



## From the Editors

In its short lifespan, the *ITID* journal has become a leading forum for research-based dialogue in the ICT4D field. So far, however, that dialogue has been conducted solely in English. We have long worried about the consequences: It makes it harder for non-English voices to be heard, more difficult for non-English audiences to be included in the conversation. This is particularly important, in our view, because of the journal's focus on development issues. In the countries and regions of interest to the journal, many languages are spoken by the researchers, practitioners, or policy makers we want to hear from and speak to.

Five years ago, your editors began to explore possible solutions to this predicament. We envisioned launching regional editions in languages other than English to broaden the journal's reach by addressing issues of relevance to specific regions and reducing participation barriers for non-English speakers. We wrote proposals and approached funders. To make a long story short, we weren't able to make it work. But the idea stayed with us, and during London's ICTD2010 conference, it found resonance with the concerns of Latin American scholars. They, too, noticed the underrepresentation of Spanish- and Portuguese-speaking Latin American scholars (along with the topics they would discuss) among the papers presented, wondering to what extent this was due to the language barrier.

We decided to undertake an experiment and issued a call for papers for a special issue on Latin America that would accept submissions in both English and Spanish. We are very grateful to Francisco Javier Simó-Reigadas, Carlos Rey-Moreno, Hernán Galperin and Andrés Martínez-Fernández who agreed to serve as guest editors. The result of their hard work is this current issue, published simultaneously in Spanish and English. At more than 150,000 words, this issue weighs three times more than a typical issue. We received a total of 17 submissions, with 10 in English and seven in Spanish. Of those, eight (five in English and three in Spanish) made it through the review process. This issue brings some new Latin American voices to the dialogue: Out of the eight published pieces, including research articles and "notes from the field," four come entirely from authors whose work has never before appeared in *ITID* (for the other four, we have previously published work from at least one co-author). We are also pleased to publish a bilingual review of a book available exclusively in Spanish.

This took considerable effort, not only from our valiant guest editors, but also from our editorial staff, who needed to manage a bilingual review process, translate, and copy-edit in two languages, and from authors, who had to review two versions of the proofs.

So, we would love to hear back from you, our authors, reviewers, and readers, whether you think the result is worth the extra effort and expense. Please do let us know by e-mail to [editors@itidjournal.org](mailto:editors@itidjournal.org),

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or by using the “Add Comment” feature on the site’s “Reading Tools.” We welcome feedback in English or Spanish . . . or in any other language that allows you to become part of this conversation—we will find someone to translate your input.

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