

# Full Proposal for Hosting FOSS4G Asia 2023 in Seoul

*“Toward Future of FOSS4G in Asia”*

Dear FOSS4G Asia Conference Committee Members,

[Seoul Metropolitan Government](#)(SMG), [OSGeo Korean Chapter](#) and [Korea Spatial Information Society](#) are pleased to submit this full proposal for hosting FOSS4G Asia 2023 conference at the [Seoul Hall of Urbanism and Architecture](#)(SHUA) in Seoul, South Korea. SHUA which was established and operated by SMG is a specialized exhibition and conference venue located at the heart of Seoul.

## 1. Conference Dates

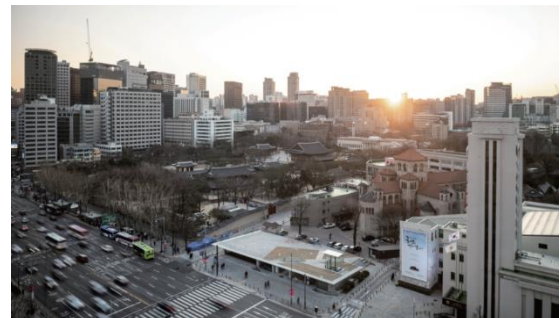
We have a plan to host FOSS4G Asia 2023 from 28<sup>th</sup> November to 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2023 in conjunction with Seoul Urban Spatial Information Forum, which is a professional geospatial conference organized by the Seoul Metropolitan Government with a long history. A detailed conference schedule is shown below and the LOC will reserve the SHUA for the conference.

- 28<sup>th</sup> November 2023: Technical Workshops(Other places near SHUA)
- 29<sup>th</sup> November ~ 1<sup>st</sup> December 2023: Main Conference(SHUA)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2023: Code Sprint(Other places near SHUA)

If any unforeseen major events are expected during the conference dates after being selected as a host city, we may change the venue or schedule with consultation with FOSS4G Asia Conference Committee.

## 2. Venue

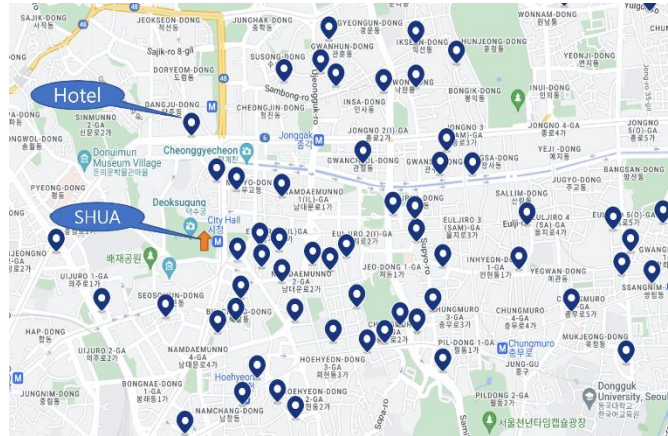
The proposed main venue for FOSS4G Asia 2023 is the [Seoul Hall of Urbanism and Architecture](#)(SHUA) in Seoul. SHUA was erected as a part of the Sejong-daero Historic Culture Space Design Competition. As Korea's very first urbanism and architecture specialized exhibition hall, it houses a total area of 2,998 m<sup>2</sup>, spread between the first floor down to the third floor basement level. The first floor is comprised of a citizen's space, or public area, while the lower three basement levels are home to extensive galleries and have an underground walkway connecting with Seoul Citizens Hall. SHUA's infrastructure and expertise coupled with SMG, OSGeo Korean Chapter & the Korea Spatial Information Society's organizing experiences will ensure hassle-free and smooth operation of FOSS4G Asia 2023.



### 3. Hybrid Conference

FOSS4G Asia 2013 Seoul will be a hybrid style conference that fully support both in-person and on-line conference at the SHUA. All the conference sessions excluding technical workshops and code sprints will be live-streamed through ZOOM, YouTube or similar accessible channels.

### 4. Hotels



Seoul Hall of Urbanism and Architecture(SHUA) is conveniently located at just next to Seoul City Hall and in main Seoul central business district. So, there are many hotels from budget hotels to luxury tourist hotels around the venue. The usual price of the budget hotel starts from USD50 per night.

- Hotel rates range between USD50~1,000
- More than 150 hotels are there around the venue

We should admit that the hotel rates just near the venue are expensive. Since there are many convenient public transportations including metros, public buses, and public bikes in Seoul, FOSS4G Asia 2023 attendees can book a hotel a few blocks away from the venue to save the accommodation cost. FOSS4G Asia 2023 attendees could get to the venue quite easily by walk, bikes, metros and public buses. KTO(Korea Tourism Organization) also provides the '[KTO Certified Accommodations](#)' through its web page and foreign attendees could search for various hotels suitable for their budget and purposes.

### 5. Venue Infrastructures

SHUA has 5 main exhibition spaces and each space can be converted into conference rooms. Regarding the communication, SHUA provides free wireless internet covering the whole venue. Also there are many restaurants, cafes, and other cultural facilities near the venue.

Seoul team believes that SHUA is the ideal place to host FOSS4G Asia 2023 conference since it can provide unique experiences to attendees with convenient and flexible spaces.

- 5 main exhibition spaces including main hall
- Each exhibition spaces can be converted to conference rooms.
- Many restaurants, cafes, and cultural facilities near the venue.
- Free Wi-Fi



SHUA doesn't have computer rooms inside the facility. So, Seoul team proposes the 'Bring-your-own-laptop' style technical workshops at the FOSS4G Asia 2023. We'll have technical workshops at other place near the venue.



## 6. Main Organizers

**Seoul Metropolitan Government:** Seoul Metropolitan Government(SMG) is a local government of Seoul, South Korea. The Seoul Metropolitan Government deals with administrative affairs as the capital city of South Korea. Hence, it is more centralized than that of most other cities in Korea. SMG is responsible for public transportations, education, libraries, public safety, recreational facilities, sanitation, water supply, and welfare services including geospatial information. The headquarters is located in the Seoul City Hall building which is in Taepyeong no, Jung-gu, Seoul. The Government started on September 28, 1946 as the Seoul City Government which became Seoul Metropolitan Government on August 15, 1949. Seoul is subdivided into 25 autonomous Gu and 522 administrative Dong. **As a main FOSS4G Asia 2023 organizers, Seoul Metropolitan Government has already committed to fund major part of the conference administration cost.**



**OSGeo Korean Chapter:** OSGeo Korean Chapter was established in 2008 to promote open source GIS solutions and to disseminate open source spirits to Korean speaking people. The OSGeo Korean Chapter has hosted a local FOSS4G Korea conference every year since 2011, and successfully hosted the international FOSS4G Seoul 2015 conference for the first time in Asia. OSGeo Korean Chapter has played an important role in wide spread of open source GIS in Korea since its establishment. **As a community driven organization, OSGeo Korean Chapter will play an important role in planning, promoting, and running the conference.**



**Korean Spatial Information Society(KSIS):** KSIS is one of the biggest and the most prominent academic societies in Korea in the field of geospatial with membership of professors, researchers, professionals, government officials, and students. KSIS publishes its own top-notch journal, *Spatial Information Research*, and hosts many conferences regularly. Most importantly KSGIS was a co-organizer of the very successful international FOSS4G Seoul 2015 conference. Many of LOC members are member of KSIS. **KSIS will run the Academic Track of FOSS4G Asia 2023 and will select best papers, best speakers. KSIS also has a plan to publish a special issue for papers from FOSS4G Asia 2023.**



## 7. Possible Supporting Organizations

**KRIHS(Korea Research Institute of Human Settlement):** Founded in 1978, Korea Research Institute for Human Settlements (KRIHS) has played a pivotal role in national territorial policy development with researches in balanced national development, housing stability, infrastructure development and geospatial information system. The policies KRIHS developed and suggested also has contributed to the development of geospatial technologies in Korea. It's not officially confirmed that KRIHS would support FOSS4G Asia 2023 at the institutional level. However, one of the LOC members, Dr. Haekyoung Kang, a charter member of OSGeo and KRIHS senior researcher expressed her strong intention to support FOSS4G Asia 2023 in Seoul as a secretariat of [UN Open GIS Initiative](#).



## 8. Potential Sponsors

**Private Companies:** Around 10 companies always have sponsored annual FOSS4G Korea conferences over the last couple of years and Seoul team believes more than 10 companies will sponsor FOSS4G Asia 2023 conference. Major possible sponsoring companies include Gaia3D, Mango System, GIS United, Dabeo, E3, and HermeSys.



**Public Companies:** [LH Corp](#) (Korea Land & Housing Company) signed a MOU with OSGeo Foundation in 2015 and is now [a partner organization of OSGeo Foundation](#). LH Corp makes use of many open source GIS in their systems including GIS Bank. OSGeo Korean Chapter and LH Corp co-hosted FOSS4G Korea 2016, and 2017. So, there's high possibility that LH Corp will sponsor FOSS4G Asia 2023.



[LX Corp](#), a public organization that provides cadastral and spatial information service in Korea, is a main organizer of Smart Geo Expo. Also, there's high possibility that LX Corp will sponsor FOSS4G Asia 2023.



**Government:** We expect another sponsorship from [Korea Tourism Organization](#) or [Seoul Convention Bureau](#).

## 9. Transportation and Access to Venue

Seoul Metro and Korea Railway provides cheap and fast metro system covering almost all the Seoul city and vicinity areas. The easiest and convenient way to [get to the SHUA near Seoul City Hall](#) is to take Airport Railroad Express (AREX) and metro. SHUA is located at the Seoul City Hall Station (Metro Line No.1 and 2).



To go to the venue from Incheon International Airport, Seoul team recommends Airport Railroad Express (AREX) and metro. It will take around 70 minutes from the airport to the venue using Arex and Metro.

## 10. LOC Members

Currently we have 3 co-chairs and 4 other LOC members from Seoul Metropolitan Government, OSGeo Korean Chapter, and Korean Spatial Information Society. All are experienced with organizing various levels of international conferences. We will invite other professional and experienced members to LOC from Asia and other countries to reflect the diverse views after being selected as host city. Current LOC members are as follows:

- Gyemmoon Lee (Conference Chair): Seoul Metropolitan Government (Tentative)
- Junyoung Choi(Co-Char): Seoul Institute of Technology, OSGeo Charter Member
- Yongcheol Suh(Co-Char): President of the Korea Spatial Information Society
- Sunhwa Kim: Seoul Metropolitan Government (Tentative)
- Minpa Lee: Representative of OSGeo Korean Chapter, OSGeo Charter Member
- Sanghee Shin: President of Gaia3D, OSGeo Charter Member, Former International FOSS4G 2015 Seoul Chair
- Kyungsik Park: Korea Spatial Information Society

## 11. Conference Registration Fees

Seoul team put its most efforts to cut down the registration fees. We propose 5 day full registration fees as below that include T-shirts, workshops, and Gala dinner altogether.

	<i>Category</i>	<i>Early Bird</i>	<i>Regular</i>
<i>In-Person Participation</i>	<i>Students</i>	USD70	USD100
	<i>Delegates</i>	USD110	USD150
<i>On-line Participation</i>	<i>Students</i>	USD12	USD25
	<i>Delegates</i>	USD25	USD50

## 12. Special Program - Joint Development of FOSS4G Asian Communities

For the development of FOSS4G Asia communities, we will run a **travel grant program for students or researchers from Asian countries up to 10 persons**. Travel grant program will cover travel cost(Low cost carrier) and hotels(2 persons will share the room) for the selected speakers. And we will **support in-person registration fee up to 40 Asian students studying in Seoul**. We also **propose to announce the ‘Seoul Declaration on the Joint Development of FOSS4G Asian Communities’** in the closing ceremony as a result of discussions on the future of FOSS4G in Asia countries.

## 13. What Makes Seoul Attractive?

- Ideal mixture of Government(Seoul Metropolitan Government), Academia(KSIS), and Community(OSGeo Korean Chapter)
- Strong financial support from Seoul Metropolitan Government and other organizations.
- Many expertise and experiences in organizing successful international conferences.
- Easy access to the venue and affordable registration fees.
- All-in-one hassle-free venue with modern facilities
- Travel grant program and financial supports to international students.
- Ideal place and time to discuss the future of FOSS4G Asia.
- Most attractive point of our proposal is the LOC members who are warm-hearted and committed to spread the open source spirit to all over the world!