



Annual Report for 2012

OSGeo Journal Volume 12 -June 2014



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Editorial

By Landon Blake

What's In This Issue

Inside this volume of the Journal you'll find 2012 Annual Report items from eight of our software projects, up from four software projects last year. We have twelve chapters that submitted annual report items for this volume. We also have reports from two of our committees (incubation and summer-of-code).

Regular Features

We've continued a regular feature from Volume 9 of the Journal in this volume. That regular feature is an interview with an OSGeo member. Last time we interviewed Anita Graser. This time we interview Sylvain Lesage (an OSGeo member from Bolivia).

What's Coming Up Next

I'd like to move to a bi-monthly or quarterly journal featuring updates from chapters, software projects and committees that cover a shorter period. This will make the journal workload easier to handle and will hopefully allow us to publish more regularly.

If you have an article on a technology related topic that you want to contribute to the next issue, please let me know. You can send a



message to the OSGeo Journal mailing list, or contact me personally. My current contact information is always listed in the footer or the home page at www.redefinedhorizons.com.

Thanks

I want to extend my thanks, first and foremost, to all the people who took the time to submit annual report items for this volume. I know that you are all busy, and many of you would rather be writing code than writing report items.

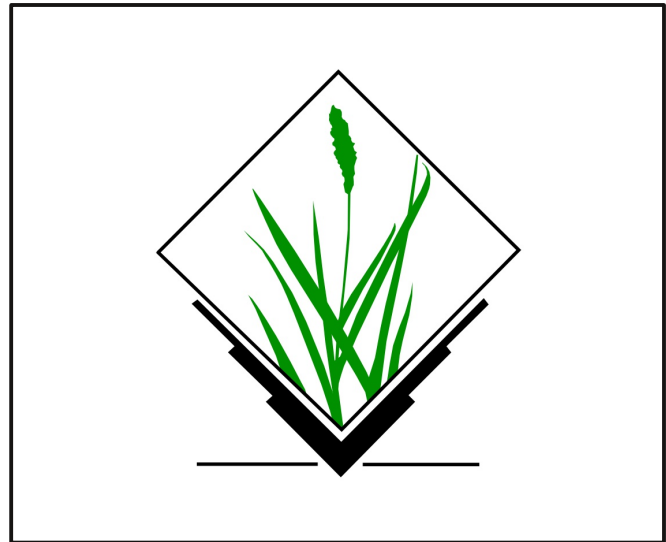
GRASS Software Project Report

About GRASS

GRASS GIS, commonly referred to as GRASS (Geographic Resources Analysis Support System), is a free Geographic Information System (GIS) software used for geospatial data management and analysis, image processing, graphics/maps production, spatial modeling, and visualization. GRASS GIS is currently used in academic and commercial settings around the world, as well as by many governmental agencies and environmental consulting companies. GRASS GIS is an official project of the Open Source Geospatial Foundation (OSGeo).

Key Accomplishments

The GRASS Software Project had a number of accomplishments in 2012. The GRASS web site was updated and modernized. There were three (3) successful Google Summer of Code Projects. These included a project by Pietro Zambelli to add a high level Python map interaction, a project by Eric Momsen to add image segmentation capabilities, and a project



by Stepan Turek to create a WxGui front end for the vector analysis modules in GRASS.

The software project also made three releases. This included GRASS GIS 6.4.2, GRASS GIS 6.4.3RC2, and WinGRASS 6.4.3RC2 (with a MacOSX installer and a Linux package also released).

Events

February 2012: The GRASS and FOSS4G-IT user meeting was held in Italy.

May 21 to 23, 2012: The GRASS GIS Community Spring 2012 was held in Prague, Czech Republic.

May 21 to 22, 2012: GRASS GIS

presentation made at FOSS4G-CEE in Prague, Czech Republic.

December 3 to 7, 2012: GRASS GIS presentation made at the Fall Meeting of the American Geophysical Union.

Education and Research

OSGeo research and education labs with GRASS GIS application and development among their activities were launched at North Carolina State University in Raleigh, North Carolina, USA and the Czech Technical University in Prague, Czech Republic. GRASS GIS was used in university courses at North Carolina State University (USA), Arizona State University (USA), University of Basilicata (Italy), and Universite Libre de Bruxelles, (Belgium).

Several papers that included GRASS GIS were public in scientific journals and conference proceedings in 2012.

GRASS was also used for GIS training by the National Center for Atmospheric Research (USA).

Areas for Improvement

The software project would like to develop a migration guide for public agencies. It would also like to improve the current sponsorship program.

Opportunities to Help

The software project is always looking for developers, power users, translators, and documentation editors that can support the improvement of GRASS GIS. The software project is also looking for help to update marketing materials for GRASS GIS in various languages.

Outlook for 2013

In 2013 the software project hopes to release GRASS 6.4.3 and to continue improvements on GRASS 7.0. It also wants to participate again in the Google Summer of Code program and present talks at FOSS4G and other conferences. Look for more GRASS GIS Community Sprints organized by the software project.

gvSIG Software Project Report

About gvSIG

gvSIG is a desktop GIS program written in the Java programming language that runs on Linux, Microsoft Windows and Mac operating systems. The program is released under the GPL. gvSIG supports basic analysis and management of common geospatial data formats.

Key Accomplishments

The gvSIG Software Project had 3 major releases in 2012:

- 1) In May 2012 gvSIG Desktop Version 1.0 (Release Candidate 2) for Secondary Schools was released.
- 2) In August 2012 gvSIG Desktop Version 1.0 (Release Candidate 3) for Secondary Schools was released.
- 3) In September 2012 gvSIG Desktop Version 1.12 was released.

Events

The software project hosted or participated in several events in 2012:



May 2012: Russian 2012 gvSIG Conference

June 2012: Chile 2012 gvSIG Conference

September 2012: Argentina 2012 gvSIG Conference

September 2012: Uruguay 2012 gvSIG Conference

October 2012: Brazil 2012 gvSIG Conference

November 2012: Spain 2012 gvSIG Conference

Education and Research

Several papers that include gvSIG were

published in scientific journals and conference proceedings in 2012.

Opportunities to Help

There are many ways to participate in the gvSIG Software Project. These include participation on the mailing lists, translating the gvSIG user interface, translating user and developer documentation, writing articles and use cases, testing the program and developing new addons.

Outlook for 2013

In 2013 the software project hopes to release gvSIG Desktop 2.0 and to host more events around the world.

MapServer Software Project Report

About MapServer

MapServer is an Open Source platform for publishing spatial data and interactive mapping applications to the web. Originally developed in the mid-1990's at the University of Minnesota, MapServer is released under an MIT-style license, and runs on all major platforms (Windows, Linux, Mac OS X).

Key Accomplishments

MapServer Version 6.2 was released on November 14, 2012. This was a major release that included several new features. These features included mask layers, precise symbol placement, label leader offsetting, SVG symbology and multiple font support.

There were also several minor releases of MapServer during 2012. This included the release of Version 6.0.2 on February 8, 2012 and Version 6.0.3 on May 18, 2012.

The MapServer Software Project participated in the Seattle/IslandWood



Code Spring in February 2012.

The project also made a migration of their source code repository and ticket management from SVN and Trac to GitHub.

Areas for Improvement

It remains a challenge for the project to keep documentation up-to-date and to continue to attract additional programmers to the project. There is a backlog of 550 or more open bugs that need to be addressed and triaged more effectively. The software project would also like to attract more students for Google Summer of Code.

Opportunities to Help

The MapServer Software Project could use help with maintenance of the project website, project documentation, and translation efforts. New programmers are always welcome, and a great place to start work is the bug reports. Experienced users can contribute to the release process by testing the release candidates and reporting their results.

Outlook for 2013

MapServer will participate in the Boston Code Sprint in March, 2013. Mapserver 6.4 will also be released in 2013. A list of planned enhancements to MapServer 6.4 is available.

QGIS Software Project Report

About QGIS

QGIS is a user friendly Open Source Geographic Information System (GIS) licensed under the GNU General Public License. QGIS is an official project of the Open Source Geospatial Foundation (OSGeo). It runs on Linux, Unix, Mac OSX, Windows and Android and supports numerous vector, raster, and database formats and functionalities.

Key Accomplishments

The QGIS Software Project released QGIS 1.8.0 “Lisboa” on June 21, 2012. It hosted three summer of code projects. The first project was for symbology usability improvements in QGIS. The second project was an Orfeo Toolbox backend for the Sextante framework in QGIS, and the third was a project for QGIS on mobile devices.

The software project also introduced a testing framework and acquired their first gold sponsor, Asia Air Survey.



Events

April 2012: A QGIS Developer Meeting was held in Lyon.

June 2012: A QGIS User Meeting was held in Bern.

September 2012: A QGIS User Meeting was held in Kassel.

October 2012: A QGIS Developer Meeting was held in Essen and a QGIS User Meeting was held in Lisboa.

Areas for Improvement

The software project would like to clean up the main API for the QGIS 2.0 Release. It would also like to make some user interface improvements, including consolidation of GUI elements.

Opportunities to Help

The QGIS project welcomes developers, UI designers, software testers, and users who provide help, support, translations and similar assistance.

Outlook for 2013

In 2013 the software project hopes to release QGIS 2.0. It also wants to participate again in the Google Summer of Code program and to host additional developer and user meetings.

Australia/New Zealand Chapter Annual Report

About the Chapter

We need this content.

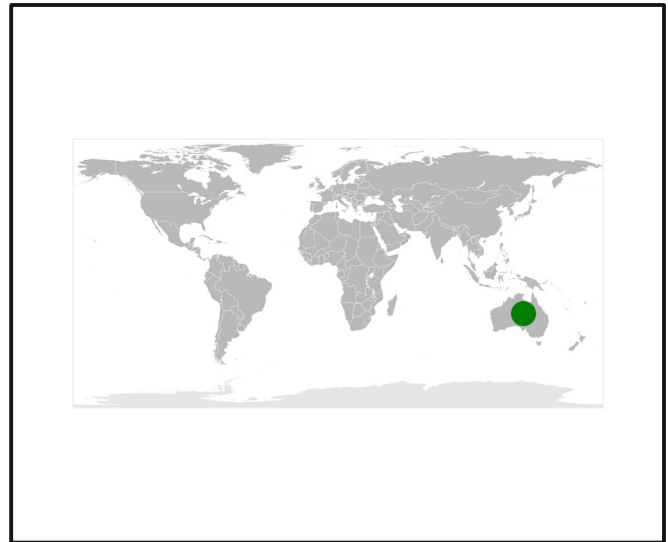
Events

The chapter held FOSS4G-AU 2012, an “unconference” for the region. The event was a great success and people from all over Australia attended. The first day featured a number of talks, while the second day was devoted to a code sprint.

There were several meetups held in the Brisbane area with representation from both the QGIS and uDig communities.

Member Activities

Chapter members have been active with the Melbourne Open GIS Meetup Group and have presented topics on OSGeo Software.



Areas for Improvement

The chapter would like to do more promotion at area conferences. It would also like to do more promotion of open source geospatial software at non-OSGeo events in the area. The chapter would also like to identify Australian examples of the application of open source GIS as case studies.

California Chapter Report

About the Chapter

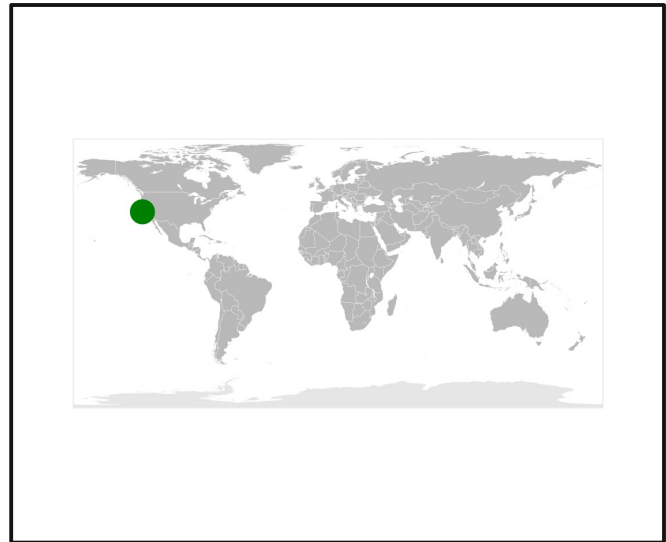
The California Chapter maintains an OSGeo presence at geospatial events in California and around the West Coast of the United States. It also organizes at least one annual meeting.

Events

October 13, 2012: The 2012 Annual Meeting of the California OSGeo Chapter was held in San Jose, California. The event featured talks by four chapter members. Frank Warmerdam presented a talk on OSGeo activities around the globe. Alex Mandel discussed “compareamap.org”. Ragi Burhum presented a talk on Node.JS and “real time geo”. Landon Blake gave a talk on managing network topology for sanitary sewer networks in OpenJUMP. At the end of the meeting Brian Hamlin coordinated a session to plan future chapter activities.

Member Activities

Landon Blake presented the talk



entitled “GIS Basics for Land Surveyors With OpenJUMP” at the California State University at Fresno Geomatics Conference. He also presented the talk “The Demise of NGS Control – What It Means for Your GIS” at the University of California Berkeley GIS Day.

Landon also organized a spring and fall meeting of the California Central Valley Geospatial Professionals Group. At the Spring Meeting guest Speaker Bruce Joffe discussed the California Public Records Act and how it related to public GIS data. Landon Blake discussed copyright and licensing issues related to GIS data. At the Fall Meeting Landon Blake discussed the use of OpenJUMP to build geographic information systems for sanitary sewer networks.

During 2012 Landon helped publish two volumes of the OSGeo Journal and also

began work on the OSGeo Incubation Labs.

Outlook for 2013

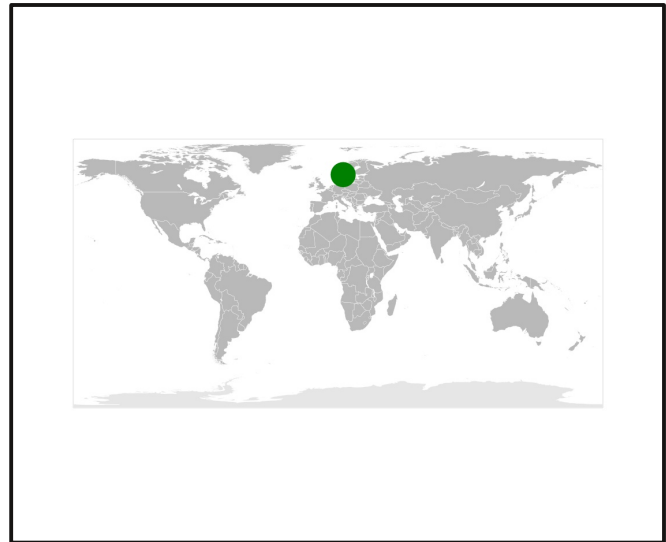
The chapter plans a code sprint for January 2013. It looks forward to hosting another annual meeting of the chapter in the Fall of 2013.

Dutch Chapter Annual Report

About the Chapter

The OSGeo Dutch Language Chapter maintains an OSGeo presence within Dutch-speaking countries/areas. Currently it is active within The Netherlands and the Dutch-speaking part of Belgium (Flandres), but has contacts within the Dutch Antilles as well. It organizes at least one annual meeting, the OSGeo.nl Day (see below), plus several other localized events. The Chapter also maintains close ties with the Dutch OpenStreetMap community, organizing joint events such as the annual New Year Party and OSM-tracks on the OSGeo.nl Day. Official OSGeo Local Chapter status was acquired in April 2012. OSGeo.nl (with .nl being the ISO-code for Dutch Language) as the Chapter is known locally, operates from a legal foundation, the OSGeo.nl Foundation, whose mission is to promote the adoption and use of Open Geo-ICT in general.

Key Accomplishments



The Dutch Language Chapter became an official OSGeo Chapter in 2012. The chapter formed a legal foundation and is preparing to elect a governing board. This process should be completed in 2013. The chapter now has a web site and a wiki. There is also a flickr feed for Chapter photos.

The chapter has been working on Dutch translations for GeoServer and QGIS plug-ins. They've also made contributions to OpenLayers.

The chapter has participated in a number of projects, including the Dutch National SDI (which was built on OSGeo software), NLEExtract, and a GeoExt based web mapping client.

The chapter also made several presentations at local events.

Events

January 1, 2012: The chapter hosted an New Year's Party with the OpenStreetMap NL community. About 50 people attended.

April 25, 2012: The chapter organized the Open Source Seminar at the Geospatial World Forum in Amsterdam. The keynote speaker was Arnulf Christl.

June 30, 2012: The chapter hosted the first annual OSGeo Dutch Language conference. The keynote speaker was Just van den Broecke. The event was very successful with over 160 participants.

Areas for Improvement

The chapter would like to motivate participation from more of its members.

Opportunities to Help

The chapter is always looking for financial support. It can also use practical help with organizing chapter events and managing the chapter web site.

Outlook for 2013

The chapter hopes to become a legal entity in 2013, which will allow it to attract sponsors and organize more events. The chapter would like to begin more outreach in Dutch language countries like Belgium and Antilles. The chapter would also like to organize more small city events.

Francophone Chapter Report

About the Chapter

OSGeo-fr is the legal association used to represent OSGeo in the French speaking world. We are running a low capital association like the OSGeo itself. Our goal is to organize code sprints, events and meetings. We are also working to provide French translation of documentation for all OSGeo Software Projects.

Key Accomplishments

The Francophone Chapter continued its translation work on documentation for QGIS, MapServer, and GDAL-OGR. The chapter is also trying to share all French language blogs on open source geospatial topics in a single web site. The legal association for the chapter now has an official headquarter in Paris and board members who are registered at the national level.

Events

April 2012: The chapter organized a

QGIS HackFest at Lyon, France. The HackFest was sponsored by 3Lix, Camptocamp, Oslandia, and Services Geographiques. More than 30 people attended and worked on various projects.

Areas for Improvement

The chapter would like to motivate participation from more of its members. It would especially like to encourage more chapter members to work on the translation of software documentation and marketing material. The chapter would also like to improve its marketing processes.

Opportunities to Help

The chapter is looking for help with organizing chapter events, especially in French speaking countries.

Outlook for 2013

The chapter is organizing the first Francophone Chapter Conference and Code Sprint. The chapter will give workshops at the Recontres SIG La letter, a GIS conference in France. The chapter work on translating QGIS,

MapServer, and GDAL-OGR
documentation into French will continue
in 2013.

Italian Chapter Report

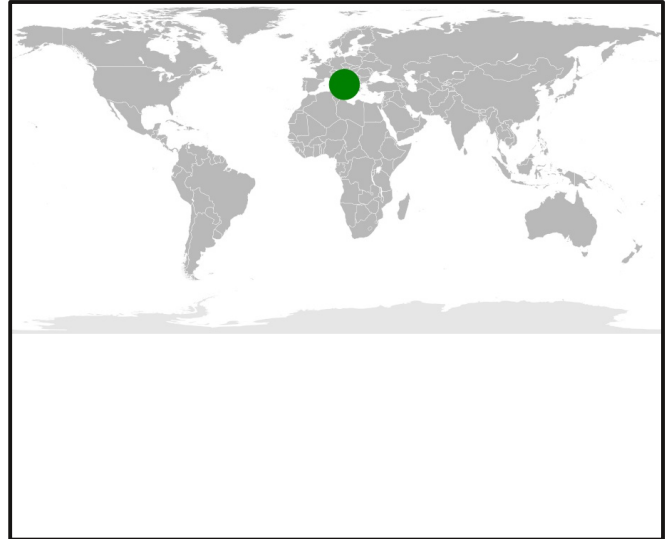
About the Chapter

The Italian geospatial open source community is represented by the association GFOSS.it and the OSGeo Italian Chapter. The chapter was founded in 2007 and now has 112 regular members, 11 OSGeo Charter Members, and 1 OSGeo Board Member. GFOSS.it is carrying out activities related to both open data and open source geospatial software. It does this, in part, by supporting the release of geodata from public administrations under a suitable open license.

Events

February 15 to 17, 2012: Participated in XIII Meeting di GRASS e GFOSS. The annual meeting was held for the second time in Trieste after ten years. The event is not exclusively addressed to GRASS users, but to everyone using open source geospatial software and public geodata. The 2012 Annual GFOSS.it Assembly was held jointly with this event.

June 21 to 23, 2012: Participated in the



VI Conferenza sul Software Libero (CONFSL 2012). CONFSL 2012 is an annual Italian meeting about free and open source software. It was held in Ancona.

July 6, 2012: Supported and participated in the Smart Cities event in Bologna: Diritti digitali e dati aperti: le basi per Città e Comunità smart. The event has been organized by the association "Stati Generali dell'Innovazione" (SGI) in conjunction with Regione Emilia-Romagna.

November 14 to 16, 2012: Organized GFOSS DAY 2012 - OSMit 2012. The event was held in Turin. The Association decided to organize a second General Assembly of the Associates to promote the exchange of ideas and socialization, as well as to hear from the associates their opinions in regards to the ongoing

activities. Furthermore, for the first time the GFOSS day was organized as a coupled event with the annual Open Street Map Italian conference (OSMit), which encouraged stronger cooperation between OSM and GFOSS communities. After the conference, an OSM Mapping Party took place.

Member Activities

Sandro Furieri, President of GFOSS.it, has become a member of Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC).

Luca Delucchi coordinated an effort by chapter members to contributed to the Italian translation of the OSGeo-Live documentation (77.8 percentage reached).

Maurizio Napolitano has worked in preparation for the next Open Data day in Italy and reported to the community on the concepts of linked-open-geospatial-data.

Anne Ghisla has been elected as OSGeo Board member in August 2012.

Among the participants of OSGeo Google Summer of Code, 3 of the 22 students, 2 mentors and the mentor administrator were from Italy.

Project Support

The Chapter donated 250 euro to support the pledge raised by Sandro Santilli for the implementation of a Geometry to TopoGeometry importer in PostGIS-2.0.

The Chapter donated 250 euro to the community funding to help take OpenLayers to version 3.0.

Opportunities to Help

The chapter manages translation efforts on various FOSS software packages and suites, including OSGeo-Live DVD, and is a hub for packagers for various Linux distributions. Volunteers are always welcome to help the chapter with these efforts! The GFOSS.it wiki is open to all FOSS contributors and collects information about Italian geospatial data, as well as tips for software installation and configuration.

Outlook for 2013

The chapter is planning and preparing for several events and activities in 2013. These include:

Participation to XIV Meeting degli Utenti Italiani di GRASS e GFOSS in Genova.

Co-organization of GRASS Community Sprint 2013 in Genova, Italy.

Organization of GFOSS Day 2013.

Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Fondazione Edmund Mach (FEM) on the creation of a web portal that will facilitate the search, visualization and download of open geodata. This project will mainly serve mainly the Italian Territory, and will be made only using free and open source software.

Korean Chapter Report

About the Chapter

The OSGeo Korean Language Chapter was formed as an unofficial chapter in Feb 2008 and became an official OSGeo Local Chapter in March 2009. The OSGeo Korean Language Chapter has 249 members.

Key Accomplishments

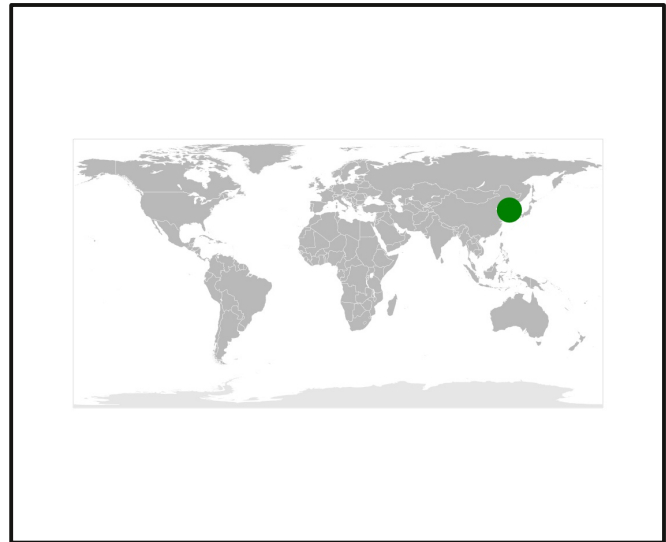
Kyungtae Doh, one of Korean chapter member, started to develop a Node.js based map server.

Minpa Lee, one of Korean chapter member, released uDig plugin called GXT that greatly increased the analysis functions in uDig.

<http://www.onspatial.com/2013/01/gxt-toolbox-for-udig.html>

The Korean chapter was also fully or partially involved in several open source related projects:

KOPSS(Korea Planning Support System) Open API Project funded by KRIHS(Korean Research Institute of



Human Settlement).

"Open source software vs Private software: Understanding and Strategic Approach" funded by KRIHS(Korean Research Institute of Human Settlement).

"Research on Open Source Based GeoSpatial Technology Development Strategy" funded by KRIHS(Korean Research Institute of Human Settlement).

Online open source GIS education program project funded by NECGIS(National Education Center for GIS).

Outreach Activities Korean chapter conducted several outreach activities including lecture, seminar and exchange programs:

Outreach Lectures at LH Corp, KRIHS, KCSC(Korea Cadastral Survey Corp), GeoSpatial Asia Forum, MND(Ministry of National Defense), Gyungbook National University and others.

Exchange Program: Dispatched 2 delegates to Osaka, Japan to give keynote speech at FOSS4G 2012 Osaka.

Events

October 12, 2012: The second annual OSGeo Korean Language Chapter conference “FOSS4G Korea 2012” was held at COEX, in Seoul, South Korea. The keynote speakers were Paolo Cavallini, Taeyul Kim, and Kosuke Asahi. The event was highly successful with around 100 participants. The 3 keynote speeches and 8 presentations were followed by a Soju Party near Samsung Station!!

February 2012: Twice in February the 'Open Source GIS Winter School' was held in cooperation with KSIS(Korean Spatial Information Society). Although it was a paid training program, it attracted many more people than the chapter expected.

August 2012: The 'Open Source GIS Education Program' was funded by MLTM (Ministry of Land, Transportation and Maritime Affairs). It was 5 full days of training covering general open source GIS, QGIS, PostGIS, GeoServer and OpenLayers.

February and August, 2012 : Regular chapter meetings were held in Seoul. These meetings were followed by Open Source GIS schools held in Ewha Womans University. This was supported by Ministry of Land, Transport and Marine Affairs. Our members shared knowledge and experiences around open source GIS at the regular meetings. Chapter members also discussed the future activities of OSGeo Korean Language Chapter.

Project Support

The Chapter carried out several localization and translation efforts. These included translating the QGIS menus, messages and manual into Korean. You can download a PDF version of QGIS Korean manual here: <http://www.qgis.org/en/documentation/manuals.html>.

A hardcopy of QGIS Korean manual was also published.

The Chapter started to translate PostGIS, GeoServer and OpenLayers materials into Korean.

Opportunities to Help

The Chapter is looking for speakers for FOSS4G Korea 2013. Please contact them if you are interested. The Chapter also wants to host more open source GIS related events in Korea or in the Asia region.

Outlook for 2013

The Chapter may see a very prosperous year in 2013. As awareness of open source GIS has increased rapidly in Korea, many organizations became aware of the importance of open source GIS software and desire to cooperate with the Chapter.

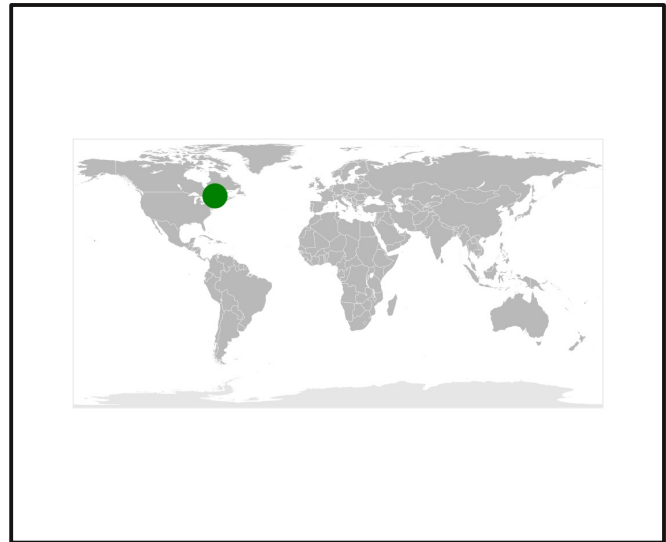
The Chapter will explore the possibility of hosting FOSS4G 2015 in Korea with other GIS related society like KSIS(Korean Spatial Information Society).

Ottawa Chapter Report

About the Ottawa Chapter

The Ottawa MapServer Users Group (OMSUG) began meeting during the winter of 2003. With a strong local user base in Ottawa, representing many diverse users and developers, these meetings provided a unique opportunity for members to meet and discuss how MapServer is being leveraged in Ottawa and the ways we could work together to grow its use in the region. OGUG formed in June of 2005 as a network of GIS practitioners interested in incorporating or replacing their proprietary GIS workflow with open source GIS solutions. OGUG aimed to be a central body of knowledge and expertise for the GRASS GIS Community in the Ottawa area.

The Ottawa Chapter of OSGeo was formed by the combination of those original two groups, but also includes active local users and developers of the following OSGeo projects: GDAL/OGR, GRASS, Mapbuilder, MapGuide, and MapServer.



Key Accomplishments

During 2012 the Ottawa Chapter met every month or two based on the availability of members. The chapter tried to plan meetings several months in advance to encourage more presentations from non-member speakers with varying success.

Areas for Improvement

The Ottawa chapter would like to increase the number of talks made to members. It is also considering outreach to other groups like Open Data Ottawa. The chapter would like to increase its visibility to non-members and to encourage more participation by chapter members.

Outlook for 2013

In 2013 the chapter will have a new co-chair, Fabien Ancelin. It also plans on getting involved in GIS day activities at local schools again in 2013.

PDX-OSGeo

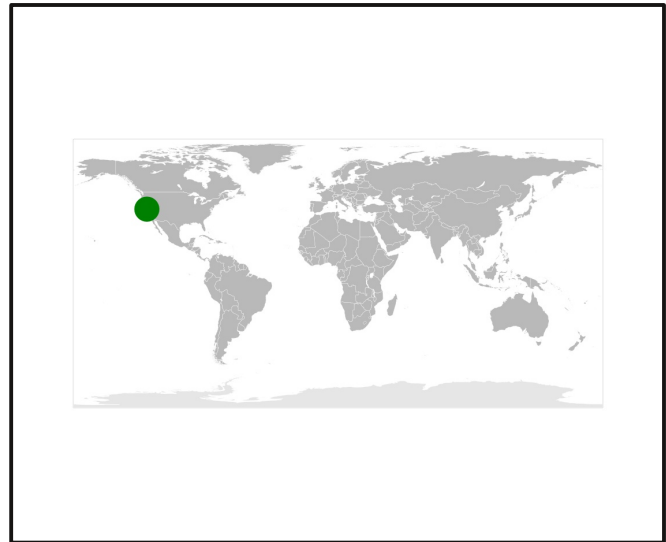
Chapter Report

About the Chapter

PDX-OSGeo is a Local Chapter of OSGeo. PDX-OSGeo has a catchment area equal to the PDX Airport; Oregon and Southwest Washington. Monthly meetings are held in Portland.

PDX-OSGeo has been around and meeting in one form or another since before February 2009 under various names. Since September 2010, we have been recognized as an Oregon-URISA Special Interest Group (SIG). Since 2010, we have coordinated an open source unconference with ORURISA and the GIS In Action Conference. There are also deep roots with our sister OSGeo Local Chapter, CUGOS. In August, 2012, we became an official OSGeo local chapter.

The PDX-OSGeo Chapter promotes the local use of Open Source Geospatial software, particularly new users in the Oregon/Southwest Washington area. The group hosts monthly meetings providing presentation, discussion, and educational opportunities and focuses on materializing an annual Open Source



GIS unconference.

Key Accomplishments

The PDX Chapter held a live video meeting with CUGOS. It moved to a larger meeting space at Collective Agency after many years of generous hosting by Open Sourcery. Meetings were also hosted at Collective Agency, Ecotrust, FlightStats, and Renewable Funding.

Member Activities

PDX Chapter members made presentations on open source geospatial topics at a number of conferences. These included:

GIS in Action

Western Forestry and Conservation
Association's 2nd Annual Field
Technology Conference
URISA GISPro (including a booth with
OR-URISA)
State of the Map US

Areas for Improvement

The chapter would like to have speakers for chapter events organized further in advance.

Opportunities to Help

The chapter is looking for help organizing events and meetings.

Philippines

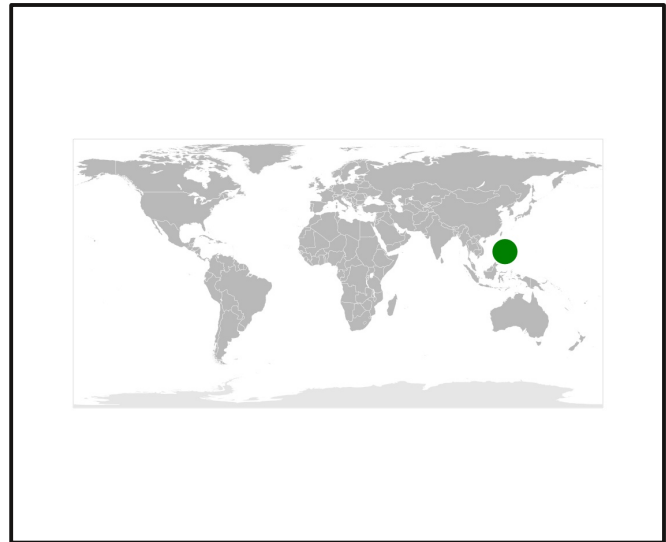
Chapter Report

About the Philippines Chapter

The Philippines Chapter is still forming, and isn't yet an official OSGeo Chapter. The first meeting was held in the last quarter of 2011 and there were 14 mailing list subscribers in 2012.

Events

November 23 & 24, 2012: OSGEO Philippines, the University of Philippines Department of Geodetic Engineering (UPD-GE), OpenStreetMap Philippines (OSM-PH) and the Environmental Science for Social Change (ESSC) organized a series of pre-symposium workshops showcasing free and open source technologies at the PhilGEOS 2012. PhilGEOS 2012 was held at the University of the Philippines, Diliman. Over 60 participants joined 8 workshops and 3 lightning talks. The OSGeo Live project was also presented in one of the parallel technical sessions in the main conference. Likewise, an exhibit booth was installed during the PhilGEOS conference for OSGeo and



OpenStreetMap. Over 50 OSGeo Live DVDs were handed out to conference participants.

The Chapter helped organize small meetups with various groups and FOSS4G enthusiasts were held during the last quarter of 2011.

Education and Research

Two institutions are in the process of establishing Open Geospatial Labs in the Philippines under the ICA-OSGeo MoU Partnership. These are the National College of Public Administration and Governance (NCPAG), University of the Philippines and Environmental Science for Social Change (ESSC).

Member Activities

Maning Sambale held regular training sessions and workshops on FOSS4G applications for ESSC's local partners and research collaborators. He also participated and organized a QGIS workshop at AGSE 2012 and FOSS4G Southeast Asia.

Jay-ar Ragub promoted the use of FOSS with local partners in the Provinces of Eastern Visayas. He also helped organize and participated in the 2012 International GIS Day held with the Philippines Department of Agriculture and the University of Visayas Tacloban College. The theme of the GIS Day was "GIS in Aid to Disaster Risk Reduction and Management.

Areas for Improvement

There is very low activity on the chapter mailing list and few community activities done during the year due to the small number of active members.

Open data initiatives (led mostly by the OpenStreetMap Philippines community) are emerging throughout the country. A collaborative partnership with this

community can broaden the use of FOSS4G technologies.

Outlook for 2013

In 2013 the chapter will participate in a number of geospatial events throughout the year. They will also be providing training workshops on the usage of FOSS GIS in the Provinces of Eastern Visayas.

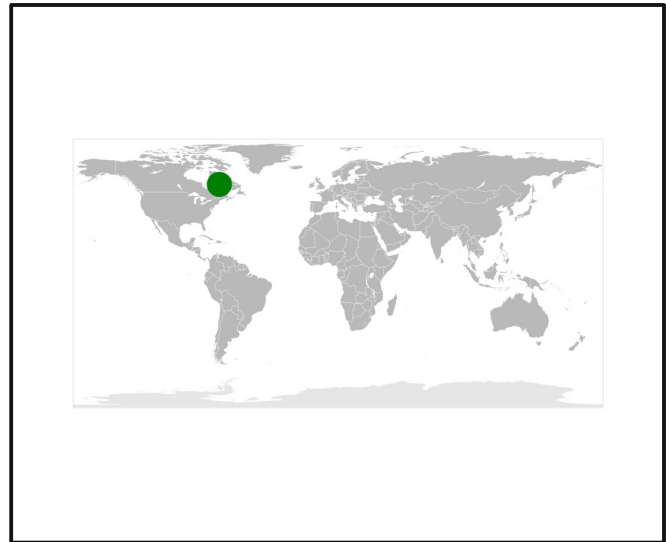
Quebec Chapter Report

About the Quebec Chapter

The Quebec Chapter was formed in 2008 with the aim of promoting OSGeo's vision and mission in the province of Quebec, Canada. The chapter's main activity is called "Rendez-vous OSGeo-Quebec" and is usually held in the form of an OSGeo track as part of major GIS conferences in the territory. The group also organizes meetups with short lightning talks about open source geospatial projects and technologies in a happy hour setting.

Events

October 17 to 18, 2012: Rendezvous OSGeo-Quebec 2012 in Saguenay, Canada was organized with VisionGeomatique 2012. This was the second time Rendezvous OSGeo-Quebec was held. This year the event had a dedicated stream of open source talks as part of the program. There were approximately 350 people at the overall event, and the OSGeo Quebec Chapter room was packed for both days



of the event.

August 30, 2012: Participation in the Geo-5@7 event in Quebec City.

Other local meetings were held around the province.

Areas for Improvement

The Chapter would like to hold more regular meetings and events to maintain its current momentum.

Opportunities to Help

The Chapter is currently looking for people interested in assisting with its participation in Geomatics 2013, which will be held on October 3 and 4, 2013. There are opportunities to join the

organizing committee, serve as a speaker, and to assist with other tasks.

Outlook for 2013

The main activity for the Chapter in 2013 will be its participation in Geomatics 2013 in Montreal on October 3 and 4, 2013.

The Chapter will also continue to hold local meetings.

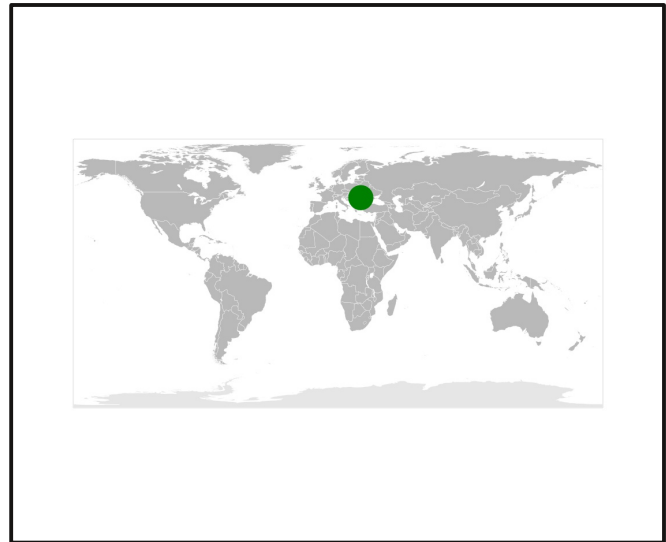
Romanian Chapter Report

About the Romanian Chapter

The Romanian OSGeo Local Chapter is represented by geo-spatial.org. The chapter was founded in 2007 by a small group of passionate people. Now, our community brings together approximately 700 members, from which about 25 members are regularly involved in projects, FOSS4G conferences and workshops.

Chapter Accomplishments

The chapter had a number of accomplishments in 2012. The chapter continued the series of workshops held every year in 3 different Romanian cities. It has continued work on one of its flagship projects, eHarta, which was started in 2010. It has also increased its involvement in the Open Data movement, through active participation in discussions regarding the Action Plan of Romania for the Open Government Partnership. The chapter also organized and took part in formal and informal



meetings with an Open Data focus.

Articles and Tutorials Published

- An article that describes the labeling system, the projection and the datum parameters of the sheets of the 1:75000 scale Romanian topographic map series completed prior to World War I in order to integrate them into GIS databases.
- A tutorial on downloading Landsat L1T imagery from Earth Explorer – USGS.
- A tutorial on downloading Landsat imagery from Global Land Cover Facility platform/database.
- A tutorial on handling Google, Yahoo, Bing and OSM layers in QGIS.

- A tutorial on processing MODIS data using R - LST <Land Surface Temperature> and SC <Snow Cover>.
- A review for the “Past time, Past place: GIS for history”.
- A review on the application EuroVegMap 2: Map of the Natural Vegetation of Europe, scale 1:2,500,000.
- A thesis regarding runoff modeling using GIS. The thesis examines the application of this GIS tool to modeling in the torrential basins in the Apuseni Mountains.

Work on Open Geodata

- The soviet topo maps, scale 1:50000, georeferenced in Stereo70
- 6 tourist maps of mountain trails of the Turing-Club of Romania Association, an interwar Romanian organization whose purpose is raising awareness regarding Romanian tourism sites. Maps’ scales vary with regard to the depicted area. Three have a 1:30000 scale and three 1:50000. The maps were georeferenced in Stereo70.
- The administrative boundaries of Romanian interwar counties (1930).

Open Letter

An open letter, signed by 184 members of the community, was sent to the Romanian National Mapping Agency (<http://ancpi.ro>) asking for free access to the geospatial data files for the boundaries of the Romanian municipalities, either as a downloadable file or through OGC web mapping standards. The response to the letter was not satisfactory. The chapter will therefore press ahead with the data request, pressing for access that should be granted because of the Open Government Partnership signed by Romania.

Translations

The chapter has supported the translation of the Open Data Handbook published by Open Knowledge Foundation (<http://opendatahandbook.org>) into Romanian. Four of the chapter members were actively involved in the translation, which can be found at <http://opendatahandbook.org/ro>.

Projects Initiated, Developed, and Maintained

- eHarta - Campaign #2: Collecting ground control points for georeferencing the Romanian maps in

Cassini, Bonne and Lambert projections and the Soviet ones in Gauss-Kruger projection. The project introduced ground control points that allowed for the georeferencing of approximately 1100 old Romanian Maps. More details can be found at:

<http://earth.unibuc.ro/articole/eharta-campania-ii> eHarta is a collaborative project which aims to digitally preserve cartographic materials of historical value of the Romanian territory and to make them freely available to the community through individual georeferenced downloadable files or through web-mapping services. The community involvement in this project was facilitated through specially developed web interfaces for documenting the maps and collecting ground control points for georeferencing. The project started in 2010. In 2011, the chapter enrolled the eHarta project into the Open Data Challenge (<http://opendatachallenge.org>), Europe's biggest open data competition and won the Better Data Award prize. The prize was awarded at the Digital Agenda Assembly, being held in Brussels on 16th and 17th June 2011, by the European Commission Vice-President Neelie Kroes. For further reading <http://earth.unibuc.ro/articole/eharta?la>

ng=en

- A collaborative project for documenting the quality of the OrbView3 images that cover Romania. The purpose is to ask USGS to georeference only the images taken in clear-sky days and then make them available through standalone files and web mapping services. The community involvement was done through the specially developed web interface. More details can be found at <http://earth.unibuc.ro/articole/documentare-orbview3>

Events

May 21-23, 2013: FOSS4G-CEE and Geoinformatics in Prague, Czech Republic - A general presentation of geo-spatial.org, the study case of building and developing a successful reference point in the FOSS4G community.

Meetings and Workshops

June 21-23, 2013: At the City of Cluj-Napoca 50 people attended the International Symposium entitled "Historical Maps in Environmental Geosciences". The purpose of this event is the coagulation of an academic

community interested in studying historical maps. Further details can be found here.

April 27-28, 2013: At the City of Cluj-Napoca 140 people attended the FOSS4G workshop on manipulation and representation of geospatial information. Dedicated workshops were held on webmapping (TileCache), image processing (LEOWorks), spatial analysis (GRASS, R, QGIS). Further details and registered presentations can be found here.

October 12-13, 2013: At the City of Bucharest 120 people attended the conference entitled “Technologies, Geospatial Open Data and Open Knowledge” . Further details and registered presentations can here.

November 23-24, 2013: At the City of Timisoara 120 people attended the FOSS4G workshop on manipulation and representation of geospatial information. Dedicated workshops were held on webmapping (TileMill), spatial analysis and geodata representation (GRASS, GDAL, QGIS, Inkscape, OpenJUMP, SoLIM), image processing (LEOWorks). Further details and registered presentations can be found here.

Hackathons, Code sprints, Cartography sprints, Mapping parties

September 29-30, 2013: At the City of Bucharest 60 people attended the Open Media Challenge Hackathon. The Open Media Challenge (OMC) was a Knight-Mozilla Open News funded event, initiated by the Sponge Media Innovation Lab for Eastern Europe and organized by CRJI, geo-spatial.org, Ceata, ROSEdu and ApTI. OMC facilitated the writing of code leading to free software solving real-world media problems pertaining to data aggregation & visualization. This collaborative hack initiative, brought together professionals from different fields of activity (Coders, Designers, Journalists and Activists) and was a first in the Eastern European region. Coders, Designers, Journalists and Activists who value media & data specific issues, submitted some valuable proposals and worked to bring these great ideas to life.

October 13, 2013: At the City of Bucharest 30 people attended a hackathon to raise awareness regarding the necessity of open geodata.

Member Activities

May 21 – 23, 2012: The chapter had a substantial delegation present at the FOSS4G-CEE and Geoinformatics event held in Prague, Czech Republic. The chapter members present included Cristian Balint, Dan Mihai Nita, Bogdan Candrea, and Vasile Craciunescu.

Chapter members organized a number of workshops and talks at the event. These included:

- “Roll Your Own 3D datasets: Practical Aspects”
- Ion Nedelcu presented “Image Processing with LEOWorks”
- Codrina Maria Llie presented “geo-spatial.org: The Reference Point for the Romanian FOSS4G Community”
- Ion Nedelcu presented “Learning Earth Observation Image Processing with LEOWorks”
- Vasile Craciunescu presented Interactive “METEOSAT: Educational Platform for Meteorological Applications Entirely Developed with FLOSS Software”
- Cristian Balint, Dan Mihai Nita, Vasile Craciunescu, and Bogdan Candrea, presented “Roll Your Own 3D datasets:

Theoretical Aspects”

Open Media Challenge Hackathon: Chapter members Bogdan Grama, Iulian Iuga, Vasile Craciunescu, and Ilie Codrina have been participated in the hackathon while working on the team for the project Political Colours of Romania Interactively Mapped. More details can be found at [here](#).

Chapter member Alex Morega participated in the hackathon while working on the team for AgriPAY. More details can be found [here](#).

Areas for Improvement

The chapter would like to do more work presenting the benefits of open source software to private companies involved in the geospatial business in Romania.

Outlook for 2013

In 2013 the chapter would like to organize our three traditional seminars on free and open source geospatial software in Cluj-Napoca, Timisoara and Bucharest.

The chapter would also like to organize the FOSS4G-CEE 2013 conference in June, Bucharest.

The chapter has a goal of adding more data in our web mapping service.

The chapter had its first meetings with the Romanian NGO <http://monumenteuitate.ro/en> to explore the possibility of adding geospatial data related to forgotten historical Romanian monuments.

The chapter would also like to continue having regular meetings during the year and to keep adding articles and geospatial datasets on geo-spatial.org, the chapter web site.

United Kingdom Chapter Report

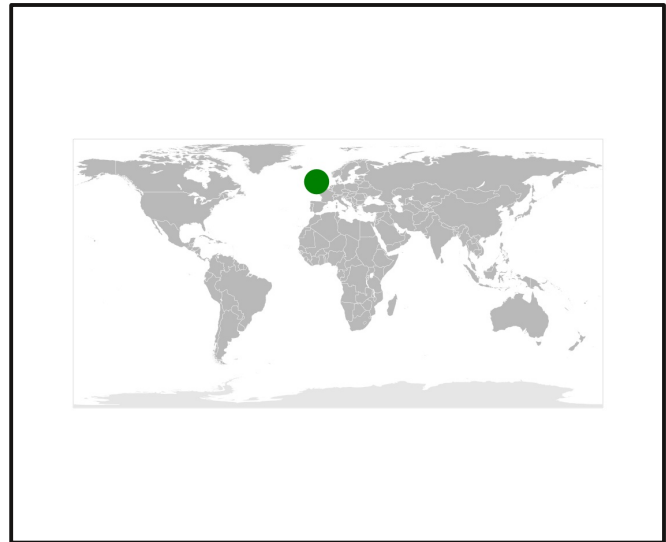
About the Chapter

The United Kingdom Chapter of the OSGeo has established a focal point for developers and users of geospatial software within the United Kingdom. It provides chapter members with networking opportunities and advice, and raises the profile of open source geospatial development within the United Kingdom.

Key Accomplishments

2012 has been a very positive year for the UK chapter. The chapter exceeded 150 members on our mailing list and continues to hold regular IRC meetings, helping chapter members to stay in touch. The chapter also had another very successful event at OSGIS 2012 in Nottingham where the chapter's Annual General Meetings are held. The chapter stall at GISRUUK was well received, with lots of Live DVDs and leaflets being handed out.

In June, the chapter's bid to host the annual international FOSS4G Conference was successful. FOSS4G will be coming to the UK in 2013! The chapter is pleased to have a strong



local organizing committee and is confident that they can deliver an exceptional event on behalf of the global OSGeo community.

In September, Jo Cook stepped down as the UK's chapter representative having been in post since the chapter's foundation in 2006. Ian Edwards has taken on the role for the following year. This will allow Jo, and other key members of the UK committee, to focus on preparations for FOSS4G in September 2013.

Areas for Improvement

FOSS4G 2013 will draw extra attention to the UK chapter and help the chapter to continue to raise the profile of open source geospatial software in the UK. The chapter anticipates that it will gain

more members as a result of the event and we also anticipate that there will be new interest in the chapter following the event.

Opportunities to Help

The chapter is always on the lookout for new members, and new events where it can promote OSGeo. If you would like to take an active role on the OSGeo:UK committee, or to find out more about the way the chapter works, be sure to attend the annual general meeting at the end of FOSS4G in Nottingham (Sunday 22nd September - OSGeo chapter meetings). You can also get in touch with the chapter at anytime by emailing uk@osgeo.org.

Join the chapter mailing list and get involved!
(http://www.osgeo.org/uk/mailing_list)

Outlook for 2013

The next year promises to be an exhilarating time for the UK chapter following the successful bid to host FOSS4G in the UK. The chapter will continue our strong association with the UK's AGI, with chapter members being involved in regional events, and the

annual AGI GeoCommunity conference being held immediately before FOSS4G. The chapter is also very pleased that FOSS4G will be held in Nottingham and will build on the success of the four annual UK OSGIS events that OSGeo:UK have held in collaboration with the University of Nottingham.

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.

Summer of Code Committee Annual Report

OSGeo participated in Google Summer of Code in 2012, with 20 of 22 students completing the summer. Several OSGeo projects took part to the program: QGIS, GRASS GIS, gvSIG, PostGIS, GeoServer, Opticks, OSSIM and GDAL. The OSGeo also provided Google Summer of Code-specific umbrella support for two smaller projects from outside of our foundation: pgRouting and uDig.

Key Accomplishments

Our students were great and a lot of good work was completed. The most important success we had is a smoothly running summer program that involved our largest number of students so far. Many of our former students continue to be involved in contributing to projects' development and have now taken on roles as mentors.

A couple of smaller external projects we have taken under our Google Summer of Code umbrella in the past are now participating in our incubation process to become full members of our

Foundation. One of our multi-year Google Summer of Code projects (gvSIG mini) now headlines the F-droid (FOSS for Android) repository's homepage!

Areas for Improvement

The OSGeo Summer of Code program has two main areas where improvements could be made. The first is in more cross-project collaboration: Google Summer of Code is a great opportunity to get code written, especially for the improvement of software communication. OSGeo projects vary from backend tools to end-user applications that would all benefit from an improved communication.

The second area for improvement is to encourage more involvement from OSGeo projects. Overall, only half of OSGeo projects answered the call for mentors, for many good reasons. How can OSGeo Google Summer of Code administrators facilitate the participation of all projects? Suggestions are welcome. Administrators aim to accept at least one student from every OSGeo project.

Opportunities to Help

Do you wish to participate in Google Summer of Code as a mentor? Check the yearly administrative page to get all your questions answered.

Feel free to propose project ideas for the students and to spread the word in universities and geospatial labs around the world.

Outlook for 2013

OSGeo has been accepted for Google Summer of Code 2013 - keep an eye on our wiki page!

Education Committee Annual Report Item

About the Committee

The OSGeo Education Committee is focused on building a repository of educational material related to geoscience in general, and open source geospatial software specifically.

Key Accomplishments

A Memorandum of Understanding between OSGeo and the International Cartographic Association was established in September 2011 and not reported previously. The objectives of the MOU can be found at http://wiki.osgeo.org/wiki/MOU_ICA. ICA-OSGeo Lab Network is the official title of this network and OSGL (Open Source Geospatial Labs) as the acronym to be used for the url, domain name, etc. Individual labs (those already established and those in future) are free to select the names they wish. For example, the lab at the University of Nottingham's Malaysia Campus is called "Open-source Geospatial Research

Lab." The lab at North Carolina State University is entitled the "OSGeo Research and Education Laboratory", and Newcastle University's lab refers to itself as the "Open Source Geospatial Lab."

Under the leadership of Suchith Anand and other colleagues at the University of Nottingham, content continues to be added in the E-Learning for the Open Geospatial Community (ELOGeo) web-database repository hosted at U of N.

Over 2012, again, thanks largely to the leadership and energy of Suchith Anand at the University of Nottingham, UK, twenty-four ICA-OSGeo labs have been established, with at least one on every continent on the globe. A dedicated mailing list for participants of these labs has been established.

The OSGL website is being developed and will be graciously hosted by Manuel Haro and his colleagues at the National Lab for FOSS in Mexico.

Subsets of the OSGeo education group have been actively going after grants to support our collective objectives. One of the most active participants is Phil Davis of the GeoTech Center at DelMar college in Texas, USA [4] who has submitted a grant proposal to the US National Science Foundation to create a

“FOSS4G US Academy.” The goal of the grant, if funded, will be to create a full curriculum on open source geospatial science and technologies that complies with the United States Department of Labor’s Geospatial Technology Competency Model [5].

Others in the group are actively working on another proposal to support collective action between the international nodes of the OSGL network.

Areas for Improvement

With the significant exception of the efforts of the GeoTech center and the efforts by colleagues at the University of Nottingham, the committee is somewhat stalled in our efforts to establish collective-action around the production and sharing of educational content that is open access and can support new derivative work. This remains an important focus of our group’s collective efforts for the coming year.

We need stronger and more active connections between the Education group and the activities going on by the OSGeo software and local chapter groups. Members of the latter groups

are encouraged to communicate more through the OSGeo Education listserv on their education-related activities. Education is one important way uptake in OSGeo technologies will occur, and we should be communicating and leveraging and sharing local chapter educational efforts and experiences. Through doing so, effective and successful local chapter educational efforts can and should be replicated elsewhere.

There is a subset of faculty subscribers to the OSGeo education listserv who are quite active and are working together to move our collective efforts forward. However, there is a large number of listserv “lurkers” who are subscribed to the list but are rarely heard from. That behavior is fine; however we encourage others on the OSGeo edu list to become more active in their contributions to the group. Again, one way to do this would be to openly share any educational materials they develop with the community.

Outlook for 2013

2012 was an active year for the OSGeo education and curriculum project largely as a result of significant leadership and effort by several

individuals in our community. In 2013 the committee is hopeful that we will land one or more grants to help keep the committee's collective efforts going.

The establishment and growth of the 24-node ICA-OSGeo Lab Network [1] is a significant development. One of the committee's goals in 2013 is to continue this growth over 2013. A second goal is to move beyond the important first step of establishing such a network toward the establishment of collaboration across nodes in the network in both research and education related to open source geospatial science and technologies.

Discussions are already underway to hold regular virtual meetings and webinars across nodes in this network. We will advertise these activities both through the ICA-OSGeo Lab listserv and through the more general OSGeo education group listserv.

Interview With Sylvain Lesage

In this volume of the journal we interview Sylvain Lesage. Sylvain is helping to support OSGeo activities in Bolivia and other parts of South America.

OSGeo Journal:

How did you get involved with GIS and with open source software?

Sylvain:

I have been using GNU/Linux as an operating system for ten years, when I started working at the INRIA research laboratory in Rennes, France. Since 2009, I've been living in La Paz, the seat of government of Bolivia, and there I met a group of "talibans" dedicating their lobbying struggle to the migration of the State administration to free software. Totally convinced by this struggle, I joined them and worked during four years in various government administrations, integrating open source software at various levels, from operating systems and servers to web applications. This movement is now shared by the Eva Morales' government and in August of 2011, the parliament adopted a new law on

telecommunications, including an article that states the State administration shall "promote and prioritize" free software and open standards. This was an important step for guaranteeing the state sovereignty on its software infrastructure.

I got involved with GIS in 2009, when I worked for the ABC, the public company in charge of Bolivian roads. There we maintained a map of the state of transit system, reporting floods, road construction work, or road blocks. The road map was updated on a daily basis. The system to manage the road map was based on Postgresql, MapServer and OpenLayers. Since 2011 I've been in charge of the technical team of the GeoBolivia project within the Vice Presidency of the state. This project to build a government SDI was officially launched on May, 29th, 2013. The software used for the SDI is totally open source. We used Postgresql and PostGIS for the databases, MapServer, Mapnik and GeoServer for publishing web services, GeoNetwork for the catalog, geOrchestra as the overlay framework that includes a central authentication system, and a powerful GIS web client and extractor for region-specific data downloads. All of the project team is using free software in their desktop stations, including the geographers that manipulate the data and map styles

with gvSIG, QGIS or uDig.

OSGeo Journal:

How are you currently involved with GIS?

Sylvain:

I'm currently working in the Bolivian Mission in Geneva where I'm implementing an intranet system based on free software solutions. I'm still involved in the GeoBolivia Project and chat everyday with the team about technical options. I'm also member of the geOrchestra PSC and contribute to the code on my free time.

OSGeo Journal:

How is open source GIS being used in Bolivia?

Sylvain:

In Bolivia, the geography students have always been taught proprietary desktop GIS tools, and the public GIS systems were generally realized without any open source components. In the past few years, as a side effect of the worldwide growth of open source software, some universities have been giving classes on QGIS, gvSIG and free GIS server software. Bolivian web agencies are now offering solutions upon GeoServer or OpenLayers, and various governmental SDI projects have used free solutions such as GeoNode or

geOrchestra. Using its central position, the GeoBolivia project has played a leading role in the current migration of the state administration to open source GIS. This leadership role has included organizing public seminars and classes in universities and in the EGPP (national public school for senior civil servants), publishing an online training platform, and giving technical support to similar public projects.

OSGeo Journal:

What is the history of the informal OSGeo local chapter in Bolivia?

Sylvain:

The initiation of the Bolivian local chapter was by the president of OSGeo, Arnulf Christl. In January of 2012, he was traveling in Bolivia and took advantage of the opportunity to give a fantastic public presentation in the Vice Presidency about open source GIS (see the GeoBolivia homonym blog: <http://geobolivia.blogspot.fr/2012/01/ogc-y-osgeo-en-bolivia.html>). He used his talk to launch the idea of a local chapter to organize the growing Bolivian community of users.

It took nearly one year to effectively give birth to this group, and since the end of 2012

(<http://wiki.osgeo.org/wiki/Bolivia>) the

local chapter is active, with "real-life" events on open data and the exchange of experiences about web cartography. The chapter members include students and professionals from civil society, but is mostly composed of public servants. Ironically, this unofficial organization allows technicians from politically opposite administrations to work together without the need to obtain an impossible agreement between their respective managers.

open source geospatial software and open data facilitate the citizens' access to information and analysis about their territory. This allows them to defend their rights in land management, urbanism or civil liberty.

OSGeo Journal:

What excites you the most about the future of open source geospatial technology?

Sylvain:

I am mainly interested in the political challenges around free software, open standards, e-government and open data. I'm fascinated by the velocity of the technological developments in web services and remote access to data, 3D rendering, routing, and by the new uses and behaviors they imply, such as aid to navigation or spatial social interactions using mobile devices. I think the hard task the OSGeo and OGC have moving forward is to develop standards that protect and guarantee the value of openness despite the rapid rate of change in technology. As for political issues, in my opinion, the

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