

Organisms involved in the homeless sector of research in France

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Regarding Homeless research in France, there are several cases :

- Studies by the organisms on their own functioning;
- Research on more general issues, launched and/or funded by these organisms;
- Collaboration in research conducted by institutes such as INED (National Institute of Demographic Studies) or INSEE (National Bureau of Statistics).

The role of NGOs and other organisms in the INED homeless surveys : A research initiated by a request of the NGOs to the National Council for statistical information (CNIS), that is a forum for producers and users (NGOs, governmental agencies, researchers...) of public statistics. In 1993, NGOs request from the CNIS the setting up of a task-force on the homelessness issue, two members of the INED research team were members (*rapporteurs*) of this group. The final report of this Task-Force was issued in 1996.

Collaboration in the homelessness group of the CNIS:

- Launching of pilot surveys (among which the 1995 INED survey);
- Discussion on ethical and methodological issues;
- Classification of housing situations.

Collaboration in the coordinating committees of the INED surveys:

- Methodological and ethical issues (how to contact homeless people without harassing them, what to give as a departure gift after the interview...);
- Field of the survey;
- Wording of the questions;
- Contacts with the services to be surveyed.

Collaboration while the survey was on the field:

- Interviews of service managers;
- Presentation of the survey to the homeless people concerned;
- Material organization of the data collection (separate room for the interview etc.);
- Information sheet to give to the interviewees.