

Technical Research Presentations

IEA EBC - Annex 86 (09/07/2021)

IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE ON THE INDOOR AIR OF RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS IN BELGIUM *(OCCuPANT Project - Uliège – 2020-23)*

Content

- Introduction
- Research Questions
- Material and Methods
 - IAQ-CC Data
 - Index Development
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Introduction

Effects of Climate Change (Global Warming) on Indoor Air Quality (IAQ)

Climatological Effect

Indoor Environmental Effect

Outdoor temperature rise
&
Extreme heat waves



Indoor **temperature** rises,
Increased use of **air conditioning**,
Potential for increased off-gassing of **VOCs**,
Inability of air conditioning to condition indoor air,
Extreme **heat stress**.

Increased outdoor pollution



Increased **PM** & **O₃** indoor, **etc.**
O₃ can induce byproducts (indoor chemistry).

Increased mean outdoor humidity
&
Extreme precipitation episodes



Indoor **RH**,
Indoor condensation, and mold growth,
Damp conditions, building damage.

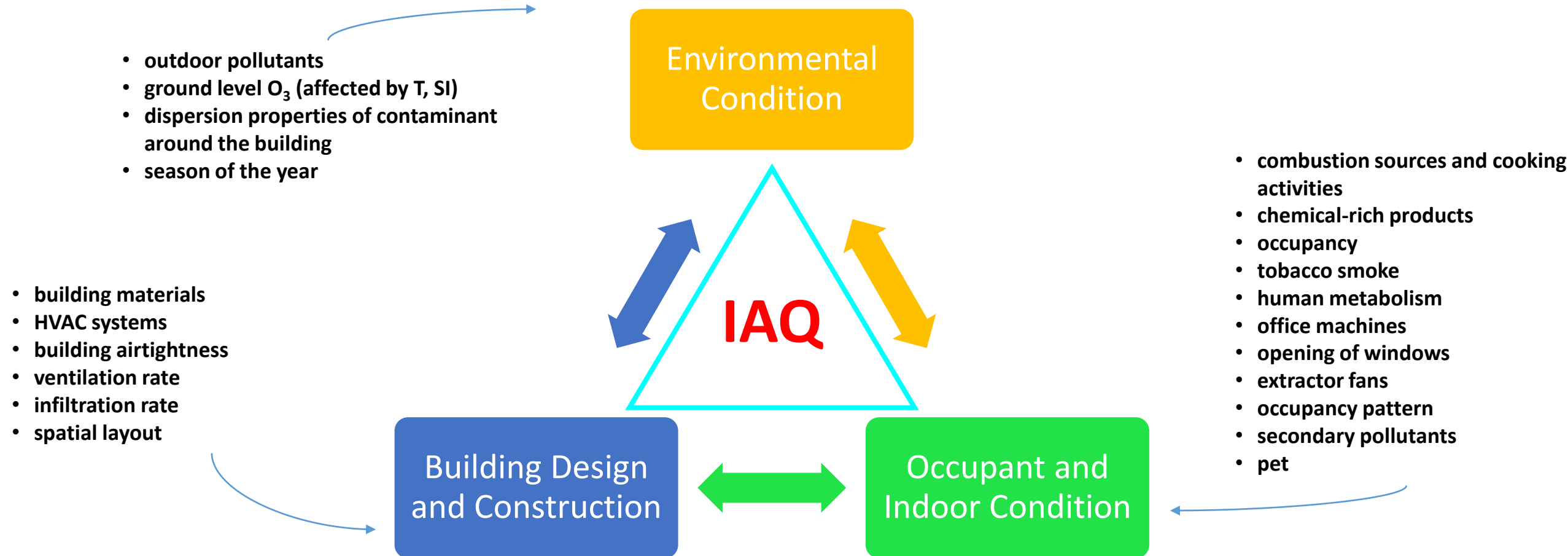
Pressure to reduce energy use
to lower GHG (reduced air ventilation)



All existing indoor pollutants rise in inverse proportion
to **reduced ventilation**.

Introduction

IAQ in the context of Indoor Environmental Quality (IEQ) and Climate Change (CC)



Research Questions

Research Central Questions

1. What are the most influential factors of CC on the IAQ of residential buildings?
2. What are the links between heatwaves/urban-overheating and outdoor air pollution and IAQ?
3. How to combine thermal comfort and healthy IAQ?
4. How to adapt selected existing IAQ evaluation approaches to provide a useful tool in the context of CC?

Objectives and Aims

- ❖ The project aims to investigate the climate change impacts on the IAQ.
- ❖ A decision supporting tool (IAQ-CC index) considering both conditions of indoor and outdoor environments is being developed for supporting the reduction of CC effects on the IAQ levels.

Material and Methods

Developed IAQ monitoring device / Uliège – SAM

Selection Criteria:

- Most effective based on trends observed in experiments
- Cost and time efficiency
- Practically feasible

Parameters and sensors calibration:

VOC, CO, CO₂, O₃, NO, NO₂, PM_{2.5}, PM₁₀, T, RH

Measurement Time Interval:

- 1 min



Material and Methods Data Collection

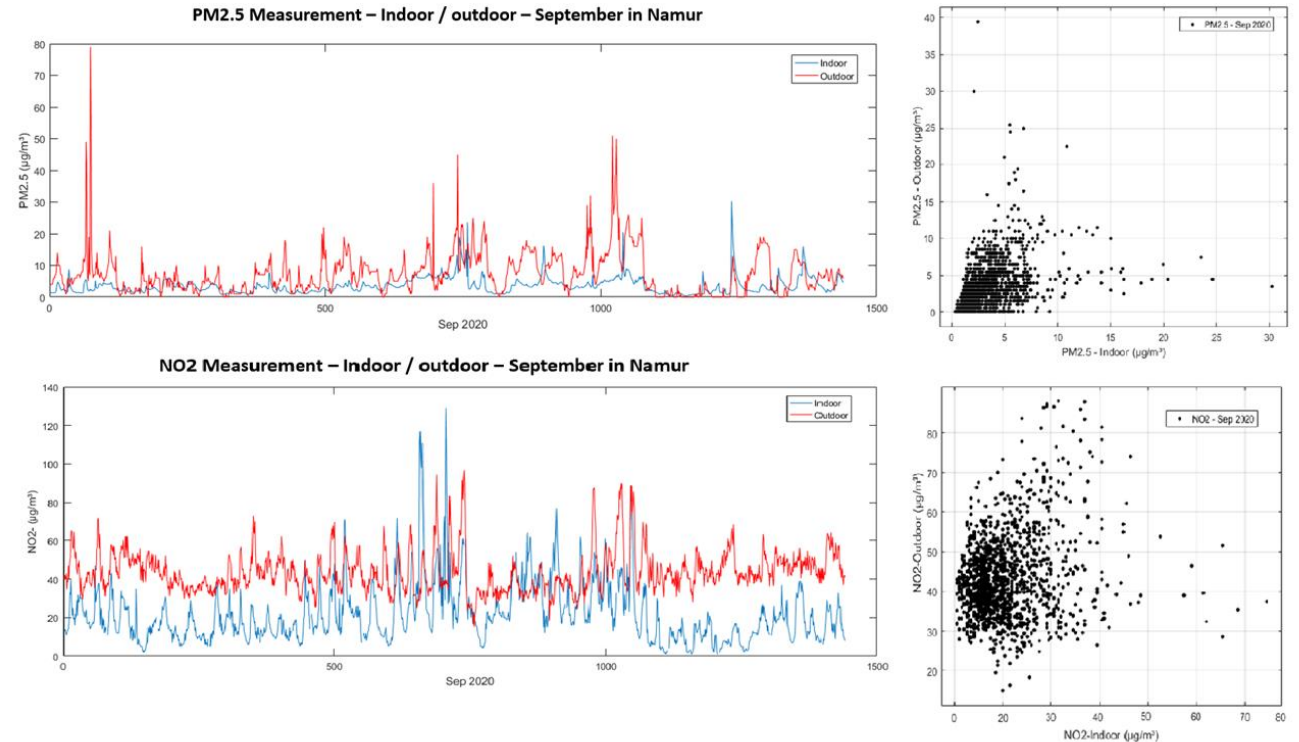
IAQ data collection (2020-21)

Measurement locations:

- 2020: Liege/Namur (2 houses)
- 2021: Habay/Arlon (4 houses)

Data recording time:

- Summer 2020, 2021



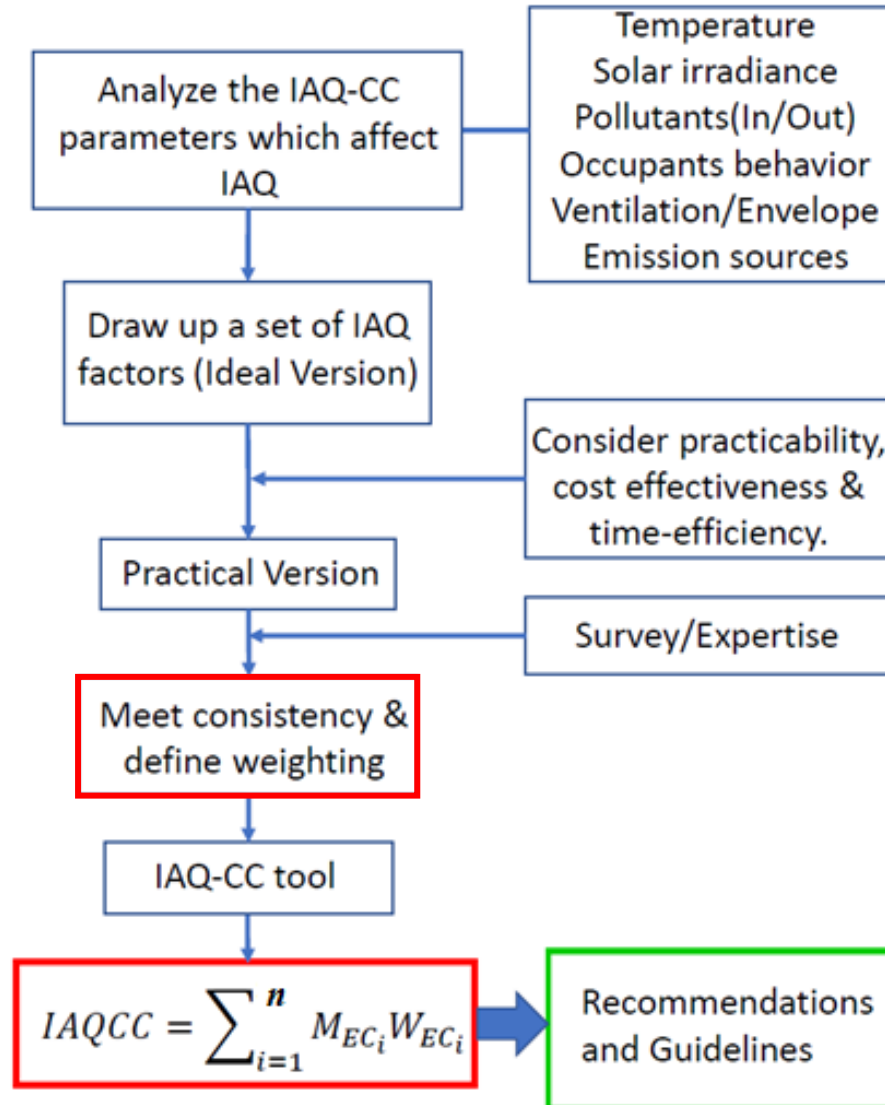
1st evaluation of 2020 measurement campaign

The Occupant-Building Comprehensive **Questionnaire**:

- Questionnaire regarding fixed parameters,
- Daily time table of the occupants activities (occupancy pattern, activities, ventilations)

Material and Methods

Index Development



- Low (Undesirable quality)
- Moderate (Ordinary quality)
- Desired (High quality)

Material and Methods

IAQ Modeling - CONTAM

Analysis:

- **Calculating Airflows:** assessing building air change rates and interzonal airflow rates
- **Analyzing Ventilation Strategies:** Design and compare
- **Simulating Contaminant Transport:** contaminant source isolation, IAQ investigations, and occupant exposure analysis.

5 tasks to perform a multizone analysis with CONTAM:

1. Representing the building as a set of zones and airflow paths
2. Schematic representation (a floor plan)
3. Define building components
4. Simulations
5. Review results.

Conclusions

- In order to evaluate the effects of CC on the IAQ, a decision supporting tool (index) is being developed.
- Practical parameters of IAQ was selected for the monitoring, based on the selection criteria .
- To find the proper weights for the index, measurement campaigns with the developed IAQ devices was carried out in selected test locations.
- The most influential IAQ parameters is being employed to design the IAQ-CC index.
- The IAQ model for the test locations will be developed in the next step.
- With the input data of future weather models for the designed IAQ model and help of IAQ-CC index the impacts of CC on IAQ will be examined.

Thanks for
Your
Attention

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