

Contribution

How to contribute to Ancestris' growth through promotion, translation, documentation or development

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- **Help Ancestris users**
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Promote Ancestris

Promote Ancestris to genealogy associations, genealogy shows, on the Internet, in social media.

Promote Ancestris

Flyer, social networks and events

You use Ancestris, you like it and you appreciate that it is free. Spread the news around you !

The following documents will help you promote Ancestris.

[Presentation flyer](#)



Our ancestors have
so many stories to tell...



- The presentation flyer also exists in several other languages :
 - [Spanish](#), [German](#), [French](#), [Catalan](#), [Danish](#), [Dutch](#), [Italian](#), [Latvian](#), [Polish](#), [Portuguese](#)

You are on Facebook and Twitter. Post this message!

Use the icon on the right hand side of this message to copy it, and then post it.

I use Ancestris for my genealogy. It's a great tool and it's free. Get it from
<https://www.ancestris.org!>

Thank you very much for this.

If you would like to contribute, you can also participate and post on our behalf on our [Twitter](#) and [FaceBook](#) acccounts.

Please [email us](#) to volunteer.

You are part of a genealogy association, or you are going to attend a genealogy fair, please help others to get to know Ancestris and promote its benefits.

Any opportunity is important to us.

[Here are some examples of a few genealogy fairs in France.](#)

Help Ancestris users

Contribute to the user support and reply to users' questions.

The Forum and the Discussion list

If you have enough skills with Ancestris usage or if you have good practices in genealogy that you want to share with others, please let us know and help other users.

It is easy to help us. You just need to write an answer from time to time to a question in the forum, or in the mailing list. This will make the community alive and you will enjoy it!

Please go check out the [**forum**](#) or subscribe to the [**discussion list**](#).

Enhance the User Guide

Improve the Ancestris User Guide, provide examples.

Enhance the User Guide

User Guide

You have a bit of time and think the User Guide could be improved? Please let us know and help us to enrich it.

The User Guide can be found in [this section](#).

A User Guide about a software program is never complete enough and needs regular updates. So is the case for Ancestris User Guide. We want to get most users autonomous very quickly.

As a consequence, we want to keep the documentation simple and easy to learn, but at the same time we need to cover an extensive number of functionalities.

“ Contributing to writing the documentation will help you improve your knowledge of the software. You may even discover useful functionalities for yourself.

If you decide to help us with the documentation and want to raise your hand, please email support@ancestris.org.

We will show you how easy it is to update the User Guide without taking too much of your time.

Translate the software

Improve existing translations or add a language.

Translate the software

Translating the Software

If you are fluent in a language which is not yet available in Ancestris, and if you would like to add it, please let us know and join our team of translators.

Willing to add a language to Ancestris or improve one

Our translators mostly came this way : by discovering Ancestris and using it for their own genealogy needs, and translating it in their native language.

Our numerous translators are great and they made a tremendous contribution to the software which is used everyday in quite a number of countries. They are integral part of the **Ancestris team** that you can see on our web site.

If you would like to join them, please email **support@ancestris.org** and we will set you up.

We will show you how to use the translation tool called **Trancestris**.

It can take up to 2 or 3 months to translate Ancestris in a new language. That is actually the time it took to translate Ancestris in Spanish and Catalan.

The Trancestris tool

We have created a tool called Transcestris to help translate the Ancestris software.

This is simple to use. Transcestris is available on Windows, MacOS and Linux. Feel free to **[get the latest version from here](#)**.

It uses a **[translations file which you can dowload here](#)**.

[Instructions to install and use Trancestris](#) are explained on the following page.

From there, you will be able to create or update a translation.

Translate the software

Trancestris User Guide

Trancestris is a translation editor. It has been created by one of the Ancestris developers, Dominique, a.k.a. "Lemovice".

This tool is easy to use, does not require any knowledge of any sort, and produces translation files that Ancestris can use immediately.

Install and launch Trancestris

We assume you have Java installed on your computer. Otherwise please first read the instructions to [install Java](#).

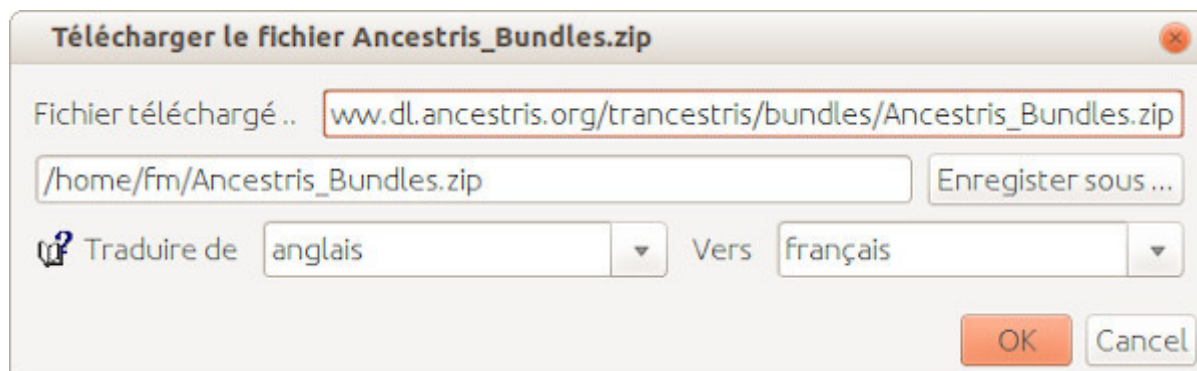
Then you [download Trancestris from here](#).

You get a file called `trancestris.zip` that you have to unzip in the directory of your choice.

Then you go to the `trancestris/bin` directory and run `transcetris` if you use MacOS ou Linux, or you run `trancestris.exe` if you use Windows.

Start with Trancestris

The first time you run Transcetris, the following window appears.



Trancestris asks you to download the translation files.

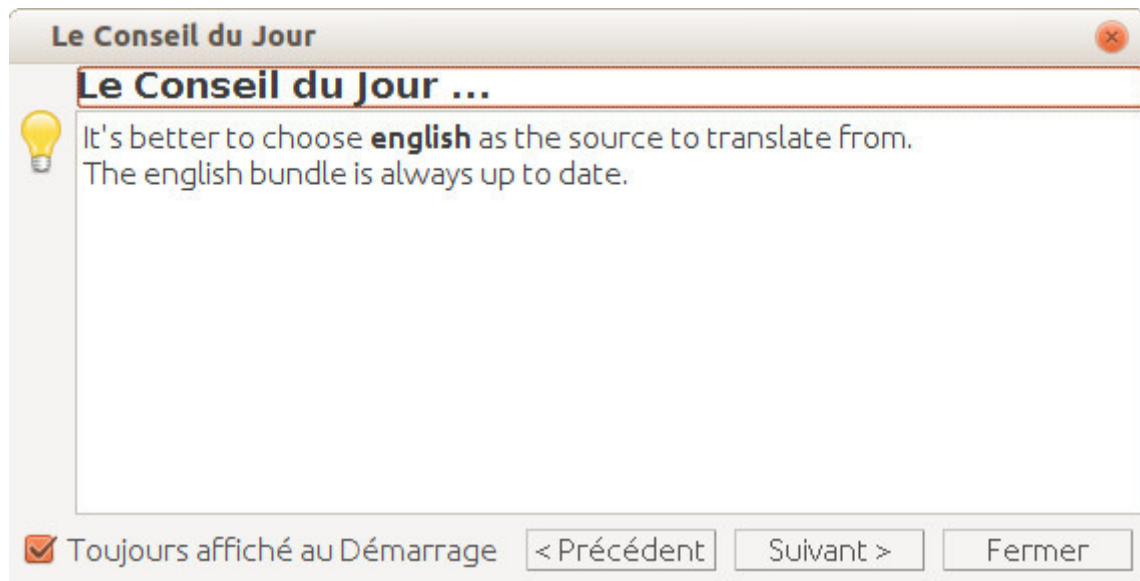
These files are zipped inside the `Ancestris_Bundles.zip` file. Please do not modify this name.

In the second field, choose a directory where you would like to store the translations.

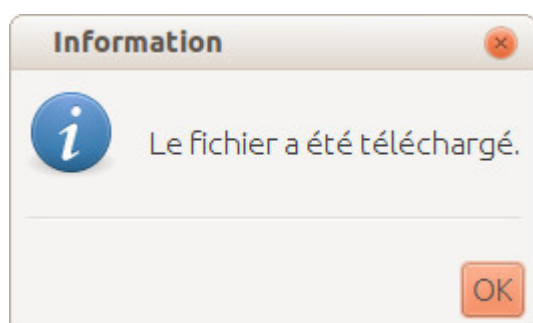
Trancestris also asks you which translation you will produce. By default, it suggests English to French. You may change both languages but we recommend you to start from either the English or the French version.

Then click OK.

Trancestris displays the Tip of the Day. Click "Next" to see other tips or else "Close" to start working with Trancestris.



Trancestris then downloads the `Ancestris_Bundles.zip` file. Once done, if everything went ok, you should have the following message.



Click "Ok".

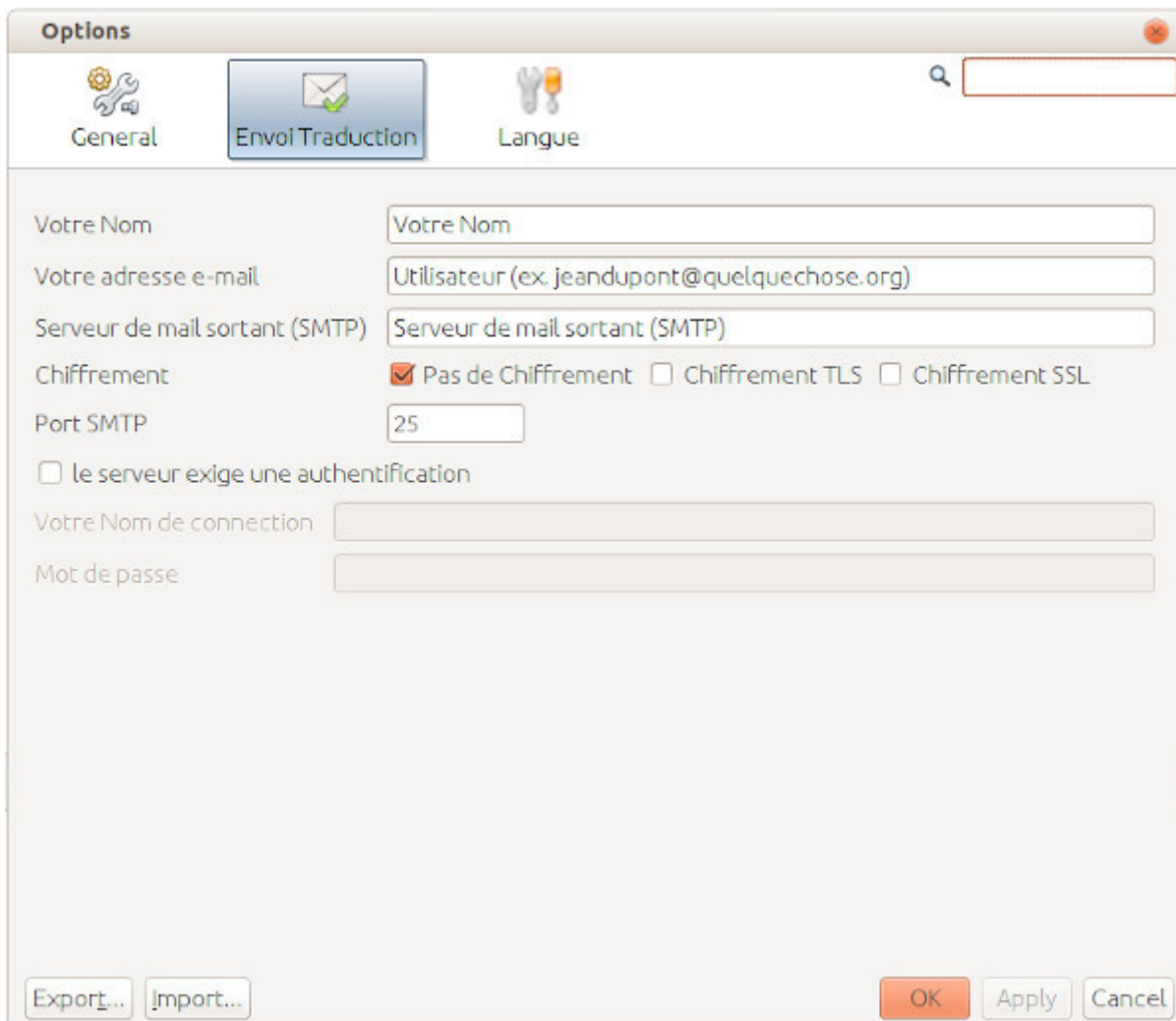
E-mail setting

Once you have translated a file for Ancestris, you will need to send it to us.

In order for Transcestris to send us your work, Trancestris will first ask you to set-up your email configuration.



Click "OK". The following email settings window appears.



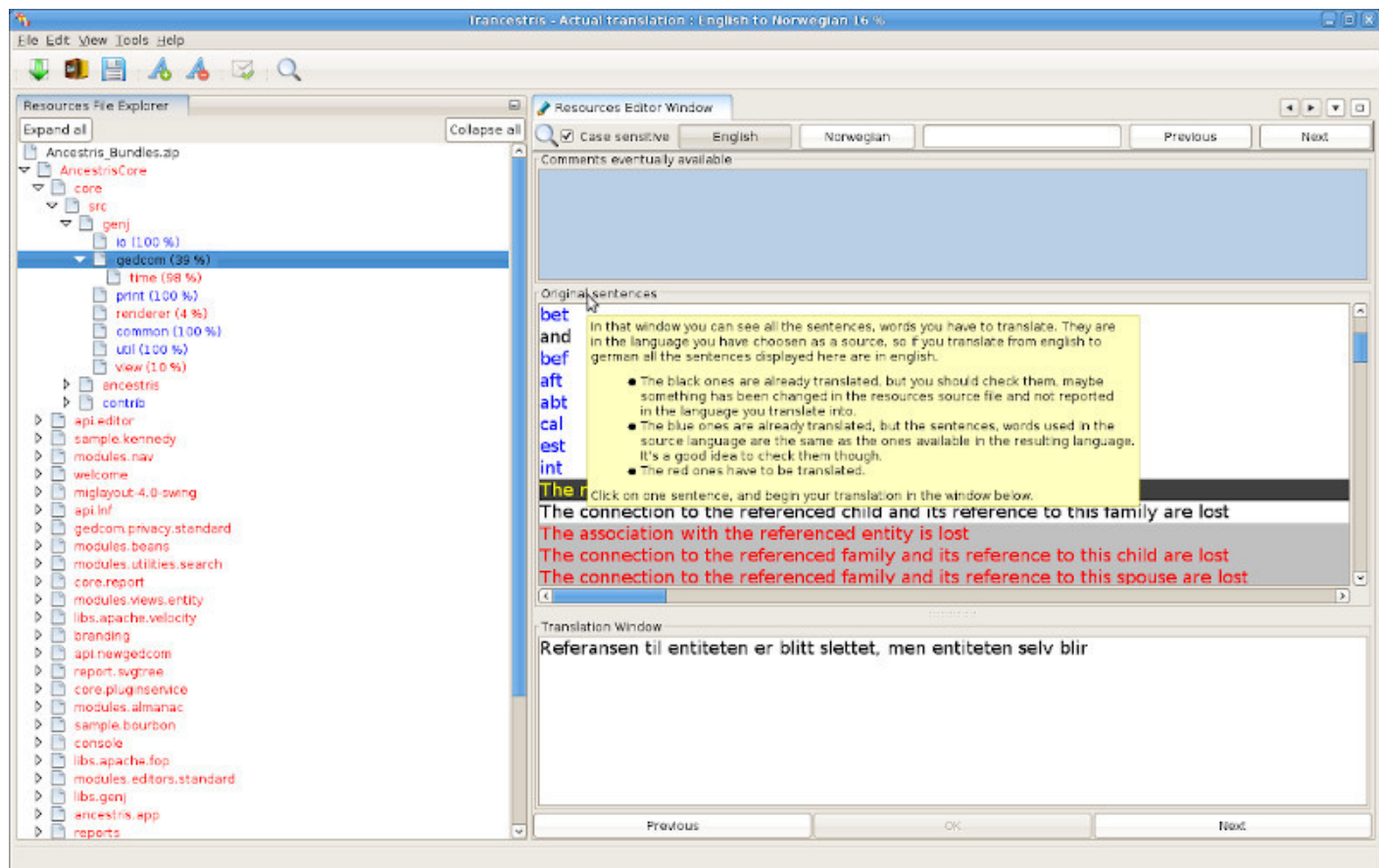
Please fill in the following fields:

- Your name as Firstname and Lastname
- Your email address
- The outward mail server address (SMTP): this depends on your internet provider.
- Encryption : in general, you will check the box "no encryption"
- SMTP port : in general, 25 is used
- Check the box "server requires authentication" depending on your SMTP provider

That's it. You can start translating.

Translating

Transcesttris workspace looks like the following.



The window above shows a tree-like structure on the left hand side, and sentences to translate on the right hand side.

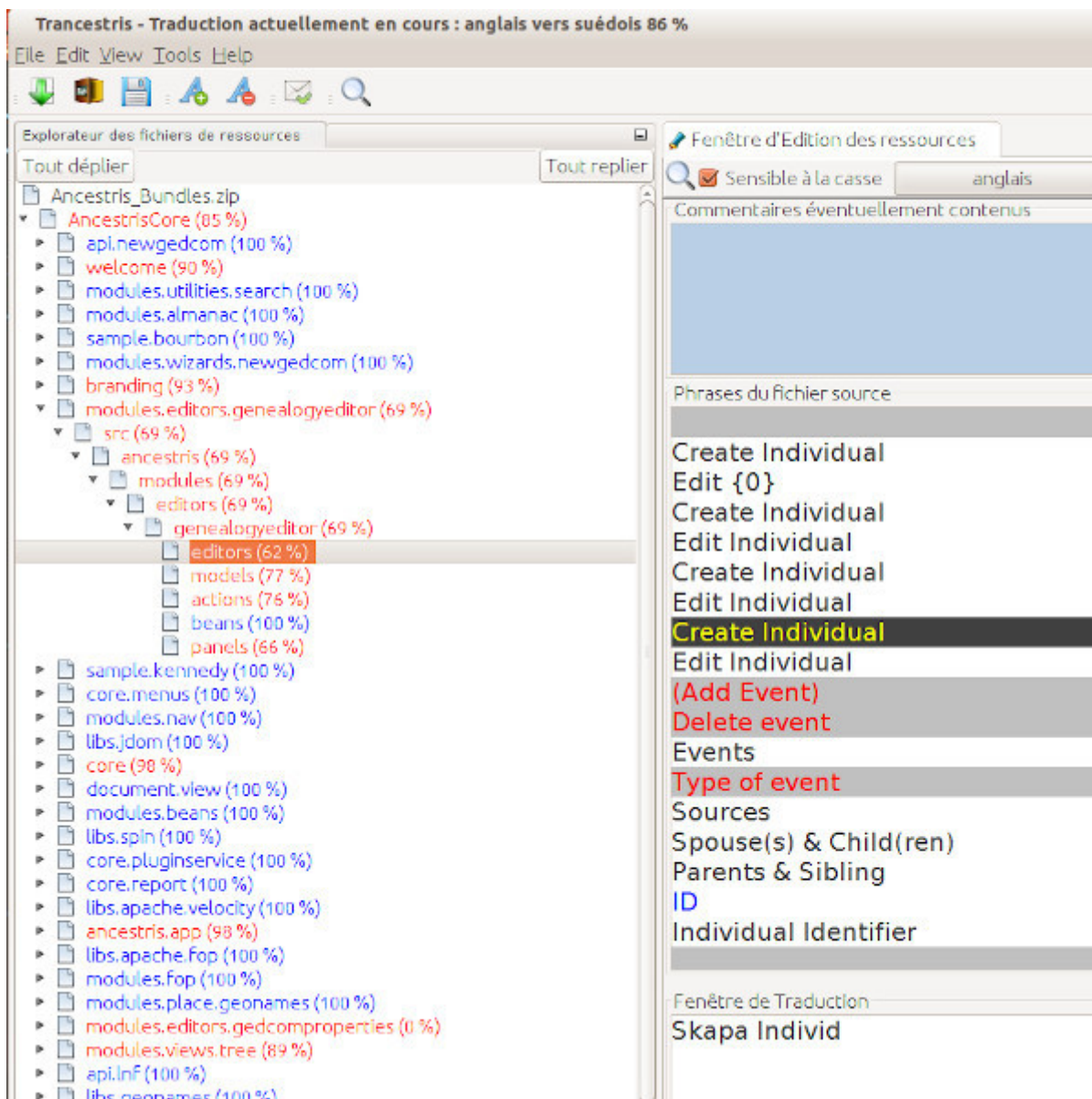
If you are beginning with translation work, just a little advice : do not try to translate a whole lot immediately.

Try it first with a small file, so we can set you up and test the whole translation cycle.

Once you receive our confirmation that it went well, download the translation file again. It should include the work you already did. Start from this new file to continue.

The tree-like structure on the left hand side is where you will select a file to translate and see the coverage of the work you already achieved.

To select a file to translate, unfold the directories until you get to the files.



If a directory is red, it includes translation files still to be translated.

If a directory is blue, no translation remains to be done.

Once you select a file, the sentences that it includes will appear on the right hand side.

A file corresponds to a given functionality of Ancestris and therefore, all sentences within a file should deal with the same topic.

Some sentences may be in red, black or blue.

- Red sentences are to be translated
- Black sentences have already been translated.
- Blue sentences are spelt the same in both languages and deserve to be checked.

If a sentence is not to be translated, Trancestris will not let you modify it.

To actually modify a sentence, write it at the bottom of the screen and click OK when finished. Then proceed to the next sentence.

Tip : it might be a good idea to have Ancestris open at the same time on your computer so you can see what functionality you are currently translating.

HTML tags

HTML tags should be left untranslated at the positions they have in the sentence.

HTML tags are word starting with "<" and ending with ">". For instance, you may find "<html>" and "
".

"<html>" is the start of an HTML text. "
" represents a line break.

For instance, you may find the following sentence to translate :

```
<html>Please click on OK</html>
```

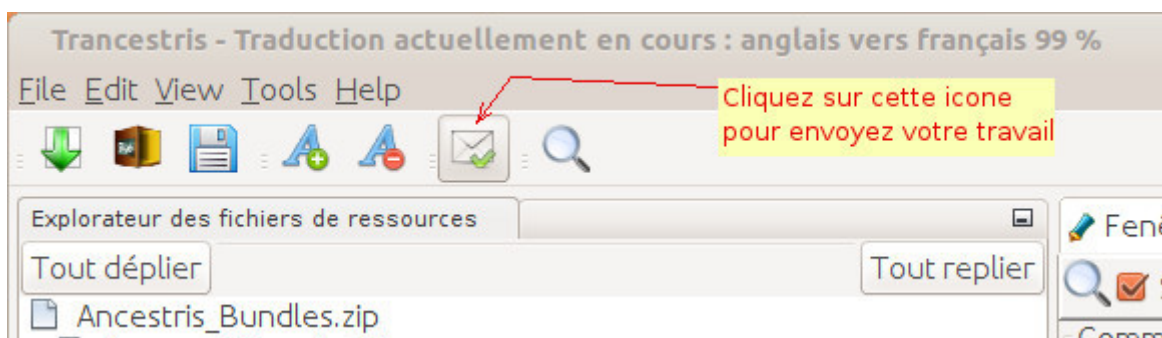
If you had to translate it in French, you would write:

```
<html>Veuillez cliquer sur OK</html>
```

You see, both HTML tags "<html>" and "</html>" have been left where they were.

Send your translation

To send us your translation, click the icon with the little envelop.



A message window will appear. Fill in the fields and tell us your message.

Envoyer votre traduction à l'équipe Ancestris

Trancestris - Envoi de la traduction

Vous pouvez nous faire parvenir vos remarques, vos idées, vos problèmes éventuels, etc..., pour nous permettre d'améliorer Trancestris

Mettez dans les deux champs ci-dessous, votre nom, prénom et en dessous votre adresse Email

Ne changez pas les informations de ces deux champs

Mettez dans le champ ci-contre le texte que vous voulez.

Votre Nom: JohnDoe

Votre adresse e-mail: johnDoe@whitehouse.org

Destinataire: francois@ancestris.org

Sujet: [Paquet Trancestris - Traduction "en" vers "fr" (04-05-2015 - 11:20)]

Message: Bonjour

ici je peux mettre le commentaire que je veux. Je peux dire ce que j'ai fait, où j'en suis dans la traduction. Eventuellement les problèmes que j'ai rencontrés, enfin vous mettez tout ce que vous voulez

Envoyer Cancel

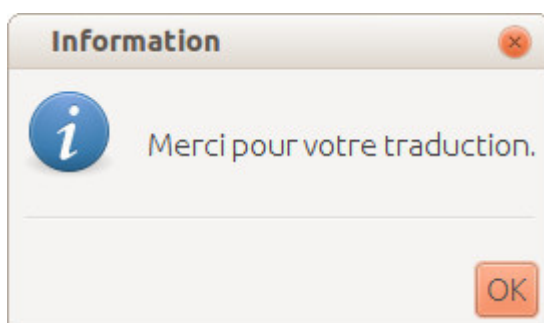
Click "Send" when completed. Trancestris will create a zipped file including all the files you have translated since your last download.

For instance, if you translate from English to Italian, the file `Ancestris_Bundles_it.zip` will be created next to your downloaded file `Ancestris_Bundles.zip`.

This `Ancestris_Bundles_it.zip` file contains the modified files which will be sent to us.

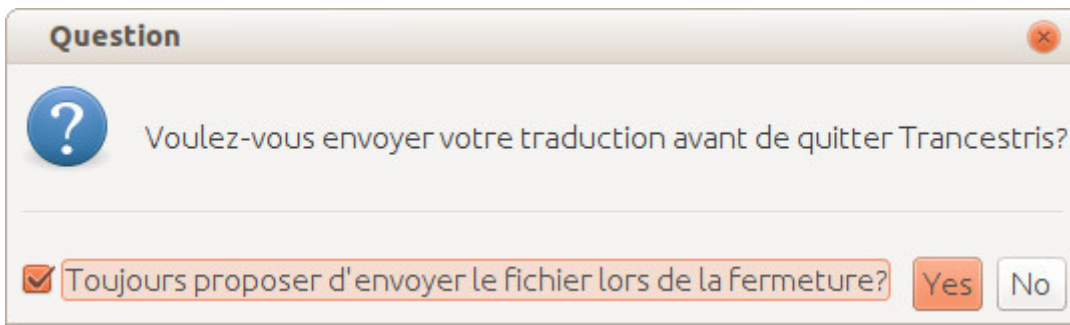
In case the automatic send does not work, just send this file manually to us.

If the sending is successful, you should see the following confirmation message.



You may then close Transcestris.

In case try to close Transcestris before sending us the translation work, you will see the following message.



You may ignore this message and click "No".

Checking your translation has been included in Ancestris

Once you have sent us the translation files, please wait for our confirmation that it did make it into Ancestris before continuing the translation work.

Your translation file are manually integrated into the code of transcestis.

Every night, Ancestris is compiled and all translations received from all translators during the day are integrated into the software.

The following morning, your translation has been integrated and the new translation file is available.

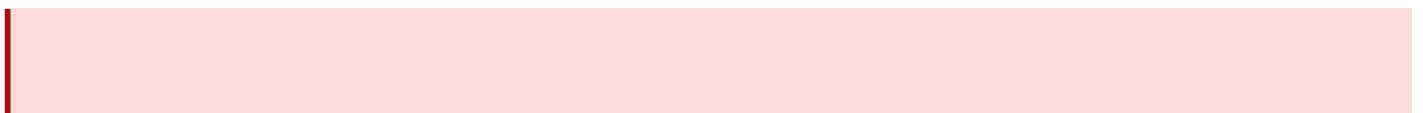
You can check Ancestris if your work is visible in the software.

Then you can download the new translation file and continue translating.

For that, just start Transcestis which will detect the change and offer to download the new translation file.

Delayed sending

If you want to keep working on some translation and send thel another day, make sure you save your work



If you saved your work and closed Trancestris without sending it to us, **DO NOT download the translation file again** when you reopen Transcestris, otherwise it would overwrite the file where your modifications have been made.

Trancestris will warn you, but we prefer to tell you so you do not waste your efforts.

Tip : regardless of the quantity of translations you did, it is preferable to send it to us before you close Trancestris.

Develop the software

Improve some of Ancestris functionalities in terms of design or through coding.

Develop the software

Coding

If you master the Java programming language, or if you are designing icons, you are welcome to help. Please let us know.

Commitment

Developing Ancestris is a long term commitment. You will be responsible for creating and owning features that several thousand of users will use and you will be accountable for it.

These developments will also have to "fit" with the rest of the software so as to offer a smooth and consistent user experience.

These developments will have to match a certain quality of coding in order to be leveraged by other developers and reusable potentially.

Last but not least, you will join a team. We will help you integrate our team, you will need to help us help you.

If all that is ok with you, please email support@ancestris.org to let us know of your intention.

Please provide your name, a login and a password in the email. We will create an access to the source code and we will set you up.

What you will need:

- **Java development kit**
- **Latest version of Netbeans**

Once these two packages installed, you will be able to retrieve the Ancestris code.

Retrieving the source code and starting to code

In Netbeans, go to "Team" > "Subversion" > "Checkout".

Accessing the code

- In the URL, type in <http://svn.ancestris.org> (type "http", and not "https").
- Use the login and password you did received from us. Anonymous access exists but it does not allow you to make changes to the code. The anonymous access is with login "**anonymous**" and password "**password**".

Downloading the code

- Folder: trunk
- Revision: HEAD
- (x) Skip "trunk" and only extract its content
- Fill in th directory name where you want the code to be stored.
- Local folder: anything you like. For instance:
 - /home/johnny/svn/ancestris on Linux
 - C:\Users\johnny\Documents\svn\ancestris on Windows
- (x) Search NetBeans project after checkout.

Then click "Finish".

Once the code is downloaded, two project folders are available: **AncestrisCore** and **AncestrisExtensions**.

You are then able to make changes to the code.

Improve Ancestris design and icons

If you are willing to share you design capacities to Ancestris user interface or graphical design, this is very simple.

Let us know what you can do and we will arrange the best way to integrate your contributions.

Thank you very much in advance for your help and contributions

