

# RURAL TAXIS AND TAXIS IN SMALLER TOWNS

European Round Table and Workshop, 29<sup>th</sup> March 2011  
École des Ponts ParisTech

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## Introduction

In most European countries Taxis and Private Hire Vehicles are a significant part of the public transport supply in rural areas and in small towns, yet the issue of taxi supply is often considered in terms of its impact on cities and conurbations. The further dichotomy arises that, in terms of market share, it is often the rural taxi that contributes a major share of industry turnover given the increased potential of the vehicle in transport provision, social and economic life.

Further differences arise in that small towns and rural areas attract both reduced tariffs and increased discounting, our own study suggesting that a majority of passengers do not pay a full fare, often as a result of direct or indirect subsidies from government bodies including social services. These vary greatly from one country to the other giving rise to a comparative impact analysis.

## The round table

This round table is intended to consider the issues surrounding the provision and use of taxis in rural and small town communities in Europe, and will address the following questions:

1. Providing a definition of rural taxi supply, markets for taxis and nature of demand
2. Considering the role of public authorities in both the supply of and demand for services,
3. The way authorities contract taxis in social services and other forms of supported provision, and
4. Opportunities in optimising services provision in all of its aspects

The Taxi Research Network and our partners the Institut de Ville en Mouvement (IVM) are organising an international workshop focussing on these questions. The workshop will take place in Paris, on March 29<sup>th</sup> 2011, at the École des Ponts ParisTech.

We are inviting submissions and participation in this workshop, and would be happy to receive both papers and presentations. Papers will be included in the research network workshop papers series. Presenters will be asked to participate in an invited round table that will be webcast live to Taxi Research Network members.

Full details, invitations and submission are available on the Taxi Research Network and IVM websites. Authors are asked to refer to the guidelines for authors section on the Taxi Research Network website.

## Venue

[http://www.enpc.fr/english/int\\_index.htm](http://www.enpc.fr/english/int_index.htm)

## Further Details

[www.taxiresearch.net](http://www.taxiresearch.net) and [www.ville-en-mouvement.com](http://www.ville-en-mouvement.com)

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