



Effectiveness of Methods against Rising Damp in Buildings European practice and perspective



18 November 2016

CNR Bologna Research Area, Via Gobetti 101 (Italy)

INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP

Moisture in general, and **rising damp** in particular, is a significant cause of **decay** in historic buildings. Degradation processes such as biological growth, corrosion, frost and salt crystallization arise or are intensified in the presence of rising damp. A treatment against rising damp is therefore (when possible!) generally advised for protection and durable conservation of a historic building.

In this workshop, the results of the **international JPI-CH EMERISDA-project** will be presented. The workshop is practice-oriented: it addresses questions usually encountered in the practice of conservation and it proposes methodologies for the diagnostics and the choice of suitable intervention techniques. The workshop is specifically aiming at architects, building contractors and heritage advisors dealing with moisture-related problems in historic buildings.

A necessary, preliminary step for a successful intervention consists in a **correct diagnosis of the moisture source** present in the building. As similar damage patterns can be caused by different moisture sources, it is important to assess whether the observed moisture problems are actually due to rising damp. An important question to answer, as interventions may be expensive and may damage the building unnecessarily.

When the presence of rising damp has been confirmed, an **intervention technique** can be selected. This is not an easy task, since many different techniques and devices exist, each of them having advantages and limitations. The **effectiveness** of a technique can be scientifically assessed; however next to this, other factors influence the choice in practice, such as **costs**, **requirements** of the owner and **invasiveness** and **impact** of the intervention on the monumental value of the building.

Within the EMERISDA-project, a **decision support tool** has been developed, which can help users in the assessment of the presence of rising damp and in the choice for a suitable intervention in a specific building. This decision support tool will be presented during the workshop.



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Provisional Programme

Moderator: A. Bonazza, CNR-ISAC

9.30-10.00	Welcome of the participants
10.00-10.20	The Joint Programming Initiatives: Cultural Heritage and Global Change (C. Sabbioni, CNR-ISAC)
10.20-10.30	Presentation of the Emerisda-Project (Y. Vanhellemont, BBRI)
10.30-10.50	The importance of a correct diagnosis: proposal of an investigation procedure (B. Lubelli, TU Delft)
10.50-11.10	Most common techniques to tackle rising damp in buildings: effectiveness and limitations (R.P.J. van Hees, TU Delft)
11.10-11.30	Measurements on scale models: methodology and results (A. Sardella – P. De Nuntiis, CNR-ISAC)
11.30-11.50	Application on site - Italian case studies: Basilica San Marco (Venezia), Agorà (Ferrara) (L. Falchi, UNIVE - A. Sardella, CNR-ISAC)
11.50-12:20	Application on site - Belgian and Dutch case studies (J. Bolhuis, TU Delft - Y. Vanhellemont, BBRI)
12.20-13.40	Visit to scale models and lunch
13.40-14.00	Rising damp on private and public Italian buildings – Experience from the field (S. Pigatto, Archimede Group)
14.00-14.20	How do the Dutch monument administrations deal with rising damp? (M. van Hunen, RCE)
14.20-14.40	The <i>Decision Support Tool</i> developed in EMERISDA (B. Lubelli, TU Delft)
14.40-15.20	Practical section: use of the Decision Support Tool
15.20-15.30	Discussion and conclusion

Registration is free of charges and mandatory, at latest by 4th November 2016.

Target audience: everyone who is dealing professionally with the problem of rising damp: architects, engineers, building contractors, civil servants, heritage advisors, manufacturers, researchers, conservators and restorers.

Practical information:

The workshop will take place at CNR Bologna Research Area, Via Gobetti 101, Room 215.

Other Information and registration form: www.ciefferre.it/EMERISDA2016

Official web site of the EMERISDA-project: www.emerisda.eu

