

How to keep OpenStreetMap -and other open geospatial data ecosystems- **sustainable with the rise of AI?**

International Workshop on Exploring the new frontiers
of Volunteered Geographic Information (VGI)

Paris - 1st September 2026



OpenStreetMap
Foundation



Briefly: What is the OSMF and the board?

International not-for-profit organization **supporting, but not controlling**, the OpenStreetMap Project.

It is dedicated to encouraging the **growth, development and distribution** of free geospatial data and to providing geospatial data for anyone to use and share

- *osmfoundation.org*

Briefly: What is the OSMF and the board?

Working Groups

- Communication
- Data
- Engineering
- Licensing
- Membership
- Operations
- SotM
- Local Chapters & Communities

- *osmfoundation.org*

Briefly: what is the OSMF and the board?

Board – *board@osmfoundation.org*

Elected volunteers responsible for running OSMF

Craig Héctor Laura Napo

2024-2026

Dani Brazil Roland

2025-2027

Budget 2026 - Expenses

SotM	£180k
STF (Core software devs.)	£145k
Other EWG contractors	£166k
EWG Microgrants	£60k
LCCWG Microgrants	£5k
SSRE, 2 nd SysOps & Board support	£252k
Other	£65k

OpenStreetMap

Ensuring the stability, growth and modernization of the core software powering the global open mapping ecosystem

Key facts

Status:	CURRENT
Investment Amount	€384,000.00
Investment Year(s)	2025, 2026
Repository → openstreetmap.org →	

Raise of AI requests

Source: Grant Slater and Osm.org Ops Team,
Running OpenStreetMap.org in the Age of AI,
State of the Map 2026



60%+
Since October 2025

1.6 Billion Requests

OpenStreetMap.org - July 2026

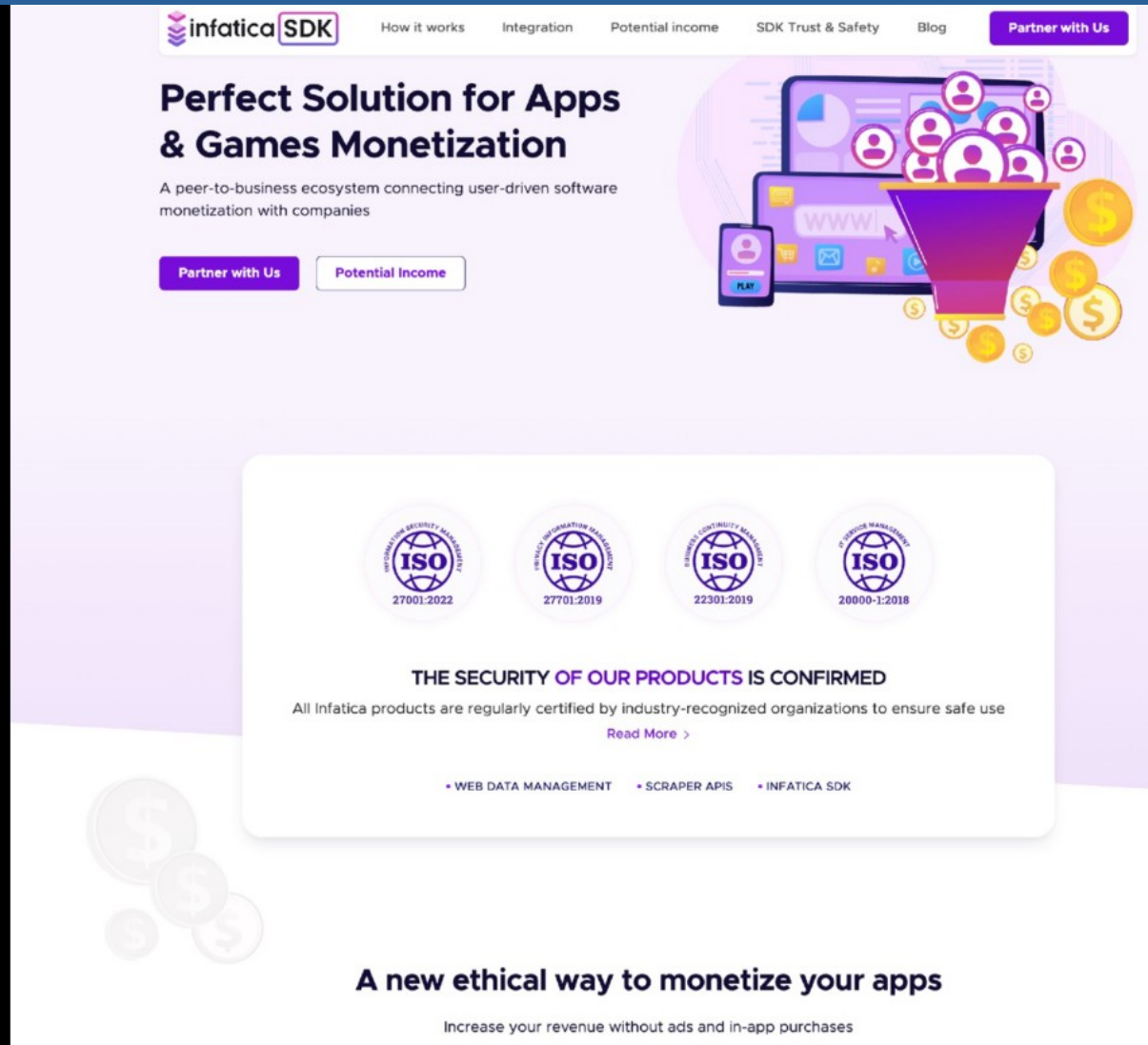


Raise of AI requests

Source: Grant Slater and Osm.org Ops Team,
Running OpenStreetMap.org in the Age of AI,
State of the Map 2026



Hidden
web proxy
servers
EVERYWHERE
used by
Unethical AI
crawlers to
bypass website
filtering



The screenshot shows the Infatica SDK website. The header includes the Infatica SDK logo and navigation links: 'How it works', 'Integration', 'Potential income', 'SDK Trust & Safety', 'Blog', and a 'Partner with Us' button. The main heading is 'Perfect Solution for Apps & Games Monetization', followed by the subtext 'A peer-to-business ecosystem connecting user-driven software monetization with companies'. Below this are two buttons: 'Partner with Us' and 'Potential Income'. To the right is an illustration of a funnel with user icons and coins. A central white box displays four ISO certification logos with their respective numbers: 27001:2022, 27701:2019, 22301:2019, and 20000-1:2018. Below the logos, it states 'THE SECURITY OF OUR PRODUCTS IS CONFIRMED' and provides a link to 'Read More >'. At the bottom of this box are three bullet points: '• WEB DATA MANAGEMENT', '• SCRAPER APIS', and '• INFATICA SDK'. The footer features the text 'A new ethical way to monetize your apps' and 'Increase your revenue without ads and in-app purchases'.

infatica SDK

How it works Integration Potential income SDK Trust & Safety Blog Partner with Us

Perfect Solution for Apps & Games Monetization

A peer-to-business ecosystem connecting user-driven software monetization with companies

Partner with Us Potential Income

ISO 27001:2022 ISO 27701:2019 ISO 22301:2019 ISO 20000-1:2018

THE SECURITY OF OUR PRODUCTS IS CONFIRMED

All Infatica products are regularly certified by industry-recognized organizations to ensure safe use

[Read More >](#)

- WEB DATA MANAGEMENT
- SCRAPER APIS
- INFATICA SDK

A new ethical way to monetize your apps

Increase your revenue without ads and in-app purchases

Raise of AI requests

Source: Grant Slater and Osm.org Ops Team,
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AI Crawlers:

GIVE ME ALL YOUR DATA... we have a LLM to train

- IP addresses have stopped being useful identify
- Residential proxy network
- Grab everything as quick as possible
- Ignore robots.txt and other “traditional” controls
- Hide Identity (Faking Web Browsers)

Second paid SysOps

- Raise of AI requests
- Increase bus factor
- Reduce workload on current SSRE

Increased cost onto the Foundation caused by the raise of AI

In-kind donations



Thank you!

Interactive discussion – Breakout session 1 - 10'

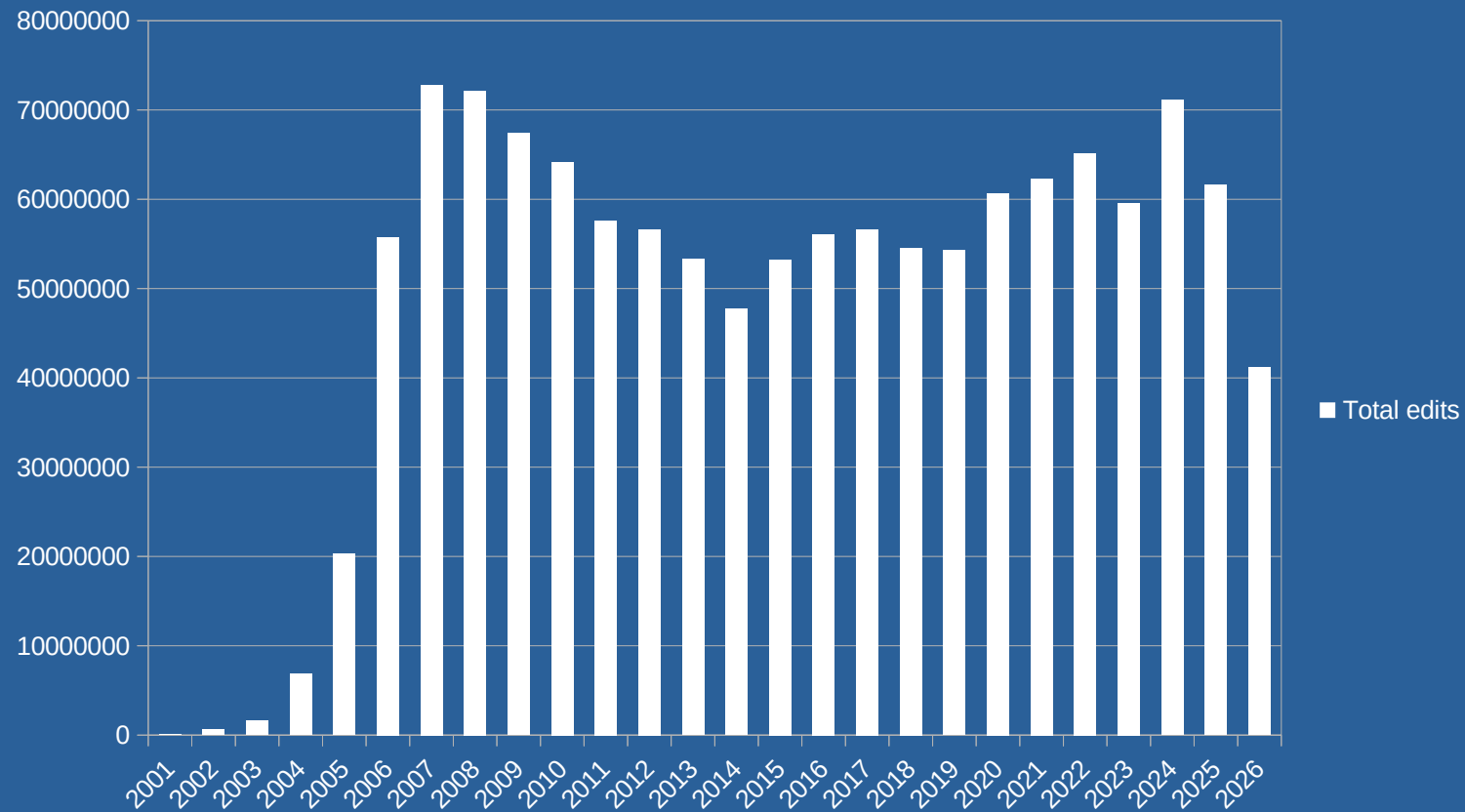
Have NMCAs/other orgs. also experienced abuse on their APIs with the raise of AI? What are your current strategies?

Should we rethink the free for all model? How to make it so the cost is not passed onto the infrastructure maintainers?

Raise of LLMs



Raise of LLMs



English Wikipedia Total Edits per year, data source: <https://en.wikiscan.org/?menu=tables&submenu=edit&type=total>

Interactive discussion – Breakout session 2 - 10'

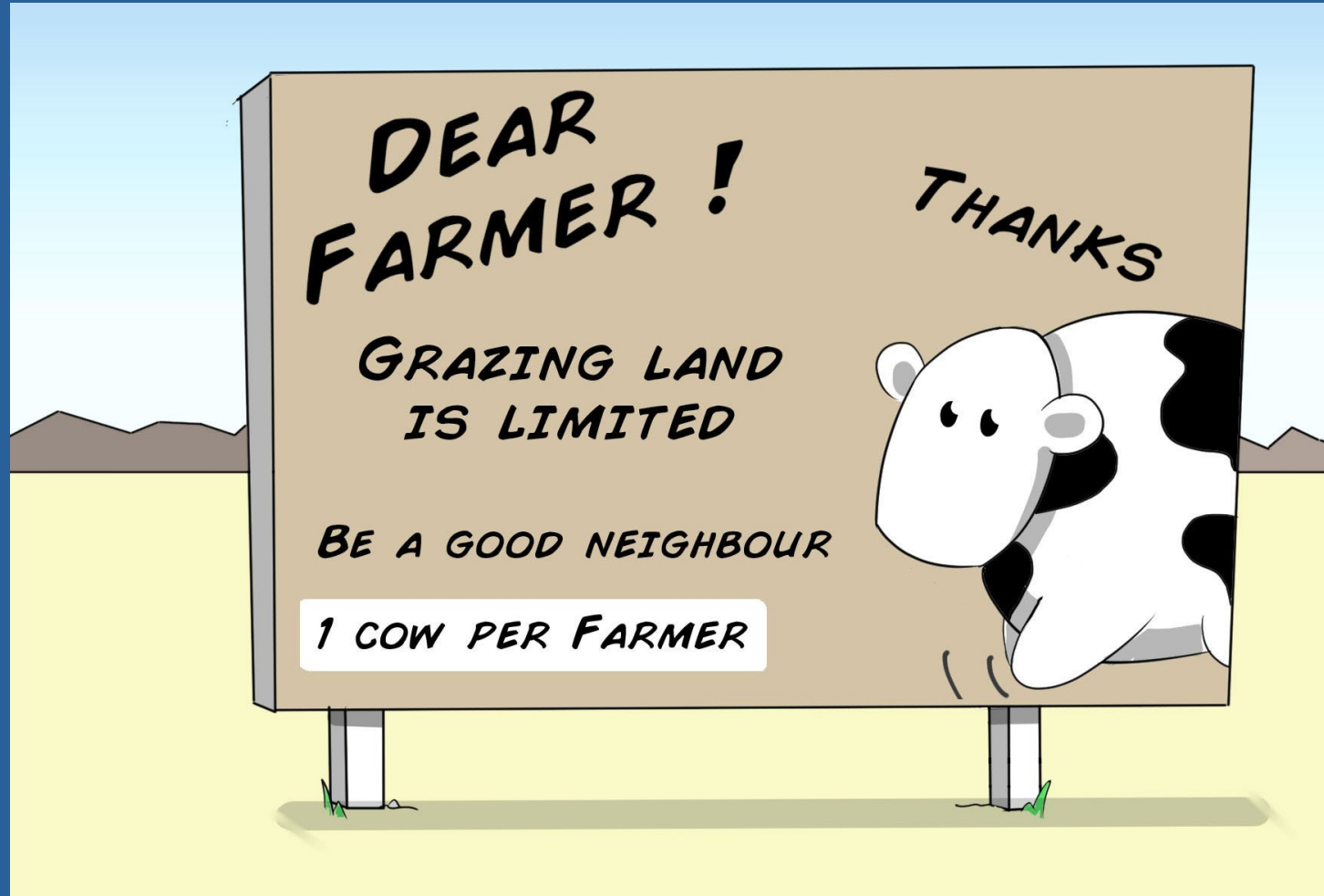
How to make users aware of data provenance with LLMs?

Do licenses matter anymore?

Would VGI lose contributors in the following years?

Could AI be useful/ethical/... in helping generate crowdsourced data?

Tragedy of the commons



Source: Eugenio Loyola "K3no" Leon at <https://k3no.medium.com/the-tragedy-of-the-commons-555bd76a109a>

Merci!

✉ *board@osmfoundation.org*



OpenStreetMap
Foundation

