ALLIANCE Fact Sheet Nº 5:

Towards a lifelong learning e-platform

Background and content

The European Union addresses "e-learning" as a generic expression for all learning involving the uses of information and communication technologies to support both learning and teaching *(1)*.

In the framework of ALLIANCE the focus of "e-learning" was set on a self-paced distance learning path to further spread the courses of the ALLIANCE "Sustainable Transport Interchanges Program (STIP)", which was initially designed for the needs of the project's two Summer Schools. Based on STIP, the consortium developed selected digitalized courses to support lifelong learning purposes beyond the lifecycle of the project, not only for students, but also for professionals and any other interested party. Thereby, lifelong learning is understood as "the on-going access to the renewing of skills and the acquisition of knowledge" *(2)*.

To this end, the scope of the 5th fact sheet is to present the concept of the ALLIANCE lifelong e-learning program.

Design of lifelong learning program

The offered digitalized program includes in total 14 courses, among which four core courses, five courses covering passenger transport and five courses focusing on freight transport *(3)*. The program also addresses all thematic areas of ALLIANCE: governance, smart solutions and decision-making (Table 1).

Table 1: ALLIANCE digitalized courses

Course	Core	Passenger transport	Freight transport
C0. Research methodology and teamwork setup	x		
Governance			
C1. The European policy on intermodal transportation	x		
C2. Building business models for intermodal transport interchanges	x		
C4. Operation and management of intermodal transport systems		x	x
Smart solutions			
C6. Intelligent services for passenger transportation		x	
C8. Design of passenger transport interchanges		x	
C9. Design of freight transport interchanges			x
C10. Smart equipment for freight transshipment			x
Decision making			
C11. Decision making methodologies	x		

Course	Core	Passenger transport	Freight transport
C12a. Data collection methods: surveys		x	x
C12b. Data collection methods: historical and observed data		x	x

Adaptation of ALLIANCE e-platform

The self-paced digitalized courses of STIP are available through the ALLIANCE e-platform (http://e-alliance.tsi.lv/).

The goal of ALLIANCE project is to further develop and re-structure STIP into a lifelong learning program, in order to guarantee sustainability of the e-learning approach within a coherent educational and training program meeting the expectations and job requirements in Latvia and the wider region, and in parallel taking into account the European Union standards.

Certification paths have also been developed to provide recognized certification in future. The paths define the weighting of the students' performance on the course classification, and may serve as a basis for degree programs offered by TTI on the basis of ALLIANCE course development. The certification paths for successful completion of passenger transport and freight transport curricula are presented in Tables 2 and 3, respectively *(3)*.

Table 2: Certification path for "passenger transport"

Course	Contribution towards the final mark
Introducing research-based course: C0	10%
Core block courses: C1, C2, C11	60%
Passenger transport block courses: C4, C6, C8, C12a, C12b	30%
Total score of self-assessment/partial performance	50%
Final exam	50%

Table 3: Certification path for "freight transport"

Course	Contribution towards the final mark
Introducing research-based course: C0	10%
Core block courses: C1, C2, C11	60%
Freight transport block courses: C4, C9, C10, C12a, C12b	30%
Total score of self-assessment/partial performance	50%
Final exam	50%

More information

More information about the ALLIANCE lifelong learning program can be found in: http://e-alliance.tsi.lv/. Also, please feel free to contact us by email: alliance-project@tsi.lv.

References

(1) The Lifelong Learning Platform. Lexicon.
    Retrieved from http://lllplatform.eu/resources/lexicon/. [last access: 28.12.2018].
(2) The European Commission. (1995). White paper: Teaching and learning towards the learning society. Brussels.
    URL: http://europa.eu/documents/comm/white_papers/pdf/com95_590_en.pdf. [last access: 28.12.2018].
(3) ALLIANCE, 2018. Deliverable D4.2, 2018. Guidance towards excellence sustainability.