



BMBF funding activities in research data infrastructures for humanities and social sciences (SSH)

Dr. Klaus Schindel, Ref. 425 BMBF



SSH infrastructures conception and focus

- The academic landscape of humanities and social sciences stakeholders is enormous, in numbers, in diversity of their topics, and in approaches.
- New digital methodologies are opening up new opportunities for research in all disciplines.
- A transformation of *hermeneutical* to *quantitative* approaches in SSH methodologies is not applicable. Digital methodologies enhance existing approaches.
- Data collection and development of new digital methodologies requires close interdisciplinary work between SSH disciplines and computer sciences.

Humanities infrastructure and Digital Humanities funding at a glance

- First funding initiative for the arts and humanities „Freiraum für die Geisteswissenschaften“ (“freedom for the humanities”) in 2007
- Ever since BMBF funding for research projects with an interdisciplinary character grew exponentially.
- The initial lack of appropriate digital and mostly distributed infrastructures has led to the first large SSH research infrastructure projects.
- These projects were the predecessors of CLARIN and DARIAH: D-Spin (2008) and TextGrid (2006).

Social Sciences infrastructure and funding at a glance

- The need of social sciences researchers for central services was the core motivation for the establishment of social sciences infrastructures
- Central services of infrastructures: panels, surveys, archival services
- Since 1986 BMBF funding of GESIS („Gesellschaft Sozialwissenschaftlicher Infrastruktureinrichtungen“)
- Since 1984 SOEP (socio-economic panel) at the „Deutsches Institut für Wirtschaftsforschung“ (DIW Berlin)
- Close cooperation with DFG (German Research Foundation)



German SSH infrastructures with EU counterparts

National predecessors

- TextGrid: 2006 – 2015
predecessor of DARIAH
- D-Spin: 2008 – 2011
predecessor of CLARIN

National Counterpart projects of EU SSH infrastructures (ERICs)

- DARIAH: 2011 – 2019
- CLARIN: 2011 – 2020
- ESS: since 2004 (funded via GESIS)
- SHARE: 2004 – 2018 (MPI for Social Law and Social Policy)
- CESSDA: since 1976 (funded via GESIS)

Other national SSH infrastructures

Humanities:

- Forschungsverbund Marbach, Weimar, Wolfenbüttel: 2013-2018, 2018-2023
- KultSam (Design Study): 2017-2018

Social Sciences:

- Socio Economic Panel (SOEP): Longitudinal panel dataset of the population in Germany. 1983-2002 funding by DFG, BMBF since 2003
- SOEP-GeFam (“Geflüchtete Familien” – refugee families): Survey together with Federal Labour Office & Federal Office for Migration and Refugees, 2016-2019
- RatSWD (“Rat für Sozial- und Wirtschaftsdaten”): Consulting Committee to the federal government, since 2004

National Calls - History

Past and current:

- eHumanities 2011
 - Interdisciplinary research projects
 - eHumanities 2013 and 2014: each with two funding lines
 - Interdisciplinary junior research groups
 - Digital Humanities (DH) centres
- eHeritage 2016 (Digitization): two funding lines
 - Concept-projects and realisation-projects
 - No text- and 2D-material, rather “objects”
 - Evidence of research interest through LOIs



National Calls - Numbers

Past and current:

- eHumanities 2011
 - 24 project-consortia = 60 single projects
 - eHumanities 2013 and 2014: each with two funding lines
 - 6 Junior research groups
 - 6 DH centres
 - 3 DH centres
- eHeritage 2016 (Digitisation): two funding lines.
 - 29 completed concept-projects
 - 24 approved realisation-projects



National Calls - Figures

Projects:

Call	Years	Funding in €
eHumanities 2011 24 project-consortia	2012/2013 - 2015/2016	19 Mio €
eHumanities 2013 and 2014 6 Junior research groups	2014/2015 - 2019/2020	11,5 Mio €
eHumanities 2013 and 2014 9 DH centres	2015/2016 – 2020/2021	20,5 Mio €
eHeritage 2016 Concepts and Digitization	2016/2017 – 2017/2020	11 Mio €

National Infrastructures - Figures

Infrastructures:

Infrastructure	Years	Funding in €	Rounded
TextGrid	2006 - 2015	8.084.155,78	8 Mio €
D-Spin	2008 - 2011	1.587.953,38	1,5 Mio €
CLARIN D I-II	2011 - 2016	14.216.828,30	14 Mio €
CLARIN D III	2016	274.597,73	270.000 €
CLARIN D III	2017	ca. 1.386.718,28	1,4 Mio €
CLARIN D III	2018	ca. 1.610.810,00	1,6 Mio €
CLARIN D III	2019	ca. 1.554.289,12	1,6 Mio €
CLARIN D III	2020	ca. 1.376.187,03	1,4 Mio €
DARIAH DE I - II	2011 - 2016	15.012.719,64	15 Mio €
DARIAH DE III	2016	954.169,51	1 Mio €
DARIAH DE III	2017	ca. 1.521.391,84	1,5 Mio €
DARIAH DE III	2018	ca. 1.614.993,39	1,6 Mio €
DARIAH DE III	2019	ca. 777.468,57	780.000 €
RATSWD	2004 - 2018	ca. 7.500.000,00	7,5 Mio €
SHARE	2008 – 2018	10.597.729,00	10,6 Mio €
ESS	2016 – 2018	1.278.517,00	1,3 Mio €
CESSDA	Recently none		
ALLTOGETHER		69.348.528,57	69 Mio €



National Calls - Future

- Digital Humanities – updated 2018
- Accompanying software development call 2018
- Digitization call: eHeritage 2018
- Possible call on the effects of digitization of society from a humanities perspective

Future activities SSH infrastructures

Overall goals

- Harmonise and enhance SSH research infrastructures
- Bottom-up approach of core SSH infrastructure projects for the aggregation of the SSH part of the “Nationale Forschungsdateninfrastruktur (NFDI)”, national counterpart for the EOSC – European Open Science Cloud
- Establish DARIAH and CLARIN as sustainable national research infrastructure-hubs for the arts & humanities community within the NFDI
- Continuous development of accreditation guidelines and evaluation mechanisms for the RatSWD accredited research data centres.



Thank you



Dr. Klaus Schindel, Ref 425, BMBF