

# The new Wheelmap: Joining forces in accessibility mapping – feat. I Wheel Share

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# Hi, we are “Sozialhelden”



[www.sozialhelden.de](http://www.sozialhelden.de)

... a non-profit organization from Berlin, Germany.



# Hi, we are “I Wheel Share”



[www.iwheelshare.com](http://www.iwheelshare.com)

... a startup from Paris, France



# The Problem



**Which public places are accessible for people with disabilities?**

**Accessibility information is hard to find and not available in mainstream directories & apps**

**This makes partaking in daily life difficult**

# The Solution: We built Wheelmap...

The screenshot shows the Wheelmap.org website interface. At the top left is the logo and tagline "wheelmap.org Find wheelchair accessible places". The navigation bar includes links for "Map", "Get involved", "News", "Press", "Contact", "FAQ", and "Report a problem". On the right, there are buttons for "Add another place", "Log in", and "English". Below the navigation is a search bar with the placeholder text "Search for a place" and a search icon. To the right of the search bar are several filter icons, including a green checkmark, an orange minus sign, a red X, a grey circle with a slash, and a "WC" icon. Further right is a "Categories" dropdown menu with a red notification badge showing "12". The main area is a map of Berlin, densely populated with various icons representing different types of wheelchair accessible locations. A popup window for "Starbucks" is open, showing the address "1a Panoramastraße, Berlin 10178" and a "Wheelchair accessibility" section with two options: "Wheelchair accessible" (highlighted in green) and "No wheelchair accessible toilet" (highlighted in red). The popup also includes "Details" and "Share" buttons. Overlaid on the map are three white text boxes with black text: "More than 900,000 places have been marked as (not/ partly) wheelchair accessible since 2010", "Open Source and Open Data in 25 languages", and "Available for Web, iPhone and Android".

More than 900,000 places have been marked as (not/ partly) wheelchair accessible since 2010

Open Source and Open Data  
in 25 languages

Available for Web, iPhone and Android

Twitter: @wheelmap

MapBox

747839

Tweet

Gefällt mir 11

Data: © OpenStreetMap contributors, Icons: CC-BY-SA Maps Icons Collection

Main supporter IMMOBILIEN SCOUT24

Imprint

A project by SOZIALHELDEN

# ... starring: the “wheelchair” tags of OSM



KEYS · TAGS · RELATIONS · PROJECTS · REPORTS · ABOUT

## SEARCH RESULTS

You were searching for: wheelchair

Keys Values Relation types Roles Full text

### Keys

Page 1 of 15 JSON Displaying 1 to 13 of 183 items

Count	Key
1 306 491	wheelchair
104 273	toilets:wheelchair
53 477	wheelchair:description
6 097	ramp:wheelchair
3 331	wheelchair:description:de
2 588	source:wheelchair
1 618	wheelchair:description:cs
764	sidewalk:both:wheelchair
463	wheelchair:access
407	wheelchair:entrance_width
314	wheelchair:step_height
270	wheelchair:description:en
243	wheelchair:source

wheelchair=yes/no/limited

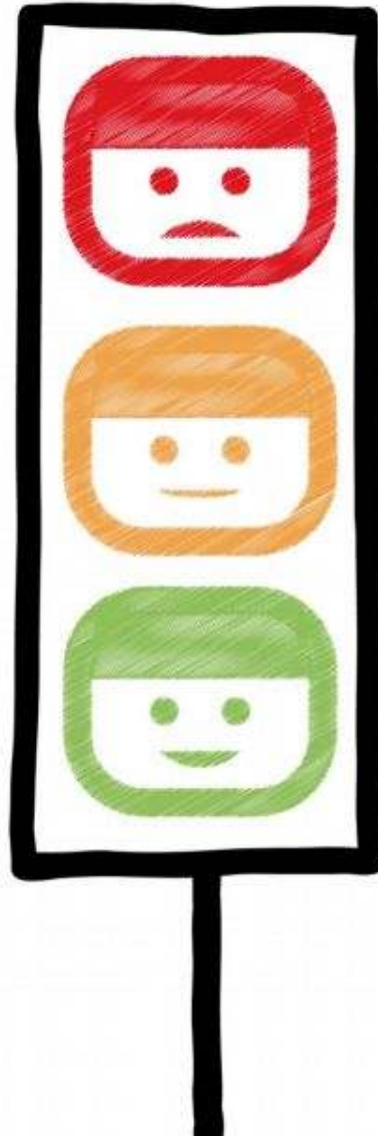
toilets:wheelchair=yes/no

wheelchair:description=\*text\*



# Criteria

Easy to understand.



wheelchair=no = big step / several steps

wheelchair=limited = small step / indoor step

wheelchair=yes = no steps



# Community / spec. in A11y or OSM

Mapping walks.



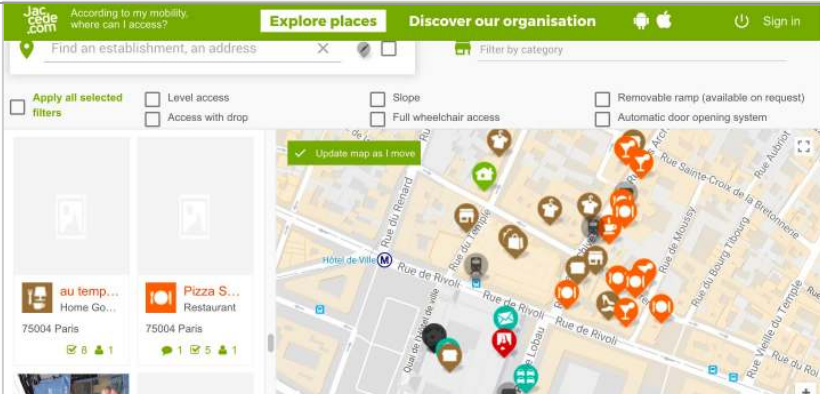
Investigating neighbourhoods.

Empowering to act upon a11y needs.

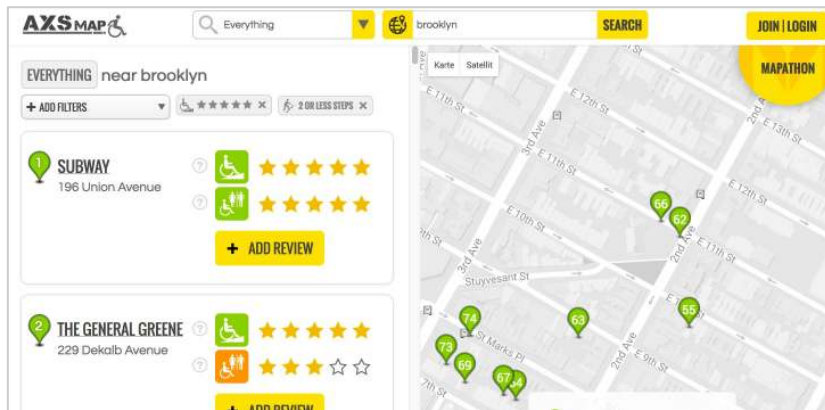




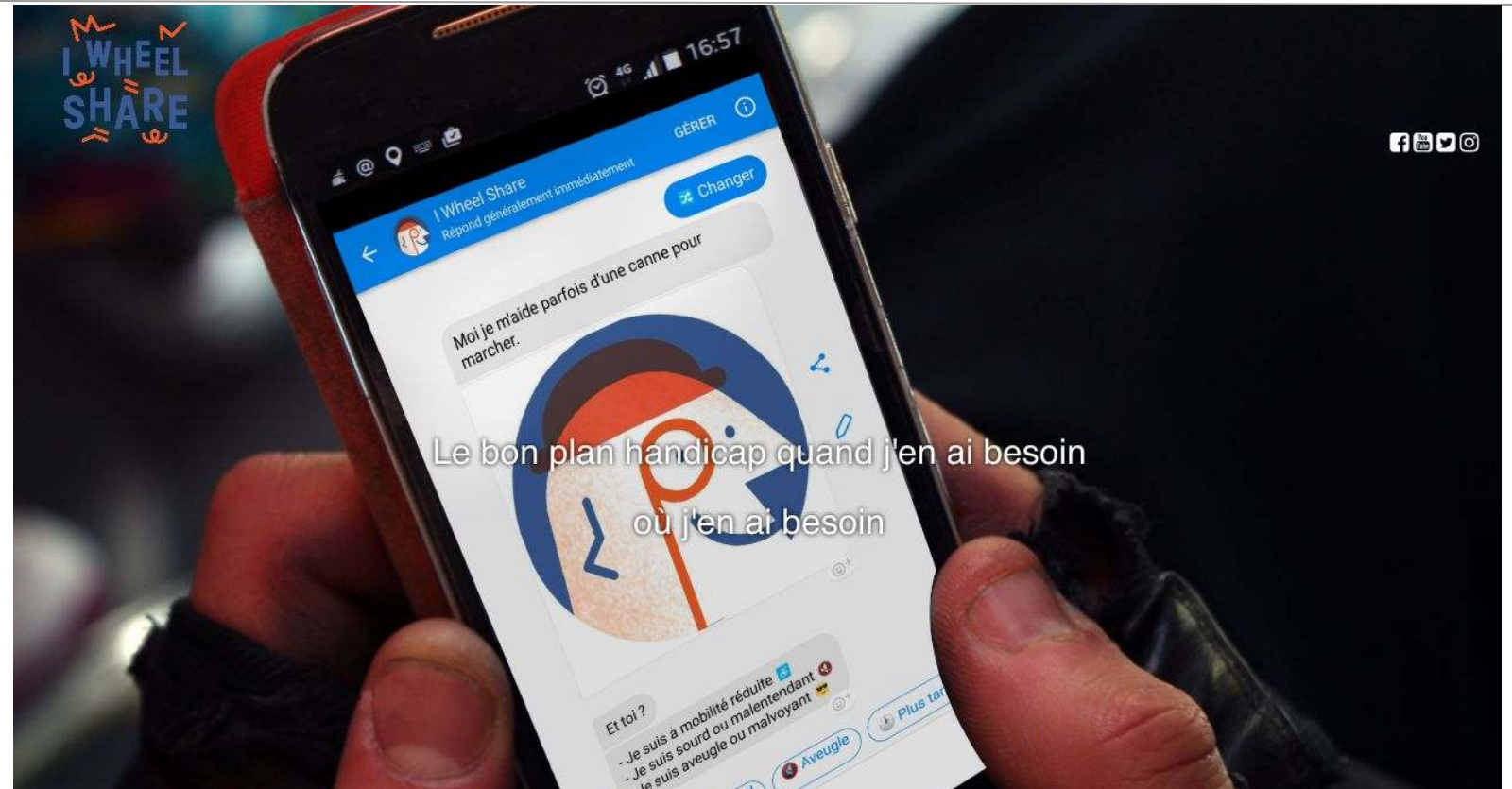
# Activists worldwide had similar solutions



Jaccede (France): 100,000 places



AXSmap (USA): 100,000 places



I Wheel Share (France): 2,000 places

# So we built a data exchange service...

accessibility.cloud  
EXCHANGE ACCESSIBILITY DATA, STANDARDIZED.

About Sign In Join

The Port Grill & Raw Bar RESTAURANT

```
{
  "accessibleWith": {
    "wheelchair": true
  },
  "areas": [
    {
      "entrances": [
        {
          "ratingForWheelchair": 0.8
        }
      ]
    }
  ]
}
```

**accessibility.cloud, our backend service, currently connects 90 data sources and provides an API**

**Goal: share the data, increase the impact for everyone!**

**Includes > 150 different accessibility criteria, not only wheelchair accessibility!**

Let's collect more accessible places together.

We are a NGO that believes in an inclusive world. Our mission is to make accessibility information easier to find—wherever people need it. That's why we want to encourage everybody to share this kind of data with each other. accessibility.cloud simplifies sharing and obtaining accessibility data in a standardized, future-proof, easy-to-use way.



# Wheelmap (beta): More sources

wheelmap.org Find wheelchair accessible places

Travel guide Get involved News Press Contact Imprint FAQ Add missing place

Search for place or address

Allée Saint-John Perse  
75001 Paris France  
Cinema

**Fully wheelchair accessible**  
Entrance has no steps, and all rooms are accessible without steps.

Accès aux salles UGC Les Halles hyper facile par ascenseur dans le jardin Nelson Mandela, dos à l'église St Eustache. Uniquement accessible au -3, vérifiez si votre salle est aussi accessible. La plupart le sont .

Open on Apple Maps

Open on OpenStreetMaps

Share

Report an issue

Source: Wheel Share (OOBL)

Thanks to accessibility.cloud:  
More than 1.6 mio places with accessibility data available

SOZIALHELDEN | © Mapbox | © OpenStreetMap | Improve this map

# Wheelmap (beta): More complex edits on OSM

wheelmap.org Find wheelchair accessible places

Travel guide Get involved News Press Contact Imprint FAQ **Add missing place**

### Add a place

Most places shown here are from [OpenStreetMap \(OSM\)](#). If you add places there, they will appear here a bit later.

[Leave a note on OpenStreetMap](#)

**Add a place on OpenStreetMap**

[Use OpenStreetMap web editor](#)

Teatro Leonardo da Vinci

Via Edoardo Bonardi

SOZIALHELDEN | © Mapbox | © OpenStreetMap | [Improve this map](#)

# Wheelmap (beta): Live data on elevators + escalators

wheelmap.org

Reiseführer Mitmachen News Presse Kontakt Impressum FAQ Fehlenden Ort hinzufügen

Such nach Ort oder Adresse

→ Gleis 103/104 (S-Bahn)  
Aufzug  
**Außer Betrieb**  
Letztes Update am heute, 13:02.  
Frankfurt (Main) Hauptbahnhof  
Teilen  
Open in Apple Maps  
Open on OpenStreetMap  
069/2651055 (Frankfurt (Main) Hbf) anrufen

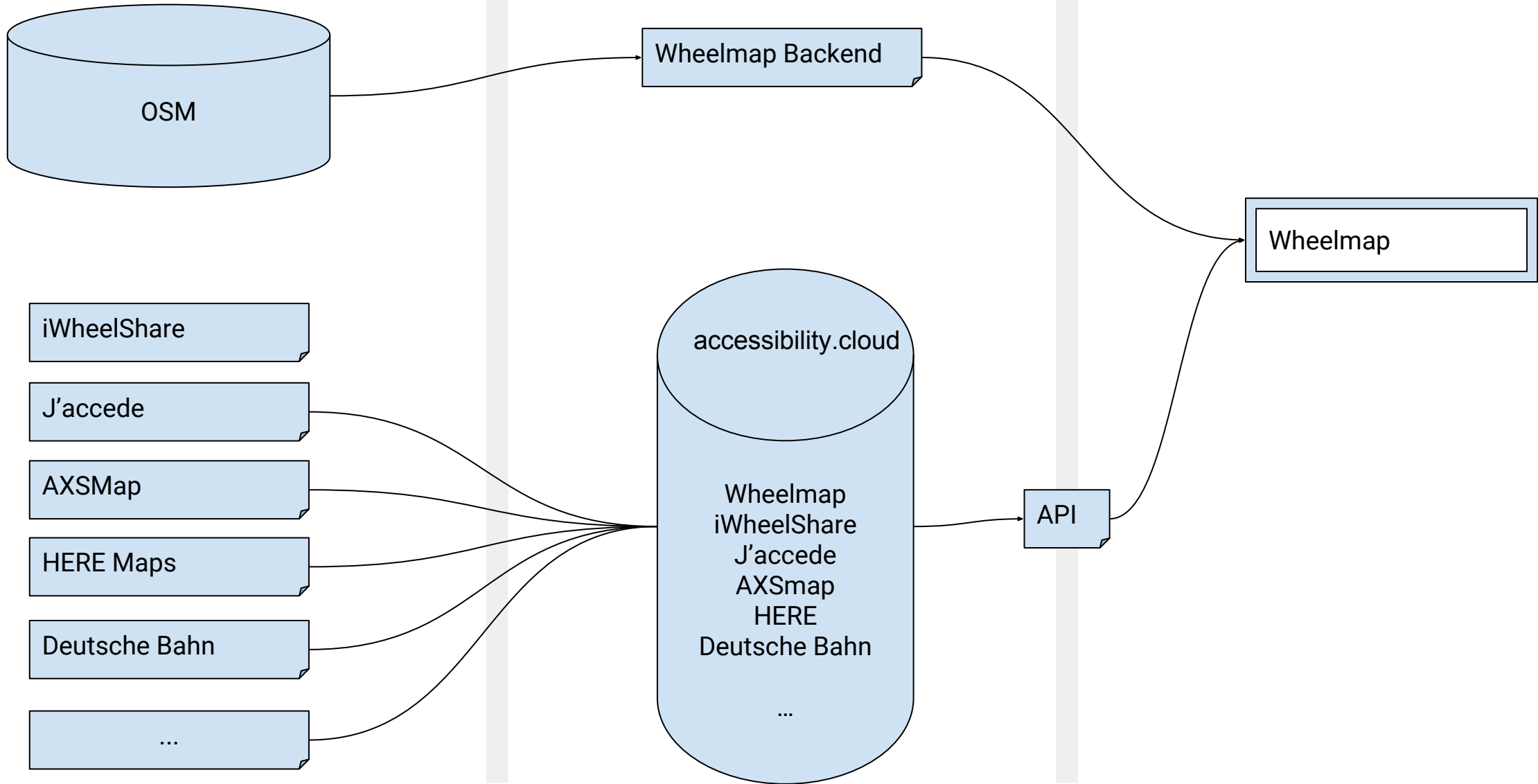
Asia Gourmet M Bar Bistro Snack 'n Coffee Le Crobag Gosch Sylt

SOZIALHELDEN | © Mapbox | © OpenStreetMap | Improve this map

# Data Sources

# Data Handling

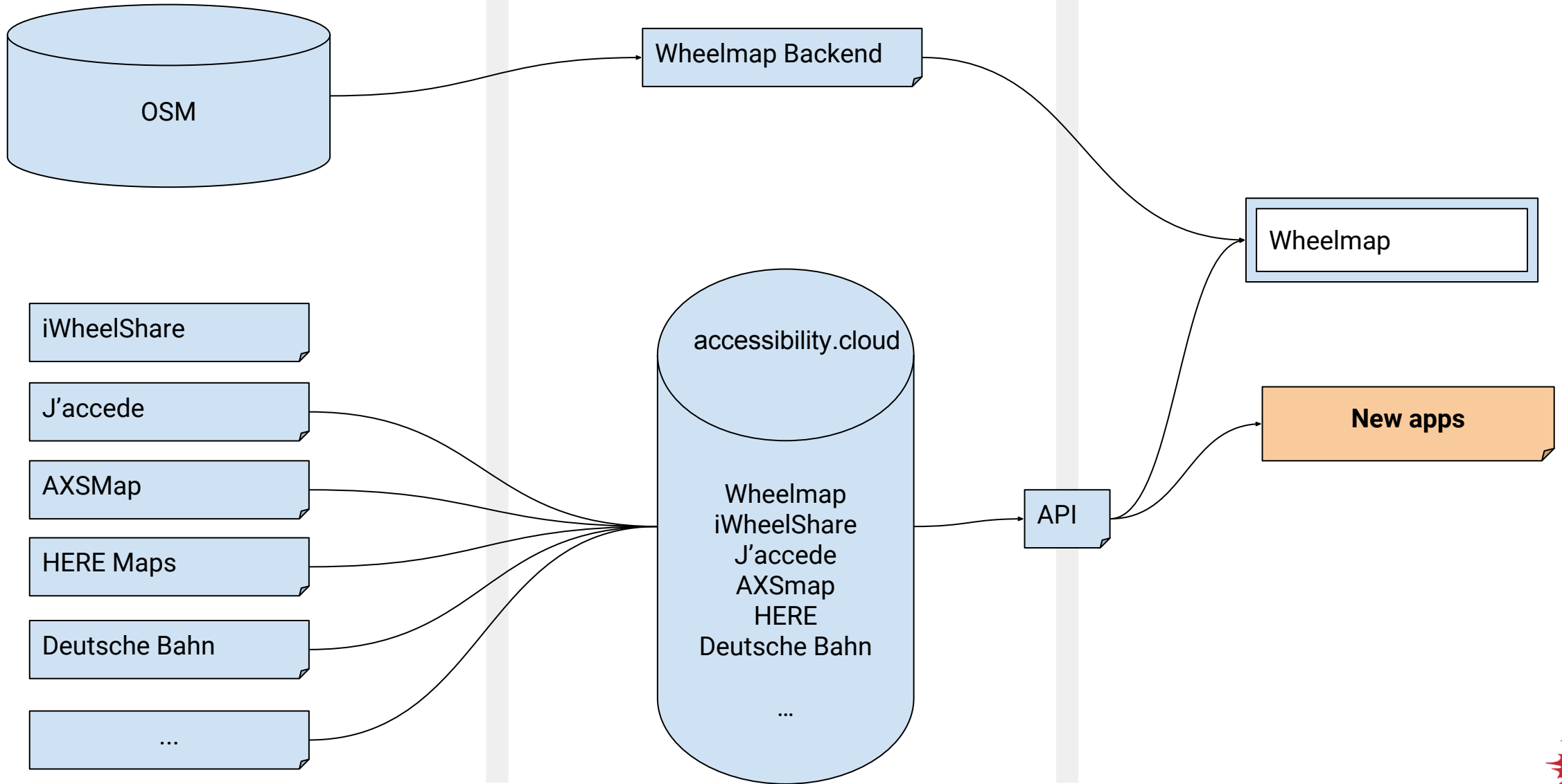
# Apps + Presentation



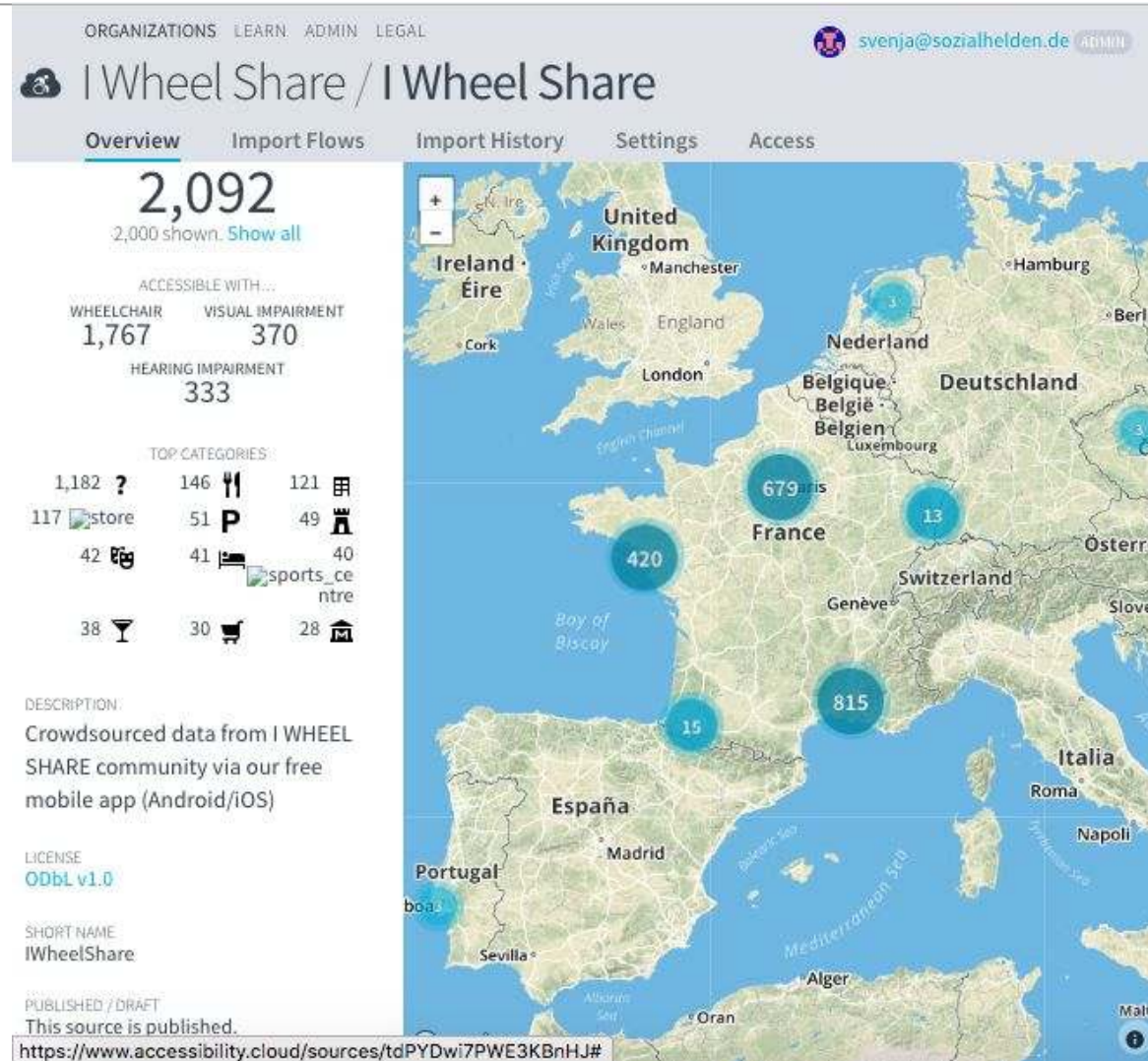
# Data Sources

# Data Handling

# Apps + Presentation

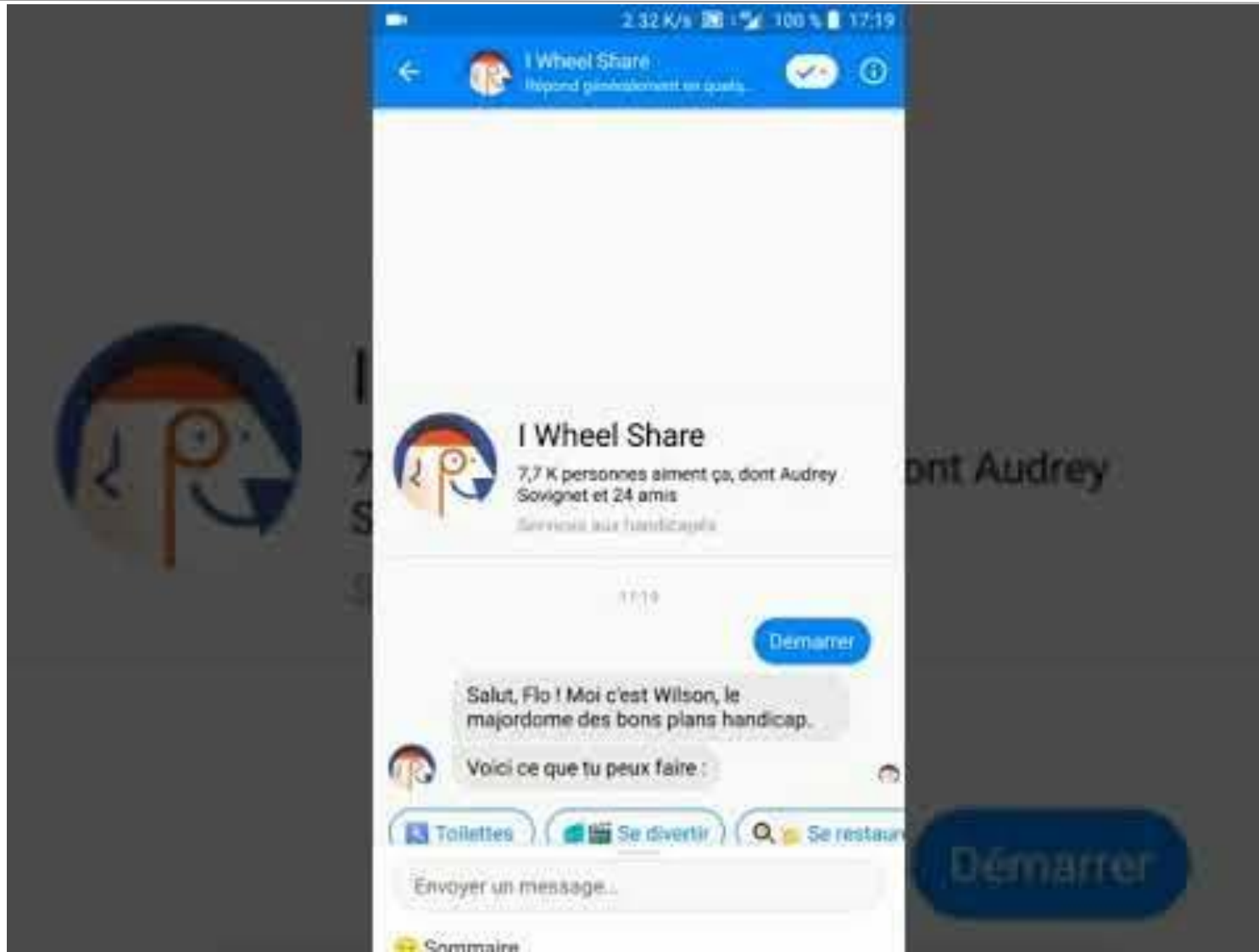


# Example: I Wheel Share

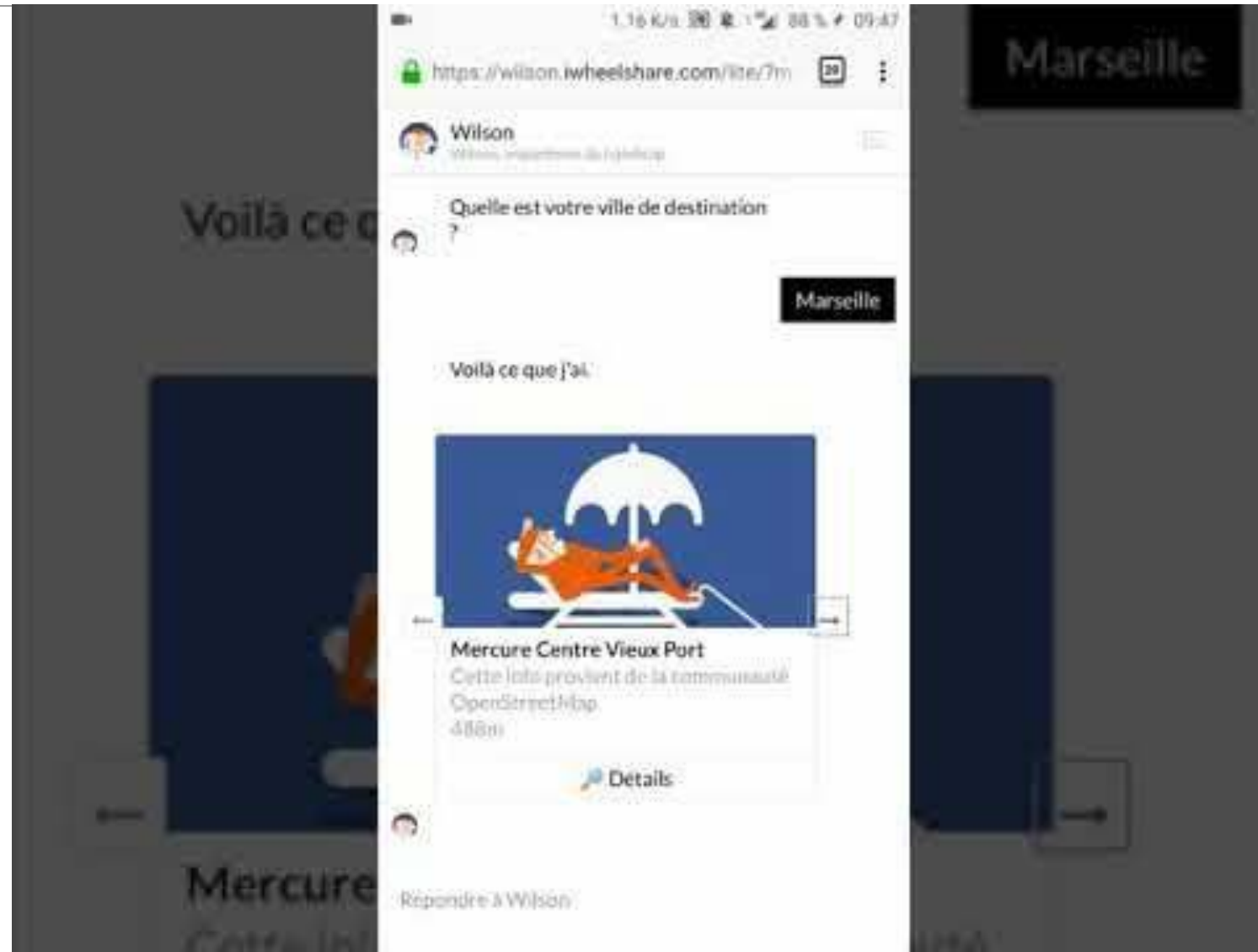




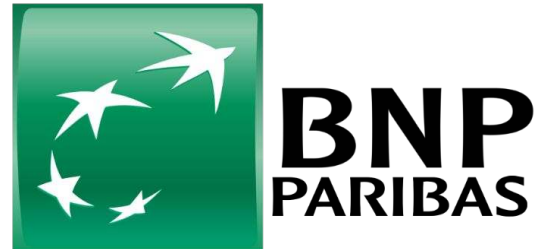
# I Wheel Share: Wilson the chatbot



# iWheelShare: Mixing sources



# iWheelShare: Data sources



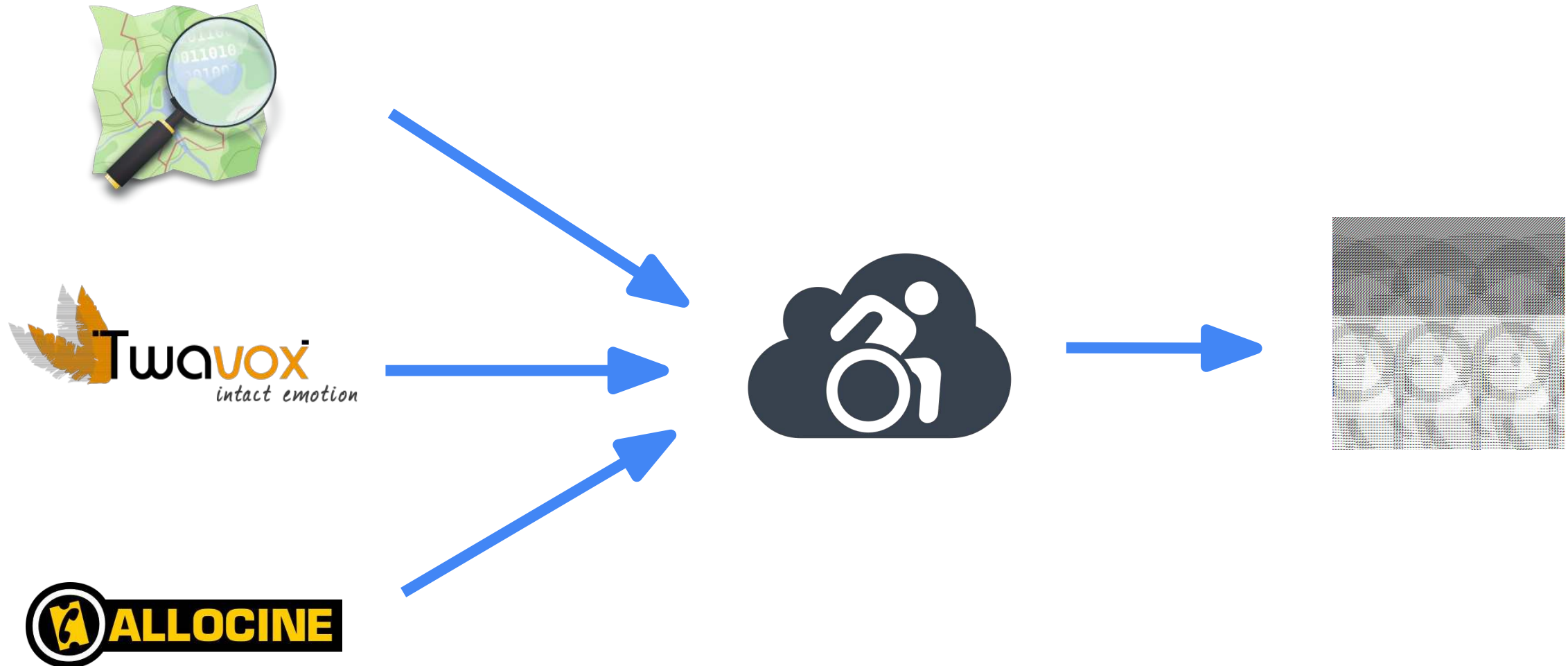
ENTRE  
DEUX  
MERS



Une  
terre  
en vue



# iWheelShare data integration: cinema



Possible because of...



# ... the harmonized data format of AC

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```
export const toiletFormat = {
  heightOfBase: '40 .. 45cm',
  spaceOnLeftSide: '>70',
  spaceOnRightSide: '>70',
  spaceInFront: '>70',
  foldableHandles: {
    onLeftSide: true,
    onRightSide: true,
    height: '>85cm',
    extensionOverToilet: '>28cm',
    distance: '60 .. 65cm',
  },
};
```




# ...and a lot more attributes!

---

```
export const mediaFormat = {
  type: 'documents', // documents|menu|audioGuide|presentations|exhibits|movie|screen,
  name: 'Speisekarte',
  isBraille: true,
  isAudio: true,
  isLargePrint: true,
  hasContrastingBackground: true,
  isEasyToUnderstand: true,
  hasDedicatedScreenForSubtitles: true,
  hasSubtitles: true,
  hasRealtimeCaptioning: true,
  hasPlainLanguageOption: true,
  languages: ['en', 'de'],
  turningSpaceInFront: '>140cm',
  isClearlyVisibleWhileSeated: true,
  isInformationReadableWhileSeated: true,
};
```

<https://github.com/sozialhelden/ac-format>



A close-up photograph of a person wearing a red polo shirt and blue jeans, sitting in a wheelchair. They are seated at a wooden table in what appears to be a restaurant or cafe. The person's right arm is resting on the table, and their left hand is holding a small object, possibly a piece of food. A silver watch is visible on their left wrist. The background is slightly blurred, showing other tables and chairs. A white text box is overlaid on the center of the image.

**How can we use Wheelmap and the AC exchange format for collecting data on accessibility and ensuring its quality together?**



# Talk to us! And...

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- Promote the use of the main wheelchair tags
- Bring OSM expertise into our common mapping events → ensure the quality of data
- Find a process to add the extra accessibility + live escalator/ elevator data of the sources into OSM



# And last but not least:

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Become a tester of Wheelmap beta!  
[wheelmap.org/beta](https://wheelmap.org/beta)



# Thanks! Stay tuned and get in touch!

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[www.wheelmap.org](http://www.wheelmap.org)  
[www.wheelmap.org/beta](http://www.wheelmap.org/beta)  
[www.accessibility.cloud](http://www.accessibility.cloud)

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search for "I Wheel Share" in  
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