

CCMS ARE NOT TAKING FULL ADVANTAGE OF FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES FROM THE GLOBAL FUND

Country Coordinating Mechanisms (CCMs) have not fully utilised the funding available from the Global Fund for their operations, according to Oren Ginzburg, Head of Grant Management Support at the Global Fund Secretariat, the unit that houses the new CCM Hub. Whereas in 2011 the Global Fund budgeted \$12.4 million for CCM funding, Mr Ginzburg said that only \$5.6 million was requested. The funds were disbursed to 66 CCMs.

In 2010, The Global Fund budgeted \$6.9 million for CCM funding; only 4.6 million was requested and disbursed to CCMs.

In November 2009, The Global Fund revised its funding policy for CCMs. Under the old policy, CCMs could apply for basic funding of up to \$43,000. The ceiling was increased to \$50,000 per year. The Fund also introduced a new funding mechanism which it called "expanded funding." Under expanded funding, CCMs were allowed a two-year funding request for more than \$50,000 a year provided they submitted a detailed workplan and budget. For requests exceeding \$100,000 per year, the CCM must demonstrate that it has obtained at least 20 percent of the amount above \$100,000 from sources other than the Global Fund.

Eligible costs under the CCM funding policy include salaries for CCM secretariat staff, CCM consultancy fees, office expenses, CCM meeting expenses, and costs for information dissemination and facilitation of meetings.

The Global Fund has been encouraging CCMs to apply for funding and has taken steps to ensure that CCMs are fully aware of the new funding policy. To this end, the Secretariat organised eight workshops in

various countries in 2011.

"When we introduced the expanded funding policy in January 2010, we thought more CCMs would apply for funding under the new policy because they could request funding without limit based on their needs," Mr Ginzburg said. "However, out of the 83 CCMs that requested funding in 2010, 72 asked for basic funding and only 11 applied for expanded funding."

The Global Fund has budgeted \$13.5 million to fund CCMs in 2012.

Lack of awareness about the CCM funding policy is not the only reason why money set aside for CCMs has been under-utilised. Some CCMs receive funding from other donors to cover their operating expenses.

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