

MT Support Team Webinar Series

Translating The Events Calendar

A 15 minute crash course

Episode 2



Applies to: All plugins

Overview

- **Level: Beginner**
- What are translation files?
- Locating your translation files
- Poedit basics
- Updating language files
- Uploading your custom translations
- Sharing your translations
- Multilingual solutions and more



You will learn:

- How to customize strings (words) displayed by most WordPress plugins and themes
- How to find and update language files
- How to translate untranslated strings to your language
- How to share your translations for everyone's benefit



What are translation files?

- Translation files are files that allow you to display your site in your language
- There are three types of translation files for WordPress:
 - a. .pot (the template/map): to update the others
 - b. .po (portable object): where you will work
 - c. .mo (machine object): for computers only :-)
- Translation / language files are available for WordPress, WordPress themes and WordPress plugins



Locating your translation files

- You can find the location of all of our plugins language files [here](#). Mostly, they are located in `/wp-content/plugins/[plugin-name]/lang/`
- Translation files are also available online (and they might be more recent)
 - a. [Our free plugins language files](#)
 - b. [Our premium plugins language files](#)



Poedit Basics

- Poedit is a Powerful and intuitive translations editor. You can grab a copy [here](#).
- It is free to use for Windows, Mac and even Linux
- It helps edit and update translation files that you have downloaded in a very simple way
- You will also need an FTP client or access to your CPanel's File manager to move your files around



Updating language files

- Open the file in Poedit and Find the string you want to update:
 - a. There might be many copies or variations
 - b. The string might be in several language files
 - c. The string might contain a variable (e.g.: %s)
- If the string cannot be found, try to update the .po file:
 - a. Catalog > Update from Pot file
 - b. Try to search again
- Edit the translation and Save the file



Uploading your custom files

- You could simply upload your custom files back to `/wp-content/plugins/[plugin-name]/lang/`.
Unfortunately, if you do that, the next time you upgrade your plugin, all of your hard work will be lost :-)
- Instead, we recommend that you upload them to `/wp-content/languages/plugins` where they will be safe :-)

You can read all about that [here](#).



Sharing your translations

- You could even share your translations with the world! That way, other people speaking your language can benefit from them.
- Simply log in to one of the following places (you might need to create an account), submit your translations and wait for approval:
 - a. [The Events Calendar \(free\)](#)
 - b. [Event Tickets \(free\)](#)
 - c. [All premium plugins](#)



Multilingual solutions and more

- There are several multilingual plugins out there. Several of them work to some degree with The Events Calendar plugins to some extent.
- WPML is the most compatible solution at this point. You can read about this [here](#).
- Polylang is also compatible with The Events Calendar free
- As an alternative to Poedit, some of our customer are favoring a plugin solution such as [Loco translate](#)



Summary

- What are translation files?
- Locating your translation files
- Poedit basics
- Updating language files
- Uploading your custom translations
- Sharing your translations
- Multilingual solutions and more



To find out more...

- Translation knowledge articles
<https://theeventscalendar.com/knowledgebase-category/languages/>
- WordPress Translator's Handbook
<https://make.wordpress.org/polyglots/handbook/>
- Poedit Translation Editor
<https://poedit.net>
- Loco Translate Plugin
<https://wordpress.org/plugins/loco-translate/>



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