Embracing a culture of listening inside an investigative newsroom

Dataharvest 2020



Mediacités produces investigative and participatory journalism in France

4 local editions

A multi-city news organisation, based in Lille, Lyon, Nantes and Toulouse

1 500 investigative stories

since 2016 (politics, health, environment, culture, etc.)

+4 000 members

supporting our independent journalism





One year ago: Mediacités pivots to membership





From listening to trust... to revenue

Our hypothesis

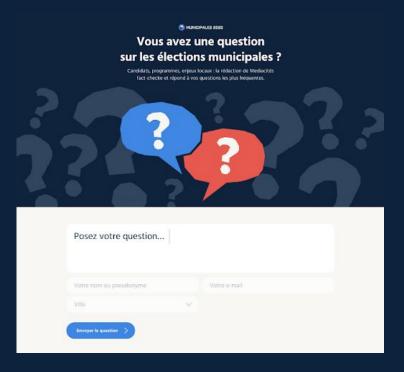
Listening to our readers is the best way for Mediacités to generate trust and therefore to build a sustainable model.

What do we mean by "listening"?



Listening to story ideas

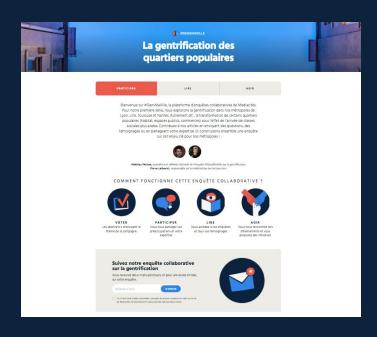
Veracités: our readers ask questions to our journalists





Listening to story ideas

#DansMaVille: our readers tell us what they want to know about a multi-city topic





2. Crowdsourcing data about local governments with Radar

1 200 pledges monitored

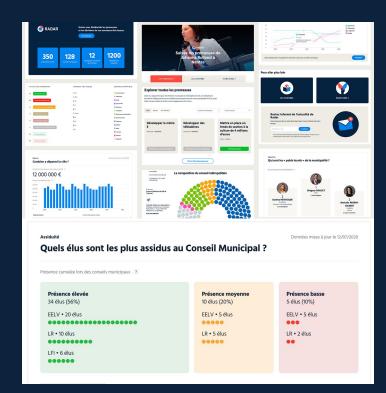
made by newly elected officials in our cities and metropolitan areas

Crowdsourcing

for readers to scan the votes made by city and metropolitan councils

100% free

any reader may access and participate to Radar





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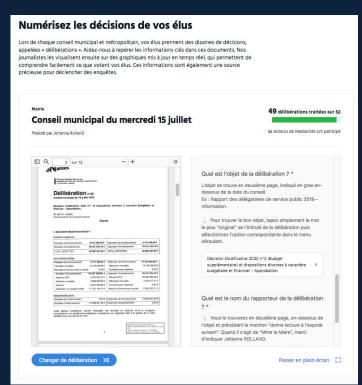
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3. Beta testing our new products with our members

1. Rendez-vous sur notre page de test de Radar

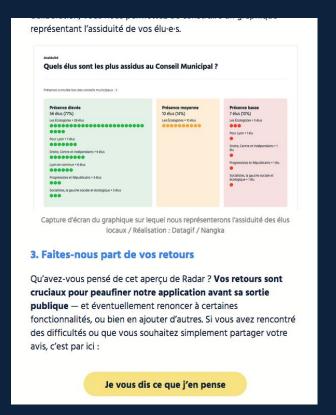
Cette page de test n'est qu'un aperçu de notre application: vous accéderez à la section permettant de numériser les délibérations issues des conseils municipaux et métropolitains, c'est-à-dire les décisions prises par vos élu-e-s pour votre ville. Il vous faut être connecté-e à un ordinateur (plutôt qu'un mobile) pour accéder à cette section.

Je teste Radar

2. Numérisez une ou plusieurs délibérations

Sur la partie gauche de l'écran, vous visualiserez une délibération issue d'un récent conseil municipal de la ville de Lyon (seule la ville de Lyon est disponible pour ce test). À droite, vous serez invité-e à remplir un formulaire contenant les informations clés de cette délibération.







4. Getting feedback about our coverage

April 2020: our coverage of the COVID-19 outbreak

23% read our answers to readers questions

67% wanted us to cover other topics than COVID-19

64% wanted to read solutions journalism about the pandemic

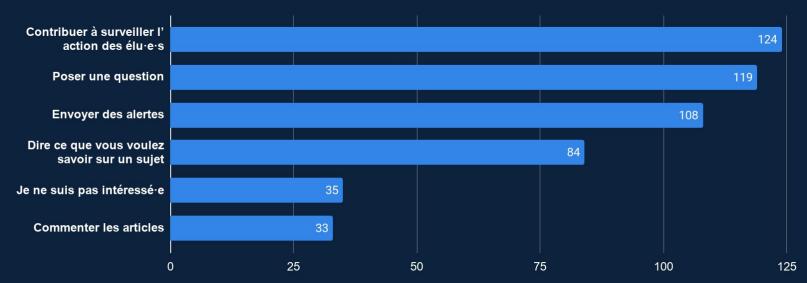




4. Getting feedback about our coverage

July 2020: how would you like to be involved?

Parmi les possibilités de participation à nos articles, lesquelles vous semblent les plus intéressantes ?*





5. Asking our members why they joined

1,771

responses between Oct. 2019 and Oct. 2020

32%

of new members say they joined Mediacités because they have the ability to participate to our investigations

83%

of new members say they joined Mediacités because of our independence





Explain our work to engage our future members

