Radon at home - what are the barriers and facilitators? Can citizen-science help? A French perspective

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OBJECTIVES

Implementation of a qualitative analysis method to **investigate the reasons, motivations, facilitators and barriers in radon management**.

QUALITATIVE ANALYSIS

- Identification and recruitment of **two groups of respondents** :
  - **Local Public Administration** who have implemented a radon management actions (snowball sampling – n=6).
  - **Inhabitants** who engaged in management radon measurement (heterogenous and typical case sampling – n=7).
- Use of **theoretical models** to design questions.
- **Open-ended interviews.**
- Identification of **13 facilitators/barriers**, classified for each group under a SWOT analysis.

RESULTS

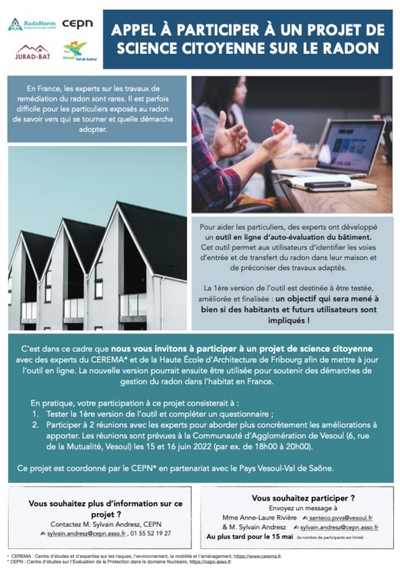
Implementation of radon management actions by Local Public Administrations

S – Strengths	W – Weaknesses	O – Opportunities	T – Threats
• A former history with radon	• Lack of structured efficiency indicators	• Different approaches adapted to the local context	• Radon is not a priority
• Raising awareness through multiple channels	• No clear vision of the remediation rate	• Engagement of decision makers/key persons	• Lack of intermediary players
• Organizational insights	• Difficulties in communication	• Including radon in existing plan/program	• Difficulty in accessing information
• The importance of follow-up			• Lack of skills for building professionals

S – Strenghts	W – Weaknesses	O – Opportunities	T – Threats
• Engagement fostered by an individual history	• Lack of awareness on public health issues	• Wide range of information sources	• Cost and complexity of mitigation works
• Understanding of the general concepts of radon risk management	• Absence of financial support	• Public meetings and technical workshops	• Lack of follow-up overtime
• A personal and qualitative appreciation of the risk	• Uncertainties regarding efficiency of remediation actions	• Implementation of simple action at controlled cost	
		• Natural ventilation: behavioural change	

Implementation of radon management actions by inhabitants

CONCLUSION AND PERSPECTIVES



Interventions to increase mitigation rates require **coordination** and **cooperation between multiple stakeholders**, including political leaders, the mitigation industry and residents or homeowners.

Within RadoNorm, a **Citizen Science Pilot-Project** was developed by CEPN with the help of SCK CEN and MERIENCE and tested in France (among 4 countries). The project was dedicated to the **improvement of an existing on-line radon diagnosis guide**.

Over the elaboration of technical suggestions to improve the guide, the **project also showed that dialogue between citizens and experts is possible** and **enables mutual learning on the issues at stake** as well as the **identification of solutions to increase diagnostic and mitigation intentions**.

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