

# The Political Potential of OSPOs



# Who are building OSPOs?

Universities

Cities / Countries

Regional

Global Orgs / NGOs

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**Universities:** Johns Hopkins; RIT; Trinity College Dublin; UCLA Santa Cruz

**Cities / Countries:** Paris; France; Germany

**Regional:** European Commission; Cascadia Region, US

**Global Orgs / NGOs:** United Nations

## European Commission Study:

The impact of Open Source Software and Hardware on technological independence, competitiveness and innovation (SMART 2019/0011)



# Overview of Economic Impact

OSS code and components are integrated in the vast majority of software

OSS makes up between 0.5% and 0.7% of the EU's GDP.

Increasing globally available OSS code by 10% would increase the EU's GDP between 0.4% and 0.6%

In the EU, OSS has a cost-benefit ratio of 1:10

# OSPO Impact: Policies

Economic Growth

Lock-in, control,  
digital autonomy

Social Policies

Innovation

Digital Skills

Competitive Markets

Public Money,  
Public Code

SME Growth

Transparency & trust

# Sample Public Sector OSPO Goals

Centre of Excellence

Sustainability /  
Cyber security

Digital Autonomy

Share / Re-use

Innovation /  
Tech Transfer

Diversity & Inclusion

Community Building

Digital Skills

Cross-border initiatives  
/ Shared Languages

Changed Behaviours /  
Culture Change

Social / Economic  
Development

Transparency /  
Open Data

# The OSPO Recommendations

We recommend the European Commission to consider taking five steps to increasing European Open Source institutional capacity through a network of OSPOs:

1. Giving the European Commission OSPO an external networking component
2. Identifying and mapping European OSPOs in existence in industry, public sector and academia
3. Encouraging and building 10 Government OSPOs through a funding programme
4. Creating and funding the EU OSPO Network



# Vision: OSPO Networks

Learning from private sector OSPOs

Strengthening links between diverse organisations

Achieving scale & innovation through collaboration

A global network of OSPOs

