

# **DebConf26**Sponsorship Brochure

for the annual Debian Developers' Conference

Hosted at FICH - UNL Santa Fe, Argentina

July, 2026



#### Thank you for your interest in the Debian Project.

This brochure provides an overview of the sponsorship opportunities for DebConf 26, which will be held at Faculty of Engineering and Water Sciences, Santa Fe, Argentina, on July 2026.

DebConf is the annual international gathering of Debian developers, contributors, users, and enthusiasts, with the common purpose of discussing technical topics, collaborating on joint projects and working on improving the Debian GNU/Linux distribution. DebConf is run on a non-profit basis. It is organized solely by volunteers and is free of charge to attend. Thus, DebConf depends on sponsors and donations. Your contribution makes it possible for us to bring together a large number of Debian contributors from all over the globe. Every year, the conference is hosted in a different city, reaching new contributors and strengthening local Free Software and Open Source communities. Having sufficient funding is critical to achieving this every year.

We invite you to sponsor our conference at a level which fits your budget and matches your desired level of visibility in our community and in the media. Our higher levels of sponsorship include the possibility of advertising your job openings, as well as other means of engaging with our wide range of participants, both local and international.

It is thanks to our sponsors' generous support that we have been able to reach people from all corners of the world. Thank you very much in advance for your support, and we look forward to hearing from you and your organization.

If you have any further questions after reading this brochure, please do not hesitate to contact us at sponsors@debconf.org.

The DebConf 26 team

### **DebConf**

DebConf is the annual international gathering of Debian developers, contributors, users, and enthusiasts with the common purpose of discussing technical topics, collaborating on joint projects and working on improving the Debian GNU/Linux distribution and its derivatives.

DebConf is run on a non-profit basis. Your contribution makes it possible for us to bring together a large number of Debian contributors from all over the globe. During DebConf, we work together, help and learn from each other, and forge friendships. Since our contributors are located all over the world, meeting face to face once a year helps form bonds that improve long-distance collaboration in the future.

We are proud of our continuing tradition as an entirely volunteer-run conference, hosted every year in a different city, reaching new contributors and strengthening local Free Software and Open Source communities. Having sufficient funding is critical to achieving this goal.

#### Live world-wide video streaming and archiving

Thanks to our experienced and dedicated video team, most sessions at DebConf are streamed live on the Internet. This makes it possible for those not attending in person to participate remotely.

After the conference, all videos are published online and kept permanently accessible free of charge. DebConf's collection of video recordings contains videos from every DebConf since 2005.

We thank our Platinum and Gold sponsors by displaying their logos on the video streams during the live sessions, and additionally at the end of the archived recordings.

#### **DebCamp:** building a strong community

DebConf helps share the knowledge and experience of developers with the entire community. It also helps individuals to put faces to the names they have been working with for years. DebConf not only makes the Debian community stronger, but has become an integral part of it.

DebConf gives contributors a chance to meet face to face, socialize, and brainstorm new ideas. As a result, people leave DebConf with a renewed sense of enthusiasm for Debian and its goals. New ideas and systems that Debian implements often originate in team sprints at DebConf. We provide the venue and infrastructure for such team sprints during the week before DebConf by organizing DebCamp.

It's an honor to attend DebConf and participate with such an extraordinary group of people working together for software freedom. Attending DebConf always fires me up to do more for the Debian community and gives me hope for the future of our technology.

> Karen Sandler – Executive Director of Software Freedom Conservancy, Debian Developer, and Outreachy co-organizer

> > https://debconf26.debconf.org
> > sponsors@debconf.org

## A bit about Argentina

Area: 2,780,085 km<sup>2</sup> / 1,073,395 mi<sup>2</sup>

Capital: Ciudad Autónoma de Buenos Aires

Country Code: +54

Population: 46 million (2022 census)

Currency: Peso Argentino (\$) Official Language: Spanish

Time Zone: ART (UTC-3) on the mainland

The Argentine Republic is renowned for its rich cultural heritage, vibrant history, and contributions to the development of science, art, and education in Latin America. As one of the largest countries in the world by land area, Argentina has played a leading role in the region, both politically and technologically.

Located at the southern end of the Americas, Argentina attracts millions of visitors each year thanks to its diverse geography and cultural richness. From the Andes mountains and Patagonian glaciers to the Iguazú Falls and the vast Pampas plains, the country offers unique land-scapes and a wide range of climates across its territory. With a strong tradition of public education and critical thinking, Argentina also stands out for its cuisine, artistic and musical production, and for hosting several UNESCO World Heritage Sites.

#### **Technology**

Argentina has been a key player in various scientific and technological fields throughout its history, with major achievements in aerospace, nuclear energy, medicine, precision agriculture, and educational technologies. The country benefits from a strong public university system, leading research institutions, and a growing tech ecosystem centered in cities such as Buenos Aires, Córdoba, Rosario, and Santa Fe. Argentina also supports cooperative-driven tech development and public policies that aim at technological sovereignty.

#### Free/Libre and Open Source Software

Argentina has a diverse and active Free/Libre and Open Source Software (FLOSS) community with a long-standing commitment to digital rights, open access, and technological sovereignty. It includes developers, educators, activists, cooperatives, and civil society organizations that promote inclusion and knowledge sharing through FLOSS principles.

Key players include Vía Libre, a pioneering NGO in public policy, digital rights, and Free Software advocacy, and FACTTIC, a federation of tech cooperatives delivering socially responsible solutions based on free software.

Argentina also offers a unique academic path: the Free Software Engineering undergraduate program at Faculty of Engineering and Water Sciences from the National University of Litoral (UNL) in Santa Fe. This is the first and only degree of its kind in the country, training professionals who actively contribute to the FLOSS ecosystem.

On the legal front, Santa Fe province was among the first to pass legislation in support of FLOSS through Law No. 13.139, encouraging its use in government. At the national level, Law No. 25.856 promotes the consideration of Free Software in public procurement. These policies show a strong institutional commitment to openness and technological self-determination.

Argentina also developed its own Debian based GNU/Linux distribution: Huayra GNU/Linux, originally created for public education under the Conectar Igualdad program, representing stateled efforts to adopt free technologies.

Events like FLISoL, held annually in over 30 Argentine cities, and MiniDebConfs, such as the one hosted in Santa Fe in 2024, highlight the country's continued engagement with the Debian community and the broader FLOSS ecosystem. Argentina has also played a prominent role in the global Debian project, having hosted DebConf8 in Mar del Plata back in 2008 — one of the earliest editions outside Europe.



#### Santa Fe



Santa Fe de La Vera Cruz, is the capital city of the Santa Fe Province. Argentina's eighth most populous city, it is one of the most important cities in the country thanks to its history, culture and contributions to the national development.

Santa Fe is home of several prestigious faculties, as well as institutes and research centers, making it at one of the most significant science and technology hubs in the country. It has at least 14 research institutes with more than a thousand people working on it.

Not only is Santa Fe the first settlement on the Río de la Plata, and the country's first port city, but it also inherits a rich past and cultural traditions. Santa Fe is considered the Cradle of the National Constitution.

Santa Fe has a long and rich architectural history, with the Suspension Bridge serving a historical and cultural landmark. It has been declared a National Historic Monument.

The gastronomy of Santa Fe is plentiful and varied. Surrounded by rivers. Along the shores of the rivers which surround the city, there are many restaurants serving fish in all its varieties. Beer has become a symbol of the city, the city's signature style being a cold, unpasteurized local beer called "liso". One of the local landmarks is a pipeline which sends liso from the local brewery to various drinking spots around the city.

#### FICH - UNL

The Faculty of Engineering and Water Sciences (FICH - Facultad de Ingeniería en Ciencias Hídricas) is part of Universidad Nacional del Litoral (UNL), one of the oldest and most important public universities in Argentina.

FICH is located within the UNL's university campus, where a large part of the university's academic, sports, and recreational activities take place. Nearly 50% of the university's total student population attends classes on this campus daily.

The university campus is located on the east side of the city, very close to the Suspension Bridge and the eastern riverfront (Costanera Este).

This faculty hosts most of the university programs related to technology, including Computer Engineering, Artificial Intelligence Engineering, and the technician undergrade University in Free Software Technologies (Tecnicatura Universitaria en Software Libre), the latter being the first and only program in the country that trains professionals specifically to contribute to Free Software Communities.

FICH also houses several research laboratories focused on Water Science, which are of big interest for both the city and the region. It is also home to various research centers and institutes, including the Signal, System and Computational Intelligence Research Institute (sinc(i)), which focuses on developing new algorithms for machine learning, data mining, signal processing, and complex systems, providing innovative technologies that contribute to the advancement of healthcare, bioinformatics, precision agriculture, autonomous systems, and human computer interfaces.



# **The Debian Project**

Debian is an operating system consisting entirely of Free and Open Source Software. The Debian Project is dedicated to remaining 100% free and to being a responsible "citizen" of this ecosystem. We are committed to Free Software and our users, our two priorities. Our strict set of guidelines serves as an example for many other projects.



#### A pillar of Free Software

Debian's high quality standards and adherence to its strict policies make the operating system a preferred choice for derivative works. Currently, over 120 actively developed operating systems are based on Debian, including the widely popular Ubuntu, Linux Mint, and Kali Linux distributions.

More specialized derivatives range from Grml (optimized for system administrators) to Tails (optimized for privacy and security experts). Debian runs in hundreds of schools thanks to SkoleLinux, and powers gaming platforms with SteamOS. Debian has been deployed in public institutions such as the cities of Munich and Vienna, and the German Federal Office for Information Security (BSI).

The Debian Project takes pride in being built upon by others. To further encourage this collaboration, we actively work with teams that derive their distributions from Debian, thus maximizing the benefits of each, in the interest of all.

#### A large, distributed, and non-profit project

The Debian Project's key strengths are its volunteer base, its dedication to the Debian Social Contract, and its commitment to providing the best universal operating system. Debian is produced by over a thousand active developers, spread across the globe, many of whom volunteer in their spare time. Outside of DebConf, most communication takes place on the Internet, in mailing lists and IRC chat rooms.

Unlike all other Linux distributions of similar size, Debian is an independent non-profit organization. Debian's dedication to Free Software, its non-profit nature, and its open development model make it unique among Free Software distributions.

#### Debian is Freedom. Debian is Choice.

Debian is known for its adherence to the Unix and Free Software philosophies, and for its extensiveness. The current release includes over 69,000 software packages for ten computer architectures, ranging from Intel 64-bit architectures, to ARM (cellphones and tablets), to the IBM S/390 (mainframes). In addition, the last stable release added support for the RISC-V architecture.

# Become a DebConf 26 sponsor

DebConf is organized solely by volunteers and is free of charge to attend. Thus, DebConf depends on sponsors and donations.

For DebConf 26, we would love to welcome you as a sponsor!

In addition to supporting Debian and Free Software and Open Source development, your contribution brings significant exposure to your brand. By organizing DebConf, we offer you a great environment to gain contacts and recruit new staff, and the chance to be a part of our exceptional community.

Our sponsorship levels and some of the perks associated with them are:

	Supporter	Bronze	Silver	Gold	Platinum
Contribution in USD	up to 3,000	3,000	7,500	15,000	30,000
Logo on sponsor webpage	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Provide goodies for conference bags		✓	✓	✓	✓
Logo on T-shirts and tote bags			✓	✓	✓
Presence at the job fair			✓	✓	✓
Logo on live streams and recordings				✓	✓
Logo on conference banners				✓	✓
Logo on conference podiums					✓
Mention in press releases					✓

#### Diversity outreach program

As in recent years, we will continue to reach out to groups who would otherwise be less likely to attend our conference, in an effort to increase diversity among our participants. We propose travel and accommodation bursaries earmarked for diversity, as we find this benefits both the conference and the Debian project as a whole.

#### Additional sponsorship opportunities

If you would like to sponsor DebConf in any other way, or want to discuss additional sponsorship opportunities, please contact the team at sponsors@debconf.org.

We are always looking for new and creative ideas regarding the involvement of our sponsors within the community.

#### The value of sponsoring DebConf

DebConf participants are mainly known as experts in their fields, and their opinions and views are followed by many individuals and businesses. By sponsoring the conference, you are directly supporting the progress of Debian and Free Software, as well as helping to strengthen the community who continues to work after the conference. Your contribution is a strong signal of appreciation for their work.

Please contact us at sponsors@debconf.org if you're interested in sponsoring DebConf 26.



Attending the Debian conference really opened my eyes to the true meaning of open source. Unlike other events, it felt like stepping into a restaurant's kitchen, where you don't just see the final dish, but also the chefs at work, the ingredients being chosen, and even the recipe tweaks debated in real time.

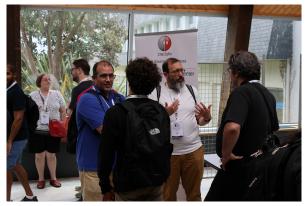
Krista Fong – It was her first experience with DebConf and packaging.

77

# **DebConf impressions**













#### Photo credits

DebConf photos by Aigars Mahinovs, CC BY 3.0+ or GPLv2+ FICH UNL Campus photo by Juan Martín Alfieri Porqueres, CC BY-SA 4.0 Santa Fe city photo by Image Bank, Undersecretariat of Tourism, Municipality of Santa Fe. (used with permission)

#### License

This brochure is published under a CC BY-SA 4.0 license.

https://debconf26.debconf.org sponsors@debconf.org

# See you in Santa Fe!

