software localisation using translatewiki.net

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Introduction

- Siebrand Mazeland

- Freelance IT consultant, mainly active in publishing business

- Wikipedia, Wikimedia Commons, translatewiki.net

- Internationalisation, localisation

- Funded by Wikimedia and StatusNet

What is translatewiki.net?

- http://translatewiki.net
- Started 2005 by Niklas Laxström
- Facilitate and support software localisation in all classified languages (ISO 639-3 thousands, 180 in practice)
- Platform for software localisation communities
- Supports MediaWiki, StatusNet, MantisBT, FUDForum, Shapado, OpenStreetMap, …

Why localisation?

- English language proficiency cannot be taken for granted
- Easier access and understanding
- Larger audience / wider adoption possibilities
- Enables focus on content without UI distractions
- Free software is not only developed by people thinking in English

Goals

- Be the best online localisation platform available for F(L)OSS
  - Fun!
  - Interaction!
  - Have translators in the largest number of languages online
  - Always have a challenge for translators (never be completely done)
- Technical excellence

Current status

- Localisations in 180 languages
- 2,000 registered translators
- Over a million messages translated in its history
- About 2,000 new messages in ~25 languages every day

translatewiki.net

- Crowd sourcing (all social media, talks, Wikimedia wiki's, blogs, ...)
- Assume good faith (give access liberally)
- Develop to the user's needs
- Community building in a wiki
- Few formal processes (do-ocracy)
- Translation hints (TM, MT)
- Multiple contribution methods

Developer opportunities

- PHP
- MediaWiki
- Very complete documentation

How can you help your language?

- Come to http://translatewiki.net
- Create a user
- Create a user page
- Request translator rights
- Start translating!