ODF/LibreOffice Migration in Taiwan – Progress, Problems and What To Do Next

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In LibreOffice Conference 2015…

Successful Stories: Migrating Libreoffice in Taiwan

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Amazing Chain Reaction...

Some foreign bloggers reported my presentation...
Amazing Chain Reaction...

And I *happily* reported to officers in NDC:

"Good news sir! Now the whole world knows that Taiwan is migrating to ODF and LibreOffice!"
Amazing Chain Reaction...

"Please submit your proposals about how to adopt and migrate LibreOffice in your offices!"
Central government in Taiwan...

Executive Yuan

National Development Council

Ministry of Finance

Ministry of Education

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Others

Information Center

5 National Taxation Bureaus

Customs

Others

Legend

- Fully migrated
- Partial migrated/training
- "Preparing to go"
- Nothing happens yet
Communication phase...

How we tell people about WHY we should use ODF

We use 3 different aspects to make people think
1. ODF vs OOXXML

- Actually, both ODF and OOXXML are international open file format standards.

- However, **what will happen** if we choose OOXXML as our national file format standard?
If We Choose OOXML...
2. Open Standard

- Why should we use **Open Standard File Format**?

- What if we use a proprietary (or even open spec) format which is drawing up **by a single commercial company**?
3. International Trends

- Countries adopting ODF with national policy:
  - United Kingdom
  - Taiwan
  - Netherlands
  - Hungary
- The National Procurement Services in **Sweden** suggested 46 IT open standards, including ODF 1.2, HTML5, SVG, … and so on.
  - What the news didn't say: **No OOXML!!**
  - Why?
Finally, About the Attitude: How We Face Problems?

- People ALWAYS complain and resist a lot when they have problems or get frustrated using FOSS (not only LibreOffice!)
- Therefore, we made them recall some "Good Memories..."
We are deeply used to Windows system. But do you remember how you react when you see...
A problem has been detected and Windows has been shut down to prevent damage to your computer.

If this is the first time you've seen this stop error screen, restart your computer. If this screen appears again, follow these steps:

Check to be sure you have adequate disk space. If a driver is identified in the Stop message, disable the driver or check with the manufacturer for driver updates. Try changing video adapters.

Check with your hardware vendor for any BIOS updates. Disable BIOS memory options such as caching or shadowing. If you need to use Safe Mode to remove or disable components, restart your computer, press F8 to select Advanced Startup options, and then select Safe Mode.

```
NOTICE:

STOP: 0x000000BE (0xC0000005, 0x8063841D, 0x9DC2F988, 0x00000000)

Beginning dump of physical memory
Physical memory dump complete.
Contact your system administrator or technical support group for further assistance.
```
Current Problems About Migrating
Most Serious Problem Now

- ODF files generated by Microsoft Office
- Central departments (of a city, county, or our central gov) sent ODF files generated by Microsoft Office 2013, and recipients of local departments had Office 2003 or 2007 only.
- ODF files generated by Microsoft Office may fail to open using LibreOffice or OpenOffice.
Solutions

- NDC plans to "unite" the Office suite every government unit should use.
- Similar to Collabora GovOffice in UK.
- Local company and software developers will join.
- In the explanation sessions I highlighted it: Before Microsoft Office can follow the ODF spec and extensions correctly, don't use it to generate ODF files.
What to Do Next
Make Every Unit Move!

- More communication and training courses for those local and central governments which haven't done migrating ODF yet.
- System-wide support: Filter none-ODF and none-PDF attachments from the documents transferring system.
- Make things easier
  - CC licensed tutorials (books / videos / documents)
- Complete the ecosystem
  - Make commercial companies who join the FOSS related project feedback to the corresponding FOSS community or project.
Cooperation With the International Community

- Development:
  - Sending more patches to upstream (especially for file format interoperability)
  - Android/iOS Libreoffice Viewer improvement
  - Wish more (international) developers can join and help us

- Promoting / Marketing:
  - Try to let Taiwan join Advisory Board of TDF or ODF committee.
  - The Director in NDC shows interests, but we may have political issues to solve first.
This template is really beautiful!
Thank you for coming to this session.

Please keep telling the world:

Taiwan is rushing into the World of Document Liberty!