

**Report on OSGeo Promotions at GIS-IDEAS 2006, 8-11 November,  
Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam**

The **GeoInformatics for Spatial-Infrastructure Development in Earth & Allied Sciences (GIS-IDEAS) 2006** Symposium was held in Ho Chi Minh City (HCMC), Vietnam, 9-11 November 2006 (<http://gisws.media.osaka-cu.ac.jp/gisideas06/>). The symposium was organized by Japan-Vietnam Geoinformatics Consortium (JVGC) and Institute for Environment and Resources (IER-HCMC) with support from several other institutions and GIS Development as the Media Partner. GIS-IDEAS 2006 Symposium was the third international GIS-IDEAS Symposium to be held in Vietnam since 2002. The main theme of the GIS-IDEAS 2006 was “**Geoinformatics for Regional Sustainable Development**”. The GIS-IDEAS 2006 Symposium provided a unique opportunity for sharing of knowledge and valuable experiences amongst the academia, researchers, industry and students. The GIS-IDEAS 2006 attracted 150 participants belonging to organizations spread over 9 countries Australia (1), (Belgium (2), France (1) Germany (5), India (1), Japan (24), Russia (1), Thailand (2), Vietnam(110)).

As a part of activities to increase awareness about Open Source Software for Geoinformatics and promote OSGeo in Vietnam, a pre-conference workshop entitled “Open Source for Geoinformatics” was organized at the Vietnamese Academy of Science and Technology (VAST) on 8<sup>th</sup> November, 2006. The details of the workshop are as below;

Workshop Title:	Open Source Geoinformatics Workshop
Venue:	HCMC Institute of Information Technology, 1 Mac Dinh Chi Str., Dist. 1, HCMC
Date:	8th November 2006
Coordinators:	Dr. Tran Van Lang, and Dr. Ho Dinh Duan, VAST-HCMC
Organized by:	Japan-Vietnam Geoinformatics Consortium HCMC Institute of Information Technology Institute of Physics, VAST HCMC
Supported by	Open Source Geospatial Foundation (OSGeo)
Participants:	54 (Vietnam 47, Japan 7)
Schedule:	9:00-09:30: Registration 9:30-10:00: Opening Speech a) Prof. Mamoru Shibayama Kyoto University, Japan and Joint Secretary, JVGC  b) Prof. Le Minh TRIET Chairman, Interdisciplinary Scientific Council HCMC-VAST
10:15-11:00	a) Free and Open Source Software for Geoinformatics Prof. Venkatesh RAGHAVAN Osaka City University, Japan and Director, OSGeo
11:00-12:00	b) Open Source Geoinformatics in Vietnam - Present Status and Future prospects Mr. Dao Van TUYET, HCM Institute of Information Technology. Dr. Ho Dinh DUAN, Institute of Physics, VAST-HCM
14:00-14:45	a) Installing and using the OCU FOSS4G Toolkit CD Dr. Go Yonezawa Kyoto University, Japan
15:00-16:00	b) Demonstration for Open Source Web-GIS Applications

Mr. Sarawut Ninsawat  
Osaka City University, Japan

16:00-16:30

Q&A

16:30-17:30

Meeting for establishing the Vietnam OSGeo Chapter

The pre-conference workshop on Open Source Software for Geoinformatics attracted enthusiastic response with more than 50 participants attending. The workshop provided an overview of GIS applications (Prof. Mamoru Shibayama, Joint Secretary JVGC) and Open Source software tools (Prof. Venkatesh Raghavan, Director, OSGeo). The afternoon session included actual installation of Open Source software tools and demonstrations including Vietnamese language localization (Dr. Go YONEZAWA, Kyoto University and Mr. Ninsawat SARAWUT, Osaka City University) Participants were presented with the Osaka City University (OCU) FOSS4G toolkit CD including GIS/RS and Web-GIS software for self-learning.

The post-workshop meeting for establishing the Vietnam after the workshop that was attended by more than 40 participants and members decided to establish the Vietnam OSGeo Chapter. Mr. Dao Van TUYET, HCMC Institute of Information Technology, VAST-HCMC was nominated as the Vietnam OSGeo Chapter representative and Dr. Ho Dinh Duan, Institute of Physics, VAST-HCMC was nominated as one of the coordinators of the Vietnam OSGeo Chapter. The proposal for establishment of OSGeo Vietnam Chapter is being prepared by the chapter representative and will be finalized in January, 2007. The highlight of the workshop along with the news about the proposed Vietnam OSGeo Chapter was broadcast on Ho Chi Minh television news on 8<sup>th</sup> November, 2006. This was perhaps the first official television news program in the world wherein OSGeo was specifically mentioned several times ([wgrass.media.osaka-cu.ac.jp/gisideas06/foss4g\\_ws\\_on\\_hcmctv.swf](http://wgrass.media.osaka-cu.ac.jp/gisideas06/foss4g_ws_on_hcmctv.swf)).

The OSGeo booth was operated on all the three days (9-11 November, 2006). The poster session was preceded by lightning-talk on proposed activities of OSGeo Vietnam by Mr. Do Long Van. Details about activities of OSGeo were also presented in the Technical Session by Prof. Venkatesh Raghavan (<http://wgrass.media.osaka-cu.ac.jp/gisideas06/viewabstract.php?id=166>). The OSGeo Booth at GIS-IDEAS 2006 included attracted attention of almost all the symposium participants. Brochure and posters explaining the activities of OSGeo and various OSGeo projects were made available at the booth.

Dr. Ho Dinh Duan  
Institute of Physics,  
VAST – HCMC, Vietnam

Mr. Dao Van Tuyet  
Institute of Information Technology  
VAST – HCMC, Vietnam



Photo 1: Workshop poster displayed outside VAST-HCMC



Photo 2: Volunteer in traditional Vietnamese dress welcoming Workshop participants.



Photo 3: OSGeo members standing in front of the workshop poster



Photo 4: Opening session of the workshop (seated from left to right Prof. Le Minh TRIET, Prof. Mamoru SHIBAYAMA and Prof. Venkatesh RAGHAVAN)



Photo 5: Prof. Raghavan presenting a talk about OSGeo at the workshop



Photo 6: Workshop participants listening to presentation



Photo 7: Post-workshop OSGeo meeting



Photo 8: Conference banner showing the theme and main organizers and sponsors.



Photo 9: OSGeo booth at GIS-IDEAS 2006



Photo 10: Another view of the OSGeo Booth



Photo 11: OSGeo volunteers at the booth (white T-shirts were hand-made at the conference venue due to delay in obtaining the T-shirts donated by OSGeo)

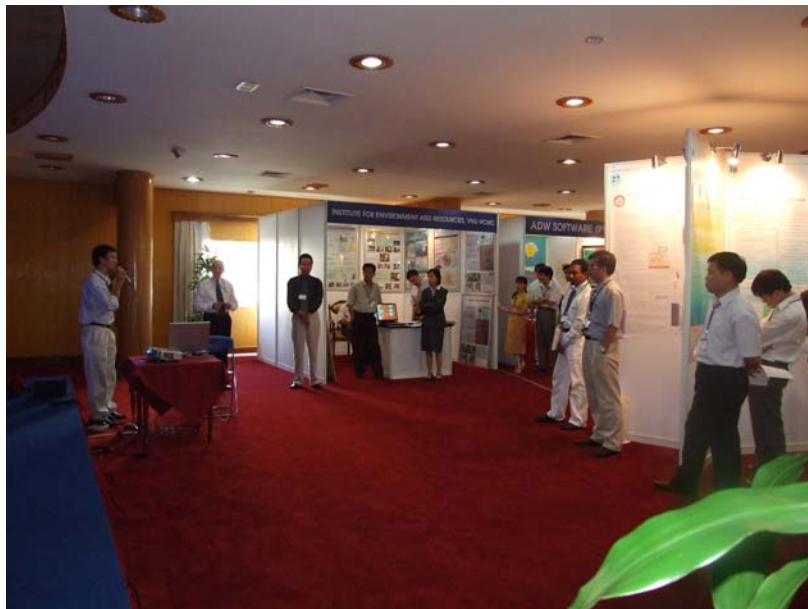


Photo 12: Mr. Do Long Van (VAST-HCMC) presenting about proposed activities of OSGeo Vietnam Chapter



Photo 13: OSGeo volunteers at the closing session