

Summary Report on ICA WG on Open Source Geospatial Technologies Activities (2007-2011)

The ICA Working Group on Open Source Geospatial Technologies was established in Dec 2007 with the aim to promote multi-national holistic research in free and open source geospatial technologies in order to make accessible the latest developments in open source tools to the wider cartographic community. The WG attempts to enhance the usage of free and open source geospatial tools among the cartographic community worldwide, especially for education. It is very important to have open source GIS and standards (OGC, ISO TC 211) based solutions to achieve widespread application of geotools at grassroots level especially in developing countries. Open source GIS provides accessibility, low cost solutions and lowers the entry barriers for the use of geospatial technologies for all. The working group works to promote the usage of professional and technical standards (ISO TC 211, OGC) for the development of free and open source geospatial software. Currently over 200 people from various countries are interested in the WG activities.

Key achievements:

Established the highly successful Open Source GIS UK Conference Series. The OSGIS conference series has a strong international focus and takes a holistic approach in bringing together speakers and delegates from government, academe, industry and open source communities. High profile speakers from all over the world are invited for giving presentations and running hands-on workshops for the conference series.

The key aims of OSGIS conference series are:

1. to hear presentations from government, academic, industry and policy makers on open source, open standards and open data geospatial technologies
2. to provide platform to network and develop ideas for future collaborative work in open source GIS
3. to understand current developments in open source GIS
4. to act as a focus for open source, open standards, open data GIS research

More details, please visit: <http://www.opensourcegis.org.uk>.

Involved in establishing Erasmus IP GIS OPENSOURCE Summer School

The Summer School in Open Source GIS is organized jointly by the Geographical Information Systems and Remote Sensing Centre (SIGTE) of the University of Girona (Spain), the Lahti Center of Aalto University School of Science and Technology of the Aalto University (Finland), the Center for Geospatial Science (CGS) of the University of

Nottingham (UK) and the Institute for Research on Urban Sciences and Techniques (IRSTV) from the Ecole Centrale de Nantes (France).

More details, please visit: <http://www.sigte.udg.edu/summerschool2010>.

Involved in **International Open source Geospatial Research Symposium (OGRS 2009)**, Ecole Centrale de Nantes, Nantes, France.

Involved in FOSS4G 2009 Academic Track. In addition to the OSGeo Foundation, the ICA Working Group on Open Source Geospatial Technologies is proud to support and help in the organisation of the Academic track for FOSS4G 2009. The academic track acted as an inventory of current research topics, but the major goal is to promote cooperative research between OSGeo developers and the academia. The academic track is the right forum to highlight the most important research challenges and trends in the domain, and let them become the basis for an informal OSGeo research agenda. It will foster interdisciplinary discussions in all aspects of the geospatial and free and open source domains. It was organized in a way to promote networking between the participants, to initiate and favour discussions regarding cutting-edge technologies in the field, to exchange research ideas and to promote international collaboration.

Open Source GIS Walk-in Workshops @ICC 2011

The ICA Working Group on Open Source Geospatial Technologies will be running three day Open Source GIS walk-in sessions (13:30 – 15:30) at ICC 2011 on 5th, 6th and 7th July. This event is organized by Dr Barend Köbben (ITC Netherlands).

More details at <http://kartoweb.itc.nl/kobben/ICA-OSGEO-workshop>.

Establishment of Open Source Geospatial Lab

The establishment of the Open Source Geospatial Lab under MoU with the Open Source Geospatial Foundation is a key initiative for supporting the development of open-source geospatial software technologies, training and expertise in the UK.

More details at <http://www.osgeo.org/node/1071>

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