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Open source accounts for quarter of UK tech sector - OpenUK

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Open source technology supported an estimated GVA of GBP 13.59 billion for the UK economy in 2022, according to a new report from industry group OpenUK. This is 27 percent of the UK tech sector in 2022, which was worth GBP 50.71 billion in 2022.

The report also shows that 44 percent of UK businesses plan to increase their open source investments in the next 12 months, with 47 percent saying their investment will stay the same and 2 percent expecting to reduce their open source investment. The overall investment volume by UK businesses in open source will increase by up to GBP 326.6 million.

The main benefits of open source for businesses are skills, development and know-how (58%) and collaboration (58%), followed by community contributions (57%) and cost savings on licence fees (56%). Cost savings has dropped from being first on the list of priorities in 2021, to 4th place in 2022. The main challenges for open source are maintenance and security costs (27%), maintenance processes (24%) and security concerns (21%).

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