

SAGTA - FOSS4G Africa 2017



CALL FOR ABSTRACTS



20th February 2017

The OSGeo Africa chapter and the QGIS South Africa User Group Conference invite you to participate and present at the first regional FOSS4G event in Africa and the first national QGIS User Group Conference in South Africa to be held at St John's College, Johannesburg, South Africa from **25th June to 1 July 2017**. We hereby invite papers from GIS practitioners, teachers, and academics in the GeoSpatial Sciences. Published proceedings of the conference will have both an academic/educational as well as a technical/best practice stream. FOSS4G represents the gathering of the Open Source Geospatial community with a deep focus on free and open source geospatial solutions under the auspices of the Open Source Geospatial Foundation – OSGeo (www.osgeo.org).



Johannesburg, South Africa

(https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/1/18/Johannesburg_From_M2_Highway_Looking_North.jpg/800px-Johannesburg_From_M2_Highway_Looking_North.jpg)

South African GeoSpatial Science and GIS into the future.

Geographical Information Systems (GIS) is part of the curriculum in South African schools, yet schools and teachers are poorly equipped to teach it, let alone use it to teach Geography and other subjects. That's why we've teamed up with the world of secondary and tertiary education to explore challenges teachers and GIS practitioners face and to come up with suggested solutions going forward. The **Southern African Geography Teachers Association (SAGTA)** in collaboration with OSGeo, QGIS and GeoforAll is hosting the FOSS4G 2017 conference at St John's College, Johannesburg, South Africa. A draft programme and conference information are available at: <https://qgis.org.za/en/events/foss4g-southern-africa-and-qgis-user-group-conference/>.

Extended abstracts for paper and poster presentations are invited and should be concise (3500 words excluding references). Abstracts for papers will be peer-reviewed (by experts in the field) for presentation not exceeding 20 minutes (15 minutes for presentation and 5 minutes for Q&A). The deadline for submission of abstracts is the **31st March 2017**. Submit to clinton.vandermerwe@wits.ac.za. Contributions must be original and previously unpublished. Author guidelines for the full papers going into the conference proceedings or those which are suggested for submission to journals for considered review and possible publication will be sent out in due course. In terms of copyright, conference proceedings will be openly archived on the Web under a Creative Commons Attribution License. At least one of the authors of an accepted abstract must register for the conference and make an oral presentation at the conference.

Final papers of 3500 words excluding references, for publication in the Conference Proceedings, are due at the **end of July 2017**. Papers will be reviewed by external reviewers, and if accepted, will be published in the official Conference Proceedings. Authors of a selected number of high quality abstracts will be invited to submit their papers to *JoGESA* (see <http://sagta.org.za/e-journal.php> for more details) and the *South African Geographical Journal* (<http://www.ssag.co.za>) and will go through the respective journal's normal peer-review process, also due at the **end of July 2017**. We do not wish to prescribe topics, but rather encourage you to address topics based on your teaching and research experience.

Examples of topics for paper/poster presentation:

Open Source geospatial use in South Africa
Teaching with FOSS4G in South Africa
Best practice Open Source geospatial software in South Africa

The conference will include pre- and post-conference trips/excursions (see the draft programme for details): <http://foss4g-africa.org>.

Important dates

Call for abstracts opens:	20th February 2017
Abstract submission:	31st March 2017
Notification of acceptance:	30th April 2017
Submission of revised abstracts:	15th May 2017
Early Bird Payments for conference:	20th May 2017
Full Conference registration payment for presenters:	6th June 2017
Conference	25th June to 1 July 2017
Full Papers for Proceedings or submission to Journals:	31st July 2017

St John's College, Houghton, Johannesburg, South Africa



(Source: http://www.isasaschoolfinder.co.za/uploadimages/north_facade_large.jpg)

For further details:

Please contact Pat Jay (secretary@sagta.org.za) or visit our website: www.sagta.org.za or Clinton van der Merwe (clinton.vandermerwe@wits.ac.za or +27117173173).