

GNOME.Asia 2009 Vietnam
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GNOME.Asia Summit 2009 in Ho Chi Minh City (Saigon) attracted 1465 developers, students, business professionals and government officials establishing Vietnam as one of the top spots for the Free and Open Source community and businesses.

Participants from 14 countries, 79 speakers with 34 from outside of Vietnam, 109 talks, presentations and panels, 255 participants at the Linux course and 138 volunteers (44 males, 94 females) - these are the numbers of the GNOME.Asia Summit 2009 at Quang Trung Software City, Vietnam, announced by the organization committee.

Mario Behling, chair of the summit, says: "I am excited to see such a huge interest of the free software community. The summit in Vietnam is one of the top IT events in Asia in 2009 and I am especially happy to see a big participation from young women. 60 percent of all participants were women. I would like to thank Quang Trung Software City and the ICT Department of Ho Chi Minh City for making this event possible. I look forward to more cooperation in the future with FOSSASIA in 2010."

"The 2009 summit is a big encouragement. The support we received internationally as well as through the government, businesses and the local community has been fantastic." Hong Phuc Dang, head of the Vietnamese Organization team adds. "We will continue to work hard to spread knowledge and education with Free and Open Source software (FOSS), content and Open hardware. IT and FOSS offer new income opportunities for local companies and provide the tools for families to improve their lives.", Ms. Dang goes on.

In her keynote Stormy Peters, Executive Chairwomen of the GNOME Foundation, gave an introduction to the current advancements of the GNOME project. The GNOME projects offers contributors a space to learn about Free and Open Source Software, but also about design or other languages, Peters explained.

GNOME.Asia is the first community event of its kind in Vietnam. The engagement of big international actors, including SUN Microsystems, IBM, Google and Intel as well as local companies like TMA Solutions, Asianux, FPT and GHP Far East reflects the increasing importance of Open Source solutions and freely licensed Software for businesses in Asia.

A focus of the summit were lightweight Linux solutions for businesses and households. Tobias Gruetzmacher from Germany presented energy efficient thin clients. In a workshop students learned how to build a thin client from components and how to flash routers with Freifunk. Ping-Hsun Chen presented xPUD a webOS with LXDE and GNOME components developed since 2007. Core developers of the faster X-environment LXDE Fred Chien and Andrew Lee offered insights to the latest developments of the GNOME based desktop.

OpenOffice.org as a community partner was presented by Louis Suarez-Potts, who portrayed cooperation opportunities with the Asian community. Other projects present were Inkscape with Andy Fitzsimon, Songbird and OpenSolaris with Alfred Peng, moonOS with Chanrithy Thim Rithy, OpenStreetMap with Khanh Le Ngoc Quoc, Emily Chen for GNOME Beijing, KhmerOS with Chantra Be, Statusnet (identi.ca) with Jon Phillips and Pockey Lam and Fred Muller from the Beijinglug.

The organization team also announced some details for events in Vietnam in the upcoming year. From Nov. 12-14, 2010 FOSSASIA, the biggest FOSS event in South East Asia, will be held in Ho Chi Min City (Saigon). FOSSASIA is modeled after international community conferences like FOSDEM in Belgium, Froscon in Germany and FISL in Brazil. The focus for FOSSASIA 2010 are *Lightweight Computing* and *Women in IT*.

Please find more information about GNOME.Asia 2009 here: <http://2009.gnome.asia>
Info about FOSSASIA 2010 can be found at: <http://fossasia.org>

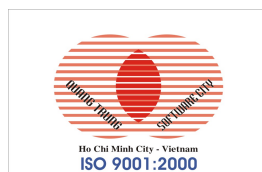
Links:

GNOME.Asia - <http://gnome.asia>
LXDE - <http://lxde.org>
Freifunk - <http://freifunk.net>
xPUD - <http://www.xpud.org>
Inkscape - <http://inkscape.org>
OpenOffice - <http://openoffice.org>
OpenStreetMap - <http://openmap.vn>
moonOS - <http://www.moonos.co.cc>
KhmerOS - <http://khmeros.info>
Songbird - <http://www.getsongbird.com>
OpenSolaris - <http://opensolaris.org>
Beijinglug - <http://beijinglug.org>
FOSDEM - <http://fosdem.org>
Froscon - <http://froscon.org>
FISL - <http://fisl.org.br>
Identi.ca - <http://identi.ca>

About the Organizers



The **GNOME Foundation** is an organization committed to supporting the advancement of GNOME, comprised of hundreds of volunteer developers and industry-leading companies. The GNOME desktop is a free, easy to use, accessible and internationalized desktop for Linux and Unix-based operating systems used by millions. GNOME is a standard part of all leading GNU/Linux and Unix distributions, and is popular with both large existing corporate deployments and small business and home users. GNOME Foundation sponsoring members include Access, Canonical, Debian, the Free Software Foundation, Hewlett-Packard, IBM, Igalia, Imendio, Intel, Mozilla, Nokia, Novell, OLPC, Opened Hand, Red Hat, and Sun Microsystems, with legal pro bono work provided by Software Freedom Law Center and Wilson Sonsini Goodrich Rosati. <http://gnome.org>



Quang Trung Software City was founded in 2001, as one of the key projects for future development of Ho Chi Minh City. With 430,000 sqm it is the biggest software park in Vietnam. QTSC offers a highly reliable infrastructure for high tech companies in the software development sector. Services offered include an exhibition centre, accommodation, and entertainment. 20,000 people will live in the quarter by 2010. QTSC has got a strong support from both the local and the state government, and is able to offer unique benefits to enterprises relocating itself in the

quarter. The QTSC management sees it as its core responsibility to support IT companies and investors to do business in HCMC and Vietnam. <http://www.quangtrungsoft.com.vn>

Community Partner

LXDE is a fast, performant and energy-saving interface backend for mobile devices and computers with low hardware specifications. It uses GTK+ and comes with a beautiful interface, multi-language support, standard keyboard short cuts and additional features like tabbed file browsing. LXDE uses less CPU and less RAM. It provides a fast desktop experience; connecting easily with applications in the cloud. The LXDE Foundation supports the growth of the international community developing and maintaining LXDE. <http://lxde.org>

Press Contact

Mario Behling
Chair GNOME.Asia Summit 2009
mb@gnome.asia
Vietnam +84 1286380690
(English, German, French)

Hong Phuc Dang
Head of Organization Team
hp@gnome.asia
Vietnam +84 939871001
(English, Vietnamese)