

PRESS RELEASE

28/6/2013



The Taxi-sector in the EU: Research on the educational needs of European taxi-drivers

Within the frames of the EU co-funded project TAXIstars, a research has been carried out in 8 European countries, in order to identify the main **educational needs of professional taxi-drivers**. By directly **contacting more than 400 taxi-drivers and experts** in the taxi-sector through special designed questionnaires and interviews, a rich pool of data and insights has been made available, which eventually will serve as a valuable basis in meeting the main objective of the project to develop innovative, ICT-based educational material for professional taxi-drivers, taking under consideration the **training needs and the special characteristics of the profession**.

According to the research findings, it is clear, that the **taxi-sector across the participating countries** (Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, Finland, Germany, Greece, Italy, and Spain) is diverse in terms of **different approaches to the profession**, at both the institutional level, as well as by the taxi-drivers themselves. **Taking a deeper look** into what taxi-drivers and experts in the field say and think about the **importance of vocational education and training**, a set of interesting conclusions has been reached:

- The majority of taxi-drivers **are aware of the lack in professional training**, acknowledging **the importance** thereof **to better face the problems** in their daily routines, but on the other hand, less than 2 out 10 regularly follow available training courses of any kind.
- At a first glance, taxi-drivers seem to be **reluctant in fully embracing ICT based educational material**, leaning towards instructor led or blended training. This is however justified by the **lack of former experience in training and online training in particular** (80% of the respondents have never followed online training courses).
- **All training topics**, as planned to be addressed by the educational material of TAXIstars (work and road safety, criminal assault issues, social interaction skills, emergency cases management and environmental concerns) are of **high importance** for professional taxi-drivers, while **work and road safety along with criminal assault issues are topping the list**.

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This project has been funded with support from the European Commission.

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- **Flexible and user-friendly** training material to be easily accessed and followed in car and at home will be highly appreciated by professional taxi-drivers.

Read more about the results [here!](#)

'TAXIstars' is co-funded by the European Commission and implemented by 9 partners in Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, Finland, Germany, Greece, Italy and Spain.

If you wish to learn more about TAXIstars visit the project website www.taxistars.eu



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