Global climate change impact on built heritage and cultural landscapes

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ABSTRACT

Although climate change over the next hundred years is likely have a range of direct and indirect effects on the natural environment, almost no studies as yet exist on the impact on cultural heritage.

The NOAH’S ARK Project is focused on the effects of climate change on Europe’s built cultural heritage and landscapes over the next century. The current outputs allow the advancement of some scenarios, which underline how some processes of building decay will be accelerated or worsened by climate change, while others will be delayed. The linking of global changes to the response of the archaeological and historic built heritage, in terms of materials and structures, 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, with the aim of proposing adaptation and mitigation strategies to assist conservation management and support policy and decision makers.

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