

Proposal to Organise FOSS4G 2008

1. The hosting location.

Montien Riverside Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand

5 Star Hotel at the Bank of Chao Praya River in Heart of Bangkok, Thailand.

2. Available meeting facilities, number of conference rooms, size, pricing.

One Grand Ball room : 800 Delegates

One Ball room: 600 Delegates (It can be divided into three parallel rooms with capacity of 200 +| 150 +150 each)

These ball room can also be used for exhibition.

3. Available workshop facilities, number of rooms, computers per room, pricing. (note that computer labs are not required, and we are open to other options)

In addition venue has around 15 rooms for meetings with capacity of 50 persons.

4. Available accommodations near conference location, pricing.

Montien Riverside is a Five Star Hotel.

Accommodation is available at very economical rate for this conference i.e. US\$ 80/day

Nearby, there are several hotels with 3 star and 4 star facilities with rooms at 40 US\$ - 60 US\$.

5. Size of conference that could be hosted effectively.

A conference of 700-750 delegates can be effectively hosted.

6. Supporting local organizations (companies, universities, user groups) be involved in the local conference committee, and a sense of their level

Main organiser:

Geoinformatics International , Thailand

Media Organisation, Involved in publishing Journal, Books and e-magazine.

Co-Organisers:

Asian Institute of Technology, Thailand

Geoinformatics Space Technology Development Agency, Thailand

Partner Organisations:

Chulalongkorn University

Mahidol University
Japan Society of Geoinformatics (planned)
Japan-Vietnam Geoinformatics Consortium

7. Available local experience in conference organization and hosting.

I have initiated following conferences and now they are being run successfully by associated organizations:

- a) Organiser, Map Asia 2002 – Bangkok, Thailand. (528 delegates, 32 countries, Organisers: Asian Institute of Technology, Thailand, and CSDMS, India, GIS Development, India, Partner: GISTDA, Thailand)
- b) Program Coordinator, Map Asia – 2003, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- c) Program Coordinator, Map Asia – 2004, Beijing, China
- d) Program Coordinator, Map Asia – 2005, Jakarta, Indonesia
- e) Organiser, HealthGIS – 2005 : (328 delegates from 22 countries, Geoinformatics International, Thailand, Co-organiser: Thammasat University)

I have also organized several conferences in Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur, India in association with other colleagues while I worked as a faculty member there.

8. Other relevant details (ie. plan to use professional conference organizing approximate cost).

Delegates expected in Bangkok: 600 to 700

Registration cost: 200 US\$ Early Bird (conference only)

Registration cost: 350 US\$ Early Bird (conference+3 workshop)

Late Registration: 400 US\$ Late Registration (conference only)

Late Registration: 550 US\$ Late Registration (conference +3 workshop)

Student Registration: 100 US\$ (conference only)

Student Registration: 150 US\$ (conference+2 workshop limited seats)

20% discount on all above rates for participants belonging to local organizations based in Asia.

- Nominal computer hire charges not included in the workshop fee.
- Key speakers and some invitees will not have to pay registration fee.

There will be around 8 Workshops.

Cost of one workshop will be US\$50 each.

For students one workshop will be 25\$ with option for selecting two workshops they would like to attend.

Funds will also be tried through sponsorship/ Exhibition.

Conference Proceedings will be available on CD-ROM and online.

Special Issue of selected conference papers will be published.

9. Your reasons for hosting the conference, and your goals for FOSS4G.

- I have good contacts with the Open Source Geospatial community in Asia. I was one of the first Editor of academic journal to publish special issue of Open Source Geospatial Event in 2004.
- I have attended the FOSS4G in Bangkok, Thailand and found that it has immense potential for the developing countries like Thailand and adjoining region.
- I have adequate experience to organize a successful international conference.
- I am working in Asian Institute of Technology, Thailand since 1999 and have very good network to attract many delegates.
- Good contact with top administration of local organizations like GISTDA, Royal Thai Survey Dept, royal Forestry Department, universities, Private organizations such as CaraCAD (dealer of Autodesk), ESRI, Thailand, Lotus, Loxinfo, Mappoint Asia, JAXA, Thailand, Japan-Vietnam Geoinformatics Consortium etc.
- I am editor-in-Chief of International Journal of Geoinformatics which is published since January 2005. Before this I started Asian Jour. Of Geoinformatics in 2001 and published till 2004. This has given me good contacts and support of researchers in the region.
- I am very confident to mobilize and generate enough interest in researchers and top decision makers in Govt. and Non-Govt. organizations for promoting OSGeo as an organization and FOSS4G as a viable solution.

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