Draft COC

Guidelines for Sponsors

Introduction

The Free and Open Source Software for Geospatial Conference (FOSS4G) is the flagship global event of the Open Source Geospatial Foundation (OSGeo). OSGeo supports and promotes collaborative development of open geospatial technology and fosters a vibrant, inclusive community.

Along with the [OSGeo Code of Conduct](#) and the Conference Code of Conduct (COC) that can be viewed on the Conference website, these Guidelines for Sponsors outline the expected values and behaviours of sponsors and their representatives at the Free and Open Source Geospatial Software for Geospatial (FOSS4G) Conference. We aim to create a welcoming and inclusive environment for all at the conference. By abiding by these Guidelines, sponsors contribute to a positive and productive conference experience for everyone.

Guidelines Purpose

The OSGeo vision is as follows:

> "Empower everyone with open source geospatial"

The core mission of OSGeo, under whom FOSS4G conferences operate, is stated as follows -

> "Foster global adoption of open geospatial technology by being an inclusive software foundation devoted to an open philosophy and participatory community-driven development."

FOSS4G events exist to support this mission. Sponsors are expected likewise to support this mission and, through their participation, contribute to making the OSGeo community stronger. We encourage sponsors to participate in the FOSS4G events as community members and to support the community that develops the software that we intrinsically depend on..

The principles that guide sponsors of our events are less about making sales and more about making friends and building meaningful connections. We gather to celebrate our open geospatial community, our successes and our failures, and to raise awareness of our ecosystem of open geospatial tools, technologies and capabilities.

The following aspirational goals support the overall OSGeo mission. As a community, we seek to:

- provide resources for OSGeo projects;
- foster the use of open source geospatial software;
- encourage interoperability with open standards;
- ensure interoperability between the OSGeo projects;
- encourage a high degree of quality and innovation in OSGeo projects;

- champion the use of open-source and community participation through the development of an open education curriculum;
- enable communication and cooperation amongst OSGeo communities;
- champion community building through horizontal (local chapter) engagement and through vertical (sector specific) agreements with like-minded organizations;
- be a welcoming and inclusive global community;
- celebrate excellence, openness and service within the OSGeo community.

For further information, refer to the OSGeo website at https://www.osgeo.org/about/.

Expected Behavior for Sponsors

Sponsors are expected to act respectfully towards others in accordance with the OSGeo Code of Conduct and the Conference Code of Conduct (COC). In addition, Sponsors are also expected to:

- **Professionalism:** Maintain a professional demeanor in all interactions, both online and offline. Avoid using offensive or discriminatory language or imagery.
- **Ethical Marketing:** Adhere to ethical marketing practices. Avoid making false or misleading claims about your products or services.
- **Fair Competition:** Engage in fair competition and avoid disparaging or undermining others.
- **Inclusivity:** Promote inclusivity and diversity within your organization and in your interactions with others at the conference.
- **Conflict Resolution:** If you witness or experience any harassment or inappropriate behavior, please report it to a conference organizer or staff member immediately.
- **Compliance with Laws:** Adhere to all applicable laws and regulations, including those related to data privacy, intellectual property, and anti-discrimination.
- **Support the OSGeo Mission:** While participating in FOSS4G activities, sponsors are expected to focus on support of the OSGeo vision and mission, the community and related activities.
- **Confidentiality and Privacy:** Sponsors must respect the privacy of attendees. Collecting personal information must be done ethically, with explicit consent, and in compliance with data protection regulations.

The conference committee will use these guidelines to evaluate potential sponsors.

Disclaimer

These Guidelines are intended to outline how sponsors are expected to behave at the conference and do not supersede the CoC. They are not exhaustive and may be updated as needed.

By participating in this conference as a sponsor, you agree to abide by these Guidelines and any decisions made by the conference Code of Conduct Committee.