



PART TWO

T6-2: Open-Source Local Ownership and Long term Sustainability

*A frank conversation with technical and funding partners
What we can build together, and what we must enforce by design.*

MODERATOR



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SESSION 4

From Deployment to Sustainability

SPEAKER



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Digital Transformation for governments

The lessons learned from country journeys

What sustainability requires ?

What fundings could enforce ?

.. for bridging between deployment and ownership.



Its accuracy is no more the question.
Open source has delivered at scale,



300M+

people enrolled
on **MOSIP** across
26 countries

40M+

Ethiopians registered
on **Fayda** — and now
sharing the model

100+

countries running
DHIS2, sustained by
local **HISP** nodes

Achievements that would have seemed impossible ten years ago and now are the foundation we build on.

Today's challenge is not to Scale It's to Sustain & Build on top.

INSIGHT
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↑ Deploy

↗ Scale

→ Sustain & Build on top

Procurement of hardware
& software.setup of
platform & prerequisites

Mass Enrollment for whole
population reach, issuance
of identity

Maintain the platform,
Recurrent Enrolment, Build
services on top



International funding launches it, and National ownership sustains it. There must be a bridge in between.



Phase 1 - Launch

International investment brings rigor, scale, and favor the best technical partners.

The structural rules that come with it protect the integrity of public money.

But.. Can delay the ownership



The Bridge

Shared responsibility between government and its partners.

From day one, the investment that launches the system could enforce the entity that will own it.



Phase 2 - Appropriation

A national entity unlocks what financing rules can't:

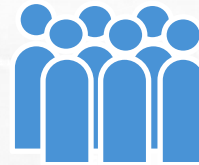
Pay outside government scale, MOU with local companies, source code and know-how held across political cycles.

But.. often start late

Software is archivable. Knowhow isn't. *A platform lasts as long as its team.*

INSIGHT

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THE FOUR FRAGILITIES



Salary gap

Government staff lost to private sector and donors.

Critical engineers exit at the worst moment.



Brain drain

Digital engineers are highly mobile.

Two years of learning will disappear if not anchored.



Political turnover

Project sponsors and PMO leadership rotate.

Technical continuity must sit below the political layer.



Donor cycle

5-year loan envelopes do not match a 15-year platform horizon.

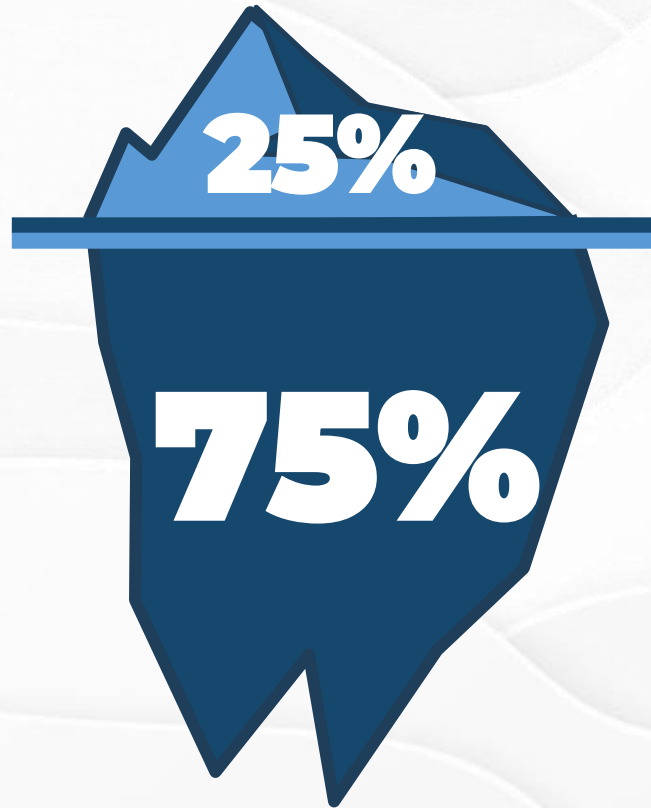
The cliff is structural.

INSIGHT
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Open source cuts the licence cost, *But not the cost of running.*

CAPEX
International loans

OPEX
Sovereign funds



⇔ 10-year lifecycle ratio

CAPEX builds the **foundation**,
while **OPEX fuels** the services.

Could loans **support the CAPEX-to-OPEX** bridge until national budget could take over?



Philanthropy ignites the engine. *A community keeps it running.*



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Why this matters

- When communities take the relay, the platform stops depending only from the funder.
- Philanthropic capital can then go on to ignite the next wave of impact, elsewhere.
- And the countries would fully own the software they relies on

DHIS2

100+

local implementer nodes that own and evolve the platform in their countries

55

countries that repurposed their open-source platform in weeks during COVID-19



Sovereignty is also linguistic *ownership is about appropriation*



Language

Documentation, training, support — in the working languages of public servants. The platform speaks the country, dependency on consultants shrinks.



Culture

Forms, workflows, identity categories, name structures, civil status logic — shaped by people who live the context, not configured from outside.



Contribution back

African implementer groups give back to global platforms — French documentation, regional apps. The community grows when local nodes contribute.

Finally, two sustainability questions, For two types of donor

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Loans to states



Development loans of national ID & CRVS systems

These funds have expiry date.

Within that time, their role is to help states build the public services on top of the ID foundation while anchoring it in national budgets so it can last.

Donations to platforms



Philanthropic funding of DPGs / open sources

These funds are not eternal ..by design.

Philanthropy ignites, it should ensure community can take the relay, so they can go on safely creating impact elsewhere.



The panel of partners is coming. Wrap-up of questions to answer.



For DPGs

Are we funding DPG or also their ecosystems (DPE) ?

How to support local implementer communities around DPGs and DPI built ?



For funders

What the next generation of DPI funded programs would look like if designed for sustainability?

Could loans cover transition to national budgets ? (the CAPEX-to-OPEX bridge?)



For Governments

How does the team survive across political cycles, donor cycles, and salary scales?

How to make linguistic and cultural localization a funded deliverable from day one?

THANK YOU !

