

exMIS – Extended Management Information Systems

Challenges

In many international cooperation projects, distributing goods, works, and services to beneficiaries plays a central role in meeting project objectives. The types of goods, works, and services to be distributed can be manifold: from health products, education vouchers, insurance benefits, and benefit payments to investment measures and tenders.

In this context, the use of IT tools for collecting and processing data has become a prerequisite for effective and efficient workflow management, monitoring Key Performance Indicators (KPI), reporting performance to donors and partner organizations, and increasing transparency. Software technology applications must be adjusted to specific needs within international cooperation, addressing the dilemma of providing up-to-date technology without extra license costs. In addition, the use of international standard software is essential to guarantee sustainability and durability of IT systems.

GFA B.I.S. Services

Over the past twelve years, GFA B.I.S. has specialized in implementing IT systems adapted to international cooperation and has completed over 80 projects worldwide. For MIS systems, we have developed a specialized product, exMIS, based on global open-source components such as Java® and Jaspersoft®, the world's most widely used business intelligence software.

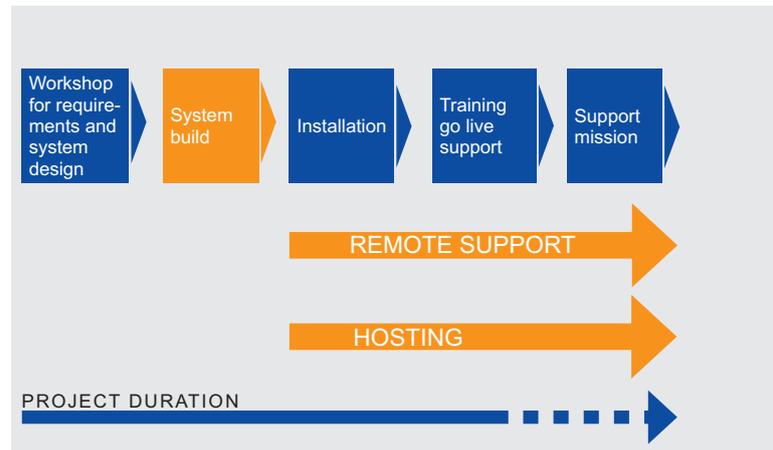
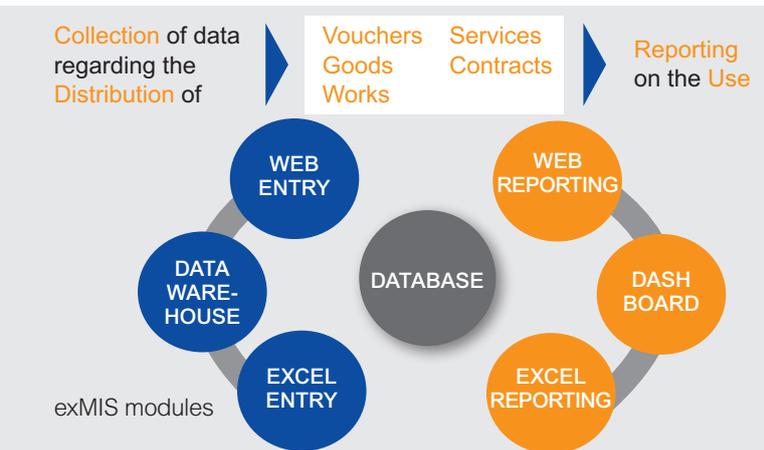
The individualized MIS solution can be cloud based, in a network environment, or used on a single personal computer. exMIS has a modular design that covers a wide range of applications and is primarily web based. Individual modules can be selected and combined in line with specific project requirements.

In addition to general modules for entry and reporting, the data warehouse module allows for easy and smooth integration of existing data, while the dashboard module facilitates graphical presentation of KPIs. For special requirements, such as decentralized data entry without an internet connection, we have developed Excel®-based entry and reporting templates.



Experience shows that although every project has specific challenges and requirements for the MIS system, main objectives such as operability, reliability, efficiency, sustainability, and transparency are similar across all projects. With exMIS we have developed a solution flexible enough to respond to the specific challenges and requirements of each project and standardized enough to enable fast implementation. The software's modular design not only allows fast and tailored implementation but also easy scalability. Thus, exMIS assists projects in achieving their objectives quickly and at reasonable costs.

exMIS follows standardized implementation methodologies and offers complete IT-related services throughout the project's duration.



GFA B.I.S. at Work

Improve Maternal Health Care and HIV-related Services in Tanzania, KfW, 2010 – 2016

The NHIF (National Hospital Insurance Fund, Tanzania)/KfW project enables poor pregnant women from rural regions access to quality health care during their last months of pregnancy and includes the whole family in a health insurance scheme for one year after the baby is born. This inclusion supports the strengthening and expansion of social health insurance through NHIF.

GFA Consulting Group commissioned GFA B.I.S. to design and implement a web platform for member registration, printing insurance cards, and payment management. To date, more than 150,000 members have registered. The data warehouse model merges existing member data with multiple NHIF databases creating one common database. Jaspersoft MIS reports on the data warehouse, helps assess feasibility of the datasets for each member, and analyses the spread of disease. Additionally, exMIS supports fraud control, assesses operational efficiency, and analyses usage of the web-based interface.

Urban Development Fund, Ethiopia KfW, 2005 – 2006

The Urban Development Fund (UDF) was set up to help selected Ethiopian cities improve infrastructure and service delivery as part of good governance.

GFA B.I.S. was commissioned by GFA Consulting Group to design a MIS to support management decisions during all phases of the project. Hence, the exMIS design was based on project cycle management. Special focus was given to reporting, given the complexity of the stakeholders involved (i.e. donors, national authorities, cities and other partners engaged in project implementation at the local level).

Fiscal & PSM Agent, Cambodia The Global Fund, 2013 – 2015

In 2013, The Global Fund contracted GFA Consulting Group to provide fiscal, procurement, and supply chain management agent services supporting the National Centre for HIV/AIDS, Dermatology and SRD (NCHADS) in Cambodia. NCHADS is the principal recipient of the HIV/AIDS grant of 83 million US dollars. Grant activities aim to maintain comprehensive care and treatment while reducing financial costs for 48,000 people receiving antiretroviral treatment.

NCHADS has been successful in extending outreach to most-at-risk populations.

To improve data quality, GFA B.I.S. was asked by GFA Consulting Group to carry out a detailed analysis of the different IT systems. Based on this analysis, an Excel® input template for decentralized patient registration and drug-related data with automated transfer to the database was implemented. The data warehouse module is used to integrate the different data sources into one database. A web-based reporting package designed with Jaspersoft® to report on key performance indicators (KPI) completes this system.

Health and Family Planning (SPFPH) III Vietnam, KfW, 2004 – 2006

The Vietnam Commission for Population, Family and Children (VCPFC) develops and implements family planning and reproductive health services. Among other activities, VCPFC distributes contraceptives using a nationwide logistic network. A professional and computerized Logistics Management Information System (LMIS) was needed to replace the previous manual system to improve demand forecasting, reporting, and stock management.

GFA B.I.S. was commissioned by GFA Consulting Group to implement a web-based procurement and distribution system for more than 65 sites. A local software company provided programming and support, exMIS supports the entire logistic chain, helping all levels improve efficiency, measured using performance indicators automatically tracked by the software.



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