

# International collaboration as a common approach to improve the FAIRness of non-numeric/ qualitative research data

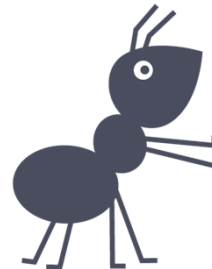
IASSIST & CARTO, Halifax, Canada

31st May 2024

DOI: 10.5281/zenodo.11506970

In Cooperation with





Kati Mozygamba & Noemi Betancort-Cabrera  
Research Data Center Qualiservice -  
University of Bremen, State and University  
Library Bremen

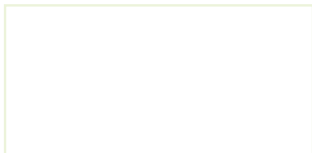
# The approach of QualidataNet

- built up in the context of the National Research Data Infrastructure in Germany as part of the Consortium for the Social, Behavioral, Educational and Economic Sciences
- Idea:
  - The re-use of qualitative data is still an exception in Germany. One reason is the fragmentation of existing archiving services for qualitative data.
  - To overcome fragmentation and to improve the integration of heterogeneity into a common approach, we established QualidataNet – a network for qualitative data.

## Qualidata-Net – a central point of entry for qualitative data

- QualidataNet bundles as a ‚central point of entry‘ information about the management, use and sharing of qualitative research data.
- It connects providers of qualitative data and promotes exchange.
- QualidataNet is open to all RDCs, archives, repositories, that hold qualitative data and make them available for re-use.

# Current archiving partners in Qualidata-Net



# Advantages for researchers

- QualidataNet offers **centralized access to qualitative data**,
- supports in **finding the right archiving partner** and
- guides through the specialized infrastructure offerings.
- QualidataNet **offers an RDM-portfolio for qualitative data – coordinated templates and handouts** to facilitate dealing with the central aspects of data sharing and research data management of qualitative data.

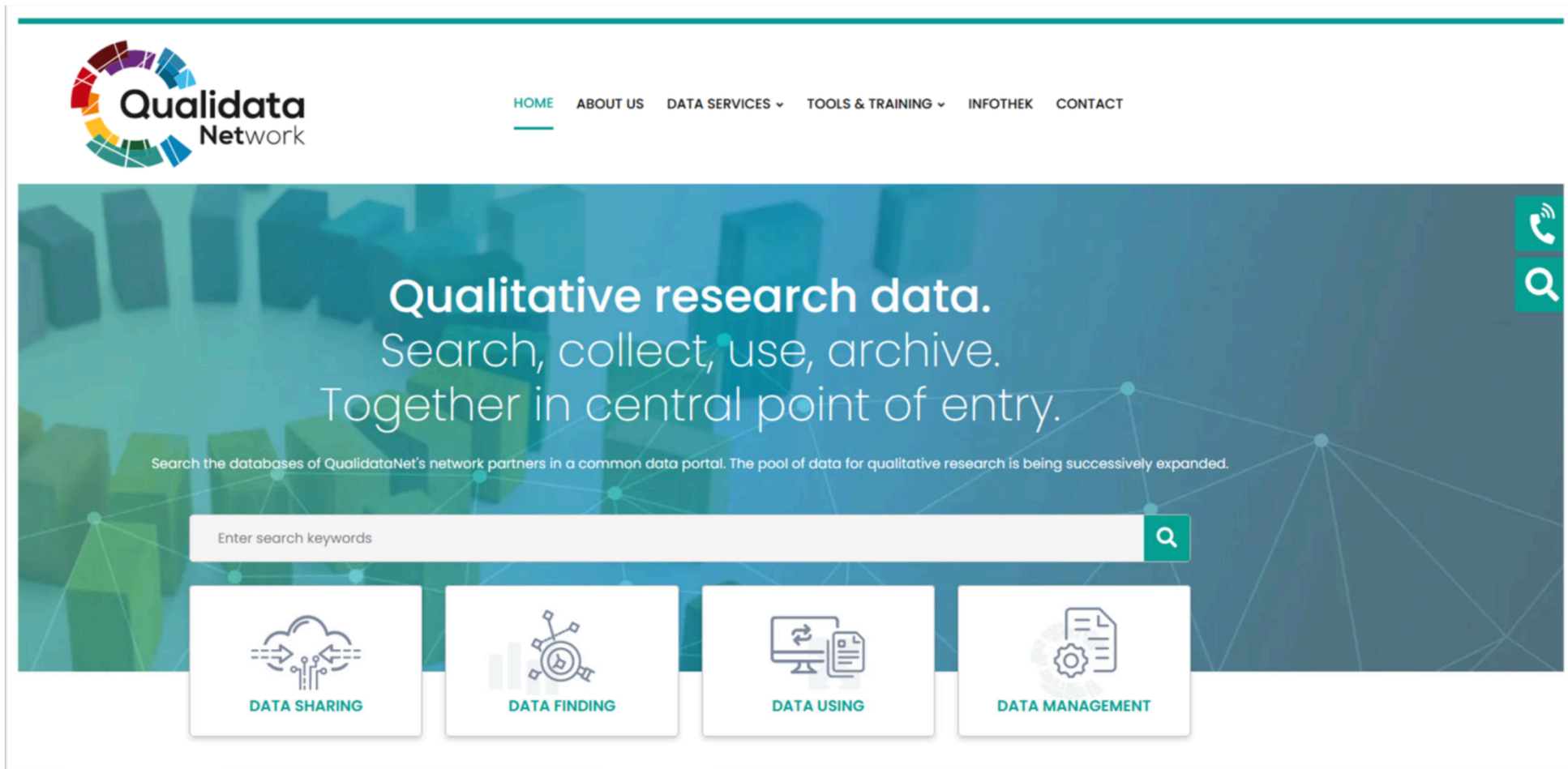
# Advantages for infrastructures

- QualidataNet increases the **visibility and findability of datasets** and facilitates the re-use of qualitative data.
- **Jointly dealing** with central aspects of research data management, archiving and data sharing of qualitative data **avoids duplicate developments** and takes the **expertise of specialized archiving partners** for a particular type of data into account.

# How does QualidataNet improve the FAIRness of qualitative research data?

Five examples ...

# 1 The QualidataNet – search portal



The screenshot shows the homepage of the QualidataNet search portal. At the top left is the Qualidata Network logo. To its right is a navigation menu with links for HOME, ABOUT US, DATA SERVICES, TOOLS & TRAINING, INFOTHEK, and CONTACT. The main content area features a large blue background with a network diagram. The central text reads: "Qualitative research data. Search, collect, use, archive. Together in central point of entry." Below this is a search bar with the placeholder text "Enter search keywords" and a search icon. At the bottom, there are four white boxes with icons and labels: "DATA SHARING" (cloud and arrows), "DATA FINDING" (magnifying glass and gear), "DATA USING" (computer monitor and document), and "DATA MANAGEMENT" (document and gear). On the right side of the main content area, there are icons for a phone and a search function.



# Search portal

**Filter by...**

**Datensatz Autor**

- Sommer, Ilka (4)
- Weiß, Anja (4)
- Merse, Stefanie (2)
- Weingartz, Sarah (2)
- Assa, Solmaz (1)
- Bellmann, Johannes (1)
- Breunig, Margret (1)
- Chen, Wei (1)
- Elçin, Melih (1)
- Guo, Fan (1)

---

**Publikationsjahr**

- 2021 (4)

---

**Datenzentrum**

- FDZ Qualiservice (4)
- FDZ Bildung (1)

**5 Datensätze gefunden**

< 1 >

>> zum Datenzentrum

“ ‹ ‹

**DATENSATZ – PUBLIZIERT 2021**

**1. Globalizing medical knowledge and practise. Doctor-patient-interaction videoobserved at a university hospital in Groningen (Netherlands). Transcripts, translation, audiovisual and context material**

**Eindeutige Kennzeichnung:** [doi:10.1594/PANGAEA.939238](https://doi.org/10.1594/PANGAEA.939238)

**Autoren:** Weiß, Anja; Sommer, Ilka; Merse, Stefanie; Weingartz, Sarah; Wietasch, Götz; Maass, Alexander; Assa, Solmaz

**Zusammenfassung:** > Der Datensatz enthält 18 Beobachtungen von Ärzten und Ärztinnen, die eine\_n Simulationspatienten/in (SP) behandeln, der bzw. die Herzinsuffizienz simuliert, ein weit verbreitetes kardiologisches Syndrom. Die Arzt-Patient-Interaktionen...

**Datenzentrum:** FDZ Qualiservice

# The QualidataNet search portal

## Findability & Accessibility

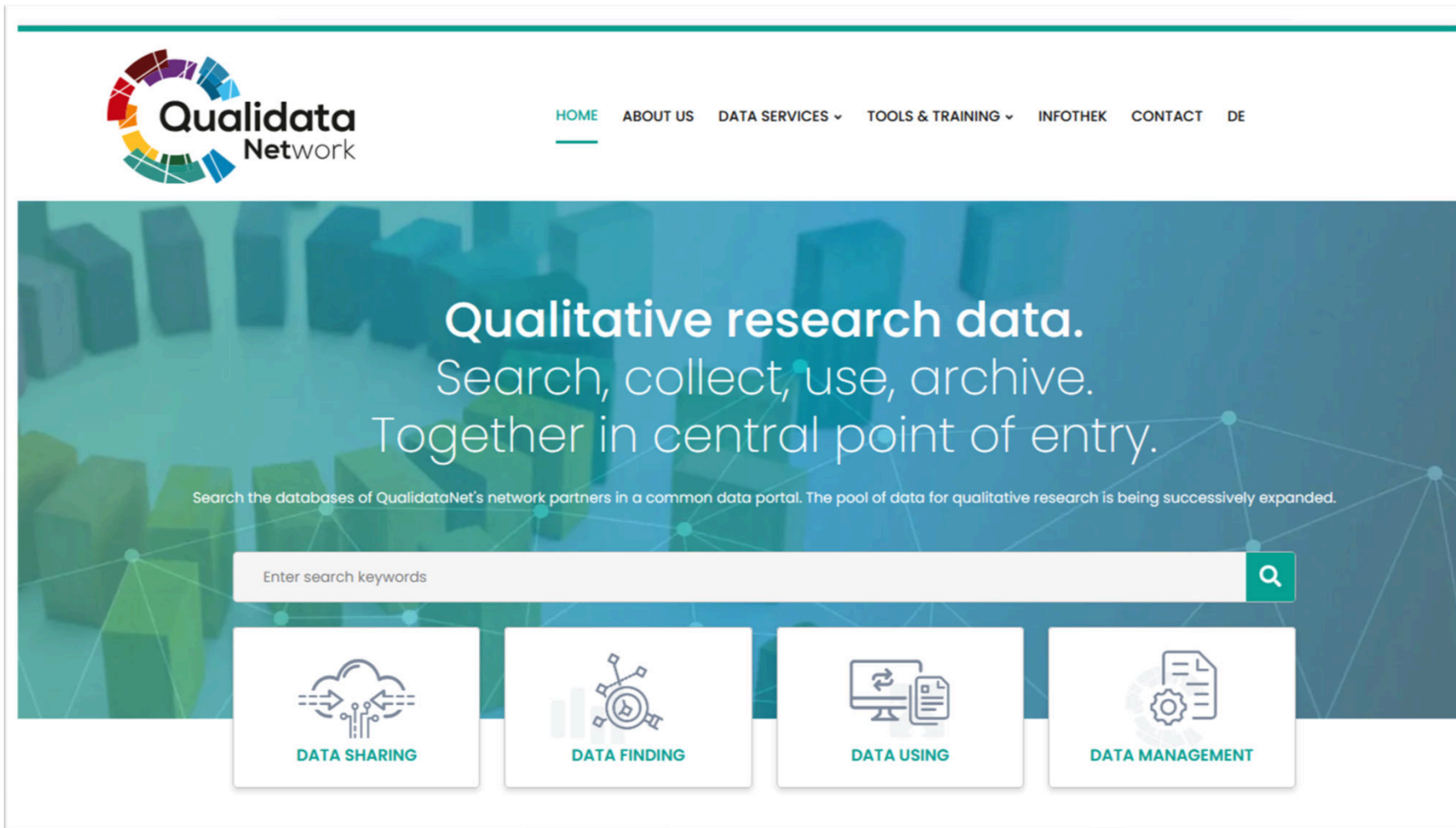
- launched in Jan 2024 offers centralized access to qualitative data
- condition to take part: datasets need to be provided with a persistent identifier (e.g. DOI) and flagged for harvesting
- We are continuously further developing the search portal and integrating further datasets to increase the number of data available for data re-use.

## 2 QualiTerm: Controlled Vocabularies for the description of qualitative data

### Interoperability & Reusability

- The CV contains methodological elements of qualitative data such as sampling procedures, methods of data collection and qualitative analysis.
- development in cooperation with researchers
- the DDI-WG on controlled vocabularies provided feedback on sampling methods. Further feedback is very welcome.
- Some RDCs started using QualiTerm in their metadatsets. The publication via CESSDA is planned.

# 4 Coordinated RDM-portfolio for qualitative data



The screenshot shows the homepage of the Qualidata Network. At the top left is the Qualidata Network logo, a colorful circular graphic with the text "Qualidata Network". To its right is a navigation menu with links: HOME (underlined), ABOUT US, DATA SERVICES, TOOLS & TRAINING, INFOTHEK, CONTACT, and DE. Below the navigation is a large blue banner with the text: "Qualitative research data. Search, collect, use, archive. Together in central point of entry." Underneath this is a smaller line of text: "Search the databases of QualidataNet's network partners in a common data portal. The pool of data for qualitative research is being successively expanded." Below the banner is a search bar with the placeholder text "Enter search keywords" and a magnifying glass icon. At the bottom of the banner are four white boxes, each with an icon and a label: "DATA SHARING" (cloud and arrows icon), "DATA FINDING" (bar chart and gear icon), "DATA USING" (computer monitor and document icon), and "DATA MANAGEMENT" (document and gear icon).

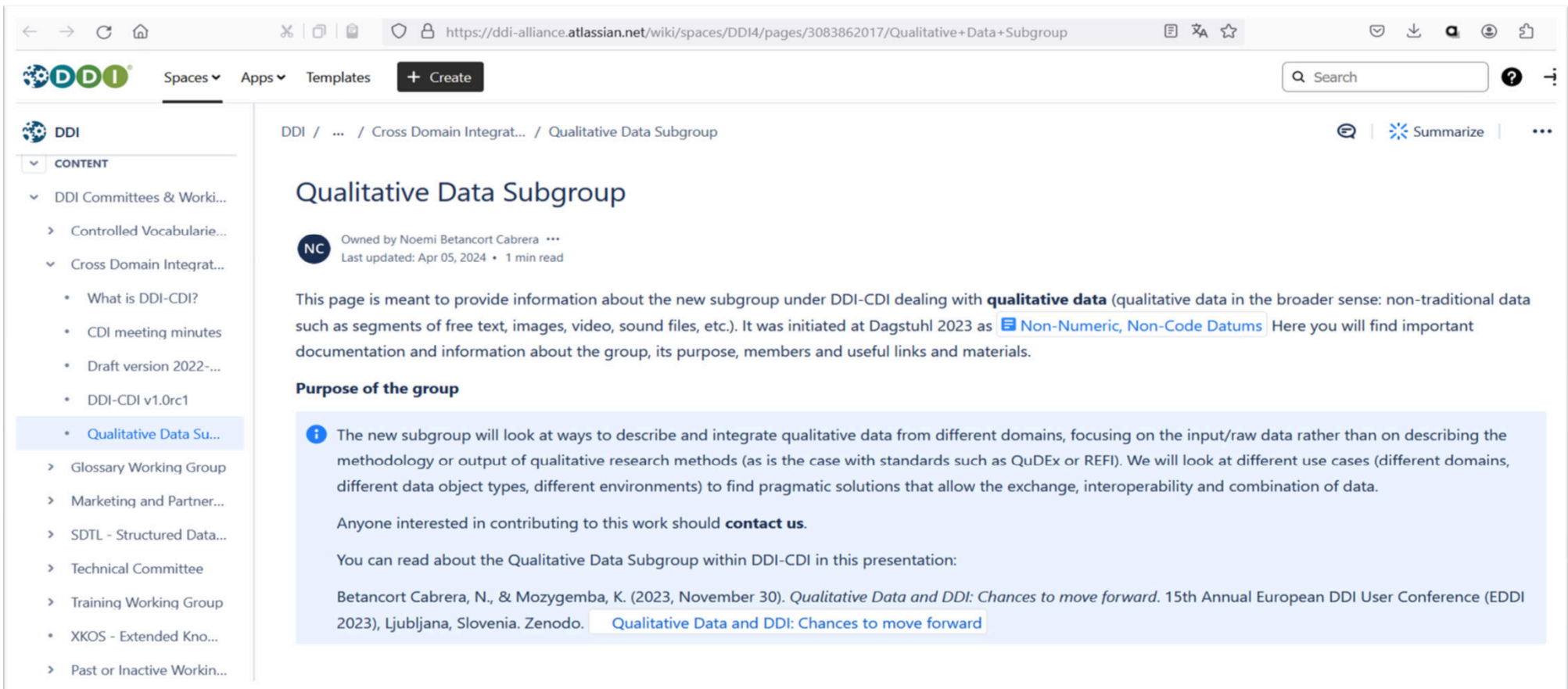
# QualidataNet - RDM-Portfolio

## Reusability

- QualidataNet develops and offers a coordinated RDM-Portfolio for qualitative data, which includes the expertise of the network partners.
- It aims at putting researchers in the position to prepare FAIR research materials already during the research project.
- RDCs share the tools they are working with e.g., QualiAnon a tool for the anonymization of textual data and
- work on fact sheets informing about legal issues such as data protection and copyright law



# 5 QualidataNet takes part in the development of international metadata-modells



The screenshot shows a web browser displaying a Confluence page. The browser's address bar shows the URL: <https://ddi-alliance.atlassian.net/wiki/spaces/DDI4/pages/3083862017/Qualitative+Data+Subgroup>. The page header includes the DDI logo and navigation options like 'Spaces', 'Apps', and 'Templates'. A search bar is visible on the right. The main content area is titled 'Qualitative Data Subgroup' and is owned by Noemi Betancort Cabrera. The page content includes a paragraph describing the subgroup's purpose and a section titled 'Purpose of the group' with an information icon. A light blue callout box highlights the purpose of the group.

DDI / ... / Cross Domain Integrat... / Qualitative Data Subgroup

## Qualitative Data Subgroup

Owned by Noemi Betancort Cabrera ...  
Last updated: Apr 05, 2024 • 1 min read

This page is meant to provide information about the new subgroup under DDI-CDI dealing with **qualitative data** (qualitative data in the broader sense: non-traditional data such as segments of free text, images, video, sound files, etc.). It was initiated at Dagstuhl 2023 as [Non-Numeric, Non-Code Datums](#). Here you will find important documentation and information about the group, its purpose, members and useful links and materials.

### Purpose of the group

**i** The new subgroup will look at ways to describe and integrate qualitative data from different domains, focusing on the input/raw data rather than on describing the methodology or output of qualitative research methods (as is the case with standards such as QuDEX or REFI). We will look at different use cases (different domains, different data object types, different environments) to find pragmatic solutions that allow the exchange, interoperability and combination of data.

Anyone interested in contributing to this work should **contact us**.

You can read about the Qualitative Data Subgroup within DDI-CDI in this presentation:

Betancort Cabrera, N., & Mozygemba, K. (2023, November 30). *Qualitative Data and DDI: Chances to move forward*. 15th Annual European DDI User Conference (EDDI 2023), Ljubljana, Slovenia. Zenodo. [Qualitative Data and DDI: Chances to move forward](#)

# QualidataNet coordinates the DDI-CDI Qualitative Data Subgroup

## Interoperability & Reusability

- Coming from the starting point that cross-domain data sharing is becoming increasingly common
- the Working Group aims at **describing the qualitative data objects** in a way that also other disciplines can identify them as potential source for their research interests and vice versa.
- We are currently searching for **use cases to test the model and** working on the description of different qualitative datasets (e.g., making annotations of audiovisual material a part of a dataset description)

## Some of the next steps

- integrate further datasets into the search portal
- provide a cooperated guidance-document on data sharing of qualitative data
- include further DDI-CDI use cases
- collect best practices of secondary re-use of qualitative data in cooperation with researchers
- widen the network and learn more about the different developed data sharing and archiving solutions



Last, but not least,

... we connect to an earlier initiative from 2009, when an international workshop of qualitative data providers took place in Bremen, Germany published in IASSIST Quarterly...



The screenshot shows the IASSIST Quarterly website. The header features the title "IASSIST Quarterly" in a large, white, sans-serif font against a blue background with a grid pattern. Below the header is a navigation menu with links for "CURRENT", "ARCHIVES", "ANNOUNCEMENTS", "AUTHORS", and "ABOUT". A search bar with a magnifying glass icon and the word "Search" is located on the right side of the navigation menu. The main content area displays the breadcrumb "Home / Archives / Vol. 34 No. 3-4 (2011): Fall/Winter 2010 Spring/Summer 2011" in a small, red font. The primary heading is "Vol. 34 No. 3-4 (2011): Fall/Winter 2010 Spring/Summer 2011" in a large, bold, black font. Below this heading, the text "Published: 2011-12-14" is displayed in a smaller, black font. On the right side of the page, there is a light gray box containing a description: "IASSIST Quarterly is a peer-reviewed, indexed, open access quarterly publication of articles dealing with social science information and data services, including relevant societal, legal, and ethical issues." Below this description, the ISSN number "ISSN: 2331-4141" is listed.

# If you interested, get in touch!



**Web:**

<https://www.qualidatanet.com/>

**Mail:**

[info@qualidatanet.com](mailto:info@qualidatanet.com)

Part of *KonsortSWD, NFDI*  
(DFG funding number 442494171)

