

Press Release

“Climate Change, Cultural Heritage & Energy Efficient Monuments” Co2olBricks - Mid-Term Conference in Malmö / Sweden

After the first wave of technical improvements like modern heating, thermal insulation and windows of a high thermal standard today incompatibilities with heritage and monument conservation affairs appear. On the one hand ancient, middle-aged or just historical precious cities, ensembles, monuments or buildings are a very important evidence of the BSRs cultural background with immense economical effects (e.g. tourism, attractiveness etc.). On the other hand the international CO₂-reduction targets have to be fulfilled.

Interreg IV B BSR project **Co2olBricks** thematises the important contents in the field of heritage conservation: How to reduce the energy consumption of historical buildings without destroying their cultural value and identity.

The first results of the project will be presented at the conference “Climate Change, Cultural Heritage & Energy Efficient Monuments” on Sept 17, 2012 in Malmö / Sweden. “Policy and Guidelines for energy efficiency in cultural heritage buildings”, “Technical innovations for energy efficiency measures in historic buildings” and “Education and vocational training for implementation of energy efficiency measures in historic buildings” are the main topics to be discussed during the conference.

Politicians, housing companies, property owners/managers, energy auditors, city planners, public authorities and consultants in the field of construction and heritage preservation and environment and climate protection are invited to discuss these questions with the project partners from 8 countries of the Baltic Sea Region.

**“Climate Change, Cultural Heritage & Energy Efficient Monuments”
Co2olBricks - Mid-Term Conference
17. September 2012 in Malmö / Sweden
10:00-17:00
Venue: Malmömassan, Mässgatan 6, 21532 Malmö, Sweden**

More information on www.co2olbricks.eu. Pictures on request. Current newsletter at www.co2olbricks.eu/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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