



Information for study participants

1 Goals of the study

The goal of the study is to gain new insight into how best to improve transport systems in urban agglomerations in Switzerland. How can mobility become more efficient? What do people expect from transport systems? What is the future of transport?

2 The study

The study consists of an online survey regarding your opinions on the future of transport (ca. 10 minutes) as well as an extensive smartphone-based study, where your mobility behaviour is measured. Participation in the smartphone study is by way of a mobile app, which must be installed and activated on your smartphone. The app continuously tracks your transport routes and which transport modes you use. The MOBIS consortium (hereafter “we”) will regularly inform you about your collected transport route data and, where necessary, provide further information on the course of the study. You will complete an online survey at the start and end of the smartphone study. Your data, along with more than 3 000 other study participants, will aid us in understanding current mobility behaviour and allow us to contribute to improving the transport system in Switzerland.

3 Timetable of the study

After completing the online survey, you will be invited to join the smartphone study, provided that you fulfil the eligibility criteria (see below). The website contains information on how to install and activate the app. We will track your mobility over the course of two months via the app. Tracking takes place in the background, but you have the possibility to validate the tracked information interacting with the app. During the tracking phase we will send you regular (most likely on a weekly basis) summaries of your mobility behaviour and ask you to check these for accuracy. We kindly ask you to download and activate the app just after completing the online survey. Otherwise, up to one week later.

4 Requirements for participation

To participate in the smartphone study, you need to fulfil the following requirements:

- Receipt of the written invitation (including the participant identification number)
- 18-65 years old (at the end of 2018)
- Regular use of a car (at least two days a week)
- Live in an urban agglomeration in the German- or French-speaking part of Switzerland
- Use of a smartphone that can install the tracking app
- Be able to walk 200m without pain or any other discomfort
- You must not work as a professional driver
- Sign the consent form

5 Risks

There are no risks involved in participating in the smartphone study.



6 Financing

The study is financed through research grants from state agencies, namely the Swiss Innovation Agency (Innosuisse) and the Federal Department for the Environment, Transport, Energy and Communications (DETEC).

7 Financial compensation

You will receive CHF 100 for participating in the entire smartphone study. This includes completing a first online survey and registration, installing and activating the app, reading the emails, and completing an additional online survey. The payment is conditional on successful tracking in Switzerland on at least 30 days of the two-month study period, i.e. at least 15 days each study month. The first online survey and registration take about 10 and 5 minutes, respectively, and the time involved in reading the emails will be around 5 minutes per week. The last survey will take around 30 minutes at the end of the two-month study. We also ask you to validate at least some of your tracks through the validation feature in the app. We will check the veracity of app data which were validated by study participants. If you introduce false data, we reserve the right to partially or totally withhold the financial compensation of the smartphone study.

8 Right to withdraw

You may withdraw from the smartphone study at any time and without stating any reason.

9 Data protection

Your personal data will be handled in a strictly confidential manner and only used for this smartphone study. Your personal data will not be distributed to third parties. During the course of the smartphone study, your personal data will only be processed by researchers from the ETH Zurich, the University of Basel, and the Zurich University of Applied Sciences directly involved in the study. Your contact information and name will be deleted at the end of the smartphone study at the latest. The aggregated data used for analysing mobility behaviour will be pseudonymised, which does not allow for conclusions to be drawn about specific individuals by third parties. Pseudonymisation replaces the names of participants with a code, which only researchers directly involved in the project can link to individual study participants. The researchers in this study and/or the responsible members of the ethics commission may access the original data for control purposes under strict confidentiality requirements. At the conclusion of MOBIS, the data will be stored for future research projects in the ETH Zurich data archive, such that new methods and research questions may be analysed.

10 Insurance

Any health costs incurred in direct relation to the smartphone study where fault can be directly attributed to the ETH Zurich are covered by the business liability insurance of the ETH Zurich (Policy Nr. 30/4.078.362, Basler Versicherungen AG). Participants are responsible for accident and health insurance.

11 Contact

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