

JULY 2021



ICOM Solidarity Project 2021/2022

Training the Trainers:
Facilitated Workshops to Train Leaders in
Conservation Risk Assessment

M DRMC ICOM
disaster resilient
museums
committee

M ICMS ICOM
international
committee for
museum security

M INTERCOM ICOM
international
committee for museum
management

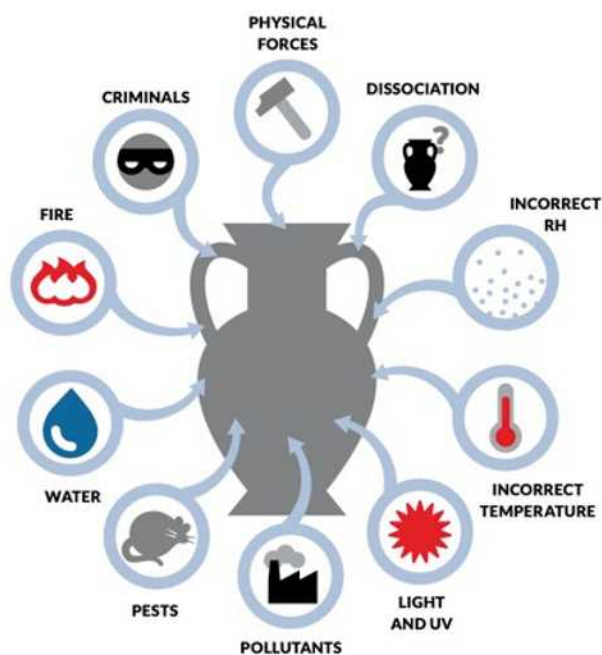
M ICTOP ICOM
international committee
for the training
of personnel

M ICOM-CC ICOM
international council
of museums – committee
for conservation

The current threat to the global public health posed by the COVID-19 pandemic has led to restrictions within and complete shutdowns of museums, public places and buildings. Globally, many museums have been closed for many months since lockdowns began two years ago.

Closures have limited access to buildings and collections to meet emergency management protocols mitigating the risks of exposure of people to the SARS-CoV-2 virus. This resulted in museum staff, such as administrators, curators, and educators, working predominantly off-site, though reduced access was granted to those caring for and preserving collections, such as conservators, engineers, technicians and guards.

The reduction of staff numbers, work time spent on-site in exhibition spaces and stores exposes the collections housed within these locations to increased risks posed by the 10 Agents of Deterioration:





Mirroring risk assessment models employed by the World Health Organisation, the Conservation Risk Assessment (CRA) is a methodology of informed decision-making, a tool and practice developed in the field of preventive conservation to identify, evaluate, mitigate and prevent risks and hazards to the preservation of cultural heritage caused by the 10 Agents of Deterioration.

This dynamic tool and framework enables cross-disciplinary, departmental collaboration and participation in decision-making processes to implement strategies for risk management in practice while informing resource management and investment towards long-term care strategies and policy. CRA builds and empowers communities of best practice towards resilience.

Five ICOM International Committees: The Committees for Conservation (ICOM-CC), Training for Personnel (ICOM-ICTOP), Museum Management (ICOM-INTERCOM), Disaster Resilient Museums (ICOM-DRMC) and Museum Security (ICOM-ICMS) have come together under the lead of the Conservation Committee of Conservation (ICOM-CC) for train individuals in facilitating CRA to museum professionals, their institutions and communities as a direct aid for recovery, preparedness and towards sustainable collections management in the long term.



Through this Solidarity Project, 3 teams of 12 persons will be trained in facilitation skills enabling them to become leaders in Conservation Risk Assessment (CRA) and facilitate CRA training for adaptation and implementation to/in museum communities. Permission has been sought and granted from [ICCROM](#), [Canadian Conservation Institute](#), and [Dutch Cultural Heritage Agency](#) to use and consolidate existing teaching materials, manuals, and expertise in CRA and training for content of facilitation skills training.

The training will be delivered by a professional facilitation training institution ([Kinharvie Institute](#)) online, and alumni trained with the skills to manage group training and assist in the design of customized CRA training modules.



The resulting curriculum blueprint will allow CRA training to be instigated, managed, and adapted for a variety of regions, social and environmental circumstances.

A First Aid Manual will provide core material to assist in CRA training delivered by alumni.

The facilitation training will instigate and promote an International Network of Trainers in Conservation Risk Assessment via an interactive communications and archive/ resource platform for continuous collaboration, sharing of experiences and support in advocating and training of Conservation Risk Assessments during and beyond the duration of the Solidarity Project.

Time Line

End of July 2021: Call for participants

Beginning of September 2021: Selection of participants

October 2021 – December 2021: Facilitation skills training workshop(s)

January 2022 – March 2022: launch of interactive dedicated Conservation Risk Assessment (CRA) network platform, development of curriculum blueprint and First Aid Manual

March 2022 – July 2022: CRA alumni deliver CRA training in their institution

July 2022 -: CRA training to further museum institutions and communities