

New ISO standard on sanitation systems - Significant contribution from French-speaking countries

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The Normalization and Francophonie Network (RNF) would like to underline the important contribution of Francophone countries in the development of the new international standard on sanitation systems published a few days ago by [ISO](#) .

Indeed, ten member countries of the RNF (Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, France, Haiti, Morocco, Democratic Republic of Congo and Senegal) participated in the standardization work leading to the publication of the new ISO 31800 standard. This standard is expected to revolutionize the treatment of faecal sludge and thus save hundreds of thousands of lives, mainly in developing countries.

Standards save lives!

Remember that, according to the World Health Organization, 2.3 billion people still do not have access to a sanitation system; a situation that contributes greatly to the development of disease, epidemics, pollution and even gender inequality. The lack of clean and safe toilets kills 500,000 people a year.

However, new technologies now make it possible to treat the waste of several tens to several hundred thousand people using stand-alone toilets operating without connection to a sewer network. The ISO 31800 standard specifies the requirements for the design, performance, testing, certification and operation of faecal sludge treatment units. In addition to strengthening confidence between the actors involved, this new standard should encourage new investments that will allow more widespread use of these systems.



“Once again, we have concrete proof of the importance of standardization,” underlines RNF Secretary General Marie-Claude Drouin. Standards help improve our quality of life and provide effective solutions to serious problems. This is why, more than ever thanks to the mobilization efforts and the support of the RNF, the countries of the Francophonie are participating in large numbers in international standardization work, with the aim of building a better world. ”

A key role for Senegal!

It is important to note that this new standard was developed by the ISO / PC 318 Community-wide Sanitation Treatment Systems Standardization Committee, whose work is jointly led by the American National Standards Institute. (ANSI - United States) and the Senegalese Association for Standardization (ASN), member of the RNF.

“The RNF is extremely proud of the work accomplished by its members as part of this important standardization project that will save thousands of lives. In addition, I would like to underline the considerable contribution of ASN, and particularly of its Director General, Mr. Abdourahmane Ndione, who acted as a leader and who was fully invested in the success of this project ” , said the secretary general of the RNF.

To learn more about ISO 31800:

<https://www.iso.org/fr/standard/75633.html>

Standardization and Francophonie Network

The RNF's mission is to make standardization a pillar of the economic vitality of La Francophonie. Bringing together 28 French-speaking countries, it takes concrete action to inform, raise awareness and train entrepreneurs and professionals in standardization.

Source:

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