

Typical open source projects

A starting point for discussion in ORCWG

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Roles

- **Maintainer:** Manage the project, maintain it long-term
- **Contributor:** Contributes code or documentation - helps with triaging issues, mailing list responses
- **Committer:** Has rights to modify or add source code
- **Core team:** A team that leads the code project
- **BDFL:** Benevolent Dictator for Life

<https://opensource.guide/leadership-and-governance/>

Hobbyist

- **Creates source code, maintains code base, in spare time**
- **Makes all decisions**
- **Publishes on github without a lot of marketing**
- **May want attribution**

Meritocracy

- **Open Source project with no legal organisation**
- **Copyright by contributors**
- **A few contributors that work for a longer period of time keep the project alive and managed**
- **Commit rights given based on merit and commitment to project**
- **Some contributors offer consulting, training, installation support in various companies**
- **Maybe a “management” group to oversee general rules, maintain core systems, manage conflicts**

Cooperative Open Source

- **Many companies has the need of a software platform join a foundation to share the cost of development**
- **Employees of member companies produce the code, elect member to govern the project**
- **Almost no hobbyists participate**
- **Foundation employees manage the project**

Open Source business

- Creates homepage with .com for business and .org for the open source side
- The company has all of the rights to the repository
- Code published under restrictive license
- A few community contributions that are to be approved by the company, contributions may use a separate license to make it possible to publish commercial versions
- Community has to sign contribution agreement, giving rights to the company
- Community contributions may compete with business model of the company (which leads to governance problems)

What is excluded from the CRA

Hobbyist

Meritocracy

Cooperative with
foundation

Business-funded
projects



Depends on commercial intent.

If not fully excluded, then..

- **If projects are not in the green, how are they affected?**