

Pootle Tutorial

Guide for translators and developers



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What you’ll find inside

This tutorial is for *developers* and *translators*.

It shows how Pootle can be used to localize a project, and uses [Espionage 3](#) as an example.

It is **not** a tutorial about:

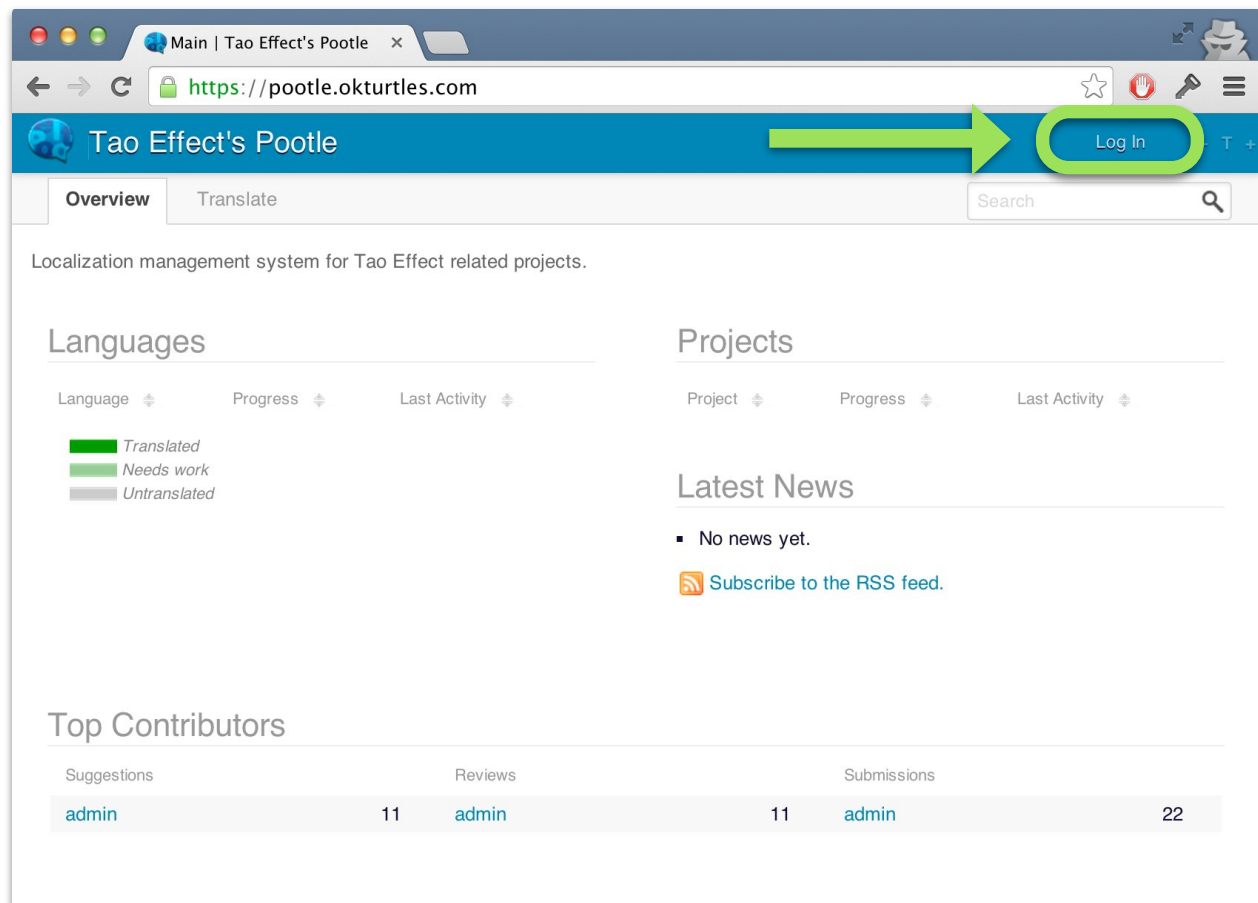
- Installing Pootle
- Administering a Pootle server (setting project permissions, integrating with git, etc.).

1 Setting up an existing project

We'll use Pootle v2.5.1 to setup a project called "Espionage 3".

As a developer, **Log In** by visiting the Pootle landing page at:

<https://pootle.okturtles.com>

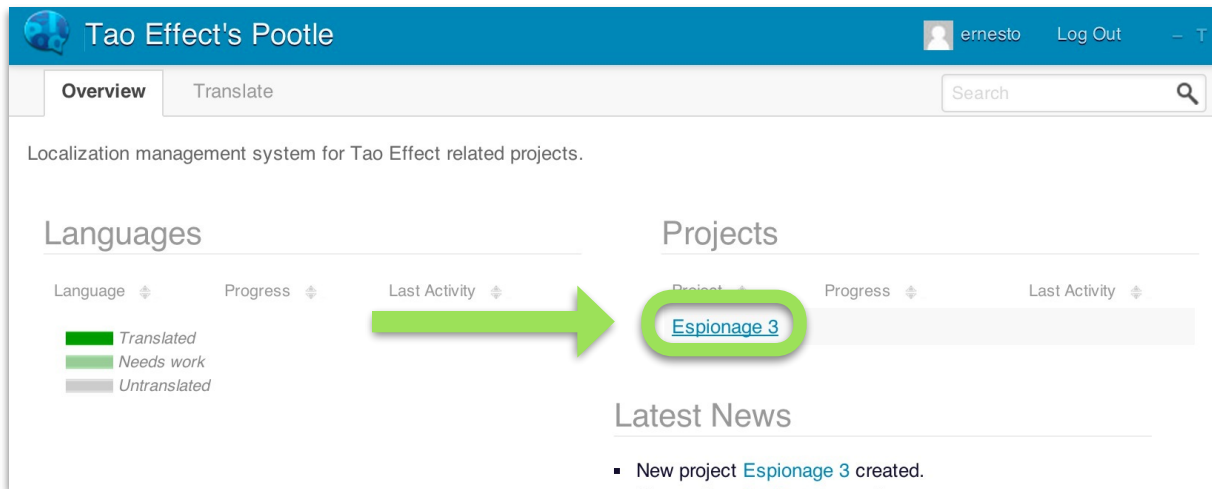


The administrator has already setup a project with a "Non-GNU" Project Tree Style, and two languages: English (the source language, or "template" language), and Brazilian Portuguese.

1.1 Adding the source language (the “template”)

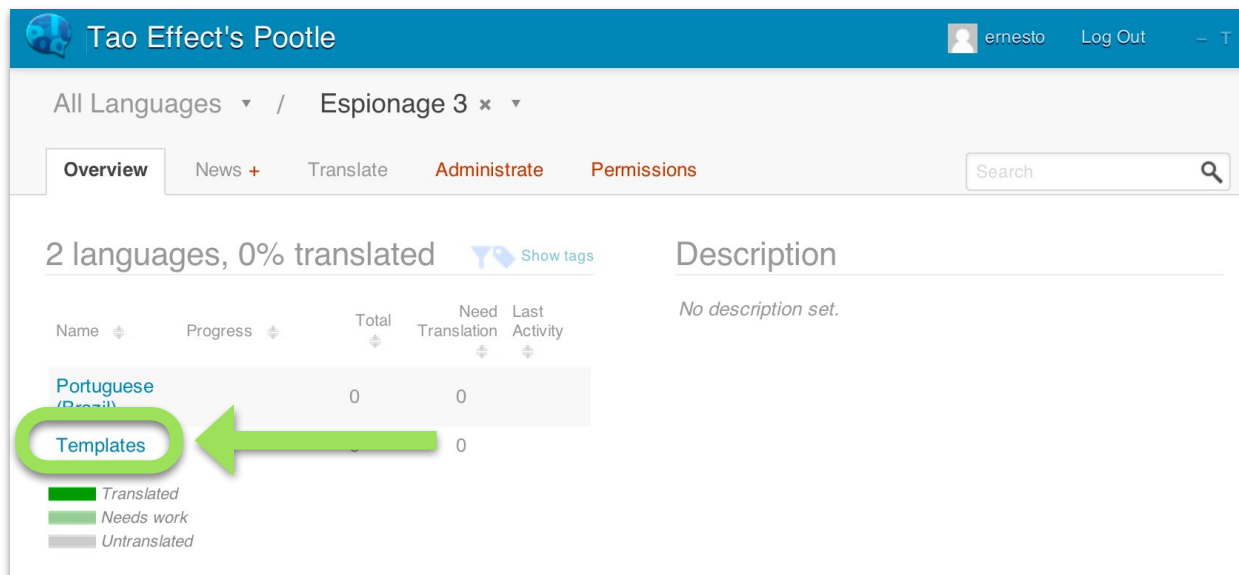
Our project is mostly empty, so before doing anything else, we need to add the files that all other translations will be based upon. These files are called the project **templates**.

To do this, click on the project:

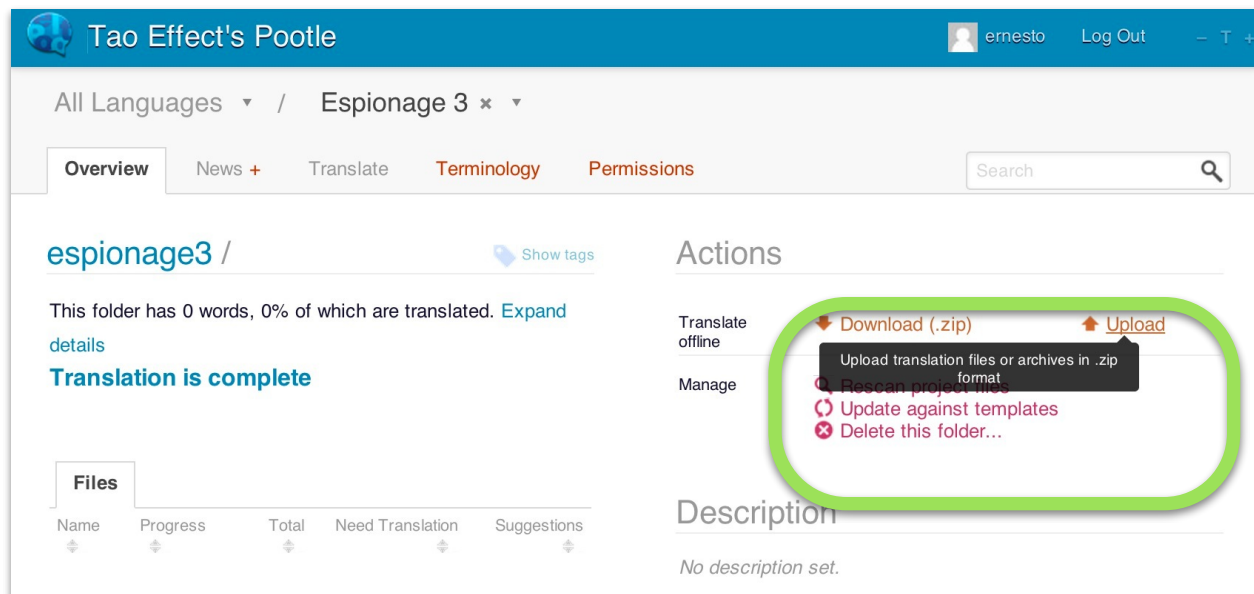


The project has two languages: the **template** language (English) and Brazilian Portuguese.

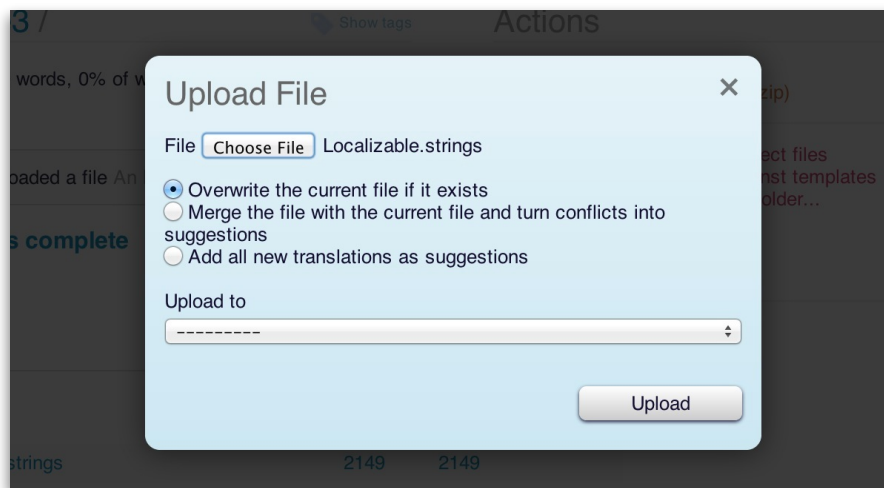
Click **Templates**:



There's nothing here yet. We need to upload our strings, so we click **Upload**:



Next, select the English strings files that we want translated by clicking “Choose File” and then clicking Upload:



Usually, *templates* are *overwritten* and translations are *merged* (but they can be *overwritten* too if the translator feels that is the appropriate action).

After uploading the rest of the files, our project's **Overview** page will look something like this:

The screenshot shows the Pootle project overview page for 'Espionage 3'. The page has a top navigation bar with 'All Languages' and 'Espionage 3'. Below this is a sub-navigation bar with 'Overview', 'News +', 'Translate', 'Terminology', and 'Permissions'. A search bar is on the right. The main content area is divided into several sections: a header for 'espionage3 /' with a 'Show tags' link; a status message 'This folder has 0 words, 0% of which are translated. Expand details'; a notification 'ernesto uploaded a file A few seconds ago'; a 'Translation is complete' message; a 'Files' section with a table of files; an 'Actions' section with links for 'Translate offline', 'Download (.zip)', 'Upload', 'Manage', 'Rescan project files', 'Update against templates', and 'Delete this folder...'; and a 'Description' section with the text 'No description set.'.

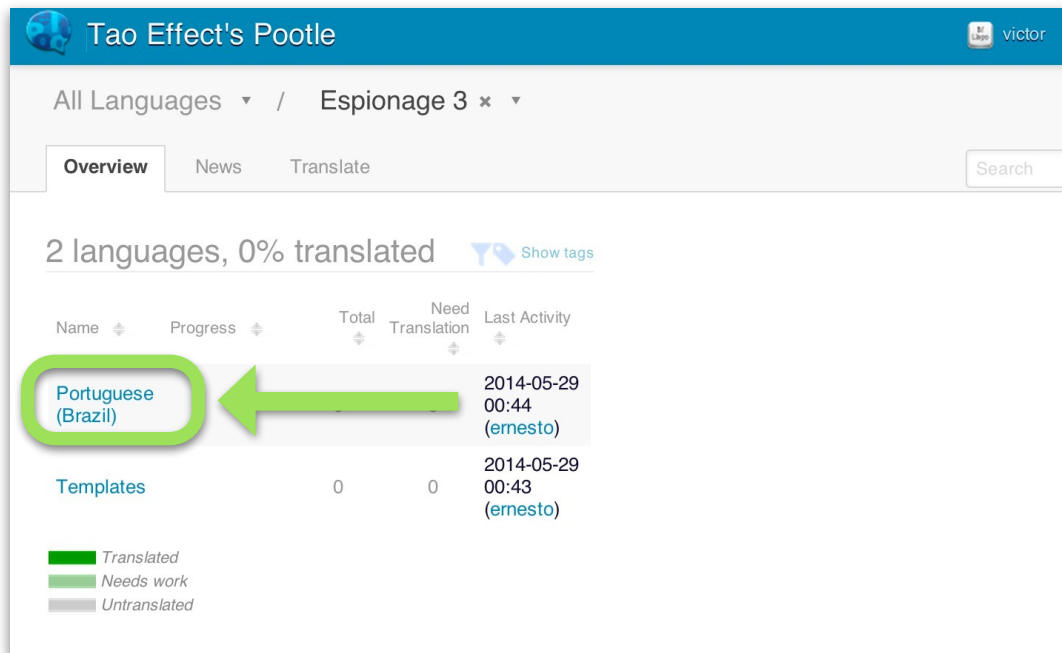
Name	Progress	Total	Need Translation	Suggestions
Localizable.strings		2149	2149	
PreferencesGeneralViewController.strings		85	85	
PreferencesShortcutsViewController.strings		44	44	

We'll log in as victor, our translator for Brazilian Portuguese:

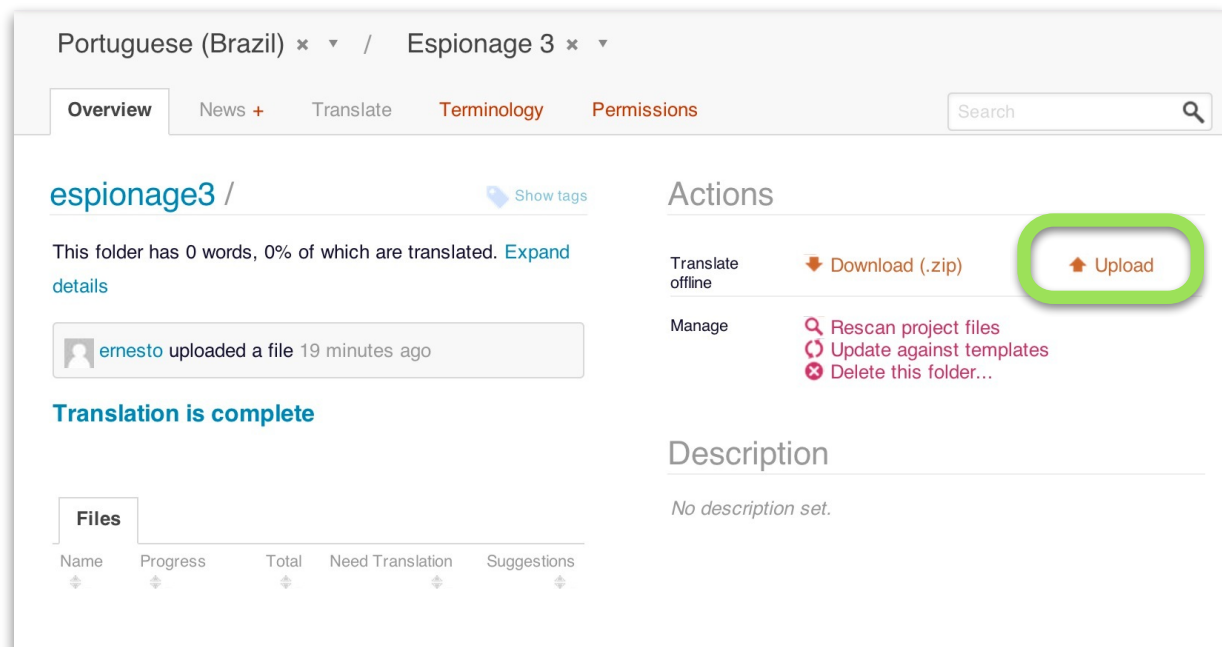
The screenshot shows the Pootle login form. It has a title 'Login to Pootle'. Below the title are three input fields: 'Username:' with the value 'victor', 'Password:' with a masked password '.....', and 'Interface Language:' with a dropdown menu showing 'Default'. A 'Login' button is at the bottom right.

1.2 Localizing a project in a specific language

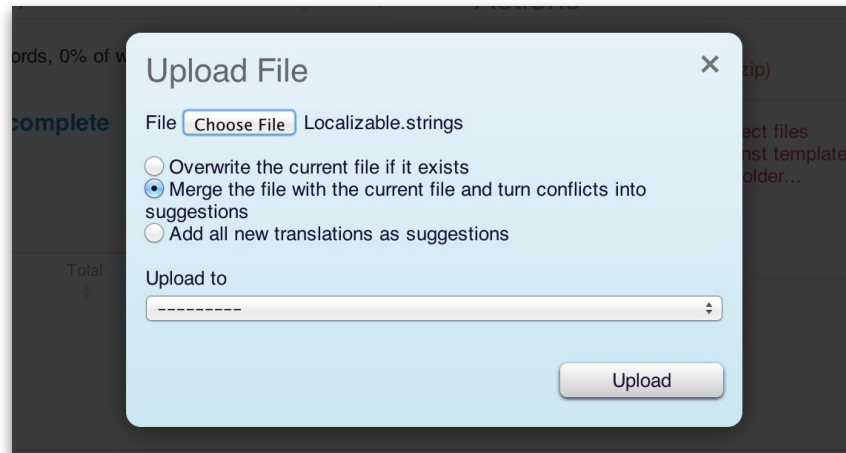
As the translator, click on the language you're localizing the project in to:



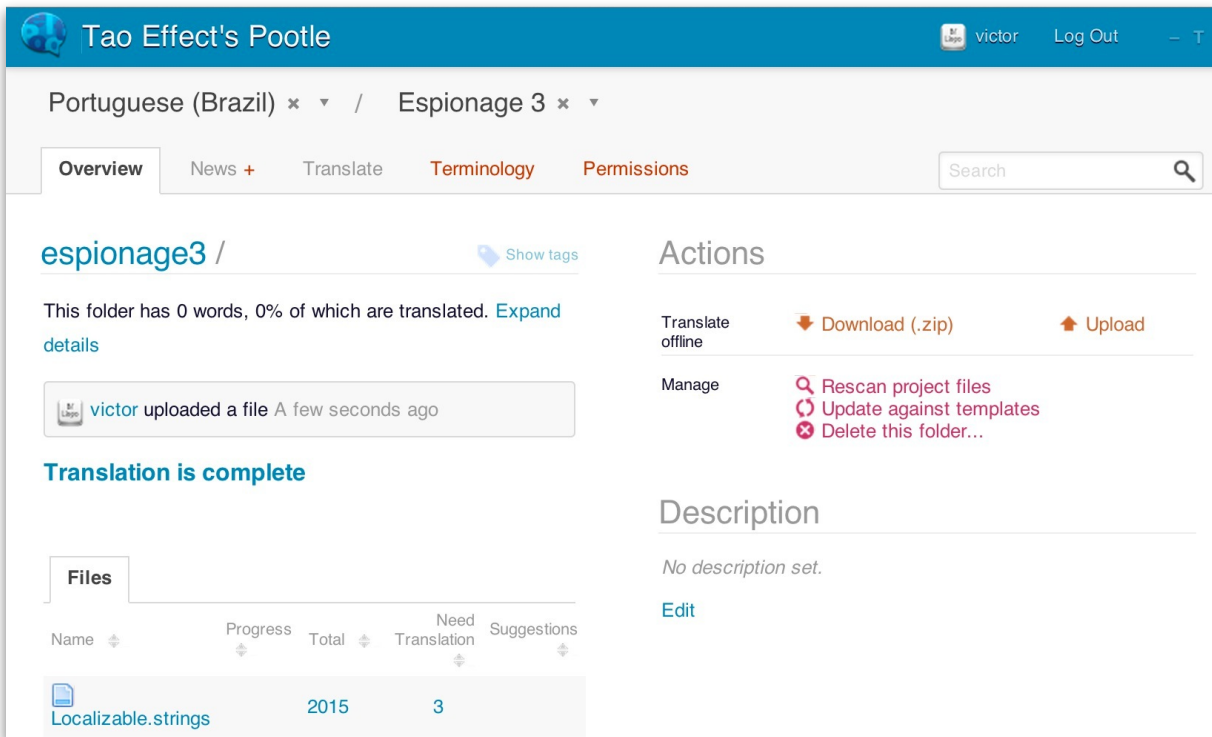
As this is a new project, there are no localized files, so let's upload our localized copies:



Translators should usually **Merge** the files they upload. This adds any differences in prior translations (conflicts) as suggestions for review (as we'll show in another section):



Sometimes, in spite of uploading a new file, Pootle won't recognize that new templates were added by the developer, and so it might say something odd like, *"This folder has 0 words, 0% of which are translated"*.



If that happens, click choose **Update against templates** from the Manage Actions.

In our example, however, once we uploaded the rest of the localized files Pootle recognized the new translations without us having to perform that action:

The screenshot shows the Pootle web interface for the project 'Espionage 3' in Portuguese (Brazil). The main content area displays the 'Overview' tab, showing that the folder has 2100 words, 97% of which are translated. A notification indicates that a user named 'victor' uploaded a file a few seconds ago. Below this, there is a progress bar for 'Continue translation (60 words left)'. The 'Files' section lists three files: 'Localizable.strings', 'PreferencesGeneralViewController.strings', and 'PreferencesShortcutsViewController.strings'. Each file has a progress bar and a table showing the total number of words, the number of words needing translation, and the number of suggestions. The 'Actions' section on the right provides options to download, upload, rescan project files, update against templates, or delete the folder. The 'Description' section is currently empty.

Name	Progress	Total	Need Translation	Suggestions
Localizable.strings	<div><div></div></div>	2015	3	
PreferencesGeneralViewController.strings	<div><div></div></div>	85	57	
PreferencesShortcutsViewController.strings	<div><div></div></div>	44	3	

Hopefully, these oddities will be fixed in future versions of Pootle.

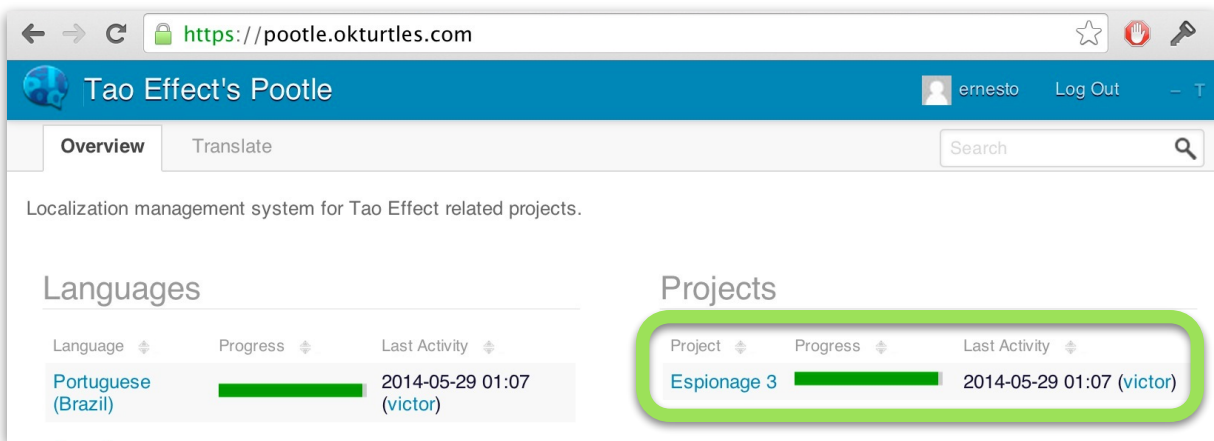
2 Developer & Translator Workflow

Let's say the developer(s) added new strings to the application that need to be translated.

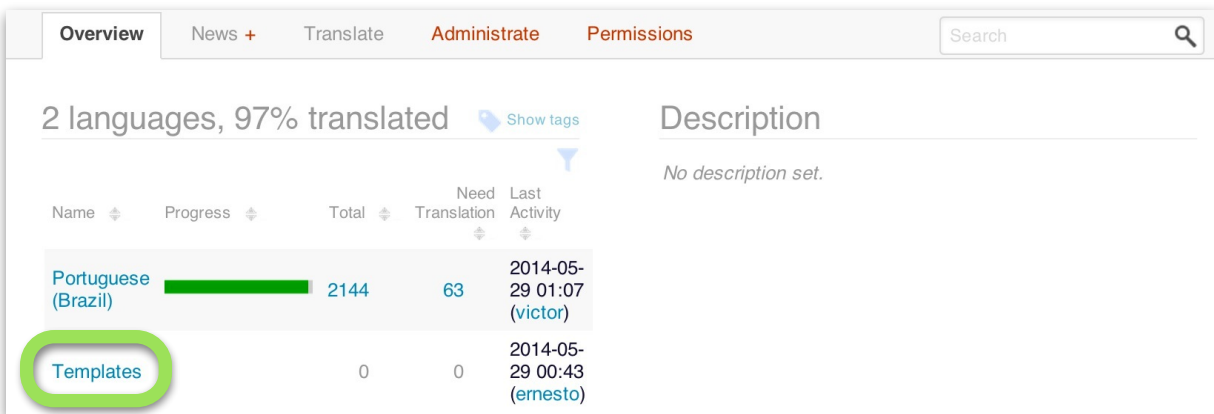
How can they get these changes to the localizers?

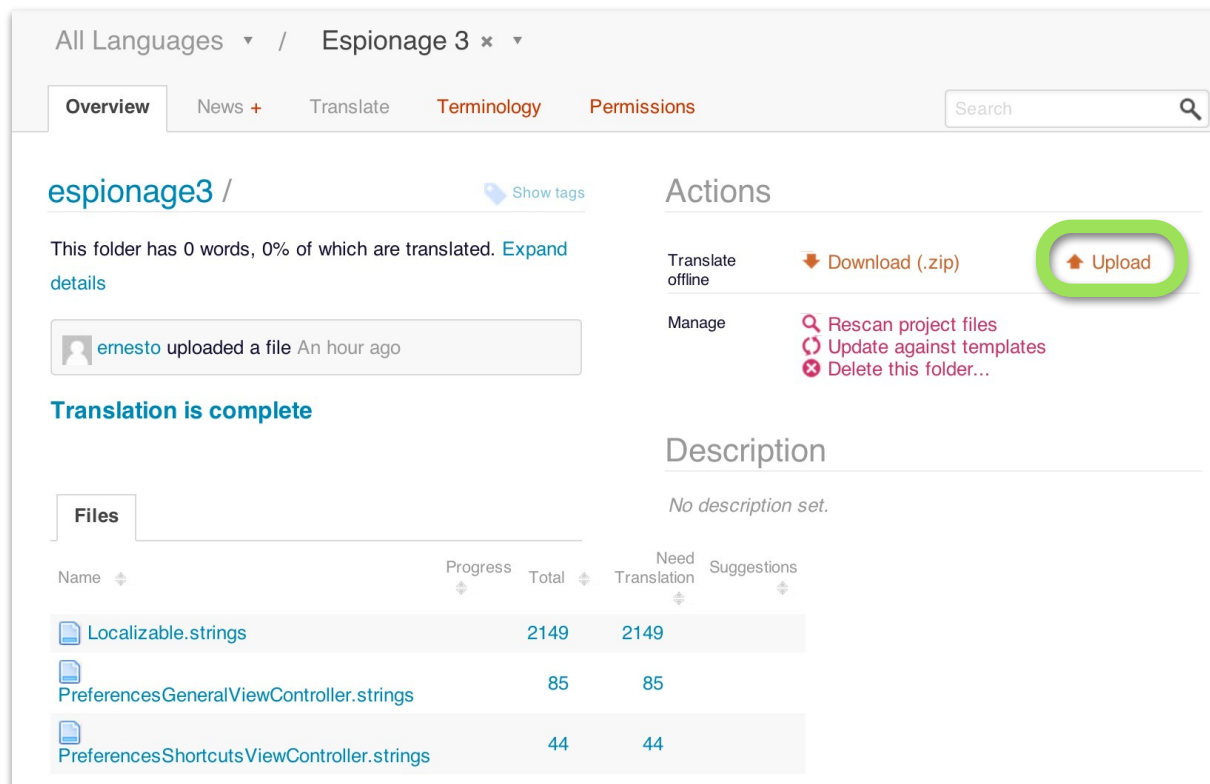
2.1 Updating **template** files with new strings

The developer logs in to Pootle, and then click on the project to be updated:

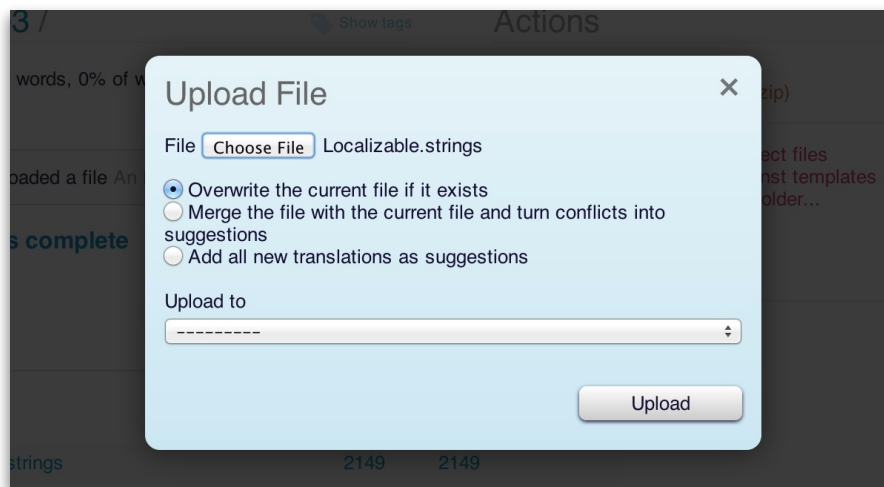


Click on **Templates**:





Then click **Upload** and choose **Overwrite** (as before):

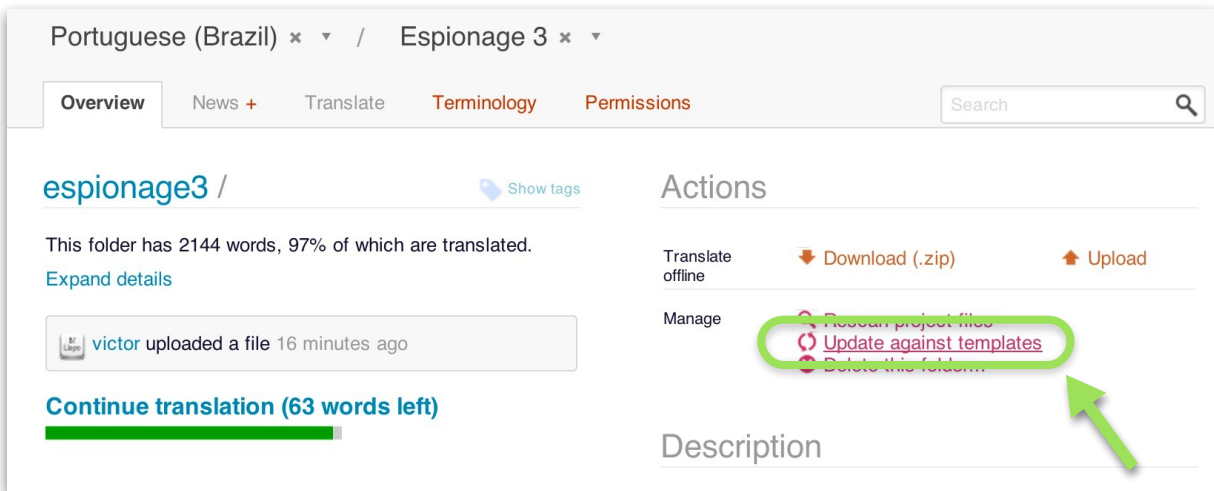


- The file that we upload should have the same name as the file being replaced.
- Localizers usually **Merge** instead **Overwriting** their localized files, as we'll see soon.

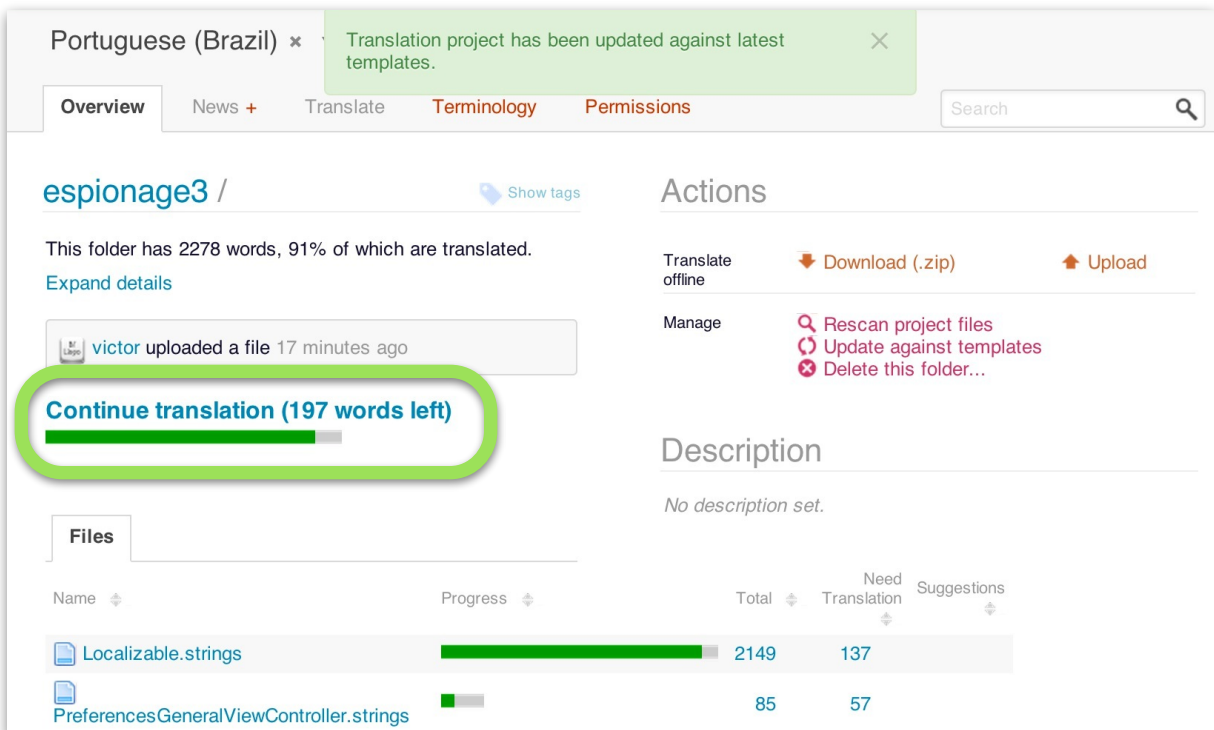
2.2 Translating using Pootle's web interface

As the translator, visit the project's Overview page for the language you'll be translating.

Next, click **Update against templates**. This action tells Pootle to pull in the newly updated strings that the developers uploaded so that we can begin translating them:



Click **Continue translation** to translate the new strings inside of Pootle:



Submit new translations via Pootle's translation interface:

The screenshot shows the Pootle translation interface for the project 'Espionage 3' in the 'Portuguese (Brazil)' locale. The interface includes a navigation bar with tabs for 'Overview', 'News +', 'Translate' (active), 'Terminology', and 'Permissions'. Below the navigation bar, there's a header for 'Portuguese (Brazil) / Espionage 3 / Localizable.strings' and a string identifier 'String 53628'. The main content area displays the string '% of space to use for plausible deniability' with a text input field for the translation. A 'Submit' button and a 'Suggest' link are visible. Below the input field, there's a 'Needs work' checkbox. The interface also shows a comparison of the string between English and Portuguese, with the Portuguese version being '%@ já está encriptada.'. A 'Continue' button is present, and a message states 'Default disk image location is not reachable. If you've set your default disk image folder to an external drive, please plug it in before encrypting any folders.' The bottom of the interface features a search bar, a 'Filter by' dropdown set to 'Incomplete', and an 'Export View' link.

Portuguese (Brazil) x ▾ / Espionage 3 x ▾

Overview News + **Translate** Terminology Permissions

More | Hide | Less

Portuguese (Brazil) / Espionage 3 / Localizable.strings String 53628

Locations: % of space ... English W

% of space to use for plausible deniability

Submit ↔ Suggest

☐ Needs work

Add Comment

%@ is already encrypted. %@ já está encriptada.

More | Hide | Less

Approximately %1\$@ will be used to create %2\$lu disk images of varying size

Continue

Default disk image location is not reachable. If you've set your default disk image folder to an external drive, please plug it in before encrypting any folders.\n %@

Enhancing your plausible deniability

Espionage will make it difficult for an interrogator to know whether or not they've seen all of your encrypted data by using

Search Filter by: Incomplete Export View

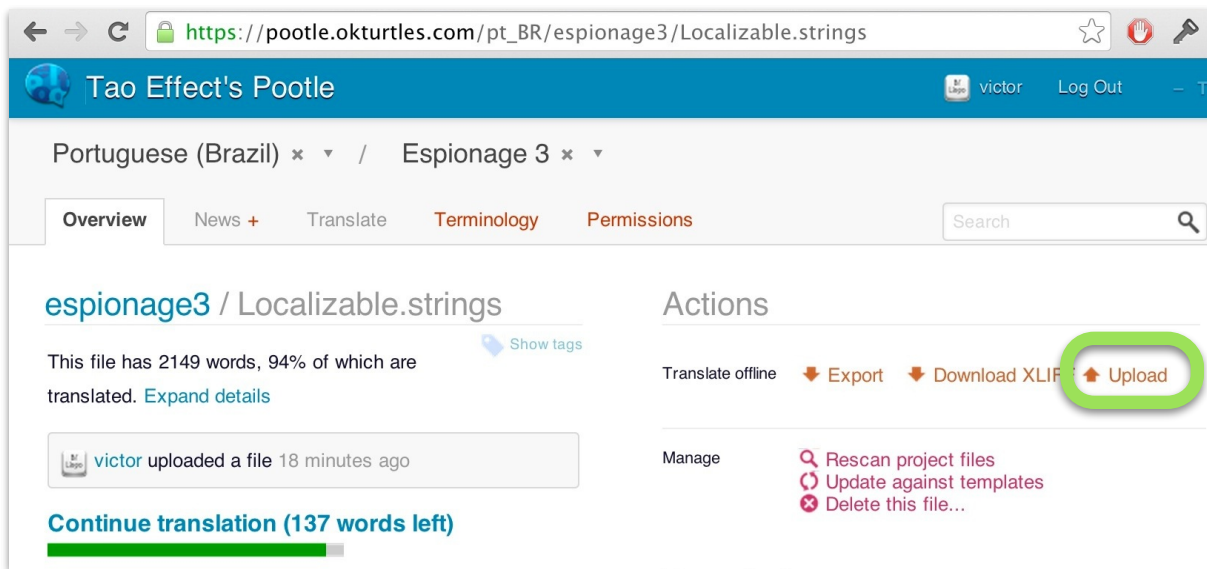
What if the translator decides to update the strings files offline instead of using Pootle's web interface?

In the next section, we'll show you what to do in this situation.

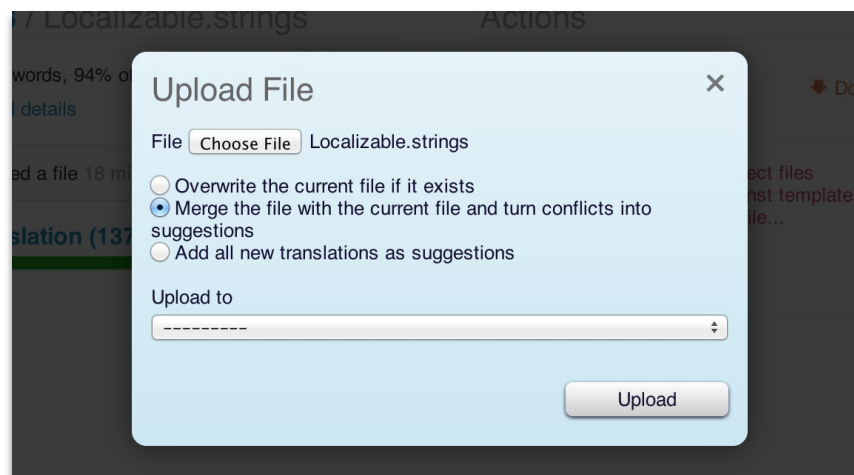
2.3 Updating translations from offline strings

To update translations from existing strings files, click on the file you want to update from the project's Overview page (for your language).

From there we can upload our newly translated strings:



Choose the file (it must have the same exact name as the file we're updating), select **Merge**, and then click Upload:



If the translator updated any previously localized strings, there can be “conflicts”. These will be added as suggestions that can then be reviewed:

Portuguese (Brazil) x ▾ / Espionage 3 x ▾

Overview News + Translate Terminology Permissions

Search

espionage3 / Localizable.strings

This file has 2149 words, 99% of which are translated. [Expand details](#)

victor uploaded a file A few seconds ago

[Continue translation \(3 words left\)](#)

[Review suggestions \(11 left\)](#)

Actions

Translate offline

Export Upload

Download XLIFF

Manage

Rescan project files

Update against templates

Delete this file...

Description

Click **Review suggestions** to accept, modify, or decline the suggested translations:

Overview News + Translate Terminology Permissions

More | Hide | Less

Could not mount volume for %@. See system log for more info. Não pôde montar o volume %@. Veja o registro do sistema para mais informações.

Portuguese (Brazil) / Espionage 3 / Localizable.strings String 53039

Locations: Could not trash ...

English

Could not trash disk image '%1\$@' for folder '%2\$@'.
Please move it to the Trash for Espionage.

Não pôde mover a imagem '%1\$@' da pasta '%2\$@' para o lixo.
Mova-a manualmente.

Submit Suggest

☐ Needs work

Add Comment

User suggestions

Não pôde mover a imagem '%1\$@' da pasta '%2\$@' para o Lixo.
Mova-a manualmente.

Accept suggestion

Couldn't create folder! Não pôde criar a pasta!

More | Hide | Less

Search Filter by: Suggestions Export View

3 Conclusion

We hope you enjoyed reading this guide and found it helpful!

If found any mistakes in this document, or if you'd like to translate [Espionage](#) into your favorite language, please send us a note at the following address:

support@taoeffect.com

3.1 Document History

- 1.0 - May 30, 2014 - First published.