

# Round Table I

## The HMD today and tomorrow: challenges and opportunities

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# How should the HMD project develop in the future?

- The HMD should remain faithful to its initial philosophy
  - Competitive advantage of the HMD vs. other sources of mortality data
  - Modeled/adjusted estimates are welcome but should be treated separately in the database
- Possibilities for new directions (some already under way):
  - Causes of death
  - Subnational
  - By ethnic group when relevant?
  - Foreign-born vs. native-born?

# How can it become more useful to its actual and potential users?

- For academic users: interface is extremely useful
- For non-academic users: include graphical interface?

How can high-quality data repositories “compete” with the “quick and dirty” data covering all the world and easily available online?

- For academic users
  - HMD is winning the competition
- For non-academic users
  - Improve diffusion of results: annual newsletter with updated summary of results? Improve Google search results?

# Funding strategy for data projects (for example, HMD, HFD,...): how to secure long-term stability?

Some suggestions:

- More fundraising (e.g., insurance companies, etc.)
- Encourage users to include funds for the HMD in their grant proposals, justified by the need to have more up-to-date information
- Introduce a five-year “embargo” on the data, with paid access for these five years of data
- Have a two-tier database (similar to HDSS data):
  - Public/free access to database with limited features
  - Paid access to full database