

Future of Translation



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Problem statement

Language is a barrier to access knowledge for our users. We need to reduce the content gap across languages, for users to find quality information regardless of the language they speak.



New Editors Research

Finding #4: Many editors [...] are less inclined to contribute to Korean/Czech Wikipedia because the content gap that needs to be filled feels too large. This perception creates a vicious cycle that prevents medium-sized wikis from reaching a critical mass of value.

Audience

Multilingual editors are the main target. They are in the best position to reduce the content gap across languages.

We can also help **readers** and **monolingual editors** to reduce the gap.

Goals

- **Fluent.** Quick contributions easy and fun to do on mobile.
- **Meaningful.** Contributions that are rewarding for the user and useful to the community.



Possible directions

- Content creation
- Micro-contributions
- Improve regular contributions
- Facilitate access

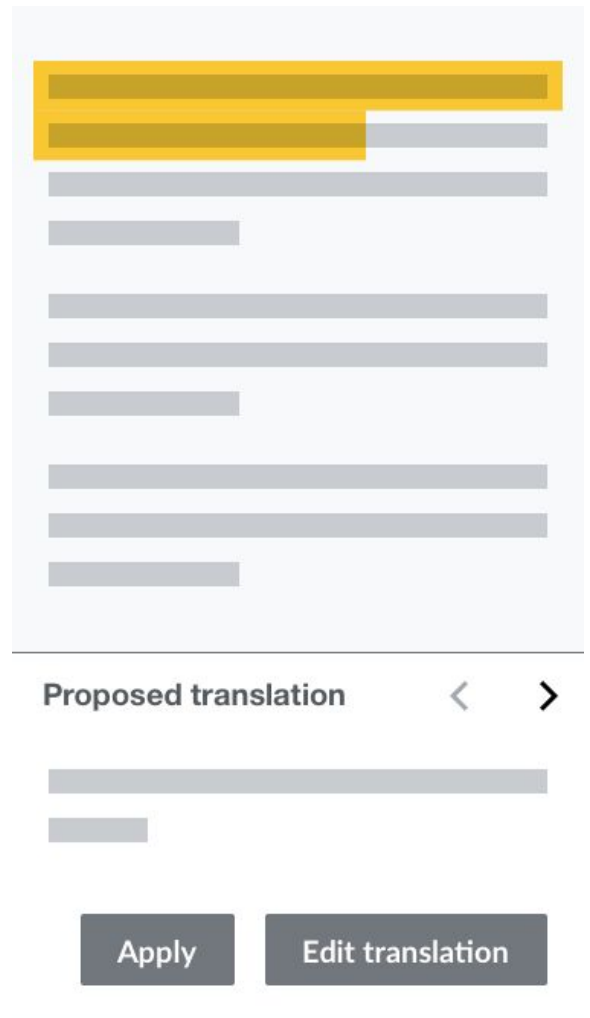


Content creation

Content is transferred from one language into another

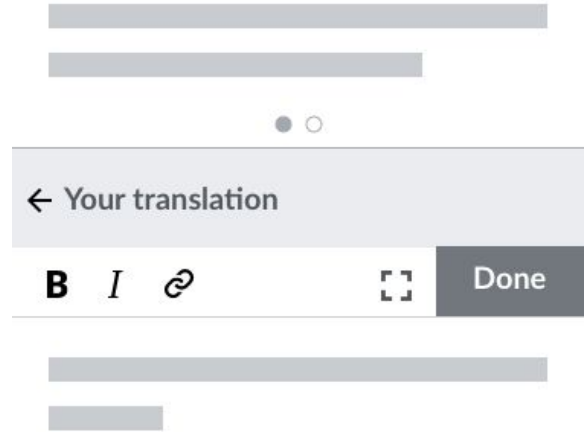
Create new articles

An initial version of an article is created by translating manageable units of information, while keeping the overall context. Automatic translation is used as a starting point...



Create new articles

...but users can edit the initial translations further when needed (with access to the original text for reference).



Translate updates

Expand existing articles by translating new updates on the original content. Users can get the updates of their topics of interest, and translation is focused on smaller pieces of content.



Recent updates

Paneer > Use in dishes

Placeholder text for the first update item, consisting of three horizontal bars of varying lengths.

Translate

Plants in space > Experiments

Placeholder text for the second update item, consisting of three horizontal bars of varying lengths.

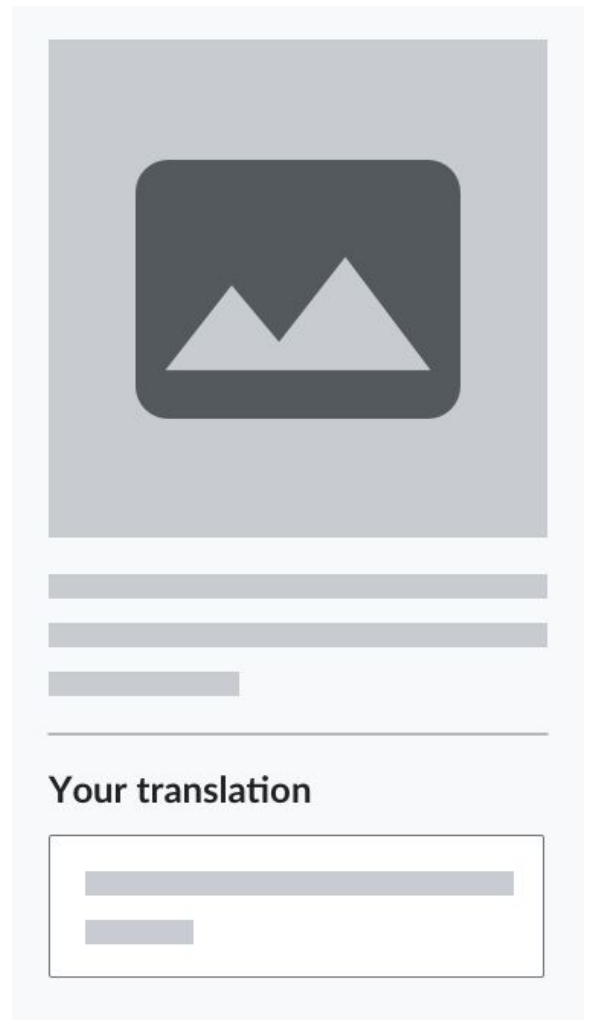
Translate

Micro-contributions

Divide the contribution process in small dedicated activities.

Translate content pieces

A dedicated flow for translating specific content pieces such as image captions, article titles/Wikidata labels, references, tables, UI messages...



Proofread translations

Reviewing the translations from other users helps improve the quality of the content, helping to make it read naturally.



Original content



Translation



Enhance regular contribution

Regular editing can benefit from reusing the efforts made by other communities.
Editors don't need to speak multiple languages to do so.



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Suggest images and sections

For short article, editors are suggested images and sections for them to add, based on those commonly used in the same article in other languages.

For the case of sections, machine translation is used to show them in the language of the user.



Paneer



Suggested content you may want to add

Media



Sections

[Preparation](#)

[List of recipes](#)

[Controversy](#)

Facilitate access

Allow readers to access content which is available in a language they do not speak.

Expand short articles

Users finding short articles (or stubs) in their local language, are offered more content based on automatic translations from other languages...



Paneer



Other languages may have more information. [View a translation?](#)

[View automatic translation](#)

Expand short articles

...users can read more content created by other communities. The content is clearly marked as a translation and they are encouraged to extend the local article based on it.

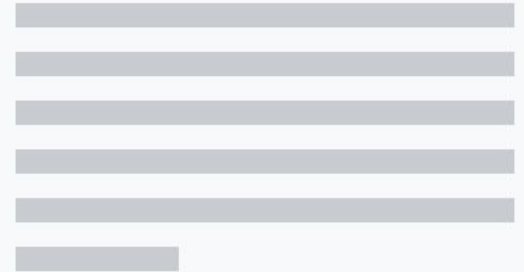


Paneer



Automatic translation

From Hindi 



[Expand original article using the translation](#)