INDEPTH Network

Better Health Information for Better Health Policy

PRESS RELEASE! PRESS RELEASE!!

INDEPTH adds data to its online data archives and launches INDEPTHStats App for tablets and mobile phones

- Strengthens effective data management systems in health research, results in better science
- Now includes data from **12** HDSSs on the INDEPTH Data Repository
- Now includes data from **27** HDSSs on INDEPTHStats

Accra, Ghana, July 01, 2014 – The international Network for the Demographic Evaluation of Population and Their Health (INDEPTH Network) today announced IMPORTANT UPDATES on the INDEPTH Data Repository and INDEPTHStats, two online data archives that continue to build and strengthen capacity for research data management and sharing and improve free access to health and science research in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) to individuals working in the public health space globally.

The INDEPTH Data Repository (www.indepth-ishare.org) is an online archive of high-quality datasets from INDEPTH member Health and Demographic Surveillance System (HDSS) centres.

Established on 1st July, 2013 with **SIX (6)** datasets on the repository, it is the first data repository that specialises in longitudinal population-based data from LMICs. At the launch, the following datasets were made available: **Vadu HDSS (India), Nairobi HDSS (Kenya), Magu HDSS (Tanzania), Chililab HDSS (Vietnam), Agincourt HDSS (South Africa) and Africa Centre HDSS (South Africa)**.

From today 1st July 2014, the INDEPTH Data Repository contains new data up to 2011 from **5** of the above **6** HDSSs and additional **SEVEN (7)** new datasets from **Ouagadougou HDSS (Burkina Faso), Taabo HDSS (Côte d'Ivoire), Gilgel Gibe HDSS (Ethiopia), Kilite Awlaelo HDSS (Ethiopia), Dabat HDSSS (Ethiopia), Mbita HDSS (Kenya), and Karonga HDSS (Malawi)** making a total of **13** HDSSs on the repository.

INDEPTHStats (www.indepth-ishare.org/indepthstats) is a website developed by the INDEPTH Network and freely available to the general public. It contains summary statistics, images and graphs of key health and demographic indicators generated from the INDEPTH member HDSS centres.

INDEPTHStats provides researchers, government officials and policymakers with information that can guide their decision-making, including crude birth and death rates, age specific fertility and death rates, infant, child, and under five mortality rates, as well as numerous other health and demographic indicators. Additional indicators, such as death rates by cause of death, will be added in the near future.

The data are subjected to rigorous technical checks, first at the individual HDSSs and then within INDEPTH led by the Secretariat team in Accra.

At the launch on 1st July, 2013 INDEPTHStats had data from following **Eighteen (18)** HDSSs: Chakaria HDSS and Matlab HDSS (Bangladesh), Ouagadougou HDSS (Burkina Faso), Farafenni HDSS (Gambia), Dodowa HDSS, Kintampo HDSS and Navrongo HDSS (Ghana), Vadu HDSS (India), Kilifi HDSS, Kisumu HDSS and Nairobi HDSS (Kenya), Manhica HDSS (Mozambique), Magu HDSS and Rufiji (Tanzania), Niakhar HDSS (Senegal), Africa Centre HDSS and Agincourt HDSS (South Africa), ChiliLab HDSS (Vietnam).

From today 1st July 2014, INDEPTHStats contains new data for 2011 from the above 18 HDSSs and additional **Nine (9)** new datasets from **Taabo HDSS (Cote d'Ivoire), Dabat HDSS, Gilgel Gibe HDSS and Kilite Awlaelo HDSS (Ethiopia), Mbita HDSS (Kenya), Karonga HDSS (Malawi), Mlomp HDSS (Senegal), Ifakara HDSS (Tanzania), FilaBavi HDSS (Vietnam),** making a total of **27** HDSSs in 14 countries.

In addition to these new datasets, INDEPTH today also announced the launch of the beta version of INDEPTHStats app for tablets or mobile phones. The indicators are visualised by interactive, animated charts and tables. Please download INDEPTHStats app from
(http://www.indepth-ishare.org/indepthstats/INDEPTHStats.apk)

"I am extremely delighted that we promised on 1st July last year that we would provide new data and additional datasets today, a year later, and we have fulfilled that promise," says Professor Osman Sankoh Executive Director, INDEPTH Network.

Professor Sankoh added: "On behalf of the Board and on myself, I wish to congratulate Dr Kobus Herbst and his indefatigable teams in Africa and Asia of the INDEPTH Data Management Programme (IDMP, formerly iSHARE2) for working very hard to making these updates possible. Special thanks go to the leaders and data management teams of our member centres who worked tirelessly on their

data in order to make these datasets available for wider international scientific enquiry."

The availability of these data has been made possible by various previous and current funding from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Doris Duke Charitable Foundation, IDRC, NIA/WHO, Rockefeller Foundation, Rockefeller Foundation, Sida/Research Cooperation Unit, Wellcome Trust and William & Flora Hewlett Foundation, combined with the generous, free provision of the data by the member HDSSs as well as their various centre-specific funders.

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About INDEPTH Network

The INDEPTH Network was formally constituted in 2002 with initial core support from the Rockefeller Foundation, Sida/Research Cooperation Unit, the World Bank and the Wellcome Trust. INDEPTH is a pioneer in health and population research, providing robust answers to the most important questions in development. Through its global network of health and demographic surveillance system (HDSS) field sites in Africa, Asia and Oceania, it is capable of producing reliable longitudinal data not only about the lives of people in low- and middle-income countries, but about the impact on those lives of development policies and programmes.

INDEPTH is an international network of demographic research institutions that provides health and demographic data to enable developing countries set health priorities and policies based on the best available evidence and to guide the cost-effective use of tools, interventions and systems to ensure and monitor progress towards national goals.

The organisation's mission is to harness the collective potential of the world's community-based longitudinal demographic surveillance initiatives in low- and middle-income countries to provide a better understanding of health and social issues and to encourage the application of this understanding to alleviate major health and social problems.

For more information, please visit: www.indepth-network.org