

UK Proposal to Host FOSS4G 2013

*The conference for Open Source Geo
developers and users, and an opportunity
to raise awareness in the wider geo
community*

Contents

The formula for an outstanding conference.....	3
Things will change.....	4
Programme.....	5
A focus for everyone.....	5
Call for papers.....	5
Paper selection.....	6
Plenaries.....	6
Variety.....	6
Workshops.....	6
Programme overview.....	6
Social activity.....	8
Evening fun.....	8
Daytime distractions.....	9
Evangelism.....	10
Education.....	11
Encouraging academic attendance.....	11
Creating a lasting legacy.....	12
The East Midlands Conference Centre and the #GeoCamp.....	13
Accommodation.....	14
Facilities details.....	15
EMCC.....	15
Technology.....	15
Additional capacity.....	15
Computer suites.....	16
#GeoCamp.....	16
Meetings.....	16
Nottingham and the surrounding area.....	17
Transport.....	20
From the UK.....	20
From Europe.....	20
From elsewhere.....	20
Hosting organisation and local committee.....	21
Local organising committee.....	21
Team Biographies.....	21
Local open source activity.....	25
Supporting Organisations.....	26
Relations with OSGeo Board.....	26
Marketing.....	27
Budget.....	28
Commentary.....	28
Attendance.....	29
Pricing.....	29
Sponsorship.....	29
Summary.....	30
Relationship with the AGI.....	31
Complementary events.....	32

The formula for an outstanding conference

The UK Chapter of OSGeo presents its proposal to host FOSS4G at the East Midlands Conference Centre (EMCC) in Nottingham, UK from the 17th to 21st September 2013. We are confident that we can deliver an outstandingly successful FOSS4G conference because:

- Our proposal is based upon a strong vision for how the event can meet the needs of the **core contributors** to OSGeo projects and the **users** of the OSGeo products, and capitalise on the opportunity to evangelise and outreach to **potential users and contributors** in the European geo community prompted by the INSPIRE initiative.
- Our social programme will be **inclusive and informal**, supporting interchange between the three target audiences with most social events included within the delegate price.
- Our programme will comprise strands to attract all delegate types - developers, power users, new users, students, and academics. It will be organised so that delegates can select a single strand to follow throughout the conference, or switch between strands as they choose.
- Our programme will be stimulating, pacy, and enjoyable, incorporating hack sessions, regular presentations, workshops, lightning talks, birds-of-a-feather, and panels, in addition to plenaries featuring thought-provoking international speakers.
- By running FOSS4G in the same venue as AGI Community on the days following that event, we will gain cross-over of delegates (and sponsors) from the UK's largest geo event, and reduce the running costs. FOSS4G will however be run independently of the AGI event by the FOSS4G LOC, for the FOSS4G community.
- We have an experienced and committed conference team, and logistics support services from our partner - the AGI.
- We have an outstandingly well-equipped venue with capacity for over 1,000 delegates on a beautiful campus site in the heart of England. Additionally we will create a unique and flexible space for hacking and socialising by erecting our #GeoCamp adjacent to the conference centre building.
- We have a flourishing Open Source Geo community in the UK, evidenced by early commitments of support from over 25 organisations in the UK and further afield in Europe, and over 15 pledges from individual volunteers to assist in the planning and delivery of the event.
- We can deliver a delegate package of \$599 for the main conference, including social events, and return a surplus to OSGeo of between \$23k and \$63k dependent on attendance levels
- We have a range of accommodation available on the campus site from \$60 to \$200.
- We will build on the legacy of previous FOSS4G events to strengthen the Community, sustaining development of Open Source Geo in Europe for the coming years.

"I believe the UK organising committee has the necessary background, skills and innovative mindset to make FOSS4G in the UK one of the most successful conferences yet!"

- Ed Parsons, Geospatial Technologist, Google

"I love the disruptive impact of Open Source Geo and the way it enables users to unlock the power of geography."

- Steven Feldman (LOC)

This proposal has been co-authored by an LOC of 14 contributors. We hope that you will hear their individual voices and sense their experience, variety of interest, excitement and commitment to making FOSS4G 2013 the most successful FOSS4G ever, and that you will be moved to entrust the running of the 2013 conference to our team.

Things will change

Our team have spent a lot of time trying to think through the shape of FOSS4G in Nottingham, the budget, the program, the entertainment, travel and logistics. We want to work with the OSGeo Board and the broader community to canvas opinion and fine tune the detail as we firm up on our plans over the next year.

Programme

A conference is defined by its programme and our programme is central to our thinking on FOSS4G 2013. The programme has multiple purposes:

- to be informative, stimulating and enjoyable
- to contribute to the development of OSGeo projects
- to provide workshops which represent value for money training and development opportunities for delegates
- to provide the opportunity for delegates from the FOSS community to meet with like-minded colleagues to discuss and share ideas; and
- to allow new relationships to develop *across* the community – a united community is stronger than its individual parts.

To this end we are working to create a programme formed of distinct tracks united by the common theme of Open Source Geo.

The following subsections set out our thoughts on the structure of the programme, the paper selection process and the plenary speakers.

A focus for everyone

In developing a structure for the programme we have a strong vision for how the event needs to meet the requirements of the **core contributors** to OSGeo projects, the **users** of the OSGeo products, and capitalise on the opportunity to evangelise and outreach to **potential users and contributors** in the geo community. Conference tracks will be formed around these target groups. The streams will be flexible enough to allow people the freedom to pick content at will without feeling excluded by a label. A track will be created for research/applied research papers, which will be collated into a peer-reviewed special edition of a journal.

It is all too easy to work in a silo. Events such as FOSS4G are an ideal opportunity to see what is happening in other sectors. Connecting with other users doing similar things as you can help resolve issues or provide insight into alternative approaches. The conference will have parallel sessions allowing delegates to pick a stream that interests them, and time will be made to allow networking and bring developers together with users. Less formal sessions such as “lightning talks”, “Q & A sessions” and “birds of a feather” will be offered in addition to traditional presentations, panels and workshops.

Call for papers

A programme is the sum total of the parts (papers, posters, maps, workshops) submitted from the community; it is not devised in isolation by a committee, but is borne from the minds and work of those on the front line of the FOSS world. The current committee has a wealth of experience in developing conference programmes by encouraging engagement. Every member on the committee has worked (or is currently working) with grassroot geo organisations to foster these high levels of engagement for [AGI GeoCommunity](#), [GISRUK](#) (GIS Research UK), [Wherecamp UK](#) and OSGeo Chapter events, as well as more informal groups such as [#W3G](#) and [#GeoMob](#). There is an understanding that engagement through early communication with the community is paramount.

The Call for Papers (CfP) will be a significant part in our preparation for FOSS4G in 2013. It will be the moment where the ‘feel’ of this event will be made clear with the announcement of the theme and the broad streams. The mechanics of the process are to be confirmed, but the Committee has extensive experience in handling abstract submissions in a range of conference styles from unconferees through the community-led to academic conferences. A number of the ‘[lessons learnt](#)’ by the FOSS4G committees in the past are already familiar issues to this committee (but useful reminders nonetheless!) and have been incorporated into our ideas for paper selection.

Those submitting papers will be invited to assign their abstracts to particular areas of interest, identifying the audience they are trying to reach. It is not our intention to exclude potential content by being narrow in our focus, as people have projects and issues that they wish to share regardless of theme, so we will work to find a place in the programme for them. For this reason the detailed tracks will rise from the submissions and be published nearer to the event itself, rather than being prescriptive at the CfP stage.

Paper selection

A number of methods of abstract review have been used in the past for FOSS4G events. With FOSS4G being such an open forum, the committee favours the use of community ranking tools. These will help us work towards the level of engagement we are keen to foster. The committee however will reserve the right, in the interest of creating a balanced programme, to retain the final decision on paper selection as has been the case in previous FOSS4Gs.

Plenaries

The plenary speakers form a crucial element of the programme. They are the mood music that sets the tone of the whole event - and they must be good. The committee will take extra care in the selection of these speakers, and using the international connections that the committee can draw upon, feelers are already being put out to potential candidates. We would particularly like to extend beyond the traditional reservoir of FOSS4G keynote speakers. Once identified, the committee will be working with the speakers to ensure that the tone and message aligns with the principles of FOSS4G.

Variety

Crucial to the development of the programme is 'space' – space to breath, discuss, and meet. Breaks will be provided throughout the event to allow people the freedom to move amongst the streams and the delegates. The form of the presentation slots themselves also needs careful consideration. It is proposed that a greater range of options are offered in the Call for Papers, from 'traditional' paper presentations (20 minutes plus time for questions) through to 'lightning' talks (be it [#soapbox](#), [#ignite](#), or [Pecha Kucha](#) format), and 'speed-geeking' (mini-parallel sessions for developing collaboration teams).

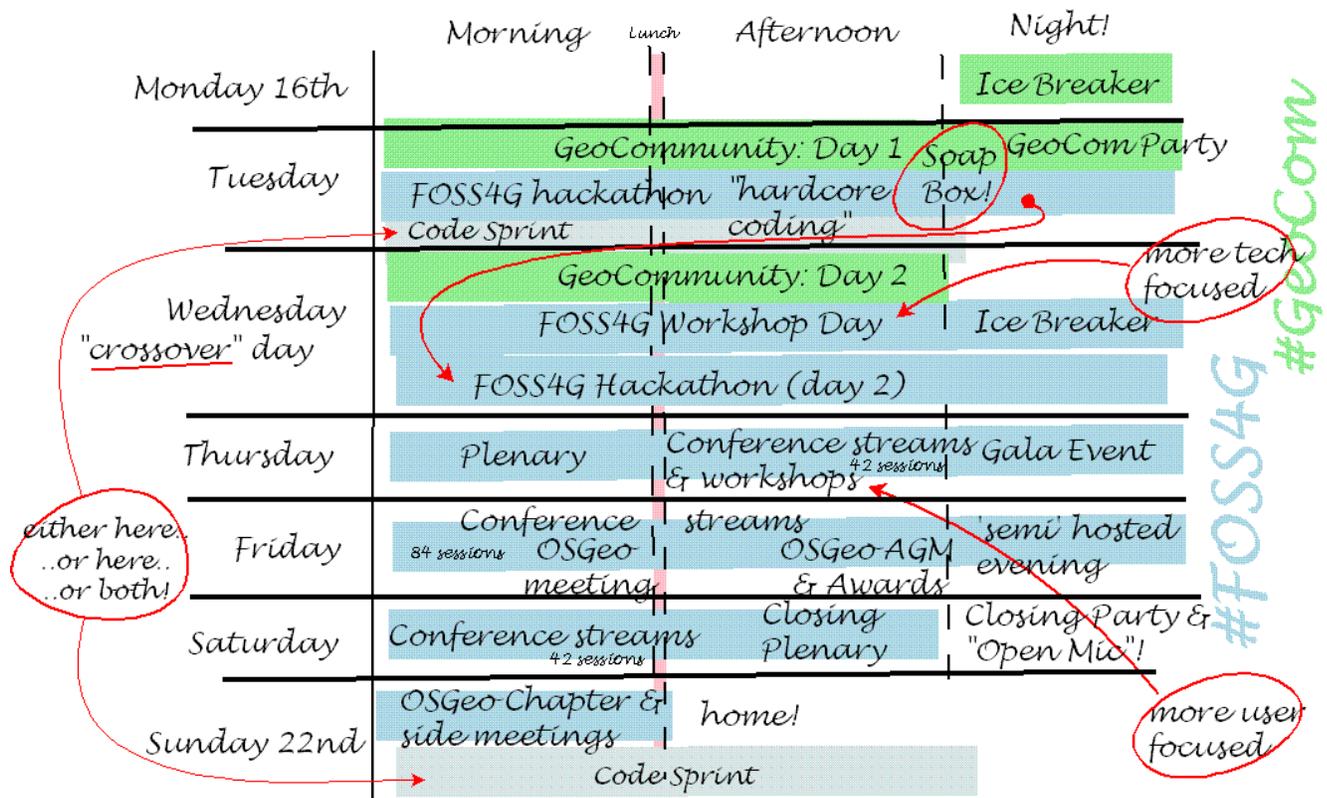
Workshops

Workshops form a critical component of the FOSS4G experience. Through these hands-on sessions delegates are offered the opportunity to enhance their skills in a range of open technologies irrespective of their starting level. Content suitable for all target audience groups will be streamed over the three days: Tuesday and Wednesday is a 'hackathon', with the guided workshops on Wednesday and Thursday providing opportunities for advanced and novice users respectively.

The hackathon will be based on the [RHoK](#) model with suggestions received prior to the event to maximise the time available, we will also provide facilities for a code sprint either at the beginning or end of the event or if the community desires we could offer code sprints at the beginning and the end. The [#GeoCamp](#), a large, open-plan tent with WiFi and power strips, will offer an exciting environment for collaboration. Workshop facilities are extensive, with the ability to offer over 15 parallel side meetings and sessions, all with power and WiFi. Working in collaboration with the workshop hosts, we will ensure that the data and software is compatible with the local IT infrastructure, and that outputs are made publicly available through [ELOGeo](#) (E-Learning for the Open Geospatial Community) for re-use after the event.

Programme overview

While the content of the programme needs to reflect the aims of the event - the meeting of the tribes - the physical programme (the rooms, the time slots, the breaks) can be the crucial factor in making it all come together. There are significant benefits in the shared venue (for economies of scale) and overlap (for creating a critical mass) with the AGI GeoCommunity. The following graphic outlines the structure that we propose and illustrates how our FOSS4G programme connects to the GeoCommunity programme.



We are offering up to **200 sessions** between Tuesday and Sunday, of varying length and across a number of spaces. We expect to accommodate around nine streams at any one time, including papers and workshops (in the 5 main EMCC venues and 4 computer labs) but have capacity for 15 at peak times should they be needed - further details below. In addition there will be **posters** and a **map gallery**. While FOSS4G is a separate event from GeoCommunity, our programme design intent is that FOSS4G delegates can choose to benefit from GeoCommunity activities, and in the outline of events below we've highlighted the main opportunities:

- **Monday** (16th September) starts with the icebreaker event for the GeoCommunity delegates. Delegates for FOSS4G who wish to arrive on the Monday will be welcome to attend this informal event for which there will be a small charge in addition to their FOSS4G conference registration fee.
- On **Tuesday** FOSS4G events commence with the Hackathon being hosted in the #GeoCamp, where there will be space, power and bandwidth for multiple hack teams to code and interact. In parallel, GeoCommunity starts with plenary sessions followed by conference streams and a large sponsor exhibition next door in the EMCC.
- A major feature of **Tuesday evening** is the [SoapBox](#). This [light-hearted event](#) will be a shared event open to delegates from both conferences. The evening continues with the GeoCommunity party with plenty of opportunity for delegates to relax and meet new friends, again open to FOSS4G delegates for a small additional charge.
- On **Wednesday** the FOSS4G Workshop programme begins, and it is day two of GeoCommunity. The aim of this day is 'cross-over' – stressing the commonality between the events, and the benefits for GeoCommunity delegates of attending part of FOSS4G. The developer workshop programme for the day will continue the technical focus of the hackathon. As GeoCommunity formally closes, the spotlight shifts entirely to FOSS4G with the official launch event which is open to delegates from both events.
- On **Wednesday evening** we will host an icebreaker drinks reception for FOSS4G delegates (for which GeoCommunity delegates can also buy tickets) in the University's Lincoln Hall. This will be followed by dinner, hosted in the distributed halls of residence where the bars will also be open.

- **Thursday** begins with the FOSS4G opening plenary sessions, which are followed by the conference streams and further workshops (42 sessions). As part of our outreach to the GeoCommunity delegates, the workshops on this day have a user focus.
- **Thursday evening** comprises the Gala Event (see Social Activities below).
- **Friday** is a full day (84+ sessions) of conference programming. In addition the OSGeo AGM will be held as the final session, followed by the WMS shoot-out.
- **Friday evening** provides the opportunity for delegates to explore the city with a series of semi-hosted events across the city.
- **Saturday** continues with the third day of programmed streams (42+ sessions). The afternoon is dedicated to the closing plenary, with ample time provided for the Sol Katz Award. This segues into the closing party and 'open mic' event planned for the evening.
- **Sunday morning** is dedicated to OSGeo Board meetings and side events, with meeting rooms and spaces provided as required. A series of optional excursions are provided in the afternoon, but for the LOC this time will be spent on its de-brief.

The essence of the programme is to make the global FOSS4G the 'must attend' event of the year. There is a busy annual schedule of conferences for people to choose from, and in a deflated international economy we must offer delegates value, and create the desire to be there. We will seek to encourage any European regional interest groups to blend their programmes of activity with the global event in 2013.

Social activity

Both FOSS4G and AGI GeoCommunity place a strong emphasis on the social aspect of the conference experience. The opportunity to meet people face-to-face rather than in a virtual environment and to make new friends or business contacts is a major reason for attending the conference. FOSS4G is the opportunity for developers to rub shoulders with users, consultants, the curious, and the "still-to" adopters.

Our venue and accommodation are closely linked, with most delegates being housed within 5 minutes walk of the main conference building. The EMCC has excellent spaces for informal gatherings, multiple food and beverage points, and to top it all we will be erecting the biggest #GeoCamp ever seen by the global geo community for our gala social events, and as a resource for hackathons, meetups, spontaneous activity and just hanging out.

Our venue has plenty of spaces for meetings, code-sprints and birds-of-a-feather get-togethers (see the Facilities section below), and we will provide mechanisms for people to organise, book and publicise these during the event.

Evening fun

Our planned social events will ensure that FOSS4G (and GeoCommunity) delegates have many chances to meet and mingle; in fact we have something different arranged for every night of the conference!

*Wednesday night - Icebreaker**

An icebreaker with the GeoCommunity "stayovers" in the university's Lincoln Hall: a drinks reception, followed by an informal dinner in the halls of residences, with entertainment designed to get people chatting to each other.

Thursday night - Gala

The gala dinner will not be a formal affair. Instead we plan a "mingle, chat and eat" event focussing on locally-sourced food and drink, including (for those who are interested), a selection of locally-brewed ales. This will be complemented by entertainment with a Robin Hood theme, combining the medieval hero's exploits with an open ethos.

*Friday night - Nottingham options**

This will be a “semi-hosted” evening. We will book a diverse range of entertainments across the city. Conference members will be able to sign up for their choice of activity, either in advance or at the conference to facilitate serendipitous networking. We will facilitate transport bookings for our guests but this will not be centrally arranged. Example activities include:

Princess River Cruise

3 hour cruise along the river Trent with disco, drinks and a BBQ meal.

Nottingham Ghost Walk

Discover the ghostly secrets of the ancient city of Nottingham! In the shadows of the Castle, in a graveyard, and underground in ancient sandstone caves, we will weave a web of haunting tales.

Robin Hood Town Tour

Robin Hood is world famous but who was he? How did the legend begin? What does it mean today? These questions will be explored as you embark on a quest and visit places associated with Nottingham's folklore son.

Nottingham Contemporary Art Gallery

A guided tour of the gallery followed by a light meal in the cafe, before heading out to explore the nightlife of the city.

Restaurants

We will block book several restaurants to enable those who wish to have a quiet (or not so quiet) meal on the Friday evening to choose from a range of cuisines. Hosts from the LOC will guide groups to the restaurants and then on to one of the FOSS4G selected bars to savour the famous Nottingham nightlife before returning to the campus.

Saturday night - Closing Party in the #GeoCamp

After 5 days of hacking, workshops, sessions, plenaries and full-on networking, relax with us in the #GeoCamp where we will serve drinks, light snacks and host an open mic evening where you can forget about OSGeo for a couple of hours and share your other talents with the community. Bring a guitar, a poem, a joke or a voice and grab the mic for a few minutes. It won't be a barrier to an enjoyable evening if delegates just come and listen or heckle.

**: All evening entertainment is included in the conference registration fee except for Wednesday's Icebreaker and Friday's visits to Nottingham.*

Daytime distractions

We will offer some educational and social activities during the programme for those who wish to take a break from writing code or attending workshops and presentations. Some of these activities will also appeal to delegates' partners who are visiting Nottingham but not attending the conference. Some early possibilities are:

- Site visit to the [British Geological Society's](#) campus at Keyworth to view their 3D facility.
- [Skegness](#), a quintessential British seaside town with fish and chips and carnival.
- Brewery tours at the [Castle Rock Brewery](#) or at the Burton Bridge Brewery
- A trip to the [Alton Towers](#) theme park.
- A tour of [Trent Bridge](#) one of the oldest cricket grounds in the country and international cricket arena.
- Visits to the [Nottingham Geospatial Institute's](#) new facilities and to the contrasting, modern architecture of the university's Jubilee Campus.
- A trip to the [Black Country Living Museum](#), a village exhibiting period life around the area in the 1850-1950s.
- A tour of [Cadbury World](#), home of the chocolatier and confectioner.

Evangelism

One of our key aims for the conference will be to attract as wide a range of delegates as possible, in order to create the dialogue and cross-fertilisation which is important for the community to prosper. Existing developers and users, the group driving forward open source innovation and application, will be centre stage. However, we will also reach out to potential new users and contributors to help grow the FOSS4G community.

Bringing FOSS4G to the UK represents an ideal opportunity to introduce open source to new communities, particularly from the UK and Europe, where interest in open source continues to grow rapidly. This is a chance for delegates to see for themselves what is possible, and meet with people already active in open source. It is also a chance to bring new funding into the field, by explaining to businesses and public sector bodies how their financial support of open source can be used to initiate and influence development work, drawing on the many successful examples of this model to illustrate the potential benefits.

“My first FOSS4G opened my eyes to what both individuals and organisations could achieve with open source GIS. FOSS4G 2013 in Nottingham will open lots more eyes.”
- Antony Scott (LOC)

Within the UK, co-locating with the AGI will bring FOSS4G to the attention of the UK geo community, and our scheduling is designed to reinforce this. The European Union’s INSPIRE initiative to create an EU SDI, based largely upon open source components and open standards, is bringing a much wider group of users to the open source community, and FOSS4G will connect with these users and encourage their support and participation.

The committee is also keen to attract the next generation of GIS practitioners and developers to FOSS4G; students at the start of their careers, from across Europe and further afield. By including attractively-priced packages for students and a small number of academic bursaries (see Education section), coupled with an international marketing campaign targeting academic institutions with GIS courses, we will draw tomorrow’s developers and users into the OS fold.

Effective outreach requires a concerted effort and the LOC team members will be active and focused in promoting FOSS4G to a number of tangential communities at events across Europe and further afield in the course of their day to day work.

While programming remains primarily geared to the needs of the active open source GIS community, there are additional important groups to whom we would like to market the conference, and for whom we will specifically provide programming:

- *Current users of proprietary GIS software*, who are considering using open source as a means of reducing cost and dependency, or of widening their GIS user base. For this group, who we would assume to be experienced GIS practitioners and/or decision makers, we would include a ‘conversion course’ workshop, designed to demonstrate the capabilities of open source tools across a series of standard GIS tasks, and aimed at building confidence in the robustness and capability of FOSS4G.
- *Developers, users and businesses who would like to get actively involved* in open source projects. The aim for this group would be to demonstrate practical models of involvement, for example in developing, documentation or testing, through a workshop on ‘the FOSS4G ecosystem’. This would explode some myths, and encourage active participation by people currently outside the world of open source GIS.
- *New users of GIS*, particularly those in smaller organisations, be they commercial, voluntary, or governmental. Open source GIS lowers the barriers to use of GIS to organisations who would in the past have been precluded by licence costs. By targeting this group, we aim to support organisations from all domains to take their first steps in GIS. A ‘GIS for beginners’ workshop

would start from first principles, giving delegates hands-on experience in undertaking simple GIS tasks using a standard FOSS4G tool stack.

- *Data specialists, journalists and 'armchair auditors'* who are active users of open data, whether for political, social or commercial purposes. A workshop for this group, which would not assume prior knowledge of GIS, would show how open source tools could be used by researchers and analysts to derive added value from raw data, and present their findings in a geographical context.

Education

The FOSS4G UK's bid team has a strong academic component. As part of the bid we will continue to promote and support the use of free and open source solutions in teaching, learning and research.

Encouraging academic attendance

The organising committee have experience of organising academic GIS conferences, and we have developed a strong community through events such as [GISRUK](#) and [OSGIS](#). This will help us to promote the event to the academic community both in the UK and internationally - GISRUK and OSGIS have attracted delegates from across the globe, including Azerbaijan, Ireland, New Zealand, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland.

"The time is right for FOSS4G to be held in the UK, as the use of open source tools is particularly prominent in the higher education community."

- Bruce Gittings, Chair, GIS Research UK

Publishing research in peer-reviewed journals is an important part of any research project, and publications are used to support research proposals, forming an integral part of a researcher's CV. Building on the recent [Memorandum of Understanding between the ICA and OSGeo](#), we will invite researchers to write journal articles which will be reviewed and collated into a special edition of *Transactions in GIS*, or a publication of a similar standard. This will provide an incentive to academic researchers to submit papers and attend FOSS4G. However, it is clear that research is not restricted to the academic community and papers from commercial and public sector delegates will of course also be welcome.

A poster session targeted at postgraduate and masters students will provide an opportunity for early-stage researchers to present their research to a diverse audience and help build their academic career using free and open source software.

To make it easier for academic researchers and students to attend FOSS4G we will offer a 10% discount on the conference fees to any delegate from an academic institution. Additionally, we will offer a small number of bursaries which will further reduce the cost of attending the conference. We have already secured our first sponsor for these bursaries and will look to attract more funding specifically for this initiative.

The bid team are well connected in the academic community. Several of the organising team are involved in European research activities such as AGILE (Association of Geographic Information Laboratories for Europe) which links them into a strong community of GI researchers across Europe, including research hubs such as SIGTE at the University of Girona and ITC at the University of Twente. The organisations involved in the UK's bid have representatives involved in OGC working groups, and we would use contacts such as these to publicise the event.

Creating a lasting legacy

Perhaps the greatest legacy that this event can have is to leave the FOSS4G community stronger than it finds it. We firmly believe our conference will cement the position of geospatial FOSS in the minds of GIS professionals in Europe.

We will ensure that the material produced for FOSS4G in 2013 is made available to the wider community and preserved. This will be through existing initiatives such as ELOGeo, an open repository for teaching and learning run by the University of Nottingham. Material from workshops and presentations will be discoverable and accessible by anyone interested in learning about free and open software.

We will also contribute the lessons learnt from planning FOSS4G to the ["cookbook"](#) to help future conference teams.

"Hosting FOSS4G at a University will complete the circle - developers returning to share their skills back to where it all started"

- Barry Rowlingson (LOC)

The East Midlands Conference Centre and the #GeoCamp

The East Midlands Conference Centre (EMCC), opened in 1985 (and refurbished in 2000 and 2009) and is a dedicated conference venue located in the heart of the University of Nottingham's 330 acre (135ha) [University Park Campus](#). Supported by further locations and facilities across the campus, the EMCC will provide the hub of central activity for the FOSS4G conference. Its facilities are outlined below. The EMCC website has [testimonials](#) from a variety of clients.



*A View into the Atrium of the East Midlands Conference Centre
[Copyright, University of Nottingham]*

The venue has grown in strength consistently and will open the new Orchard Hotel located adjacent to the EMCC in 2012. A brand new boutique hotel, the Orchard Hotel, incorporates 202 contemporary bedrooms and suites, an executive lounge, 160-cover restaurant, bar, outside terrace, gym and four meeting rooms.

For the hackathon on the first day and for all of the social events we are planning to erect a giant high specification marquee connected to the EMCC which will be able to accommodate all of the delegates in an informal environment. We are code-naming this the #GeoCamp, but we are open to the possibility of allowing a sponsor to attach their brand to the #GeoCamp.

"Nottingham is an excellent venue for a conference such as this."

**- Jon Blower,
Technical Director,
Reading e-Science
Centre**

The EMCC WiFi facilities are designed to accommodate delegate numbers similar to FOSS4G, and are supported by the University of Nottingham's network connections. They have been proven in a similar

setting by supporting a tech conference with around 500 delegates, a connected audience who have challenged the networks in previous venues. However we have budgeted for substantial additional network support for FOSS4G.

In addition to the versatile EMCC, we have numerous smaller suites, rooms and spaces to be used as breakout rooms, offices and networking areas close by on the University Park Campus. There are also other teaching facilities and computer labs for hands-on workshops and education sessions which we can access across the site. Hosting of the annual OSGIS conference has given us experience of support for open source geospatial activities in the University facilities.



*Scenes from the campus:
Picnic in the park / The Millenium Garden from above
[Copyright, University of Nottingham]*

Accommodation

We can offer an impressive range of high quality and value-for-money accommodation across the University Park Campus within 5 minutes walk of the main conference centre. The EMCC has a dedicated car park for delegates, and there are additional car parking spaces across the campus for attendees of the conference.

At the budget end, we will offer single occupancy student rooms, all of which will include en-suite bathroom facilities, within a few minutes walk of the EMCC building facilities from as little as \$67.50 per night, including full English breakfast. The student rooms are located in halls of residence with on-site bar and catering facilities.



*Artist's impression of the new hotel
[Copyright, University of Nottingham]*

The Orchard Hotel will offer 202 more luxurious rooms at prices from \$180 per night, as well as additional small meeting rooms, adjacent to the EMCC. There are also 12,500 hotel rooms within Nottingham catering for all tastes and budgets from \$65 upwards.

Facilities details

EMCC

The East Midlands Conference Centre offers in itself a flexible space. Its principal spaces are:

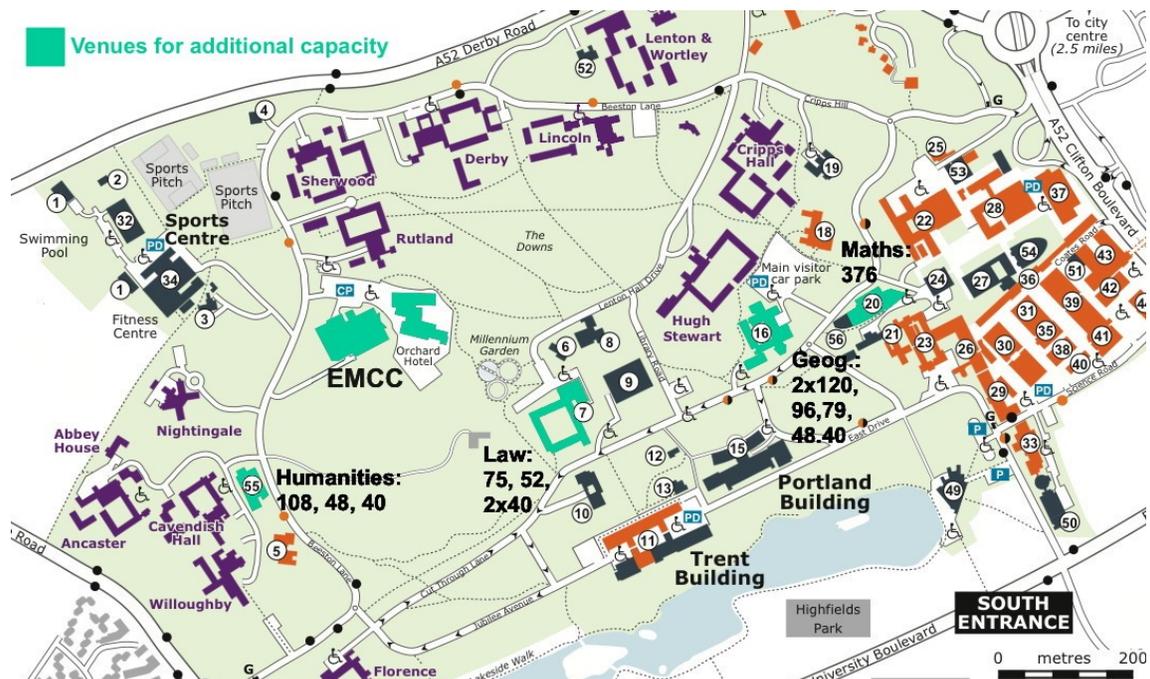
- Banqueting Suite: a flat space which can accommodate 850 people in a “theatre” arrangement of rows of seats. It has a loading bay for exhibitors and can be split into two halls.
- Conference Theatre: provides a tiered lecture theatre for up to 520. The seats can be retracted, for example to give a reception space for 300. The Conference Theatre and Banqueting Suite can be video-linked in the event that we need to accommodate over 850 people for the opening plenary session.
- Four conference suites: these provide spaces for 120, 2x100, and 80 delegates each but are further sub-divisible.
- Gallery: offering three spaces of 2x50 and 15 delegate capacity.

Technology

WiFi is available throughout on a dedicated conference network and we have budgeted to supplement the existing WiFi capacity for the event. All rooms have projection or display equipment, and the banqueting suite can be equipped with additional screens to guarantee visibility.

Additional capacity

Where possible we will focus all our streams and workshops within the EMCC or the #GeoCamp, however we also have the use of facilities in nearby University buildings (5-10 minutes walk from EMCC) for additional breakout and workshop space. This includes classrooms and lecture theatres with capacities from 40 to 376 as shown on the following map (a [full campus map](#) is available on the University web site):



Additional FOSS4G capacity around the University Park Campus [04/2012 Crown Copyright, Licence no. 100030223]

Computer suites

We also have booked computer suites in the Sir Clive Granger building and the Law & Social Sciences buildings (marked as “Geog.” and “Law” in the map above), with spaces for 97, 68 and 75 delegates, the first of which can be divided in two. In addition we can deploy a set of 25 laptops for use in booked spaces and will confirm further arrangements with our Information Services team closer to the event. The computer suites have wired connections, and a guest WiFi network is available in the University buildings.



A workshop in one of the Computer Labs at OSGIS 2011 via Suchith Anand

#GeoCamp

Finally, to add flexibility to our arrangements we will place a marquee in the grounds directly adjacent to the EMCC’s Banqueting Suite. The marquee will have a capacity of approximately 800 and can be directly connected by a covered walkway to the Banqueting Suite. This space will have a professional level of decor and we will provide ample power and network connections. We will use this for a combination of pre-event activities (while the GeoCommunity conference uses the EMCC) and social events.

Meetings

Any of the smaller spaces detailed above can be used for private meetings, chapter groups or sponsor events subject to avoiding any scheduling conflicts. We aim to provide flexible booking of spaces during the event for birds-of-a-feather and other *ad hoc* activities.

Nottingham and the surrounding area



Robin Hood
[CC-BY-SA 2.0, Jo Jakeman, Flickr]

Nottingham is centrally situated in the heart of green England, surrounded by beautiful countryside and a wealth of history, easily accessible via rail (at 1 hour 45 mins from London) and air. Visitors from overseas can easily combine their visit to FOSS4G in Nottingham with some time in London or even Paris before or after the event.

The city itself is renowned as a cultural centre, intertwined with the historical figures of Robin Hood and his Merry Men and Maid Marian. The literary works of DH Lawrence and Lord Byron hark from Nottingham and its surrounding area, with Ada Lovelace, the first computer programmer, among notable former residents. Being surrounded by rural England, the attractions of Sherwood Forest, the Peak District and Skegness are close by. Delegates may also wish to visit the market towns and villages of Newark and Melton Mowbray, the latter famous for its local delicacies - Pork Pies and Stilton cheese. Various of Lord Byron's homes in the area can be visited, foremost of which is Newstead Abbey, owned by Nottingham City and located 12 miles north of the city.

[Nottingham Castle](#) is located right in the heart of the city. The Castle is set in attractive gardens, and houses a history of the city (which was originally called Snottingham) and an eclectic museum collection of pictures and objects. Close to the University of Nottingham, [Wollaton Hall](#) is a 16th century, Elizabethan mansion set in a deer park, used as the exterior for the [new Wayne Manor](#) for the Batman movie, *The Dark Knight Rises*. However Nottingham is not only about history; the [Nottingham Contemporary](#) modern art museum (designed by the award winning architects Caruso St John) was launched in 2009 to [praise](#) in the national press. Entry is free and they offer a changing selection of exhibitions from national and international artists.



Newstead Abbey
[CC-BY-SA 2.0, Jeremy Morley]

A vibrant, young population in Nottingham provides ample scope for entertainment after dark, complete with nightclubs, cafés and comedy clubs. For those wanting a more traditional night, Nottingham has a wide variety of restaurants (300 at last count) from cheap and cheerful to Michelin-starred fare with everything in between. This culinary range is coupled with a good mix of pubs and bars, from the Brew Dog selling craft beers to [Ye Olde Trip To Jerusalem](#), founded in 1189 and the oldest pub in England. Local brewers [Castle Rock](#) have consistently produced high quality real ale, available at pubs throughout the city and at their “brewery tap” pub, the ‘Vat and Fiddle’ (round the corner from the Inland Revenue tax offices).

"The UK, with its rich history of being at the forefront of mapping, is the perfect location for next year's OSGeo Conference"

- Alan Moore, Chief Executive, Forth Valley GIS



Old Market Square, Nottingham
[CC-BY-SA 2.0, Duncan~ / Duncan Hill, Flickr]

Nottingham is also a sporting city, host to two well known football clubs, [Nottingham Forest](#) and [Notts County](#), in addition to the world famous [Trent Bridge test cricket ground](#). The Capital FM Arena, which hosts international rock, pop and entertainment, also houses the National Ice Arena and in particular the [Nottingham Panthers](#) ice hockey team. A short way out from the city centre is the [National Water Sports Centre](#) which hosts canoeing, kayaking, sailing, rafting and other sports.

The [University of Nottingham](#) is set on four campuses in and around the city, complementing campuses in Malaysia and China. Delegates are welcome to explore the [beautiful University Park campus](#) in their downtime.

September is the end of the British summer and we would expect to have warm but comfortable [temperatures](#) throughout the conference that would encourage wandering around the campus site, early evening outdoors recreation, and pleasant day trips for partners not attending the conference.

Transport

Nottingham is located in the geographic heartland of England. It has excellent connections to cities around the UK, and further afield in Europe and the rest of the world, by air and rail.

From the UK

Nottingham is well served by the UK rail network, with up to four trains an hour making the 1 hour 45 minutes journey from London. There are also regular direct services to Edinburgh, Birmingham, Liverpool, Cardiff, and Manchester.

From Europe

The high-speed Eurostar brings you to Nottingham from Paris or Brussels in 4 hours. Direct flights to East Midlands Airport ([EMA](#)), located on the outskirts of Nottingham, come from almost 100 European cities, with a 40 minute transfer into the city.

From elsewhere

Fly to Birmingham International (BHX) or Manchester (MAN), from where a frequent train service will get you to Nottingham in under two hours. Direct connections from the major London airports, Heathrow and Gatwick, will take 3 to 4 hours: alternatively delegates might wish to travel via interchanges in the centre of London. This is a good option for those wishing to spend a day or two in the capital before or after the conference.

"I can testify from first-hand experience to their excellent facilities and consider this to be an ideal venue for your conference."

**- Dave Lovell OBE FRGS
CGeog, Secretary General
and Executive**

Director, EuroGraphics



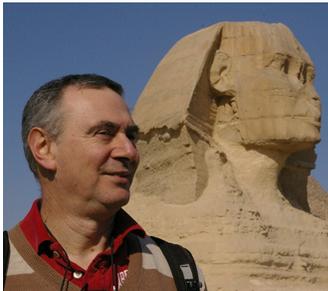
Hosting organisation and local committee

Local organising committee

Our committee takes its membership from all sectors of the UK geospatial community, and individual biographies are included below. All the team have a keen interest in open source software and the allied strands of open data and open standards. More importantly however, all are fanatically keen to bring the conference to the UK and firmly believe that FOSS4G in Nottingham would be a huge success!

Team Biographies

Steven Feldman (Conference Chair)



Steven (@stevenfeldman) has been working in the geobusiness for the last 14 years, initially with whereonearth.com, subsequently as MD of GDC and latterly MD of MapInfo UK and head of their EMEA product and industry strategy. He now works as a non-executive director, a strategic consultant and an investor, advisor and mentor to technology startups through his consultancy KnowWhere, he is currently chairman of geo.me Solutions.

He founded and chaired the first three AGI GeoCommunity conferences and is a Special Lecturer at the School of Geography at the University of Nottingham, where he initiated the [OpenStreetMap_GB](#) quality enhancement project and also advises the Open Source humanitarian project Taarifa on bringing its public service provision innovation to a wider global audience and community.

Steven is passionate about geography, politics and Arsenal football club, he blogs at [GIScussions](#) and tweets too much as [@StevenFeldman](#)

Suchith Anand



Suchith Anand is leading open source research at the University of Nottingham. He is also the chair of the ICA Commission on Open Source Geospatial Technologies. He is one of the founding members of the Open Source GIS Summer School initiative, and the Geospatial Open Source, Open Standards, Open Data e-learning initiative. He is also the founder and co-chair of the Open Source GIS Conference Series. He is now in the process of establishing Open Source Geospatial Labs/Research Centres in key universities worldwide as part of the Open Source Geospatial Foundation - ICA MoU.

Jo Cook (Deputy Conference Chair)



Jo (@archaeogeek) is the founder and representative of the local chapter of OSGeo (OSGeo:UK) and has wanted to bring FOSS4G to the UK since she went to her first one in 2006. Three FOSS4Gs later, she is on the Board of Directors for OSGeo and is even more committed to bringing the tribes to her home country. In her day job she has been advocating open source use since 2006, previously in the archaeology sector, and now as part of her role as a geospatial consultant for Astun Technology. She can be found on Twitter as [@archaeogeek](#), and [blogging here](#).

Chris Holcroft



Chris (@Chris_AGI) is Chief Executive of the Association for Geographic Information (AGI). He has been the Senior Responsible Officer (SRO) for the last five AGI GeoCommunity conferences, (an annual UK geospatial event that attracts 450 to 600 delegates). Chris has worked in the geospatial sector in the UK and internationally since 1989. He is a member of the UK Location Council and the GI Customer Group, (both of which are public sector advisory bodies). He is a Chartered Geographer (GIS), a Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society (FRGS), and a Member of the Institute of Directors (MIoD).

Ian Holt



Ian (@IanHolt) is the Developer Programme Manager at Ordnance Survey. In this role he is responsible for encouraging and stimulating the use of OS OpenData. In addition, he is a member of the GeoVation team, actively promoting innovation through the use of geography. He has over 20 years experience in the geospatial industry and has spent a good part of his career developing enterprise geospatial solutions for the utilities, communications, and public organisations. More recently, Ian has helped

run a series of master classes to highlight the benefits of open source and open data.

Rollo Home



Rollo (@rollohome) is a geo-consultant, previously for the international engineering consultancy firm Halcrow and then a GI software vendor, CityGRID. Recently he has forsaken the world of freelancing (with his trusty *GIS-on-a-Stick!*) and returned to consulting with the Danish firm, COWI. He (occasionally) writes about (at [#SpatialNeeds](#)) and promotes (through the AGI, where he is a Council Member) the use of geographic information. He manages the #W3G conference series (www.w3gconf.com).

Claire Huppertz



Claire is the Events Manager at the Association for Geographic Information (AGI). She is responsible for the logistical management of the Events programme including the annual conference – AGI GeoCommunity – the main independent GI event in the UK and for third party events including the Public Sector Mapping Agreement one day events, INSPIRE one day events and the ISO/TC 211 workshops when they were held in the UK.

Mark Iliffe



Mark (@markiliffe) is a PhD student at the Nottingham Geospatial Institute and a geospatial consultant for Global ICT group of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, World Bank Group. He has surveyed and worked in developing nations across the world, and is also the chief architect of [Taarifa](#), an Open Source public services reporting platform.

Jeremy Morley (Deputy Conference Chair)



Jeremy (@jeremy_morley) is Theme Leader for Geospatial Science at the [Nottingham Geospatial Institute](#), the successor institute at the University of Nottingham for the Centre for Geospatial Science (CGS). He has worked in the academic GIS sector since the mid-90s. Jeremy has promoted and researched Open GIS standards (through the OGC TC since 2000), data (UK Location Programme User Group) and software (hosted the “EOGEO” workshops, predecessors to FOSS4G, in 2000 & 2004). He is chairing the AGI GeoCommunity conference in 2012 after chairing first in 2011.

Addy Pope



Addy (@go_geo) is a content officer at EDINA, where he promotes the use of geospatial technology in higher and further education in the UK through services such as GoGeo and Digimap. He has organised several events and run training courses for the education sector in the UK. He has over 10 years experience working as a GIS analyst in both the private and public sectors. Addy is a Chartered Geographer (CGeog) specialising in environmental science and has a PhD in glacial remote sensing.

Addy maintains the [GoGeo Blog](#) and can be found on Twitter as [@go_geo](#)

Barry Rowlingson



Barry (@geospacedman) is a Senior Research Associate in Spatial Epidemiology at Lancaster University. He is a user of – and contributor to – statistical and geospatial open source projects, with his name on several open-source packages for the R statistics system and plugins for Quantum GIS. He has experience on conference committees for the R Statistics Users conference, OSGIS UK, and most recently GISRUK 2012, the UK GIS Research conference. As part of his academic duties he also occasionally referees book chapters and papers for journals. He appears on twitter and IRC as @geospacedman.

Mike Saunt



Mike (@skeptcmike) is the owner of Astun Technology, sponsor of OSGeo and also an advocate of Open Source in the UK, regularly writing on why Open Source and Open Data are so important in the GeoConnexion:UK magazine. Having worked in the GI industry since the early 90s for companies such as MapInfo Corp he understands the commercial as well as technical aspects of promoting and supporting Open Source solutions, especially in the UK market.

Antony Scott



Antony (@antscott) is a GIS practitioner at Sustain Ltd, using open source GIS for domestic energy management and renewable energy feasibility, a subject which he presented on at four GIS conferences in the past year. He is active in OSGeo:UK, coordinating the development of case studies. As a volunteer for MapAction, a UK-based NGO providing emergency mapping in humanitarian disasters, he is currently working alongside UN agencies to develop the GIS and information management capacity of country-based Disaster Management and Mitigation agencies in Southern Africa, using open source tools.

Matt Walker



Matt (@_walkermatt) is a consultant and software engineer with over 10 years working within the industry. Formerly Technical Director at Dotted Eyes, he is currently working for Astun Technology implementing solutions based on open software. He is a day to day user of and contributor to open software, and has hosted workshops, presented and organised various industry events.

Local open source activity

There has been a thriving UK chapter of OSGeo in the UK since 2006 (the chapter was officially recognised in 2008), with a membership of around 150 people. The main focus for get-togethers is the annual OSGIS conference in Nottingham, which is attended by 100-150 people, but monthly IRC meetings are also well attended. The AGI has also been showcasing open source, through events held by its Special Interest and Regional Groups, as well as regular streams at the GeoCommunity conference. However, there is plenty of opportunity to further increase the profile of open source geospatial software in the UK, with burgeoning interest amongst the wider geospatial community. The UK Government has also reiterated its commitment to the use of open source software, and constrained budgets in the UK economy are fuelling interest in open source alternatives to proprietary offerings, so an event held at this time in the UK would capitalise on this increased interest.

Some specific examples of recent open source based initiatives underline the level of support for FOSS4G in the UK.

- The University of Nottingham is itself a growing contributor to Open Source Geospatial software, with the [OSM-GB project](#), which aims to measure and improve the quality of OpenStreetMap data in Britain, built partly on an open source stack. [Taarifa](#), another project from Nottingham, is an open source web application for information collection, visualisation and interactive mapping. It allows people to collect and share stories and issues in their community through SMS, web forms, email and Twitter. These reports can then be followed up and acted upon, engaging citizens and communities, and linking them with governments.
- Ordnance Survey (the UK national mapping agency), in partnership with the Horizon Digital Economy Research and the Nottingham Geospatial Institute at the University of Nottingham, have been running a series of free one-day Open Data Master Classes. These are aimed at a wide cross section of users (including individuals, local communities, grassroots organizations, NGOs, civil servants, and professionals) who can benefit from a greater understanding of the opportunities around open data and open source geospatial software, and they combine both theory and practical sessions. The fourth series of classes will be offered in late 2012 to early 2013 with a fifth series to coincide with FOSS4G 2013. These two upcoming series will, due to exceptional demand, have both technical and introductory streams. Each series reaches 150 to 200 people, most of whom are new to open source geospatial software, and will be an excellent opportunity to promote the FOSS4G event.

"The value of open source will continue to grow strongly in the UK"

**- Peter ter Haar,
Director of Products,
Ordnance Survey**

- Astun Technology is a commercial organisation started in April 2005. It recognised the value that Open technologies and data could bring to businesses and government in the UK. It has grown to a staff of around 10, with customers in local government, police and fire departments, and in commercial organisations. From a standing start, Astun can now boast around 10% of UK government as customers with many now moving their complete GI infrastructure to an Open Enterprise Platform. Astun have started to release Open Source tools and scripts, including a loader for Ordnance Survey data, which can be accessed at [GitHub](#).

Supporting Organisations

There is a phenomenal level of support for our bid from businesses and public sector bodies that use and contribute to open source geo. Within 4 weeks of seeking support we have received 29 letters of support from the following organisations across the UK and Europe (copies available in a separate appendix).

- [AGI](#)
- [Astun Technology](#)
- [Birmingham City Council](#)
- [Bluesky](#)
- [Cranfield University](#)
- [COWI](#)
- [Dotted Eyes](#)
- [EDINA](#)
- [eMapSite](#)
- [Eurogeographics](#)
- [Forth Valley GIS](#)
- [Geofutures](#)
- [GISRUK](#)
- [Google](#)
- [JDi Solutions](#)
- [London Borough of Hackney](#)
- [MapAction](#)
- [Maplecroft](#)
- [Newgrove](#)
- [Nokia](#)
- [Nottingham Trent University](#)
- [Ordnance Survey](#)
- [School of Engineering, University of Newcastle](#)
- [Sirius IT](#)
- [Surrey Heath Borough Council](#)
- [Sustain](#)
- [University College London](#)
- [University of Reading](#)
- [University of Nottingham](#)

We have also created [a pledge page](#) on our bid blog where several individuals have already pledged their support and offered to help out during the event.

Relations with OSGeo Board

Jo Cook is a Director of OSGeo (elected 2011), she will act as our liaison with the Board. Many of our committee are also signed up to the Conference and Board lists, so this should provide a solid foundation for good communication with the board. Suchith Anand is a Charter Member of the OSGeo Foundation.

Marketing

Rest assured that the conference committee is not simply relying on the FOSS community to turn-up! For many, attendance is a significant financial undertaking which has to be justified. Therefore a considered and active campaign to reach out to our target audiences is required to ensure that the right messages reach the right people. The committee has extensive experience of using social media tools (Twitter, LinkedIn, Facebook, [Lanyrd](#), Google+ and so on) to amplify an event's occurrence with great success, #W3G being a good example. We will also use more traditionally-focused channels, giving us the flexibility to refine content for different users.

For this event we have taken the step of including a marketing budget to give us the scope and resources to refine our materials and enhance our ability to broadcast them. Specifically this will enable FOSS4G4UK to be represented at and engage with key FOSS4G events globally and regionally. However the budget is not extensive and we will make extensive use of (free) social media tools, and the unique nuances that they provide. For example, an important aspect of using such channels is the ability to engage in conversation with the community and respond to feedback directly.

Marketing does not stop with the start of FOSS4G. We want to develop a strong back-channel during the event itself. Nothing creates the desire to attend an event better than missing a popular one. Our experience of organising other events has shown that by broadcasting the content (either in part or in full), in conjunction with an active Twitter stream, a perception of a strong and vibrant event is formed that has a positive impact on attendance the following year.

Budget

Commentary

Members of the LOC have a great deal of experience in the management and delivery of geo-conferences of this size and scope in the UK. Our objective is to assure that funding is appropriate to support a highly successful FOSS4G conference in the UK in 2013, and to deliver a profitable return to OSGeo to help sustain its important ongoing work.

Subject to exchange rates, total sponsorship income, and additional clarity on some costs closer to the event, we hope to achieve a contribution to OSGeo of approximately \$30,000. However should we find during the run up to conference that a larger surplus is likely, we will aim to share these additional financial benefits with OSGeo, the OSGeo UK Chapter, and/or by giving FOSS4G delegates additional value at the conference.

We have prepared our preliminary bidding budget based upon the following information and assumptions:

- Three scenarios, each incorporating income, expenditure and surplus, assuming 650 delegates, 750 delegates and 900 delegates respectively. These figures combine a number of delegates buying full conference packages and some purchasing day passes which exclude evening entertainment.
- Costs given are based upon those quoted by the conference venue, as well as drawn from operational experience.
- The budget is given in local currency (£ GBP) as well as US Dollars for convenience. The exchange rate of £1 = \$1.57 was accurate at the time of writing.
- The assumed sponsorship level is deliberately moderate both in terms of previous income from FOSS4G sponsors and the LOC experience with recent UK-based geo-conferences.
- The conference delegate fee has been set at \$495 excluding sales tax (and based on current FX rates). This fee will include access to the conference, the gala dinner and the closing party. *Including sales tax would still keep the consumer price no more than \$600 at current FX and taxation rates.*
- The day delegate fee is set at \$165 excluding sales tax (and based on current FX rates). *Including sales tax would still keep the consumer price around \$200 at current FX and taxation rates.*
- The workshop fee is set at \$82 excluding sales tax (and based on current FX rates). *Including sales tax would still keep the price around \$100 at current FX and taxation rates.*
- The conference will be insured. This is standard practice with other geo-conferences the bidding committee has been involved in.
- A small AGI event management fee of 5% of expenditure is included to assist in part covering costs of the following:
 - Playing an active and coordinating role in the promotion of the conference.
 - Managing all conference delegate bookings.
 - Coordinating with the conference venue throughout the run-up to, the conference period and the conference aftermath.
 - Managing and coordinating the logistics of the conference programme and related social events.
 - Managing and coordinating the production of conference materials such as dedicated banners, signage, flyers and hand-outs.
 - Performing financial services; project financial management, all invoicing and bank reconciliation on behalf of the bidding team.
 - Providing AGI meeting space and refreshments when required for Bidding Team meetings.

- A modest contingency fund is built into each scenario for added flexibility.
- In all three cases a financial surplus is projected. Note that the predicted break-even level for the conference is approximately 600 delegates at current prices.
- All prices are for “early bird” rates. Rates will be advertised with a premium of 10-15% and an early booking discount which will reduce the cost to these rates. Some additional income will be generated by late bookers.
- All prices exclude Value Added Tax (sales tax).

Attendance

Three scenarios are presented with 650, 750 and 900 delegates attending. Denver attracted 900 delegates and we would hope to match or better this level. In the event that Beijing is a regional event with limited attendance from Europe and North America, we should expect a positive impact on attendance next year.

Pricing

The budget that we have prepared illustrates the revenues and surpluses that FOSS4G can generate at different levels of attendance if we choose to incorporate the costs of the Gala evening and the closing party within the ticket price of \$600 including sales tax.

We would expect to have a dialogue with all of the interested stakeholders to determine whether the closing party should be incorporated in the delegate fee or charged as an additional item as for the icebreaker or indeed whether a slightly higher ticket price and surplus should be targeted.

Sponsorship

The conference chair and several of the team have serial experience of recruiting sponsors for geo-related events over the last seven years; between us we have raised well in excess of \$1m. Our budget assumes a sponsorship target of between \$70,000 and \$100,000 which we are confident of reaching or exceeding, based on the committee’s six years of experience of running GeoCommunity. We already have several promises of sponsorship from organisations that have written letters of support, and a firm commitment for our first academic bursaries.

While sponsorship is an opportunity for organisations to support the FOSS4G community by making the annual gathering affordable for delegates, it also needs to be a commercially viable proposition for businesses who support us. We will host the exhibition space around one of the main food and drink service points to ensure a good flow of delegates to the sponsors, and we will also offer regular reminders to the delegates to recognise the support of our sponsors by visiting them.

We will offer a range of sponsorship packages and opportunities to meet the needs of the largest organisations and the smallest. These will include exhibition spaces, sponsorship of social events, sponsorship of the #GeoCamp, bag inserts, and we will provide poster space for not-for-profits at little or no cost.

“Having FOSS4G in the UK will allow me to showcase to my clients the viability of these products as solutions to their problems. It will remove the fear factor.”

- Rollo Home (LOC)

Based on past experience we will not offer a main platform speaking slot in return for sponsorship, although that does not exclude a sponsor from being invited to speak if selected by the team on merit.

Summary

	650				750		900	
	Price inc Sales Tax	Price Exc Sales Tax	Qty	Total Income	Qty	Total Income	Qty	Total Income
Income								
Delegate Fee Full package	\$599	\$499	560	\$279,431	630	\$314,360	750	\$374,238
Delegate Fee per day	\$199	\$166	90	\$14,922	120	\$19,897	150	\$24,871
Sponsorship				\$72,123		\$84,667		\$97,210
Wed Icebreaker Reception & Dinner	\$69	\$57	325	\$18,599	350	\$20,030	500	\$28,614
Educational Sponsorship				\$5,880		\$5,880		\$5,880
Workshops	\$99	\$82	225	\$18,503	300	\$24,671	400	\$32,895
Total income				\$409,459		\$469,504		\$563,707
Expenditure								
Wed Icebreaker Dinner			300	\$14,895	350	\$17,247	450	\$22,343
Day Delegate Rate Thursday - Saturday			590	\$166,095	670	\$188,616	800	\$225,213
Bursaries			20	\$5,630	25	\$7,038	30	\$8,445
Hire EMCC, AV plus other rooms				\$27,438		\$29,790		\$36,062
#GeoCamp Infrastructure				\$58,012		\$58,012		\$58,012
Thu Gala Dinner			590	\$32,456	670	\$36,218	800	\$42,333
Sat Closing Party			300	\$4,704	350	\$5,488	450	\$7,056
Finance & insurance				\$11,477		\$13,719		\$15,961
Origination, Printing & Signage				\$12,543		\$15,679		\$15,679
Travel & Subsistence (Conference Team)				\$6,272		\$6,272		\$6,272
Marketing				\$12,543		\$12,543		\$12,543
Contingency				\$15,679		\$21,951		\$26,654
Sub total				\$367,744		\$412,573		\$476,573
AGI Event Management Costs (5%)				\$18,387		\$20,629		\$23,829
Total Expenditure				\$386,131		\$433,202		\$500,402
Surplus				\$23,328		\$36,302		\$63,305

A detailed budget spreadsheet is provided in a separate appendix.

Relationship with the AGI

The Association for Geographic Information (AGI) is a neutral membership association for the promotion and representation of the geographic information community in the UK. They have a great depth of experience in running and managing GI-related events, including their annual GeoCommunity conference for 500-625 delegates. They also manage financial accounts using accountancy qualified staff for a number of small and not-for-profit bodies and activities with a geographical interest.

"The linkage with the annual AGI conference also makes this event as a 'must-go' next year"

**- Mark Thurstain-Goodwin,
Managing Director,
Geofutures**

A great advantage to us is that through the pairing with the GeoCommunity conference, the AGI are able to offer us event management and financial management support. Some cost for staff time has been budgeted (see Budget section) but the AGI are offering their support at substantially less than cost price.

We will co- and cross-promote FOSS4G with AGI's GeoCommunity event but throughout the organisation of FOSS4G the UK LOC will be in sole control of the programming and other strategic decisions regarding our event.

Complementary events

The following events have been identified that cover topics of potential interest to our audience in the months either side of our proposed date. Many events are yet to publish their schedule for 2013, so location and timing is based on past events.

UK events:

- RSPSoc 2013 (2012 in UK) early September tbc

European events:

- Intergeo TBC 1st week of October
- European LiDAR Mapping Forum tbc December?
- IFHP World Congress (2012 in Sweden) mid September
- 13th international scientific and technical conference (2012 in Portugal) late September
- 26th International Cartographic Conference, Germany, 25-30 August

North American events:

- FOSS4G-NA 2013 (Spring 2013)

Global events

- 6th GeoSpatial Defence & Intelligence APAC (2012 Thailand) early Sept. tbc
- 3rd World Smart Grid Conference (2012 in India) early Sept. tbc
- State of the Map: Bidding starts in September 2012 for 2013. Once a decision has been taken regarding the location of FOSS4G 2013 we will reach out to the OSM community to explore potential synergies building on the success of the collaboration of the events in Denver.