QGIS.ORG - Annual Report 2016

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1.Introduction

This report provides an overview of the main activities carried out through the calendar year of 2016 within the QGIS project.
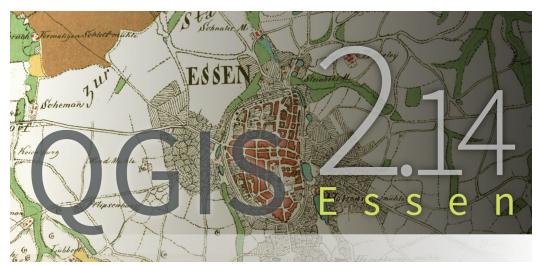
2.QGIS Releases

During the year of 2016 we released 23 versions of QGIS consisting of three minor releases (2.14, 2.16, and 2.18) and 20 bug fix releases (see detailed list below).

Jan 15th	2.8.6	&	2.12.3
Feb 26th	2.8.7	&	**2.14.0 "Essen"** (Changelog)
Mar 25th	2.8.8	&	2.14.1
Apr 29th	2.8.9	&	2.14.2
May 20th	2.14.3		
Jul 8th	2.14.4	&	**2.16.0 "Nødebo"** (Changelog)
Jul 29th	2.14.5	&	2.16.1
Aug 26th	2.14.6	&	2.16.2
Sep 23th	2.14.7	&	2.16.3
Oct 21st	2.14.8	&	**2.18.0 "Las Palmas"** (Changelog)
Nov 25th	2.14.9	&	2.18.1
Dec 16th	2.14.10	&	2.18.2

Releases plans for the year were made publicly available via the QGIS Roadmap Page.

3.Community Meetings

May 27th-29th 2nd International QGIS Conference & Developer Meeting, Girona, Spain
http://blog.qgis.org/2016/06/30/report-back-15th-qgis-hackfest-in-girona-spain/

August 21st-23rd & 27th-28th QGIS Developer Meeting, Bonn, Germany
In conjunction with the OSGeo Code Sprint during the FOSS4G week
https://wiki.osgeo.org/wiki/FOSS4G_2016_Code_Sprint

6. PSC

The PSC met on a monthly basis throughout the year. Notes from these various meetings were recorded and shared publicly (as per the links below).

- December 2016
- November 2016
- October 2016
- September 2016
- August 2016
- July 2016
- June 2016
- May 2016
- April 2016
- March 2016
- February 2016
- January 2016

These meetings included occasional participation from QGIS community members who had specific issues to raise. We encourage any QGIS member to make use of the opportunity to raise issues for our meeting agendas, or to join the PSC meetings if something needs to be discussed.

Otto Dassau who served on the PSC since it formed, stood down from the PSC in August 2016 due to family commitments. The PSC moved to not replace his position on the PSC in the interest of reducing the size of the PSC and streamlining decision making. Yves Jacolin volunteered to take on the role of documentation lead for QGIS and Lene Fischer volunteered to take on the role of community events lead. Both Lene and Yves will act in their roles independently of the PSC. In October 2016, Marco Hugentobler (who also served on the PSC since it was formed) also stood down from PSC. For similar motivations for not replacing Otto's position, we did not seek a replacement for Marco's position on the PSC. The PSC would like to extend out heartfelt thanks to Otto and Marco for the many years of time and effort they contributed to the PSC. Both departing members will remain active in the QGIS project and we look forward to collaborating with them in the future!

The PSC also continued its work to transition QGIS.org from a loose knit community project to a Swiss Verein (Association) which will give QGIS more standing for managing its finances with it's own bank account and to become the legal holder of the QGIS Trademark. As part of this process PSC elections were held and the Board (which is a subset of the PSC which represents the QGIS.ORG legal entity) was elected (see votes and elections below).

7. Votes and elections

We elected our voting membership for the formation of the new QGIS governance structure. The voting elected members consisted of 13 User Group voting members, 13 Community voting representatives and 1 OSGEO voting member.

Following the election of the voting members, QGIS board and PSC elections were held. With a large vote of confidence being shown in the existing PSC membership.

We initiated the QGIS Grant Programme for the first time in 2016. The purpose of the Grant Programme is to allocate a portion of the funds received through donations and sponsorship towards targetted improvements to the QGIS project. An open process was followed whereby any community member could submit a proposal and the QGIS Voting Members subsequently voted on which proposals should be approved.

As part of our preparations for QGIS 3.0, plans were put in place to develop an new updated visual identity for the QGIS project. This included voting for a new logo.

8. Financial

Annual financial report for 2016 is provided as Annex 1 at then end of this report. We also published an interesting breakdown of the income received on the QGIS blog.

http://blog.qgis.org/2017/02/25/a-report-on-qgis-income-2016/

We had 1128 donations in 2016 amounting to a total of €25108. We had 47 Sponsors in 2016 which raised a total income of €67921. December is the month that attracts the highest income from donations and sponsors (though that may coincide with additional marketing we did calling for sponsors). Looking at contributions by country, Denmark was the highest national contributor in 2016, providing a total of €17795 to the QGIS.ORG project. If you normalize by population, Iceland provided the largest per capita contribution to QGIS, providing €9056 per million people. Iceland also had the highest contribution rate when measured against GDP with ~€154 per billion GDP.

9. Thanks

As you can see from the summary above, 2016 was an incredibly busy and productive year for the QGIS project. With major advances in our organisation structure, code base, community and revenue, QGIS continues to grow from strength to strength and we look forward to maintaining the same momentum through 2017. The PSC would like to thank all of the coders, documentation writers, people supporting other users in the community, sponsors, donors, translators, bug reporters, promoters and users that has made the QGIS the hugely successful project that it is today.

On behalf of the PSC: Tim Sutton, Paolo Cavallini, Andreas Neumann, Jürgen Fischer, Anita Graser, Richard Duivenvoorde

Best regards,

Tim Sutton
QGIS Project Chair

Annex 1: QGIS Financial Report

QGIS.org - Financial Report for 2016

The reporting period starts on **January 1, 2016** and ends on **December 31, 2016**. The currency of all items is Euro (€).

9.1. Balance sheet

Account balance on January 1, 2016	37'422.06
Account balance on December 31 2016 (incl. QGIS-IT)	45'370.00
Account balance QGIS-IT	906.00

Income:

Direct donations to bank account (wire transfer)	4'002.10
PayPal donations (excl. sponsorships and QGIS-IT income)	20'580.31
Sponsoring	49'552.54
Dedicated sponsorships for QGIS bug fixing	13'700.00
QGIS-IT membership fees	252.00
Other	1'488.81
Total Income	**89'575.76**

Expenses

Paid bug fixing and QA	45'396.62
Expenses developer meetings	9'835.04
Infrastructure Expenses	1'312.16
QGIS grants program	14'500.00
Processing Test Suite	5'940.00
Documentation Work	1'500.00
Other expenses	920.27
Total Expenses	**79'404.09**

9.2. Additional details and remarks

9.2.1. Donations

Donations were contributed through wire transfer and PayPal. European donors should preferably pay through wire transfer (SEPA transaction (single euro payment area)) to our bank account, because these transactions are usually cheaper for QGIS.ORG (less transfer fees involved compared to PayPal). PayPal is more convenient for countries not participating in SEPA. If you need a written confirmation of your donation, please specify accordingly in the payment instructions, along with your full address and your email contact.

9.2.2. Sponsorships

In the reporting period we received the following sponsorships:

- **Gold sponsorships:**
  - QGIS user group Switzerland
- **Silver sponsorships:**
  - Office of Public Works, Flood Risk Management Data Management Section, Ireland
  - Land Vorarlberg, Landesvermessungsamt Feldkirch, Austria
  - QGIS user group Germany
  - ARTOGIS a/s, Denmark
  - OSGeo::UK
  - G.A.I.A. mbH, Lambsheim, Germany
- **Bronze sponsorships:**
  - Dr. Claas Leiner, Kassel, Germany
  - Gis3W di Lorenzetti Walter, Italy
  - Chartwell Consultants, Canada
  - GIS Support Sp. z o.o., Poland
  - Asociación Geoinnova, Spain
  - BGEO OPEN GIS, SL, Spain
  - Trage Wegen, Belgium
  - KBB Underground Technologies GmbH, Germany
  - Ager Technology, Spain
  - Teaching Jobs with Footprints, Canada
  - Molitec, Italy
  - Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead, UK
  - Gesellschaft für Informationstechnologie GmbH, Germany
  - GEPOL SP ZOO, Poland
  - FORNAT AG, Switzerland
  - GAIA3D INC, South Korea
  - NCC Roads Aktiebolag, Sweden
  - Terrelogiche SRL, Italy
  - SOLTIG - Soluciones en Tecnologías de Información Geográfica, Costa Rica

- ○ UK National Park Service, UK
- ○ QGIS user group Portugal
- ○ Wheregroup GmbH + Co KG, Germany
- ○ Lutra Consulting, UK
- ○ QGIS user group Denmark
- ○ Septima P/S, Denmark
- ○ MappingGIS, Spain
- ○ Alta ehf, Iceland
- ○ Urbsol, Australia
- ○ Pixalytics LTD, UK
- ○ SolarGIS S.R.O., Slovak Republic
- ○ Dr. Kerth + Lampe Geo-Info, Germany
- ○ Open Geo Groep, Netherlands
- ○ MHTC Limited, UK
- ○ Sourcepole AG, Switzerland
- ● **Additional sponsorships**
  - ○ Ballerup municipality, Denmark, dedicated sponsoring for bug fixing

9.2.3. Other Income

This section contains earnings through the PacktPublishing OpenSource Royalty scheme and from the Spreadshirt online shop selling mugs and T-Shirts.

9.2.4. Expenses bug fixing

These expenses have been spent for bug fixing and quality assurance during the bug fixing period of the QGIS releases 2.14 2.16 and 2.18. The QGIS core developers Sandro Santilli, Jürgen Fischer (Norbit), Nyall Dawson (North Road), Victor Olaya, Even Rouault (Spatialys), Matthias Kuhn (OpenGIS) and Martin Dobias (Lutra Consulting) each spent several days for each release to improve the quality of the release version.

9.2.5. Expenses developer meetings

These expenses include hotel, travel and food expenses during the second QGIS user conference and 15th developer meeting, Girona, Spain in May 2016 and for the 16th developer meeting in Bonn, Germany, in August 2016. Note that many QGIS developers did not apply for refund of their travel expenses or were funded by their employers. A late payment for the QGIS user conference in Denmark in 2015 is also part of this section.

9.2.6. Infrastructure expenses

This includes expenses for web server infrastructure, Appveyor test infrastructure on Windows, and a wordpress hosting fee for our QGIS.ORG blog.

9.2.7. Other expenses:

This includes bank service charges, designer costs for our new logo, QGIS stickers and swag for our documentation team (T-Shirts, mugs).

Special thanks

We'd like to thank all donors and sponsors! Without your contributions we wouldn't be able to support the QGIS core developers, with their travel costs and we wouldn't be able to organize paid bug fixing and QA for each QGIS release! Besides donations and sponsorships the major driver of QGIS development is paid feature development, typically not handled through QGIS.org, but directly between companies with QGIS developers and organizations and companies willing to invest into new QGIS features. A special "thank you" also goes to these organizations who help QGIS by investing into companies who improve QGIS with new features.

Grüt, Switzerland, January 8, 2017
Andreas Neumann, Treasurer QGIS project