# From Strategy to Execution: Building a Winning Presence in Latin America

A Case Study on iGaming Expansion in Peru by Telematic Interactive Bulgaria AD

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### Introduction

## Capitalising on Latin America's Growing iGaming Market

- · Why Peru?
- Providing a comprehensive guide for operators aiming to build a successful foothold
- Insights into some specifics of the regulatory landscape, cultural localisation, technological adaptation, and execution steps



## Why Latin America and Why Peru?

Rapidly growing iGaming adoption, driven by economic dynamics

#### Peru:

- Dynamic economy with a growing middle class.
- The post-COVID boom in online gaming - Peru's online market growth post-COVID increased exponentially

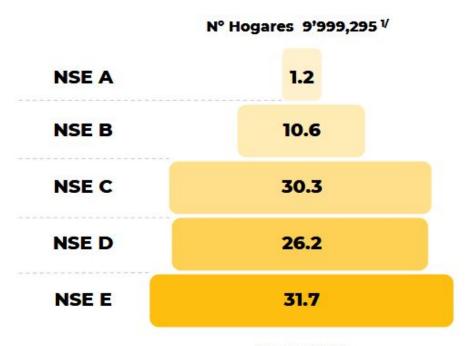




## Peruvian demographic

### Socioeconomic status of the population:

 Peru has a big middle class that spends at least 2% of their salary in Entertainment





#### **APEIM 2023**

APEIM 2023: Data ENAHO 2022 1/ Hogares 2022 según ENAHO

## Peruvian expending habits

Fuente: BBVA

## Between 2023-2024 Entertainment expenses in the peruvian families has grown

- Despite the rest of the components of the expenses has being going up and down or decrease, the expense in Entertainment has gone up
- And inside the Entertainment Casinos y lotteries represent the 29% of the total expenses in Entertainment.
- So Peru has a growing interest in casino and sports betting and the capacity to play.

#### Índice Big Data de Consumo por componentes



## Online betting in Peru

#### Peruvian Market Behaviour: Pre-Pandemic

- Preference for physical stores due to limited trustworthy online payment options.
- Online shopping hesitancy caused by insufficient safety procedures.

#### **iGaming Market Pre-Pandemic**

- Established brands with land based or long-standing presence dominated.
- Trust in international companies drove consumer confidence.
- There were 4 important operators in the market and then some small ones, in total 30 or more oficial brands.
- Top brands had big budgets and covered all sport events, TV and street advertising
- There were also small brands that were operating as local betting businesses.
- Google Ads was forbidden for the iGaming market in Peru





## Online betting in Peru

#### Post-Pandemic Growth (2019–2023)

- Online purchases grew by 200%, from 11.8M to 16.8M transactions.\*
- Online transactions increased from 12.5% to 45% of all payments.\*\*
- Significant potential for further digital growth in Peru.

#### **Post-Pandemic iGaming Expansion**

- Online betting grew **128%** (2020–2022)\*\*\*
- Peru positioned as a leading market with high potential in Latin America.
- Within pandemic some brands appear and started gaining more and more participation of the market
- In 2023 more international brands started operations in Peru and started to fight for the first positions.
- Now after the regulation more than 60 operators have registered.
- Online Ads became more important
- With the regulation also Google and Meta are available for this market in Peru.
- Top competitors still have the main presence in TV and sport events, being the sponsors of the main local soccer teams.





\*\*El peruano

\*\*\*Infotour latam

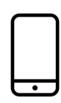


## Peruvian Player Behaviour Now



## Bonuses and promotions

- Casino: Free spins without deposit, or deposit bonuses with easy conditions to convert.
- Sports: Free bets, zero risk bets



#### Online behaviour

- There is still some people who do not trust online payments so they prefer physical stores.
- 90% of users play from a **mobile device**.
- Between 80%-90% of sports bets are in futbol, specially on Champions League, Copa Libertadores and peruvian tournaments



#### **Payment methods**

- Peruvian users prefer local and QR payment methods, such as Yape or Plin (local bank's digital wallets to transfer just with the phone number or QR)
- They expect to have the bonus money not related with their deposit money
- For withdrawals they prefer immediate payments,
  24hs is already a long period to wait.



#### Location

- Most of the players are located in Lima, the capital
- But a lot of players come from other big cities, like Arequipa, La Libertad, Cusco and Piura.
- There is still a big market
   on the east of the country
   but with little internet
   reach.



## Peruvian iGaming Market Today

#### **Competitors**

- Big top 5 competitors between locals and big international companies
- · More than 60 operators in the market
- · Between 2024 and 2029 the annual growth of the market is expected to be 5.97%

#### **Advertising**

- Huge budget
- TV Commercials
- Street advertising
- Branding campaigns
- · Celebrities and influencers





# What was our strategy?

#### **Market Research and Entry**

- · Assess regulatory frameworks
- · Analyze cultural and player behaviour trends

#### **Platform and Content Localization**

- · Align content with local preferences
- · Ensure technical compliance with Peruvian regulations

#### **Building Partnerships**

- Collaborate with local operators and tax consultants there are certain specifics regarding taxation
- Leverage local marketing agencies to drive engagement

#### **Execution and Growth**

- · Focus on player acquisition and retention strategies
- · Continuously monitor regulatory updates



## Regulations in Latin America

The iGaming market in Latin America is complex, the variety of cultures makes it rich and diverse, but also a market that takes time to understand.

#### **ARGENTINA**

 The iGaming market in Argentina depends on each province, whose authorities may or may not legalised online betting.

#### **BRAZIL**

- The market is in progress of regulation, all operators are applying for licenses.
  About taxing.
- About taxing,
   operators have to pay
   12% over GGR and
   have to withhold 15%
   tax on users winnings.

#### CHILE

published in 2023, but it is in progress of being implemented.

There is a law that was

#### COLOMBIA

- Colombia was the first country in Latin America to regulate the iGaming market in 2016.
- The online market is not subject yet to taxes but is an issue that is being discussed.

## Complying with Regulatory Landscape in Peru

#### 2022

We established a local company, a subsidiary of Telematic Interactive and used a Curacao license. There were minimal local regulatory requirements by that time

#### 2023

The regulation for the market was published, and several changes were required.

#### **Beginning of 2024:**

- More than 60 operators registered for license.
- We had to make adjustments comply with the new technical requirements that were enforced

#### **Key Compliance Areas:**

- Platform homologation adapting technology to meet local standards
- Taxation game tax (12%), ISC (1% tax on users bets)
- Guaranty
- Prohibited users list, etc.



## Cultural Localization and Player Engagement

Marketing Insights:

- Using influencers with a strong public presence recording a song
- · Involving all social media with relevant content
- Own affiliate site promoting the content of our subsidiary CT Interactive



Player Preferences:  Popular games include slots and sports betting with a local flavor



Peru's engagement trends are quite different from those in our domestic market in Bulgaria and those in Kenya, where we also have operations









## Technological Adaptation



#### **Platform Homologation:**

Ensuring compliance with Peruvian technical standards



#### **Content Localization:**

Ensure game themes resonate with Peruvian culture and the offered promotions and bonuses resonate with the customers



#### **Operational Adjustments:**

Integrate local payment systems Local staff for customer support



## Responsible Gaming Strategies

Compliance: Adhere to banned player lists and responsible gaming rules

We are promoting awareness campaigns about responsible gaming



## Telematic Interactive's Entry into the Online Market in Peru

Expanded scope after IPO and Bulgarian Stock Exchange listing Established a local operation under a Curacao license pre-2022



#### **Key Challenges:**

Adapting to post-2022 regulations

Homologating platform and content

Navigating tax complexities, such as withholding tax adjustments



#### **Execution:**

Partnered with tax experts and local stakeholders

Using own platform and thus quickly meeting all requirements

Focused on customer journey and innovative marketing strategies



## **Lessons Learned**

#### **Insights:**

- Early compliance preparation mitigates regulatory risks
- · Cultural understanding drives player engagement
- Local staff and partnerships are critical for effective market entry

#### **Conclusion:**

- · Combine intense market research with flexible execution strategies
- Focus on the elements of the experience that generate trust in the local user, it is different in each country
- The time and budget to enter a market are key to compete in a new country



## Future Opportunities

**Next Steps:** Emphasis on player retention and more marketing campaigns

Build sustainable and player-focused operation





