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A WAY TO IMPROVE COMMUNITY NOISE: SETTLEMENT OF A NOISE OBSERVATORY IN PARIS

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ABSTRACT

City noises are generated by human and economic activities. Those activities are often necessary to our daily life. However noise level may be excessive and may thus impair quality of life, damage health and destroy social relations. Noise in a dense city such as Paris need to be under control. Noise sources, propagations and effects are incredibly complex in urban environment. Only a global policy may then succed to curb this annoyance. The capital city launched such an approach and recently settled a noise observatory in Paris to help in this process.

The Mayor of Paris assigned three main objectives to the observatory. The first mission is to give a picture from the noise in the City. The second one is to evaluate the efficiency of public decisions on the urban community noise. Third concern is to sensitize and to inform parisians on these issues.

The noise observatory in Paris has been designed as a democratic assembly. Parisian political parties, local and regional administrations, police authorities, transportation (train, metro, airports) authorities, professional corporations, consumers or inhabitants associations and anyone who may be concerned by noise issues in Paris, are represented. Every member is invited to join the observatory annual meeting, to validate the annual report and to define the working trends. A scientific commitee have to supervise works and to prepare meetings. Four working groups, open to any member, will collect data on noise, evaluate effects of anti-noise actions, work on rules and regulations, define useful information and communication strategy.

Note: for more information about this work, please contact the authors.