

Open Source Geospatial Foundation

Spatially Empowered Open Source



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- I am very honored to have been invited to speak here and want to express my gratitude towards **Mori-San** and **Venka**. In **my role as president of OSGeo** I want to extend warm greetings to the **OSGeo Japan Chapter**



FOSS4G
Free&Open Source Software for Geospatial
2009 TOKYO



Agenda

- **Free Software** Licenses **FS**
- **Open Source** Methodology **OS**
- **What is OSGeo?** **FLOSS4G**
 - Mission and Tasks
- Formal **Structures**
- **FLOSS4G Conference & Fair**
- **Summary**

Free Software Licensing

Free Software is a licensing model

- Not as in "free beer" but as in **free speech**
- **You are free** to:
 - use it **anywhere** for **any purpose**
 - **understand** and **improve** it
 - **pass it on** to anybody else
 - make **Money** by providing training, maintenance and services

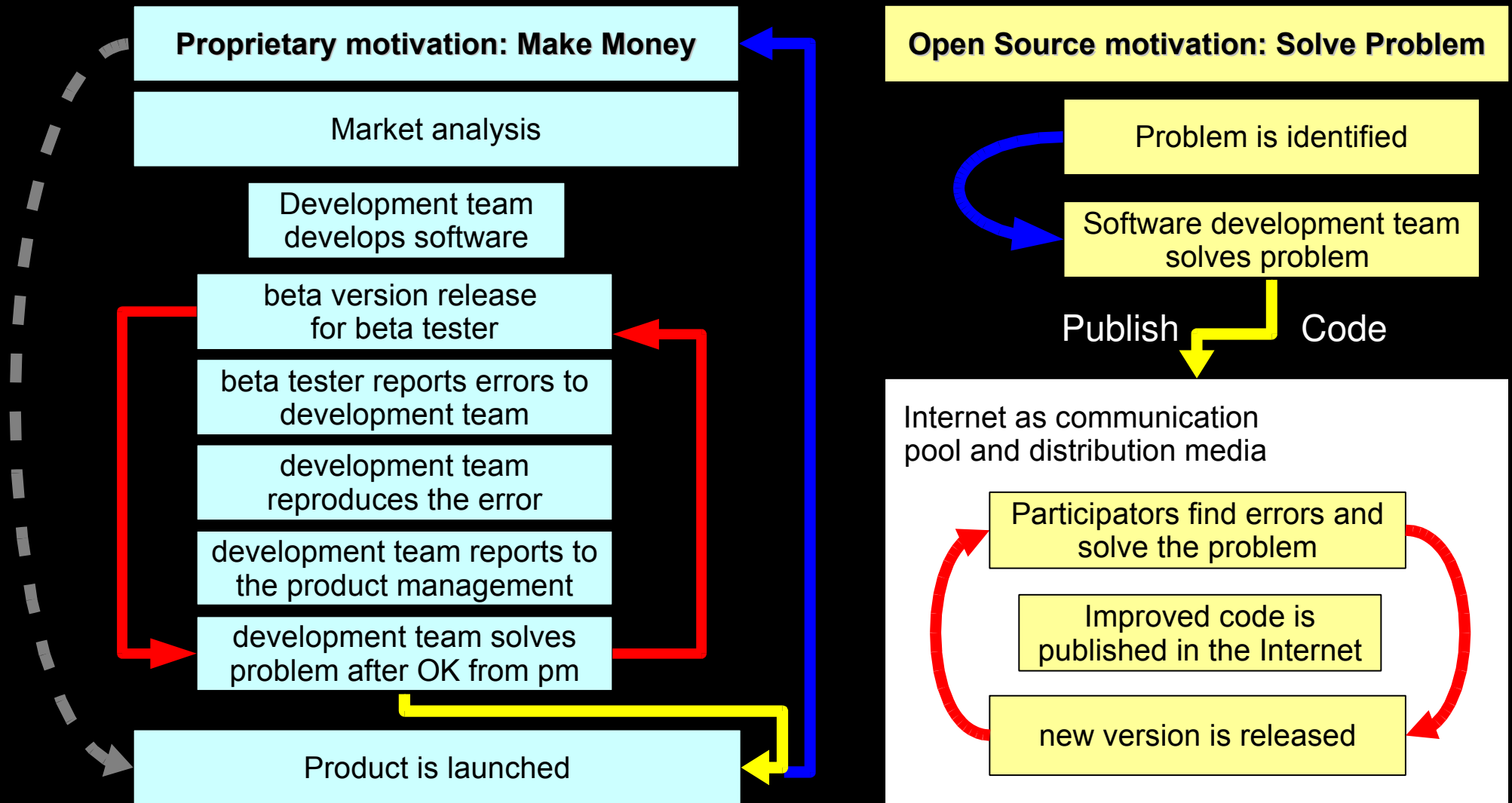


Open Source Development

Open Source is a development model

- The **source code** of a software contains all the functionality in a readable format
- Only the source of a software can be **modified**
- End users generally **work** with the **compiled**, machine readable version
- Developers **prefer** open development models because **reuse** is a lot easier

Product and Development Cycles



Open Source Summary

Summarizing:

Open Source is the superior development model

All major software shops have recognized this and provide full service for Open Source (IBM, et. al.).

All major software vendors have either purchased Open Source companies or adopted Open Source methods including Oracle, ESRI, Microsoft, and many more.

Quality Open Source Software

Several hundred thousand open source software projects are hosted throughout the world, but:

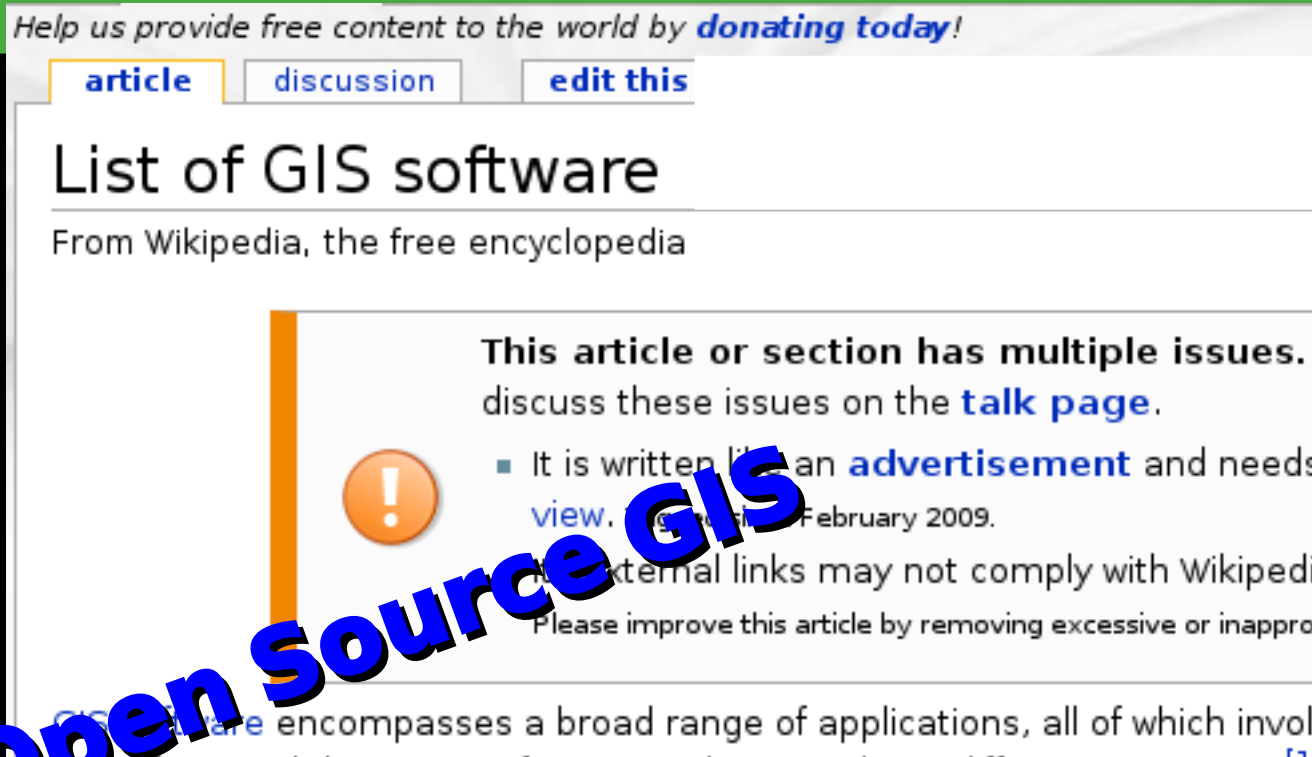
**Just because a software is stamped as
"Open Source" does not make it
good software!**

Where to find good geospatial software?

On the Web – but it lacks orientation

UbuntuGIS

SourceForge world's largest open source development web site
February, 2009, more **230,000** software projects



SourceGIS

JAMES FEE GIS BLOG

FreeGIS.org

OpenSourceGIS.org



Open Source Geospatial Foundation



...organizes spatial IT

Open Source Geospatial Foundation

- **OSGeo** is an international **non-profit** organization
- Founded in February '06 in Delaware, USA
- It is the **leading voice** for **Open Source** in the geo spatial domain
- The core **structure** has been gleaned from the Apache model
- It is based on **volunteer** work and **sponsorships**

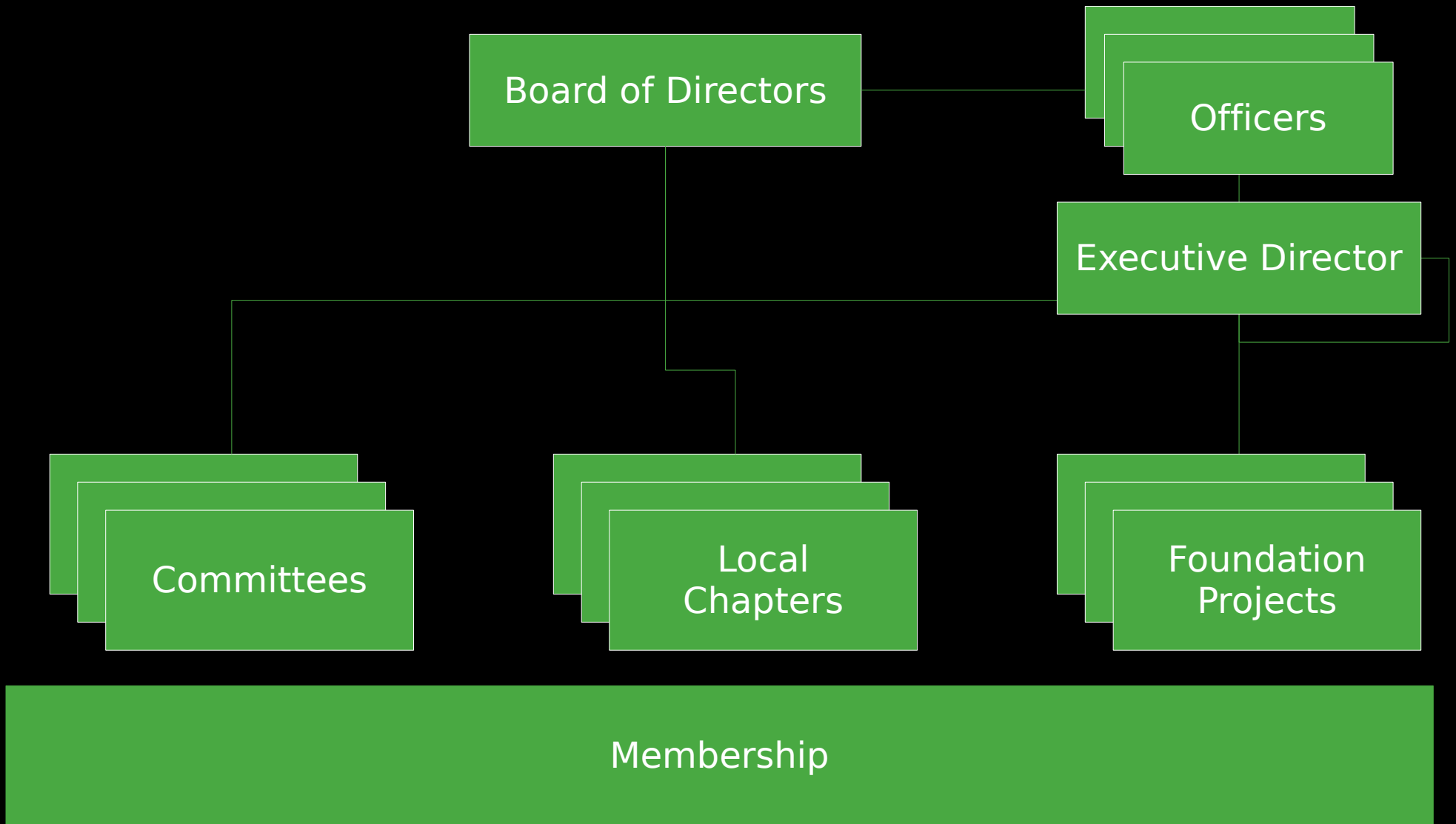
Tasks 1/2

- Provide **resources** for **FOSS4G** Projects:
 - Infrastructure
 - Legal
 - Financial
- Promote **free spatial data** and access
- Create and promote a free **curriculum**
- Promote the use of **standards**
- Create and maintain a **quality brand**

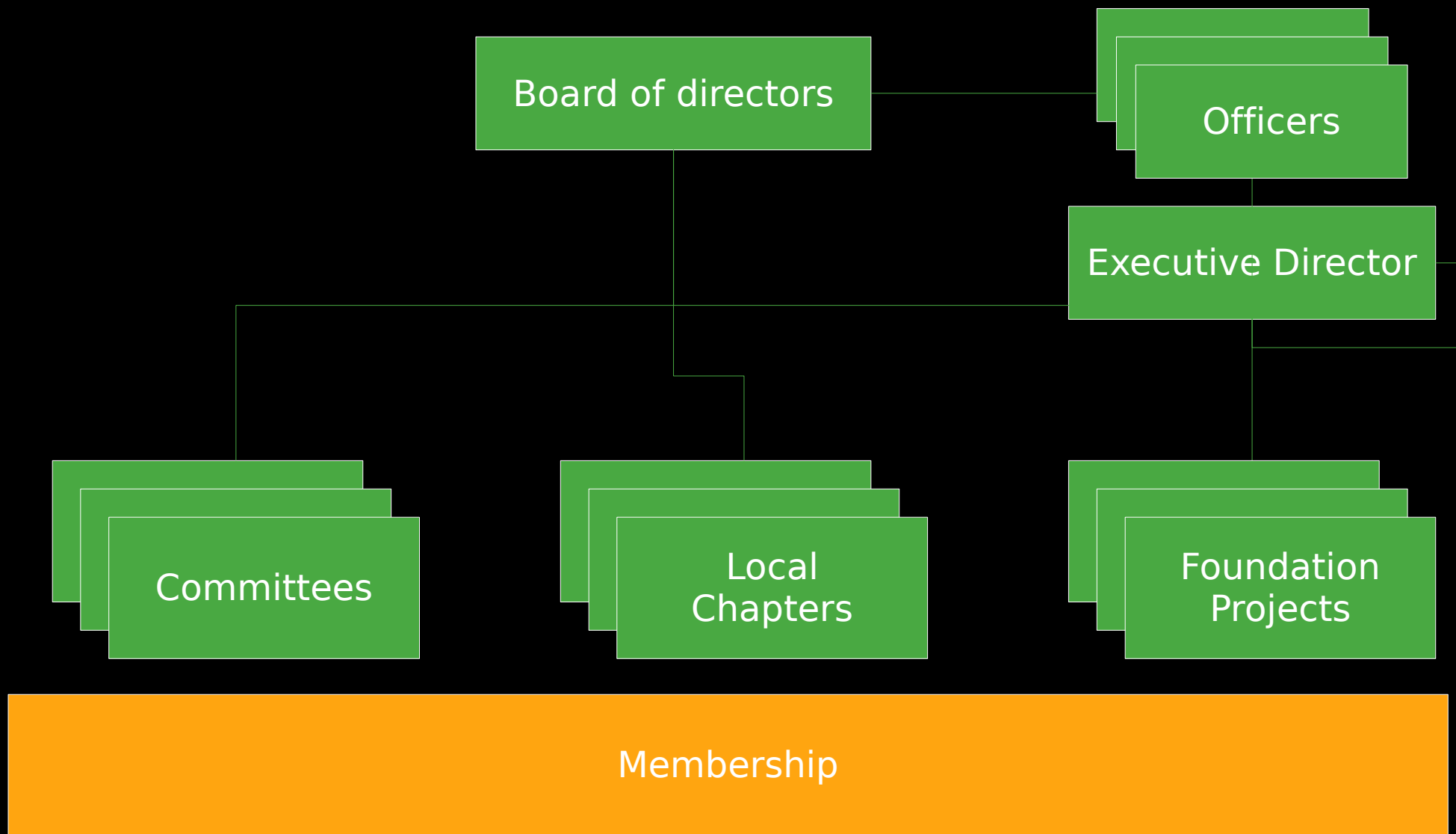
Tasks 2/2

- **Support FOSS4G** on a global scale
- Organize **outreach** and promote **FOSS4G**
- Support and build **local** capacities for conferences, appearance at trade fairs, etc.
- Facilitate **inter-project** communication
- Build a **solid market** for business cases
- Interface with **industry** and **business**
- Support the **education** of domain experts instead of «brand-specialists»

OSGeo Structure



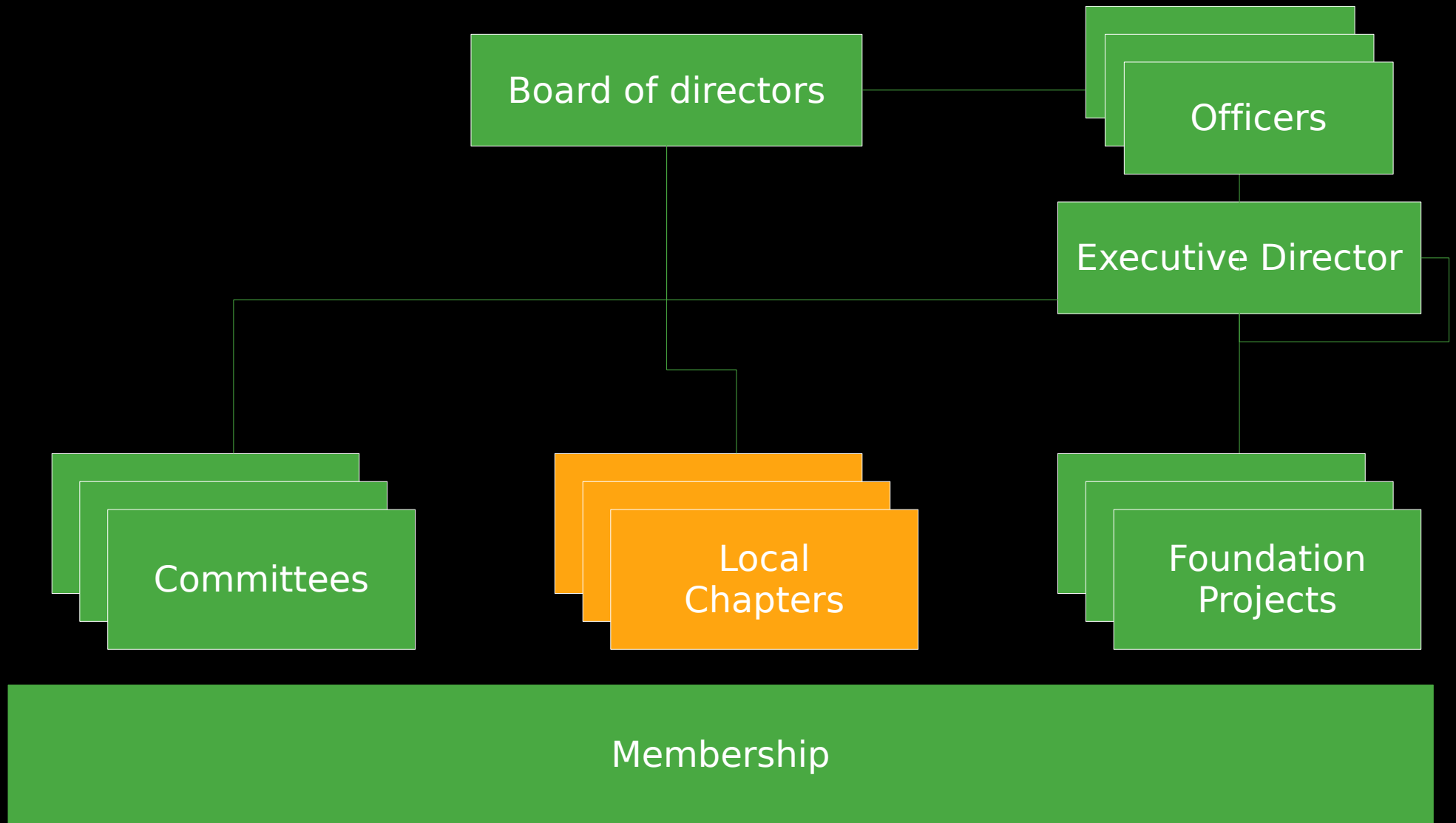
Membership



Membership

- The most important bit in OSGeo are people
- To become part of OSGeo simply start to participate in any project, committee or local chapter
- **Simple** and **informal** registration
- Three types of membership
 - Participants **collaborate** using software, mailing lists, Wiki, tracking system, etc.
 - Members **work** and **vote** in committees
 - Charter Members **own** and **control** the foundation

Local Chapters



Local Chapters

- There is a **growing number** of Local Chapters from Africa to Ottawa
- They are **groups** who share OSGeo's goals
 - in a common **geographic region**
 - or with a common **language**
- Some are **legal entities** others **informal**
- They bring **OSGeo** into the **local context**
- **localize** documents, software, web sites
- **support** and **promote** **FOSS4G** and **OSGeo**

Conferences

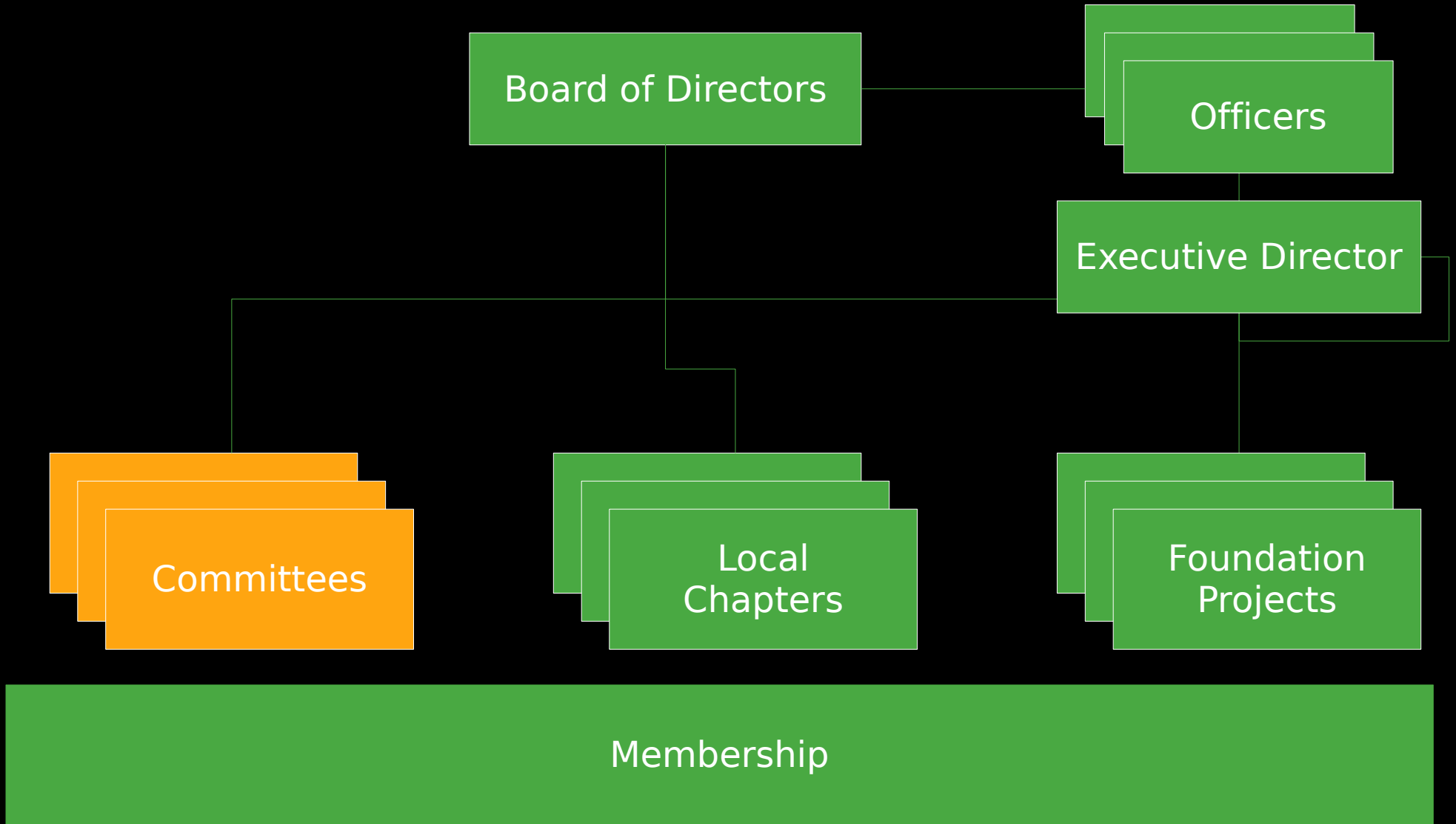
- FOSS4G Global
- FOSS4G Japan
- GFOSS.IT (Italy)
- FOSSGIS (Germany)
- ...and many more

Trade Shows

- Intergeo
- CeBIT
- GITA
- Where 2.0
- GeoWeb

and many more

Committees



Committees

Incubation

Conference

Funding

Marketing

Public
Geodata

Education

System
Administration

Website

Journal

Committees

- This is where all the **work** gets done
- Committees **self organize**
- Committees **communicate openly** through mailing lists and IRC meetings, etc.
- Progress is **documented** in the Wiki
- Everything is based on **volunteers' work**
- **All** are welcome to **join** a committee and to actively **participate** in all processes

Committees

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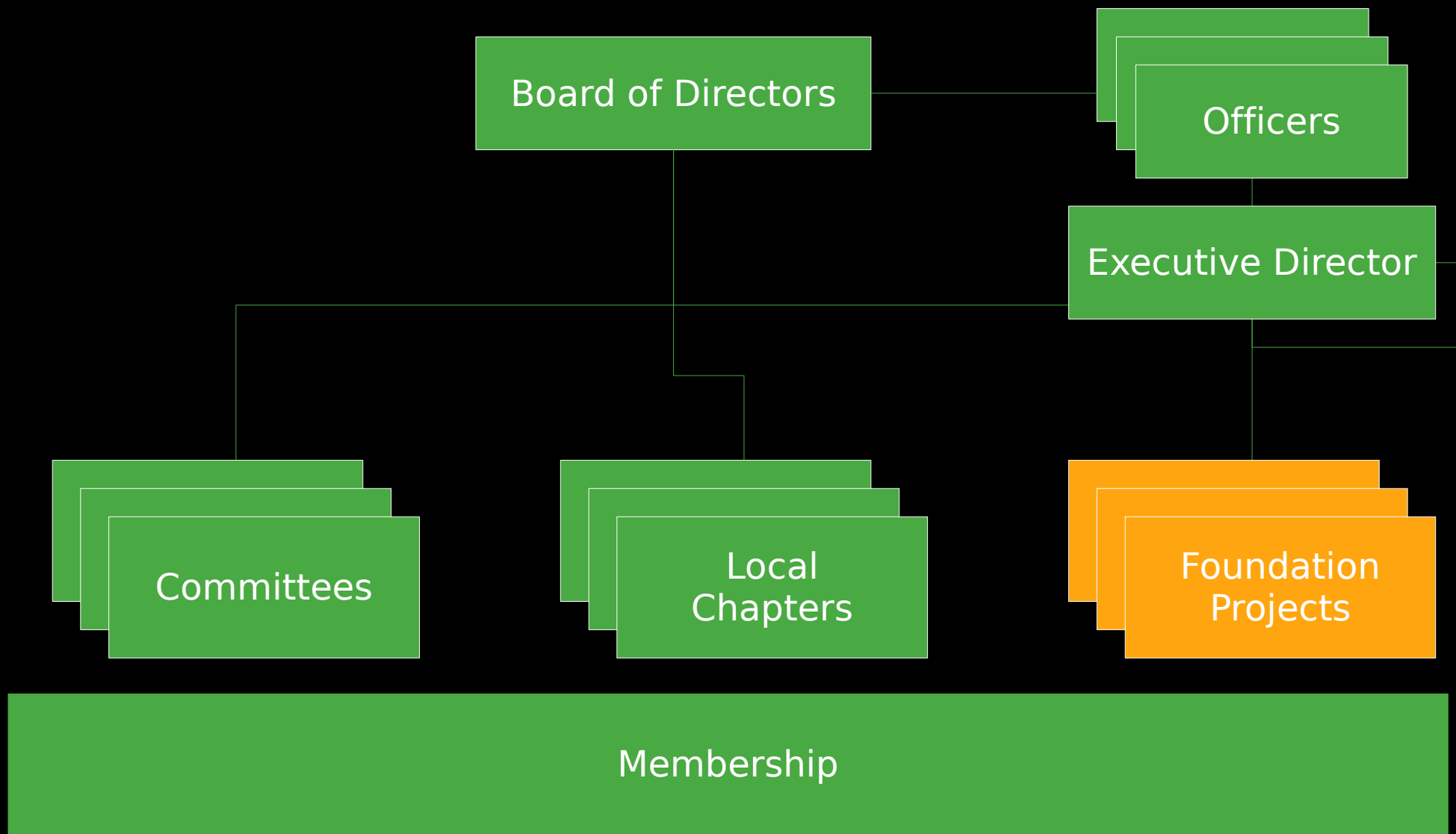
Web

Journal

Incubation Committee

- The incubator is a broad group of developers from all projects and languages
- Projects go through the official **incubation process** to assure highest quality
- To graduate from incubation the project needs to:
 - Abide by the open source rules of OSGeo
 - Document how it is governed and managed
 - Maintain documentation, mailing lists, etc.
 - Use source code repositories, ticket system...

The Foundation's Projects



OSGeo's Projects

Mapbender

UMN
Mapserver

MapBuilder

Map Guide
OS

OpenLayers

deegree

web mapping

GeoNetwork

metadata

Quantum
GIS

OSSIM

GRASS
GIS

gvSIG

desktop GIS

FDO

GDAL/OGR

GEOS

GeoTools

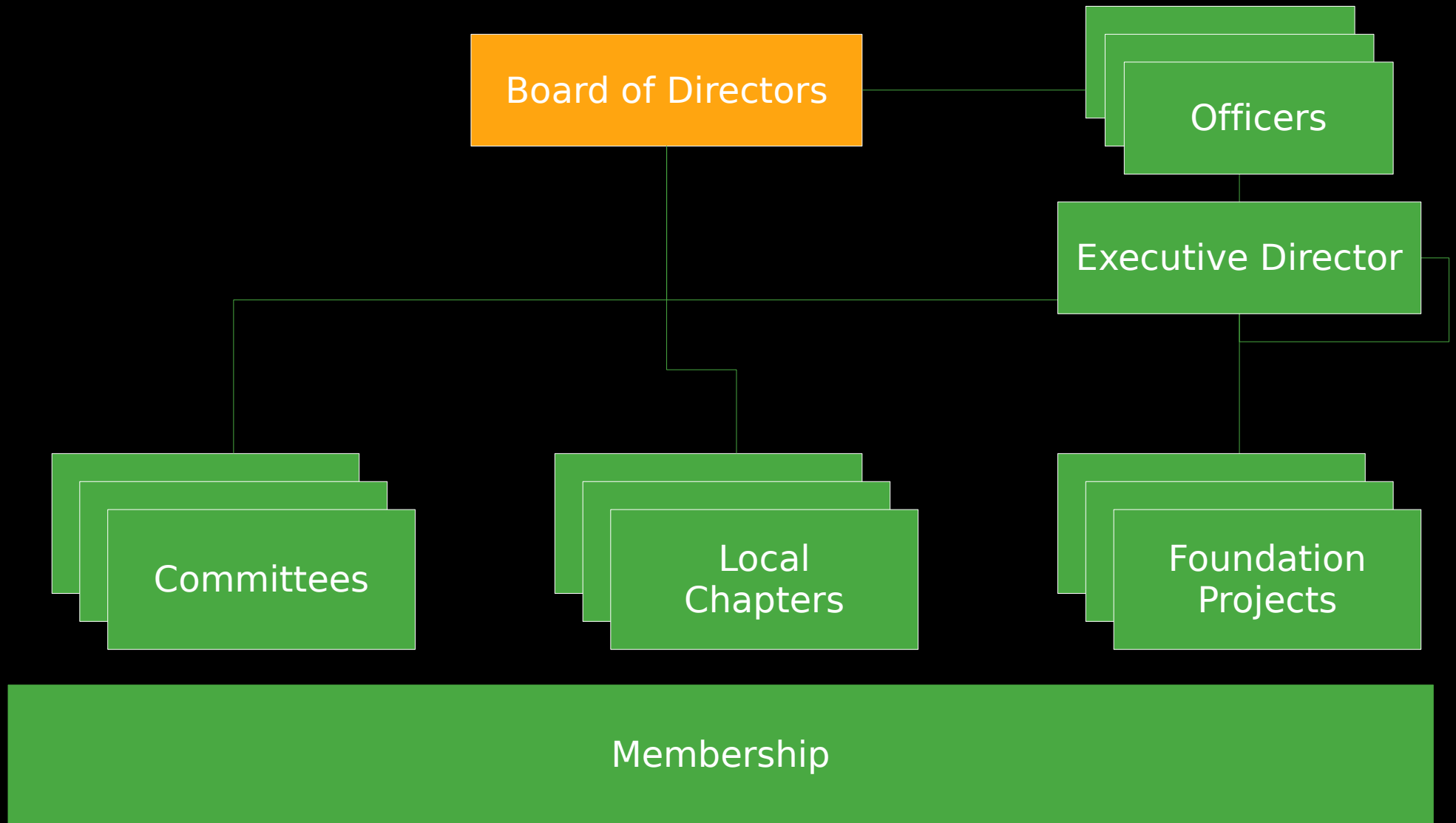
MetaCRS

PostGIS

libraries

Project
in incubation

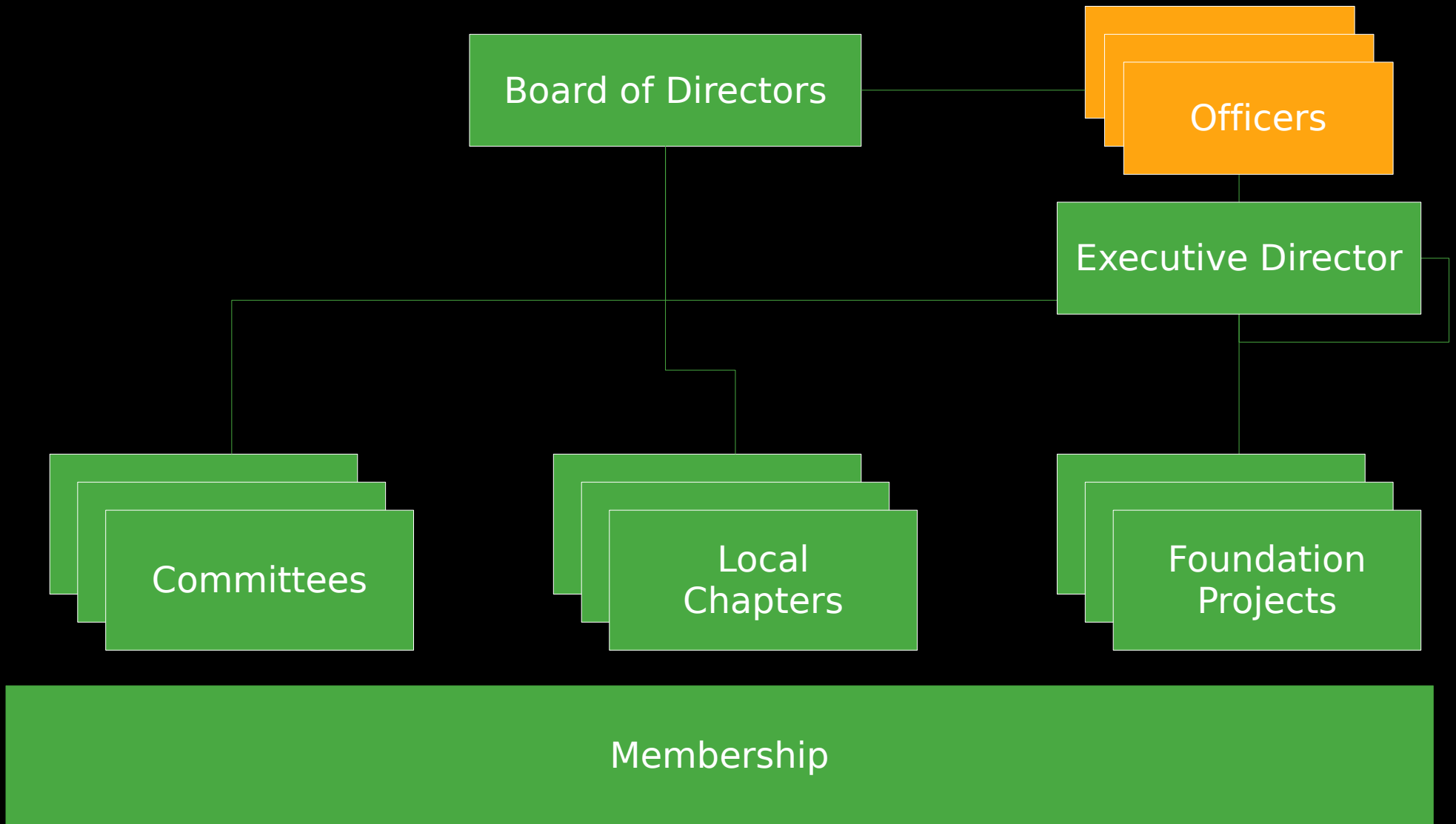
Board of Directors



Board of Directors

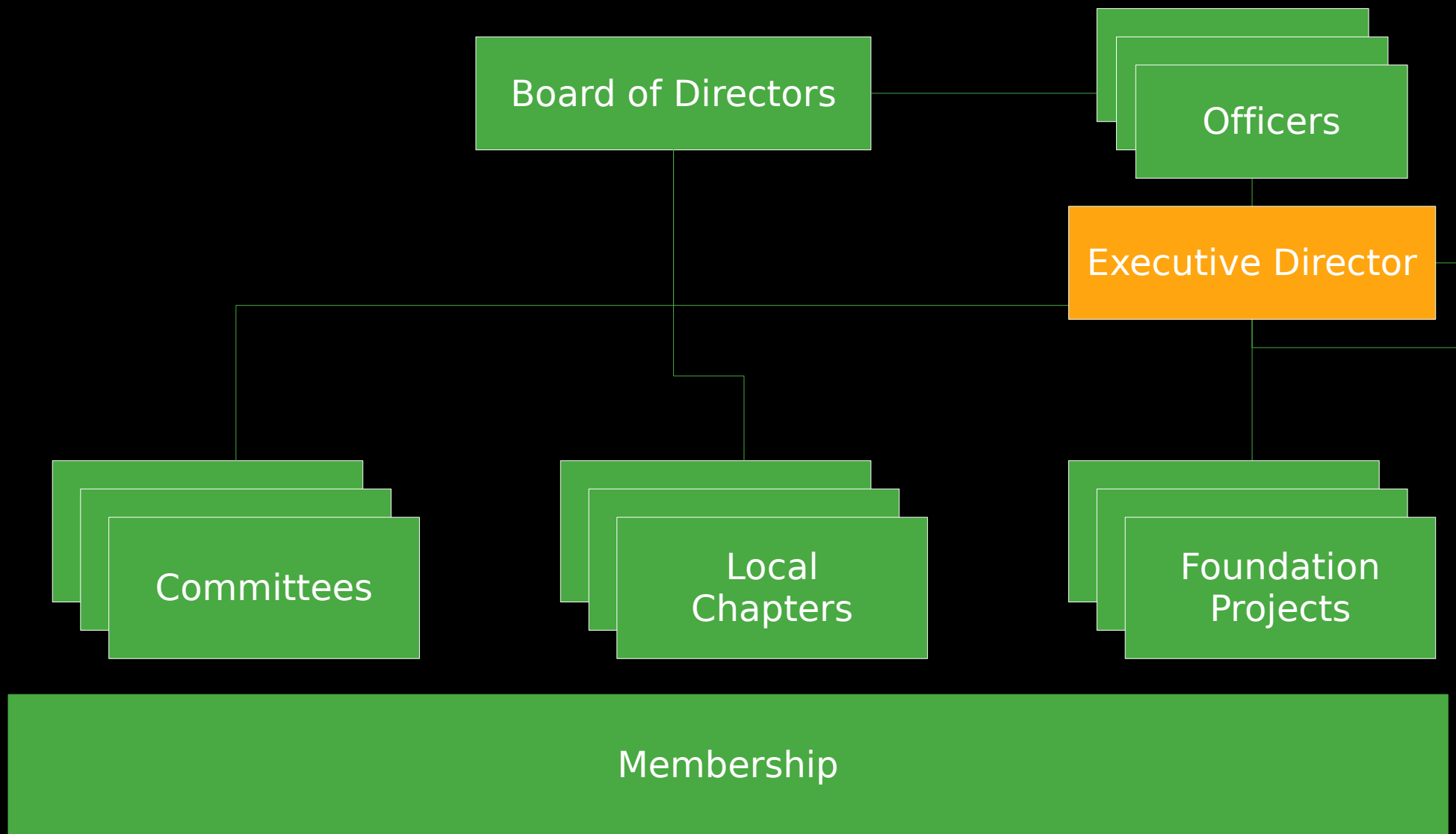
- is **elected** by the Charter Members
- formally **represents** OSGeo
- **employs** the Executive Director
- **approves** the annual budget
- approves changes to the charter, processes and **governance**
- approves the **graduation** of projects
- takes decisions that the community cannot take (financial **obligations**, contracts...)

Officers



- President
- Board of directors
- Treasurer
- Secretary
- Executive Director
- Graduated projects and committee chairs are vice presidents

Executive Director



Executive Director

- The only paid employee
- **Contact** to the «outside»
- Facilitate and support internal **communication** of the OSGeo Community
- inform the board of directors about upcoming **decisions**
- Acts as a **mentor** for committees
- Helps to acquire new **sponsors**
- Compiles and edits the **annual report**

Conclusions

- OSGeo **supports Free and Open Source Software** in the **spatial** domain
- You can participate and profit from this **community** of **spatial expertise**
- OSGeo is **roof** and **umbrella** for projects and communities
- It is a **platform**, to **create** and **share** software, information and know-how
- OSGeo works through **participation!**

Many Thanks for your Attention

Questions and Answers



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References

- **OSGeo World website: <http://www.osgeo.org>**
- **Wiki: <http://wiki.osgeo.org>**
- **OSGeo Japan <http://www.osgeo.jp>**
- **Mailing lists: <http://lists.osgeo.org/mailman/listinfo/>**
- **Incubation: <http://wiki.osgeo.org/wiki/Incubation>**
- **Photos: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/tags/osgeo>**
- **Geoportal: <http://www.geoportal.rlp.de>**
- **Federal pollution portal: <http://www.prtr.bund.de>**
- **OGC: <http://www.opengeospatial.org>**
- **OpenStreetMap: <http://www.openstreetmap.org>**

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