Brother and sister team Jørn Braa and Kristin Braa created and manage the District Health Information Software 2 (DHIS2), a low-cost, open-source tool for collecting and analyzing health data at the community level, which is now used in more than 100 low- and middle-income countries.

**THEIR GOAL**

Enable countries to make the best use of evidence and data for public health decisions

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**DHIS2 DISTRICT HEALTH INFORMATION SOFTWARE 2**

- Started in 1994 in post-apartheid South Africa to help the Mandela government restructure the country’s health system
- Now the world’s largest health management information (HMSI) platform
- Used by governments in 67 low- and middle-income countries
- Deployed by global health organizations including PEPFAR, the Red Cross, and Doctors without Borders in more than 100 countries
- Covers 2.4 billion people (30% of the world’s population)
- Used for tracking of HIV, TB, malaria, and vaccine-preventable diseases, e.g., measles, and now COVID-19
- Endorsed by the World Health Organization as a global public good

**HEALTH SYSTEMS INFORMATION PROGRAM**

Global action research network providing day-to-day support to DHIS2 users.
Builds sustainable operational systems through local partnerships.
Trains system experts and users:
- 61 PhD graduates
- 5,600 Regional Academy participants
- 10,500 online trainees

**COUNTRY OWNERSHIP**

DHIS2’s open-source and flexible platform allows countries to tailor the platform to local data needs
Real-time community-based health data reporting
Capacity building through local innovation
Local ownership of data

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**PROF. JØRN BRAA, PHD AND PROF. KRISTIN BRAA, PHD**

Health Information Systems Program (HISP), Department of Informatics, University of Oslo

Developed and manage the DHIS2 health data reporting software to improve health equity in lower-income countries.

Local empowerment and use of information for action at the local level and measurement for equity in health—those are the participatory design principles that rule our work even today.”

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