



# PROGRAMMA OSOSS

## **Dutch programme on Open Standards and Open Source Software for governments**

**Open Standards and Libre Software in Government, 18<sup>th</sup> november 2004**

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# Drivers for governments using open source / free software

- Vendor lock-in
- Interoperability / Flexibility
- Re-usability
- Quality: transparency, sustainability, safety
- Costs (?)
- Stimulating local/european software industry

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# Policy in the Netherlands

- Starting point: vote in parliament (2002)
- All governmental organisations should use open standards for communication and messaging
  - this is not (yet) mandatory
- Equal opportunities for open source software and closed source software
  - there is no duty to use open or free software

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# Programme OSOSS

- Competence centre on open standards (OS) and open source software (OSS) for governments
- Commissioned by ministry of Interior, ministry of Trade and Economics, ministry of Education
- Mission: stimulating use of open standards and informing on open source software
- 2003-2005, € 1,2 million per year
- Part of the Dutch organisation for eGovernment (ICTU)

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# Programme OSOSS

- 10 teammembers
- Competences: technical, legal, communication
- Budget € 1,5 million a year (2003-2005)
- Cooperation with specific marketorganisations/egov competence centers (health, eductation, SME's..)
- "Train the trainers"

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# Tasks of competence centre

## 1. Creating awareness /



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# Tasks of competence centre

## 2. Guidelines and best practices

- Case studies
- How to start?
- License-manual
- Legal advise (guideline liability, guideline procurement)!
- TCO-studies
- Catalogue of open standards ([www.canos.nl](http://www.canos.nl))

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# Tasks of competence centre

## 3. Just helping / Advise

- Anything that is needed: legal, technical, organisational..

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# Where are we now? Results survey OSOSS/MERIT/EC

- More than half of all public organisations use 'some' open source software
- A large minority wants extending use of open source software, but.....
- Use of free software concentrates in backoffice
  - server, content management (MMBase), file-print services, databases
- Slow adoption on the desktop
- Governments mostly 'user', not 'distributor'

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# Projects

- National Agency on Watermanagement (Linux clusters)
- Gemeente IJsselstein (PHP Nuke CMS, Firewall, Webserver etc.)
- Waterboard Waterschap Zeeuws Vlaanderen (Linux, Squid, Samba, MySQL, Horde en veel meer)
- Gemeente Marum (several PinkRoccade Civision applications on MySql/MaxDB)
- Gemeente Amsterdam and many others (MMBase)
- Ministry of Interior: Election Software

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## Projects on desktop

- Gemeente Vlieland (30 desktops Staroffice)
- Gemeente Vaals (60 desktops Open Office)
- Gemeente Woerden (300 Linux thin clients)
- Royal Dutch Meteorological Institute (150 Linux desktops)
- Gemeente Haarlem (1800 desktops Open Office)

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# Conclusions

- Communication, Communication, Communication
- Trust: testing? certification?
- Legal issues an obstacle?
- Don't forget open standards
- "Get the facts"

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# More information

[www.ososs.nl](http://www.ososs.nl)

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