

Incubation Committee Annual Report

About the Committee

The OSGeo Incubation Committee runs the OSGeo “Incubator”. The committee works with communities that have grown around open source geospatial software projects to prepare the projects for acceptance as official OSGeo projects. The committee's work includes setting criteria for projects that want to enter incubation, reviewing applications for incubation, appointing incubation mentors for accepted projects, reviewing project progress during incubation, and recommending projects for graduation from incubation. The OSGeo Incubation Committee also administers OSGeo Incubation Labs, which prepares open source projects for incubation through help with community building.

Key Accomplishments

GEOS graduated from the OSGeo incubator as an official OSGeo Project with Sandro Santilli as the project officer. PostGIS graduated from the

OSGeo incubator as an official OSGeo Project with Paul Ramsey as the project officer.

The CITE Team engine entered incubation with Justin Deolivera as a mentor. The Zoo-Project entered incubation with Frank Warmerdam as a mentor. Opticks entered incubation with Mark Lucas as mentor. Marble Virtual Globe entered incubation with Arnulf Christl as a mentor. Landon Blake was appointed as the mentor for GeoServer, which was already in incubation.

The committee also updated the Project Graduation Checklist and the Incubation FAQ. The committee also made the transition from IRC meetings to e-mail for day-to-day activities.

Areas for Improvement

The committee's ability to accept new projects into the Incubator is limited by the available pool of mentors. Some projects are spending years in incubation with no visible progress. Several excellent projects are waiting to become official OSGeo projects as a result of these bottlenecks.

Opportunities to Help

There is an excellent opportunity to volunteer as a mentor for the Incubation Committee. The Incubation Committee is an amazing front-line opportunity to assist new open source projects. It is a great supportive use of your volunteer time, with a relaxed schedule and easy email communication. As a mentor you get to try out new geospatial technologies before they are cool, make new friends, learn new projects, and help open source and open development take on the world. You are the friendly face of OSGeo to many software communities getting their first introduction to the OSGeo as an organization.