OSGeo UK Chapter Report for 2010

Key Accomplishments:

2010 has been a defining year for the chapter. The chapter passed the 100 member mark, up from 80 last year. We helped to co-host the OSGIS 2010 Conference in Nottingham (http://cgs.nottingham.ac.uk/~osgis10/os_home.html), and chapter members presented at a number of other open source and geospatial events and workshops. We have also been lucky enough to receive some sponsorship from the following organisations and individuals:
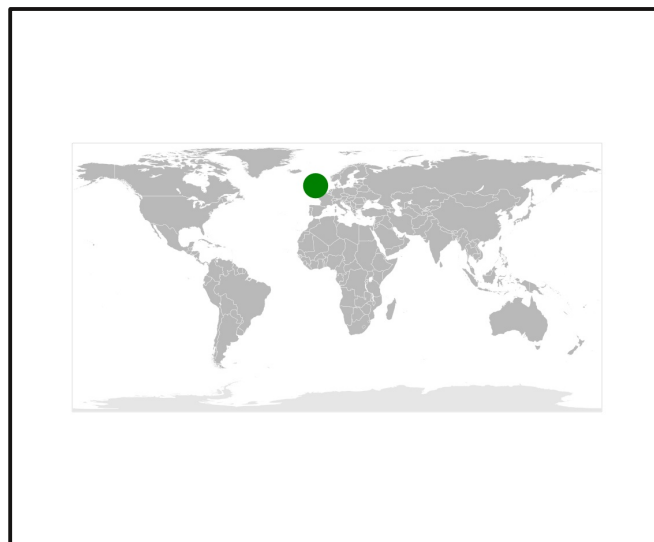Astun Technology (http://www.isharemaps.com), Saber Razmjooei of Faunalia (http://www.faunalia.it/en/home), and Suchith Anand of the Centre for Geospatial Sciences (http://cgs.nottingham.ac.uk).

The chapter has been improving the communication with chapter members and other interested parties through monthly IRC meetings and an official OSGeo:UK twitter account (@osgeouk). Members have also been busy promoting open source GIS through local Linux User Groups and other places.

The chapter has members on the board of the new Open Source Geospatial Lab at the Centre for Geospatial Sciences in Nottingham, and a chapter member has also been elected to OSGeo Charter Membership.

Areas for Improvement:

The chapter could improve our collaboration with other GI organisations in the UK such as the Association for Geographic Information. This would help to promote open source GIS products as mainstream choices rather than niche or specialist options.

Opportunities to Help:

The chapter is always on the lookout for new members, and new events at

which to promote OSGeo. Interested individuals can join the chapter mailing list and get involved! (http://www.osgeo.org/uk/mailing_list)

Outlook for 2011:

The outlook for 2011 is sunny. The current focus of the chapter is on gathering case studies showcasing the use of open source GIS in many different environments (http://www.osgeo.org/uk/case_studies). The chapter has tried to make the process of submitting a case study as easy as possible by providing a template and set of guidance notes. The chapter will be helping with OSGIS 2011 (http://cgs.nottingham.ac.uk/ ~osgis11/os_home.html), where various chapter members will be speaking, and running workshops.

The sponsorship that the chapter we have received is allowing the chapter to start amassing a collection of marketing materials and to help the chapter sponsor some small GI events itself.

In the wake of the recent UK Public Sector Mapping Agreement (http://www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/oswe bsite/media/news/2010/aug/psma.html) , the chapter will be helping chapter sponsors hold a number of free workshops introducing ways that

government organizations can use Ordnance Survey data using open source software. Chapter sponsor Astun Technology is also developing a suite of open source tools for working with Ordnance Survey data, either Open Data (http://www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/ oswebsite/products/os-opendata.html) or data released under the PSMA.