

Report of the 5th International Conference on Bio-based Building Materials – ICBBM2023

Vienna, Austria, 20-23 June 2023

Everything started in 2015, with the [first edition of ICBBM](#) in Clermont-Ferrand, France. It was then the time for the [second edition](#), still in Clermont-Ferrand, in 2017, followed by the [third edition](#) in Belfast, UK, in 2019. COVID didn't stop the series, as the [fourth edition](#) happened as scheduled in 2021 in Barcelona, Spain. RILEM has co-sponsored all these events and also the one this year, the [fifth edition](#) of this conference series, ICBBM2023, which was held in Vienna, Austria!



Austrian Parliament building in Vienna. Image courtesy of S. Amziane.

RILEM attended the event with a desk showcasing its publications. It also sponsored the RILEM Young Members evening that took place on day 0 of the conference, on 20 June, at TU Wien.



RILEM publications exposed at ICBBM 2023. Image courtesy of D. Ciancio.



Some moments of the RILEM Young members event. Image courtesy of D. Ciancio.

The conference continued online and onsite at the TWELVE conference centre on 21, 22 and 23 June. 255 participants from 40 countries attended the event. Other numbers are: 20 posters, 135 full papers, 8 key-note presentations, 1 booklet programme of 80 pages, Springer proceedings of 1033 pages ([Bio-Based Building Materials, Proceedings of ICBBM 2023](#). Editors: Sofiane Amziane, Ildiko Merta, Jonathan Page. RILEM Bookseries, volume 45) and e-proceedings of 200 contributions!



Group photo of the delegates of ICBBM 2023. Image courtesy of s. Amziane.

The topics of the conference ranged from bamboo to earthen construction, from hygrothermal characterization to fire resistance... to mention a few. The event was a great opportunity to gather world-renowned experts and young researchers, to join forces in the debate around the carbon footprint of the built environment and the available alternatives to convention building materials. The full list of [key-note speakers](#) and [invited lectures](#) is available online.



Some of the key-note speakers and invited lectures of ICBBM 2023. Image courtesy of s. Amziane.

The presence of young delegates was striking! Many were authors of posters that were presented during a Poster Flash talks session: only 2 minutes allocated to present each poster. It was dynamic, concise, and fun!



Young delegates presenting and discussing their posters. Image courtesy of S. Amziane.

The delegates were invited to a gala dinner at Wiener Rathauskeller, located in the cellar of the Vienna City Hall, with Viennese cuisine and seasonal delicacies.



On the left: the hall Wiener Rathauskeller, located in the cellar of the Vienna City Hall. On the right: delegates invited to take a Waltzer lesson. Image courtesy of S. Amziane.

The success of the event laid in the enthusiasm of its organisers, Prof. Sofiane Amziane, Université Clermont Auvergne, and Prof. Ildiko Merta, TU Wien, and in the tremendous effort, extraordinary engagement and support of the local organising committee.



On the left: Prof. Dr.techn. Ildiko Merta, TU Wien, Co-Chair of ICBBM2023 and Prof. Sofiane Amziane, Université Clermont, Chair of ICBBM2023. Image courtesy of S. Amziane. On the right: staff of the local organising committee.

The sixth edition of this event will be held in beautiful Brazil in 2025 and the seventh edition in Zurich in 2027!!!