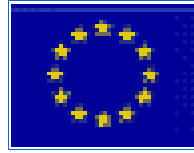


::: About tOSSad



tOSSad project (www.tossad.org) aims to improve the outcome of F/OSS communities throughout Europe by supporting the coordination and networking of these communities by means of state-of-the-art studies, national program initiations, usability cases and curriculum development.

::: tOSSad partners



tOSSad is a truly European project - it has members from all over Europe, including Germany, Austria, Bulgaria, Belgium, Estonia, UK, Ireland, Italy, Spain, Sweden, Malta, Norway, Slovenia, Turkey and Ukraine.

::: HAPPY BIRTHDAY, tOSSad! :::

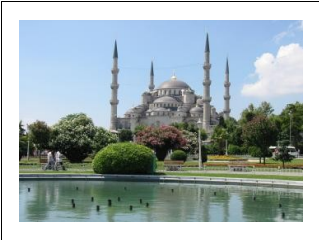
tOSSad is 1 year old now! We would like to thank everyone, especially our partners, European Commission members, our supporters, and everyone we have met and shared our vision. tOSSad has established a quite big momentum and synergy in F/OSS communities and we believe that the second year will bring us much more achievements.

Up to now, tOSSad workpackages have submitted their reports on tossad.org web page. Some of the deliverables of interest are for immediate download [here](#).^[1]



- **F/OSS usability report, part A:** This report gives an overview of F/OSS usability projects and initiatives and includes the results of the usability survey conducted in the last months. The survey covered questions on OpenOffice.org, Firefox and Linux.
- **1st F/OSS curriculum workshop report:** This document describes the First Workshop on F/OSS Curriculum Development held in Heerlen, the Netherlands.
- **Methodology, implementation report and tutorial to build a F/OSS laboratory:** This report discusses the methodology for building a F/OSS laboratory for different kinds of F/OSS curriculum and gives a step-by-step tutorial for the implementation of the proposed approaches.
- **Economical and social benefits of F/OSS report:** The report examines the major benefits of the F/OSS adoption within Public Administrations. It highlights the economic basis for such government decisions and whether F/OSS provides cost effective solutions to Public Administration's current reliance on proprietary software (PS). The report argues that F/OSS offers benefits beyond economic interests towards an open society reducing as well the digital divide.
- **F/OSS national programme start-up roadmap report:** Drawing upon recent studies, findings of other related EU funded studies, and experiences from both governmental and non-governmental establishments, the report proposes methods, options, and criteria towards Free/Libre/Open Source Software (F/OSS) adoption in public institutions.
- **F/OSS national programme workshop report:** The deliverable reports workshop results on F/OSS practices, experiences, obstacles in European national programmes. It reveals and points very interesting dependencies and barriers hidden in F/OSS implementations in Public Administrations.

::: Steering Committee Meeting in İstanbul



tOSSad partners have gathered in İstanbul, the cradle of civilizations for the 3rd Steering Committee meeting on 23rd of February. In this project meeting, the first year events and their timings were discussed. In the morning, Kaan Erkan and Görkem Çetin presented the current situation of tOSSad and offered corrective actions for WP-related concerns. In the afternoon, each WP leader presented their workpackages, together with task analysis, deliverable status, current problems and upcoming deadlines.

::: tOSSad in Second Open World Conference

tOSSad has exploited the opportunity to take seat at the Second Open Source World Conference. The conference took place in Malaga, Spain on 15th, 16th and 17th of February. The event was organized around the motto "Freedom and Innovation" by the regional governments of Andalusia and Extremadura together with companies of the IT sector and many other collaborating entities. An estimated number of 6000 people have attended the event.

tOSSad together with PyPy, another EU funded F/OSS project, has collaborated with EU IST Programme at the EU Commission booth within the conference exhibition area both to demonstrate EU funded F/OSS related IST projects and to disseminate recent results of the tOSSad work. Along with verbal information sharing with interested participants more than 400 tOSSad brochures were picked up during the event.

::: tOSSad in Bilgi University Open Days Conference



tOSSad partners had a presentation at 'FOSS Days 2006' event in İstanbul, between 24-25 March, 2006. The session on tOSSad was scheduled at a prominent place being the first keynote session. Each Workpackage representative has briefly mentioned objectives, tasks and deliverables. tOSSad panel has attracted a lot of open source evangelists, academicians, students and SMEs. tOSSad session has lasted for roughly one hour, and 15 minutes have been devoted to questions. Speakers were Kaan Erkan (introduction), Julia Velkova (WP1), Bülent Özel (WP2), Sandra Frings (WP3), Al Harris (WP4) and Görkem Çetin (WP5).

::: Advances in Workpackages

- tOSSad workshop on Governmental, Educational, Usability, and Legal Issues towards Open Source Software Adoption in an enlarged Europe" will be held on 10th of June, 2006 in Grand Hotel, Como, Italy. This conference is hosted by "The Second International Conference on Open Source Systems". The [call for papers link is here \[2\]](#)
- Görkem Çetin presented a paper "F/OSS usability: a tOSSad case" during Academic Computing conference held in Pamukkale University, Denizli between 9-11 of February 2006.
- Bülent Özel gave a talk at the main conference within thematic session "FLOSS Business Models". The talk was based on the paper "FLOSS-CC: A Collaborative Network of FLOSS Competency Centers towards Open Source Software Adoption and Dissemination" that proposes a novel strategy towards (FLOSS) adoption and dissemination. Deriving upon current Europe wide experiences and efforts, the paper suggests establishment of networked FLOSS Competency Centers for better collaboration, communication, and dissemination at regional/national, European and even global level.

- Workpackage 2 (National Programmes) and Workpackage 4 (F/OSS curriculum) partners delivered many reports on tOSSad web site, including Methodology, Implementation and Tutorial to Build a FOSS Laboratory report, F/OSS National Programme workshop report and Economical and Social Benefits of F/OSS report. [3,4,5]

A bit of fun: Street Dissemination!



Street Dissemination is made up of direct communication at public places. In doing "Street Dissemination" we tried to catch the spirit of tOSSad. Have a look at the pictures and you will see, it was a full success and a lot of fun. Photos from Peter, Al, Dessi and Julia.

::: Upcoming event: tOSSad in Bulgaria

Under the FlossWorld project (flossworld.org) Internet Society - Bulgaria is organizing a workshop on "Free and Open Source Software in South-Eastern Europe". The workshop will be held on 24th and 25th of March, 2006 in Sofia, Bulgaria. The main goal of the workshop will be to identify regional specifics in FLOSS, addressing the FlossWorld tracks (Human capacity building, Software development, e-Government policy) and create a basis for further collaboration with the community.



The SEE countries which will be represented during the workshop are Bulgaria, Croatia, Turkey and Macedonia. The topics to discuss will be: the FLOSS community, the business, e-government, skills development and education with FLOSS. Gökem Çetin (TUBITAK – UEKAE) and Bulent Ozel (Bilgi University) from tOSSad will be giving a presentations about

F/OSS presence in Turkey. You can find more information on the web site of the workshop and check the agenda on <http://www.foss.bg/conf>.

We believe that this conference will be a driving initiative between tOSSad and FLOSSWorld and lead to future communications and collaborations among other parties related to F/OSS.

Links within the newsletter:

- [1] <http://www.tossad.org/tossad/disseminations/deliverables>
- [2] http://www.tossad.org/tossad/events/tossad_2006
- [3,4,5] <http://www.tossad.org/tossad/disseminations/deliverables>

Keep an eye on tOSSad activities!
"Your tOSSad team"

Issue 4, February 2006. (C) [tOSSad project](http://www.tossad.org)
info@tossad.org

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