

# STSM - Scientific report of academic visit

## COST Action: C23 – LCUBE

*Host:*

Marjana Sijanec, Institute for Research in Materials & Construction, Ljubljana, Slovenia.

*Guest:*

Vincent Buhagiar, Faculty of the Built Environment, University of Malta, Malta

*Duration:*

20-25 April 2009 (5 days)

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### Overview

Dr. Marjana Sijanec and Dr. Vincent Buhagiar are both involved with restoration projects in their own country. They are also both concerned with undertaking research in the field of energy efficiency in buildings and the EPBD – hence their interest in this COST action. This STSM was originally planned for November 2008, but due to unforeseen circumstance had to be postponed to this year, April 2009. This scientific report describes the outcome of these five days of collaboration. This is the first of two planned reciprocal visits.

#### 1. Purpose of the visit

In line with the highly topical theme of this COST action, and given the importance of Low Carbon Emissions in the Built Environment in both *new design* as well as the already established built environment (particularly *heritage buildings*), this scientific mission was conceived in order to expand the existing body of knowledge with a view to seeking overlap and dissemination in energy use and emissions in these two areas. This was achieved through lectures, seminars, tutorials and group discussions, with both colleagues and respective students alike.

#### 2. Work carried on this STSM

Monday 20.04.09: Formal introductions and week's schedule planning.

Tuesday 21.04.09: Orientation visit & walk around the Institute & Materials' labs.

Wednesday 22.04.09: Lecture at ZRMK, to ICOMOS members & all professionals & students interested in the conservation of heritage buildings – discussion seminar with ICOMOS members followed suite. It was appreciated that a group of these professionals came from outside Ljubljana for the lecture & seminar, which were well popularised by the host.

Thursday: 23.04.09: Lecture at University, Dept. of Civil engineering, to 3<sup>rd</sup> year students, hosted by Dr. Jana Selih, namely illustrating implications of EPBD & the positive application of vernacular architecture in modern design of contemporary buildings. Various case studies were highlighted & discussed.

Students project work was also discussed after the lecture, particularly with Prof. Roko Zarnic, Head of Department.

Friday 24.04.09: Site seeing & explanation of the old historic parts of Ljubljana

#### 3. Main results

The seminars: Exchange of ideas and knowledge, particularly through case studies and on comparison of standing EPBD legislation and its imminent recast from Brussels.

Networking: Exchange of contacts details took place too, for future collaboration.

**4. Future collaboration**

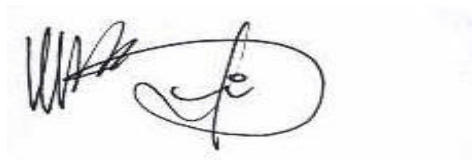
To be worked on further, especially seeking common grounds for participation between the two countries and other MS, possibly on FP7 or IEE project calls.

**5. Publications**

Two ideas for two collaboration papers have emerged between host & guest through this STSM. These will be followed separately for publication in due time.

**6. Evaluation of the STSM by the host**

*[See separate letter/report from Dr. Marjana Sijanec].*

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'V. Buhagiar', is centered on the page. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Dr. Vincent Buhagiar,  
27.04.09 – Malta.