

Creating a multi-lingual site

with

Joomla!® 1.7.3



**Joomla 1.7 includes a basic way
to implement a multi-language site.**

**This feature does not work as an association-type
display where each content, whatever it is, has an
equivalent in another language.**

**In 1.6 the module is set to redirect to the Default Home page for
each content language.**

**In 1.7 was introduced a new feature that lets associate menu
items to other menu items in different languages.**

**In this case the Language Swicher module will redirect
to the associated menu items.**

**(It does not replace other multi-lingual managers
extensions such as Joomfish)**

1. Install Joomla without sample data

PreviousNext

Basic Settings

Site Name *mysite

Advanced Settings - Optional

Your Email *me@mysite.com

Admin Username *admin

Admin Password *.....

Confirm Admin Password *.....

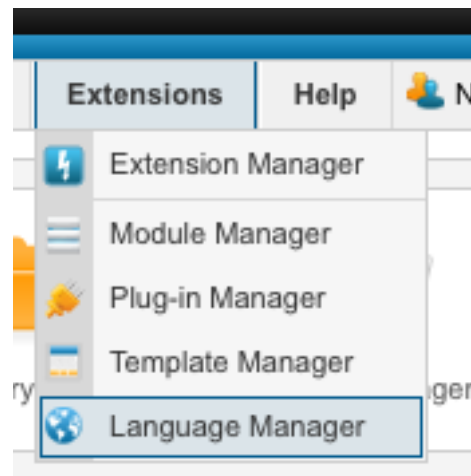
Sample Data set

Default English (GB) Sample Data

Install Sample Data

Installing sample data is strongly recommended for beginners. This will install sample content that is included in the Joomla! installation package.

The French (fr-FR) language pack has been installed.
Go to the Language Manager



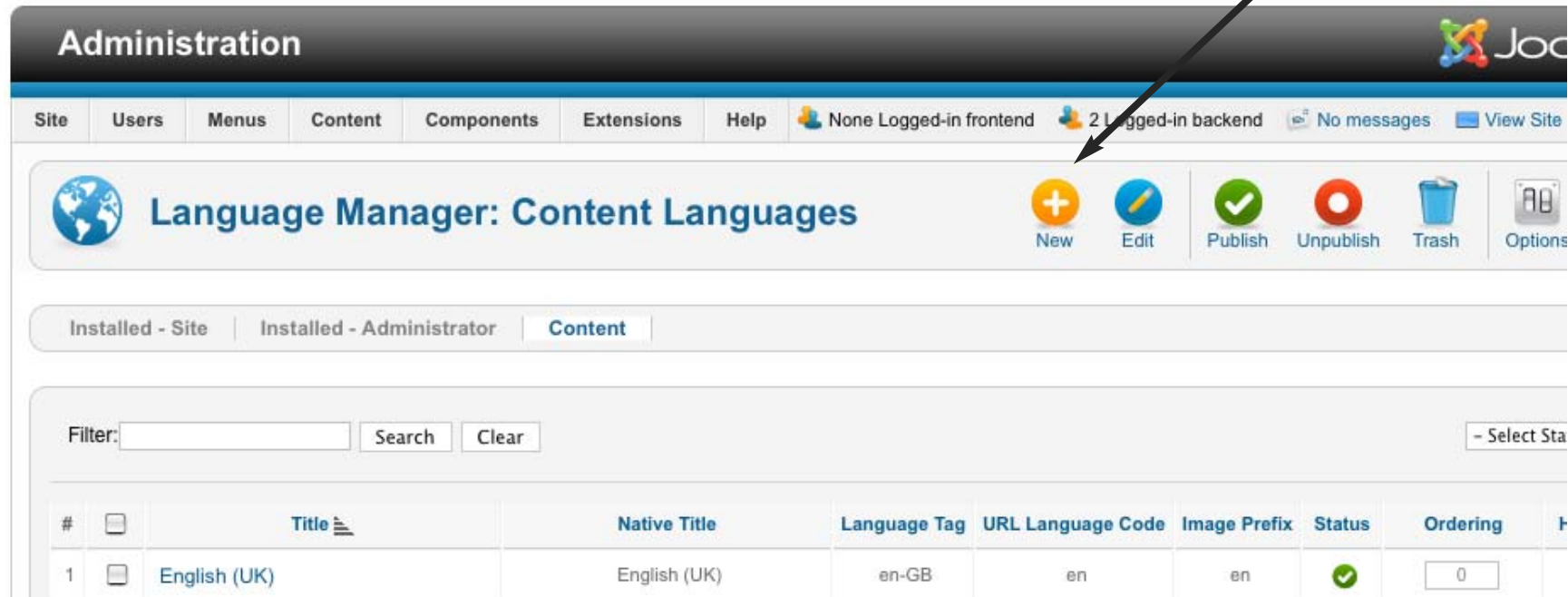
2. Create Content Languages

Click on the 'Contents' tab.

English has already been created as default Content language.

Create a new Content Language.

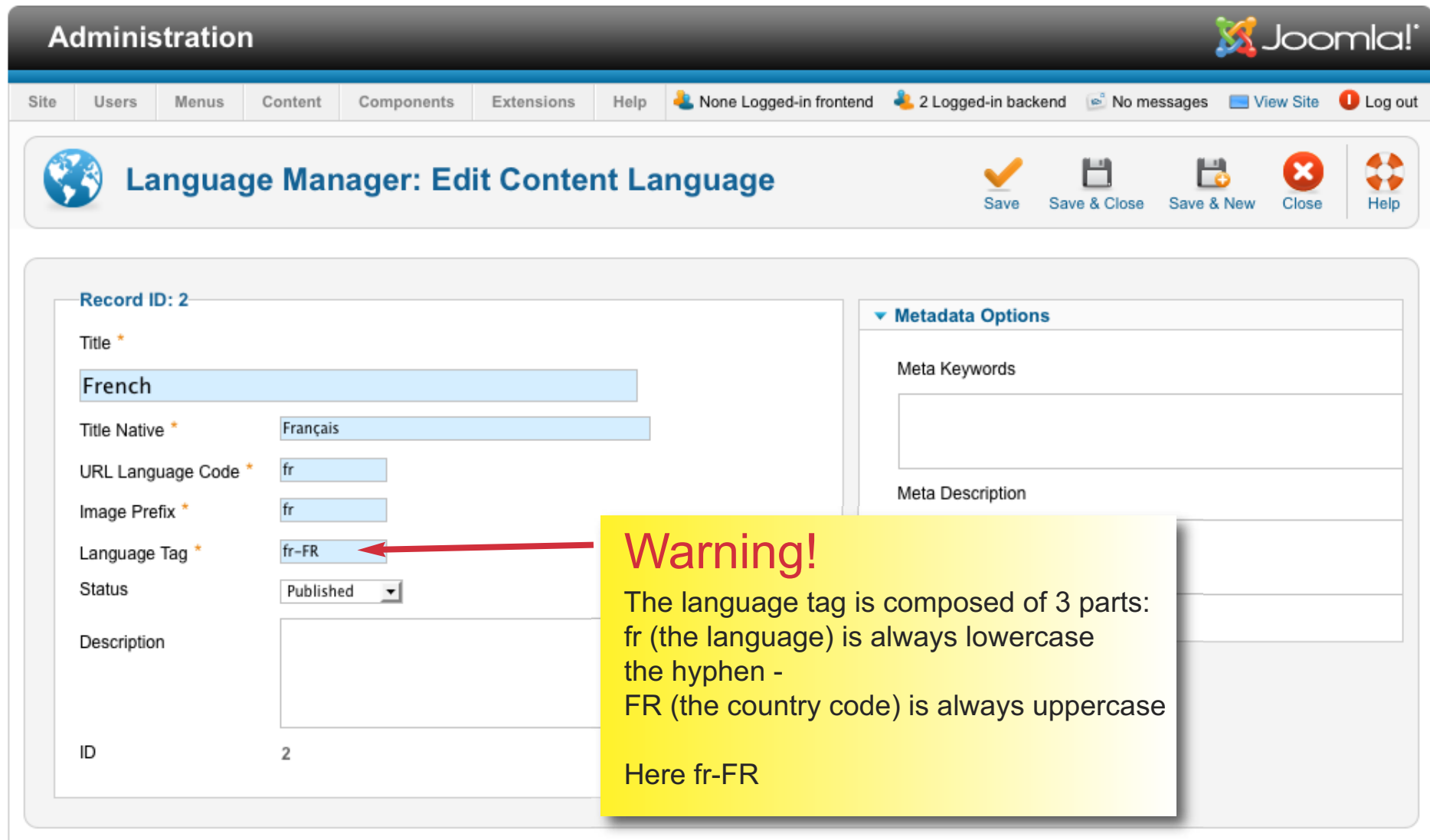
(This can be done BEFORE installing the language pack)



The screenshot shows the Joomla! Administration interface. The top navigation bar includes tabs for Site, Users, Menus, Content, Components, Extensions, and Help. Below this, a status bar indicates 'None Logged-in frontend' and '2 Logged-in backend'. The main content area is titled 'Language Manager: Content Languages' and features a toolbar with buttons for New, Edit, Publish, Unpublish, Trash, and Options. A black arrow points to the 'New' button. Below the toolbar, there are tabs for 'Installed - Site', 'Installed - Administrator', and 'Content'. A search filter is present, and a table lists the installed content languages.

#	Title	Native Title	Language Tag	URL Language Code	Image Prefix	Status	Ordering
1	English (UK)	English (UK)	en-GB	en	en		0

All parameters shall be unique.
The Language Tag is the same as the one used for the pack
(fr-FR, en-GB, etc.)



Administration Joomla!

Site Users Menus Content Components Extensions Help None Logged-in frontend 2 Logged-in backend No messages View Site Log out

Language Manager: Edit Content Language Save Save & Close Save & New Close Help

Record ID: 2

Title * French

Title Native * Français

URL Language Code * fr

Image Prefix * fr

Language Tag * fr-FR

Status Published

Description

ID 2

Metadata Options

Meta Keywords

Meta Description

Warning!
The language tag is composed of 3 parts:
fr (the language) is always lowercase
the hyphen -
FR (the country code) is always uppercase

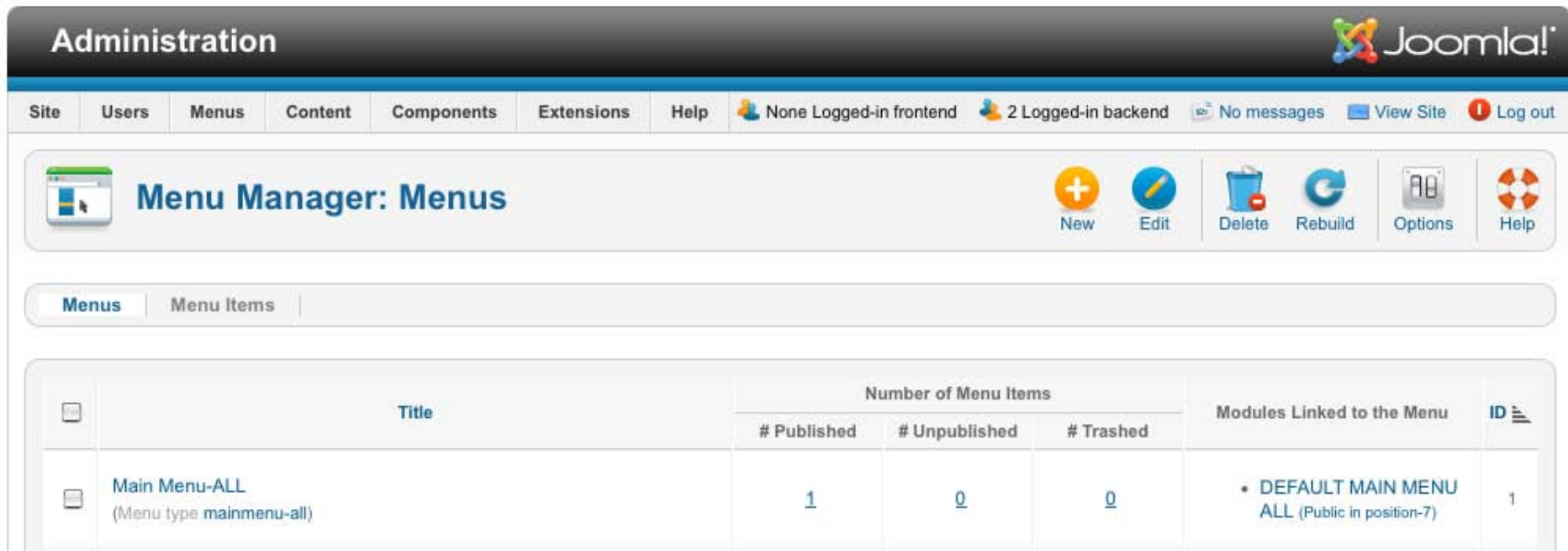
Here fr-FR

Once these are defined,
they will be available all over Joomla User Interface.




3. Default Home page assigned to 'All'

It is compulsory to keep a Default Home page assigned to 'All'.
To prevent further confusion,
rename the default main Menu to Main Menu-ALL



The screenshot shows the Joomla! Administration interface. At the top, there's a dark header with 'Administration' on the left and the Joomla! logo on the right. Below this is a navigation bar with tabs: Site, Users, Menus, Content, Components, Extensions, and Help. To the right of the tabs, it shows 'None Logged-in frontend', '2 Logged-in backend', 'No messages', 'View Site', and 'Log out'.

The main content area is titled 'Menu Manager: Menus'. It features a toolbar with icons for New, Edit, Delete, Rebuild, Options, and Help. Below the toolbar, there are tabs for 'Menus' and 'Menu Items'. The 'Menus' tab is active, displaying a table of menu items.

	Title	Number of Menu Items			Modules Linked to the Menu	ID
		# Published	# Unpublished	# Trashed		
	Main Menu-ALL (Menu type mainmenu-all)	1	0	0	• DEFAULT MAIN MENU ALL (Public in position-7)	1

Keep there any type of Menu item defined as Default Home page
and assigned to Language 'All'

Administration Joomla!




Site Users Menus Content Components Extensions Help None Logged-in frontend 2 Logged-in backend No messages View Site Log out

Menu Manager: Menu Items

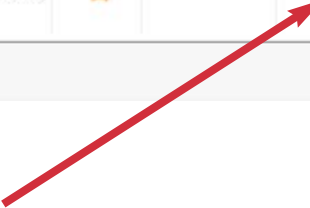
New Edit Publish Unpublish Check In Trash Home Rebuild Help

Menus **Menu Items**

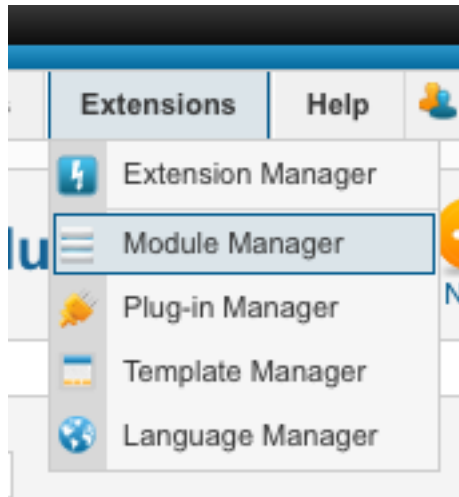
Filter: Search Clear Main Menu-ALL - Select Max Levels - - Select Status - - Select Access - - Select Language -

	Title	Status	Ordering	Access	Menu Item Type	Home	Association	Language	ID
	Home-ALL (Alias: home-all, Note: Module Unpublished in multilanguage)		1	Public	Articles » Featured Articles			All	101

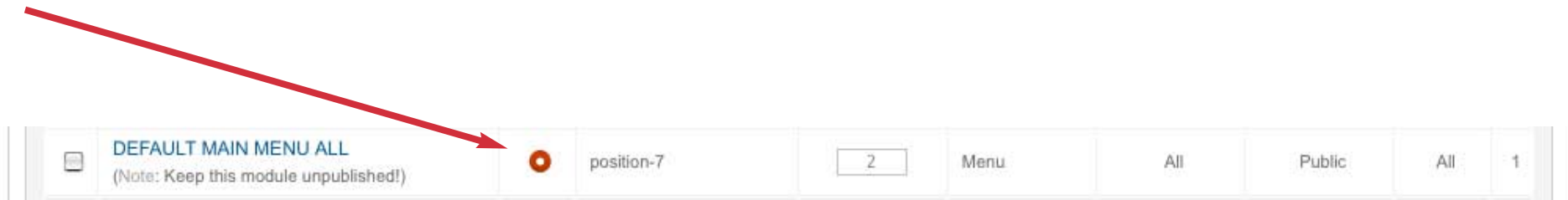
Display # 20



Go to the Module Manager



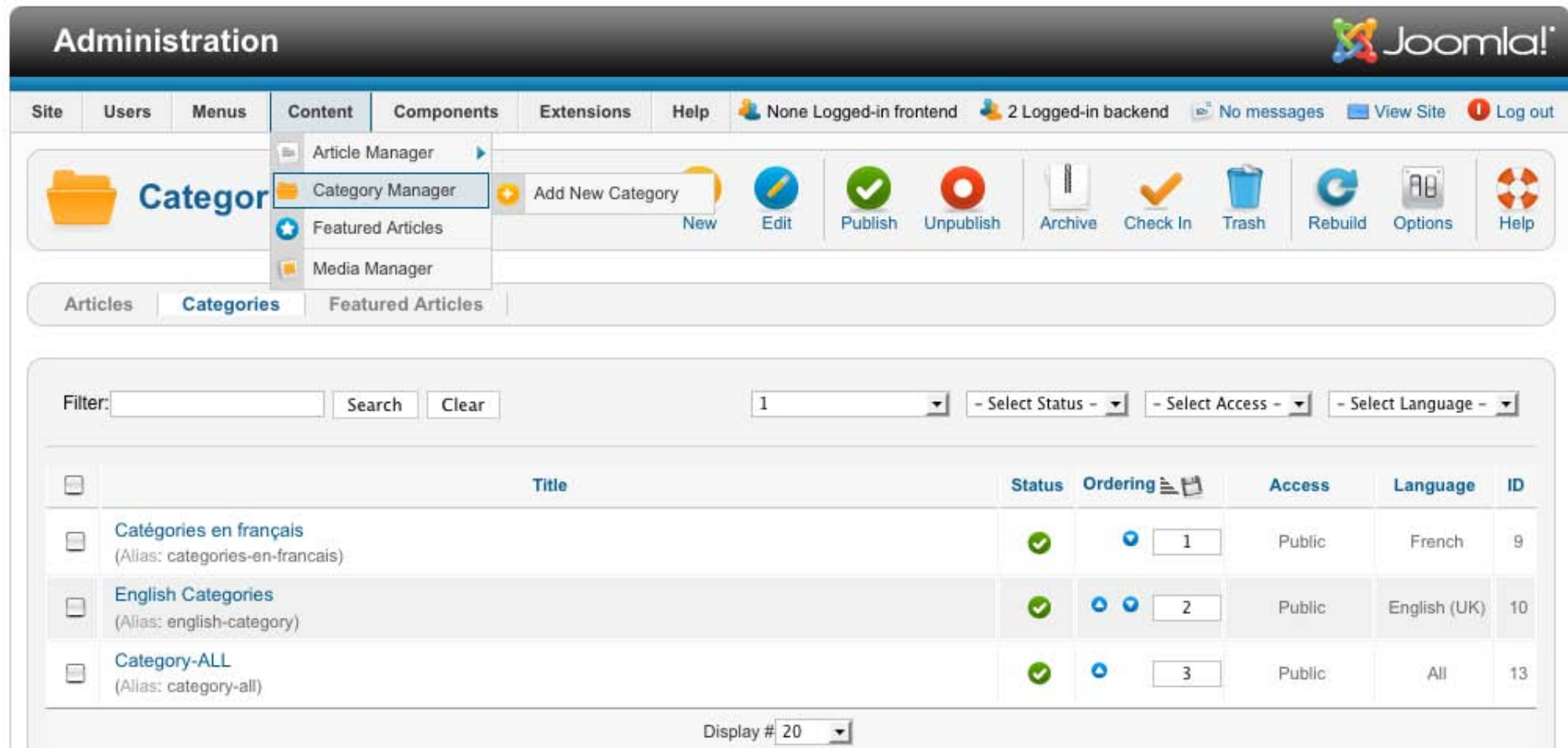
UNPUBLISH the Menu module displaying the Main Menu-ALL menu. The module itself is assigned to Language 'All'



4. Site contents structure

A multi-lingual site has to be structured in a specific way to avoid 404 when drilling down / navigating.

1. Create, for each Content Language, a ROOT parent category for each component used. Assign to the Content Language.



The screenshot shows the Joomla! Administration interface. The top navigation bar includes 'Administration' and the Joomla! logo. Below it, a menu bar contains 'Site', 'Users', 'Menus', 'Content', 'Components', 'Extensions', and 'Help'. The 'Content' menu is expanded, showing 'Article Manager', 'Category Manager', 'Featured Articles', and 'Media Manager'. The 'Category Manager' is selected, and a sub-menu is visible with 'Add New Category', 'New', 'Edit', 'Publish', 'Unpublish', 'Archive', 'Check In', 'Trash', 'Rebuild', 'Options', and 'Help'. The main content area shows a list of categories under the 'Categories' tab. The list includes 'Catégories en français', 'English Categories', and 'Category-ALL'. Each row has columns for 'Title', 'Status', 'Ordering', 'Access', 'Language', and 'ID'.

	Title	Status	Ordering	Access	Language	ID
<input type="checkbox"/>	Catégories en français (Alias: categories-en-francais)	✓	1	Public	French	9
<input type="checkbox"/>	English Categories (Alias: english-category)	✓	2	Public	English (UK)	10
<input type="checkbox"/>	Category-ALL (Alias: category-all)	✓	3	Public	All	13

2. Create children categories for each root or parent category. Assign the same Content language used for the root category.

NOTE: A root category and siblings assigned to Language 'All' shall be structured the same way as those prepared for Content Languages.

Filter:	Search	Clear	- Select Max Levels -	- Select Status -	- Select Access -	- Select Language -			
<input type="checkbox"/>	Title	Status	Ordering	Access	Language	ID			
<input type="checkbox"/>	Catégories en français (Alias: categories-en-francais)	✓	1	Public	French	9			
<input type="checkbox"/>	Poètes français (Alias: poetes-francais)	✓	1	Public	French	7			
<input type="checkbox"/>	Joomla multilangue (Alias: joomla-multilangue)	✓	2	Public	French	11			
<input type="checkbox"/>	Astuces multilangue (Alias: astuces-multilangue)	✓	3	Public	French	18			
<input type="checkbox"/>	English Categories (Alias: english-category)	✓	2	Public	English (UK)	10			
<input type="checkbox"/>	English Poets (Alias: english-poets)	✓	1	Public	English (UK)	8			
<input type="checkbox"/>	Multi-lingual Joomla (Alias: multi-lingual-joomla)	✓	2	Public	English (UK)	12			
<input type="checkbox"/>	Multi-lingual Tips (Alias: multi-lingual-tips)	✓	3	Public	English (UK)	17			
<input type="checkbox"/>	Category-ALL (Alias: category-all)	✓	3	Public	All	13			
<input type="checkbox"/>	Subcategory ALL (Alias: subcategory-all)	✓	1	Public	All	14			

Display # 20

3. Create contents in each of these categories and assign them to the same Content language as the root category. Example here for Articles.

Edit Article

Title *

Alias

Category *

Status

Access

Permissions

Featured

Language

ID 1

Article Text

Publishing Options

Created by

Created by alias

Created Date

Start Publishing

Finish Publishing

Modified by adminuser

Modified Date 2011-03-08 09:01:48

Revision 7

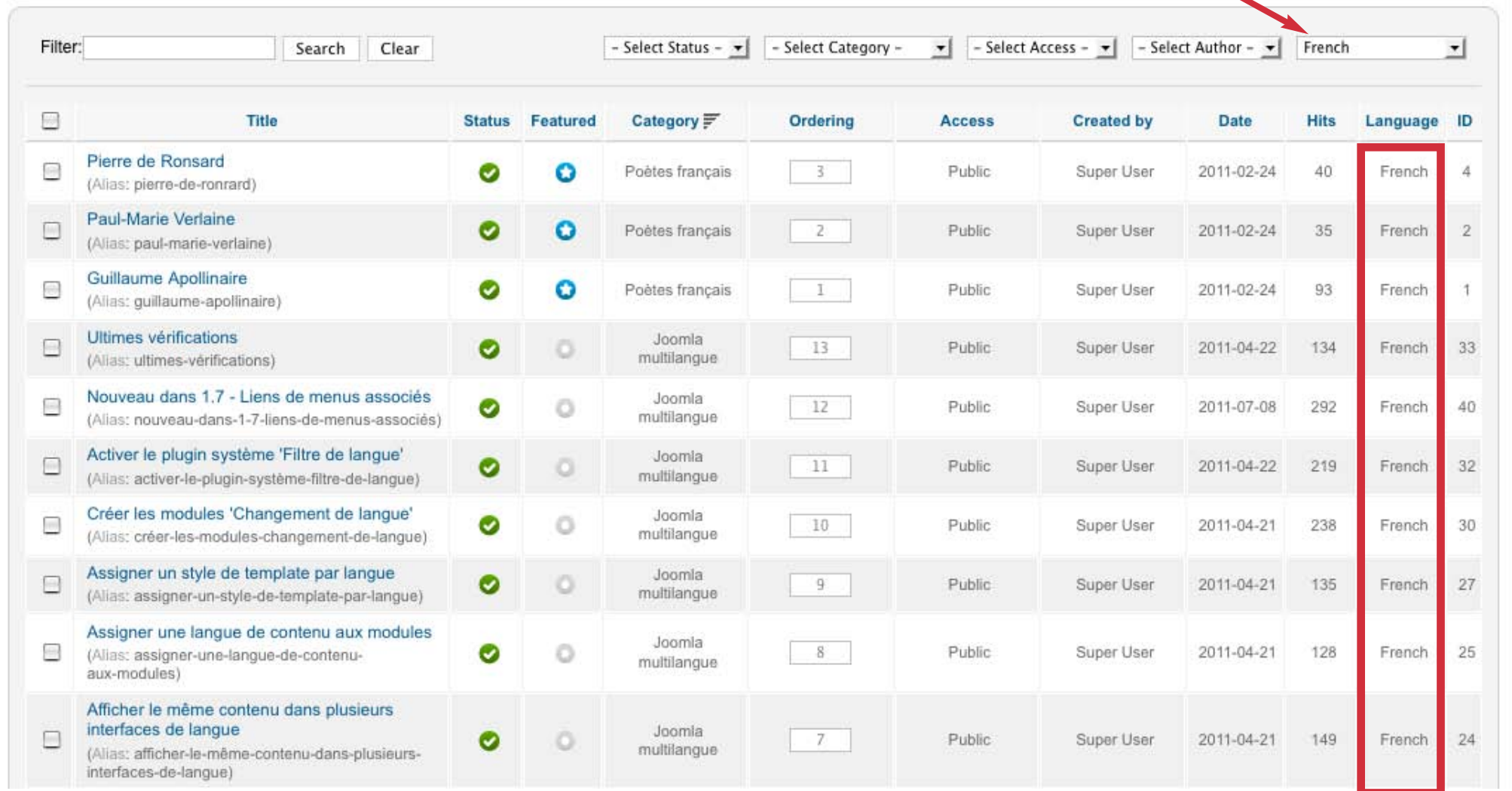
Hits 93

Article Options

Metadata Options

Le 26 août 1880, Naissance à Rome de Guillaume, Albert, Vladimir, Apollinaire de Kostrowitzky, fils de Angélique de Kostrowitzky et fils putatif de Francois Flugi d'Aspermont. 1882, Naissance

All managers can be filtered per Content Language




The screenshot shows the Joomla! Manager interface. At the top, there is a filter bar with a search input, a 'Search' button, a 'Clear' button, and several dropdown menus: '- Select Status -', '- Select Category -', '- Select Access -', '- Select Author -', and a language dropdown set to 'French'. A red arrow points to the 'French' dropdown. Below the filter bar is a table listing managers. The table has columns: Title, Status, Featured, Category, Ordering, Access, Created by, Date, Hits, Language, and ID. The 'Language' column is highlighted with a red box, and all entries in this column are 'French'.

	Title	Status	Featured	Category	Ordering	Access	Created by	Date	Hits	Language	ID
	Pierre de Ronsard (Alias: pierre-de-ronnard)	✓	★	Poètes français	<input type="text" value="3"/>	Public	Super User	2011-02-24	40	French	4
	Paul-Marie Verlaine (Alias: paul-marie-verlaine)	✓	★	Poètes français	<input type="text" value="2"/>	Public	Super User	2011-02-24	35	French	2
	Guillaume Apollinaire (Alias: guillaume-apollinaire)	✓	★	Poètes français	<input type="text" value="1"/>	Public	Super User	2011-02-24	93	French	1
	Ultimes vérifications (Alias: ultimes-vérifications)	✓	○	Joomla multilangue	<input type="text" value="13"/>	Public	Super User	2011-04-22	134	French	33
	Nouveau dans 1.7 - Liens de menus associés (Alias: nouveau-dans-1-7-liens-de-menus-associés)	✓	○	Joomla multilangue	<input type="text" value="12"/>	Public	Super User	2011-07-08	292	French	40
	Activer le plugin système 'Filtre de langue' (Alias: activer-le-plugin-système-filtre-de-langue)	✓	○	Joomla multilangue	<input type="text" value="11"/>	Public	Super User	2011-04-22	219	French	32
	Créer les modules 'Changement de langue' (Alias: créer-les-modules-changement-de-langue)	✓	○	Joomla multilangue	<input type="text" value="10"/>	Public	Super User	2011-04-21	238	French	30
	Assigner un style de template par langue (Alias: assigner-un-style-de-template-par-langue)	✓	○	Joomla multilangue	<input type="text" value="9"/>	Public	Super User	2011-04-21	135	French	27
	Assigner une langue de contenu aux modules (Alias: assigner-une-langue-de-contenu-aux-modules)	✓	○	Joomla multilangue	<input type="text" value="8"/>	Public	Super User	2011-04-21	128	French	25
	Afficher le même contenu dans plusieurs interfaces de langue (Alias: afficher-le-même-contenu-dans-plusieurs-interfaces-de-langue)	✓	○	Joomla multilangue	<input type="text" value="7"/>	Public	Super User	2011-04-21	149	French	24

5. Create specific menus & menu items

Create menus for each Content language.

Administration



Site

Users

Menus

Content

Components

Extensions

Help


None Logged-in frontend

1 Logged-in backend


No messages


View Site


Log out





Menu Manager: Menus


New

Edit

Delete








Rebuild

Options

Help

Menus

Menu Items

	Title	Number of Menu Items			Modules Linked to the Menu	ID 
		# Published	# Unpublished	# Trashed		
	Main Menu-ALL (Menu type mainmenu-all)	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	• DEFAULT MAIN MENU ALL (Public in position-7)	1
	mainmenufr (Menu type mainmenufr)	<u>4</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	• Mainmenu fr (Public in position-7)	2
	mainmenugb (Menu type mainmneugb)	<u>4</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	• Mainmenu gb (Public in position-7)	3
	User menu fr (Menu type user-menu-fr)	<u>3</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	• Menu utilisateur (Special in position-7)	4
	User menu en (Menu type user-menu-en)	<u>3</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	• User Menu (Special in position-7)	5

Create menu items for each menu

Rules

All menu items created in a specific menu should be assigned to the same language or to language 'All'.

One of the menu items—in only one menu— should be defined as default home page for this language.

The menu items assigned to a specific language have to display contents assigned to the same language.

In this respect, Language 'All' should be considered as any other specific language.

Administration Joomla!

Site Users Menus Content Components Extensions Help None Logged-in frontend 1 Logged-in backend No messages View Site Log out

Menu Manager: Menu Items

New Edit Publish Unpublish Check In Trash Home Rebuild Help

Menus **Menu Items**

Filter: Search Clear mainmenufr - Select Max Levels - - Select Status - - Select Access - - Select Language -

content Components Extensions Help None Logged-in frontend 1 Logged-in backend No message

Select a Menu Item Type:

Contacts <ul style="list-style-type: none">List All Contact CategoriesList Contacts in a CategorySingle ContactFeatured Contacts	Articles <ul style="list-style-type: none">Archived ArticlesSingle ArticleList All CategoriesCategory BlogCategory List<u>Featured Articles</u>Create Article
Newsfeeds <ul style="list-style-type: none">List All News Feed CategoriesList News Feeds in a CategorySingle News Feed	Search <ul style="list-style-type: none">List Search Results
Weblinks <ul style="list-style-type: none">List All Web Link CategoriesList Web Links in a CategorySubmit a Web Link	Users Manager <ul style="list-style-type: none">Login FormUser ProfileEdit User ProfileRegistration FormUsername Reminder RequestPassword Reset
	Wrapper <ul style="list-style-type: none">Iframe Wrapper
	System Links

All menu items created in a specific menu should be assigned to the same language or to language 'All'.

The screenshot shows the Joomla! Menu Manager interface for editing a menu item. The title bar reads "Menu Manager: Edit Menu Item" and includes icons for Save, Save & Close, Save & New, and Save as Copy. The main content area is divided into two panels: "Details" on the left and "Layout Options" on the right.

Details Panel:

- Menu Item Type: Featured Articles (with a Select button)
- Menu Title: Accueil
- Alias: accueil
- Note: (empty text area)
- Link: index.php?option=com_content&view=featured
- Status: Published (dropdown)
- Access: Public (dropdown)
- Menu Location: mainmenufr (dropdown)
- Parent Item: Menu Item Root (dropdown)
- Target Window: Parent (dropdown)
- Default Page: ☐ No ☒ Yes
- Language: French (dropdown)
- Template Style: - Use Default - (dropdown)
- ID: 102

Layout Options Panel:

- Select Categories: A list box showing various categories, including "All Categories", "Catégories en français", "Poètes français", "Joomla multilangue", "Astuces multilangue", "English Categories", "English Poets", "Multi-lingual Joomla", "Multi-lingual Tips", and "Category-ALL".
- If a field is left blank, global settings will be used.
- # Leading Articles: 1
- # Intro Articles: 2
- # Columns: 2
- # Links: 4
- Multi Column Order: Use Global (dropdown)
- Category Order: Use Global
- Article Order: Use Global
- Date for Ordering: Use Global (dropdown)
- Pagination: Use Global (dropdown)

Annotations:

- A red arrow points from the text "Name of the menu" to the "Menu Title" field, which contains the value "Accueil".
- A red arrow points from the text "Language" to the "Language" dropdown menu, which is set to "French".
- A red arrow points from the text "One of the menu items — in ONLY one menu — has to be defined as Default Home page for that language." to the "Default Page" radio buttons, specifically the "Yes" option.

The menu items assigned to a specific language have to display contents assigned to the same language.

Details

Menu Item Type ^{*}

Menu Title ^{*}

Alias

Note

Required Settings

Select Article ^{*}

The modal displayed allows filtering

Filter:

Title	Access	Category	Language	Date	ID
Guillaume Apollinaire	Public	Poètes français	French	2011-02-24	1
Paul-Marie Verlaine	Public	Poètes français	French	2011-02-24	2
Pierre de Ronsard	Public	Poètes français	French	2011-02-24	4

Display #

Example:
The mainmenufr with its menu items,
one of them defined as Default Home page

Administration

SiteUsersMenusContentComponentsExtensionsHelp

None Logged-in frontend2 Logged-in backendNo messagesView SiteLog out

Menu Manager: Menu Items

NewEditPublishUnpublishCheck InTrashHomeRebuildHelp

MenusMenu Items

Filter: Search Clear

mainmenufr- Select Max Levels - Select Status - Select Access - Select Language -

	Title	Status	Ordering	Access	Menu Item Type	Home	Association	Language	ID
	Acceuil (Alias: acceuil)		1	Public	Articles » Featured Articles			French	102
	Guillaume Apollinaire (Alias: guillaume-apolinaire)		2	Public	Articles » Single Article			French	110
	Poètes français (Alias: poetes-francais)		3	Public	Articles » Category List			French	111
	Lorem ipsum -ALL- fr (Alias: lorem-ipsum-all-fr)		4	Public	Articles » Single Article			French	123

Display # 20

Batch process the selected menu items

Set Access Level - Keep original Access Levels -

Select Menu or Parent for Move/Copy

Unset French Default

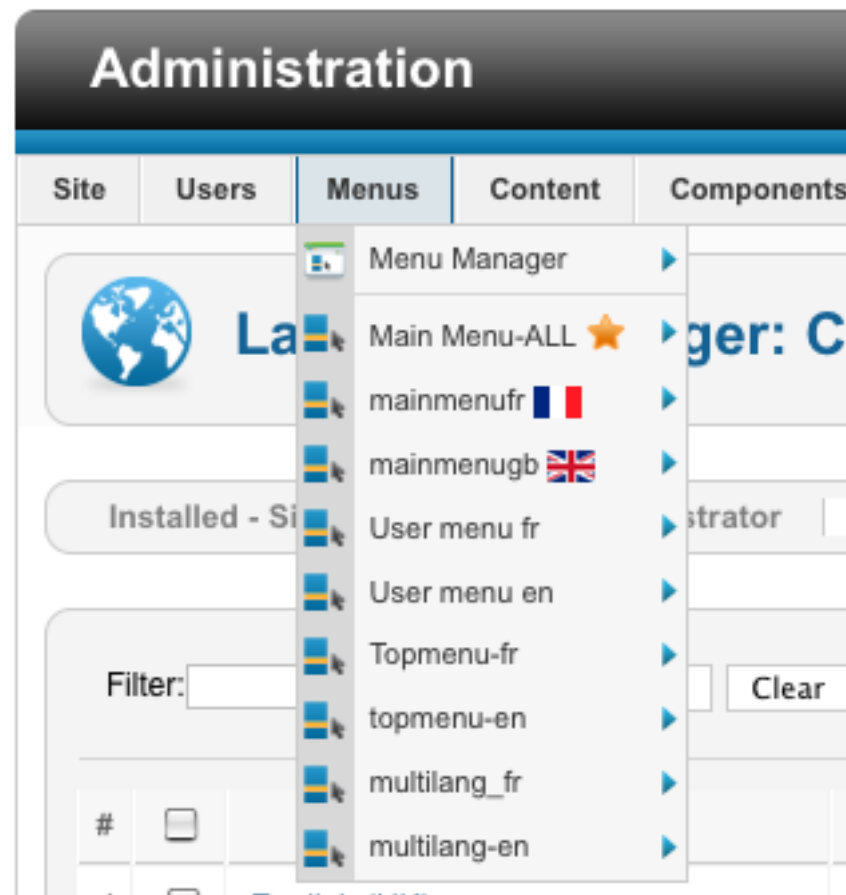
The Language Manager Contents tab displays the existence or not of a Default Home Page for each Content Language

The screenshot shows the Joomla! Administration interface. At the top is a dark header with the 'Administration' label and the Joomla! logo. Below this is a navigation bar with tabs: Site, Users, Menus, Content, Components, Extensions, and Help. The 'Content' tab is active. To the right of the tabs, there are status indicators: 'None Logged-in frontend', '2 Logged-in backend', 'No messages', 'View Site', and 'Log out'. Below the navigation bar is a section titled 'Language Manager: Content Languages' with a globe icon. To the right of this title are several action buttons: New, Edit, Publish, Unpublish, Trash, Options, and Help. Below this is a sub-navigation bar with tabs: 'Installed - Site', 'Installed - Administrator', and 'Content'. The 'Content' tab is active. Below the sub-navigation bar is a search area with a 'Filter:' input, 'Search', and 'Clear' buttons. To the right of the search area is a dropdown menu labeled '- Select Status -'. Below the search area is a table with the following columns: #, Title, Native Title, Language Tag, URL Language Code, Image Prefix, Status, Ordering, Home, and ID. The table contains two rows: 1. English (UK) with Native Title 'English (UK)', Language Tag 'en-GB', URL Language Code 'en', Image Prefix 'en', Status 'Yes', Ordering '0', Home 'Yes', and ID '1'. 2. French with Native Title 'Français', Language Tag 'fr-FR', URL Language Code 'fr', Image Prefix 'fr', Status 'Yes', Ordering '0', Home 'Yes', and ID '2'. The 'Home' column for both rows is highlighted with a red box. Below the table is a 'Display # 20' dropdown menu.

#	Title	Native Title	Language Tag	URL Language Code	Image Prefix	Status	Ordering	Home	ID
1	English (UK)	English (UK)	en-GB	en	en	Yes	0	Yes	1
2	French	Français	fr-FR	fr	fr	Yes	0	Yes	2

The Administrator Menu displays the flags for the menus which contain a Default Home page.

If a Content Language does not have a Default Home page, the front-end language switcher module will NOT display that language!!



6. Create menu modules

Create menu modules for each menu.

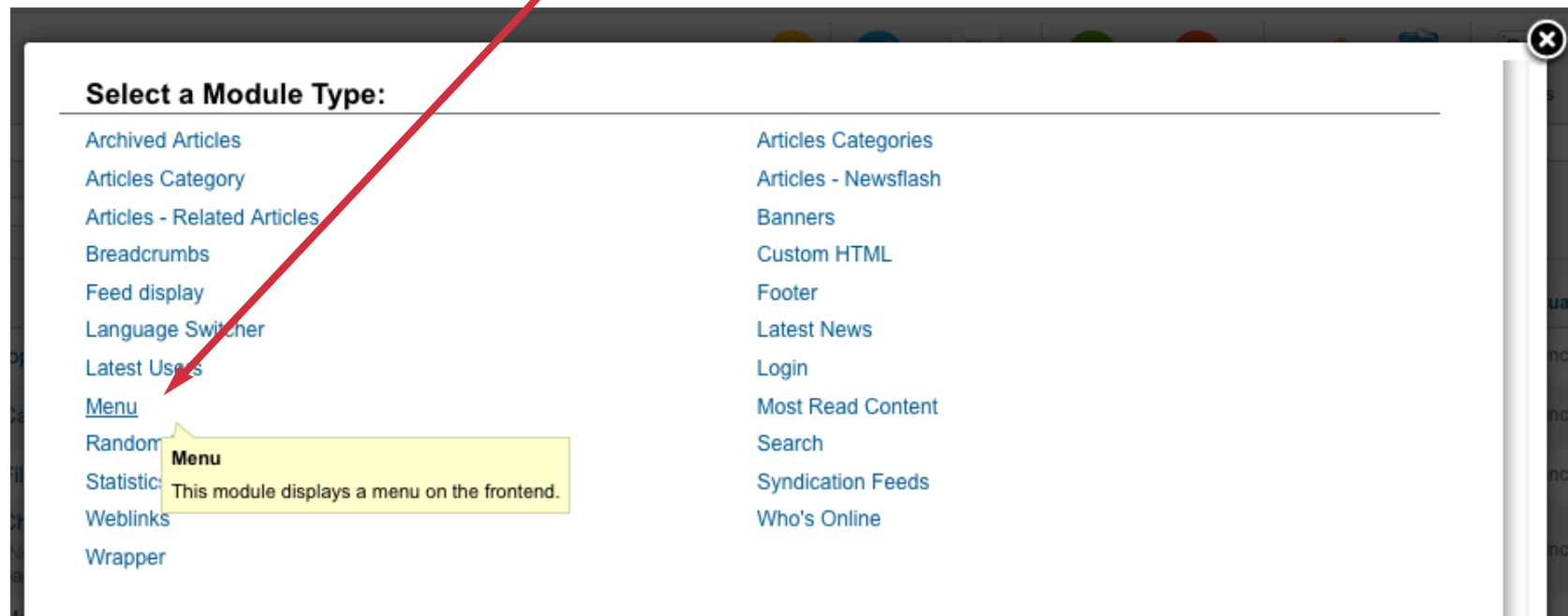
Assign these modules to the Content Languages concerned
(or to Language 'All')

A menu module assigned to Language 'All' should display a menu which only contains menu items assigned to Language 'All'.

This module will display for all Content Languages.

A menu module assigned to a specific language may display a menu containing menu items assigned to the same language as well as menu items assigned to Language 'All'.

Select the menu module



The menu module displaying the mainmenufr containing the Default Home Page for fr-FR

Administration Joomla!

Site Users Menus Content Components Extensions Help None Logged-in frontend 2 Logged-in backend No messages View Site Log out

Module Manager: Module Menu

Save Save & Close Save & New Save as Copy Close Help

Details

Title *	Mainmenu fr	
Show Title	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Show <input type="radio"/> Hide	
Position *	position-7	Select position
Status	Published	
Access	Public	
Ordering	4. Mainmenu fr	
Start Publishing	0000-00-00 00:00:00	23
Finish Publishing	0000-00-00 00:00:00	23
Language	French	
Note	Affiche le menu contenant la page d'accueil par	
ID	19	Menu
Site		
Module Description	This module displays a menu on the frontend.	

Basic Options

Select Menu	mainmenufr
Start Level	1
End Level	All
Show Sub-menu Items	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes

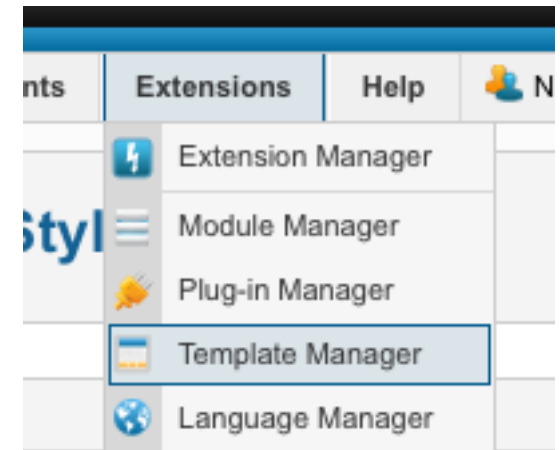
Advanced Options

7. Assign a template style per Content language

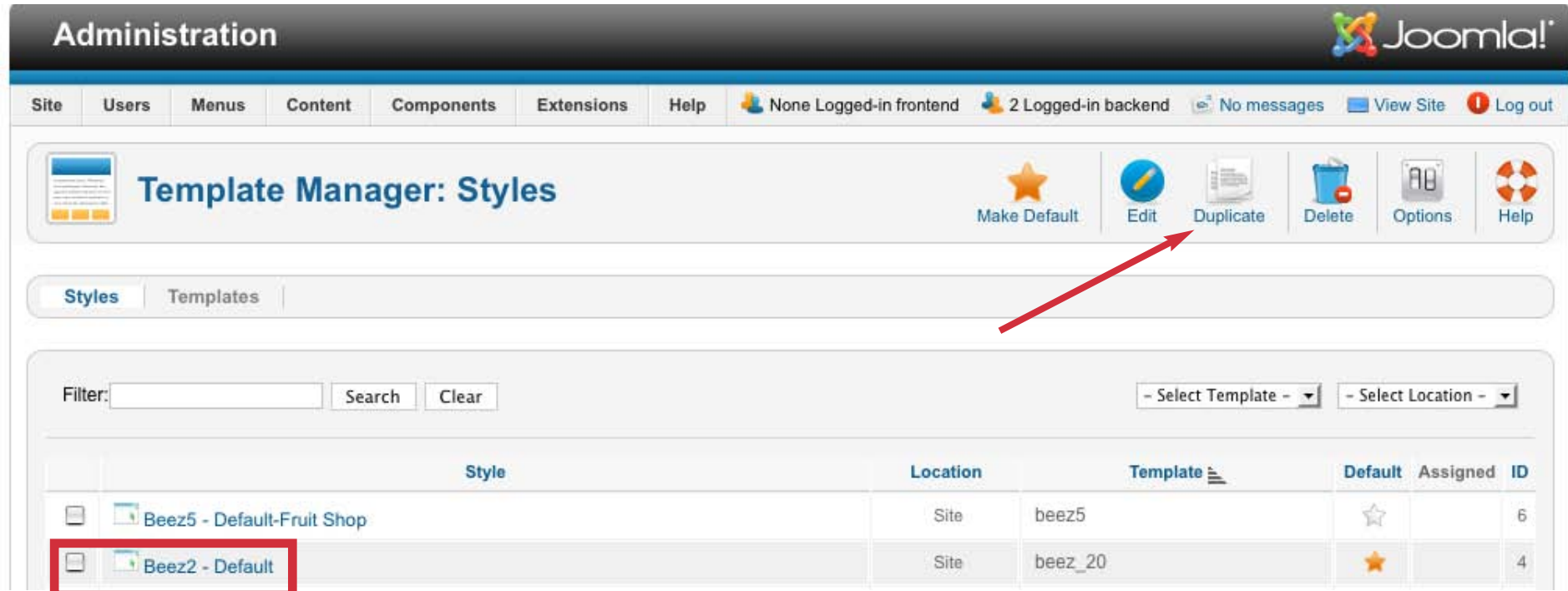
One can assign a default template style per Content Language.

This lets customize the template for logos and headers.

The style is also used as default for this language.



Select a style, duplicate it.

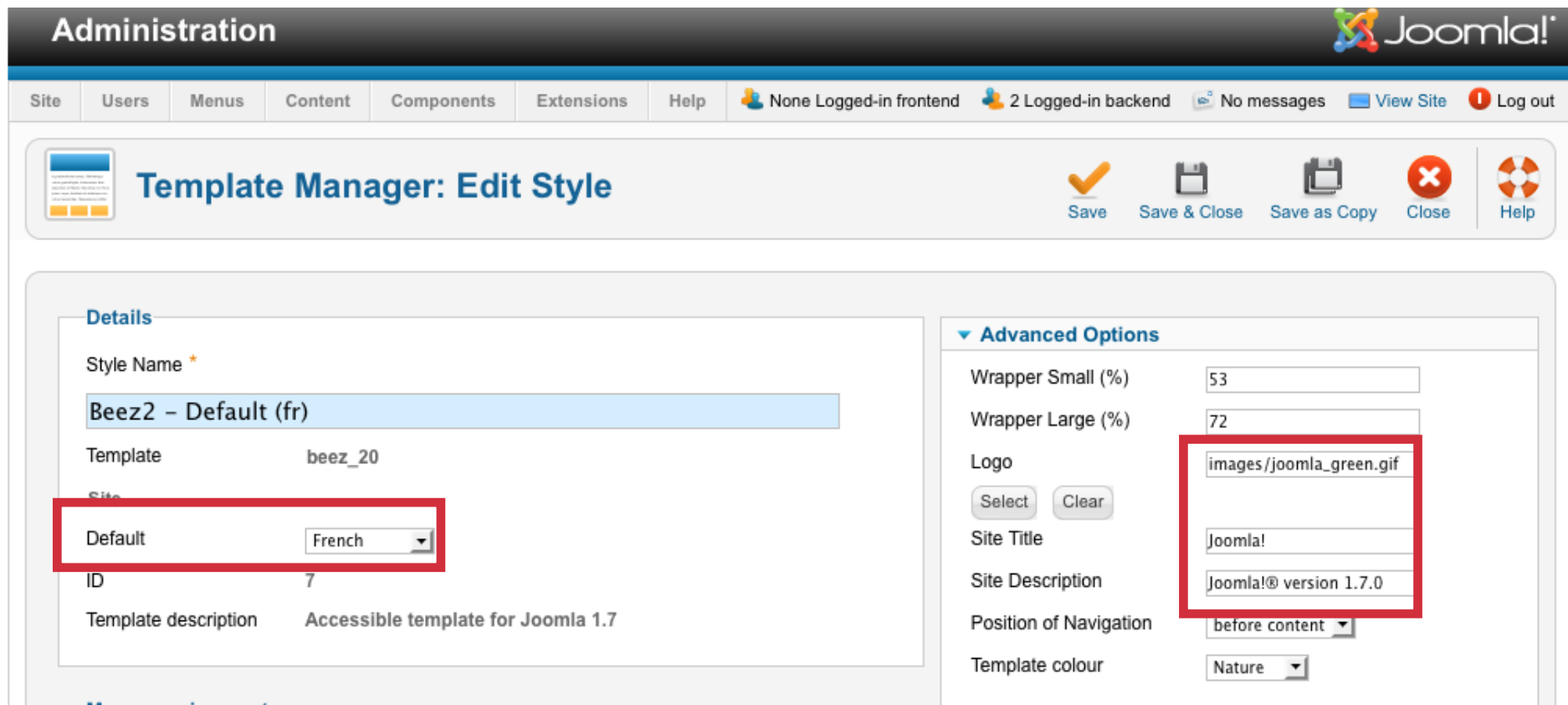
A screenshot of the Joomla! administration interface showing the 'Template Manager: Styles' page. The page has a header with 'Administration' and the Joomla! logo. Below the header is a navigation bar with tabs: Site, Users, Menus, Content, Components, Extensions, and Help. The 'Extensions' tab is active. The main content area shows the 'Template Manager: Styles' page. There are buttons for 'Make Default', 'Edit', 'Duplicate', 'Delete', 'Options', and 'Help'. A red arrow points to the 'Duplicate' button. Below the buttons is a table with columns: Style, Location, Template, Default, Assigned, and ID. The table contains two rows: 'Beez5 - Default-Fruit Shop' and 'Beez2 - Default'. The 'Beez2 - Default' row is highlighted with a red border. The 'Default' column for 'Beez2 - Default' has a star icon, indicating it is the default style.

Style	Location	Template	Default	Assigned	ID
Beez5 - Default-Fruit Shop	Site	beez5	☆		6
Beez2 - Default	Site	beez_20	★		4

This template style is assigned to fr-FR

WARNING!

Some templates available on the Net are not 1.7 compatible. They do not let you create duplicates of a style or, if they do, they do not let assign a different menu containing a specific language Default Home page per language assigned style.



The screenshot shows the Joomla! Administration interface for editing a template style. The top navigation bar includes 'Administration' and the Joomla! logo. Below it, a status bar shows 'None Logged-in frontend' and '2 Logged-in backend'. The main content area is titled 'Template Manager: Edit Style' and features a 'Details' section on the left and 'Advanced Options' on the right. In the 'Details' section, the 'Style Name' is 'Beez2 - Default (fr)', the 'Template' is 'beez_20', and the 'Site' is 'Default' with a language dropdown set to 'French'. The 'Advanced Options' section includes fields for 'Wrapper Small (%)', 'Wrapper Large (%)', 'Logo' (set to 'images/joomla_green.gif'), 'Site Title' (set to 'Joomla!'), 'Site Description' (set to 'Joomla!® version 1.7.0'), 'Position of Navigation' (set to 'before content'), and 'Template colour' (set to 'Nature'). Red boxes highlight the 'Site' dropdown and the 'Logo' field.

Administration Joomla!

Site Users Menus Content Components Extensions Help None Logged-in frontend 2 Logged-in backend No messages View Site Log out

Template Manager: Edit Style Save Save & Close Save as Copy Close Help

Details

Style Name *
Beez2 - Default (fr)

Template beez_20

Site
Default French

ID 7

Template description Accessible template for Joomla 1.7

Advanced Options

Wrapper Small (%) 53

Wrapper Large (%) 72

Logo images/joomla_green.gif

Select Clear

Site Title Joomla!

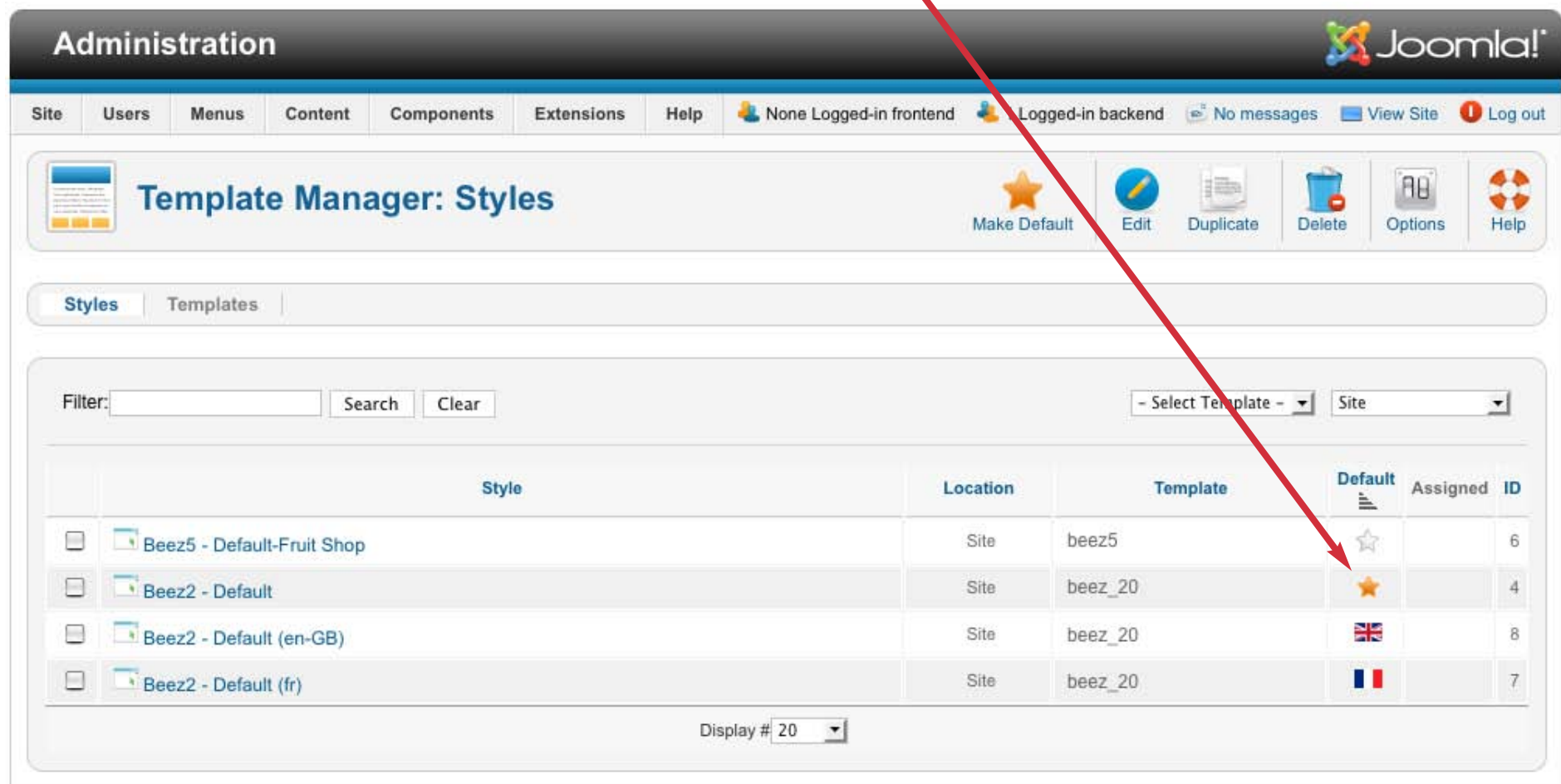
Site Description Joomla!® version 1.7.0

Position of Navigation before content

Template colour Nature

The Template Style Manager displays the language flag in a column.

One template style has to remain assigned to Language 'All'



The screenshot shows the Joomla! Administration interface for the Template Manager: Styles. The interface includes a top navigation bar with links like Site, Users, Menus, Content, Components, Extensions, and Help. Below this is a sub-navigation bar with tabs for Styles and Templates. The main content area displays a table of template styles. A red arrow points from the text above to the star icon in the 'Default' column for the 'Beez2 - Default' style.

	Style	Location	Template	Default	Assigned	ID
<input type="checkbox"/>	Beez5 - Default-Fruit Shop	Site	beez5	☆		6
<input type="checkbox"/>	Beez2 - Default	Site	beez_20	★		4
<input type="checkbox"/>	Beez2 - Default (en-GB)	Site	beez_20	🇬🇧		8
<input type="checkbox"/>	Beez2 - Default (fr)	Site	beez_20	🇫🇷		7

8. Create the 'Langswitcher' module(s)

To display the language choice in front-end,
create mod_languages module(s) (langswitcher).

One can create one module per Content Language if the Pre-text or Post-text are filled, or an unique module to which is assigned Language 'All' if not.


The module displays flags or names for the Published Content Languages.
Parameter the module to choose layout.

Publish the module(s) before enabling the Language Filter system plug-in.







NOTE: If menu associations are not implemented, it is unnecessary to display the module(s) on other pages than the Default Home pages, as it is designed to link to the Default Home page for the language chosen.

If there are menu associations,
the module should also be displayed on the pages concerned.

This Switcher is customized for fr-FR



Module Manager: Module Language Switcher

SaveSave & CloseSave & NewSave as CopyCloseHelp

Details

Title *

Show Title ☒ Show ☐ Hide

Position *

Status

Access

Ordering

Start Publishing

Finish Publishing

Language

Note

ID 22 Language Switcher

Site

Module Description This module displays a list of available Content Languages (as defined and published in Language Manager Content tab) for switching between them when one wants to use Joomla! as a multilanguage site.
--The plugin 'System - Language Filter' has to be published.--

Basic Options

Pre-text

Post-text

Use Dropdown ☒ No ☐ Yes

If Use Dropdown is set to 'Yes', the display options below will be ignored

Use Image Flags ☐ No ☒ Yes

Horizontal Display ☐ No ☒ Yes

Active Language ☐ No ☒ Yes

If Use Image Flags is set to 'Yes', the display options below will be ignored

Languages Full Names ☐ No ☒ Yes

This switcher is assigned to the Default Home page
for the specific Content Language

1. Open Language Manager - Content tab and make sure the Languages you want to use in contents are published and have a Language Code for the URL as well as prefix for the image used in the module display.

2. Create a Home page by assigning a language to a menu item and defining it as Default Home page for each published content language.

3. Thereafter, you can assign a language to any Article, Category, Module, Newsfeed, Weblinks in Joomla.

4. Make sure the module and the plugin are published.

5. When using associated menu items, make sure the module is displayed on the pages concerned.

6. The way the flags or names of the languages are displayed is defined by the ordering in the Language Manager - Content Languages.

Menu Assignment

Module Assignment: Only on the pages selected

Menu Selection: Select All Clear Selection Toggle Selection

Main Menu-ALL	mainmenufr	mainmenugb	multilang-en	multilang_fr	topmenu-en
		Topmenu-fr	User menu en	User menu fr	

☒ - Accueil

☐ - Guillaume Apollinaire

☐ - Poètes français

☐ - Lorem ipsum -ALL- fr

Module Manager filtered per Content Language

Administration Joomla!

Site Users Menus Content Components Extensions Help None Logged-in frontend 1 Logged-in backend No messages View Site Log out

Module Manager: Modules

New Edit Duplicate Publish Unpublish Check In Trash Options Help

Filter: Search Clear

Site - Select Status - - Select Position - - Select Type - - Select Access - French

<input type="checkbox"/>	Title	Status	Position	Ordering	Type	Pages	Access	Language	ID
<input type="checkbox"/>	top-fr	✓	position-1	1	Menu	All	Public	French	30
<input type="checkbox"/>	Catégories	✓	position-10	1	Articles Categories	All	Public	French	27
<input type="checkbox"/>	Fil d'ariane	✓	position-2	1	Breadcrumbs	All	Public	French	26
<input type="checkbox"/>	Choix de langues (Note: Pas nécessaire d'afficher sur toutes les pages. Page d'accueil et menus associés suffit.)	✓	position-7	1	Language Switcher	All	Public	French	22
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mainmenu fr (Note: Affiche le menu contenant la page d'accueil par défaut fr-FR)	✓	position-7	4	Menu	All	Public	French	19
<input type="checkbox"/>	Tutoriel multilingue	✓	position-7	5	Menu	All	Public	French	38
<input type="checkbox"/>	Menu utilisateur	✓	position-7	9	Menu	All	Special	French	23
<input type="checkbox"/>	Connexion	✓	position-7	11	Login	Selected only	Public	French	25

Display # 20

9. Enable the 'Language Filter' system plug-in

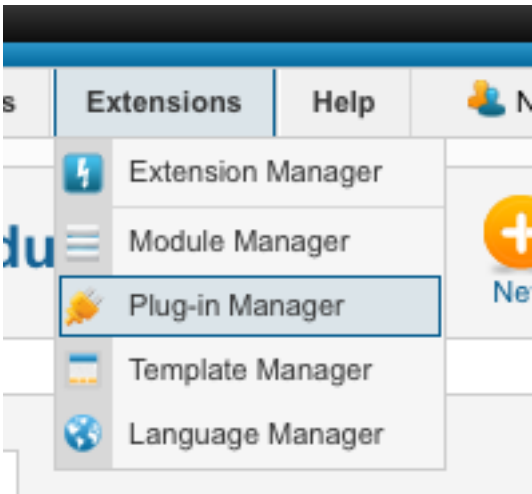
The Language Filter system plug-in has to be enabled to activate the multi-language functionality.

It should only be enabled after making sure that the Langswitcher modules are published!

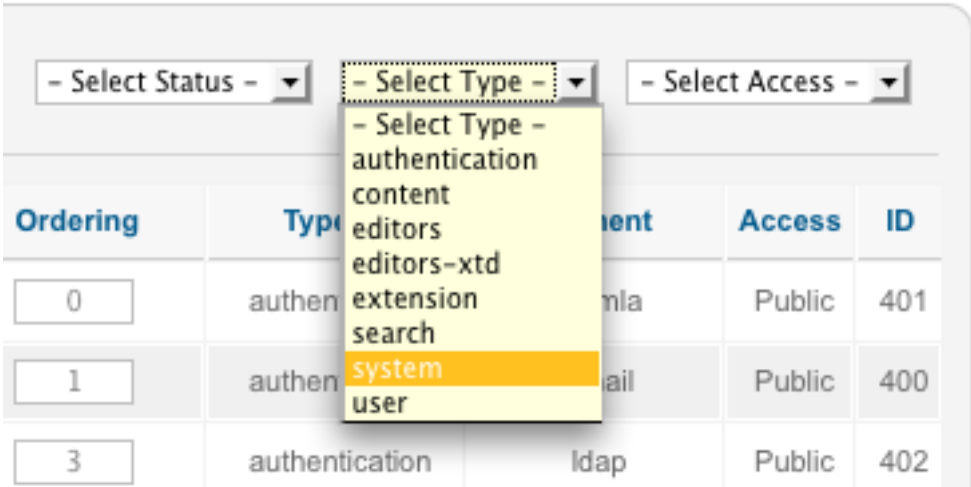
There are 3 options to define in the plug-in:

1. The site language selection for new visitors.
2. The site language display when a logged user changes its default site language.
3. A new parameter in 1.7 that let's associate menu items to which are assigned different languages.
4. A new parameter in 1.7.3 that let's get rid of the URL Language code for the Content Language mapped to the Default site language.

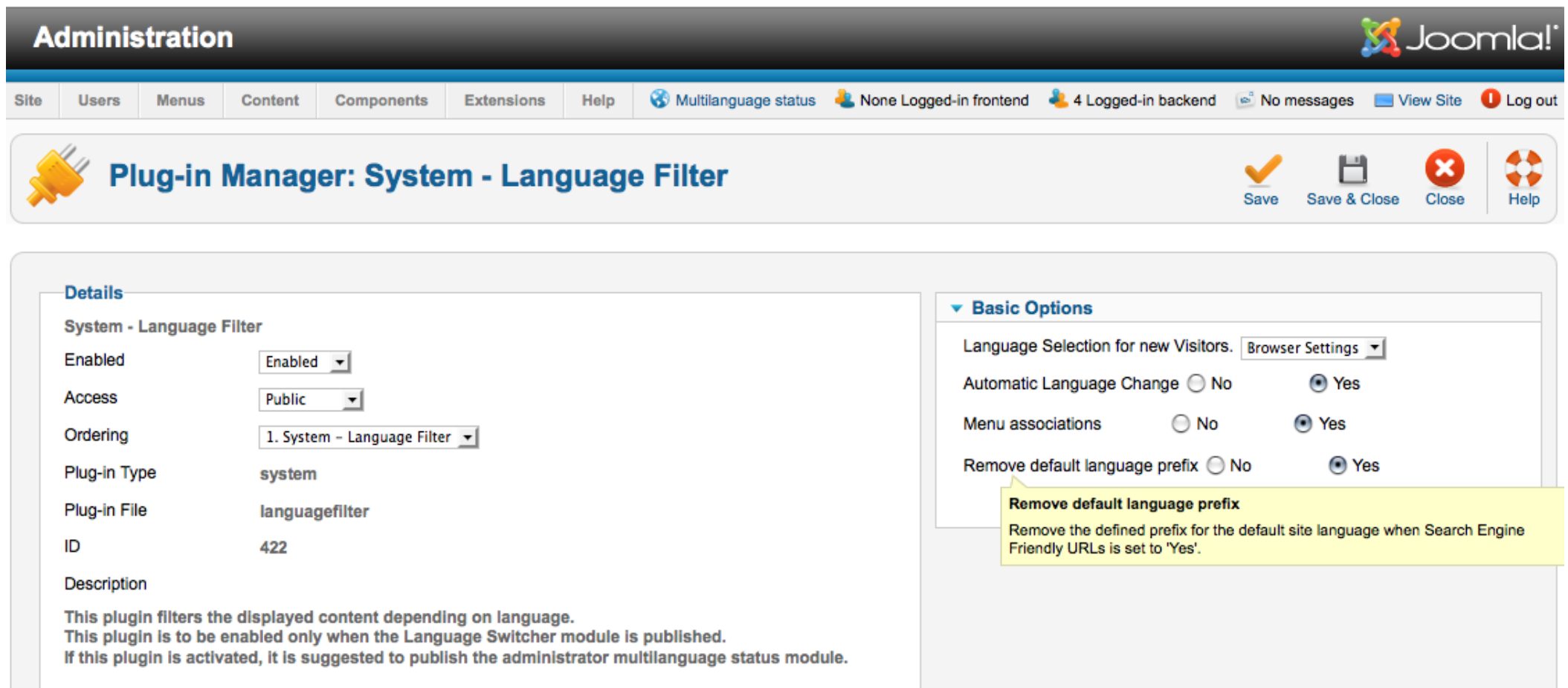
Go to the Plugin Manager



Filter by System



Edit the Language Filter System plugin
and save its parameters.
Here we use Menu Associations
and improve SEO by taking off the URL Language code
for the site default language (**New in 1.7.3**).



The screenshot shows the Joomla! Administration interface. At the top is a navigation bar with 'Administration' on the left and the Joomla! logo on the right. Below this is a menu bar with links: Site, Users, Menus, Content, Components, Extensions, Help, Multilanguage status, None Logged-in frontend, 4 Logged-in backend, No messages, View Site, and Log out. The main content area is titled 'Plug-in Manager: System - Language Filter'. It features a 'Details' tab on the left and a 'Basic Options' tab on the right. The 'Details' tab shows the plugin's name, status (Enabled), access (Public), ordering (1. System - Language Filter), type (system), file (languagefilter), and ID (422). The 'Basic Options' tab contains settings for language selection, automatic language change, menu associations, and removing the default language prefix. A yellow tooltip explains the 'Remove default language prefix' option.

Administration

Site Users Menus Content Components Extensions Help Multilanguage status None Logged-in frontend 4 Logged-in backend No messages View Site Log out

Plug-in Manager: System - Language Filter

Details

System - Language Filter

Enabled

Access

Ordering

Plug-in Type system

Plug-in File languagefilter

ID 422

Description

This plugin filters the displayed content depending on language.
This plugin is to be enabled only when the Language Switcher module is published.
If this plugin is activated, it is suggested to publish the administrator multilanguage status module.

Basic Options

Language Selection for new Visitors.

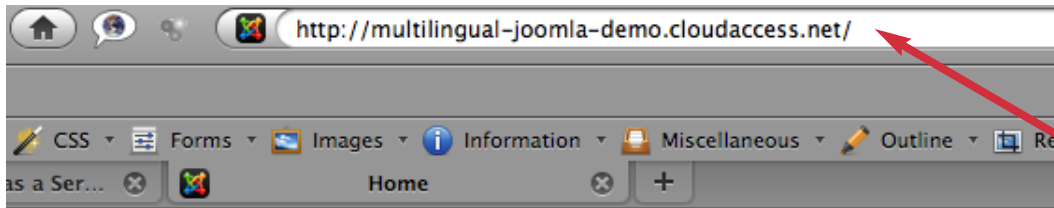
Automatic Language Change ☐ No ☒ Yes

Menu associations ☐ No ☒ Yes

Remove default language prefix ☐ No ☒ Yes

Remove default language prefix
Remove the defined prefix for the default site language when Search Engine Friendly URLs is set to 'Yes'.

Result of improving SEO by taking off the URL Language code for the site default language (New in 1.7.3).



Here the Site default language is en-GB and the URL Language code is 'en'.

The url was formerly:
<http://multilingual-joomla-demo.cloudaccess.net/en/>

10. New in 1.7 - Associated menu items

It is now possible to associate menu items in different languages.

When a menu item, let's say tagged to fr-FR, is associated to a menu item tagged en-GB, **if the Language Switcher module is present on the page**, clicking on the en-GB flag/name redirects to the en-GB menu item and reciprocally.

If a menu item is not associated, the behavior will be the same as in 1.6, that is redirect to the Default Home page in the language concerned.

This let's therefore the choice for the webmaster to associate or not, item per item.

Activate the Language Filter plugin and make sure that 'Menu Association' is set to 'Yes'. Save the parameters. Edit one menu item to which a language is assigned.

A new slider called 'Menu Items Associations' is now displayed.

The screenshot shows the Joomla! Menu Manager interface for editing a menu item. The title bar reads "Menu Manager: Edit Menu Item". The interface is divided into two main sections: "Details" on the left and a list of menu items on the right.

Details Section:

- Menu Item Type: Category List (with a "Select" button)
- Menu Title: Instructions multilangue
- Alias: instructions-multilangue
- Note: Ce lien de menu est associé
- Link: index.php?option=com_content&view=category&id=11
- Status: Published (dropdown)
- Access: Public (dropdown)
- Menu Location: multilang_fr (dropdown)
- Parent Item: Menu Item Root (dropdown)
- Target Window: Parent (dropdown)
- Default Page: ☒ No ☐ Yes
- Language: French (dropdown, highlighted with a red box)
- Template Style: - Use Default - (dropdown)
- ID: 121

Menu Item Associations Section:

The "Menu Item Associations" section is expanded, showing a list of menu items. A red arrow points from the "Menu Item Associations" label to the "Menu Item Associations" section. Another red arrow points from the "Menu Item Associations" section to the "Menu Item Associations" dropdown. The dropdown is currently open, showing a list of menu items. The "Menu Item Associations" dropdown is currently open, showing a list of menu items. The "Menu Item Associations" dropdown is currently open, showing a list of menu items.

en-GB tagged menu items only are presented in dropdown

The Menu Manager displays the associated menu items

Administration Joomla!

Site Users Menus Content Components Extensions Help None Logged-in frontend 1 Logged-in backend No messages View Site Log out

Menu Manager: Menu Items

New Edit Publish Unpublish Check In Trash Home Rebuild Help

Menus **Menu Items**

Filter: Search Clear multilang_fr - Select Max Levels - - Select Status - - Select Access - - Select Language -

	Title	Status	Ordering	Access	Menu Item Type	Home	Association	Language	ID
<input type="checkbox"/>	Instructions multilangue (Alias: instructions-multilangue, Note: Ce lien de menu est associé)		1	Public	Articles » Category List			French	121
<input type="checkbox"/>	Astuces multilangue (Alias: astuces-multilangue, Note: Ce lien de menu est associé)		2	Public	Articles » Category Blog				

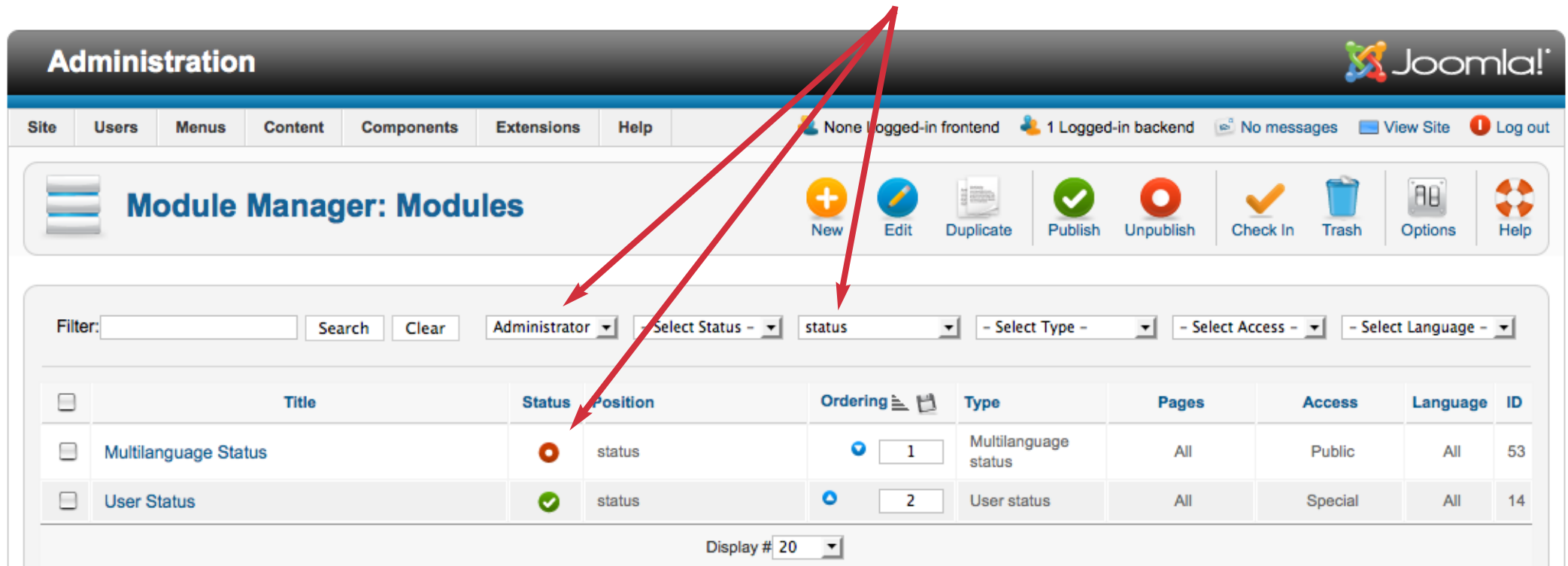
Display # 20

Associated menu items
Multi-lingual steps by steps (multilang-en)

New in 1.7.1

A new module has been added in 1.7.1 to check a number of multilanguage variables and display errors if necessary.

1. Go to Module Manager, filter by Administrator and “status” position, publish the module.



The screenshot shows the Joomla! 1.7.1 Administration interface. The top navigation bar includes links for Site, Users, Menus, Content, Components, Extensions, and Help. The main heading is "Module Manager: Modules". Below the heading are icons for New, Edit, Duplicate, Publish, Unpublish, Check In, Trash, Options, and Help. The filter section shows "Filter:" with a search box, "Clear", and dropdown menus for "Administrator", "Select Status", "status", "Select Type", "Select Access", and "Select Language". The table below lists modules:

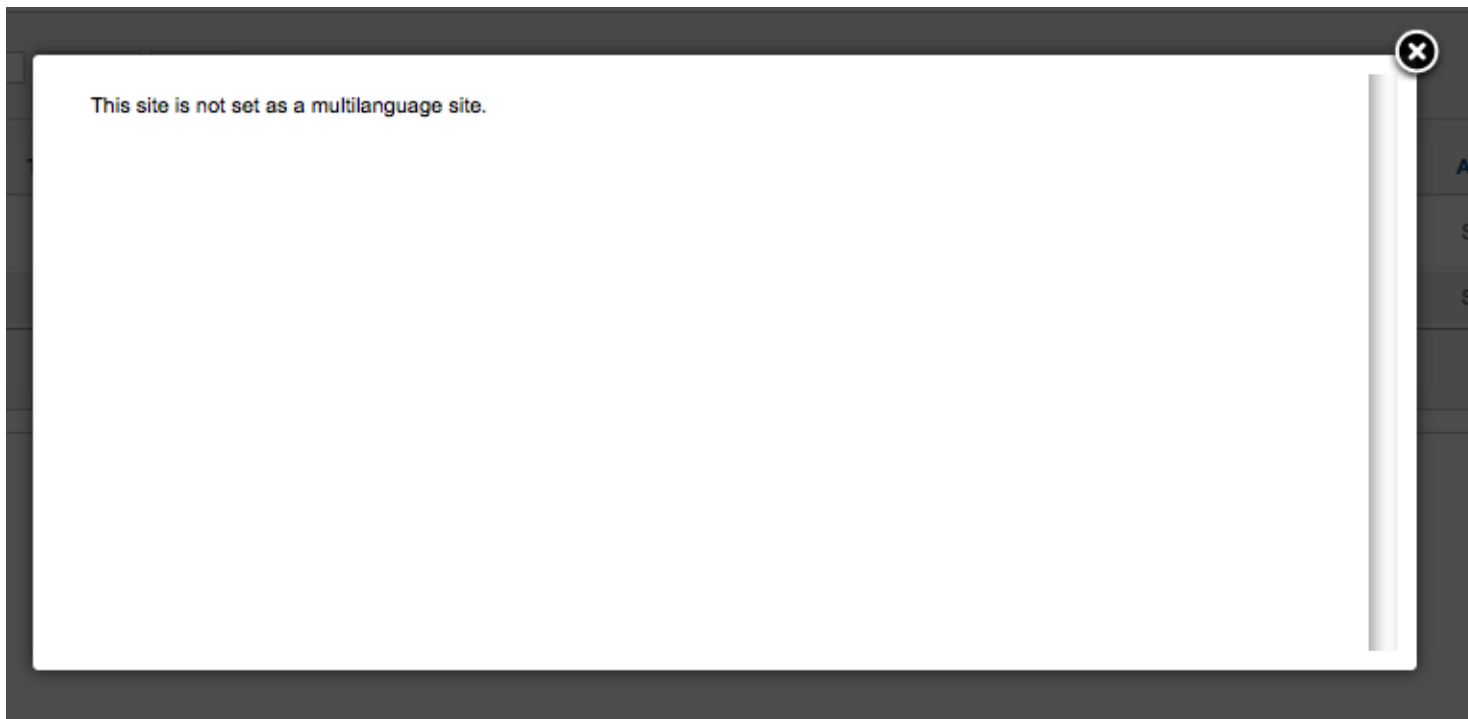
	Title	Status	Position	Ordering	Type	Pages	Access	Language	ID
<input type="checkbox"/>	Multilanguage Status		status	1	Multilanguage status	All	Public	All	53
<input type="checkbox"/>	User Status		status	2	User status	All	Special	All	14

At the bottom, there is a "Display # 20" dropdown menu.

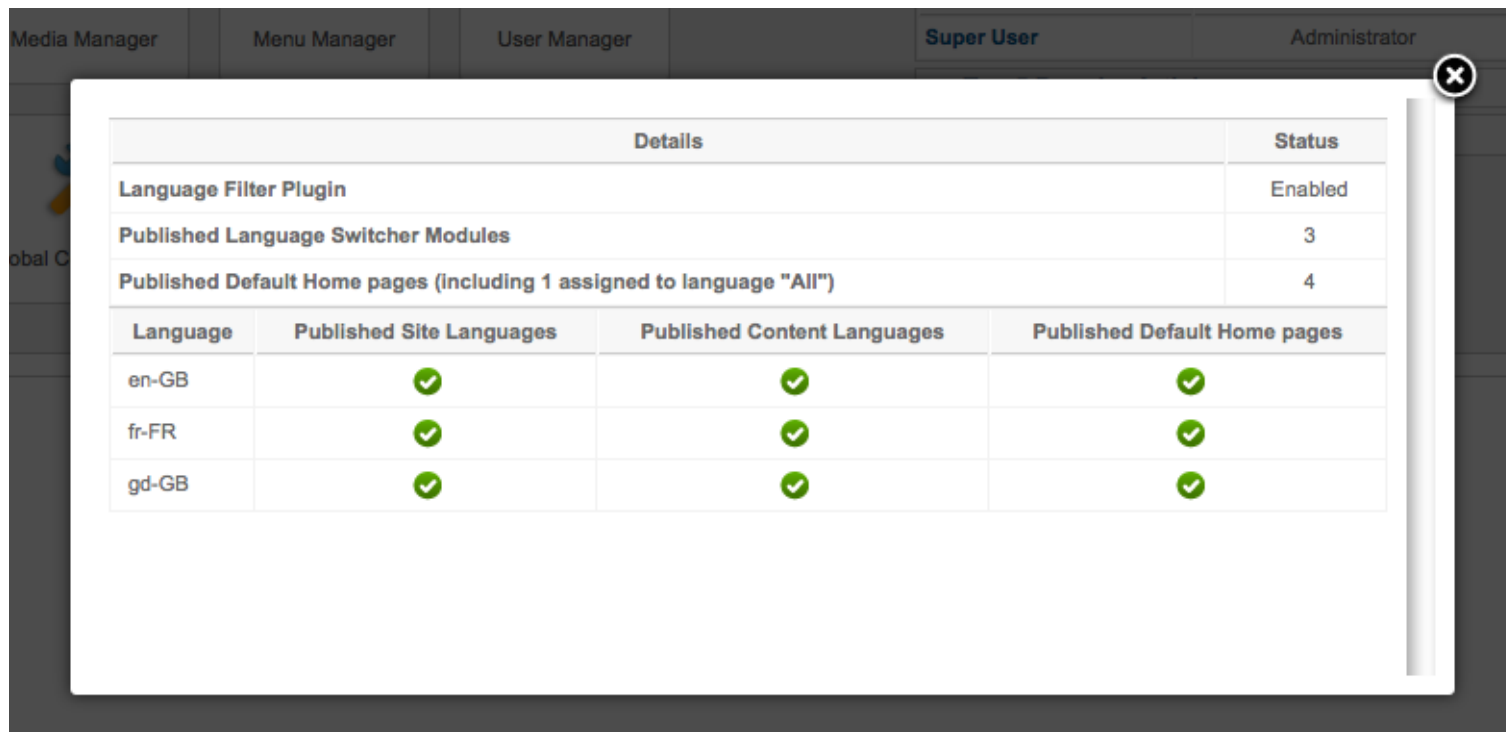
2. The module displays in the status bar.



3. If the site is a monolanguage site, the modal will display



4. If all the multilanguage variables are set OK, one will get:





The screenshot shows a web application interface with a dark sidebar and a top navigation bar. The top bar contains tabs for 'Media Manager', 'Menu Manager', 'User Manager', 'Super User', and 'Administrator'. A modal window is open in the center, displaying configuration details for multilingual support. The modal has a close button (X) in the top right corner. The modal content is divided into two main sections: 'Details' and 'Status'.


Details		Status
Language Filter Plugin		Enabled
Published Language Switcher Modules		3
Published Default Home pages (including 1 assigned to language "All")		4


Language	Published Site Languages	Published Content Languages	Published Default Home pages
en-GB	✓	✓	✓
fr-FR	✓	✓	✓
gd-GB	✓	✓	✓

5. If something is wrong somewhere *except for the structure of categories/items and specific issues for some templates*, one may get that kind of display:

fully published



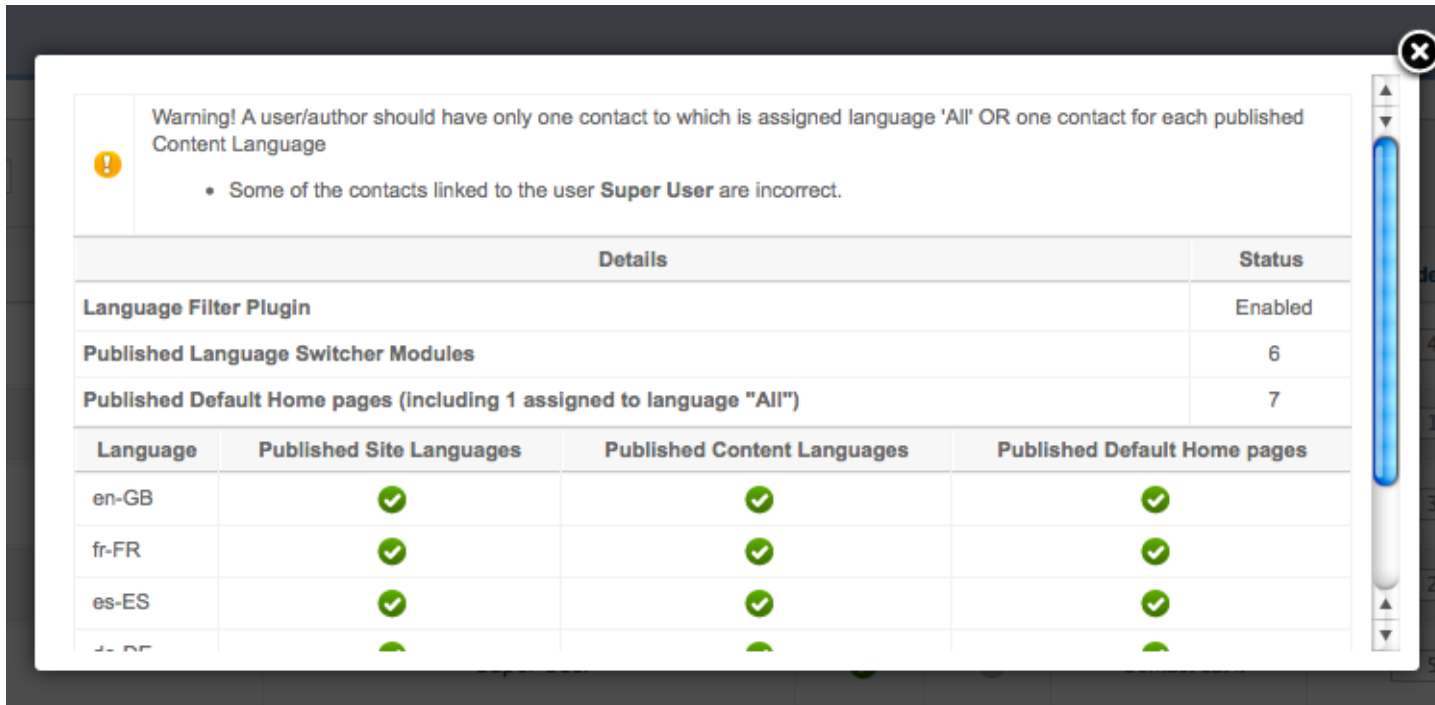
 This site is set as a multilanguage site. One or more of the Default Home pages for the published Content languages are missing although the Language Filter plugin is enabled OR/AND one or more Language Switcher modules are published

 This site is set as a multilanguage site, at least one Language Switcher module set to language "All" has to be published. Disregard this message if you do not use a language switcher module but direct links.

Details			Status
Language Filter Plugin			Enabled
Published Language Switcher Modules			None
Published Default Home pages (including 1 assigned to language "All")			2
Language	Published Site Languages	Published Content Languages	Published Default Home pages
en-GB	✓	✓	✗
eu-ES	✓	✓	✗
gd-GB	!	✗	✓

New in 1.7.3

The module will display an error if any contact linked to a user/author is not set correctly



The screenshot shows a software interface with a warning message and a table of language settings. The warning message is displayed in a box with a yellow warning icon and a close button (X) in the top right corner. The message states: "Warning! A user/author should have only one contact to which is assigned language 'All' OR one contact for each published Content Language". Below the message is a bulleted list: "• Some of the contacts linked to the user **Super User** are incorrect."

Below the warning message is a table with two columns: "Details" and "Status". The table contains the following rows:

Details	Status
Language Filter Plugin	Enabled
Published Language Switcher Modules	6
Published Default Home pages (including 1 assigned to language "All")	7

Below the table is another table with four columns: "Language", "Published Site Languages", "Published Content Languages", and "Published Default Home pages". The table contains the following rows:

Language	Published Site Languages	Published Content Languages	Published Default Home pages
en-GB	✓	✓	✓
fr-FR	✓	✓	✓
es-ES	✓	✓	✓
pt-PT	✓	✓	✓

New in 1.7.3

It is now possible to define a Site Name per Content Language.



► Metadata Options

▼ Site Name

Custom Site Name

Custom Site Name
Enter here a custom site name for this content language. If the site name is set to display, this custom site name will be used instead of the Global Configuration setting.

Before setting the site online, check the following:

1. Are the desired Content Languages published?
2. Are the related Site Languages installed and activated?
3. Are the Default Home Page menu items for each Content Language present and published?
4. Are the Menu modules which display these Default Home Pages present and published?
5. Is there a specific menu containing a Default Home Page menu item to which is assigned language "All" and its Menu module unpublished?
6. Are the 'Language Switcher' modules present and published?
7. Is the 'Language Filter' system plug-in activated?