Chapter – 11
Localization

Localization

- Localization is the process of making an app available in multiple languages.
- To sell an application worldwide successfully, you must target it to a broad and diverse audience.
- English enjoys a broad acceptance and practice, and therefore you can expect that an English language application will sell well globally, but why give up on sales opportunities to the broader non-English-speaking Android market?
- In its simplest approach, this means translation into multiple languages. But there's more! Beyond language translation, an application needs to properly handle dates and times, number and currency formats, and for some applications unit of measure.
- The reasons for localizing an application are manifold. Your application may be bound for some cultural reasons to a specific region.

String Theory

- Keeping your labels and other bits of text outside the main source code of your application is generally considered to be a very good idea.
- In particular, it helps with internationalization (I18N) and localization (L10N).
- Even if you are not going to translate your strings to other languages, it is easier to make corrections if all the strings are in one spot instead of scattered throughout your source code.

Android Way

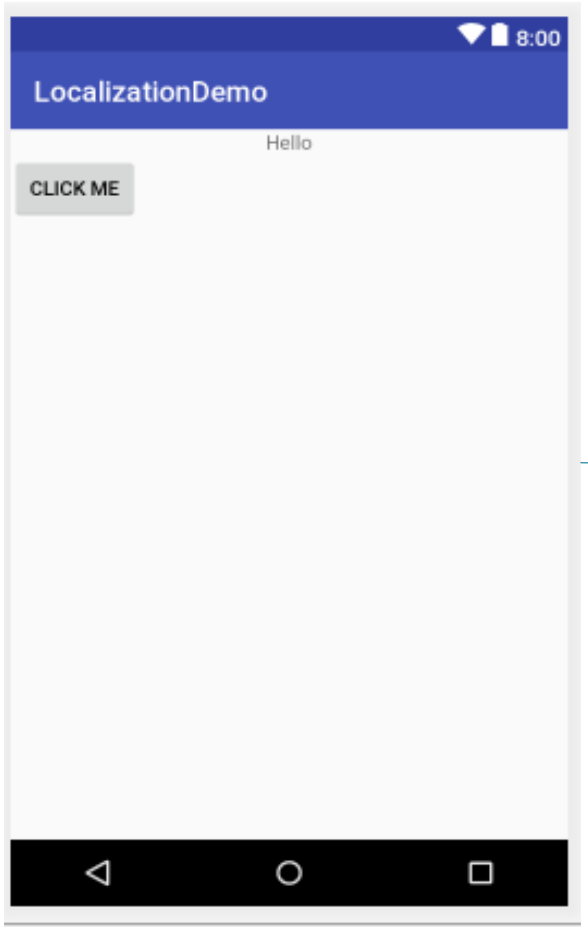
- The way Android currently handles this is by having multiple resource directories, with the criteria for each embedded in their names.
- Suppose, for example, you want to support strings in both English and Spanish.
- Normally, for a single-language setup, you would put your strings in a file named res/values/strings.xml.
- To support both English and Spanish, you would create two folders, res/values-en/ and res/values-es/, where the value after the hyphen is the ISO 639–1two-letter code for the language you want.
- Your English-language strings would go in res/values-en/strings.xml and the Spanish ones in res/ values-es/strings.xml. Android will choose the proper file based on the user's device settings.

Android Way

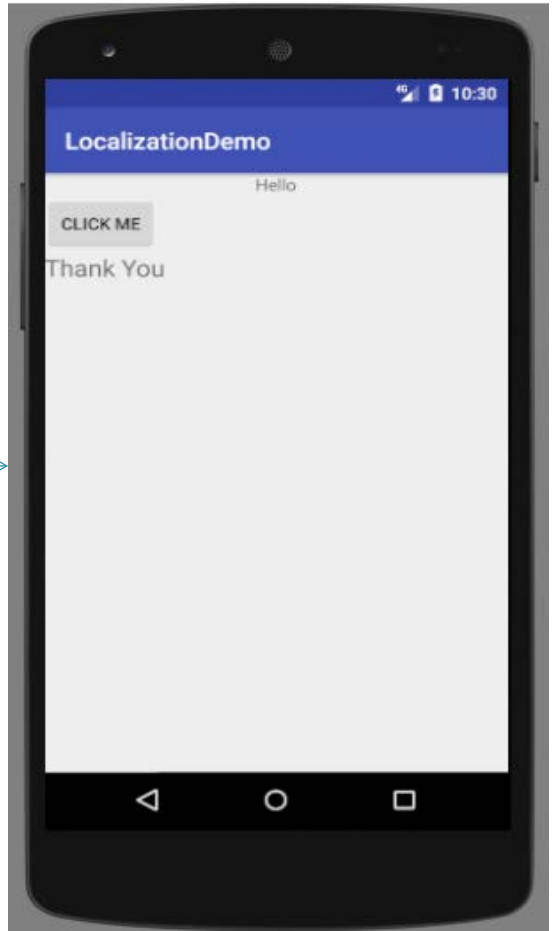
- An even better approach is for you to consider some language to be your default, and put those strings in res/values/strings.xml.
- Then, create other resource directories for your translations (e.g., res/values-es/strings.xml for Spanish).
- Android will try to match a specific language set of resources; failing that, it will fall back to the default of res/values/strings.xml.
- This way, if your app winds up on a device with a language that you do not expect, you at least serve up strings in your chosen default language.
- Otherwise, if there is no such default, you will wind up with a ResourceNotFoundException, and your application will crash.

Hands on Example(English)

This for the default Language(English), you have store everything in String Resources. To make localization here we use French.

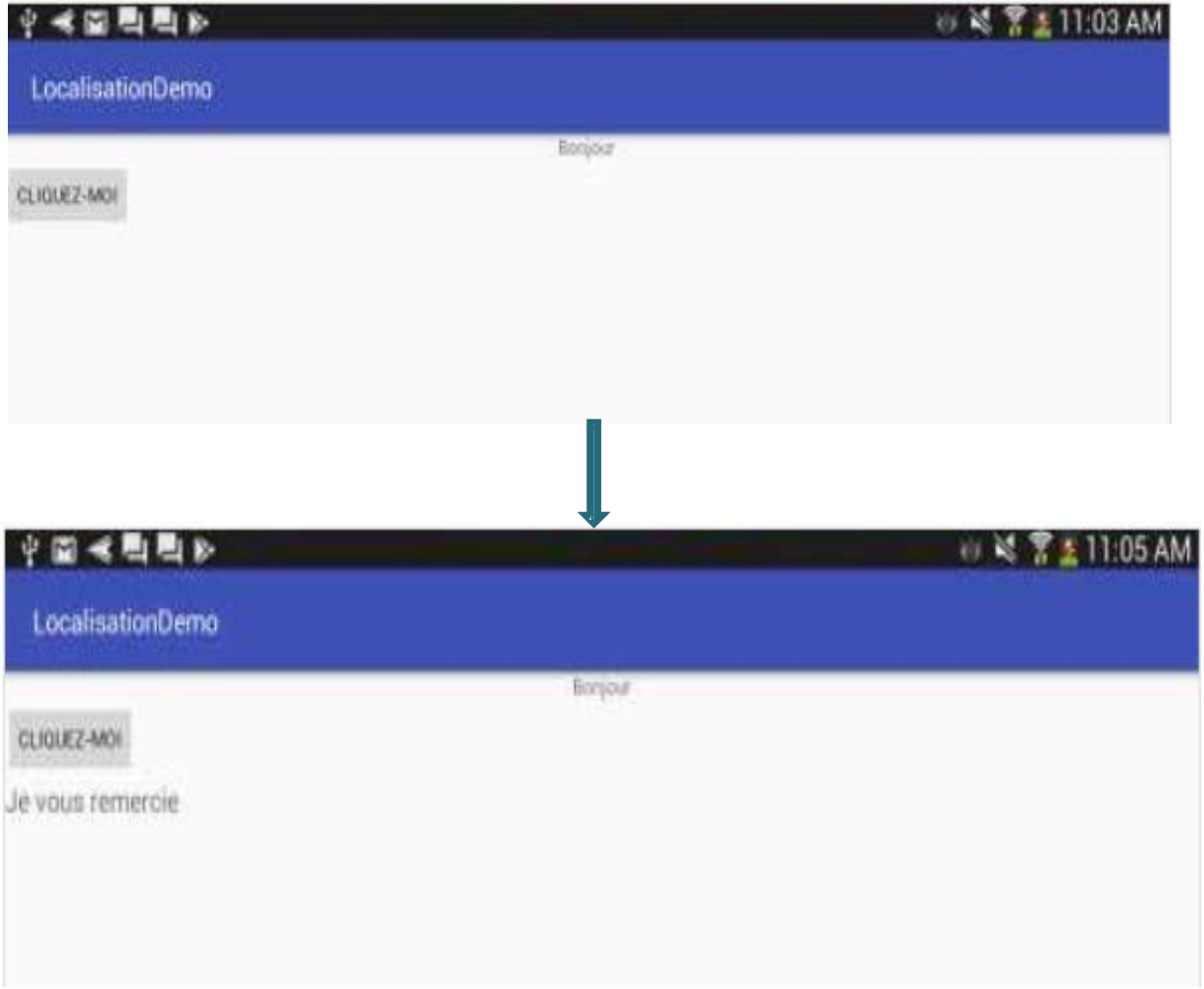


After CLICK ME



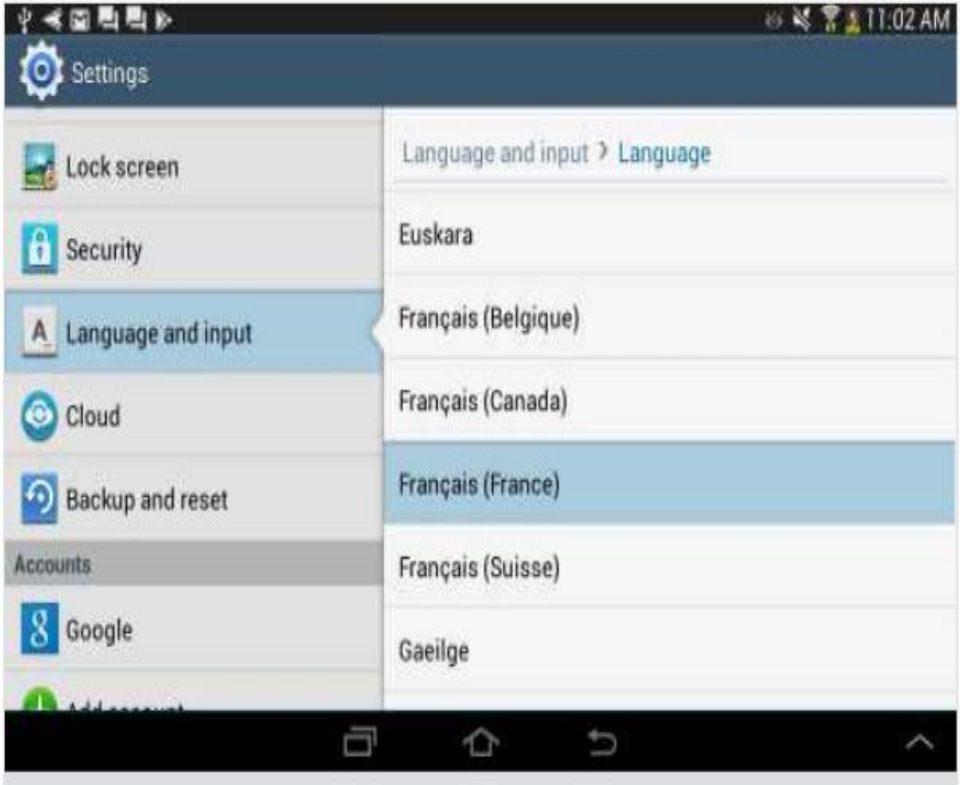
Hands on Example(France)

Once you changed the Language settings to France, you will get the following output

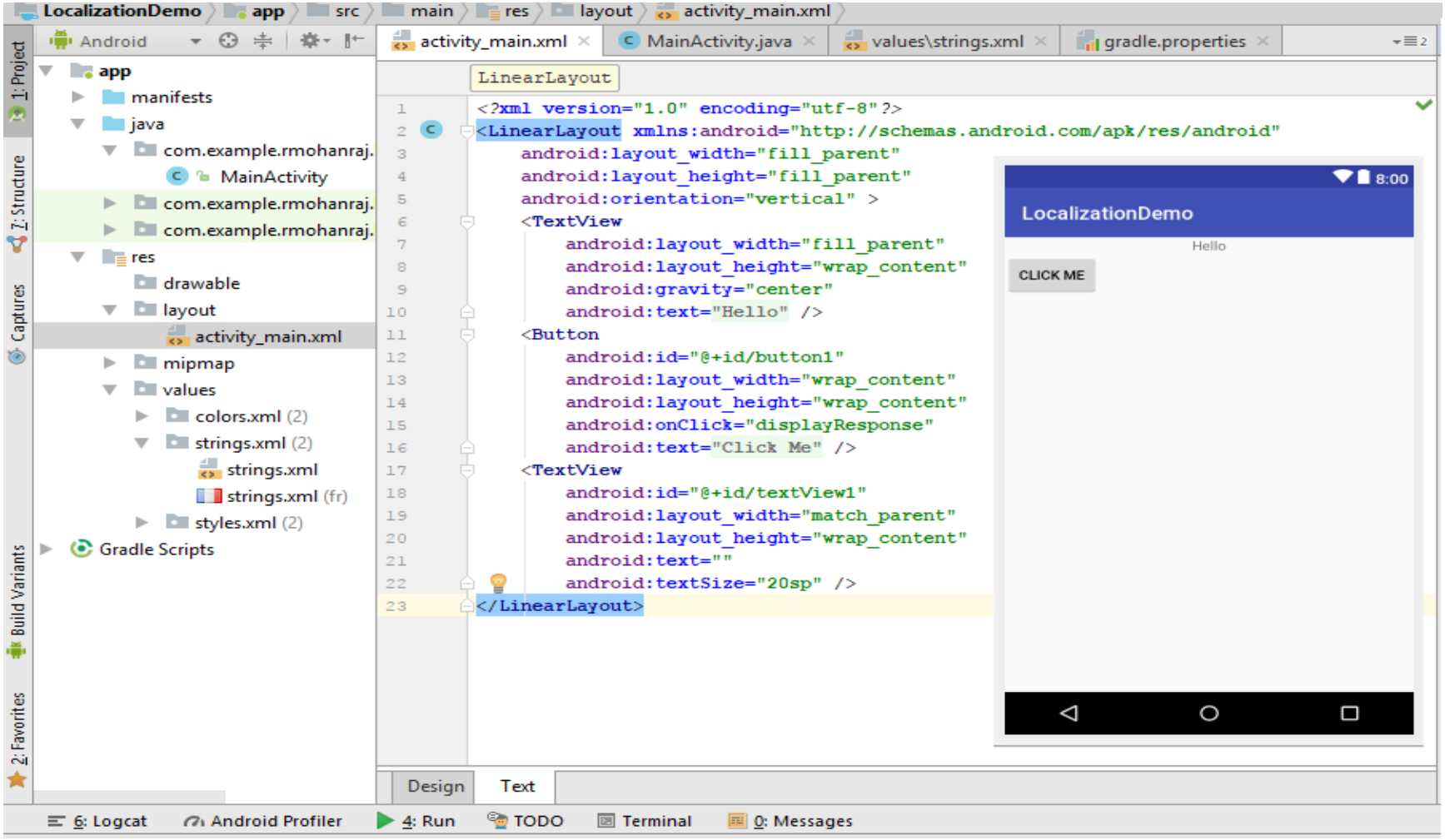


How to change the Language settings from your device/ emulator

Go to Settings from your Real device or Emulator, then select the Language and Input, then set your local language. Make sure that you should have the String resource for selected language in your app.



activity_main.xml



String Resources

strings.xml

```
<resources>
   <string name="app_name">LocalizationDemo</string>
   <string name="title">Localization</string>
   <string name="hello">Hello </string>
   <string name="button"> Click Me</string>
   <string name="response">ThankYou</string>
</resources>
```

strings.xml(fr)

```
<resources>
   <string name="app_name">LocalisationDemo</string>
   <string name="title">Localisation</string>
   <string name="hello">Bonjour </string>
   <string name="button"> Cliquez-moi</string>
   <string name="response">Je vous remercie</string>
</resources>
```

MainActivity.java

```
public class MainActivity extends AppCompatActivity {
    @Override
    protected void onCreate(Bundle savedInstanceState) {
        super.onCreate(savedInstanceState);
        setContentView(R.layout.activity_main);
    }
    public void displayResponse(View v) {
        TextView tv = (TextView) findViewById(R.id.textView1);
        tv.setText(R.string.response);
    }
}
```

Refer : From Sakai

- Lesson11\ **Localization Step by Step Screen Shots.pdf**