

26th ICOM General Conference, 20→28 Aug

ICOM PRAGUE 2022



UNIVERSIDADE
DE ÉVORA



LABORATÓRIO
HERCULES
HERANÇA CULTURAL, ESTUDOS E SALVAGUARDA



Sustainable Heritage
City U Macau Chair



IN2PAST
PATRIMÓNIO | ARTE | SUSTENTABILIDADE | TERRITÓRIO



Museum of
Christian Art, Goa



ICOM International
Council
of museums



International
Council
of Museums
Czech Republic

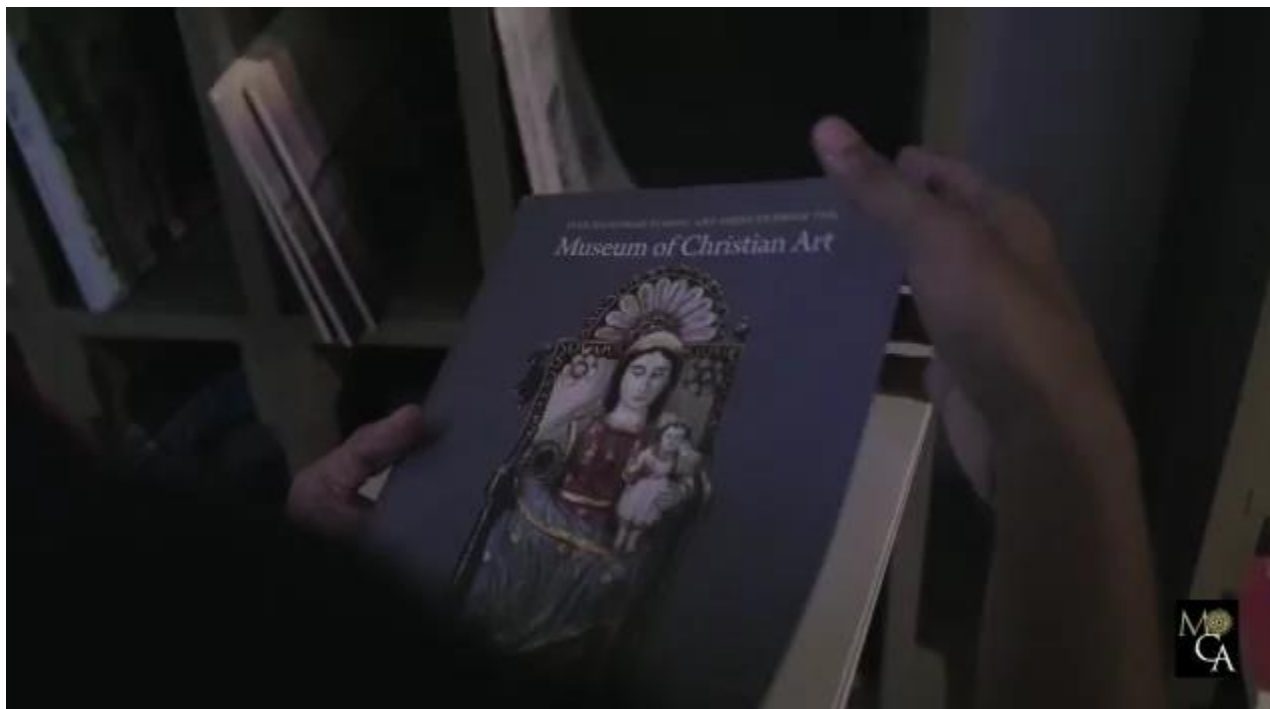
Play it forward – training the trainers in conservation risk management in Museum of Christian Art

Teresa Reis (University of Évora, Portugal)

Natasha Fernandes (Museum of Christian Art, Goa, India)

THE POWER OF MUSEUMS

THE MUSEUM OF CHRISTIAN ART_COLLECTION AND MISSION



MoCA & ICOM'S SOLIDARITY PROJECT: TRAINING THE TRAINERS



CURRENT ISSUES

- The collection is displayed in the main building and also in the adjacent church
- Two different climates co-exist side by side in an historical building (17c.)
- Staff has no specific training in preventive conservation
- Despite the renovation there isn't an integrated conservation plan to manage long term preservation
- Other local institutions and parishes need support in assessing their Christian art collections



2005

2022

MUSEUM BUILDING

ADJACENT CHURCH

PLAY IT FORWARD 2005 --- 2022! PROJECT: TRAINING MoCA STAFF IN CONSERVATION RISK ASSESSMENT



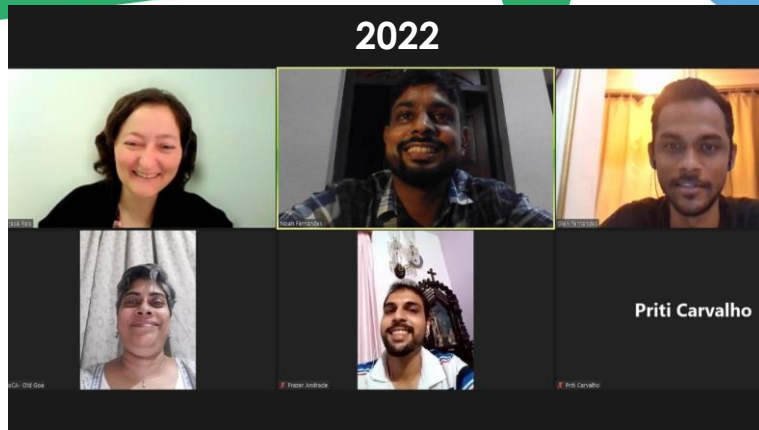
2005



JULY 2021

ICOM Solidarity Project 2021/2022

Training the Trainers:
Facilitated Workshops to train leaders in
Conservation Risk Assessment



Team : Museum Staff: curator; curatorial associate; intern; Resource professionals: art conservator, conservation architect

Training sessions: 10 on-line sessions of 1 hour

Working Platforms: Zoom + Google Drive + WhatsApp group

MAIN RESOURCES USED FOR CONTENT ON CONSERVATION RISK ASSESSMENT



STEP 1: COLLECTION ANATOMY+ATTRIBUTES & VALUES ASSESSMENT

RESULTS



We used the Museum's own object categories

The objects were more appreciated by its devotional value

The buildings are also a part of the collection

The overall values score was high regardless of the type of object

STEP 3: LISTING OF RISK SCENARIOS & ROUGH ANALYSIS OF RISK MAGNITUDE

Agent		Likelihood	Consequence	Magnitude	RISK
Physical Forces	B	2	2	4	(ure) are vulnerable to c
	C	1	3	3	ould cause falling and
	D	2	2	4	may cause impact such
	F	3	2	6	s hanging on the wall a e objects displayed an
Thieves and Vandals	FF	2	3	6	stem and security, the
	H	2	2	4	ot within vitrines) and
Fire	I	1	3	3	ollection and the buil
	J	2	1	2	ot which would spread

RESULTS

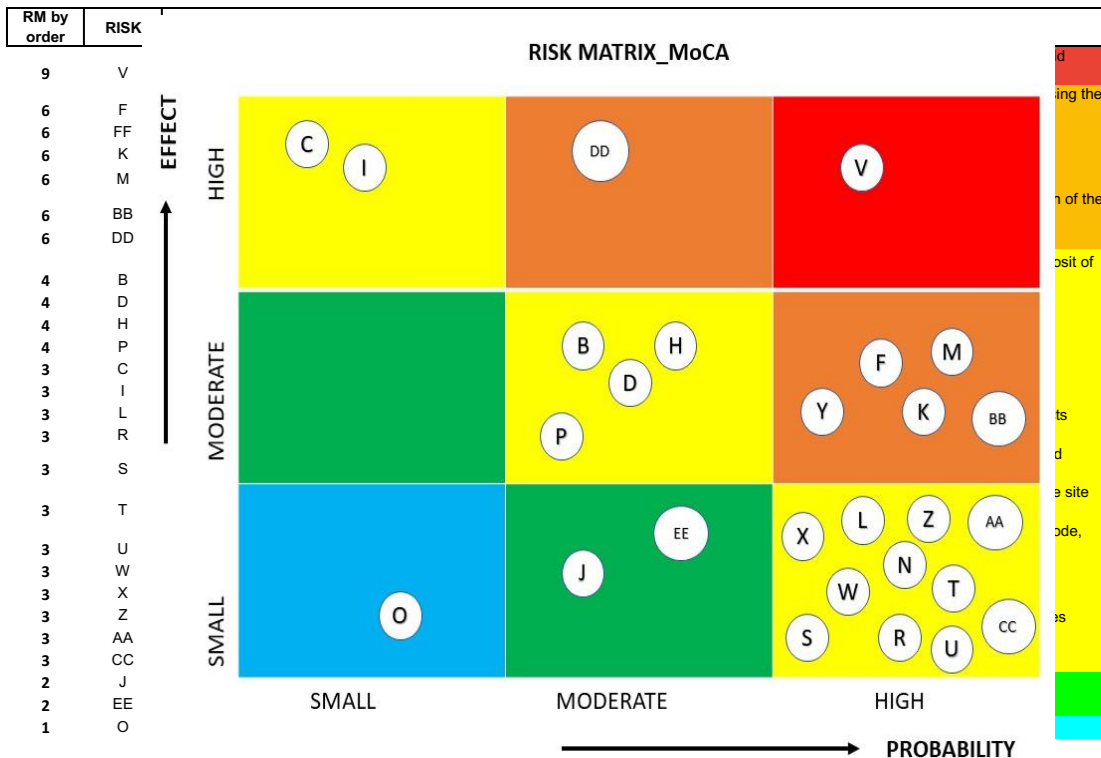
Listing the main risks identified

Understanding the process for each risk (cause and consequence)

How to communicate risks

Simple approach for assessing Risk Magnitude

STEP 4: PRIORITIZING THE RISK SCENARIOS WITH COLOUR CODES & BUILD THE RISK MATRIX



STEP 5: SELECTING MEASURES TO TREAT RISKS

RESULTS



Measures to implement in a show		
AVOID	F	Reduce the number of visitors at a
	NEW	Implement a pest control mangem
BLOCK	Z1	Add silica crystals inside the vitrine
	H	Restrict the visitors from taking ce vitrines
DETECT	Z2	Monitor increased RH and temper
	W	Use a Lux meter inside vitrines to values
	X	Use a Lux meter on organic and po
	G	Monitoring visitor activity to avoid v
RESPOND	NEW	Design a monitoring circuit addres
	R	Fix a mesh at the entry points of pe
RECOVER	S	Apply pest control treatment for ro
	NEW	Prepare a disaster toolkit to quickl
	C	Restore the building and collection

Measures to implement in a m		
AVOID	D	Training of museum personnel on
	NEW	Contact with local authorities and n
BLOCK	L	Carry out annual pre-monsoon che
	M	Carrying out preventive maintenanc
	U	Monitor modifications in objects ca
DETECT	I	Carry out an annual fire audit in th
	Y	Monitoring RH and Temperature fl
	S	Monitor for pests

The team's final assignment, working in group

The framework on the 5 stages of control was useful for the team to consider diferent strategies inclusive to the objects several enclosures

The time factor (short-medium-long term) was useful to think ahead and take more sustainable decisions

The team enjoyed this shared experience and discussion = more effective implementation of measures

THE PROJECT FEEDBACK: MAIN CHALLENGES



Poor Internet connection

Limited sensorial experience with the team, the collection and the building

Discussing complex issues on-line

Not enough data for an accurate analysis of Risk Magnitude

Lack of preservation guidelines adjusted to tropical climates

“It was sometimes a little difficult to understand how the whole project would look just by inserting numbers in an excel sheet, but the graphs then made it all comprehensive. However, if a simpler method could be devised, for us to take this forward to share with custodians, it would be great.”

THE PROJECT FEEDBACK: POSITIVE TAKES

“The participants/trainees also had the ease and freedom to express their views and exchange ideas during each session which made a huge difference and therefore the learning process interesting”

Virtual mode / Remote work/ Social media

Sharing of knowledge and experience by all the members

Team building for Conservation Risk Assessment in Goa

Positive feedback from the group

Wish to continue further training



THE TRAINEES FEEDBACK

“The CRA training program is an out of the box concept which would be of great use to disseminate the knowledge especially to the persons who have little or (unfortunately) no knowledge of the value of the heritage we are custodians of.”

“It helped me in understanding better the different types of risks to the museum collection and the Heritage building in which it is housed, as well as the need for timely intervention in mitigating these risks.”

“The training makes us better equipped to discuss matters on conservation and various risks scenarios as well as actions that need to be taken.”

“I learnt that we as individuals can immensely contribute towards guarding the artworks we have around us”

“It was a wonderful learning experience! I hope I'm able to disseminate the knowledge I've gained through this training in the community.”



MAIN RESULTS & OUTCOMES

The concepts of risk, vulnerability to Agents of Deterioration and risk preparedness are now integrated in MoCA's planning and daily routines

The team from MoCA is now more familiar with a Conservation Risk Assessment process and empowered to implement it in their institution and local institutions

We will continue working together for a full year to monitor results and plan further upskills since our scientific team will be in Goa next year with a grant project by the Portuguese Foundation for technology: *Old Goa Revelations: New insights on the Viceroy's portrait gallery* (Ref. 2022.10305.PTDC)



26th ICOM General Conference, 20→28 Aug

ICOM PRAGUE 2022

Thank you!

Acknowledgements: The Museum of Christian Art Managing Committee, Priti Carvalho, Frazer Andrade, Glen Fernandes, Noah Fernandes, António Candeias, Kate Seymour, Stephanie de Roemer, Alastair Callaghan

ICOM international
council
of museums
Portugal



UNIVERSIDADE
DE ÉVORA



LABORATÓRIO
HERCULES
HERANÇA CULTURAL, ESTUDOS E SALVAGUARDA

teresa.reis@uevora.pt

<https://www.hercules.uevora.pt/>

<https://www.facebook.com/laboratorioHERCULES>



Museum of
Christian Art, Goa

museumofchristianart@gmail.com

<https://www.facebook.com/mocagoaofficial>

<https://www.instagram.com/mocagoaofficial/>

https://twitter.com/MoCA_GOA

www.museumofchristianart.com

ICOM international
council
of museums

ICOM international
council
of museums
Czech Republic

THE POWER OF MUSEUMS