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## 1 - Needed files and tools:

Creating and/or maintaining translations do not need any skill in C++ programming: **there is no change to do in Kicad files.**

Translations are easy to do with a tool **PoEdit** that locate (in Kicad sources) sentences to translate and is able to create a dictionary for Kicad from translations created with this tool.

So you need to install PoEdit, and get latest Kicad sources, and, for existing translations, get latest translations.

Translations can be made under Linux, Window or MacOSX

### 1.1 - Download PoEdit

See <http://www.poedit.net/>

### 1.2 - Downloading Kicad sources:

Kicad sources are currently (july 2011) hosted by Launchpad.

(See <https://launchpad.net/kicad>)

Files can be downloaded from Launchpad by using a tool named "**bazaar**" (**bzr** in commands).

So:

- Install (if not already done) the tool named bazaar ( easy to install under all platforms) : see <http://bazaar.canonical.com/>
- Download Kicad sources using the command  
**bzr co lp:kicad <directory where sources files are copied>**
- You'll find this doc about translation and poedit configuration in Documentation: see [Documentation/GUI\\_Translation\\_HOWTO.pdf](#)

### 1.3 - download existing translations and documentations

Kicad translations and documentations are currently (july 2011) also hosted by

Launchpad.<https://code.launchpad.net/~kicad-developers/kicad/doc>

Download translations using command:

**bzr co lp:~kicad-developers/kicad/doc <directory where doc files are copied>**

## 2 - Find sentences to translate:

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The different menus and tool tips in KiCad are internationalized, and can be easily translated into a local language without source code modifications.

The rules are:

- They are written in english.
- All strings which must be translated are written like: `_("hello world")`, and displayed "hello world" but if a dictionary is found translated into the locale language before displaying.
- A dictionary English->**locale** handle translation (one dictionary by language).

The easier way to create and maintain the dictionary English->**locale** is to use, **poedit**. ([www.poedit.net](http://www.poedit.net)).

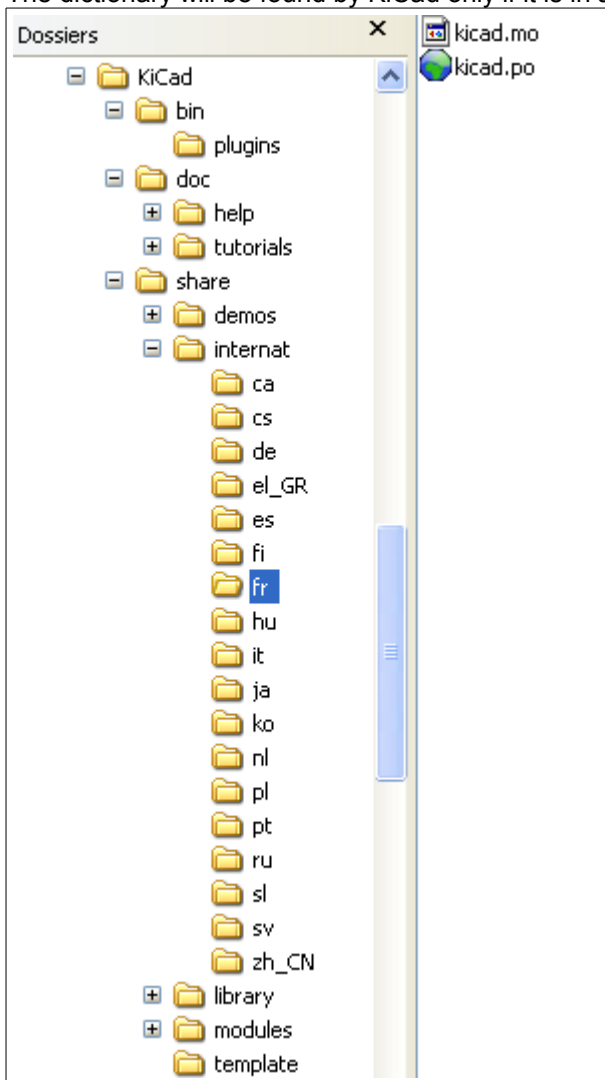
Poedit scans KiCad sources and allows you to enter translations.

You must download KiCad sources and set poedit in order to create translations.

## 3 - KiCad tree for translations:

### 3.1 - Dictionary tree:

The dictionary will be found by KiCad only if it is in a suitable path:

	<p>The suitable path is <b>kicad/internat/xx</b>, or <b>kicad/internat/xx_yy</b> with: <b>xx</b> = normalised locale indicator (short form) like:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• fr = france</li><li>• en = english</li><li>• es = spanish</li><li>• pt = portuguese</li></ul> <p>or: <b>xx_yy</b> = normalized locale indicator (long form) like:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• fr_FR</li><li>• en_GB</li><li>• en_US</li></ul>
---	---

### 3.2 - Search path:

Dictionaries and on-line help files are searched in this order:

- In the path in normalized locale indicator (long form) (`kicad/internat/xx_yy`)
- In the path in normalized locale indicator (short form) (`kicad/internat/xx`)

And for on-line help files search is made in

- In the path in normalized locale indicator (long form) (`kicad/help/xx_yy`)
- In the path in normalized locale indicator (short form) (`kicad/help/xx`)
- `kicad/help/en`
- `kicad/help/fr`

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### Note:

The main KiCad path is retrieved from the binary path, or (if not found):

#### under windows:

- c:\kicad
- d:\kicad
- c:\Program Files\kicad

#### or under linux:

- /usr/share/kicad
- /usr/local/share/kicad
- /usr/local/kicad/share/kicad
- /usr/local/kicad

### 3.3 - Files:

In each directory there are 2 files *kicad/internat/xx*:

- internat.po (the dictionary file)
- internat.mo (the poedit work file)

## 4 - Using poedit

### 4.1 - Installation

Download and install poedit ([www.poedit.net](http://www.poedit.net)).

Poedit exists for Windows, Linux and Mac OS X.

Download and unzip KiCad sources.

### 4.2 - KiCad preparation

KiCad sources: in this example files are in [f:/kicad/](#).

All the strings to translate are tagged like **\_("string to translate")**.

poedit must search the **\_** (underscore) symbol to locate these strings.

One must add in KiCad the suitable directory for the dictionary (*kicad/share/internat/xx*).

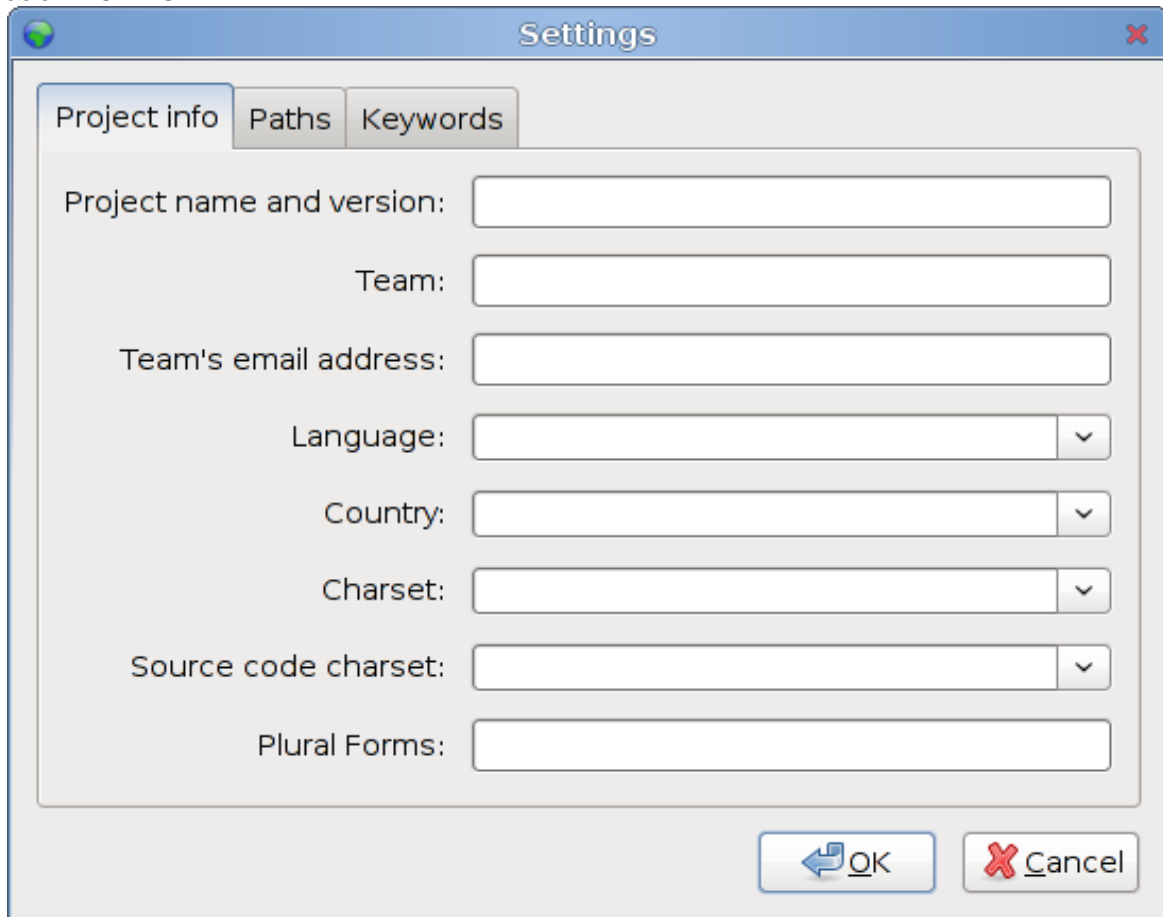
In this example, the directory is *kicad/share/internat/fr*.

### 4.3 - Poedit Configuration

Run poedit.

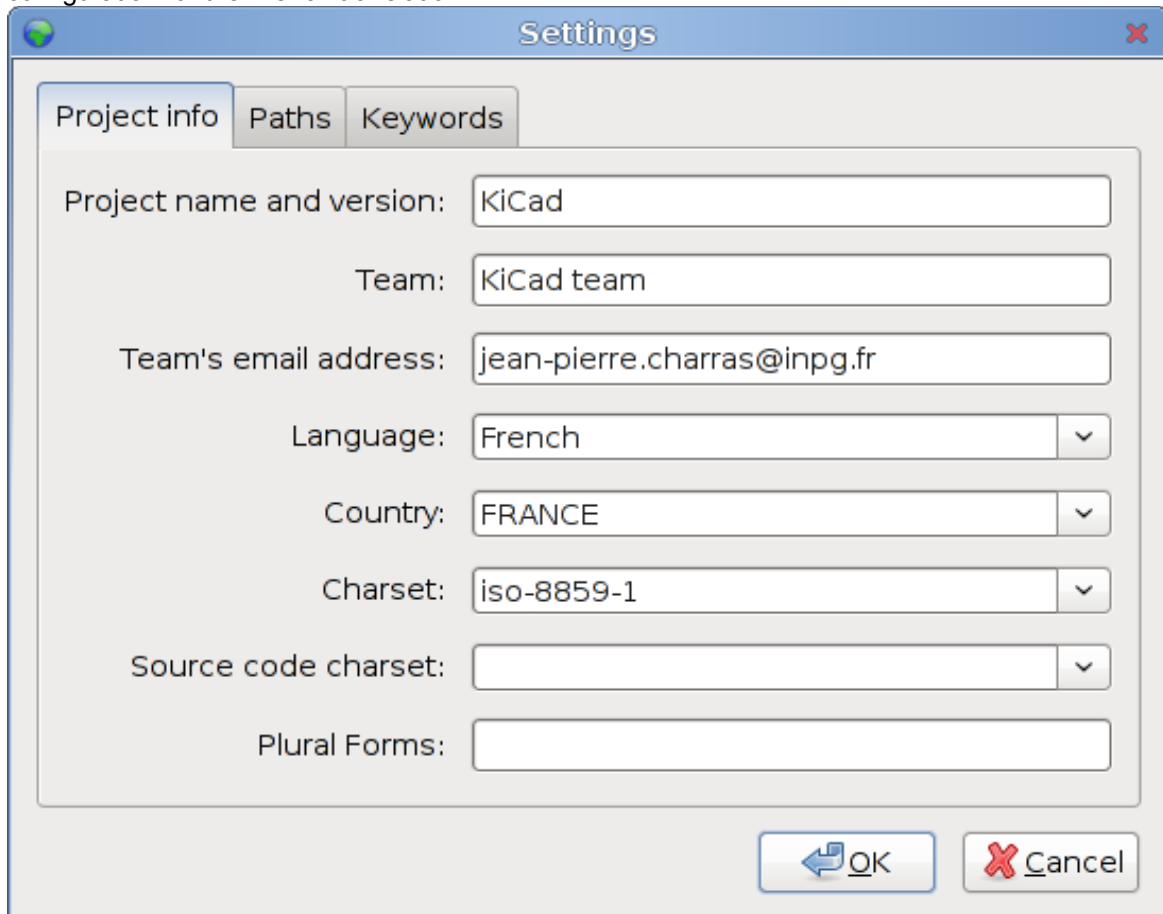
Run **File/New catalog...**

You should see something like:



#### 4.4 - Project Configuration:

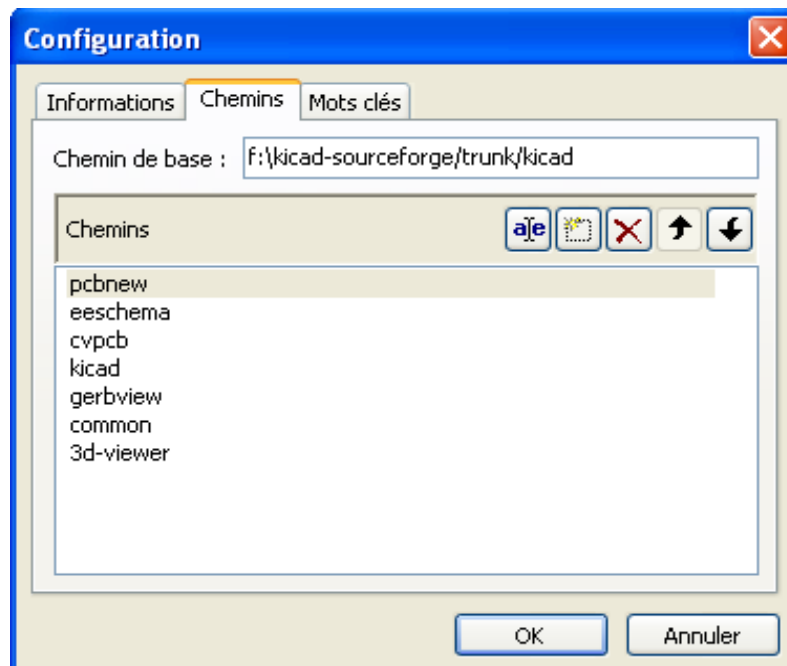
Here is the configuration for the French translation:



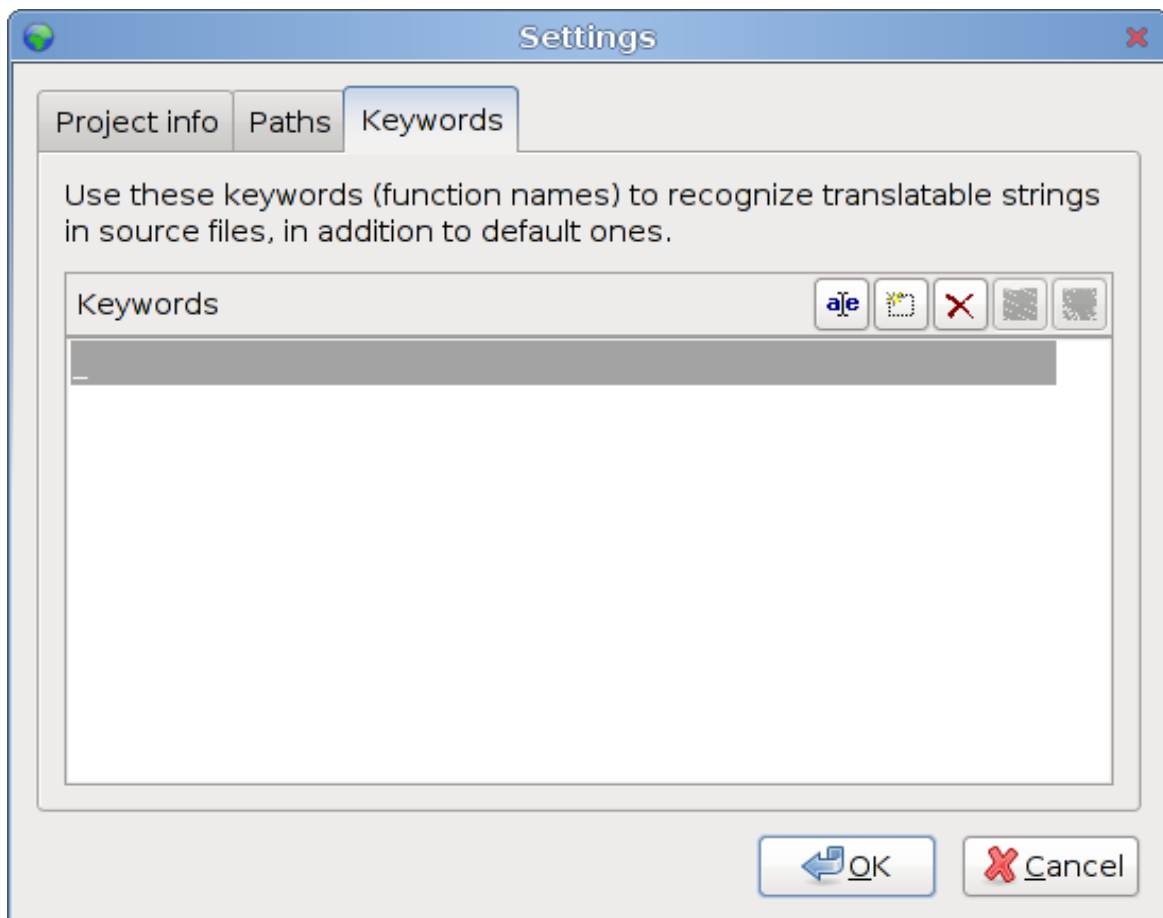
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The source files are in English, so no need to choose something for source code.

### 4.5 - Path and files Configuration:



### 4.6 - Keyword Configuration:



Only one keyword to enter: \_ (underscore) used as tag in source files

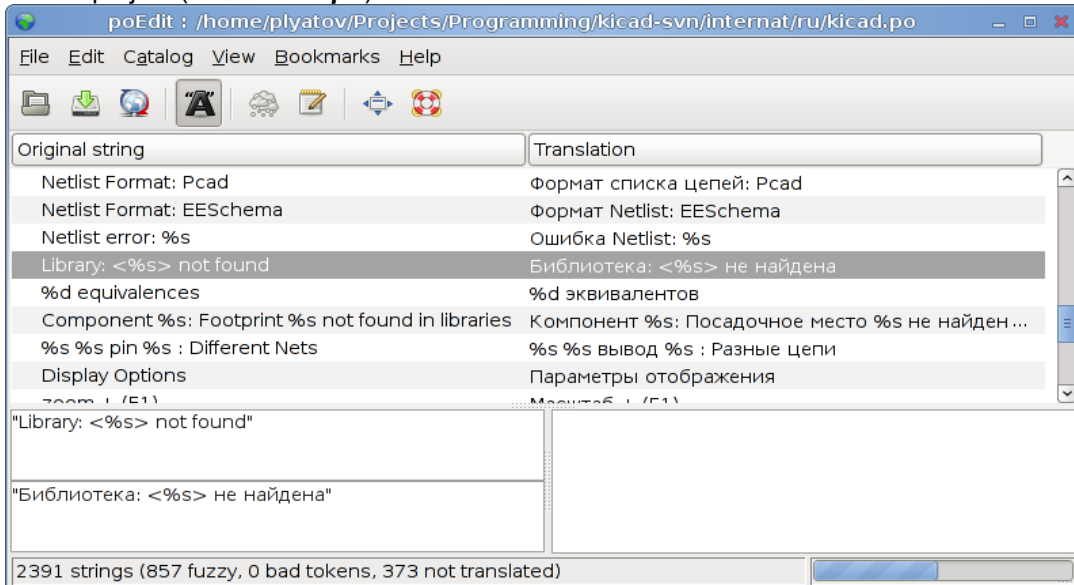
### 4.7 - Save the project:

Save the new projet in *kicad/share/internat/xx* with the name *kicad.po*

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### 5 - Create or edit a dictionary:

Run poedit and load a project (here: *kicad.po*).



Run the command **Catalog/update from sources**.

New strings (not yet translated) will be displayed on the top of the window.

### 6 - Adding a new language entry in KiCad source code (for Developers only)

**This step is NOT required.**  
**It is usefull only for developers, and for testing purpose only**

In KiCad we can force the used language.



It is highly recommended to use the default language.

But because developers must test translations, a new entry in the language list can be useful for testing purposes.

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### 6.1 - Steps:

#### 6.1.1 - Adding a new id in include/id.h.

➔ In *include/id.h*, locate the sequence like:

```
ID_LANGUAGE_CHOICE,  
ID_LANGUAGE_DEFAULT,  
ID_LANGUAGE_ENGLISH,  
ID_LANGUAGE_FRENCH,  
ID_LANGUAGE_SPANISH,  
ID_LANGUAGE_GERMAN,  
ID_LANGUAGE_RUSSIAN,  
ID_LANGUAGE_PORTUGUESE,  
ID_LANGUAGE_ITALIAN,  
ID_LANGUAGE_SLOVENIAN,  
ID_LANGUAGE_HUNGARIAN,  
ID_LANGUAGE_POLISH,  
ID_LANGUAGE_KOREAN,  
ID_LANGUAGE_CATALAN,  
ID_LANGUAGE_CHOICE_END,
```

and add a new entry in list (which will be used later in menus) like:

ID\_LANGUAGE\_MY\_LANGUAGE before ID\_LANGUAGE\_CHOICE\_END.

#### 6.1.2 - Adding a new icon (aesthetic purpose only)

➔ Create a new icon in SVG (Using Inkscape for instance) format: usually the country flag.

For instance lang\_new.svg

Others language icons are in *common/bitmaps\_png/source*

#### 6.1.3 - Editing bitmaps\_png/CMakeLists.txt

➔ locate the text:

```
lang_catalan  
lang_chinese  
lang_bg  
lang_cs  
lang_def  
lang_de  
lang_en  
lang_es  
lang_fr  
lang_fi  
lang_gr  
lang_hu  
lang_it  
lang_jp  
lang_ko  
lang_nl  
lang_pl  
lang_pt  
lang_ru  
lang_sl
```

and add the new filename (without extension) :lang\_new

#### 6.1.4 - Editing include/bitmaps.h

➔ locate the text:

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```
EXTERN_BITMAP( lang_bg_xpm )
EXTERN_BITMAP( lang_catalan_xpm )
EXTERN_BITMAP( lang_chinese_xpm )
EXTERN_BITMAP( lang_cs_xpm )
EXTERN_BITMAP( lang_def_xpm )
EXTERN_BITMAP( lang_de_xpm )
EXTERN_BITMAP( lang_en_xpm )
EXTERN_BITMAP( lang_es_xpm )
EXTERN_BITMAP( lang_fr_xpm )
EXTERN_BITMAP( lang_fi_xpm )
EXTERN_BITMAP( lang_gr_xpm )
EXTERN_BITMAP( lang_hu_xpm )
EXTERN_BITMAP( lang_it_xpm )
EXTERN_BITMAP( lang_jp_xpm )
EXTERN_BITMAP( lang_ko_xpm )
EXTERN_BITMAP( lang_nl_xpm )
EXTERN_BITMAP( lang_pl_xpm )
EXTERN_BITMAP( lang_pt_xpm )
EXTERN_BITMAP( lang_ru_xpm )
EXTERN_BITMAP( lang_sl_xpm )
```

and add a line to include the new icon name called lang\_new\_xpm ( \_xpm added to the filename).

### 6.1.5 - Editing common/edaappl.cpp

➔ Locate:

```
struct LANGUAGE_DESCR
{
    int          m_WX_Lang_Identifier;           // wxWidget locale identifier
    (see wxWidget doc)
    int          m_KI_Lang_Identifier;          // kicad identifier used in menu
    selection (see id.h)
    const char** m_Lang_Icon;                  // the icon used in menus
    const wxChar* m_Lang_Label;                // Label used in menus
    bool         m_DoNotTranslate;             // set to true if the
m_Lang_Label must not be translated
};

#define LANGUAGE_DESCR_COUNT 14
static struct LANGUAGE_DESCR s_Language_List[LANGUAGE_DESCR_COUNT] =
{
    {
        wxLANGUAGE_DEFAULT,
        ID_LANGUAGE_DEFAULT,
        lang_def_xpm,
        _( "Default" )
    },
    {
        wxLANGUAGE_ENGLISH,
        ID_LANGUAGE_ENGLISH,
        lang_en_xpm,
        wxT( "English" ),
        true;
    },
    {
        wxLANGUAGE_FRENCH,
        ID_LANGUAGE_FRENCH,
        lang_fr_xpm,
        _( "French" )
    },
```

and add a new entry like:

```
{
    wxLANGUAGE_MY_LANGUAGE,
```



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```
    ID_LANGUAGE_MY_LANGUAGE,  
    lang_new_xpm,  
    _ ( "My_language" )  
},
```

`wxLANGUAGE_MY_LANGUAGE` is the wxWidgets language identifier for the country (see wxWidget doc).

### 6.1.6 - Recompiling

You should be a PNG Maintainer ( see `bitmaps_png/CMakeLists.txt` file ), i.e compile Kicad with the option `MAINTAIN_PNGS` on  
Obviously, this is the next and last step.