Development of User-Participation-type Communication tools for revitalization of local communities using MapServer

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Introduction
Recently, making the hazard map, the region community map and etc by collaborative work with neighboring residents is popularly practiced as one of the approaches of the anticrime activity and town planning in our country. So, various regional information-sharing (neighborhood reputation restaurant, historic site spot and etc...) is proceeded. In this case, to support the development of the region information collecting and sharing system through the Net will provide effective method for neighboring residents. However, it is very difficult for the participation resident to construct the tool of the information management combined with map information such as GIS technology. Because, to develop the the mapping tool such as WebGIS require high cost for software purchases and annual maintenance as well as technical expertise and know-how.

Poupose
With these points as background, in this study, we provide communication tools for collecting and sharing various regional information using FOSS WebGIS and DBMS – MapServer and PostgreSQL-.

Contents
Users have access to advanced mapping systems as GIS client on the Net using MapServer. And the digital camera and GPS locator-equipped mobile-phone are combined as a data input and
a transmission
device from the outside. The new POI (Point-Of-Interest) data as regional information
and photographic
image of current situation that were collected by users with mobile-phone in hand are
sent to the database
server through the e-mail and these data are displayed on the GIS map in real-time.

Conclusion
We can be achieved some merits follow through the development of the
communication tools based on
FOSS. 1. The neighboring residents collects the latest information change from day to
day, and they can be
shared on the Net. 2. This communication tools can be expected to lead to the
community strengthening in
the region as one of the new media. 3. GIS software introduce and maintenance cost
reduction for users.

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