

## Progressive Participatory Observation Applied to Priority Neighbourhoods

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**Abstract :** This paper proposes a progressive participatory observation that can be used as a sociological investigation within communities. The usefulness of participant observation in sociological projects is first asserted, particularly in an urban context. Competencies, know-how and interpersonal skills are then explained before to detail the progressive approach, consisting of four levels of observation. The progressive participatory observation is applied to an experimental project to set up a permaculture urban micro-farm with residents of a priority neighbourhood. Feedback on the experiment has identified several key recommendations for implementing the approach.

**Keywords :** participatory observation, observation scale, priority neighbourhood, urban sociology

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