project partners of **Co₂olBricks** convened for their fifth partner meeting and international seminar in Veliky Novgorod in Russia, ca. 200 km south east of St. Petersburg. From the project 31 persons participated during the first day and 51 additional participants came to the international seminar.

Due to the three hour time difference between middle European time and Russian time the journey takes quite long so the first day was only for travelling. During the second day a workshop was held to discuss the results and conclusions by answering the questions

- To what extent are the results complementary to each other?
- To what extent are the results contradictory to each other?
- How are they interconnected with each other?
- What would be suitable measures to improve the situation?

On the third day an international seminar on energy efficiency and monument protection was held. The seminar was opened by the welcoming words of the Mayor of Veliky Novgorod Yuri Bobryshev followed by a brief overview over the **Co₂olBricks** project.

Then the three main working groups Policy Development, Technical Innovations and Education and Economic Promotion gave an insight into their proceedings and interim results.

The main part contained the five presentations by experts:

- Ms Marina Belova, chairwoman of the Housing Management Committee of the Veliky Novgorod City Administration spoke about the "Use of modern technology in the reconstruction and repair of brick dwelling houses".
- Werner Kaul, researcher at the Hamburg University of Technology gave an insight into the Masonry Facades and Energetic Refurbishment of Brick Walls.
- Then Oleg Arkadiev, climatologist at the Veliky Novgorod United Museum and Reserve and Tatiana Romashkevich, restorer from Veliky Novgorod, made the audience familiar with the "Effect of the environment and natural landscape changes on the state of monuments and monumental paintings in Veliky Novgorod".
- Afterwards Larisa Bannikova, Deputy Director General for the Restoration and Repair at the Veliky Novgorod United Museum and Reserve, rounded up the lectures by showing us the "Main factors of Destruction of Architectural Monuments on the Territory of Veliky Novgorod".

After the conference lunch the speakers took the **Co₂olBricks** partners onto an excursion first to the Kremlin of Veliky Novgorod and afterwards to a restoration workshop. At the Kremlin the participants walked through a building and saw how the refurbishment was done. In the restoration workshop the fresques of a church that was destroyed during the second world war are put back together, it is a puzzle of all in all 1,7 million pieces.

The following day the **Co₂olBricks** partners travelled back, full of new impressions and good experiences from Russia, and having made new friends with the heritage preservers and conservators of Veliky Novgorod.

More information on www.co2olbricks.eu. Pictures on request.

Current newsletter at <http://co2olbricks.syncope.de/index.php?id=83>

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Co₂olBricks - Climate Change Cultural Heritage & Energy Efficient Monuments

Project Description

Co₂olBricks is a project that is looking for solutions to modernise historical buildings. The aims are to protect their historical value as well as reducing their energy consumption.

The conservation of heritage, in particular of historical buildings, is a common goal in the Baltic Sea Region (BSR). Due to the common identity in the BSR it is very important to protect the historical buildings with their individual characteristics; that will preserve the attractiveness and competitiveness of the cities around the Baltic Sea.

Modern heating, thermal insulation and windows of a high thermal standard are the technical solutions for new buildings. In historic buildings the boundary conditions were often not investigated; in many cases serious damages, defects or disadvantages are caused by applying technical solutions for new buildings to existing buildings. In **Co₂olBricks** for the first time a combined insulation and heating concept for old buildings is developed and for the first time we are researching the basic conditions of such a heating concept (i.e. the building shell) and challenge the theoretical calculations as well.

Nowadays climate protection goals and heritage conservation are often in conflict with each other. Regarding the restoration of old buildings it is difficult to decide between no/bad climate protection and no/bad heritage conservation. This project, however, aims to find solutions to combine the necessary CO₂ reduction targets with technically, administratively and historically adequate approaches to heritage conservation.

Especially the BSR's brick architecture in the former area of the Hanseatic League presents an excellent possibility to find transferable methods and solutions.

Basic Project Information

The project has been granted under the "Priority1: Fostering Innovations" by the Baltic Sea Region Programme 2007 - 2013. **Co₂olBricks** started in December 2010 and runs until December 2013. During this time it has a total budget of 4,3 Mio. €. 18 partners from 9 countries with 9 languages work together.

Furthermore several „Associated Partners“ are involved in the project and support the project in different ways. They also benefit from the project results. Involved partners are foundations, bodies of economy, institutions and associations in the field of heritage conservation and education.

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Main Aims

The main issue of the project is the following: How to reduce the energy consumption of historical buildings without destroying their cultural value and identity? Every country in the BSR and in the rest of Europe has to face this challenge and has to look for solutions. That is the point the project starts from.

Main objectives are:

Policy Development

to forward the political discussion on national and transnational level about the installation of new cooperation models between administrative institutions, architects, engineers, housing and building companies and affected building owners.

This cooperation should lead to:

- implementing new strategies for technically, administratively and historically adequate approaches
- creating the political and administrative basis to implement the technical, educational and economical solutions
- declaring a transnational common position.

Technical Innovations

to find new technical solutions concerning energy saving potentials of historical buildings and to implement, monitor and evaluate pilot projects for historic buildings for optimised energy consumption.

Education and Economic promotion

to upgrade the knowledge and education of architects, engineers, craftsmen, etc. to harmonise the curricula with the objective of an open market.

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