

Q&A for FOSS4G-Asia 2020 bids

For Nepal Team:

I hereby attempt to give an answer to all the questions. Please find the answers below

1) *Registration fee details needs to be provided*

| Category of Participants | Early Bird Registration Fee | | Normal Registration Fee | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|-------|-------------------------|-------|
| | US \$ | NRs | US\$ | NRs |
| International Participants | 150 | 15000 | 200 | 20000 |
| Participants from SAARC | 120 | 12000 | 150 | 15000 |
| National Participants | | 7500 | | 8500 |
| Students International | 100 | 10000 | 100 | 10000 |
| National | | 5000 | | 5000 |
| Accompanying Person | 100 | 10000 | 100 | 10000 |

2) *The current list of most accommodation hotels seem to be high-end. The price is quite high for most Asian participants. Better to recommend some alternatives nearby KU campus that are cheap clean and safe? For examples 30~60 US\$. Also, is there some hostel accommodation for students.*

Besides high end accommodation there are many inexpensive hotels as well.

The KU has its own reasonable accommodation facilities for national and international guest <http://old.ku.edu.np/kuic/>

The Hotel Sarathi <http://www.sarathihotel.com/>

There are many more options available

3) *How about the fee for gala dinner if a conference party is organized*

The fee will be collected from participants as 15US\$ per person

4) *Can you outline more about the timeline for the conference days, 9-12 December?*

For example, when will the workshops occur, main talks, and if there is a code sprint planned. You don't need to be specific each day, just outline which days the workshops will be on, which days the main talks will occur, and if there is a code sprint day planned.

| Day | Activities |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| DAY_1 (9 th December) | Parallel Workshops (3) |
| DAY_2 (10 th December) | Registration, Opening Session, Keynote Speakers, Parallel Technical Sessions, Gala Dinner |
| DAY_3(11 th December) | Key Note Speakers, Parallel Technical Sessions, , Closing Session, Social Events |
| DAY_4 (12 th December) | Code Sprint |

5) *Are you planning any social events, or 'gala dinner' as part of the schedule?*

We will be planning 'gala Dinner' together with social tour. We are planning to conduct social and cultural visit to the core cities of Kathmandu Valley.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kathmandu_Durbar_Square

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bhaktapur>

This would be opportunity for us to market our national moto of visit Nepal 2020.

<https://www.welcomenepal.com/>

<https://visitnepal2020.com/>



6) *FOSS4G is all about the t-shirts, have you budgeted/planned for t-shirts for all attendees?*

Yes, we have plan to print the t-shirts with a FOSS4G awareness included in the budget. It cost around 10\$. We have experienced of printing T shirts because each year our GES society of our undergraduate students program will get T shirt printed.

7) *What is the average cost of traveling from the Tribhuvan International airport, for each attendee?*

The cost depends upon type of vehicle. In public vehicle it is 1 \$ per person. In private

taxi it is about 20 to 25 \$. However, we can arrange a pick up and drop in a group in a reasonable cost.

8) *Can you be specific on the maximum number of seats available in your largest auditorium at Central Campus?*

The maximum number is 300 audience. However, there is a multipurpose hall of capacity 1000 participants are under the construction. By December 2020, it might be available

9) *Where are you planning to hold the hands-on workshops? Will you provide PCs in a school/lab setting, or do attendees have to bring their own laptops?*

The second day of the workshop. The Geo lab will be used for the hands-on workshop. The lab consists of 30 computers <http://geom.ku.edu.np/>

10) *Regarding the host, Department of Geomatics Engineering, can you link to or describe what FOSS4G courses or research activities are happening in the department?*

The Courses are for example Web GIS, SDI, QGIS, DBMS (Postgres).

Besides the use of FOSS4G in classroom activities, the Department of Geomatics Engineering has been continuously promoting the use of Free and Open Sourced Software in research activities. The use of such software are not only limited to students research but also the department has also been developing software on open sourced platform. Some of the example project where the department developed applications on open sourced platforms include:

- UAV for estimation of above ground forest biomass
- Mobile/Web App for Ambulance/vehicle tracking
- Mobile/Web App for need and impact assessment due to Disaster
- Mobile/Web App for collecting information on Archaeologically important buildings/structures
- Mobile App for Geofencing

Currently, the department is hosting and administering Non-Governmental GeoNode with financial support from World Bank Group.

<http://geom.ku.edu.np/>

11) Regarding the Local Committee:

- can you describe how some or all of the listed members are active with FOSS4G software or groups?

The Chair Person from the computer department deals with artificial intelligence and open-source platform

The member in the list is Project Incharge of World Bank-funded GeoNode who is working on an open-source platform

The other members are also working directly and also indirectly in applications based on open source platform

- the local committee lacks members from private companies, maybe you can consider adding a few from local private companies

I hereby add more members from Private Company

As per the suggestion, hereby proposed a few more members from Private Company

Mr, Nama Raj Budhathoki, Ph.D. (Executive Director) of Kathmandu Living Lab

<http://www.kathmandulivinglabs.org/about>

Dr. Rehana Shrestha, Nest Pvt. Ltd (exploring the open-source platform for decision Table)

Mr. Harish Dhoju of Pathway Technologies and Services

<http://ptas.com.np/>

Mr. Shashis Maharjan, Visiting faculties giving a lecture on SDI and DBMS at Kathmandu University

12) Missing is the required section on outlining proposed registration fees for students or regular attendees

I have elaborated in Question 1

13) I believe that there is an active OpenStreetMap community in Nepal. Do you plan any collaboration with them for the FOSS4G-Asia 2020 event?

Yes I have already included the executive director in the member list bt taking his consent.

14) Missing is the final section on "Why Nepal"; you could describe the local geo community there, and promote your beautiful geographic location

Nepal is in the transition phase in the use of open-source software. Since the software cost is not affordable for developing countries like Nepal, it is now a necessity to move towards the open-source platform. Within this decade, the geo community and network are increased sharply. The capacity has been developed and brought in the market. The use of geo-information has been found in many sectors, for instance, land management, forestry, agriculture, urban planning, health sectors. Despite the need for the FOSS4G conference to strengthen the Geo community towards open source, the conference supports in the national agenda of Visit Nepal 2020.



<https://visitnepal2020.com/>

Reshma Shrestha (PhD, University of Twente)

Assistant Professor

Department of Geomatics Engineering

School of Engineering

Kathmandu University, Dhulikhel, Nepal

Website: www.ku.edu.np