

## PR news- for immediate announcement

### Parliamentary initiative

## The introduction of the open source in the Public Administration of the Republic of Slovenia is becoming a reality

**Ljubljana, Maribor 09.02.2009** – *Slovenian Open Source Center (COKS) welcomes and supports the initiative of the three members of the SD (Social Democrat Party) for the renewal of government and public information systems, suspension of licensing solutions and the transition to the open source solutions. COKS offered an advisory, technical and user support for the renewal of information systems, and with its own note it informed the group members of the National Assembly, President of the National Assembly dr. Paul Gantarja and the Secretary of State on the Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology (MHEST), dr. Jozsef Györkös.*

Mr. Andrej Kositer, COKS coordinator is stressing out that COKS with its actions in recent years, which were upheld by MHEST, ensured and provided all the necessary skills, resources and experience to a prudent, safe and effective transition to the open source solutions. At the same he hopes, that the mentioned initiative is the first step of the Slovenian government towards greater exploitation of the advantages of the open source solutions and the opportunity for significant savings in the state treasury.

COKS- Slovenian Open Source Center is the Consortium, which consists of companies and non-profit organizations under the leadership of Agenda d.o.o. Company. COKS objectives are provision of services of assistance and support to the end users as well as providing solutions for public and private sector. All services performed by Center are executed by the organizations-consortium founders, respectfully their employers or contract coworkers.

Main objective of the center foundation is to encourage development, extension and usage of the open source software and solutions based on the open source. To enable all these services the center has ensured system support, call center and development of the actual open source solutions. Consultancy and support supply to the users of the solutions based on the open source, and also consulting to the public sector at introduction, implementation and usage of the open source solutions are just some of the main tasks of the center.

The COKS also acts in the role of the **national coordinator in the field of the open source strategies** and encourager of the cooperation between the various non-profit organizations, business subjects and individuals. COKS Vision is to create a national strategy for the development, use and proliferation of the open source, but at the same time, the Center will gather the users of the public and private sector, open source community and developers and national and European initiatives in the field of open source.

COKS operation is financed in several ways. Establishment and initial operation is financed by MHEST, then there are resources and activities of the founders- consortium members, partially the COKS operation will be covered from the sale of services in the market, hoping also to additional resources from the European funds.

### **COKS offers the following consultancy services:**

- general advice on the open source software (OSS)
- consultancy and the use of the OSS strategies preparation
- design of the technological basis for coexistence of the OSS and LS (licensed software)
- assessments and selection of the appropriate OSS solutions

Regarding the positive response and high demand for COKS services, assistance and guidance, the higher end user response is expected by COKS call center. In Slovenia, the number of the open source end users and users, that use solutions based on the open source, is getting higher each day. They reflect most of the concerns about the lack of the end user support, so such aid in the form of call center is more than welcomed.

More information [www.coks.si](http://www.coks.si), or send us mail: [info@coks.si](mailto:info@coks.si)