



# Sponsorship Brochure

for the annual [Debian Developers' Conference](#)

Hosted at Taisetsu Crystal Hall  
Asahikawa, Japan

[5-11 September, 2027](#)



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

This brochure provides an overview of the sponsorship opportunities for [DebConf 27](#), which will be held at Taisetsu Crystal Hall, Asahikawa, Japan, from the 5<sup>th</sup> to the 11<sup>th</sup> of September 2027.

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](mailto:sponsors@debconf.org).

The [DebConf 27](#) team

<https://debconf27.debconf.org>  
[sponsors@debconf.org](mailto:sponsors@debconf.org)

# 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://debconf27.debconf.org>  
[sponsors@debconf.org](mailto:sponsors@debconf.org)

## A bit about Japan

Area: 377,975 km<sup>2</sup> / 145,937 mi<sup>2</sup>  
 Capital: Tokyo  
 Country Code: +81  
 Population: 123 million (2025 census)  
 Currency: Yen Nihon (¥)  
 Official Language: Japanese  
 Time Zone: JST (UTC+9)



OpenStreetMap

Japan is renowned for its rich cultural heritage, vibrant history, and contributions to the development of science, art, and technology in East Asia. As one of the leading global economies, Japan has played a pivotal role in the region, both culturally and technologically. Located at the eastern edge of Asia, Japan attracts millions of visitors each year thanks to its diverse geography and cultural richness. From the iconic peak of Mount Fuji and rugged northern coasts to the historic temples of Kyoto and the bustling neon streets of Tokyo, the country offers unique landscapes and seamlessly blending ancient tradition and modern life. With a strong tradition of education, discipline, and innovation, Japan also stands out for its world-famous cuisine, artistic production, and for hosting several UNESCO World Heritage Sites.

## Technology

Japan has been a key player in various scientific and technological fields throughout its history, with major achievements in robotics, automotive engineering, medicine, bullet train networks, and electronic technologies. The country benefits from a strong national university system, leading research institutions, and a growing tech ecosystem centered in cities such as Tokyo, Osaka, Kyoto, Nagoya, Sapporo, Sendai and Fukuoka. Japan also supports corporate-driven tech development and public policies that aim at technological sovereignty.

## Free/Libre and Open Source Software

Free/Libre and Open Source Software: Japan has a mature and long-running Free/Libre and Open Source Software (FLOSS) community, with active participation from individual developers, university researchers, corporate engineers, and grassroots user groups spanning the whole country, from Hokkaido to Kyushu/Okinawa.

Key players include the Free Software Initiative of Japan (FSIJ), a nonprofit organization formed in 2002 that supports the growth of Free Software through advocacy, events, and technical projects, and Debian JP Project, the long-standing local Debian community that has supported Japanese users and contributors, translated documentation, and organized local meetups for decades. The Open Source Conference (OSC), run by OSPN, is another pillar of the ecosystem, holding a series of community-run events throughout the year in different regions of Japan to connect developers, users, and companies working with open source software.

Japan is also home to a large number of companies that build their products and services around open source, including contributions to the Linux kernel, cloud-native projects, and embedded systems, reflecting a strong industry-community collaboration that complements the country's grassroots FLOSS activities. Hosting DebConf27 in Asahikawa will bring this nationwide community together with the global Debian Project for the first time in Japan.

<https://debconf27.debconf.org>  
[sponsors@debconf.org](mailto:sponsors@debconf.org)

Here is a comparable passage on the legal, distribution, and community-event landscape in Japan:

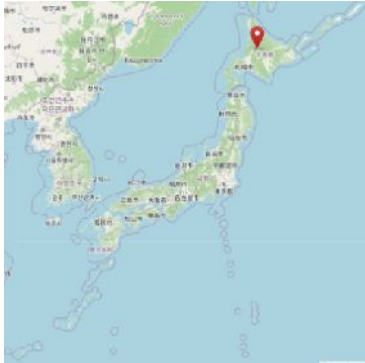
On the legal front, Japan's Digital Agency has taken a more centralized approach to promoting open source in government, establishing an Open Source Program Office (OSPO) and an Expert Panel on Open Source and OSS Utilization to develop selection criteria for adopting open source software in public administration, weighing factors such as license terms, community activity, and governance. These initiatives reflect a growing institutional recognition of FLOSS as core public digital infrastructure, alongside Japan's long history of corporate and academic contributions to major open source projects.

Japan has also produced its own Linux distributions over the years, including Vine Linux and MIRACLE LINUX, reflecting a domestic tradition of adapting free operating systems to local needs, from desktop use to enterprise and government deployments.

Community events keep this ecosystem active nationwide: the Open Source Conference (OSC) tours multiple Japanese cities throughout the year, and MiniDebConf Japan has been held periodically since its first edition in Tokyo in 2016, with the most recent edition taking place in Asahikawa in 2025 as a lead-up to DebConf27. While Japan has long been home to active Debian contributors and a dedicated Debian JP Project, DebConf27 will mark the first time the main Debian Conference is held in the country, extending Debian's presence in Asia following earlier editions in India (2023) and South Korea (2024).



# Asahikawa



OpenStreetMap

Asahikawa is the second-largest city in Hokkaido, Japan's northernmost prefecture, and serves as the economic, cultural, and transportation hub of the Kamikawa Subprefecture at the very center of the island.

Asahikawa is home to universities specializing in medical, education, and economics, as well as public research institutions focused on agriculture, forestry, and cold-climate technologies. This reflects the city's role as a hub for life and sector in northern Hokkaido.

Asahikawa is home to numerous bridges due to the many rivers flowing through the city. The Asahibashi Bridge, in particular — an arch bridge constructed using steel imported from Germany in 1932 — is designated as a **Hokkaido Heritage** site and is cherished as a historic landmark of Asahikawa.

Asahikawa is famous for its cuisine, particularly **Asahikawa Ramen** — characterized by a rich soy sauce-based broth — and **Jingisukan** a dish where lamb and other meats are grilled on a special pan with a raised center. The city also boasts the highest rice production volume in Hokkaido, with the rice being of exceptional quality. Serving as a logistics hub, Asahikawa gathers a wide array of agricultural produce and seafood from across Hokkaido. Visitors can enjoy a diverse range of delicious meals, including sushi made with local seafood and high-quality rice; local sake and craft beers that showcase the region's excellent rice and water; and dishes featuring fresh vegetables harvested in the areas surrounding the city.



## Venue

---

The Taisetsu Crystal Hall and the Jibasan Center (Asahikawa Regional Industry Promotion Center) in Asahikawa City are major public event facilities; situated next to each other, they will together serve as the main venue for DebConf27.

Located near JR Asahikawa Station in the city center, **Crystal Hall** is a facility that combines an international conference center, a music hall, and a museum. In addition to a main conference room with a capacity of up to 300 people, the facility features a reception hall and several smaller meeting rooms, making it an ideal venue for lectures, breakout sessions (BoF – Birds of a Feather), networking events, and more.

The Jibasan Center next to the Crystal Hall, features sales areas for local products and dining areas and houses a vast 1,500-square-meter exhibition hall on the first floor capable of accommodating large-scale events such as trade shows and exhibitions. Vehicles can drive directly into the exhibition hall, allowing for the rapid delivery and setup of exhibits and equipment. The second floor offers conference rooms with capacities of approximately 150 and 50 people, suitable for use as BoF sessions or hack labs.

Asahikawa, the second-largest city in Hokkaido, serves as a gateway to the Daisetsuzan volcanic group and the northern region of the Hokkaido. It is renowned for winter sports that take advantage of the harsh cold, its rich natural environment and culinary culture, and its proximity to Asahiyama Zoo — one of Japan's most famous zoos. Hosting DebConf27 in the city will allow participants to experience the unique charm of a city in Japan's northern region while attending the conference in a spacious, versatile facility.



# **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 27 sponsor

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

For [DebConf 27](#), 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:

|                                       | <b>Supporter</b> | <b>Bronze</b> | <b>Silver</b> | <b>Gold</b> | <b>Platinum</b> |
|---------------------------------------|------------------|---------------|---------------|-------------|-----------------|
| Contribution in USD                   | up to 3,000      | 3,000         | 7,500         | 15,000      | 30,000          |
| Logo on sponsor webpage               | ✓                | ✓             | ✓             | ✓           | ✓               |
| Provide materials for conference bags |                  | ✓             | ✓             | ✓           | ✓               |
| Logo on T-shirts and conference bags  |                  |               | ✓             | ✓           | ✓               |
| Presence at the job fair              |                  |               | ✓             | ✓           | ✓               |
| Logo on video streams and recordings  |                  |               |               | ✓           | ✓               |
| Logo on general conference banners    |                  |               |               | ✓           | ✓               |
| Logo on podium banners                |                  |               |               |             | ✓               |
| 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](mailto:sponsors@debconf.org).

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

<https://debconf27.debconf.org>  
[sponsors@debconf.org](mailto:sponsors@debconf.org)

## 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](mailto:sponsors@debconf.org) if you're interested in sponsoring [DebConf 27](https://debconf27.debconf.org).



“ 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.*

# DebConf impressions



## Photo credits

DebConf photos by Aigars Mahinovs, CC BY 3.0+ or GPLv2+

Asahikawa city and food photos by Norimitsu Sugimoto, CC BY 3.0+ or GPLv2+

Asahikawa city and background photos by Asahikawa City and Asahikawa Tourism Convention Association. (used with permission)

Map data by OpenStreetMap contributors, ODbL, <https://openstreetmap.org/copyright>

## License

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

<https://debconf27.debconf.org>  
[sponsors@debconf.org](mailto:sponsors@debconf.org)

See you in Asahikawa!

