

# OPEN SOURCE SOFTWARE AND ENTERPRENUERSHIP IN KENYA

**Evans Ikua**

Lead Consultant – LANet Consulting Group  
Chairman – Linux Professional Association of Kenya

LPA-Kenya - [www.lpakenya.org](http://www.lpakenya.org)

LANet Consulting - [www.lanetconsulting.com](http://www.lanetconsulting.com)

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## Open Source Software

Freedom to:

- Use
- Change (modify, develop and share the code)
- Share with your neighbour

Community software development model

Software as a service rather than license fees:

- Installation and Configuration
- Support
- Development and Customization
- Training

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## **Benefits of OSS**

- Lower Total Cost of Ownership
- Education
- Security
- Quicker Bug fixes
- Faster release cycle
- Wider support base
- No vendor lock-in
- Innovation

# OPEN SOURCE SOFTWARE AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN KENYA

## **OSS and Entrepreneurship**

- Software for just about anything
- Businesses and Organizations are looking for IT solutions, and IT budgets are shrinking
- Opportunities abound for enterprising IT graduates to learn the software and customize it for organizations
- Think work, rather than jobs

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## **Solutions in Demand**

- Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) – eg Compiere
- Content Management Systems - eg Joomla
- Network Security Management Systems – eg OSSIM
- Knowledge Management Systems – eg OpenKM
- Mail Servers – Sendmail
- Collaboration and Project Management – eGroupware
- Desktop Solutions – Ubuntu, SUSE, OpenOffice
- Webservers – Apache
- Web development – Python, PHP, MySQL, PostgreSQL

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## Way Forward

- Education Institutions should encourage the use of Open Source tools in their syllabus
- Students should endeavour to learn Open Soure tools and solutions
- Graduates should be encouraged and trained on business skills so that focus can shift to work, not jobs
- [ict@innovation](#) Project by InWent – encourage and train FOSS SMEs on business skills, and capacity building in Linux admin skills and certification

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## Thank You!

**Contacts:** [ikua@lpakenya.org](mailto:ikua@lpakenya.org)  
[evans@nairobiexpo.com](mailto:evans@nairobiexpo.com)

**Eagle House, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Kimathi Street**