Economics and technology have dramatically re-shaped the landscape of software development. It is no longer uncommon to find a software development team dispersed across countries or continents. Geographically distributed development challenges the ability to clearly communicate, enforce standards, ensure quality levels, and coordinate tasks. *Global Software Development Handbook* shows how agile techniques can bridge distances, create cohesion, promote quality, and strengthen lines of communication.

The book introduces a high-level process framework that balances agility and discipline for globally distributed software development. The authors elaborate an organizational structure that not only fosters team building, but also achieves effective collaboration among the central and the geographically distributed teams. They explore the issues surrounding the quality of product and the processes required to realize quality in a distributed environment. Since communication is arguably the biggest challenge between the central organization and the distributed teams, especially those separated by several time zones, the authors delineate how to uncover patterns of communication among these teams to determine effective strategies for managing such communication.

The authors analyze successful and failed projects and apply this information to how to run a successful project with distributed teams. Their book provides lightweight processes with minimal documentation that can be dynamically adapted to the demands of any project.