

# Nonprofit Common Data Model overview



## What is it?

The Nonprofit Common Data Model (NCDM) is a standardized and interoperable open-source data model designed to facilitate data integration, sharing, and collaboration within the nonprofit sector. It provides a structured framework for organizing and representing data, enabling nonprofits to streamline their operations, reduce complexity of data management, improve decision-making, and enhance their ability to deliver impactful services. The development of NCDM involves collaboration from nonprofit professionals, technology experts, and data practitioners. This community-driven approach ensures that the data model remains relevant and adaptable to the evolving needs of the nonprofit sector.

At Unit4, our cloud ERP, FP&A and HCM solutions are developed to meet the specific needs of nonprofits, as part of the wider innovation of the

common data model, supporting areas such as donor management, grant management, financial planning and much more. The Unit 4 Nonprofit Cloud, built on the premise of the Nonprofit Common Data Model empowers nonprofit organizations with a standardized and efficient way to manage, share, and analyze their data. By providing a unified framework for data representation, the NCDM supports nonprofits in their mission to make a positive impact on the communities they serve.

## Use cases

**Donor Management** - enables nonprofits to effectively track and manage donor interactions, contributions, and preferences, facilitating personalized donor engagement strategies. Unit4's Nonprofit model for donor

## Key features

-  **Standardized Data Entities** - a comprehensive set of standardized data entities tailored specifically for nonprofit organizations. These entities cover a wide range of areas including donor management, fundraising, program delivery, volunteer engagement, and more.
-  **Interoperability** - seamless integration and interoperability across various nonprofit systems and applications. By adhering to a common data structure, nonprofits can easily share data between different software solutions without the need for complex custom integrations.
-  **Data Consistency** - The data model enforces consistency in data representation and naming conventions. This ensures that data remains accurate, reliable, and comparable across different systems and processes.
-  **Customization** - While providing a standardized foundation, NCDM is flexible enough to accommodate nonprofit-specific variations and requirements. Organizations can extend the model to include custom attributes or entities that are unique to their operations.
-  **Analytics and Reporting** - With a consistent data structure, nonprofits can derive meaningful insights and generate accurate reports more efficiently. NCDM supports data-driven decision-making, enabling organizations to better understand their impact and optimize their strategies.
-  **Data Governance and Compliance** - better data governance practices by offering predefined data relationships and definitions. This can aid nonprofits in maintaining data quality and adhering to relevant compliance regulations, such as data privacy laws.

management is part of a comprehensive and integrated solution designed to streamline and enhance the operations of nonprofit organizations. Tailored to meet the unique needs of nonprofit organizations, the Unit4 Nonprofit model enables you to efficiently manage and report on donor relations, optimize internal processes, and achieve your mission. Strengthen donor relationships with increased spending efficiency and timely funding reporting.

**Fundraising** - By centralizing fundraising data, organizations can gain insights into campaign effectiveness, donor behavior, and identify areas for improvement. Unit4's Fund Management and Outcome-Based Accounting Software solution for Nonprofits is a comprehensive software platform designed to streamline financial operations, enhance transparency, and optimize decision support for organizations. This integrated solution empowers nonprofit organizations to efficiently manage funds, track outcomes, and ensure compliance with regulatory obligations. By focusing on fund management and outcome-based accounting, the Unit4 Nonprofit Model empowers nonprofits to more efficiently allocate resources and track mission-driven outcomes with enhanced transparency and confidence.

**Program Evaluation** - Nonprofits can assess the impact of their programs by analyzing data related to participant demographics, outcomes, and feedback. Unit4's ERP helps planning and managing programs linked to a nonprofit's mission in a user friendly and straightforward way - so you can focus on what's important to your nonprofit, maximizing resources, reducing cost, increasing accountability & building trust. Our nonprofit model empowers you with near real-time performance analysis, so you can track project progress, monitor expenditure, income from grants, ensure compliance, and make more robust data-driven decisions. A dedicated workspace ensures every aspect of your projects are supported so you can have an overview or dive into details to see more on grant income funding allocations or project cycle management. Manage projects, donations, workforce status, and mission impact with more transparency, locally or across the globe.

**Volunteer Management** - supports volunteer management by helping organizations track volunteer activities, skills, and availability. Assign the best skilled people for your nonprofit projects on time and identify gaps in talent to provide a solid foundation for future workforce planning. Recognize achievements such as certification completions and praise people for their outstanding work to keep everyone motivated.

## Links

<https://www.unit4.com/industries/nonprofit-erp-accounting-software>

<https://www.nonprofitcdm.org/>

## Why Unit4?

The Nonprofit Common Data Model Integration for Unit4's ERP, FP&A, HCM, and Source-to-contract solutions empowers nonprofit organizations to harness the benefits of standardized data structures across their core functional areas. By eliminating data silos and promoting data consistency, nonprofits can drive efficiency, accuracy, and informed decision-making to drive their mission and maximize their impact.

