



Humanitarian  
OpenStreetMap  
Team



## Keynote Invitation at Global FOSS4G 2018 Conference

Dear XXX,

Real world questions often find their answers in technology. A worker might wonder which is the shortest path to home after a busy day at work or when their next bus will arrive. A government official is tasked with finding the best of two alternatives for land use or understanding the various scenarios in balancing environmental assets with economic development. Geography and location are at the heart of these questions, they are answered at the Free and Open Source for Geospatial - FOSS4G Global Conference.

As a global conference, FOSS4G has been around the world, from Boston to Sydney, Geneva to Bangkok, but never before in East Africa. Holding FOSS4G conference in Dar es Salaam presents a unique opportunity to bring together high-level decision makers from across Africa and the World, the global developer communities, and users of this technology, from government staff, NGOs, and businesses answering the challenges that rapid urbanisation, environmental and climate change, and many others bring on a daily basis.

Within the overarching theme of *"Leaving No-One Behind"*, FOSS4G is about presenting case studies, tools, and exemplars of data driven decision making that can improve the lives of all on our planet. This supports global initiatives, such as the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals and the Africa 2063 agendas, but these can only be realised through action within local and national action.

FOSS4G will convene 1000 programmers, thinkers, designers and practitioners from around the world, with sponsorship and exhibits from Google, ESRI, Microsoft, the World Bank among many others. Our conference aims to strengthen global geospatial capacity, with a large impact in our host country, Tanzania.

XXX has led the development of global standards, improving interoperability and enabling the open geospatial community to be the powerhouse that it is today. Accordingly, we wish to invite you to provide a keynote plenary address on Thursday the 30th of August 2018 at the Julius Nyerere Convention Centre, Dar es Salaam. The conference itself runs from Sunday 24th August to Sunday 2nd September. We hope this request is kindly received and look forward to hearing from you.

Yours Sincerely,

**Msilikale Msilanga and Mark Iliffe**  
*Conference Chairs, FOSS4G 2018*

**Tyler Radford**  
*Humanitarian  
OpenStreetMap Team*

**María Arias de Reyna**  
*OSGeo President*