A Case Study on Vietnamese Localization for LibreOffice
The past, current status and and how did we engage the community

- Nguyen Vu Hung, Vietnam l10n Team
- 2015/11/25 @Aarhus, Denmark 2015
Agenda

- Some milestones of Vietnamese LibreOffice team
- What we have done
- What are our issues and interesting topics
- What we plan to do next
- Q&A
About Nguyen Vu Hung

- Chief Learning Officer, Hanoi, Vietnam
- Open Source Evangelist
- Open Source Translation
  - LibreOffice, OpenOffice.org, Firefox, KDE, Gnome, Ubuntu
- Software/System/Solution Architect
- Certified Scrum Professional
History of Vietnamese LibreOffice (and OOo Era)

2002: OpenOffice.org vi
2010-: OpenOffice.org vi, up to 3.0
2010+: LibreOffice vi
Vietnamese Translation Teams

- The MOST Project
- The goal is to localized an FOSS OS
- Ubuntu, Gnome, Firefox, OOo/LibreOffice
- Quite active in the past
- New word standardization
- Community support on translation
- http://lists.hanoilug.org/pipermail/du-an-most/
Wiki. LibreOffice is a part of MOST

Mailing List Rules & Guidelines

Mailing List Archive. To search.
All translators agreed to switch to LibreOffice when Oracle took over Sun
Most translators join MOST project
All agreed to switch from OOo to LibreOffice
And we started
Vietnamese OOo translation: Not active as of now
OOo users switches to LibreOffice
First Thing First: Get Website Up and Running

LibreOffice là bộ phần mềm văn phòng tự do, mã nguồn mở mạnh mẽ. Được dùng cho Windows, Macintosh và GNU/Linux, LibreOffice bao gồm 6 ứng dụng với nhiều tính năng cho tất cả các nhu cầu xử lý dữ liệu và xuất bản tài liệu: Writer, Calc, Impress, Draw, Math và Base. Bạn có thể nhận trợ giúp và tài liệu miễn phí từ cộng đồng người dùng rộng lớn, và cũng có thể tham gia cung chung tốt.

Các tính năng của LibreOffice

Tải về LibreOffice

- Trở về các phần mềm của LibreOffice
- Trở về các phần mềm cho LibreOffice
- Trở về các bản mã nguồn cho LibreOffice

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DETAIL TOPICS
(in random order)
Decision Making Process

- Base on discussion and agreement
- Respect each other
- No “rule”/”guidelines” for decision making, which is a good thing
To Translate or Not to Translate?

To translate or not?

- English or Vietnamese?
- Most (educated) Vietnamese prefers English
- Most Vietnamese can't use English well

Some important points

- 97% pirated software (need citation)
- BSA impact: People leaves for FOSS
- M$ Office
  - Popular, widely used
  - Only English UI (no Vietnamese)
South and North Dialects

- South and North dialects
- To “see”: Xem, nhìn, coi
- A file: “tệp”, “tệp tin”, “file”
New Words Translation

Let's discuss together

To translate (LibreOffice) “Extensions”
  Many ways to translate
  Eventually, we have to fix one
  We we a goal
  And a deadline

How to translate “bisection” and “bibisection”
  Better to leave it as is?
Dealing with Words that Hard to Translate

- Basically, discuss
- Suggest feature in pootle: Rarely use
- Mailing list is the place we gather
- To translate “gallery”
  - Many choice
  - Discuss
- Finally we picked “Phòng trưng bày”
It is Safe to Leave Some Word as-is

- In some cases,
  - we can't translate
  - or, we shouldn't translate
- In such cases
  - Leave it as is
  - And don't forget to discuss
- Examples
  - “plugins”
  - It is Ok to leave “file” untranslated
How to translate “plugin” (OOo era)

- English:
  - Use “plugin” as-is
  - Some Vietnamese hates English and Vietnamese mixed

- Chinese-Vietnamese
  - Looks more formal
  - The translate is:  ???

- Vietnamese
  - More friendly but it gives the feeling “wtf?” when see for the first time.
  - Less formal
  - Translation: “Bô cảm”
Standardization on Translation

- How do we translate the word “file”
  - It varies from North to South
  - 3 ways to translate the word

- How do we translate the word “plug-in”
  - It is a new word that has never translated before

- How to translate the words “add-on”, “plug-in”, “extension” in the same sentence/context?
The Translation Review Process

- Experts help newbies
- Immature and ad-hoc review process
- Utilize pootle for translation review
- Discuss on mailing list for getting consensus
Testing the Translation

- The fact: We cannot/don't test the translation right after the translation
- **What do we is to WAIT until the beta/alpha versions come out**
- How we do
  - Look for untranslated messages from corners to corners
  - Find improper words in UI, grep them in pootle and fix
Translation Progress (Sept. 2015)

- Translation Progress
  - 4.3 Help: 84%, UI: 73%
  - 4.4 Help: 83%, UI: 67%
  - 5.0 Help: 82%, UI: 69%
Translation Quality

- Not so bad, but
- Translation bugs exist
- Not done 100%
  - Words in menu translated
  - Words in often seen sentences translated
  - Error/Warnings that we can catch: Translated
So, Who Uses Vietnamese LibreOffice?

- Open source lovers use LibreOffice
- Government officers do
- **Do they use English or Vietnamese versions?**
  - It depends
  - Low level of English knowledge
LibreOffice Communities

- Vietnamese LibreOffice Users Group on Facebook
  - Few hundreds members
- Vietlug and other local Linux Users Group
  - VietLug, Ubuntu-VN
  - HueLug, SaigonLug, *Lugs
  - Vfossa: Vietnam Free and Open Source Association
  - * Universities Lug/groups
- Elsewhere?
  - FOSS lovers
  - Hacker wannabes
Adoption of (Vietnamese) LibreOffice

- Government Sections
  - Cost/budget
  - Security concerns
  - Migrating to Ubuntu + LibreOffice
  - Web based apps make it easier for migrating

- Individual
  - FOSS enthusiasm
  - M$ Office haters

- Companies
  - Impacted by BSA enforcement
  - Cost/budget
Promotion & Marketing

- Facebook is the main channel for marketing
  - 20+ mil FB active users / 90 mil population
  - Focus on IT groups on FB
  - Open sources related groups
  - “Like”, “Share”, “Invite”: Quick and effective
- News translation and publish
- News media
- Offline and online events
  - Software Freedom Day
  - Local meetups
Alternatives to LibreOffice

- Very few is using LibreOffice
- MS Office is the major choice
- Pirated software: 97+% (need citation)
- Impacts from BSA enforcements
- Google Docs
- OpenOffice.org (only few)
Impacts of Government's Decisions on LibreOffice

- Law enforcements by MIC
- FOSS in education section is encouraged
- Budget cutting pressure
- Security concerns (FOSS is more secure)
- FOSS is innovation
Translation Team

- 4-5 people
- 1-2 active (but not so active)
- Other members in MOST always willing to help
WIP: DoD

- (Work in Progress): (Definition of Done)
- A good DoD reduces conflicts and save time of discussion
- This is a Proposal for DoD
  - All menu translated
  - All tooltips translated
  - All context menu in main windows translated
Spelling, Grammars & More

- No clear national standards
- Being used in different ways
- Things to get consensus
- Encodings (UTF8, VNI, Telex)
- Numbers and Units (12,7 vs 12.7, 34,000 vs 34,000)
- Date/Time (Th9 24 11:55) [ISO 8601]. Maintained by Debian
- Hyphenation & its positions
- Capitalization (Việt Hoa vs. Việt hoa)
- “i” & “y”
- http://du-an-most.hanoilug.org/MostWiki/QuyUocChinhTa
MOSWC 2015

“MICROSOFT OFFICE SPECIALIST WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP 2015”

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The Vietnamese name of the competition is misleading, the word “Microsoft” is omitted

The communities voice and send open letter the the organizer

Ministry of Education, Viettel
Where We Are Going from Now

- Keep translating
  - UI, Help
  - LibreOffice Manuals/Books
- Keep translation rate not under a certain threshold
  - Commit to a Definition of Done (e.x: all menus are translated, no less than x% of UI translation...)
- Marketing
  - More often (Thanks Italo and Cor)
  - News, blog, share news from #TDF, #LibreOffice
- Documenting should be hard
  - LibO is easy enough for basic use
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Q&A
LibreOffice Aarhus Conference 2015
Find out more at http://conference.libreoffice.org