

# Translatewiki.net

## localising MediaWiki with MediaWiki

MediaWiki made accessible in  
more than 300 languages

# Introduction

- Siebrand Mazeland
- IT consultant, mainly active in workflow for publishers
- translatewiki.net staff member
- NL Wikipedia, Wikimedia Commons, OmegaWiki, sysop/contributor
- MediaWiki bot operator

# What is translatewiki.net?

- Facilitate and support software localisation in all classified languages (ISO 639-3 thousands, about 200 in practice)
- Platform for software localisation communities
- 15,000 software messages
- Support for FreeCol, FUDforum, MantisBT, MediaWiki, Okawix, OpenLayers, Vocabulary trainer, and more.

# Why localisation?

- English (or Spanish!) language proficiency cannot be taken for granted
- Easier access and understanding
- Larger audience / wider adoption possibilities
- Enables focus on content without UI distraction

# Languages in Argentina

- 40 million inhabitants (Wikipedia)
- 25 languages spoken (Ethnologue)
- 4 languages in MediaWiki (Spanish, Quechua, Mapudungun, Welsh)
- Larger missing: Wichí Lhamtés  
Vejoz, Toba, Western Argentine  
Guaraní
- The rest is on the verge of extinction

# Where is MediaWiki used?

- Wikimedia Foundation: hundreds (Wikipedia, Wikibooks, ...)
- Wikia: thousands
- Wikitravel
- WikiHow
- Government: hundreds to thousands
- Corporate wikis: tens of thousands
- NGO-in-a-box
- Many, many other wikis (personal, ...)

# What are translatewiki.net's goals?

- Be the best online localisation platform available for Open Sourced software
- Have translators in the the largest number of languages online
- Always have a challenge for translators (never be completely done)
- Technical excellence

# What is the current status of translatewiki.net?

- Localisations in 180 languages
- Almost 1 million messages
- About 1,500 new messages in 20-30 languages every day
- MediaWiki has a minimal localisation in 124 languages (up from 48 end of 2007 and 111 May 2008)



# How does translatewiki.net do it?

- Crowd sourcing (all Wikimedia wikis, in software, blog, ...)
- Assume good faith (give access liberally)
- Develop to the user's needs
- Focus translator effort ('most used first')
- Community building in a wiki
- Few formal processes (do-ocracy)
- Translation hints
- Multiple contribution methods

# Where is translatewiki.net going?

- Continued focus on user experience
- More supported products (need continuous growth)
- Further tweak translation UI (usability is key)
- Automatic export to review engine (probably Transifex)
- Branch support for all products that need it
- More possibilities to slice and dice (review, auto translate, etc.)
- More professional support (!?)

# How can you help your language using translatewiki.net?

- Localising is like shooting at a moving target: we live with changes
- Start translating and never, ever stop

# And now the real thing...

## ■ Workshop

- Registration: <http://translatewiki.net>
- Requesting translator rights: [\[\[Project:Translator\]\]](#)
- Setting preferences: [\[\[Special:Preferences\]\]](#)
- Start translating: [\[\[Special:LanguageStats\]\]](#), [\[\[Special:Translate\]\]](#)
- Helpful features: [\[\[Special:Preferences\]\]](#)
- Advanced features: [\[\[Portal:Xxx\]\]](#), [\[\[Special:TranslationStats\]\]](#)