

# About the Study

*Testing a new smartphone app for collection of travel diaries.*

## **Goal**

A smartphone app is tested, which continuously tracks its users' location and automatically identifies travel modes used and types of activities performed. This method may enable collection of travel diaries for periods of multiple weeks or months, hence capturing the long-term variability of travel behavior better than ever before.

This first step is a pretest, in which we test the app's functionality, possible issues and general compatibility with different operating systems.

## **Procedure**

The test consists of three parts. First, there is an online-questionnaire with general questions about your travel behavior. After that, you download the app and have it run in background during multiple weeks. Eventually, we may ask you some questions regarding your experience with the app.

As soon as the app is launched, it runs in background mode and collects the smartphone's location about every 30 seconds. The app automatically continues tracking after a potential reboot of the device. It is not necessary to restart it manually. In contrast to earlier forms of travel diaries, there is no need to review or annotate records.

## **Conditions for Participation**

You may take part in the study if you fulfill the following three conditions. You

- were invited by the study team,
- are above legal age,
- own and regularly carry with you an Android smartphone.

## **Compensation**

Upon completion of all parts of the study (multi-week travel diary using the app plus questionnaires), invited respondents receive a compensation of CHF 20.

## **Benefits, Risks and Effort for Respondents**

We are deeply grateful that you help us in developing this new survey method.

Please be aware that we will use the raw data to create a profile of your mobility patterns. Yet, while doing so, we will take utmost care to protect your personal data.

Your effort in doing this study consists of 5 minutes to download and install the app plus another 5-10 minutes to complete the surveys. The app is designed in such a way that it should not affect your device's battery life.

## **Funding**

This project is funded with resources from the Institute of Transport Planning and Systems (IVT) at ETH Zürich, Switzerland.

## **Right to Withdraw**

You may withdraw from the study at any time. You may also demand full deletion of all your personal data collected during the study.

## **Privacy**

Data analysis is carried out in an anonymized form. Study results will not allow conclusions on single respondents. Your personal data will be treated strictly confidential and will be used only for the purposes of this study.

## **Contact**

In case of any questions or problems, please contact Mr. Alessio MARRA or Mr. Henrik BECKER at [tracking-diary@ethz.ch](mailto:tracking-diary@ethz.ch).