



Data without Boundaries (DwB)  
**1<sup>st</sup> Regional Workshop on Microdata Access in European  
Countries – Cooperation between National Statistical  
Institutes and Social Science Data Archives**  
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# SERSCIDA Project

OPENING DATA SERVICES IN THE WESTERN BALKANS

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# Context of the project

- Primary data collected in Western Balkan countries (Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia and Serbia) remain in possession of researchers and is unavailable for further exploitation
- Data services do not exist in Western Balkan countries

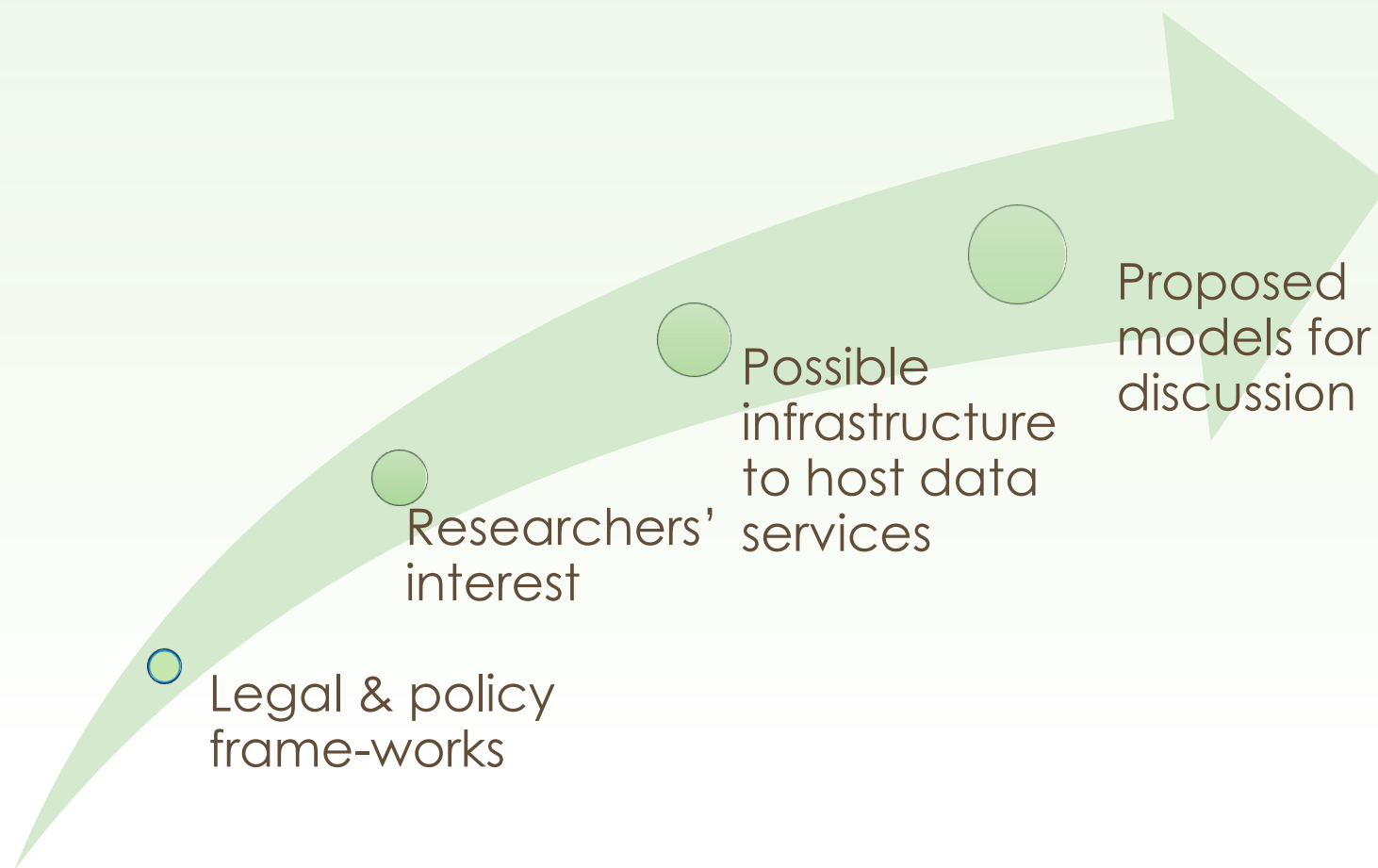
# Project purpose and objectives

- Support for **E**stablishment of **N**ational or **R**egional **S**ocial **S**ciences **D**ata **A**rchives
- Project purpose is to produce results and improve capacities for the exchange of knowledge and data collected through research in social sciences between the EU countries and WBC involved

# Project purpose and objectives

- to **support the establishment of social science data archives** in order to increase the level of sharing and preserving data collected through research in WB countries.
- to **identify potentials and infrastructures for establishment of social science data archives** in WB countries involved.
- to **enhance the exchange of knowledge and sharing of data** collected through research in social sciences in the WB countries and EU – CESSDA countries.
- to **increase the level of understanding and support for open access policies** through involvement of policy and decision makers in WB countries.

# Process of Mapping Data Services in the Region



# Opportunities

- Legal and policy frameworks are in place for the establishment of data services/archives
- High interest among researchers:
  - 85% and more consider it would be important for their work to have a data service institution
  - 86% believe their teaching would benefit from such an institution
- Government representatives have expressed that:
  - It is important to preserve the research data.
  - There is the need for activities and projects, which result in building research e-infrastructure, particularly data infrastructure.
  - Scientists can be encouraged for data archiving once there is a reliable infrastructure.
  - Funding, albeit limited, can be made available.

# Challenges

- Lack of understanding of the concept of data service
- Lack of infrastructures and human resources in one location
- Bringing in together data archived in existing public institutions
- Lack of understanding of open data and open access



# Participation with **National Statistical Institutes**

- Awareness raising on the concept of data services/archives
- Developing models of closer cooperation between different public institutions
- Using existing resources in NSIs for data services/archives

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!**

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