

FOSS4G 2015 Letter of Intent for Jeju Island, South Korea

Dear FOSS4G selection committee,

[OSGeo Korean Chapter](#) in partnership with Korea Alliance of Open Source Geospatial (KAOS-G) are pleased to submit our proposal to host FOSS4G 2015 conference at the [International Convention Centre in Jeju \(ICC JEJU\)](#), South Korea.

Conference Chair

Sanghee Shin – shshin@gaia3d.com

Sanghee is Chief Executive Officer at Gaia3D, and Representative of OSGeo Korean Chapter. He is also Chairperson of KAOS-G, an open source GIS company alliance in Korea.

Other LOC members

We have almost 40 active LOC members from industry, government, universities and research institutes.

- Minpa Lee: OSGeo Charter Member, Chief Programmer of Mango System
- Yun-Soo Choi: President of Korea Spatial Information Society (KSIS). Professor of University of Seoul
- Tae Yeol Kim: Director of National IT Industry Promotion Agency (NIPA), Open Source SW Promotion Team
- Sanghoon Lee: Deputy Director of National Geographic Information Institute (NGII)
- BJ Jang: Manager of Open GIS Team, Gaia3D
- Heegu Park: Marketing Director of Gaia3D
- Kwang Woo Nam: Associate Professor of Kunsan National University
- JungHwan Yun: Manager of GIS Team, EnGIS
- Sunghoon Cha: Director of R&D Center, E3
- Sangcheol Kang: C.E.O. of GnTsolution
- Min Heo: Senior Researcher of Korean Association of Surveying and Mapping (KASM)
- Ki-Joune Li: Professor of Pusan National University. Former President of KSIS
- Hyuk Jae Lee: Vice President of National IT Industry Promotion Agency (NIPA), Software Industry Promotion Division
- Dongha Oh: Director of Busan Development Institute

And the other members are:

Tong-Hoon Lee(GnTsolution), Kabsang Cha(GnTsolution), KyoungTae Doh(Samsung SDS), TaiYoung Kim(Gaia3D), Seung Yong Kim(Hanjin Information Systems & Telecommunication), Jooyong Park(Mango System), Kiwoong Kim(Mango System), Jinwoo Park(Pukyong National University), Jeon-Young Kang(State University of New York at Buffalo), Sanghwan Jun(Solideo Systems), Seongkyu Lee, Suhyun Moon(KEPCO-KDN), HyeonBeom Shin(Solideo Systems), Chae Ok Ko(SUNUN ENG), KyeongRyong Kim(E3), Hanjin Lee(Mango System), Yongjae Park(GIS United), Borin Jung(GIS United), DongHan Shin(Agathos Ergon), Yeongrak Choi(Geomatics Korea), Jaedeok Roh(EnGIS), Jinwoo Jung(EnGIS), Hwahwan Kim(Chonnam National University)

Experiences with Similar Events and PCO(Professional Conference Organizer)

OSGeo Korean Chapter have organized and hosted its own annual FOSS4G Korea conference successfully since 2011. Before then the Korean Chapter has had the experience of organizing open source GIS special tracks in large GIS events. As a commercial alliance, KAOS-G successfully organized 'Open Source GIS Solution Day' event in 2013. Members of [KSIS \(Korea Spatial Information Society\)](#) have organized plenty of GIS conferences and were on Organizing Committee of ICGIS (International Conference on Geospatial Information Sciences) last year.

However we have a plan to engage a paid conference organizer for the success of FOSS4G 2015 conference. The LOC have contacted 4 local PCOs with recommendation from ICC JEJU and got their initial proposals already. These PCOs are as follows: [HESSED Communications, Prime Communications, Yeha Tour, and Hana Tour Jeju](#)

Venue Information

The proposed venue for FOSS4G 2015 is ICC JEJU (<http://www.iccjeju.co.kr/EN/Main>). ICC JEJU is located at the [Jungmun Tourist Complex](#) in Jeju Island with the cobalt-blue Northern Pacific stretching on the south and towering Mt. Hallasan in the north. This venue provides 2 main convention halls to accommodate up to 4,600 people, 30 medium & small sized meeting room for workshop and talking, 1 event hall for exhibition and 1 outdoor banquet site. We already made a preliminary reservation for FOSS4G 2015 at ICC JEJU from 12th Oct to 17th Oct 2015. Accommodation prices range from the extremely cheap (Motels ~ \$40, beautiful, affordable traditional guest houses with range being \$20~\$50.) to \$400, with typical range being \$200 - \$300 in Jungmun Area and \$100 - \$150 in other areas. The Jeju Convention Bureau will help us put a hotel package together. For other expenses, please see this summary by Jeju Special Self-Governing Province: <http://english.jeju.go.kr/index.php/contents/Tour>

Partnering with Other Local Organizations

In addition to KAOS-G, we are now discussing possible partnership or cooperation with Korea Spatial Information Society (KSIS). There was executive level decision from the KSIS to support our FOSS4G 2015 bidding and conference already. Also we will be approaching several organizations that have similar interests.

Why FOSS4G 2015 in Jeju, South Korea?

- Well-Prepared Enthusiastic Team: We have prepared global FOSS4G conference since 2011. Many of our LOC members have lots of experiences in organizing conferences and OSGeo Korean Chapter is one of the most strong and vibrant local chapters with lots of enthusiasm.
- No VISA Problems: Unlike other countries and mainland Korea, VISA is not required to almost all the nationalities to visit Jeju Island. Many Asian people usually get suffered and troubled to get VISA to visit other countries including Korea.
- Conference to Learn and Unwind: [Jeju Island](#) - <http://english.jeju.go.kr/> - is one of the most famous resort islands in the world. There are bountiful forests and ravines, fantastic rock formations and volcanic craters, and caves and grasslands that together paint a natural scene of breathtaking beauty. With its unique nature and ecosystems, Jeju Island is designated as World Natural Heritage, Global Geopark and MAB Biosphere Reserve. Jeju Island is also named as one of new 7 wonders of Nature.
- Location Matters: Most major cities in Korea, China and Japan are within 2~3 hours flight from Jeju Island. Because of short flight time from delegate's home, we can attract many delegates from Korea, Japan and China.
- Time to Meet Differences: It would be the first FOSS4G conference outside of Roman alphabet world. Different character, different culture, different language will provoke new inspiration and imagination.

How to Engage Regional Communities?

- We will add more Asiatic color to FOSS4G 2015 conference to engage more Asian delegates. We will talk to Asian local chapters - such as Japan, China, India, Vietnam, Thailand, Sri Lanka, Malaysia, Indonesia, and Philippines - about the program of FOSS4G 2015 and will reflect their opinions. Many Japan Chapter members already showed their strong support to FOSS4G JEJU.
- We are currently discussing with an organizing member of FOSS4G Asia about the merging FOSS4G Asia 2015 into global FOSS4G 2015 JEJU conference. FOSS4G Asia may be held in this summer for the first time.
- Korean government will start 'Open source GIS R&D' program within this year. According to this R&D program, Korean government will invest more than \$10 million in the development of open source GIS. We will actively participate in that program and will promote FOSS4G through the program to attract more delegates from Korea.