

Background Paper for the FOSS workshop to be held in the 7th Internet Governance Forum , to be held in Baku, Azerbaijan.

Globally, FOSS has made intense strides to capitalize on the opportunities available, that has enabled a wider group of persons to engage in the Internet development, more especially from developing nations.

This workshop is meant to address three key areas, that Free and open source software has made a milestone, in the last few years to fulfill the Millennium development goal, across the globe.

The Panelists will give practical presentations/projects on FOSS, that has changed the face of :

i) Governments

In Policy - Open Data,

ii) Academia

Open Education Resources (OER) and FOSS in schools

ii) Private Sector- Wealth creation, innovation and job creation

2. How FOSS is bridging the digital divide, existing between the different age groups more especially the Youth, between the different social circles/media , inclusion of person's with disabilities.etc, through partnerships and rural deployment of FOSS.

3. It will finally address, what or which policies should governments embrace, that would continue to enhance FOSS in the Internet development goal at national level, regional level and global level?