

Dear Sir/Madam:

On behalf of Junta de Andalucía, the regional government of southernmost part of continental Spain, I'm proud to present you our proposal for hosting the 2008 OSGEO Conference in Seville.

The requested information about venue, services, accommodation, local team and interests follows:

1. The proposed place for the venue is FIBES "Palacio de Congresos" (Conventions Palace), in **Seville, Spain**.
2. Available meeting facilities are described in a separate document.
3. Any of the rooms, except the two larger ones (Al-Andalus and Itálica), can be fitted as workshops for the required number of people. Find attached document with present fares for computer rentals as a reference.
4. Consider that Seville is a medium sized city and, even as FIBES is located in one of the outer residential quarters, distances are not very large and public transportation (bus, taxi and train) is available from many places around the city. Accommodation capacity in the city is very large due to the touristic interest of such a monumental place, but for the same reason it can be hard to find accommodation if not booked within a reasonable lapse of time (say 3 or 4 months). The same is true for group discounts. Available accommodations near conference location is described in attached document. Cheaper accommodation is available in many hostels around the city and can be made available from the local University if necessary.
5. As can be seen in attached document, the main auditorium has a capacity of up to 1.029 seated people.
6. Supporting local organizations with interest in the GIS and/or free software fields :
 1. Worldwide ITC Companies : ESRI (Spanish branch), Telvent, Indra, Telefónica
 2. National Companies: Sadiel, Idom, ACT and others.
 3. Regional Companies:, Guadaltel, Saig, Iver
 4. Universities: Universidad de Sevilla, Universidad Pablo de Olavide, Universidad Oberta de Catalunya, Universidad de Valladolid.
 5. Public Administrations (Regional Governments): Junta de Andalucía, Junta de Extremadura, Generalitat Valenciana, Junta de Comunidades de Castilla – La Mancha and others.
7. Our proposal includes the participation of a professional events organization company, namely Signo Congresos, S.L.. This company has a large experience in organization of Conferences and other events. Junta the Andalucía has used the services of Signo Congresos, S.L. several times in the past and has found them satisfactory enough to include this company in our proposal. As for the venue itself, FIBES is a company exclusively dedicated to congress and exhibitions hosting with a many years experience. The proponent, Junta de Andalucía, has experience of its own in the organization of the Open Source World Conference (2004, 2006, 2008 in the works) that received several thousand attendees and hosted more than 100 communications and workshops and speakers from more than 20 different countries.
8. Cost of services from congress organization company are an additional 20 % over the venue fee, as stated in attached document.
9. Junta de Andalucía is strongly involved in the promotion and use of free software. There's a regional law that mandates that all software made by or for the regional government will be free software. GIS is a very important part of IT systems from the strategical and the economical point of view, so Junta de Andalucía is moving towards a free software corporate GIS in order to reduce public expenses as well as being more provider independent. In this sense Junta de Andalucía has developed its own applications and tools that have been extensively used in many Spanish speaking

countries (Enebro, Amatel, and others. See www.juntadeandalucia.es/repositorio/). It is very interesting for us to widespread the knowledge of free software GIS between public administrations in order to gain critical mass around certain projects and make it easier to develop, use and support those products. We want to make Andalusia known worldwide as the place where important developments on free software GIS are taking place and share our work and interest with other developers. In a wider scope, Spain is an active country in the development of free software GIS with projects as gvSIG and Kosmo. Hosting OSGEO 2008 can be an excellent chance to establish the Official OSGeo Chapter in Spain.

10. Traveling to Seville is quite easy from many places around the world. There's an international airport in the city (some 8 Km from the center), and Málaga (200 Km by train or road), Madrid (2h30min by train, 35min by plane) and Barcelona (1h by plane) are other important international airports.
11. Seville has a great touristic interest. Information can be found at:
<http://www.turismosevilla.tv/>
<http://www.turismo.sevilla.org>