1.

Record Nr.	UNINA9910306644503321
Autore	Booth David <1945->
Titolo	Peer production and software : what Mozilla has to teach government / / David R. Booth
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Cambridge, Mass., : MIT Press, ©2010
ISBN	0-262-26655-5
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (112 p.)
Collana	The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation Reports on Digital Media and Learning
Disciplina	302.23/1
Soggetti	Computer software - Development - Social aspects
	Digital media - Social aspects
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. [93]-104).
Nota di contenuto	Introduction -- Open Source -- Open Source at Mozilla -- Licensing -- Beyond Software -- What Software Has to Teach Government -- Notes
Sommario/riassunto	An examination of Mozilla's unique approach to software development considers how this model of participation might be applied to political and civic engagement.Firefox, a free Web browser developed by the Mozilla Foundation, is used by an estimated 270 million people worldwide. To maintain and improve the Firefox browser, Mozilla depends not only on its team of professional programmers and managers but also on a network of volunteer technologists and enthusiasts--free/libre and open source software (FLOSS) developers--who contribute their expertise. This kind of peer production is unique, not only for its vast scale but also for its combination of structured, hierarchical management with open, collaborative volunteer participation. In this MacArthur Foundation Report, David Booth examines the Mozilla Foundation's success at organizing large-scale participation in the development of its software and considers whether Mozilla's approach can be transferred to government and civil society. Booth finds parallels between Mozilla's collaboration with Firefox users and the Obama administration's philosophy of participatory governance (which itself amplifies the much older Jeffersonian ideal of democratic participation). Mozilla's success at engendering part-time, volunteer participation that produces real marketplace innovation suggests

strategies for organizing civic participation in communities and government. Mozilla's model could not only show us how to encourage the technical community to participate in civic life but also teach us something about how to create successful political democracy.