

PREVENTIVE CONSERVATION AS A TOOL: EXPERIENCES IN THE COOPERATIVE INTERINSTITUTIONAL PROJECT FOR INSTITUTIONS OF RÍO DE JANEIRO

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INTRODUCTION

Libraries and archives face a massive problem of deterioration and loss of their collections. The problems are of such magnitude that cannot be solved with the traditional restoration procedures. For this reasons the best alternative is preventive conservation.

An Inter institutional Cooperative Project for Brazilian institutions was developed in 2009–2011 to promote preventive conservation in historical patrimony institutions of Rio de Janeiro

OBJECTIVES

To develop a preventive conservation training program for cultural heritage institutions in Rio de Janeiro.

To do a conservation survey of these institutions.

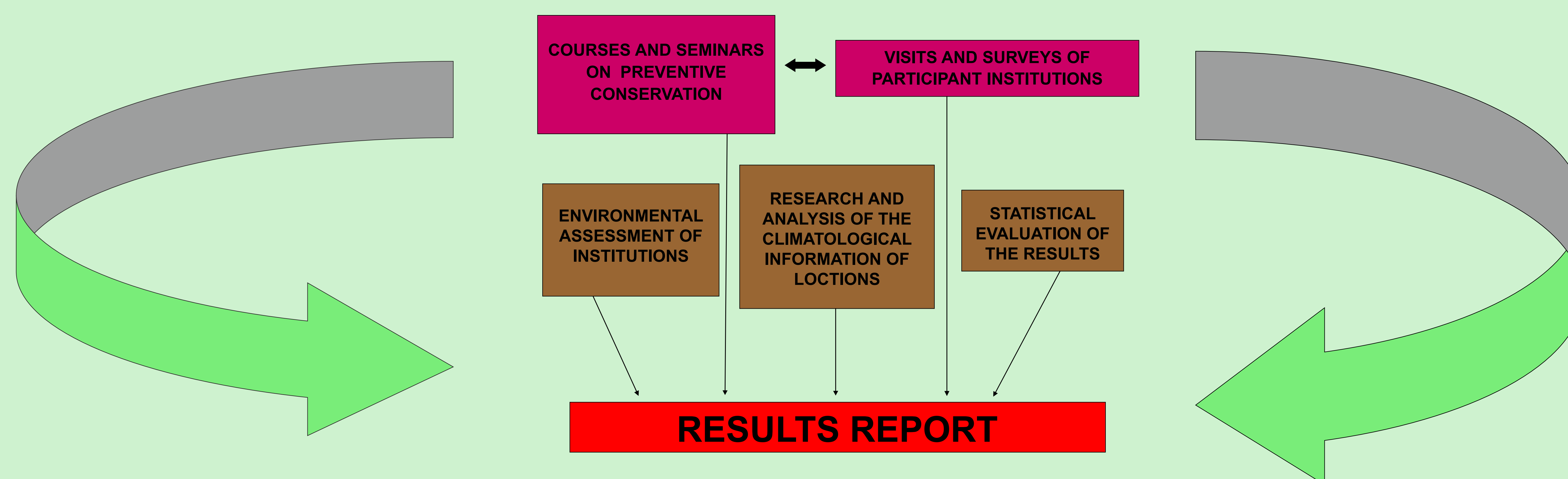
To develop a preventive conservation action plan with specific recommendations for each participant institution.

To publish the results as articles, at meetings and as a book that could be used as a reference material by other Latin American institutions.

PARTICIPANT INSTITUTIONS

National Archive (AN): Lucia Regina Saramago Peralta.
National Library (BN): Jayme Spinelli Jr.
Public Archive of the State of Rio de Janeiro (APERJ): Ivy Souza da Silva.
Biomedical Science Library of Fiocruz (BOC): Marilene Fragas Costa
Oswaldo Cruz Archive of Fiocruz (AOC): Maria Alice Franco de Souza.
Coordination of Documentation and Archive of the Museum of Astronomy and Related Science (MAST): Ozana Hannesch.
Center of Memory and Information of the Founding Casa de Rui Barbosa (CMIFCRB) :Edmar Moraes Gonçalves.

APPLIED METHODOLOGY



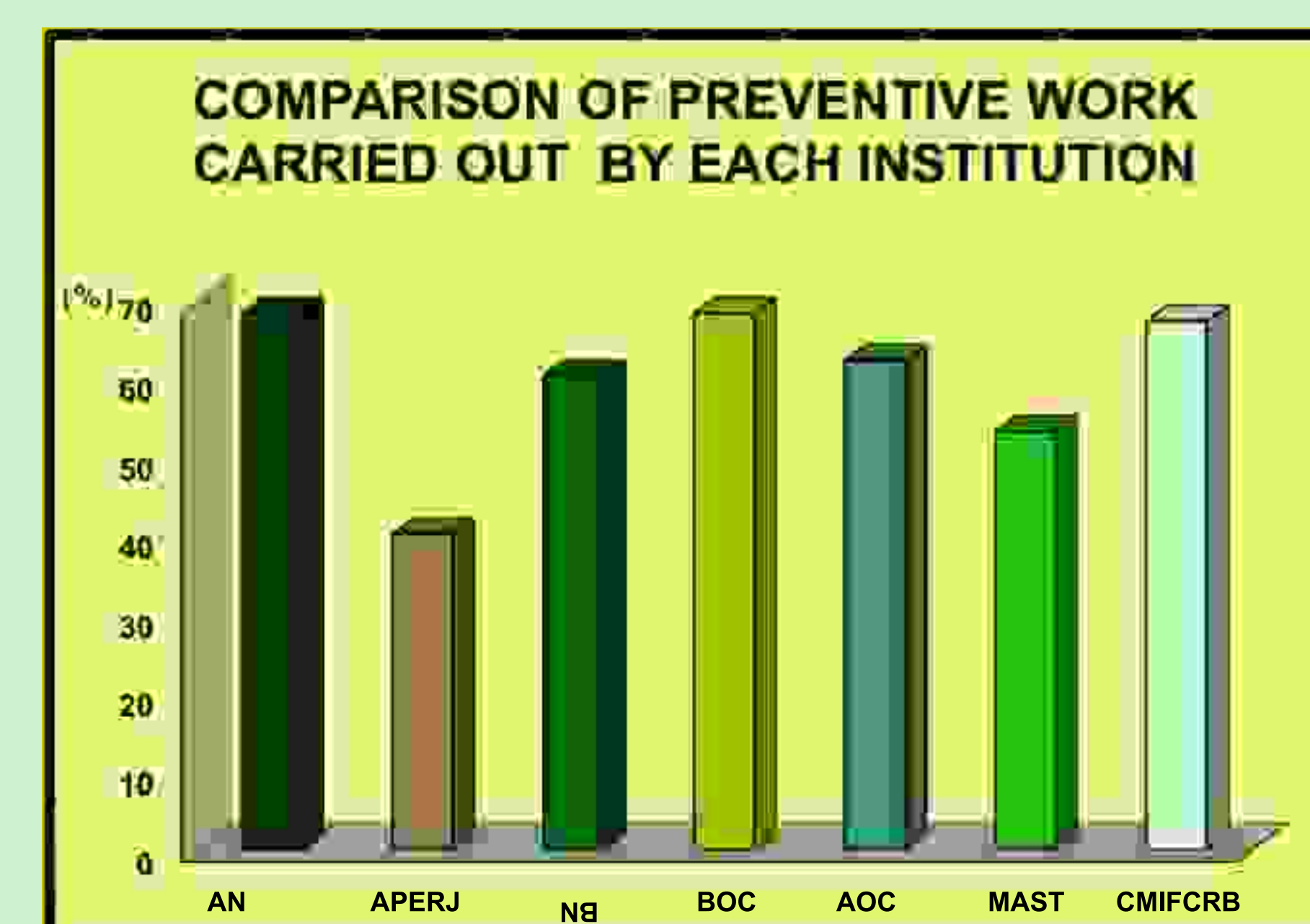
Course of Preventive Conservation

Preventive conservation courses, seminars and practical classes were offered to conservators, restorers and representing from all institutions involved in the project.

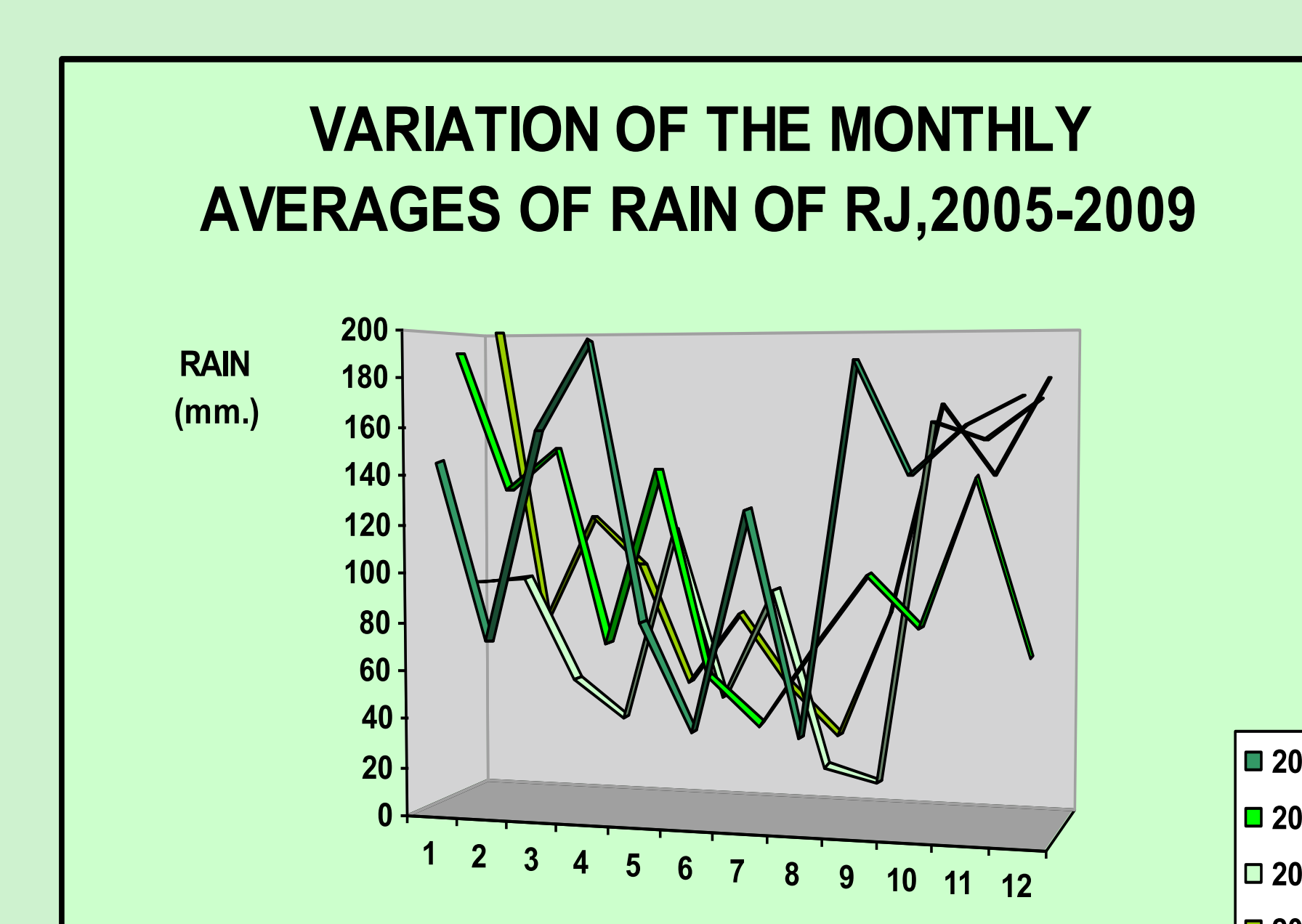
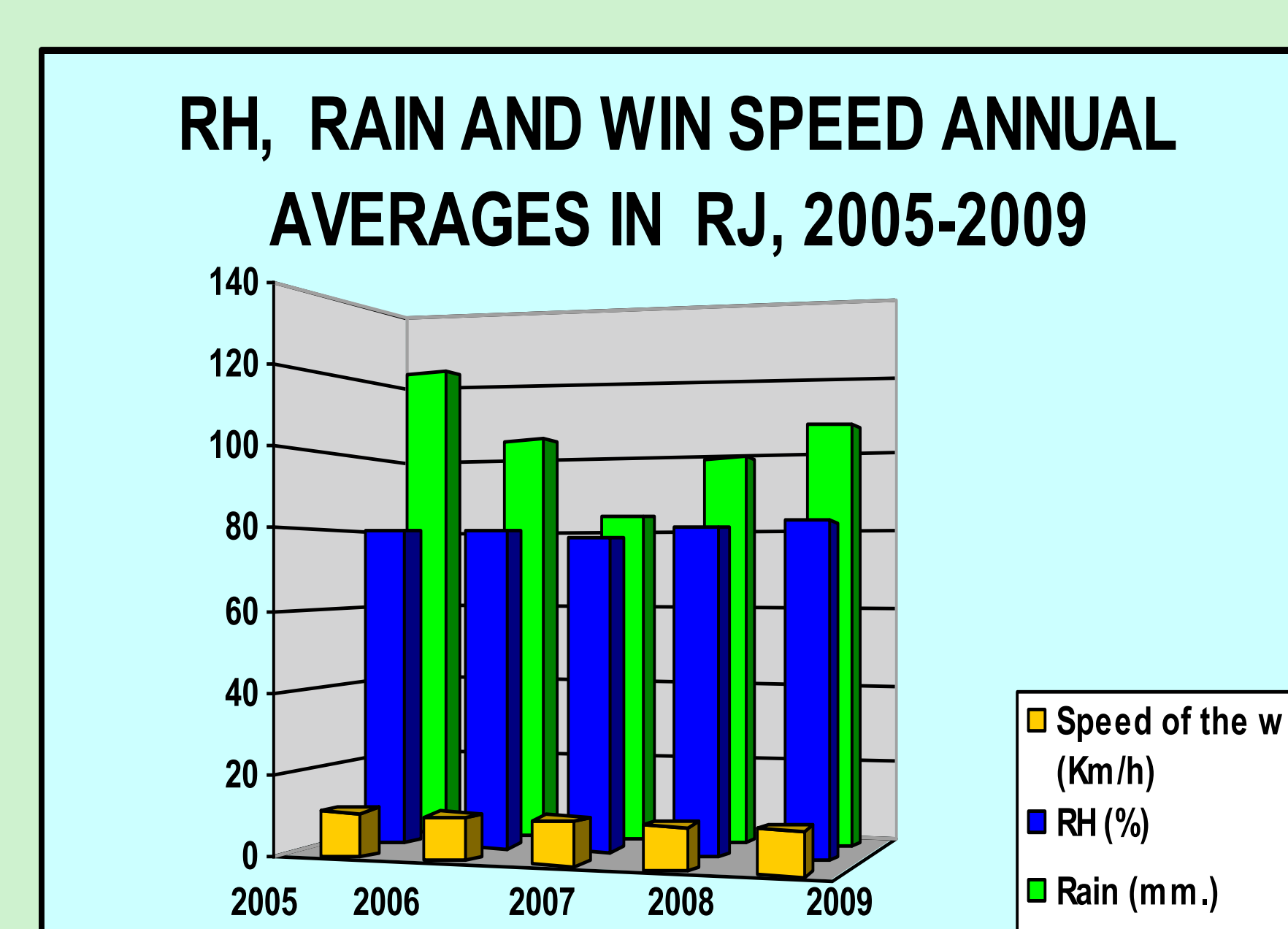
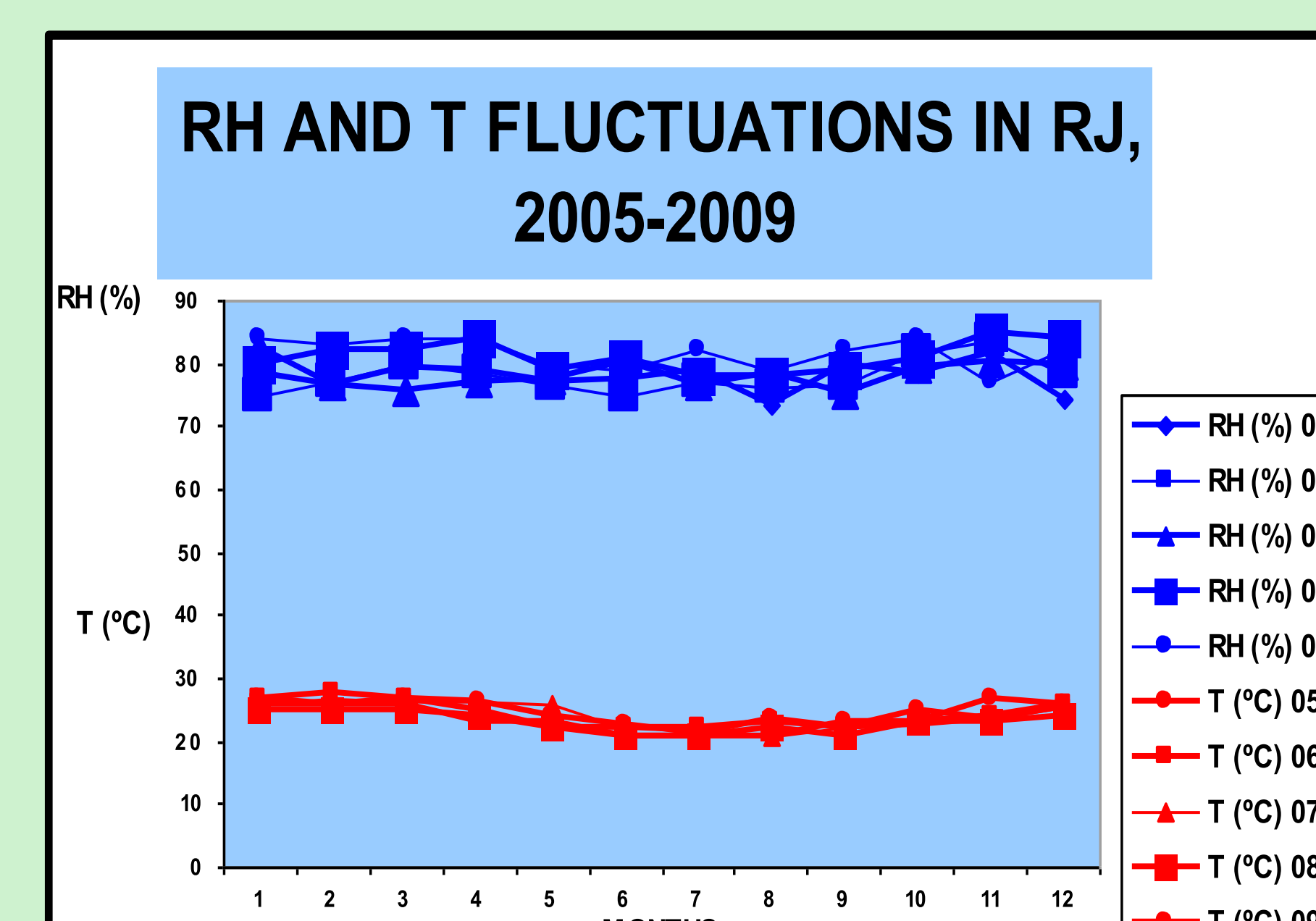
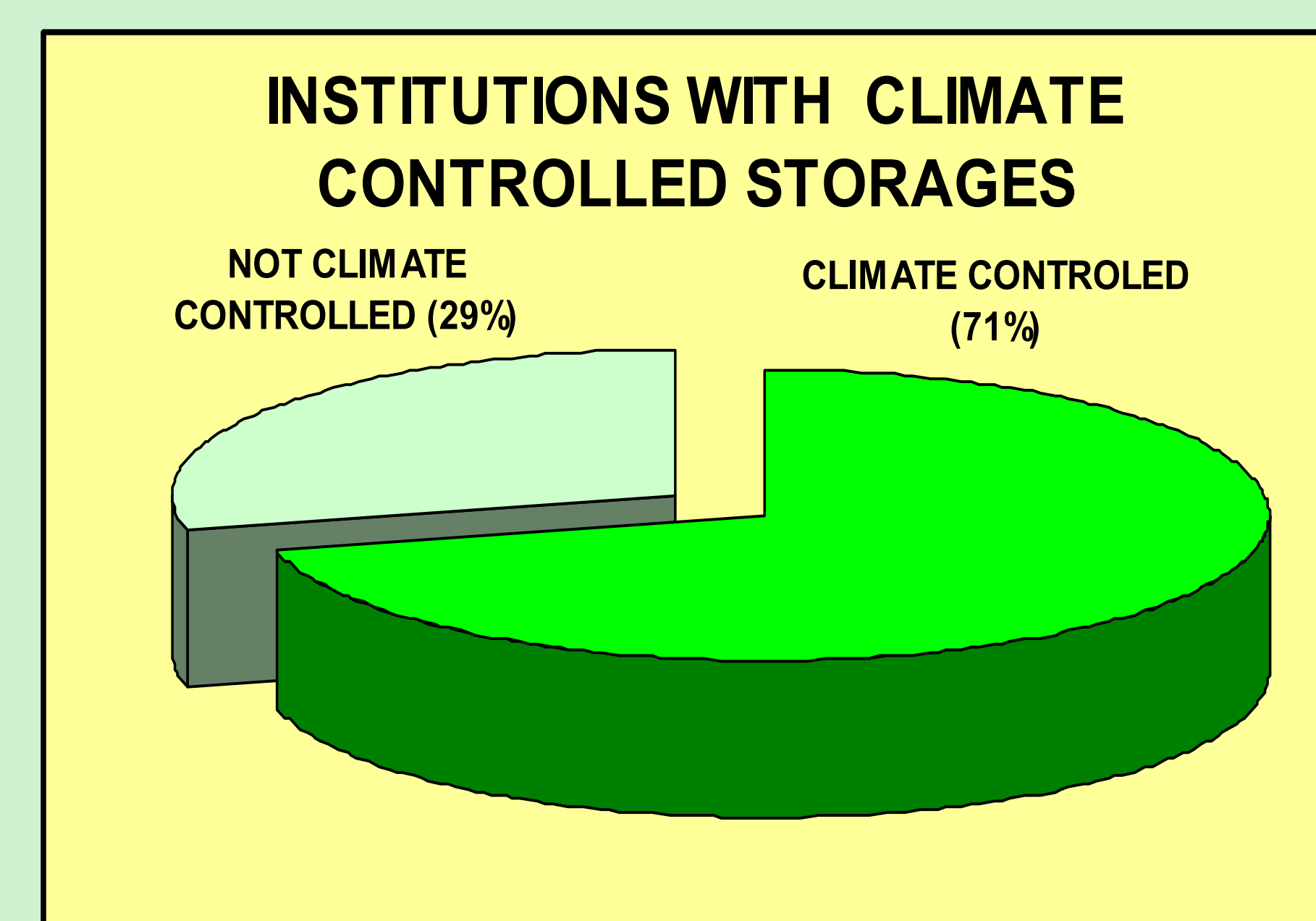
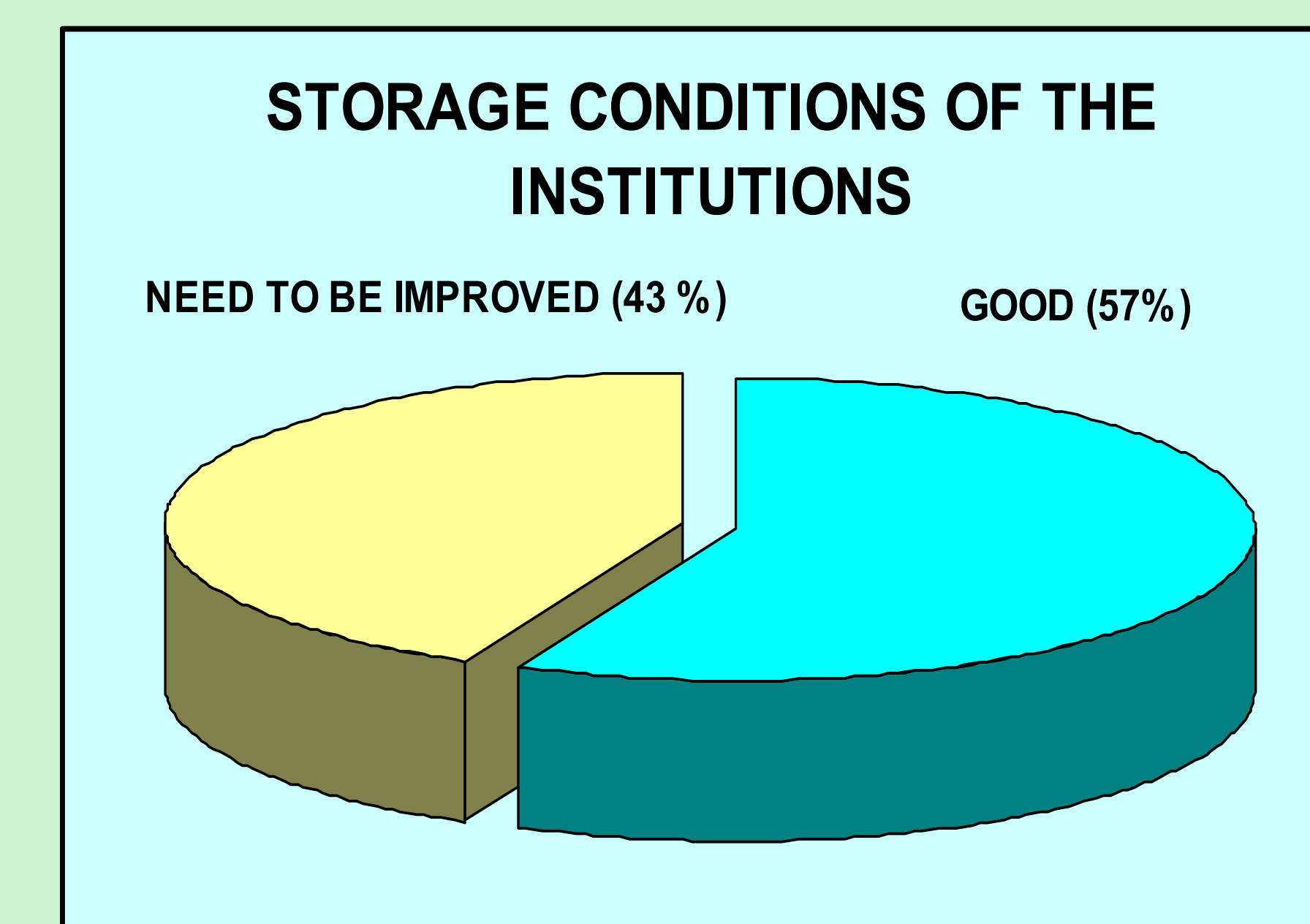
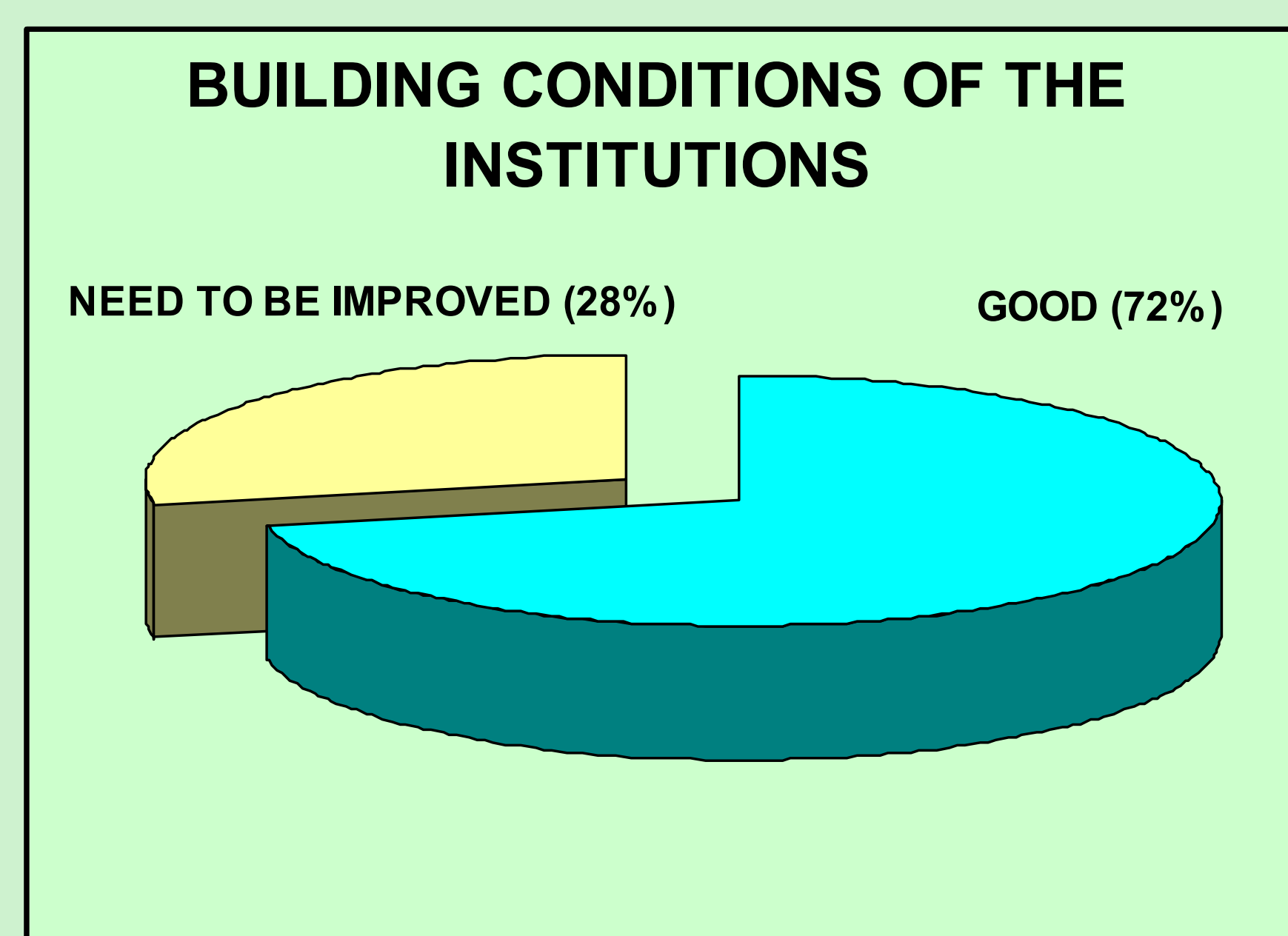
These activities offered the conceptual, technical and methodological tools necessary for to carry out the experimental work.



Surveys



OBTAINED RESULTS



Working group from Río de Janeiro



CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

An interinstitutional preventive conservation working group was organized and consolidated in Rio de Janeiro, to foster cooperation among several cultural heritage institutions with important documentary collections.

The methodology used, evaluated high-priority aspects of preventive conservation, applicable to institutions in different geographical location.

The educational activities increased the level of training and understanding, introducing concepts in the daily practices of these institutions, producing a change in mentality and style of work for the preservation of historical heritage in Rio de Janeiro.

Rio de Janeiro climate conditions increase deterioration processes in archival collections of these institutions. High levels of RH, the interactions with T, the low wind speeds and high levels of rain, especially in spring and autumn, were the most damaging factors. The last one has caused severe disasters. That is why, it is important for each institution to develop a disaster preparedness program.

There were similar damages in most collections, so the actions to be taken could be similar too.

The results were published as articles, in meetings and a book in Spanish and Portuguese which could serve as a reference material for conservators and restorers from institutions of America Latina. In:

http://www.mast.br/pdf/livro_milagros_español.pdf