

KNOWLEDGE BASE · PUBLIC DOCUMENT

Changing the language of WordPress: the site, the dashboard and each user

WordPress & CMS

CODE

RLX-MZ-KB-1938

VERSION

v2026.10.15

COUNTRY · LANGUAGE

Mozambique · English

Interweb Mozambique

RLX Holdings, S.A. · Group RLX Holdings

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<https://www.meu.interweb.co.mz/knowledgebase/1938>



The short answer: WordPress has **two languages** chosen separately: the **site's** (under Settings > General) and each **user's dashboard** (in their profile). Changing the language does not translate your text; it changes the texts of WordPress, the theme and the plugins, if they have a translation.

What changes and where

What you want to change	Where
The site's language (buttons, dates, theme texts)	Settings > General > Site Language.
The dashboard language just for you	Users > Your Profile > Language. Each user picks their own.
Date and time format, start of the week	Settings > General, further down.
The text of your pages	It does not change: you write it in the language you want. For several languages you need another solution: A multilingual WordPress site.
Plugins and themes without a translation	They stay in English, even with the rest translated.

Step by step

1**Go to Settings > General** and look for "Site Language".

2

Choose the language from the list. WordPress downloads the translation files, which takes a moment. There are Portuguese variants; choose your audience's.

3

Set the date and time in the settings below (format, time zone).

4

Each person can have the dashboard in another language, in their profile, without changing the site's.

5

Update the themes and plugins to bring in the latest translations:
Updating without breaking anything.

Changing the site language changes theme texts (the “Read more”, the “Leave a comment”), but not what you wrote. If the change left something odd, go back to the earlier language: nothing is lost. To translate pages with AI help, see **Translating your website with AI.**

For Google to understand the site's languages, WordPress's language is not enough:
hreflang and duplicate versions.

Part of the site stayed in English and you do not know why? Open a ticket with the address and the theme's name.

Open a support ticket

SEE ALSO

[A multilingual WordPress site: plugin options, URLs and what Google needs](#)

[Translating your website with AI: what to review before you publish](#)

[Site in several languages or countries: hreflang and avoiding duplicate versions](#)

[Installing WordPress plugins: where, which ones, and how many](#)

[Adding a WordPress user, and which role to give them](#)



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TAX ID (NUIT)	401 191 607
LEGAL ENTITY NO. (NUEL)	105 045 974
ECONOMIC ACTIVITY CODE (CAE)	62022
REGISTERED OFFICE	Bairro 7 de Setembro Vilankulo 1304 • CEP 0411-02, Inhambane, Mozambique
CONTACT	info@interweb.co.mz • +258 84 635 1111 • +258 86 635 1111 • www.interweb.co.mz
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