From a research policy perspective, national data services provide a number of benefits to scientific communities that justify the needed investment.

- **Long-term access**
  - To ensure wider and more effective use of existing data, respecting FAIR (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Reusable) principles

- **More efficient use of public finances**
  - Publicly funded data are further exploited by secondary users for new insights and scientific contributions

- **Stronger research practice and quality**
  - By rendering research more transparent and open for replicability

- **Funding and publication in journals**
  - Increasingly a requirement that data be deposited in archives/repositories

- **Added value of secondary research**
  - Secondary data brings value to university lecturers and students, as well as to society and business
Who are we?
The Macedonian Social Science Data Archive (MK DASS) will be a national infrastructure and public service providing long-term preservation and distribution of research data in the social sciences in the Republic of Macedonia. MK DASS will be hosted by the Institute for Sociological, Political and Juridical Research (ISPJR) at Ss. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje, one of the oldest public university research institutions in the social sciences in the Republic of Macedonia. The Ministry of Education and Science is a crucial institution for establishing MK DAS as part of the national scientific infrastructure.

Our mission
Our mission is to preserve research data in the social sciences produced by researchers in Macedonia, as well as advance social science research by making the collected data available for secondary analysis and providing a searchable inventory of projects and related publications and data sets.

What do we do?
The key activities of MK DASS will be:

» preservation and dissemination of quantitative and qualitative data;
» access and support for both data users and data providers and finding a balance between the demands of both;
» permanent monitoring of compliance with international standards in the field of data management and preservation;
» collaboration with the wider scientific community in the field of collecting and distributing data; and
» promotion of Open Access initiatives.

A number of additional services are envisaged such as training in data management and in the methodology of scientific research for researchers, as well as cooperation through international projects.

What kind of data do we have?
Our collection aims to encompass quantitative and qualitative research data in various disciplines including anthropology, sociology, political science, communication science, psychology, law, education science, economics, business and management, demography, and related social science disciplines.

In order to be accepted by MK DASS, the research project has to fulfil certain conditions, such as provide greater evidence and understanding of contemporary society, especially Macedonian society, provide comparative or continuous research data (e.g. panel data, longitudinal surveys, and time series that allow examination of trends) as well as cross-sectional data and other data sets, etc.

Who is it for?
MK DASS will provide services to data producers and data users alike, from the research community, including researchers, teachers and students, to the broader public interested in social science outputs. Data producers include higher education and research institutions of public and private universities, other public and private research institutions, individual researchers, public institutions such as the State statistical office, and private institutions such as non-governmental organisations and think tanks.

Data users are registered researchers, teachers and students from Macedonia and abroad, as well as other interested parties, such as public institutions, policy makers or journalists for which the data service may reserve the right to decide on a case-by-case basis.

The Macedonian Social Science Data Archive has a large network of archives in Europe to provide it with support via possible future membership of CESSDA ERIC.

More information
For more details visit https://mk.seedsproject.ffzg.hr or contact Aneta Cekik (anetac@isppi.ukim.edu.mk) at the Institute for Sociological, Political and Juridical Research (ISPJR) at Ss. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje.