

## How to

# Internationalisation - Customising Bika Languages

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'Adding bika dictionary' paragraphs renumbered

.po translation expanded par 3, server restart bit added par 4

Plone, and therefore Bika, implement language selection via browser settings. Where the corresponding dictionary files for Plone and Bika exist on the installation, all pages will be displayed in the language selected for the browser

## Adding a Bika language

NB. It is recommended that you verify Plone to be available in your preferred language at <http://plone.org/development/teams/i18n/existing-translations> at first, as this will ensure that the general Plone components are displayed correctly. If not available, we suggest taking up Plone's translation procedure

1. For the selected translation to be effective in your Bika installation, the corresponding Bika language file must be available in the folder `../Data/Products/bika/i18n/`

The words internationalisation and localisation are shortened to i18n and l10n in Plonespeak, because 18 and 10 are how many letters were left out to make the abbreviation...

Within the i18n directory will be .po files for all the available languages, i.e. `bika-en.po` and `bika-nl.po` for English and Dutch respectively

2. To create a new one, copy the English file and rename it for your requested language in the format:

`bika-xx.po` where xx denotes the ISO 2 letter code for the language

The complete list of ISO 2 language codes can be found at <http://www.iso.org/iso/en/prods-services/iso3166ma/02iso-3166-code-lists/list-en1.html>

For example, the Bika translation .po for Afrikaans is called `bika-af.po`

3. Translate the message string texts "xxxxx" between the quotes on the lines: `msgstr "xxxxx"`  
`msgid` refers to the ID used for the corresponding texts in the program code. Diligent programmers often comment these in the .po files by including contextual code from the where the texts are used, see the first half of current `bika-en.po`
4. New .po files are only read at start-up, save the .po and re-start the Zope server

## Setting browser language

1. In both Firefox and IE, the browser language is set from the Tools drop-down menu, and others will be similar

Select: Tools -> (Internet)Options -> languages

2. If your desired language is not listed, it must be added

Mozilla: press [Select a language to add...], choose the language, and click the [Add] button

IE: press [Add], choose the language, and click the [OK] button

3. Then re-order the languages to determine the preferred one for pages provided in more than one language

Highlight the language and use the [Move Up] and [Move Down] buttons, i.e. if you want Bika to be displayed in Italian, move this language to the top of the list

4. Refresh the browser and Bika will display in your preferred language

