

CCM Grant Dashboard: Mongolia's CCM is in the Driver's Seat

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Blueprints for Success

Technical Support to Global Fund Grants



CCM Grant Dashboard

Mongolia's CCM Is in the Driver's Seat

The Country Coordinating Mechanism Grant Dashboard began as a great idea in Nicaragua. It is now an invaluable tool for CCMs to better oversee their grants from the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria.



Much like the dashboard of an automobile, which alerts drivers to gas level, engine temperature, distance traveled, etc., the grant dashboard offers visual cues such as colored graphs, bars, and numbers to signal financial disbursements and expenditures, pharmaceutical stock levels, and the degree to which people are receiving the care and support they need.



Mongolia is the most sparsely populated, independent nation in the world.

A car dashboard contains a panel of colored lights, gauges, bars, and numbers to signal speed, engine temperature, gasoline level, and miles traveled. A driver *responds* to the signals and *decides* how to react (e.g., slow down; change gears; fill the gas tank). Some signals require the driver to *investigate* a problem by bringing the car to a mechanic. These same human reactions—*responding* to a signal, *interpreting* what it indicates, and *investigating*—can be applied to oversight and management issues.

In seeking better ways for nations to keep tabs on their multi-million-dollar grants from the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, the PEPFAR-sponsored Grant Management Solutions project invented the CCM Grant Dashboard. Like a car dashboard, the CCM Grant Dashboard compiles data on financial expenditures, pharmaceutical stock levels, and health service indicators and presents them in the form of colored graphs, bars, and numbers. These indicators then allow members of a nation's Country Coordinating Mechanism (CCM), who are charged with overseeing their nation's grants, to interpret and respond to those signals. When a warning signal appears—a red light or a low bar—the CCM may investigate to determine whether a grant management issue needs attention.

Before the Mongolia CCM tested whether the CCM Grant Dashboard would be a useful tool for helping it monitor its four Global Fund grants, staff from the principal recipient's (PR's) office sometimes overwhelmed CCM members with volumes of paperwork, simply because PR staff didn't know what kinds of information CCM members needed. Before the grant dashboard came along, the CCM members would ask PR staff peripheral questions to assess financial and pharmaceutical management matters.

Mongolia CCM members embraced the grant dashboard concept because it gave them practical information about the performance of the nation's grants. The CCM now has an Oversight Committee and a comprehensive plan to oversee Mongolia's entire \$33 million grant portfolio; the CCM routinely receives oversight reports on specific grant indicators and targets; and it proactively engages the PR by asking specific and targeted questions about the status of each grant. The PR, in turn, views the CCM's oversight role as assisting the PR to ensure that all patients are receiving the drugs and care they need.

By adopting the grant dashboard the Mongolia CCM is better equipped to carry out its grant oversight responsibilities. CCM members and PR staff now have a better understanding of each other's responsibility and can assess Mongolia's grants using consistent, high-quality facts and figures.



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