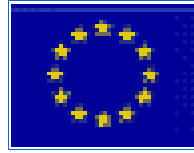


::: About tOSSad



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.

::: tOSSad F/OSS usability workshop was held in Bologna



The “tOSSad usability workshop” took place in Bologna at the premises of CINECA on the 15th of December 2006. The theme of the workshop was “**Empowering F/OSS applications with a usability focus: designing for a successful project**”. The workshop main goals consisted in: to have an understanding of the current relationship between F/OSS and usability, together with problems, barriers and actions taken; to understand how F/OSS and usability will cooperate across the organization or a project; to have the ability to integrate the developer's updated usability skills and the project they are involved in. Five presentations were given during the workshop.

The workshop started with the presentation by Francesca Campora: “Usability in F/OSS software from the point of K12 students”, covering the use of F/OSS in Italian primary schools its evolution and current issues. Christopher Gabriel presented the second presentation “Usability with Free Software in education: the FUSS Project experience”. Mr. Gabriel explained what FUSS free upgrade of south Tyrol's school is and presented the scale and nature of the migration at schools from proprietary to FOSS. He also stressed the importance of involving not only the students but also their families within the process.

The third presentation by Görkem Çetin, “How do open source developers and HCI experts work? Issues and discussion” covered problems encountered within the attitude of developers in the F/OSS domain that hinder the usability of the software developed. This presentation was followed by “Defining F/OSS usability in real life: Digital interactive television” by Lorenzo Pallara. He described the state of the art in interactive television in Italy, how the use of F/OSS to create a digital interactive television (DIT) server, named CreaTV Box, increased the pace of development and made it cost effective. He especially focused on and demonstrated software packages developed for the platform to improve learning abilities of children with disabilities.

The final presentation, “How do F/OSS content management systems perform when it comes to usability and user experience?”, was given by Andrea Resmini. It covered the usability aspects of (the most popular) F/OSS CMS systems, more specific the usability aspects of their web interfaces.

The workshop was closed by a public discussion.

::: The tOSSad closing meeting in Badajoz announced

The tOSSad project has a duration of 2 years. A closing event will be held at Badajoz during the [Free Software World Conference](#) taking place from February the 7th till February the 9th. During the closing events tOSSad partners will focus on the findings of the extensive work done during the last 24 months, by presenting guidelines for F/OSS community, statistics of surveys, status reports and workshop outcomes. **The tOSSad session will be on 8th of February between 16:30 and 18:00**



The closing meeting will be primarily aimed at

- Public administration representatives
- F/OSS users and developers
- Interested parties in curriculum

Meeting will take around 1.5 hours and 40 to 60 participants are expected to attend.

tOSSad project itself will help the visibility of Free Software World Conference 3.0 by issuing a special newsletter which will cover this event and the tOSSad closing meeting. Moreover, a news will be put on our web site in order to attract potential audience who visit tOSSad web site. Afterwards, the tOSSAD partners will celebrate the end of the project and their longterm collaborations and bring a toast to the future ahead.

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

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