

EDITORIAL PREFACE

Free and Open Source Software: Development and Utilization

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This issue of the *International Journal of Applied Geospatial Research* is dedicated to free and open source software (FOSS) including its development and utilization. Ken Hartness begins with an historical overview and current assessment of open source software with a piece titled “To Emphasize Openness.” Next José Gil, Laura Díaz, Carlos Granell¹ and Joaquín Huerta from the Institute of New Imaging Technologies at the Universitat Jaume I (Spain) discuss the deployment of environmental data into geospatial information structures. Sam Herold and Michael Sawada offer an extensive review of free and open source software (FOSS) for geospatial information technology (GIT). Their review of FOSS is framed within context of natural disaster management in developing countries. Completing this issue is a status report on Harvard’s Center for Geographic

Analysis (CGA) by Wendy Guan and Peter Bol. The CGA developed WorldMap, a geoportal which conforms to Open Geospatial Consortium standards, and therefore fits well into the scope of this IJAGR FOSS theme.

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ENDNOTE

- ¹ Dr. Carlos Granell is currently affiliated with the European Commission, Joint Research Centre, Institute for Environment and Sustainability, Spatial Data Infrastructures Unit, Ispra, Italy.

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