ELOGeo: An e-Learning Framework for Using Geospatial Open Data, Open Source and Open Standards

Amir Pourabdollah, Suchith Anand, Jeremy Morley, Mike Jackson (The University of Nottingham, UK) {amir.pourabdollah; suchith.anand; jeremy morley; mike.jackson}@nottingham.ac.uk

Kamie Kitmitoo (The University of Manchester, UK) {kamie.kitmitto@manchester.ac.uk}





The ELOGeo Project is a JISC-funded project based at the Centre for Geospatial Science at the University of Nottingham in partnership with the Mimas Centre of Excellence at the University of Manchester. Its objective is to enable the wider community (not just GIS experts) to make use of open source geospatial tools for solving real world problems. Currently, there is a big learning curve for new users to understand and use these technologies and if a general take-up of them is to be achieved it is necessary that an open, interactive, user friendly learning framework is developed.

This project addresses the provision of infrastructure for education, transfer of knowledge and training of users and researchers on the effective use of open geospatial services, by providing a set of methodologies, tools and materials. The courses target the researchers, non-geospatial experts and general public who want to use open data, standards and tools.

The framework is now ready to access via the project website at http://elogeo.nottingham.ac.uk.



The Web Interface consists of

- > The main web site;
- > The repository which can
 - o accept uploading materials from different users
 - o assign a set of definable metadata to each material
 - o apply administration on the uploading process
 - support login/logout/registration mechanisms
 - o provide search facilities over the uploaded materials
- ➤ Wiki for creating, editing and accessing the wiki-style materials; and
- Blog and mail-lists.

Openness is the key element: Not only is open (a) (1) geospatial the repository topic but access to the materials is also open to the public through open (Creative Commons) licenses, even the framework is developed in open source platform (Dspace).

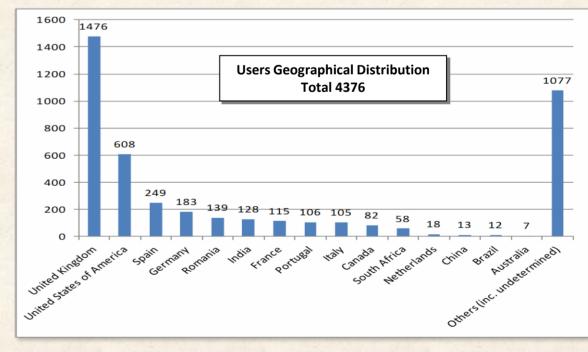


Everyone is welcome to join this knowledge community and everyone can share materials online at: elogeo.nottingham.ac.uk



The ELOGeo repository was launched in June 2011 and within 5 months was successful in building a strong community of contributors and users for the project. As of November 1, 2011, ELOGeo has 58 registered users, with 66 sets of material (lecture notes, practicals, handouts,

papers) submitted to the repository by the community. In this 5 month period there were over 17000 accesses of the materials from over 4000 users



From around the world which demonstrates the strong demand from the targeted community.

ELOGeo Sustainability and Future: ELOGeo implemented as a community led project (with support from the Open Source Geospatial Foundation, Open Geospatial Consortium etc). We are seeing strong growth in materials contributions and user base. We will focus on issues such as semantic interlinking development for future research topic.

Other collaborators:











