European Indoor Environment has impact on Health and Performance

Europeans living in damp or mouldy dwellings

In some European countries, more than 30% of the population live in damp or wet dwellings. People are 40% more likely to have asthma when living in a damp and mouldy building.

Impact on human health

2.2 million Europeans have asthma because of living in damp and mouldy dwellings. Respiratory diseases cause loss of productivity, allergies, disabilities and premature deaths.

Socio-economic impact

European Governments spend 82 billion Euros each year on asthma and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease. 42 billion is spent each year on direct cost, such as medicine and care.

How to improve

If the number of Europeans living in damp and mouldy dwellings can be reduced by 50% after renovation, the number of people with associated respiratory illnesses would be reduced by 25% in 2050.

In the same sense, 550,000 fewer Europeans could suffer from asthma.

Appropriate design structure and building fabrics, especially their joints, are keys to sufficient renovation and construction of buildings.

Enabling easy natural, automated or mechanical demand related ventilation in buildings helps prevent development of damp and mould.