



**Proposal of GNOME.Asia Summit 2011
/ GNOME 3.0 Hackfest & Launch Party**



Proposed city: Bangalore
Proposed date: April 27-30, 2011

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1. Introduction

We would like to propose Bangalore as one of the potential venues to host the fourth edition of GNOME.Asia which would include a GNOME3 hackfest and a conference. Bangalore is home to a lot of core developers for GNOME technologies. Most of the companies working on GNOME have strengthened their base in Bangalore over the years. Now that FOSS has a great hold on the country, it is the right time to start building on the success and spreading the word of GNOME with the scheduled GNOME3 release in the month of Apr 2011. A hackfest and a conference would be the right mix to help market GNOME and build a greater community for GNOME.

About Bangalore

Bangalore is the capital of Karnataka and is India's fifth-largest city. Often called "The Garden City," Bangalore is full of parks famous for their flowering trees and greenery, giving the city a unique beauty. Many diverse cultures and customs exist in Bangalore, and its 5.3 million inhabitants favor activities such as football, cricket, bowling, hockey and rock climbing. This bustling city has experienced much industrial and commercial growth in recent years, while maintaining the preservation of its ancient arts and architectural wonders such as the Sri Radha Krishnachandra Temple, among many others. Please refer <http://wikitravel.org/en/Bangalore> for more details.

2. Objectives

- To focus on GNOME development and contribution.
- To encourage more people, especially from India, to get involved in GNOME development.
- To give people a place and platform to meet together, interact on GNOME technology and discuss ideas face to face.
- To provide an environment for sharing of information on latest GNOME technologies and techniques.
- To give more traction to the hacker culture and mentality in India by reaching out to students.
- To give people from Asia, who have just got hooked to FOSS, a feel of one of those mainstream community events, like GUADEC, FOSDEM etc.
- To increase the deployment of FOSS technologies in business enterprises and universities.
- To facilitate increased collaboration between business and FOSS community so that they can support and complement each other.
- To showcase , spread and celebrate GNOME 3.0

3. Dates and Venue

Tentative dates: April 27 – 30 (3 day hackfest + 1 day conference)

Hackfest Venue

1) Novell Office at Bangalore

<http://www.novell.com/offices/asiapac/india/npgb/>

Novell IDC started its operations in 1994. As the largest lab of Novell Inc. outside of the U.S., Novell Bangalore is a full-fledged engineering R&D center.



Multipurpose hall – Novell Office, Bangalore (350 people)



Smaller Multi-purpose hall (80 people)



Conference rooms (40 people)

2) Intel Office at Bangalore

<http://www.intel.com/jobs/india/sites/bangalore.htm>

Both venues can provide 2 - 3 conference rooms for about 60 – 70 people. The companies have tie ups with hotels for meals and the same service could be extended for the hackfest attendees. And also, since the companies are located in tech parks, the hackfest delegates would have accessibility to 4-6 hotels and canteens within 1 km radius and canteens.

Conference Venue



The two venues for the hackfest can serve as a venue for the conference as well. But the local team would work out options with the universities to host the 1-day conference. Bangalore has over 100 engineering colleges. Tying up with universities would help build a strong base for GNOME community in Bangalore and also open doors for GNOME Training in universities. The local team is already in talks with the premier colleges to host the day long conference.

The universities have a great history of conducting various seminars/conferences/workshops.
<http://www.pes.edu/Program/Inst8/Menu/conference.aspx>

Some potential universities to host the conference are:

[PES Institute of Technology](#)

[RV College of Engineering](#)

[BMS College of Engineering](#)

[Dayananda Sagar College of Engineering](#)

4. Target participants, speakers and audiences

Hackfest (~ 50 GNOME contributors / developers):

- GNOME Shell Developers
- GNOME Marketing Team
- GNOME Release Team
- GNOME Documentation Team
- GNOME contributors working on the GNOME 3.0 release

Conference (~ 300 people)

- GNOME users and developers
- Company representatives
- University lecturers
- Students

5. Activities and schedule

Hackfest:

Getting things done sessions
Hacking
Collaborating
Discussion
Technical Helpdesk

Conference:

The theme for the day long conference would revolve around “FOSS for Sustainable Development in Developing Countries”. It will consist of following tracks

Keynotes
Lightning Talks

Basic Tutorials and Tech Talks
Birds of Feather
User experiences of FOSS contributors

6. Expectation and marketing

For the hackfest, the participants would include people currently involved in GNOME development, either through official employment or through other open source community channels.

The conference would see a more diverse participation from students to business/corporate delegates ,FOSS developers/contributors/advocates , press/media and if possible we will also try to rope in a Government of India presence of some sort for a more official stamp on this event.

To spread awareness of this event , we will heavily rely on social networking sites, such as Facebook ,Twitter ,Orkut etc. We will do canvassing for the event in schools and universities across Bangalore in order to involve as many students as possible. Information about the event will be shared through blogposts and RSS feeds on PlanetGNOME regularly. We will also provide updates through IRC channels and mailing lists. To create more buzz and excitement we will be designing attractive T-Shirts, posters, badges, banners, slogans etc. We will try to garner maximum sponsorship from businesses currently having a stake in open source development.

7. Budget

Attached as a separate sheet

8. Potential sponsors

We will help to send out "Call for sponsors" to find local sponsors in Bangalore.

Some potential sponsors are:

- Novell
- Redhat
- Intel
- Collabora

Most companies working on GNOME have a very strong base in Bangalore, and this makes finding more sponsors easier.

9. Conclusion

Bangalore being the technology hub in India, a GNOME Asia event would help spread the word for GNOME 3.0 and encourage more students to get involved with GNOME projects. With the media and universities involved in an event of this scale, we can expect a great marketing for GNOME3 release.