# DI-ÖSS Building a Digital Infrastructure in South Tyrol

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#### Introduction

- There are a number of large-scale infrastructures (CLARIN, DARIAH, Europeana, ...).
- Often don't target small and local actors.
- DI-ÖSS works on a local level
- Aim is to build a regional language infrastructure in South Tyrol.
- The pilot phase is two-fold.
  - Get an overview of local actors, their profiles and needs.
  - Discover and evaluate potential synergies with dedicated use-cases.

# The Project

#### DI-ÖSS

**D**igitale *Digital* 

Infrastruktur für das Infrastructure for the

Ökosystem ofSüdtirolerSouth-Tyrolean

Sprachdaten und -dienste language data and services

# The Project Consortium

The project consortium is made up of four institutions which are selected to represent the variety in "language institutions" the project is planning to cover. They are:



Landesbibliothek
Dr. Friedrich Teßmann
Bibliotech Provinziela / Biblioteca Provinciale

salto•bz

News and Community Portal

Südtiroler

> Kulturinstitut

Sprachstelle ("language unit")

# DI-ÖSS and CLARIN

top-down global large institutions common standards best practices

infrastructure experts

bottom-up
local
small and very small institutions
wide variety of formats
idiosyncratic workflows
domain experts

# The Challenges

#### Conceptual Challenges

- Difficulties in determining the scope of "language institutions" ("schedule for a cable car is also language data to a degree")
- Difficulties in conceiving meaningful use-cases that facilitate synergies between institutions

#### Communicative Challenges

- Scope and purpose of the project is difficult to communicate to institutions that do not have infrastructure experiences
- Some institutions are reluctant to share their data with others and often cannot easily see the synergistic possibilities

#### Technical Challenges

- A lot of different data formats and workflows have to be made (at least partly) interoperable
- Smaller institutions lack
- Funding
- Personnel
- Expertise

## Lessons learned

- Building an infrastructure with smaller actors requires a different approach.
- There are very different types of "language institutions".
- Concrete use-cases can help in discovering and exploiting potential synergies.
- Technical interoperability has to be achieved on a high conceptual level.

### Next steps

- Approach more institutions and convince them of the benefits of joining such an infrastructure.
- Implement use-cases to show feasibility.
- Generate an overview of the current state (e.g. data, formats, typical workflows, etc. = "Bestandsaufnahme").