

Crowdsourced translation using MediaWiki

Siebrand Mazeland

i18n/L10n contractor, Wikimedia Foundation

Community Manager, translatewiki.net



Why translate using MediaWiki?

- ✦ Way back in 2004, MediaWiki was already there, and Niklas Laxström had an itch to scratch
 - ✦ I.e. it wasn't given much thought
 - ✦ We still don't regret it
- ✦ Started as a set of patches on MediaWiki core
 - ✦ Versioning and tracking included for free
- ✦ Most translators already knew MediaWiki



translatewiki.net

Using MediaWiki for localisation



- ✦ **translatewiki.net** the localisation platform for translation communities, language communities, and free and open source projects
- ✦ Supports online and offline translation for MediaWiki and other software

translatewiki.net

Using MediaWiki for localisation



wikia



translatewiki.net

Using MediaWiki for localisation



- ✦ 6.000 registered translators
- ✦ 25 free and open source projects
- ✦ 48.000 translatable strings
- ✦ 440 active translators per month
- ✦ 55.000 translations per month
- ✦ translators do not handle files

translatewiki.net

Supported file types



- ✦ Android XML
- ✦ Apache Cocoon (WIP)
- ✦ Gettext
- ✦ JSON
- ✦ Java properties
- ✦ JavaScript
- ✦ Localizable.strings (WIP)
- ✦ PHP arrays
- ✦ PHP variables
- ✦ Python
- ✦ XLIFF
- ✦ YAML

userbase.kde.org

Multilingual user documentation



 KDE UserBase Wiki

Page [Discussion](#)

[View](#) [View source](#) [History](#)

KMail/Загальні питання щодо користування KMail

This page is a [translated version](#) of a page [Kmail/Using Kmail General](#) and the translation is 100% complete.

Other languages:

[Catalan](#)  • [English](#)  • [Ukrainian](#) 

Головне вікно

Головне вікно буде показано одразу після запуску KMail. Типово, у вікні буде показано три панелі:

Список тек (ліворуч)



WIKIMEDIA
FOUNDATION

userbase.kde.org

Multilingual user documentation



- ✦ Over 800 translatable pages of user documentation
- ✦ More than 20.000 translatable strings
- ✦ Pages with translations in up to 31 languages
- ✦ Relatively low translation volume
 - ✦ ~500 translations per week

techbase.kde.org

Multilingual developer documentation



The screenshot shows the KDE TechBase website. At the top left is the KDE logo and the text "KDE TechBase". To the right is a search box labeled "Zoeken". Below the logo is a navigation bar with "Pagina" and "Overleg" tabs, and buttons for "Lezen", "Brontekst bekijken", and "Geschiedenis". The main heading is "Bijdragen". Below it is a message: "Deze pagina is een vertaalde versie van de pagina [Contribute](#) en de vertaling is 98% compleet en bijgewerkt." A language selection bar lists "Andere talen:" followed by links for Grieks, Engels, Spaans, Fins, Frans, Galicisch, Japans, Koreaans, Nederlands, Pools, Braziliaans Portugees, Slowaaks, and Chinese (China). Below this is a paragraph: "Deze pagina geeft een overzicht van de verschillende aspecten van het bijdragen aan KDE, met name voor de programmeertaken. Het KDE-project is blij met iedereen die meehelpt." On the right side, there is a "Share your Knowledge" section with a blue key icon, and a "NAVIGATIE" section with links for Home, Hulp, and Recente wijzigingen. Below that is a "SECTIONS" section with links for Aan de slag and Ontwikkeling.

Currently there are 4.000 translatable strings



WIKIMEDIA
FOUNDATION

Translation of texts that change

Need to track changes to source text

Translations:Global AbuseFilter/10/nl ▾

As of January 7, 2014, global abuse filters are enabled on metawiki, specieswiki, incubatorwiki, outreachwiki, wikimania2014wiki, testwiki, test2wiki, and mediawikiwiki. The next step is to deal with [[bugzilla:45164|internationalisation issues]].

Vorige tekst

Nieuwe tekst



As of the **13th of February**, global abuse filters are enabled on metawiki, testwiki, test2wiki, and mediawikiwiki. The next step is to deal with [[bugzilla:45164|internationalisation issues]].

+

As of **January 7, 2014**, global abuse filters are enabled on metawiki, **specieswiki, incubatorwiki, outreachwiki, wikimania2014wiki**, testwiki, test2wiki, and mediawikiwiki. The next step is to deal with [[bugzilla:45164|internationalisation issues]].

Sinds 13 februari, zijn globale misbruikfilters ingeschakeld op Meta-Wiki, testwiki, test2wiki, en mediawiki.org. De volgende stap is om de [[bugzilla:45164|internationalisatieproblemen]] op te lossen.



Wikimedia wikis

Multilingual communication and documentation

- ✦ Meta-Wiki
 - ✦ Wikimedia Commons
 - ✦ MediaWiki.org
 - ✦ WikiData
 - ✦ Wikimania wiki
 - ✦ A few more specialised wikis (5 or so)
- ✦ ~14.500 strings
 - ✦ ~3.500 strings
 - ✦ ~4.500 strings
 - ✦ ~2.300 strings
 - ✦ ~300 strings
 - ✦ A few more specialised wikis (5 or so)



Translation volume

on Wikimedia wikis and translatewiki.net

translatewiki.net	2.9M
Meta-Wiki	1.4M
MediaWiki.org	500k
Wikidata	230k

From 2013-11-14 to 2013-12-13, number of characters

This is the equivalent of about 2.000 pages of A4



Next step

Content translation for Wikipedia and Wikivoyage

- Extremely large potential
 - Nearly 31M topic pages with relatively little overlap
 - 286 languages



Wikipedia content translation

Opportunities

- ✦ Wikimedia already has 75.000 active editors
- ✦ Many potential new editors have trouble finding an area to contribute in
- ✦ Content worthwhile translating will already be of high value (otherwise someone wouldn't invest time in translating it)

Wikipedia content translation

Threats

- ✦ Presumably highly dependent on good quality bootstrapping by existing machine translation suppliers
 - ✦ Google, Microsoft, Yandex, Apertium implementations have to be on-boarded
- ✦ Users will demand „professional grade translation tools”
 - ✦ The assumption is that most translators will be drive by translators that only need a minimum number of features as more features will alienate them and scare them off, a.k.a. perfect is the enemy of good

Wikipedia content translation

Prototype entry point

The screenshot shows a Wikipedia page with a language selection menu on the left. The menu is titled "In andere talen" and lists various languages: Brezhoneg, Català, Español, Italiano, 日本語, ქართული, **Nederlands** (highlighted in red), Norsk bokmål, and Português. Below the list is a "60 more languages" link. A dialog box is overlaid on the page, asking "The page does not exist in Nederlands yet. Do you want to create it?". Below the question is a text input field containing "Ludwig Mies van der Rohe". At the bottom of the dialog are two buttons: "Create from scratch" and "Translate from English".

7.4 Museum of Fine Arts, Houston
7.5 National Gallery, Berlin
8 Furniture
9 Educator
10 Death
11 Archives
12 Gallery

▼ In andere talen ⚙
Brezhoneg
Català
Español
Italiano
日本語
ქართული
Nederlands
Norsk bokmål
Português
...
60 more languages

The page does not exist in Nederlands yet.
Do you want to create it?

Title in Nederlands:
Ludwig Mies van der Rohe

Create from scratch Translate from English ▼

served as construction manager of the [Embassy of the German Empire in Saint Petersburg](#) under Behrens.^[2]

Wikipedia content translation

Prototype translation interface

Translation center 2% translated [Publish Translation](#)

Ludwig Mies van der Rohe

English [view article](#)

Ludwig Mies van der Rohe (born **Maria Ludwig Michael Mies**; March 27, 1898 – August 19, 1980) was a German-American **architect**.^[1] He is commonly referred to, and was addressed, as **Mies**, his surname. He served as the last director of Berlin's **Bauhaus**, and then headed the department of architecture, **Illinois Institute of Technology** in Chicago, where he developed the Second Chicago School. Along with **Le Corbusier**, **Alvar Aalto**, and **Frank Lloyd Wright**, he is widely regarded as one of the pioneering masters of modern architecture.

Mies, like many of his post-World War I contemporaries, sought to establish a new architectural style that could represent modern times just as **Classical** and **Gothic** did for their own eras. He created an influential twentieth century architectural style, stated with extreme clarity and simplicity. His mature buildings made use of modern materials such as industrial steel and **plate glass** to define interior spaces. He strove toward an architecture with a minimal framework of structural order balanced against the implied freedom of free-flowing open space. He called his buildings "skin and bones" architecture. He sought a rational approach that would guide the creative process of architectural design, but he was always concerned with expressing the spirit of the modern era. He is often associated with his quotation of the aphorisms, "less is more" and "God is in the details".

Early career

Mies was born in Aachen, Germany. He worked in his father's stone-carving shop and at several local design firms before he moved to Berlin, where he joined the office of interior designer **Bruno Paul**. He began his architectural career as an apprentice at the studio of **Peter Behrens** from 1908 to 1912, where he was exposed to the current design theories and to progressive German culture, working alongside **Walter Gropius** and **Le Corbusier**, who were

Ludwig Mies van der Rohe

Nederlands

Ludwig Mies van der Rohe (geboren **Maria Ludwig Michael Mies**, 27 maart 1898 - 19 augustus 1980) was een **Duits-Amerikaanse architect**.^[1] Hij is algemeen bekend, en was gericht, zoals **Mies**, zijn achternaam. Hij diende als de laatste directeur van de Berlijnse **Bauhaus**, en vervolgens gingen de afdeling architectuur, **Illinois Institute of Technology** in Chicago, waar hij de ontwikkelde Tweede Chicago School. Samen met **Le Corbusier**, **Alvar Aalto**, en **Frank Lloyd Wright**, wordt hij algemeen beschouwd als een van de baanbrekende meesters van de **moderne architectuur**.

+ Add translation

Automatic translation -

Use source text
 Clear translation
[Remove current sentence](#)



Content translation

When can I test it?

- ✦ Prototypes:
 - ✦ https://www.mediawiki.org/wiki/Content_translation
- ✦ Currently in early development by the Wikimedia Language Engineering team
 - ✦ git: <http://is.gd/ContentTrans>
 - ✦ Gerrit: <http://is.gd/ContentTransGerrit>

Discussion, questions & ...

siebrand@translatewiki.net

Shameless plug

Wikimedia is hiring!

jobs.wikimedia.org

