



# Benefits of open research infrastructure for early-career social science researchers

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FINAL CONFERENCE OF THE V<sub>4</sub>+WB RMA NETWORK PROJECT

Research Managers and Administration: key expertise to boost the regional excellence and innovation potential

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# OUTLINE

- Benefits of having an open access RI
- SSR environment in Bosnia and Herzegovina
- CREDI as open access RI
- DASS-BiH
- Inquire Evidence2Policy Hub
- Conclusion

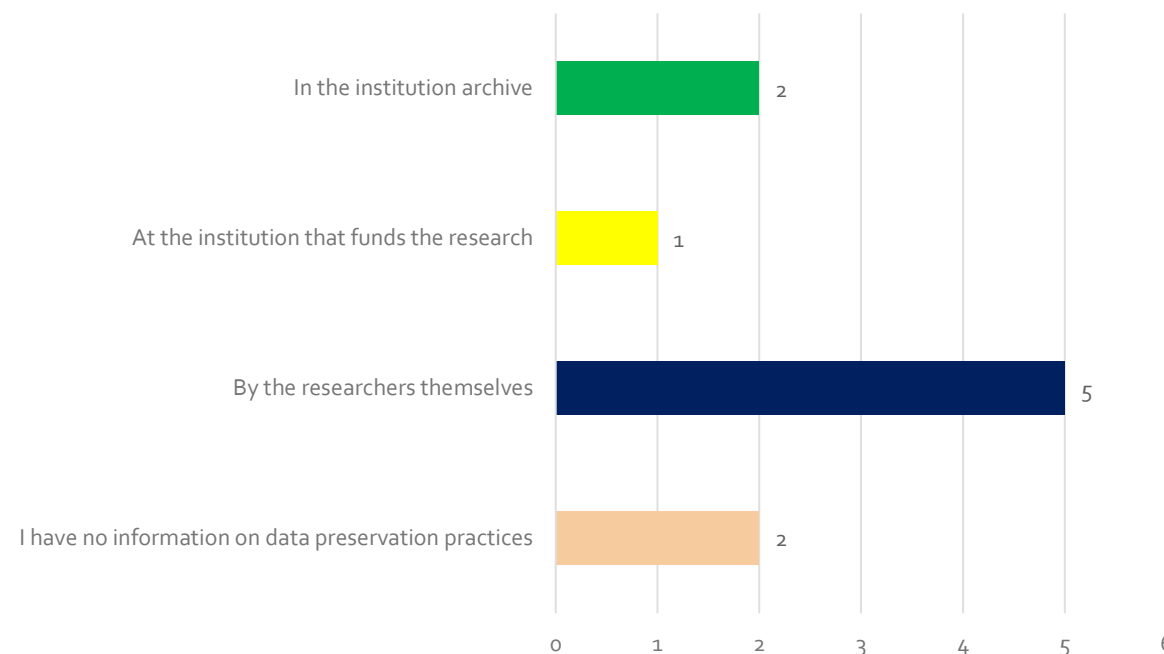
# GENERAL BENEFITS OF HAVING AN OPEN ACCESS RI

- Better efficiency and use of the existing RIs
- Streamline the investments into the future RIs
- Ensure optimization of access to RIs by industry and wider research community, public sector and civil society
- Enable and enhance cross-border cooperation
- Provide an environment for career development of researchers
- Improve researchers' mobility

# SSR ENVIRONMENT IN BIH

- “Data are not available”
- “Conducting such research is too expensive”
  - E.g. it requires developing specific tools
- “We don’t have specific research skills”
  
- So, a research infrastructure is needed.

Data from previous research in the social sciences are usually kept:



DASS-BiH Network survey N=7; Data collection conducted in 2019

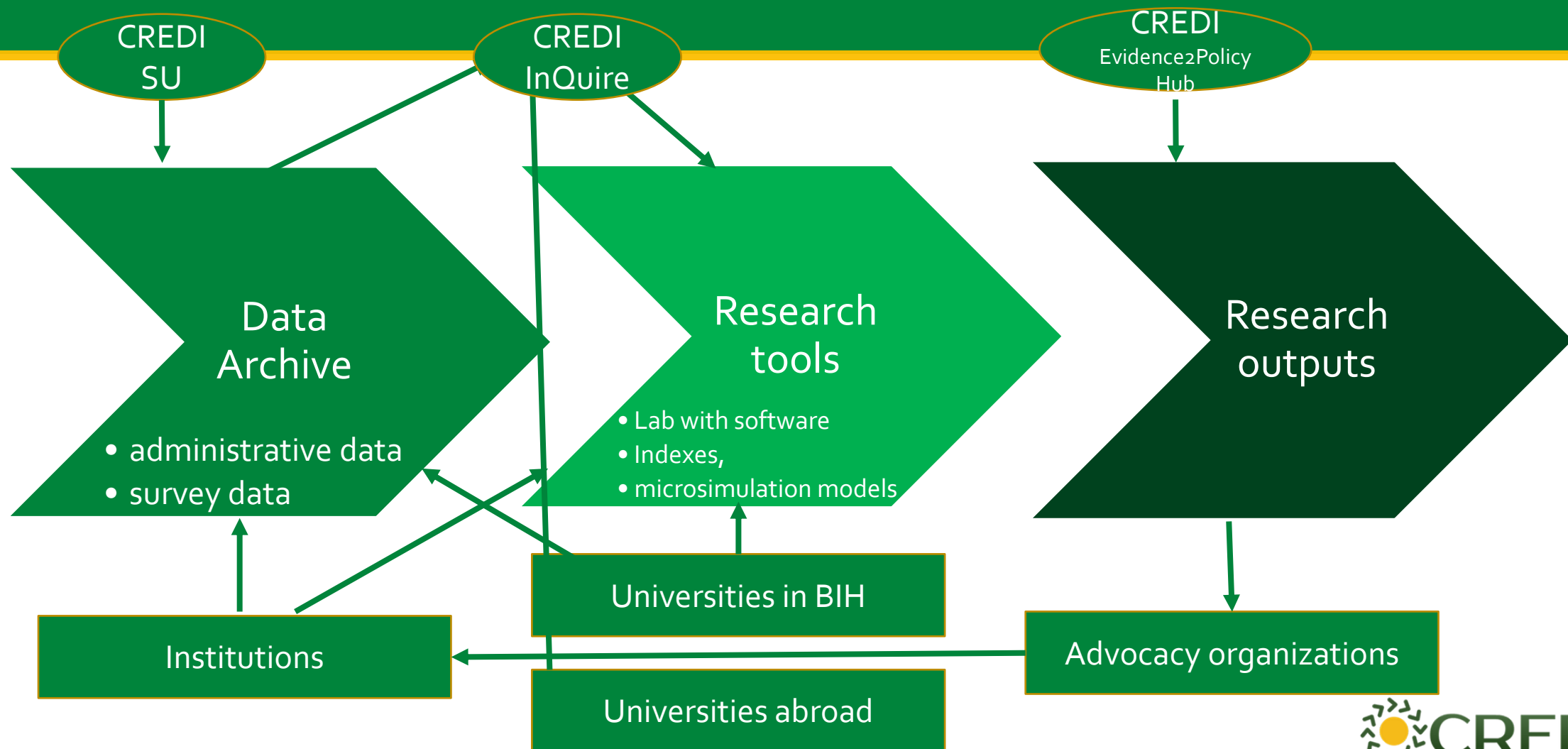
# WHAT IF WE HAVE (SOME OF) IT ALREADY?

- “Don’t collect primary data if secondary data are already available and can serve the purpose!”
- “Do not reinvent the wheel!”
- Research can be done less costly, with better quality
- Let’s do some policy relevant research!

# CREDI AS OA RI

- CREDI [Open Access Policy](#) - was prepared through the Technical Assistance provided by the Regional Cooperation Council in June-October 2020 under the Open Access Research Infrastructure in the Western Balkans Support Programme.
- CREDI is currently member of: ESS, CESSDA, OpenAIRE
- Coordinator of two national networks: DASS-BiH (Data Archive for Social Sciences in Bosnia and Herzegovina) and ESS-BiH (European Social Sciences in Bosnia and Herzegovina)
- Running first social science data archive and Inquire Evidence to Policy Hub

# RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURE AT CREDI



# FROM NO ARCHIVE TO CTS IN THREE YEARS: DASS-BIH

- DASS-BiH (Data Archive for Social Sciences in Bosnia and Herzegovina) is the national service whose role is to ensure long-term preservation and dissemination of social science research data.
- Over 50 datasets available for usage, including data about BiH citizens, but also from other Western Balkans countries
- Data catalogue can be accessed: <https://dass.credi.ba/data-catalogue/>
- Provides data under the FAIR principles
- Partner institution of CESSDA-ERIC as representative of BiH
- CoreTrust Seal certified digital repository (the only in the WB region)

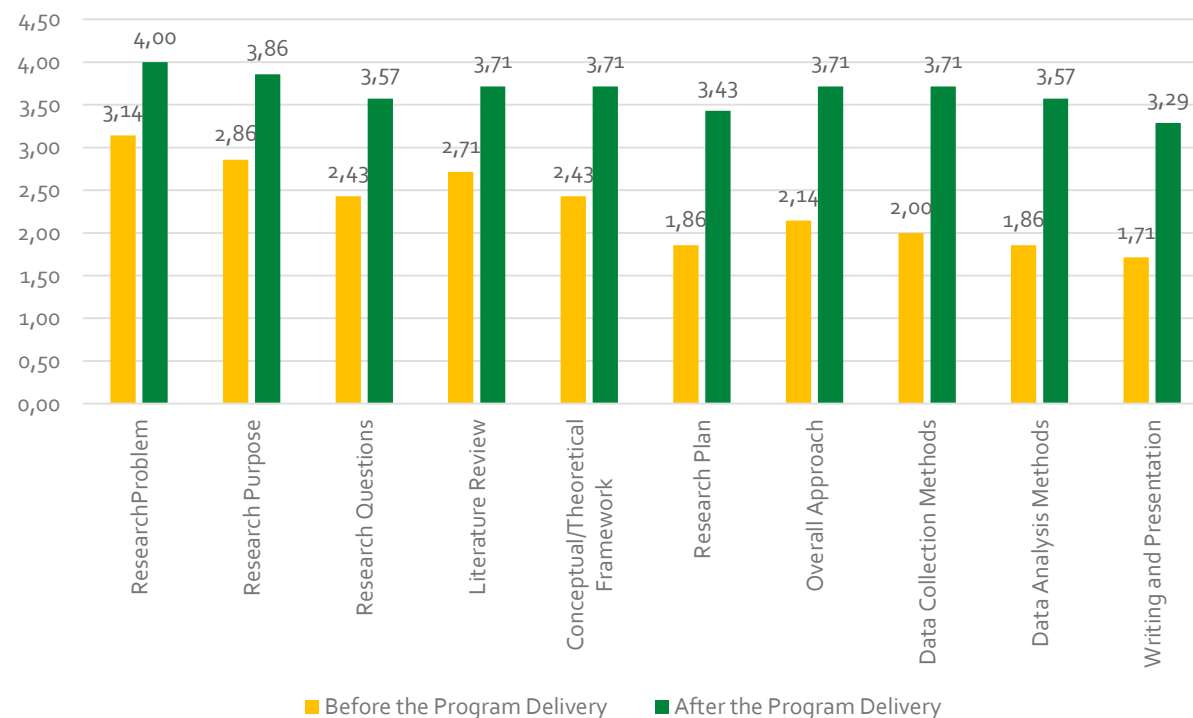




# INQUIRE EVIDENCE<sub>2</sub>POLICY HUB

- Research Incubator support program for postgraduate students from universities in BiH (two cohorts)
- Cooperation with universities (13 partner universities are included)
- Diaspora potential used (our mentors are from the world's leading universities)
- Youth policy hub (cooperation with public institutions, advocacy organizations and SSR funders)

Self evaluation results – First cohort



# LOWER COSTS, BETTER QUALITY?

## Lower costs

- Data already available
- Analysis using tools done in minutes
- Analysis done by trained researchers
- Data stored allow for reduced data collection costs per research

## Better quality

- Data collected using methodology that meets quality standards
- Tools quality checked
- Analysis done by trained researchers
- Data stored allow for replication/checks

Thank you for your attention!

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