Government Open Source Policies

Last updated January 2006.   We are continuing to update this table, and appreciate all the feedback we've received. Send comments to **TechPolicy@csis.org**.

Introductory Note
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This is the third update to our Open Source Policies table. The table tracks explicit governmental policies concerning the use of open source software that have been publicly reported in the press or other media. As with the previous efforts, we do not include a decision by a government to use or purchase open source software, as this may reflect a policy or may be simply be a decision based on price or product.

We divided open source policies into research, mandatory (where the use of open source software is required), preferential (where the use of open source software is given preference, but not mandated) or advisory (where the ability to use open source software was enunciated), and looked at whether an initiative was proposed at the national or regional and local level. The data in this and the earlier table provide a snapshot of the state of open source policy at a given moment. Comparing them provides interesting and perhaps indicative information.

We found two hundred and sixty five open source policy initiatives. Of these, only two of the approved policies mandated the use of open source software, while another forty seven required government entities to show a preference for open source software in their acquisition decisions. Overall, the picture in 2005 was not significantly different from 2004. The majority of the policy initiatives are found in Europe (47.7%). Europe, Asia (27.7%) and Latin America (15.2%) account for 90% of the activity in open source policy. North America was a distant fourth, its share being only 6.4%. The majority of approved initiatives in both Europe and Asia involve research programs (37% for both regions). In Latin America, the majority of approved initiatives, 50%, are policies calling for a preference for open source in government acquisitions.

National and state/local initiatives show interesting differences. Open source initiatives are more likely to be approved by an agency or ministry at the national level and by a council or state legislature at the state/local level. National level authorities were more likely to approve advisory initiatives than initiatives that created a preference for open source software. The opposite is true for the state/local level, where initiatives establishing a preference for the use of open source software were more likely to be approved than advisory initiatives.

Since our first review of open source policies in July of 2004, there have been several significant changes. One important change that lies outside of the data we collected is a shift in the focus of public discussion from open source to open standards – publicly available specifications that enable different software products, whether proprietary or open, to interoperate. The open standards discussion has some of the same tensions as the open source debate, but is to be more inclusive. The simple view is that open source, open standards are the same, and that we cannot have one without the other. Although there is a linkage between open source and open standards, it is best described as weak. Software designed to an open standard could be either proprietary or open source. Further information on the effect of open standards on the behavior of software producers and consumers is needed. We have not counted open standards initiatives unless, in our view, they embodied a de facto requirement to use open source software.

Another change lies in the status of the initiatives. By the end of 2005, final action had been taken on most open source policy initiatives. One hundred and fifty four were approved and thirteen rejected. That a majority (63%) of initiatives were completed (rather than proposed) is suggestive and raises the question as to whether the open source debate is over. Open source software is one production model for generating code, and we

now see a range of business plans that mix open and proprietary processes and code in an effort to find a new business model for software. Neither open nor proprietary code 'triumphed' in the manner that the early debate at times suggested. The search for business models that can profitably blend open and proprietary processes and products may help explain some of the interest in open standards - to maximize returns, new business models that use both open and proprietary software will need common standards for interoperability.

We will continue to analyze this data and will post additional results in the future. As in the past, comments, corrections or new data are welcome.

Summary Tables

Breakdown of Total Initiatives (2005 – cumulative)			
	Proposed	Approved	Failed	totals
R&D	15	52	1	68
Advisory	14	53	3	70
Preference	44	47	4	95
Mandatory	25	2	5	32
totals	98	154	13	265

Breakdown of National and State & Local Totals for all Initiatives (2005 – cumulative)		
	National	State and Local
R&D	51	17
Advisory	61	9
Preference	50	45
Mandatory	22	10
totals	184	81
Total Initiatives (265)		

Breakdown of Approved Initiatives By 2004 and 2005 (cumulative)		
	2004	2005
% Advisory	37.2	34.0
% Preference	31.0	31.0
% Research	30.2	33.8
% Mandatory	1.6	1.3

Regional Breakdown* (2005 – cumulative)				
	Approved	Proposed	Failed	Total
Europe	79	40	7	126
Asia	40	32	1	73
Latin America	20	18	2	40
North America	8	6	3	17
Africa	3	0	1	4
Middle East	3	0	1	4

* Regional breakdown does not include initiatives from the UN or the OECD. Multinational initiatives were counted for each region represented.

National Open Source Policies

Data Compiled by Jason Keiber

GOVERNMENT	BRANCH OR AGENCY	ACTION	STATUS	DETAILS AND SOURCES
Argentina	National Information Technology Office & National Information Office	Advisory	Approved	The two institutions, which coordinate IT policy and implementation, announced in March 2004 that they promote Linux in all applications in public administration. The rationale for this decision is lower costs, creating local employment, and security (June 2004).[i]
Argentina	Legislative	Mandatory	Proposed	2001 attempt to mandate FOSS in all gov't offices and state owned enterprise, failed. Bill 904-D-02 proposed in 2002 expired before passage.[ii] A similar bill, Bill 1280-D-04, was reintroduced and was still pending as of June 2004.[iii]
Australia	Tax Office	Advisory	Approved	Tax Office will consider OSS alongside proprietary solutions (February 2004).[iv]
Australia	National Office for the Information Economy	Advisory	Proposed	"The National Office for the Information Economy (NOIE) released an e-government "Better Services, Better Government"… [that] noted that open source software may be economically viable and presents opportunities for potential cost savings. The Minister for Information Technology noted … that "departments and agencies should be required to consider and assess the merits of open source software as part of their strategic approach to sourcing their information and communication technology expertise."" [v] (November 2002)
Australia	Legislative	Preference	Proposed	Proposed amendment requiring Public Service Agencies prefer OSS "wherever practicable." (September 2003).[vi]
Australia	Information Management Office	R&D	Approved	A document outlines OSS options for government agencies. It does not promote OSS; procurement decisions should be made on the standard criteria of fitness for purpose and value for money (April 2005).[vii]
Austria	Ministry of Education	Advisory	Proposed	"The Austrian Ministry of Education recommended the adoption of two open source learning platforms and learning management systems in education." [viii] (April 2003)
Bahrain	Central Informatics Organization	R&D	Approved	Government opened an e-government center based on OSS and open standards (May 2005). [ix]
Belgium	Council of Ministers	Mandatory	Approved	New directives and recommendations approved for the use of open standards and OSS by the federal Ministries. New ICT systems must be based on open standards, new software will have to be delivered with source code and without licensing restrictions, etc. (June 25, 2004) [x]
Belgium	Legislative	Mandatory	Proposed	One bill in the House of Representatives and another two in the Senate mandate the use of OSS in public administrations. A previous bill had been introduced but was never voted on. (2003) [xi]

Belgium	General Assembly	Mandatory	Proposed	"The Assembly of the French-speaking Community of Brussels (COCOF) postponed a vote on an open source software decree approved by the budget committee of the COCOF." [xii] (April 2003)
Belgium	Council of Ministers	Preference	Approved	Federally commissioned software must be delivered with the source code; federal authorities should try to avoid proprietary software, but should make final decisions based on total cost of ownership (June 2004). [xiii]
Belgium	Parliamentary Committee	R&D	Approved	"A Parliamentary committee on the use of ICT in the Federal Parliament released a report highlighting the importance of the use of open standards." [xiv] (March 2003)
Brazil	Executive / National Institute of IT	Advisory	Approved	The gov't initiative urges ministries and other agencies to use OSS, as well as evaluate how IT could benefit from open-software (November 2003). [xv]
Brazil	Executive	Mandatory	Proposed	"President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva is studying a draft decree which, if approved, would make [OSS] compulsory for federal departments" (June 2005).[xvi] The government has already announced plans to migrate 80 percent of computers in state institutions and companies over three years (June 2003).[xvii]
Brazil	Legislative	Mandatory	Proposed	The bill PL-2152/2003 mandates that all software used within the federal administration and public entities be OSS. The bill is to be reviewed with four other past proposals, three of which had been previously voided (Oct 2003). [xviii]
Brazil	Serpo (federal data processing agency)	Mandatory	Proposed	All of Serpo's workstations and the federal gov't e-procurement system (Comprasnet) will adopt OSS. The project is also serving as a test of open source. (September 2003) [xix]
Brazil	Executive	Preference	Approved	Brazil launched PC Conectado, an attempt to sell 1 million low-cost computers. Proprietary software was excluded from the project; "we chose free software…because we believe it is a policy to spur national industry" (May 2005).[xx]
Brazil	Ministries / Executive	Preference	Proposed	At least five ministries in the federal government are to switch most systems to OSS. "In addition, Brasilia is providing incentives for state and local governments to follow (April 2004)." [xxi]
Brazil	Federal Gov't	R&D	Approved	In August 2004, the government signed a cooperative agreement with OSS company to create a Technology and Knowledge Dissemination Center (CDTC) to promote open standards-based solutions through training and support. (September 2004) [xxii]
Brazil	Ministerial	R&D	Proposed	Brazilian officials expressed interest in partnering with MIT to build $100 computers using OSS (June 2005).[xxiii]
Brazil	Ministry of Science and Technology	R&D	Proposed	The Ministry has started the first Free Software Workshop, which recommends the use OSS in the Federal Government (October 2003). [xxiv]
Brazil and South Korea	Interagency	R&D	Approved	Brazil's National Institute of Technology of the Information (ITI) and the Korean IT Industry Promotion Agency (KIPA) signed an agreement to exchange OSS experiences. (Nov 16, 2004) [xxv]

Bulgaria	Legislative	Mandatory	Proposed	"A draft bill mandating the use of open source software, open standards, and open file formats by all state institutions and agencies, state-owned enterprises, higher schools, medical establishments, non-profit entities, state-funded entities, the Bulgarian consular, and diplomatic missions abroad. The bill allows for the use of non open source software solutions when existing OSS solutions do not meet the public administration's specific needs."[xxvi] (March 2003)
Bulgaria	UNDP	R&D	Approved	The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Internet Society of Bulgaria (ISOC-Bulgaria) have launched a project to help municipal governments in Southeastern Europe FOSS.[xxvii]
Cambodia	Executive	Preference	Approved	The Open Source Master Plan lays out a four-year OSS adoption plan for government systems and for development and promotion of OSS and Khmer language functionality (February 2005).[xxviii]
Canada	Treasury Board of Canada, CIO Branch	Advisory	Approved	Use of OSS must meet principles of the Federated Architecture Program, including: reduction of integration complexity; security, confidentiality, privacy, and protection of information; proven standards and technology; and total cost of ownership (June 2004). [xxix] The federal government neither prevents nor opposes OSS adoption (September 2003).[xxx]
Chile	Legislative	Mandatory	Proposed	Bill being prepared that would mandate the use of OSS in all branches and levels of government, as well as State majority-owned companies. Goal of submission is March 2004 (January 2004). [xxxi]
Chile	Ministry of Education	Preference	Approved	10,000 computers in 600 schools will use OSS (January 2005).[xxxii]
China	Beijing Science and Technology Commission	Advisory	Approved	"Beijing Science and Technology Commission has endorsed Linux as China's most important chance to improve its software industry… the commission would urge Chinese government bodies to consider using Linux with new computer systems, and also encourage private and university software designers to develop Linux and other open source software programs."[xxxiii] (August 9, 2002)
China	Ministry of Information Industry	Advisory	Approved	"China's Ministry of Information Industry has established an Open Source Alliance to support Linux systems." [xxxiv] (September 2002)
China	Ministry of Information Industry	Advisory	Proposed	"Ministry of Information Industry (MII) and the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS) would work together to encourage the development of the nation's software industry... According to Ministry officials, the government would fund further development of Red Flag Linux..." [xxxv] (March 2001)
China	Ministry of Information Industry	Advisory	Proposed	"The Department of Electronics and IT Products within China's Ministry of Information Industry has stated that e-government initiatives should take the lead in using Linux. Other Ministry officials have publicly endorsed the use of OSS as an alternative proprietary applications." [xxxvi] (December 2002)
China	Ministry of Information Industry	Preference	Approved	Supported China Academy of Science and state-owned Shanghai New Margin Venture Capital in creating of Red Flag Linux (2003). [xxxvii]

China	State Council	Preference	Proposed	A draft mandate is under consideration that would require all ministries to buy only locally produced software at the next upgrade cycle. This will lead to indirect open-source preferences (May 2005). In 2001, China's Beijing municipal government awarded six software contracts to Chinese vendors, including a deal for 2,000 desktop OS seats to Red Flag Linux.[xxxviii]
China	State Enterprise	Preference	Proposed	Chinese have made agreements with U.S. company to deploy Linux on around 1 million computers. "China Standard Software, a consortium of gov't funded companies, selected the company as its preferred technology partner." (November 2003) [xxxix]
China	Ministry of Information Industry	R&D	Approved	MII established the Open Source Software Promotion Alliance to encourage the development of China's OSS industry. It is composed of enterprises, non-profit organizations, representatives from NGOs, and individuals under the guidance of the Chinese government. (August 2004) [xl]
China, S. Korea, and Japan	Multinational	R&D	Approved	This is an ongoing collaboration to develop and promote OSS to replace proprietary operating systems. Japan has earmarked $8.6 million for the project. At a meeting on April 3, 2004 officials agreed to seek ways of reducing costs of software with Linux. The most recent meeting was in late July 2004 and aimed to promote development and use of OSS. (September 2003, April 2004) [xli]
Colombia	Legislative	Mandatory	Proposed	Bill proposed mandating that all state institutions and State majority-owned enterprises exclusively use OSS in their information systems (August 2002). [xlii]
Costa Rica	Executive	Preference	Approved	An executive order stating that public institutions can use OSS when it is possible and useful. [xliii]
Costa Rica	Legislative	Preference	Proposed	Bill requiring state institutions prefer the use of OSS in their information systems (April 2003); [xliv] Assigned to the Committee on Public Administration and Government Affairs (June 2003).
Cuba	Executive	Mandatory	Proposed	"All personal computers used in public administrations will be migrated to the operating system Linux." There is no deadline for the migration (May 2005).[xlv]
Czech Republic	Ministry of Informatics	Advisory	Approved	Ministry is supporting the Czech Open Source Software Alliance to provide consultation on OSS projects, and assist with representation in the EU's IDABC with regard to OSS. [xlvi]
Denmark	Executive	Advisory	Approved	Gov't adopted a value-for-money standard, and expressed "a need for testing… open source development" (June 2003).[xlvii]
Denmark	Ministry of Science and Technology, and Innovation	Advisory	Approved	Analysis and recommendations drawn up by a working group under the Danish Board of Technology recommended that OSS compete on same level as proprietary software, and for OSS pilot projects (October 2002). [xlviii]
Denmark	Parliament Committee For Research and Science	Advisory	Approved	"The Danish Parliamentary Committee for Research and Science adopted a statement declaring general support for the increased use of open source software by public authorities." [xlix] (October 2000)
Denmark	Legislative	Advisory	Failed	"Socialist members of the Danish Parliament introduced a motion for a resolution calling for an offensive competitive strategy utilizing open source software and open standards. The motion did not gain the necessary support within Parliament and reportedly will not be re-introduced for a second hearing." [l] (November 2002)

Denmark	Board of Technology	R&D	Approved	"The Danish Board of Technology released a report stating that the public administration would save 500 million Euros over four years by using open source software. The report also concluded that… open source solutions cannot be dictated as a general principle." [li](October 2002)
EU	DG XIII, Info Society	Advisory	Approved	2003-2004 Workplan encourages the use of OS where appropriate for the specific program of "Integrating and strengthening the European Research Area" [lii]
EU	Directorate Info Society	Advisory	Approved	eEruope 2005 Action Plan recommends open source for a EU "interoperability framework" (June 2002) [liii]
EU	EU Commission	Advisory	Approved	A Communication from the Commission on the role of eGoverment stating that the "exchange of experience in the use of open standards and open source amongst administrations should be promoted…" (September 2003). [liv]
EU	EU Telecomm Ministry	Advisory	Approved	"A resolution on network and information security approved by the Council of EU Telecommunications Ministers encouraged the EU Member States to initiate effective and interoperable security solutions based on recognised standards including open source software in their e-government and e-procurement activities." [lv] (December, 2001)
EU	Ministerial Resolution on E-Government	Advisory	Approved	"The Ministers of Public Service and Administration of the EU Member States, the EFTA Member States, and the accession countries included open source language in a declaration underlining the importance of e-government to the development of Europe's Information Society." [lvi] (Nov. 2001)
EU	Information Society Technologies Advisory Group	Advisory	Approved	"ISTAG published a report on "Software Technologies, Embedded Systems, and Distributed Systems" calling for the use of open source licensing for software generated in the Information Society Technologies (IST) program. Under the IST program, the EU Commission launched the "Three Roses Initiative" to provide funding for the use of open source software in e-government services and e-business solutions in EU Member States." [lvii] (September 2002)
EU	Information Society Technologies Advisory Group	Advisory	Approved	"Open, secure, interoperable Egoverment platforms, applications and multi-modal services… should…deploy as much as possible open source software solutions for all aspects of inter- and intragovernment operations including electronic democracy systems, interaction with citizens and businesses, governmental process re-engineering and knowledge management."(2004)[lviii]
EU	EU Parliament	Advisory	Approved	"Adopted a resolution proposed by the committee on the Echelon Interception System. The resolution urged the Commission and Member States to promote European encryption software and support projects aimed at developing open source encryption software." [lix] (September 2001)
EU	Enterprise D-G IDA	Advisory	Proposed	Interchange of Data between Administrations (IDA) 2003 work plan intends to conduct research on the use of OSS in Europe and increase the use of OSS in public administrations (June 2003). [lx]
EU	EU Commission	Preference	Approved	In 2003, the Commission within the Information Society Technology framework launched a one-year project called "Three Roses Initiative," to research and support OSS use and development. [lxi]
EU	Green Party	Preference	Proposed	Formulated a Draft Normal Resolution for governments to "promote the introduction and use of free and open source software within their governmental bodies and public administrations" and will submit a proposal for a European Directive on Open standards and Interoperability. (Jan 2004) [lxii]

EU	Enterprise D-G Directorate	R&D	Approved	Call for Tender "to establish a service in support of public administrations using open source software with the intention of encouraging the spread of good practice.". [lxiii] (August 2003)
EU	Research Institutions	R&D	Approved	EU provided 2.2 million euros to study OSS (December 2004)[lxiv] and an additional 660,000 euros in May 2005.[lxv]
EU	EU Commission	R&D	Approved	Under the Information Society Technologies program, the EU Commission launched the "Three Roses Initiative" to provide funding for the use of open source software in e-government services and e-business solutions in EU Member States." [lxvi] (September 2002)
EU	EU Commission IDA	R&D	Approved	The IDA Open Source Migration Guidelines – "provide practical and detailed recommendations on how to migrate to Open Source Software (OSS)-based office applications, calendaring, e-mail and other standard applications." (November 2003).[lxvii]
EU	Information Society DG	R&D	Approved	There are roughly 20 projects supporting and developing OSS. See source for a list of projects from the 5th Framework Programme. (May 2003) [lxviii]
Finland	Ministry of Finance	Advisory	Approved	A ministry working paper calls for government agencies to consider OSS alternatives (October 2003).[lxix]
Finland	Legislative	Advisory	Failed	A non-binding Bill was passed "requiring national and local agencies to migrate their IT systems to the Linux operating system." The bill has expired and was not renewed in 2003 (June 2002) [lxx]
Finland	Joint Venture	R&D	Approved	The Applied Linux Institute run by the Dept. of Communications and the Institution of Adult Education of Vantaa at the University of Helsinki, and the Dept. of Schooling and Education of the City of Vantaa, (all public institutions), doing research and development on OS applications. (September 2003)[lxxi]
France	Legislative	Mandatory	Proposed	The Senate has proposed a bill that would mandate the use of OSS in public administrations and would establish a Free Software Agency to advise the government. The bill has been referred to the Committee on Constitutional Affairs and no further actions have been taken since May 2003.[lxxii] (October 2002)
France	Gendarmerie (National police)	Preference	Approved	The French national police will shift 80,000 computers from a proprietary office suite to OpenOffice by the end of 2005 (February 2005).[lxxiii]
France	Ministerial	Preference	Approved	"The Interior Ministry, the Custom Administration and the Ministry of Finances, Industry and Economy now [use] OpenOffice.org" (February 2005).[lxxiv]
France	Ministerial	Preference	Approved	Ministries of Defense, Culture, and Economy use FOSS operating systems (2003). [lxxv]
France	Ministry of Culture and Communication.	Preference	Proposed	Ministry wants full migration to FOSS by 2005. Also two parliamentary bills submitted (1999 and 2000) supporting FOSS, died. [lxxvi]
France	Ministry of Defense	R&D	Approved	Ministry has formed a consortium to develop a highly secure Linux-based operating system (September 2004).[lxxvii]

France	Executive	R&D	Approved	The government has launched an open-source content management system to standardize government websites (August 2003).[lxxviii]
France	Commissariat General du Plan	R&D	Approved	"A working group composed of experts from companies and administrative agencies issued a report analyzing the French software industry and examining how the government can best support the industry. The report recommended that public agencies promote the development of free software platforms and open standards."[lxxix] (October 2002)
France	Ministerial	R&D	Approved	Agence pour le développement de l'administration electronique (ADEA), formerly the Agency for Technologies of Information and Communication in Administration (ATICA), is "in charge of selecting open standards to be enforced all over public administrations in order to guarantee full interoperability." (2001-03) [lxxx]
France	Agency for the Development of the Electronic Administration	R&D	Proposed	Agency for the Development of the Electronic Administration (ADEA) announced plans to migrate 5%-15% of its desktops software to OSS by 2007 as part of a 3-month "feasibility study" of switching to Linux on 17,000 machines in Paris' public administration. (February 2004). [lxxxi]
France, China	Interagency	R&D	Approved	French Atomic Energy Commission and Chinese Ministry of Science and Technology will collaborate to develop Linux-based software (October 2004).[lxxxii]
Germany	Bundestag	Advisory	Approved	Resolution on "Germany's Economy in the Information Society" which promoted FOSS in the federal administration where it would save on costs (November 2001).[lxxxiii]
Germany	Federal Court of Auditors	Advisory	Approved	"The Federal Court of Auditors in a report to the Ministry of Interior adopted the position that open source software offers functionalities comparable to commercial software and recommended the use of open source software in the federal administration. The Court of Auditors estimated the use of open source software would yield savings of 100 million Euros. The Bavarian Court of Auditors also announced its support for a transition to open source." [lxxxiv] (October 2001)
Germany	Bundestag	Advisory	Approved	"Adopted a resolution on "Creating an Information Society for All." The resolution called for the increased use of open source software in the federal administration and stated that "open source is an important instrument that can provide for secure and stable IT solutions." The resolution was proposed by the Social Democratic Party, the main party in the governing coalition." [lxxxv] (June 2002)
Germany	The Ministry of Economy	Advisory	Approved	"The Ministry of Economy (Federal) announced a decision to stop the systematic promotion of open source software projects. The Ministry adopted a policy to strengthen the competition between free and proprietary software in general. The Ministry will support the new policy objective through neutral public procurement tenders. The Ministry announced that an independent, non-governmental body of experts will formulate the criteria for public procurement tenders." [lxxxvi] (May 2003)
Germany	Social Democrats / Green Party Coalition	Advisory	Proposed	"After the September elections, the Social Democrats and the Green Party formed a new federal coalition government and agreed on a work program. The new program stated that "the law must protect the position of small companies in the software field" and that "open source products shall not be discriminated"." [lxxxvii] (September 2002)
Germany	Bundestag	Mandatory	Proposed	Debating requiring all agencies to use OSS. (March 2002) [lxxxviii]

Germany	Ministry of the Interior	Preference	Approved	Government contracts with Open Source providers for government agencies wishing to make OSS procurements. (June 2002). [lxxxix]
Germany	Ministry of the Interior - KBSt	Preference	Approved	Published a software Migration Guide which included replacement/migration/integration guidelines for Open Source Software (July 2003). [xc]
Germany	Ministerial	R&D	Proposed	Federal Ministry of the Interior published migration to OSS manual (July 2003).[xci]
Hong Kong	Commerce, Industry, and Technology Bureau	Advisory	Approved	The Commerce, Industry, and Technology Bureau published a paper entitled, "2004 Digital 21 Strategy," which stated the government will promote OSS within the government when viable, and will encourage its use in the private sector with funding. [xcii] (March 2003)
Hong Kong	Secretary for Commerce, Industry, and Technology	Advisory	Approved	The Information Technology Services Department (ITSD) issued a circular to all departments, 'urging them to consider different types of software including open source in procurement and, based on the principle of cost effectiveness, select among the products which meet the basic functional requirements and offer the best value for money.' [xciii] (November 2002)
Iceland	Ministry of Justice	Preference	Approved	Open source office suite used in all police stations (700 PCs).[xciv]
India	N/A	Advisory	Approved	Gov't is distributing millions of free CDs with Tamil and Hindi language OSS (May 2005).[xcv]
India	Executive	Advisory	Proposed	President has made public comments supporting OSS. (May 2003, July 2004) [xcvi]
India	Department of Information Technology	Preference	Proposed	The Department is supporting the development of a Hindi Linux distribution, Indix (2003). [xcvii]
India	Department of Information Technology	R&D	Approved	The National Informatics Center has created a web site to share the government's experience in using OSS. [xcviii]
Indonesia	Education Ministry	Preference	Approved	U.S. company donated $57 million worth of its open source office suite to the Education Ministry. (March 2003) [xcix]
Indonesia	Ministerial	Preference	Proposed	Gov't launched "Indonesia Goes Open Source" (IGOS) to cut expenditures and reduce piracy. The plan is to install OSS first in all government offices and then in schools. [c]
Iran	High Informatics Council	R&D	Approved	Government is developing OSS alternatives in preparation for a migration for national security reasons and to increase its chances of entry into the WTO through better enforcement of IP laws (September 2004).[ci]
Ireland	N/A	R&D	Approved	Funded development of a "Knowledge Asset Development System" for Ireland, Europe, and the Middle East [cii]

Israel	Ministry of Finance	Advisory	Proposed	"The ministry plans to distribute thousands of Open Office programs on CD-ROM at public computer centers and eventually community centers across the country," and is "about to propose that government ministries use the free Linux open operating system as well." (December 2003) [ciii] "Government agencies will continue to use proprietary products they already have but won't upgrade them, and the government is promoting the development and use of open-source alternatives" (January 2004).[civ]
Israel	Department of Commerce	Preference	Approved	Department plans to switch most desktops to Open Source Software. Other agencies are showing an interest as well. (December 2003). [cv]
Italy	National Agency for ICT in Public Administration	Advisory	Approved	The Plan for Information Society for 2005-2007 calls for extensive use of open source applications where possible (October 2004).[cvi]
Italy	Ministry for Innovation	Advisory	Approved	"The Minister for Innovation presented a set of Government Guidelines for 2002-2005 to promote technological development. The document called for the adoption of open source software by public administrations… The guidelines also recommended that the government launch a national research program on open source…" [cvii] (June 2002)
Italy	Council of Ministers	Advisory	Approved	"The Council of Ministers endorsed a recommendation by the Senate that urged the administration "to draft regulations for the examination of open source projects and for the progressive adoption of non-proprietary operating systems and applications by public administrations." Neither the recommendation nor the endorsement was binding on the Berlusconi government that came to power in June 2001." [cviii] (December, 2000)
Italy	Legislative	Mandatory	Proposed	Bill mandates preference for FOSS in government agencies (2003). Other bills to encourage OSS are pending as well. [cix]
Italy	Ministry for Innovation	Preference	Approved	A directive from the ministry stating that in the acquisition of software, the Public Administration must consider OSS and judge software according to transferability, interoperability, dependency on supplier, and the availability of the source code for inspection. [cx]
Italy	Senate	Preference	Proposed	A Senate Committee for Education and Culture held hearings about an OSS amendment to reform the national education system to increase the use of OSS. [cxi] (July 2002)
Japan	Somusho METI LDP	Preference	Proposed	"An e-Japan committee organized by the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) promoted the accelerated development and deployment of open source software operating systems within the national government… Somusho (the government agency responsible for public management and telecommunications) would initiate a study on open source deployment. The Japanese Ministry of Economy, Trade, and Industry (METI) also planned to deploy an open source platform in one of it's institutes." [cxii] (November 2002)
Japan	METI	Preference	Proposed	Approved OS desktop software as eligible for future bids. The Ministry is evaluating its options but has not committed to actual deployment. (Nov 2004) [cxiii]

Japan	Ministry of Economy Trade and Industry (METI)	R&D	Approved	METI planned on spending 1 billion yen in FY04 on OSS Development and Deployment. Procurement policy is "open to any new technology and company." METI is also promoting OSS collaboration with other Asian countries.[cxiv] (February 2003)
Malaysia	Ministerial	Preference	Approved	All Government procurements now have a strong preference for OSS under the Malaysian Public Sector Open Source Software Masterplan. (August 2004) [cxv]
Malaysia	Education Ministry	Preference	Approved	U.S. company donated $125 million worth of its open source office suite to schools in Malaysia. Education Minister exploring future Linux development. (October 2002) [cxvi]
Malaysia	Executive/ Ministerial	Preference	Proposed	Government created a $36 million fund for start-ups developing OSS (October 2003). Also, government reportedly developing a national OS based on Linux. [cxvii]
Malaysia	Executive/ Ministerial	Preference	Proposed	"The Government decided to begin OSS implementation in agencies like the Treasury, while other ministries have begun implementing OSS on their servers." (August 2002) The government is also conducting pilot studies on how to switch over to OSS. (August 2003)[cxviii]
Malaysia	Ministerial	R&D	Approved	The government set up an OSS Competency Center (September 2003).[cxix]
Netherlands	Legislative	Preference	Proposed	"The lower chamber of the Parliament adopted a resolution proposed by the Green Party calling for the sole use of software with open standards in the public administration by 2006. The resolution also called on the Government "to actively promote the development and deployment of open source software in the public administration, and to this end to set concrete and ambitious goals". The resolution was supported by other members of the Parliament, and was based on an extensive action plan prepared by the Green Party to promote open source software." [cxx] (February 2003)
Netherlands	Ministers of the Interior and of Economy	Preference	Proposed	Established an action plan for the promotion of Open Standards and OSS in the public administration (the plan looks to have come out of the Program mentioned above) (February 2003).[cxxi]
Netherlands	Ministries of Interior and Economic Affairs	R&D	Approved	*The Programme for Open Standards and Open Source Software* in Government aims to "clarity about the need for and value-added of a programme for open source software and open standards." Starting in the fall of 2002, the program is slated to last 3 years. [cxxii]
Norway	Norwegian Board of Technology	Advisory	Approved	An independent government advisory board recommended the public stimulation of OSS development through pilot programs (2004).[cxxiii]
Norway	Ministry of Modernization	Mandatory	Proposed	Minister announced that all public agencies are required to have a plan to convert to open source/open standards by 2006 (June 2005).[cxxiv]
Norway	Ministry of Labor and Gov't Admin	Preference	Approved	In 2002, Norway cancelled a contract with proprietary vender to allow for more competition from Open Source and other software (July 2002). [cxxv]
Norway	Directorate on Public Management	R&D	Approved	Statskonsult, a state-owned company, carried out a report recommending OSS in the public sector and in education (August 2001). [cxxvi]

OECD	WPISP	Advisory	Approved	"The OECD Working Party on Information Society and Privacy (WPISP) prepared a draft implementation plan of the guidelines for the security of information systems and networks. The draft recommends the utilization of open source technology." [cxxvii] (October, 2002)
Pakistan	IT Ministry	R&D	Approved	The Ministry has "decided to launch a Rs 37 million project to train 4,000 government officials from different ministries and departments." [cxxviii]
Pakistan	Ministry of Science & Technology	R&D	Proposed	The government established a Task Force for Linux to set up "future directions" for Pakistani IT. (2003). [cxxix]
Paraguay	National Science and Technology Council	R&D	Approved	Paraguay's government is studying whether to implement open source in all its entities (May 2005). [cxxx]
Peru	Legislative	Mandatory	Failed	Four similar bills mandating use of OSS in all "government agencies and state-majority-owned companies;" proposed in December 2001, March 2002, April 2002, and May 2002 respectively. Bills heard by committee, which removed all four bills from consideration (December 2002). **In October of 2005, a law was passed mandating technological neutrality.** [cxxxi]
Peru	Legislative	Mandatory	Proposed	Bill requiring all "Executive, Legislative, and Judicial branches of government, regional and local state entities, and national educational centres" to use OSS (November 2003). A similar bill was introduced in September 2003 by a Vice-President of the Congress. Soft preference bill introduced in June 2003. [cxxxii]
Peru	Legislative	Mandatory	Proposed	Bill 1609, mandates free software in all the systems and computing equipment of every State agency. Proposal removed in December of 2002 by the Consumer Protection Committee. (April 2002). [cxxxiii]
Philippines	Commission on ICT	Advisory	Proposed	The director of an interim ICT advisory group to the president says e-government services should be based on open source (August 2004). [cxxxiv]
Philippines	Department of Science and Technology	Preference	Approved	The Department's Advanced Science and Technology Institute is promoting and providing OSS (Bayanihan Linux) in government and schools. [cxxxv]
Philippines	National Computer Centre	R&D	Proposed	"The Director-General of NCC temporarily placed on hold a plan to promote open source software use and commissioned the NCC's Standards Division to produce a white paper on open source software. The Director-General reportedly plans to use the white paper to draft an official policy on open source software and Linux." [cxxxvi] (February 2003)
Poland	N/A	Advisory	Proposed	Government established advisory body comprised of six software experts that intends to promote the use of OSS in education and in public administration (2003). [cxxxvii]
Portugal	Council of Ministers	Advisory	Approved	"The Council of Ministers adopted a non-binding resolution promoting use of open source software in the public administration…" [cxxxviii](January 2002)
Portugal	Parliament	Mandatory	Failed	Bill would have mandated OSS in public administrations. It was rejected on October 10, 2003. [cxxxix]

Portugal	Ministry of Education	Preference	Approved	Ministry entered into a 5-year deal with OSS company for secondary schools (March 2004).[cxl]
S. Korea	Ministry of Gov't Admin and Home Affairs	Advisory	Proposed	A panel put together by the government innovation and decentralization council said on August 14 that it had formed a working group to set guidelines on adoption of OSS. There will be two more meetings (August 19, 26) before submitting the final proposal in September. [cxli]
S. Korea	IT Industry Promotion Agency	Preference	Approved	About 1,000 information systems development projects for local autonomous governments would switch to OSS as part of a larger plan to move more systems to OSS (Feb 2004).[cxlii]
S. Korea	Ministry of Information and Communication	Preference	Approved	The Ministry will promote OSS use in government by offering a total of 3 billion won to agencies switching from proprietary software (March 2005).[cxliii]
S. Korea	Korean Government	Preference	Proposed	"The Korean Government has actively supported the development and proliferation of Linux through the Electronics and Telecommunications Research Institute (ETRI) and the Korean IT Industry Promotion Agency (KIPA). The KIPA Working Group for the Promotion of Open Source Software published a "Research Paper on Open Source Software - Focusing on Legal Problems and Foreign Policies."" [cxliv] (December 2002)
S. Korea	Ministry of Information and Communication	Preference	Proposed	The Ministry of Information and Communication announced a plan to foster the nation's OSS industry throughout 2003. [cxlv]
S. Korea	Ministry of Information and Communication	Preference	Proposed	Government adopting OSS in certain agencies. Extensive procurements: 20% of desktops and 30% of servers switched by 2007, for perceived savings, security and interoperability. (October 2003). [cxlvi]
Singapore	Economic Development Board	Preference	Proposed	Offers tax breaks to companies that use GNU/Linux operating systems instead of proprietary ones. (2003) [cxlvii]
Singapore	Ministry of Defense	R&D	Approved	Ministry will install open source office suites along side existing proprietary suites on 20,000 PCs as part of over all efforts experimenting with OS. There are no current plans to dump existing proprietary software. (October 2004).[cxlviii]
Slovenia	Ministry of Information Society	Advisory	Approved	OSS and proprietary options are given equal consideration in procurements, though the government plans to "contribute to propagating information and knowledge…of the use of software and solutions based on open source." (October 2003) [cxlix]
South Africa	Government Information Officers' Council	Preference	Approved	The Government Information Officers' Council (GITOC) has concluded that: "As OSS offers significant indirect advantages, opting for OSS will be preferable where the direct advantages and disadvantages of OSS and PS are equally strong...open standards will be a prerequisite for all software development, thus contributing to the ease with which OSS can be implemented and adapted; Government will encourage partnerships ... to foster the utilisation of OSS" Approved by Cabinet in (June 2003) [cl]

South Africa	Department of Science and Technology	R&D	Approved	Department of Science and Technology is funding the Open Source Center to promote government and educational uses of OSS (2003). [cli]
South Africa	Council	R&D	Proposed	Council investigating use of FOSS, made recommendations promoting FOSS applications when proprietary ones offered no advantage (2003). [clii]
Spain	Administración General del Estado	Advisory	Approved	The Superior Information Council, which is tasked by Spain's General Adminstration for the approval and diffusion of IT criteria and normalization, recommends adopting OSS when available and when it is satisfactory for the task. (June 2003).[cliii]
Spain	Ministry of Public Administrations	Mandatory	Failed	Full migration to OSS in 1999 for the Ministry of Public Administrations (2001). The migration seems to have been abandoned. (May 2005). [cliv]
Spain	Legislative	Mandatory	Proposed	Bill would require all public administration websites, software, and documents to be Linux compatible. [clv]
Spain	Legislative	Preference	Failed	"The Parliament rejected a proposed bill that would have required all regional governments to prefer open source software and promote development of open source products." [clvi] (May 2002)
Spain	Legislative	Preference	Proposed	Bill would require regional governments to establish OSS preferences (August 2002). [clvii]
Spain	N/A	R&D	Approved	The government created the National Center for Open Source Software (March 2005).[clviii]
Sri Lanka	ICT Agency	Advisory	Proposed	ICT Agency Chair stated, "While the Government realizes that Open Source is not suitable for all situations, it supports and encourages its use where it provides a benefit. Sri Lankan companies too may benefit by adopting open source development methodologies when they make business sense (January 2004)."[clix]
Sweden	Agency for Public Management	R&D	Approved	The Swedish Agency for Public Management (Statskontoret), completed a study "to describe free and open source software and to offer suggestions for further work and measures." The report recommends that OSS "be judged on an even par with proprietary software in a procurement process." (August, 2003) [clx]
Sweden	Association of Local Authorities and Regions	R&D	Approved	The Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions is running "Programverket" a project to help the public sector adopt or convert to OSS. Programverket will also provide support and facilitate collaboration with OSS in the public sector. (November 2005) [clxi]
Switzerland	IT Council	Advisory	Approved	Four-year strategy allows central and local governments to consider OSS alongside proprietary software and sets up "an environment for successful OSS implementation" (March 2004).[clxii]
Taiwan	Ministry of Economic Affairs	Preference	Proposed	Taiwan will spend US$3.4 mil into promoting OSS development. The gov't "aims to have 30% of servers and 5% of personal computers operating on open-source software by 2007." (Oct. 2003) [clxiii]
Taiwan	Commission of the Legislative Yuan	R&D	Proposed	The Government wants to encourage R&D and use of OSS. Should implement OS Initiative by 2005 (2002). [clxiv]

Tanzania	Executive	Advisory	Approved	A recent National ICT Policy document recommends the use of OSS. [clxv]
Thailand	Ministerial	Advisory	Approved	Agreement between the ICT Ministry and the Ministry of Science and Technology to develop and promote OSS in private sector (June 2003). [clxvi]
Thailand	ICT Ministry	Advisory	Approved	Agreement with the Thai Software Industry (ATSI) to stimulate OSS development and to distribute one million Linux based computers by May 2004 (May 2003). [clxvii] By August 2003 the government had sold 300,000 PCs. (November 2003).[clxviii]
Thailand	National Electronic and Computer Technology Centre	Advisory	Approved	The NECTEC director is encouraging the use of OSS and said the Thai government has no plans to completely eliminate proprietary software, but would be happy with a 50 percent OSS penetration rate (May 2005).[clxix]
Thailand	Software Industry Promotion Agency	Advisory	Approved	SIPA is driving Linux adoption in government agencies, schools, and universities (February 2005).[clxx]
Thailand	Information and Communications Ministry	Advisory	Proposed	"The Information and Communications Ministry strongly endorsed open source software in connection with an announcement of 95 new ICT projects for 2003… the Ministry would encourage government agencies to increase the use of free software, including the Pladoa (Thai language open source software) operating system." [clxxi] (December 2002)
Thailand	Information and Communications Ministry	Preference	Proposed	"The Information and Communications Ministry announced that the Ministry would support open source technology with funding and policy initiatives." [clxxii] (February 2003)
Thailand	National Electronic and Computer Technology Centre	R&D	Approved	"Government officials announced that agencies would begin backing initiatives aimed at using the Thai language OSS (Pladoa) in an effort to reduce costs, reduce software piracy, and increase the self-sufficiency of Thailand's economy. Some members of Parliament have also proposed incorporating open source specifications into government IT procurement. Thailand's [NECTEC] is actively involved in the development of OSS office suites and Linux based operating systems." [clxxiii] (October 2001) A government supported technology development group, NECTEC, has developed a Linux distribution for schools and government desktops (2003). In January 2004, as a partnership with the Lab School Project, NECTEC began developing Linux server distribution for 921 schools (September 2004). [clxxiv]
UK	OGC/ e-Government Unit	Advisory	Approved	The updated version of Government policy on the use of Open Source Software within the UK government specifies software choices should be made on a money-for-value basis, giving **no preference to OSS**. The National Technical Authority for Information Assurance (CESG) will examine issues regarding OSS for use in government systems. (October 2004).[clxxv]
UK	OGC	R&D	Approved	November 2002 Case Study and September 2003 "Proof of Concept" Final Report which states OSS is a "viable and credible alternative," to proprietary software and recommends the public sector consider benefits of development and migration.[clxxvi]

UK	OGC/ e-Government Unit	R&D	Approved	Nine government agencies tested OSS to, "measure the effectiveness and cost-benefits of IT systems based on OSS products" (October 2003) [clxxvii] OCG concluded testing, found that "open source software is a viable and credible alternative to proprietary software" for many applications, but there are still limitations hindering its use. It recommends a gradual introduction of OSS as applications improve (October 2004).[clxxviii]
UK	e-Envoy Office / Dept. of Industry and Trade	R&D	Approved	"The e-Envoy Office and the Department of Industry and Trade (DTI) adopted interim conclusions on government-funded R&D software outputs…[that] state that if no exploitation route is specified for government-funded R&D software outputs, the default position of the government should be "to adopt an open source software license which complies with the OSI definition (which includes the GPL and Berkeley style licenses) or a UK-specific analogue of it" [and] "all government-funded software should be accompanied by appropriate documentation which will assist the exploitation via the open source software license"." [clxxix] (February 2003)
UK	Office of the Deputy Prime Minister	R&D	Approved	The government will sponsor research at the National Computing Centre in OS applications in the public sector (June 2005).[clxxx]
UK	Nat'l Health Service	R&D	Failed	Ran trials on 800,000 computers (1 million staff) running OSS. (December 2003). [clxxxi] UK decided to stick to proprietary software for next nine years (November 2004).[clxxxii]
Ukraine	Legislative	Preference	Proposed	"A member of Parliament submitted a new version of an open source software preference bill originally submitted in August 2002. The bill mandates the use of free software and free licenses in all government institutions at the state and local level and state-owned agencies when such software "exists in the market (or is freely accessible); and does not yield to 'closed' software and/or has advantages compared with the 'closed' software according to correlation of price and function". [clxxxiii] (March 2003). A version of this legislation was still under consideration in June 2005.[clxxxiv]
UN	UNDP	Advisory	Approved	"The UNDP actively promotes government open source software adoption. The Asia-Pacific Development Information Programme (APDIP) of the UNDP launched the International Open Source Network to aid countries in sharing information on open source software. UNDP is implementing the DOT Force action items on software development by promoting the use and dissemination of open source software within developing countries." [clxxxv] (April 2003)
UN	UNCTAD	Advisory	Approved	Calls on poor countries to adopt OSS to bridge the digital divide by notes lowering costs, increasing security, stimulating local economies, and avoiding proprietary lock-in as reasons for adopting OSS (November 2003).[clxxxvi]
US	DoD	Advisory	Approved	Established rules for open source use at DoD (June 2003). [clxxxvii]
US	OMB	Advisory	Approved	Agencies' procurements must consider cost of ownership and maintenance, as well as risks, security and privacy of data. Policies are "technology and vendor neutral." [clxxxviii]
Venezuela	Executive	Advisory	Approved	"Open source whenever possible, proprietary software only when necessary (2002)."[clxxxix]

Venezuela	Executive	Mandatory	Approved	The decree requires all public administration systems to shift to OSS, and in the cases where OSS cannot be used, the agency in need must take requests to adopt other solutions to the Ministry of Science and Technology. The decree also talks about R&D, cooperation, and education in OSS (December 2004). [cxc]
Venezuela	Executive	R&D	Approved	The Venezuelan Academy of Open Source Software opens in Mérida (November 2003).[cxci]
Vietnam	Executive	Preference	Approved	OSS plan for 2004-2008 approved by Prime Minister to develop and accelerate use of OSS for ICT applications; the measure takes steps to encourage OSS adoption in state-owned companies and ministries, but does not require it (March 2004). [cxcii]
Vietnam	Ministry of Science, Technology, and Environment	R&D	Approved	The Ministry will spend $20 million over four years to promote OSS use, develop new OSS applications, and build a skill pool (March 2004). [cxciii]
Vietnam	Ninth Party National Congress	R&D	Proposed	"The Ninth Party National Congress approved "The Master Plan for IT Use and Development in Vietnam for the Period 2001-2005." The Plan, overseen by the Ministry of Science, Technology, and Environment (MOSTE) calls for the accelerated development of "system, intermediate and application software in Vietnamese based Linux or other open source operating systems."" [cxciv] (August 2002)

States / Provinces / Cities Open Source Policies

Data Compiled by Jason Keiber

GOVERNMENT	BRANCH OR AGENCY	ACTION	STATUS	DETAILS AND SOURCES
Argentina, Buenos Aires City	Legislative	Mandatory	Proposed	2 separate bills requiring all information systems in the public sector must use OSS. Both are being handled by the Committee of Education, Science and Technology. [cxcv]
Argentina, Jujuy Province	Legislative	Mandatory	Proposed	All state computer systems will run OSS. As of May 2002, the bill was being handled by the Committee of General Legislation. [cxcvi]
Argentina, La Plata City	Legislative	Mandatory	Proposed	Draft decree mandating use of free software for all local public administrations. (November 2002) [cxcvii]
Argentina, Buenos Aires Province	Legislative	Mandatory	Failed	Senate passed bill "E-135 2002 2003" on November 26, 2003, sent to house. Bill would mandate exclusive use of OSS when possible. [cxcviii]
Australia, Victoria	Info and Comm Technology Ministry	Preference	Approved	The Victoria government gave a $50,000 grant to Open Source Victoria (OSV) a cluster of over 80 firms working in technology related to FOSS as part of a gov't program to promote FOSS. [cxcix]
Australia, ACT	Legislative	Advisory	Approved	"The Australian Capital Territory has become the first Australian jurisdiction to mandate the *consideration* of open source software for government entities" (December 2003). [cc]
Australia, NSW	Department of Commerce	Preference	Approved	NSW gov't signed contract with U.S.OSS company, enabling agencies to make procurements (October 2003). [cci]
Australia, NSW	Legislation	Preference	Proposed	Bill proposed similar to SA bill requiring public authorities preference OSS to commercial software (July 2003). [ccii]
Australia, NSW	N/A	Preference	Proposed	Planning to establish an "accredited panel of companies" to provide "specialist assistance in the provision of open-source software services" so that "agencies will not have to go through the time-consuming and expensive process of running an open tender every time they require Linux software and services." (April 2005) [cciii]
Australia, South Australia	Legislation	Preference	Failed	SA government "State Supply Amendment Bill 2003" state that "A public authority must, in making a decision about the procurement of computer software… should use open source software in preference to proprietary software." Bill Lapsed (2003) [cciv]
Australia, Victoria	Legislative	Advisory	Approved	A parliament committee recommends OSS for use in e-voting machines so voters can "be satisfied with the integrity of the system" (June 2005). [ccv]

Australia, Western Australia	State Development Ministry	R&D	Approved	State Development Minister Clive Brown created an open source demonstration centre to promote and support the use of OSS in the region (August 2004).[ccvi]
Austria, Vienna	City Council	Preference	Approved	City of Vienna will begin "soft migration" to Open Office and Linux by offering the software to local government users in the second quarter of 2005 (January 2005). [ccvii]
Belgium, Brussels-Capital Region	Legislative	Mandatory	Proposed	Requires the exclusive use of OSS in the public administration of the Brussels-Capital Region. Passed by "la Commission des Affaires générales de la Cocof" on February 11, 2003, but requires a vote by the Assembly. Currently in the Conseil d'Etat. [ccviii]
Belgium, Brussels-Capital Region	Legislative	Mandatory	Proposed	Introduced at **the federal level**, this bill would require the exclusive use of OSS in the public administration of the Brussels-Capital Region. (September 30, 2003) [ccix]
Brazil, multiple municipalities	Legislative	Preference	Approved	Amparo, Campinas, Porto Alegre, Recife, São Carlos, Solonopole, Ribeirão Pires, and Viçosa have passed laws requiring the use of OSS when available. [ccx]
Brazil, municipalities of Cuiritiba, Florianopolis, Sao Paulo	N/A	R&D	Proposed	Cities that "have considered or are considering open source preference proposals." Some proposals have already failed.[ccxi]
Brazil, Rio Grande do Sul	Legislative	Preference	Approved	Use of FOSS mandatory in gov't agencies and non-gov't managed utilities, when available. [ccxii]
Brazil, State of Espirito Santo	Legislative	Preference	Approved	Requires state public administrations and state-owned companies to give preference to OSS systems and programs (December 2002).[ccxiii]
Brazil, State of Mato Grosso do Sol	Legislative	Preference	Approved	Bill authorizing use of OSS in public administrations, State agencies and companies and listing OSS advantages (April 2003).[ccxiv]
Brazil, State of Parana	Legislative	Preference	Approved	State government shall prefer OSS operating systems and software in public administrations (November 2003). The state technology organization is offering free software to 10,000 gov't employees (June 2004). [ccxv]
Brazil, State of Santa Catarina	Legislative	Preference	Approved	Preferential use of OSS by state administrations and agencies (January 2004). [ccxvi]
Brazil, State of São Paulo	State Gov't	R&D	Approved	OSS company signed a cooperation agreement with the State Gov't to train 980 state government professionals in OSS and OSS IT management. (Nov. 29, 2004) [ccxvii]
Brazil, States of Bahia, Minas Gerais, Rio de Janeiro, and São Paulo	Legislative	Preference	Proposed	OSS proposals pending. [ccxviii]

Location	Authority	Type	Status	Description
China, Beijing	Municipal Gov't	R&D	Approved	Created the Beijing Software Industry Productivity Center with projects (Yangfan) to improve local distributions of Linux. [ccxix]
Finland, Turku	N/A	R&D	Proposed	First batch of Linux workstations should have been installed fall of 2002, and more following further pilot studies (December 2001). [ccxx]
France , Brest	N/A	R&D	Approved	City is distributing CDs to the population with open-source word processing software, a standard spreadsheet and web browser (April 2005). [ccxxi]
France, Arles	IT Department	Preference	Approved	All PCs in the municipality have migrated to open source office suites, databases, and application servers, though they are still running proprietary operating systems (May 2005). [ccxxii]
France, Paris	City Council	Preference	Proposed	The city council is pushing for a shift to OSS, despite a report that indicated an immediate, system-wide shift would be costly and infeasible (2004). [ccxxiii]
Germany, Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania	National Audit Office	Preference	Proposed	National audit office of Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania, which also provides support to the federal government, has changed over to Linux (November 2003). [ccxxiv]
Germany, Schwaebisch Hall	N/A	Preference	Proposed	The city plans on replacing all proprietary software on 400 computers with Linux by end of 2004. This is due in part to commitments made by the Ministry of the Interior. (November 2002) [ccxxv]
Germany, Frisia	N/A	Preference	Approved	The regional government plans to migrate to OSS by 2007 (June 2005). [ccxxvi]
Germany, Mannheim	N/A	Preference	Approved	The city has already migrated all servers to OSS. Next, all 3,500 desktops will move to open source office suites and operating systems. Interesting to note, the reason sited is to support open standards, not costs. In fact, they state that they do not necessarily expect cost savings with OSS. (December 2005) [ccxxvii]
Germany, Munich	Legislation	Preference	Approved	Spending ~30 million Euros switching 14,000 computers (May 2003). Officially adopted on June 16, 2004, paused in fall 2004 because of legal concerns, then resumed in September 2004. [ccxxviii]
India, State of Goa	Department of Information Technology	Preference	Approved	IT Secretary issued circular recommending the use of Linux (January 2002). [ccxxix]
India, State of Maharashtra	Ministry of IT	R&D	Approved	Ministry of IT launched a freely distributed CD of an Indianised GNU/Linux operating system with open source applications (April 2005). [ccxxx]
Italy, Province of Emilia Romagna	Legislative	Preference	Proposed	Government announced it would pass law for gradual adoption of OSS, but consideration of law suspended pending a review of survey (June 2003). [ccxxxi]
Italy, Province of Lombardy	Legislative	Preference	Proposed	OSS preference proposal introduced May 2003. [ccxxxii]

Italy, Province of Pescara	Legislative	Preference	Proposed	May 2002 motion to introduce and develop FOSS in the local public administration. [ccxxxiii]
Italy, Rome	N/A	R&D	Approved	Linux will be used in some of the public administration's computers as a test. (February 2004) [ccxxxiv]
Italy, Tuscany	Legislative	Preference	Approved	Bill 186, states a preference for OSS in all IT use by the regional public administration. [ccxxxv]
Italy: Florence, Lodi, Milan, Pescara, Argenta, Torino, Pistoia	Green Party Motions in City governments	Preference	Approved	Motions to introduce and expand the use of OSS in the public administration. The bills share some of the same language and seem to be initiated all around by the Green Party. (2001-2003) [ccxxxvi] (some are still pending)
Japan: Prefecture of Hokkaido, Sumoto City	N/A	Preference	Proposed	Announced or considering systems migration to OSS. [ccxxxvii]
Japan: Prefecture of Nagasaki	N/A	Preference	Proposed	Announced business plans promoting OSS. [ccxxxviii]
Malaysia, state of Terrengganu	State prime minister	Preference	Proposed	State will emulate Spain's Extremadura region in promoting OSS (February 2005). [ccxxxix]
Netherlands, Municipality of Eindhoven	City Council	Preference	Proposed	Municipality wants a plan to use OSS by Spring 2005 believing it can reduce IT costs. The motion was initiated by the political party SP. (Nov. 30, 2004) [ccxl]
Netherlands, Amsterdam	N/A	Preference	Proposed	OSS test for server and desktop applications could lead to migration of 15,000 city council desktops (October 2003). [ccxli]
Netherlands, Municipality of Haren	N/A	Preference	Proposed	The municipality wants to establish an open source server based computing environment and is evaluating "the use of open source desktop solutions aiming to encourage and to implement free software within the municipality in 2005." (April 2005) [ccxlii]
Norway, Bergen	N/A	Preference	Approved	The city will move education and health servers to OSS (June 2004). The large scale migration was about 50 percent complete by November (2004). [ccxliii]
Norway, Oslo	Education office	R&D	Approved	The project aims "to use Linux throughout all the Schools in Oslo, and also have it integrated with the municipalities' administrative systems." (November 2003). [ccxliv]
Spain, Andalucia	Legislative	Preference	Approved	All educational computers and public Internet sites must be compatible with free software (March 2003). [ccxlv]
Spain, Asturias	N/A	Preference	Proposed	The Asturian government has agreed on a plan to gradually install OSS on all public administration desktops. (November 2004) [ccxlvi]

Spain, Barcelona	City Council	Advisory	Approved	IT strategy calls for the promotion of OSS within the City of Barcelona's administration. (December 2004) [ccxlvii]
Spain, Canary Islands	Legislative	Advisory	Approved	A nonbonding resolution urging the use of FOSS (July 2001).[ccxlviii]
Spain, Catalan	Legislative	Preference	Proposed	Bill would require a preference for OSS in all public administrative bodies. [ccxlix]
Spain, Catalan	Ministry of Education	R&D	Proposed	Ministry will pursue OSS options in schools beginning in the 2005-2006 school year.[ccl]
Spain, Extremadura	Legislative	R&D	Approved	Plan to switch all computer systems in gov't offices, businesses and homes to Linux and FOSS applications. Estimated 110,000 machines will be affected. (November 2002) The plan is continuing to unfold with the region's computers running a customized version of Linux which is now running on 80,000 computers in schools. (May 2004) [ccli]
Spain, Valencia	N/A	Advisory	Approved	Launched initiative to promote OSS use in educational field (Spring 2003). [cclii]
Spain, Valencia	Executive	Mandatory	Proposed	A spokesman for the administration said that public officials have a duty not to pay for software, and that the regional administration would shift to OSS within two years (May 2005).[ccliii]
Switzerland, Geneva Canton	Tax Office	Preference	Approved	Along with a tax declaration program, Swiss authorities sent all taxpayers copies of two open source programs. (For the 2002 tax year, but story posted February 2003) [ccliv]
Switzerland, Zurich	N/A	R&D	Proposed	City of Zurich to report on what it would take to transfer to FOSS (September 2003).[cclv]
Thailand, Bangkok	Bangkok Metropolitan Administration (BMA)	Preference	Approved	Policy announced that BMA would use OSS because of cost concerns (February 2003). [cclvi]
UK, Cheshire County	County council	R&D	Approved	The county is the first to test OSS in the national OS Lab in Manchester (June 2005).[cclvii]
UK, City of Newham	City Council	Preference	Failed	Newham council announced that, after study, significant savings not achievable from OSS migration (November 2003).[cclviii]
UK, City of Nottingham	City Council	Preference	Proposed	Council examining feasibility of migrating its 6,500 desktops to OSS (June 2003).[cclix]
UK, West Yorkshire	Police	R&D	Proposed	West Yorkshire police are testing Linux workstations, initially on 3,500 machines. (October 2002) [cclx]
Uruguay, Ciy of San José	Legislative	Preference	Approved	Resolution passed calling for exclusive use of OSS within administration (June 2003). [cclxi]
US, Alabama	Legislation	Advisory	Failed	Legislation introduced in March 2004 to expressly permit OSS use in state agencies where feasible; failed in committee (2005).[cclxii]

US, Austin, Texas	City Office	R&D	Proposed	Pilot program has resulted in OpenOffice.org being installed on 300 seats in Dept. of Communications Technology Management, still ongoing (December 2003). [cclxiii]
US, Beaverton, Oregon	Executive	R&D	Approved	City and state will provide $1.2 million for a facility to lure open-source start-ups (January 2005).[cclxiv]
US, California	Performance Review Commission	Advisory	Approved	A commission appointed by the governor recommended that state agencies implement OSS where feasible (2004).[cclxv]
US, California	Legislative	Mandatory	Proposed	"Digital Software Security Act" All software for the state must be open source. Not yet considered by legislature. [cclxvi]
US, Hawaii	Legislative	Preference	Failed	Bill would require report on OSS use and the creation of a state policy supporting OSS applications within government agencies. Bill passed Senate and is in House committees (April 2003). [cclxvii]
US, Massachusetts	CIO Office	Advisory	Approved	IT Commission recommends, "Leverage ownership of existing application assets by establishing an 'open source' program within the Commonwealth. (February 2003)" [cclxviii]
US, Massachusetts	Secretary of Admin and Finance	Mandatory	Failed	Government-wide policy of "open standards, open source" (when available) for all future spending on information technology (September 2003). [cclxix] Later the IT Acquisition Policy was clarified saying that IT acquisitions shall be based on "best value" and consider "all possible solutions," including software with open standards and open source. (Jan. 13, 2004) [cclxx]
US, Massachusetts	Information Technology Division	Preference	Approved	"The OpenDocument format must be used for office documents", which will result in the use of OSS office suites. (September 2005) [cclxxi]
US, New York	Legislative	Preference	Proposed	Would require state agencies to consider OSS during software acquisitions within state agencies. (June 2003). [cclxxii]
US, Oklahoma	Legislative	Mandatory	Proposed	Bill proposed prohibits acquiring software unless the source codes is provided (February 2003). Reintroduced January 9, 2004. No action taken as of 2005.[cclxxiii]
US, Oregon	Legislative	Preference	Proposed	SB 941, for considering OSS during procurement. As of 8-27-2003, bill was "in committee upon adjournment." [cclxxiv] Similar House bill, HB 2892, left in committee (May 2003).[cclxxv]
US, States of KS, MA, MO, PA, RI, UT, VA, WV	Cross State	R&D	Approved	Launched June 30, 2004, "The Government Open Code Collaborative is a voluntary collaboration between public sector entities and non-profit academic institutions created for the purpose of encouraging the sharing, at no cost, of computer code developed for and by government entities where the redistribution of this code is allowed." [cclxxvi]
US, Texas	Legislative	Advisory	Proposed	Left pending in committee 05/08/2003, revised in 2003 to call on the Dept. of Information Resources to issue procurement guidelines that include simple consideration of open source, no action taken as of July 2005. [cclxxvii]

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