

CAPACITY BUILDING TO IMPLEMENT THE ACTION PLANS

Output factsheet: Trainings

Version 2

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Summary description of the implemented training measure(s), explaining the specific goal(s) and target groups

One of the objectives of the InAirQ project was to trigger actions that contribute to the improvement of indoor air quality (IAQ) in the Central European school buildings. In the first step, IAQ action plans were elaborated in each country to establish the basis of short- and long-term strategies. Capacity building is a necessary process in order to successfully implement the proposed actions in the school buildings. Thus, a joint training curriculum was prepared for selected target groups, i.e. teachers, school maintainers and architects to support the successful implementation of the IAQ action plans developed in the InAirQ project as well as to raise awareness of this environmental health problem.

Each training material consists of a presentation and written documents (training curriculum, handouts, checklists etc.) with details and explanations. The content of the training materials were tailored for selected target groups; however, all materials contain the following sections: basic information on IAQ, sources and health effects of IAQ, factors influencing IAQ and a specific chapter is dedicated to providing information on the possibilities of IAQ improvement to the target group.

The master (joint) training material was prepared in English by NPHC (LP), and adapted in Hungary, Italy, Poland, Slovenia and Czech Republic based on the local needs and translated into national languages. Two out of the three target groups were selected, then two 1-day-long capacity building courses were organized by the project partners. In total, 224 people were trained within the framework of the InAirQ project.

NUTS region(s) where training(s) have been conducted (relevant NUTS level)

The trainings were carried out in the participating cities:

Czech Republic:

NUTS 1 level: CZ0

NUTS 2 level: CZ01

Hungary:

NUTS 1 level: HU1, HU2

NUTS 2 level: HU11, HU21

Italy:

NUTS 1 level: ITC

NUTS 2 level: ITC1

Poland:

NUTS 1 level: PL1

NUTS 2 level: PL11

Slovenia:

NUTS 1 level: SI0

NUTS 2 level: SI01

Expected impact and benefits of the trainings for the concerned territories and target groups

The capacity building courses provided comprehensive information to the participants; thus, it is expected that the implementation of the indoor air quality (IAQ) action plans will be more successful. Furthermore, increased awareness of IAQ is expected among the teachers, school maintainers and architects who participated in the 1-day-long capacity building courses.

The trainees have emphasized that that the courses mirrored the real problems they have to face to daily in the school environment and the action plans provide realistic efforts and programmes. Trainers - from the experts points of view - have confirmed that courses have benefited to the participants because (1) tailored to the actual knowledge capacities of the trainees and (2) focused on challenges. These challenges have varied in space, because the different economical level of the partner countries, regions revealed different demands on implementation of the action plans. As an example, the Hungarian training presented solid handouts and checklists to detect the sources of the indoor air pollutants, and planning further actions. The checklists are easy-to-fill and cover the whole area (rooms) of the schools. On Slovenian course has targeted the architects and suggest them a more responsible planning, which prioritize indoor air and environment issues. The Italian partner has organized more intimate and participatory courses, the presenters rather coached the participant than teach.

Consequently, the successful implementation of the action plans will improve the indoor air quality issues in the Central European school buildings and it will have a positive impact on children's health, productivity and well-being. All the training materials are available online in national languages, thus teachers, school maintainers and architects who could not participate in the training can work with the materials.

Sustainability of the training(s) and developed training material(s) and their transferability to other territories and stakeholders

International and national studies, scientific publications and other, relevant information on indoor air quality (IAQ) in primary school building were reviewed and this knowledge provided the basis of the joint training curriculum. In line the joint training curriculum all project partners have compiled their training curriculum and training set tailored to the specific local, regional demands and the targeted audience. Thus the partners have followed different training methods. But in each countries a solid training materials (curriculum, handbook, presentation scheme and handouts) are available in the national languages, which are available free of charge.

Participants have provided positive reactions after the capacity building courses and highlighted the need for these courses in each country as they have limited information on indoor air quality and environment issues. Thus based on the positive feedbacks coming from the trainees and trainers, further courses will be organized.

Lessons learned from the development and implementation of training measures and added value of transnational cooperation

The development of the training materials was a joint work and the inputs of all project partners were considered as there are differences among the specific needs (e.g. different action plans were elaborated) across the countries. Due to this complexity, the joint training materials provide information on a wide variety of indoor air quality (IAQ) related issues.

The most important lesson learnt during the implementation of the training is that the participants were lacking information in the field of IAQ in each country. Trainees from all target groups asked for additional materials in order to raise awareness of IAQ among colleagues and others.

References to relevant deliverables and web-links If applicable, pictures or images to be provided as annex

The master training curriculums tailored to the target groups are available in English on project website <https://www.interreg-central.eu/Content.Node/InAirQ/InAirQ.html> and on the Transnational Environment Quality Forum <https://www.nnk.gov.hu/index.php/transnational-environment-quality-forum>.

National training packages in electronic format are available at the partner institutes and at the National Public Health Center as LP.