Streamlined processes to support global agriculture

As the world’s largest global agricultural innovation network, CGIAR provides evidence to policy makers, innovation to partners, and new tools to harness the economic, environmental and nutritional power of agriculture.

The Challenge

Nine Centres and the System Organisation from CGIAR’s network of research institutes each faced their own struggles to operate effectively with their disparate and out-dated business systems. They needed to harmonise business processes and collaborate on implementation and operation of the system.

How did Unit4 help?

- The integrated Unit4 ERP enforces controls and ensures data quality.
- Workflow speeds the approval process and improves global control.
- The low bandwidth Web client enables work even from the remotest locations.
- API Integration capabilities simplifies tasks exemplified by IRRI’s locally developed absence planner.
- Inherent flexibility enabled Bioversity to develop modules for pre and post grant award capabilities.

Achievements

Tracking the money
Complex grant funding is now managed accurately and with full transparency. Budget planning allows managers to re-allocate funding as needed and view live dashboards.

Making data smarter
IRRI* can now combine administrative and scientific information sources to conduct analysis that was not possible before, such as analysing fertilizer purchases against climate, irrigation and yield data.

Working as a System
Creation of a shared service to provide managed cloud hosting and support services has raised standards and improved security. This provides a good base and example for shared services for the CGIAR System to build on.

As CGIAR’s chosen solution, Unit4 ERP: “...will help our teams to improve the efficiency of our organizations... The system has good interfacing capabilities and is flexible enough to solve most challenges that we face.”

Ian Moore, Head, OCS Operations Support Unit

Impacts

Better management of grant funding and spending
People have more time to improve the organization vs. managing processes.
Better data for better scientific analysis

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For more information, go to: www.unit4.com

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