



Multisites Partial User Sharing v1.3
for Joomla 1.5, 2.5, 3.x and 4.0

User's Manual

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Project : JMS Multisites	Customer : Edwin2Win
Product : Multisites Partial User Sharing	Written by : Edwin CHERONT
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Edwin2Win sprlu. Rue des Robiniers, 107 - 7024 Ciplu - Belgium - VAT no: BE 0477.727.077
RPM: Mons Belfius bank - IBAN: BE16 7775 9791 7574 - BIC: GKCCBEBB
Tel: +32 (0)65/84.06.98 - Fax: +32 (0)65/84.12.97 - Email: info@jms2win.com



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Revision History

Version	Date	Description
1.0.0	20-aug-2011	Initial version
1.1.2	30-nov-2011	Add the partial user sharing for Joomla 1.5 and add the possibility to completely hide the users in a website with a new component that allow select the website in where the users are available.
1.2.00	14-mar-2013	Add notes concerning the Joomla 3.0 and 3.1 compatibility. Requires JMS 1.3.x and does not support JMS 1.2.x.
1.2.02	20-nov-2013	Updated the user manual to add Joomla 3.2 compatibility and update some images.
1.3.00	17-oct-2021	Add joomla 4.0 compatibility and PHP 7.3, 7.4 compatibilities Also add the possibility to search for the users and sites when there are a lot of rows in the combo-box. Add the possibility to automatically to grant the permission of a “brother” slave site when creating a new user.. This allows for example to grant the permission to a “portal” website that would be also a slave site.

1. Introduction

Welcome to the Jms Multi Sites' world.

This user manual describes the “Multisites Partial User Sharing” that is a component that also includes a set of plugins to allow partially share the users between different websites defined under Jms Multi Sites.

This component and set of plugins works for Joomla 1.5, 2.5, 3.0 to 3.10 and 4.0. In the case of Joomla 1.5 the functionalities is limited to the possibility to make users present (or not) in a website. It is not possible to give different user group level like in joomla 2.5.

“Multisites Partial User Sharing” plugins requires “Jms Multi Sites” version 1.3.81 or higher for a compatibility with Joomla 4.0

The extensions were no more tested under Joomla 1.6, 1.7.

In the following chapters, we started to present how install the extensions and next we present the concept.

Finally a detailed description of the parameters is provided.

2. Installation

Multisites Partial User Sharing is a zipped file containing a component that also contain a set of plugins that the component will automatically install:

- **com_multisitesusersite_Vx.x.x.zip** : is the Joomla 1.5, 2.5, 3.x & 4.0 component that :
 - Allows managing the permission of the users and decide in which slave site a user has the access.
 - Add the following plugins:
 - **Multisites patches definitions for partial user sharing** : is a “multisites” plugin that add a new sharing definition in the core Jms Multi Sites sharing;
 - **Save Multisites ID**: is a “system” plugin that record the site ID on which a new user is create or remove entries in the component above when a user is deleted;
 - **Delete Multisites ID**: is a “multisites” plugin that remove, in the component above, all the users attached to the multisites ID that is deleted;
 - **Partial User Sharing**: is a Joomla 2.5 “user” plugin that allow propagating on several websites the “User group level” attached to a user; There is no equivalent plugin for joomla 1.5. This functionality is exclusively available for joomla 2.5.

In case where the users would like to also have the plugin available for a manual installion, a zip also contain the set of plugins.

The installation consists in unzipping the “MultisitesPatialUserSharing_unzip_first_Vxxx.zip” into a temporary directory. When unzipped, you have the access to the components that also contain all the plugins listed above.

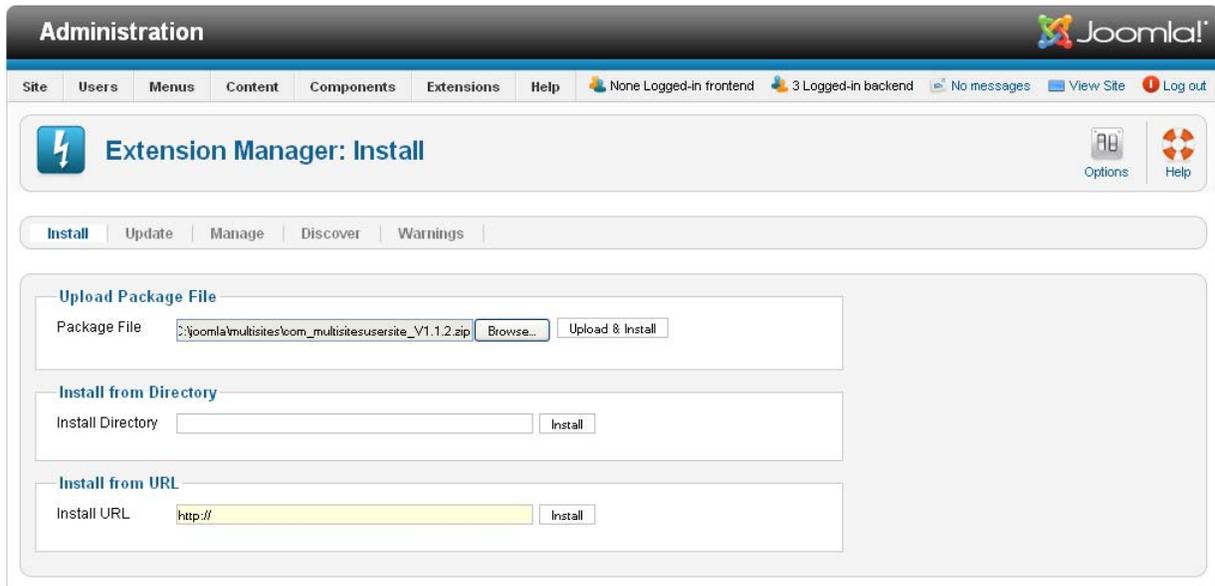
2.1. Joomla 1.5, 2.5, 3.x and 4.0 installation

Joomla 1.5, 2.5, 3.x and 4.0 provide a very simple installation interface.

We just described the installation under Joomla 2.5 as the one for Joomla 1.5, 3.x and 4.0 are similar.

The installation consists in selecting the “com_multisitesusersites_Vx.x.x.zip” file with the browse button and after click on the “Upload & Install” button (as shown below).

The installation must be done on the master website.



The screenshot shows the Joomla! Administration interface for the Extension Manager. The top navigation bar includes 'Administration' and the Joomla! logo. Below the navigation bar, there are tabs for 'Site', 'Users', 'Menus', 'Content', 'Components', 'Extensions', and 'Help'. The 'Extensions' tab is active, showing the 'Extension Manager: Install' page. The page has a sub-navigation bar with 'Install', 'Update', 'Manage', 'Discover', and 'Warnings'. The main content area is divided into three sections: 'Upload Package File', 'Install from Directory', and 'Install from URL'. The 'Upload Package File' section has a text input field for 'Package File' containing the path 'joomla/multisites/com_multisitesusersite_v1.1.2.zip', a 'Browse...' button, and an 'Upload & Install' button. The 'Install from Directory' section has a text input field for 'Install Directory' and an 'Install' button. The 'Install from URL' section has a text input field for 'Install URL' containing 'http://', a 'http://' placeholder, and an 'Install' button. The top right of the interface shows user status: 'None Logged-in frontend', '3 Logged-in backend', 'No messages', 'View Site', and 'Log out'.

When the installation is completed, you have a table that give you the list of extension that are installed in the same time as the component. In Joomla 1.5, the plugin “user - partial user sharing” is not installed.

Administration Joomla!

Site Users Menus Content Components Extensions Help None Logged-in frontend 3 Logged-in backend No messages View Site Log out

Extension Manager: Install

Options Help

Install Update Manage Discover Warnings

i Installing component was successful.

Jms Multi Sites User Site.
Store the Site ID where a user is created.
This information allow for example to filter the user on the site where they were created.

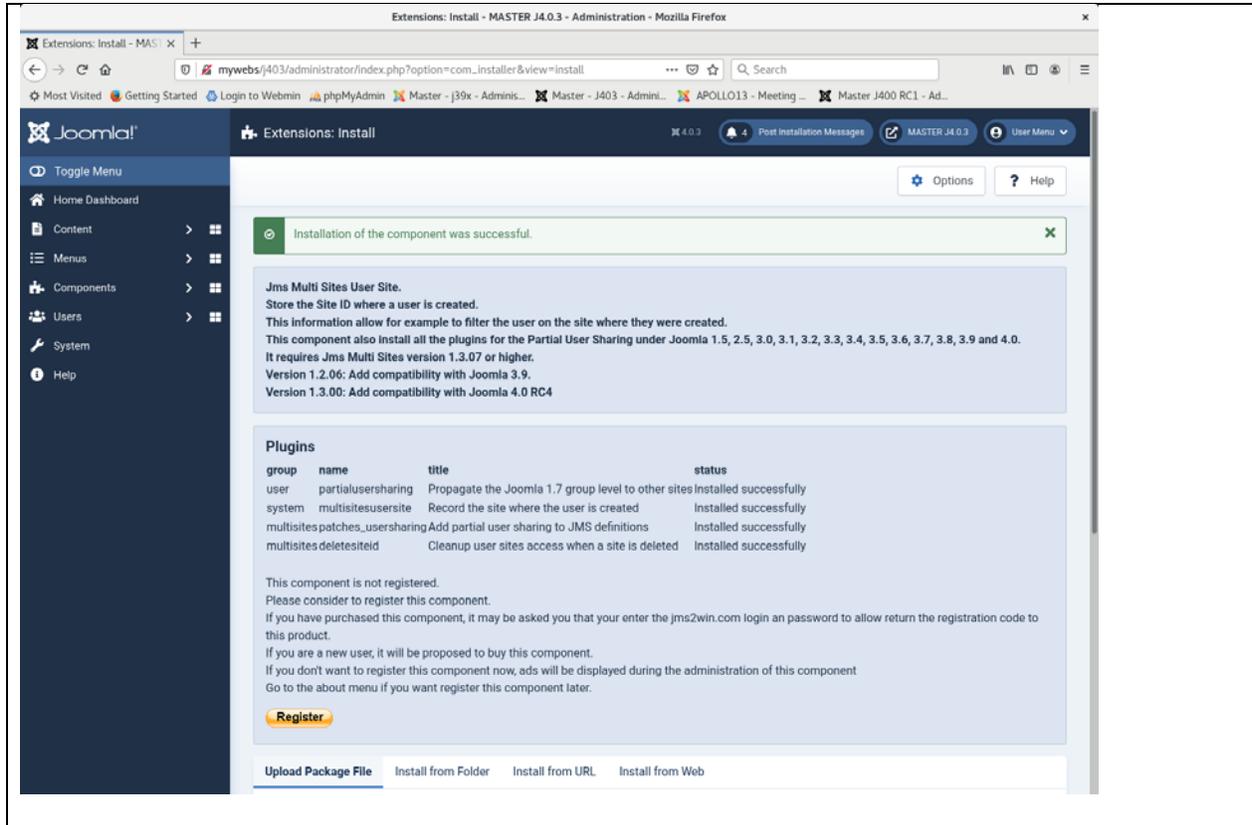
Plugins

group	name	title	status
user	partialusersharing	Propagate the Joomla 1.7 group level to other sites	Installed successfully
system	multisitesusersite	Record the site where the user is created	Installed successfully
multisites	patches_usersharing	Add partial user sharing to JMS definitions	Installed successfully
multisites	deletesiteid	Cleanup user sites access when a site is deleted	Installed successfully

Upload Package File
Package File

Install from Directory
Install Directory

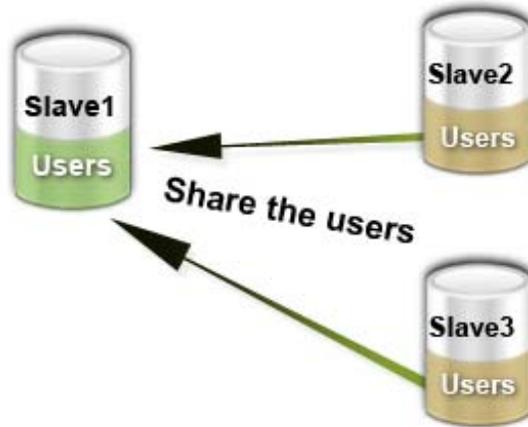
Install from URL
Install URL



The “Multisites Patches User Sharing” is a plugin that you have to be enabled on the master website. It is not required in a slave site.

Concerning the “User - Partial User Sharing” plugin, it can be re-installed in each Joomla! 2.5 slave site where you want to propagate the “User Group Level association” to a specific list of slave site that you can configure in the plugin. You can use the “JMS Tool” menu to proceed with the re-install of the plugins into the slave sites.

The “Multi Site User Site” component should only be installed in each website where physically the users are stored.
For example, when you have an architecture like the “slave2” and “slave3” that share the physically users present in “slave1” then you just have to install the component into the “slave1” website.



3. Concept of the “Partial User Sharing”

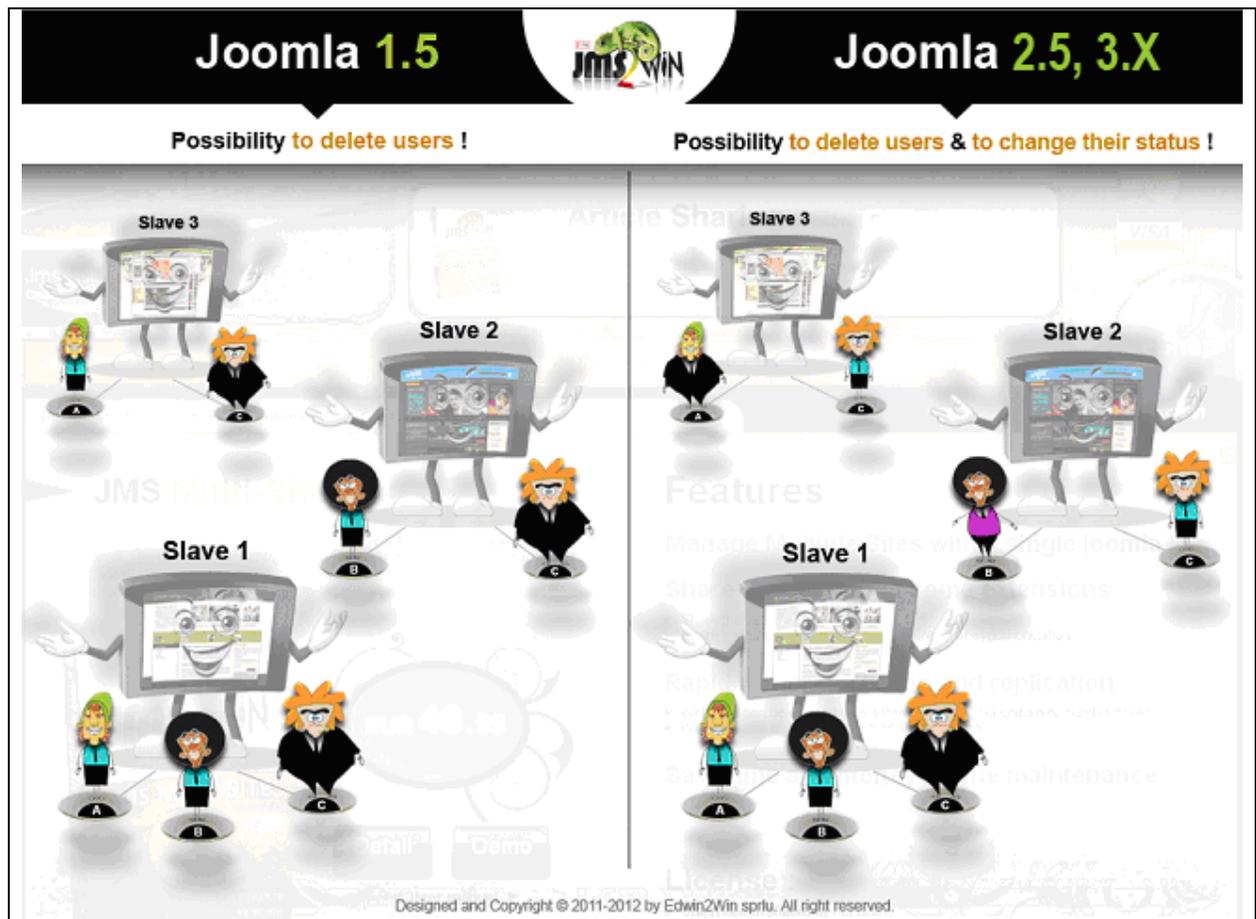
The “Partial User Sharing version 1.0” was mainly based on the facility present in Joomla 2.5 to assign specific group to a user and was not available for Joomla 1.5.

The “Partial User Sharing version 1.1” add a new facility to declare the list of websites in a user is present and also the one that can be considered as its default website.

To provide this new facility, the “Partial User Sharing” version 1.1 add a component to manage the list of website where a user can be present.

The version 1.2 add the compatibility with Joomla 3.x.

The version 1.3 add the compatibility with Joomla 4.0 and also add the possibility to search in the “user” and “site” combo-box when there are a lot of row (> 10 items).



In Joomla 1.5, you can just decide which user is present in which websites. In the figure above, we took 3 users to illustrate the case where some users have access to a limited number of website event the fact that they are shared across the websites.

Therefore, you can create something like illustrated in the table below.

	Slave 1	Slave 2	Slave 3
User A	Registered	-	Registered
User B	Registered	Registered	-
User C	Super Admin	Super Admin	Super Admin

In Joomla 2.5, you can also specify the group of users in each website and therefore have a user with “Super Admin” privileges in one website and have a normal “registered” user privileges in another website.

	Slave 1	Slave 2	Slave 3
User A	Registered	-	Super Admin
User B	Registered	Publisher	-
User C	Super Admin	Registered	Registered

Remark:

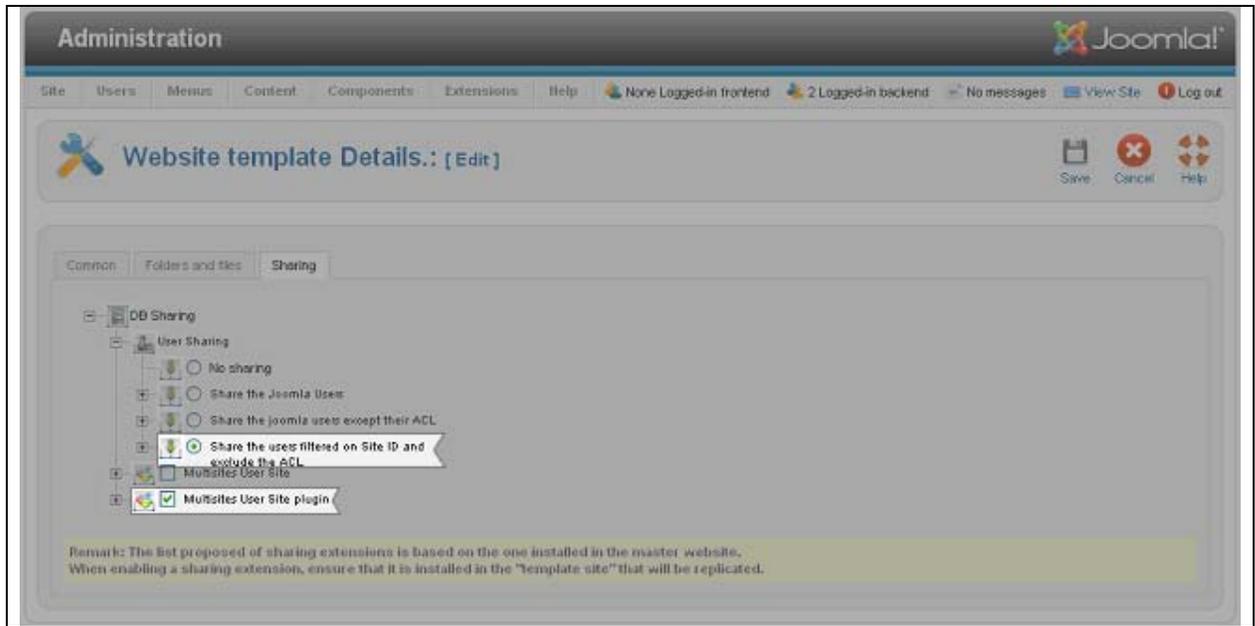
The website that physically contain the users cannot be filtered with the “Multisites User Site” component.

The selection of the users that have access to a specific website is only possible when you create the slave site with the “partial users sharing”.

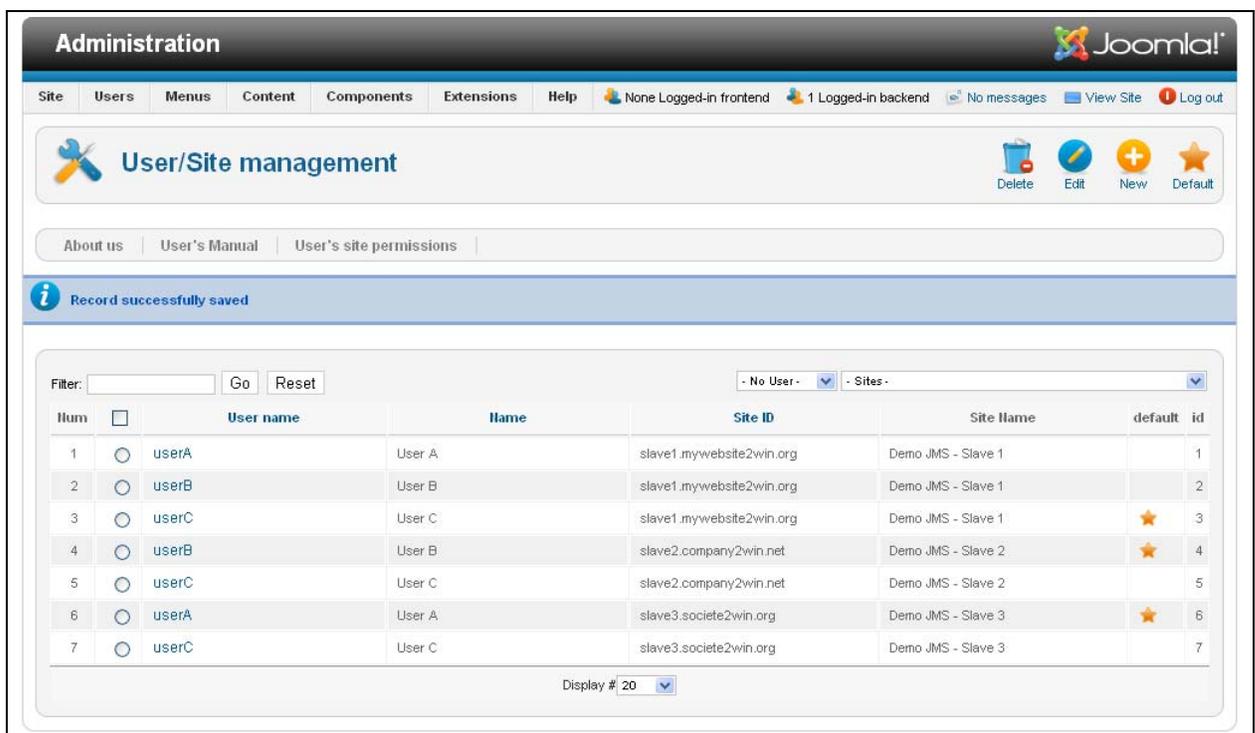
In other words, with the sample above, only the “slave2” and “slave3” websites can have the users restricted.

Below, we provide the JMS Template rule that is recommended to create the “slave 2” and “slave 3” websites.

- We selected the “Share the users filtered on Site ID and exclude the ACL” that allow creating the slave site that partially share the users depending on the Site ID for which they have the permission.
- Multisites User Site plugin that allow sharing the « multisites user site » information between the different websites and that is required by the previous rule (Share the users filtered on Site ID and exclude the ACL).



In the case where these additional options would not be present, verify that the patches for the “Multisites - Partial User Sharing” is enabled. Based on the sample presented above, the slave 1 “multisites User Site” component can be configured as illustrated below.

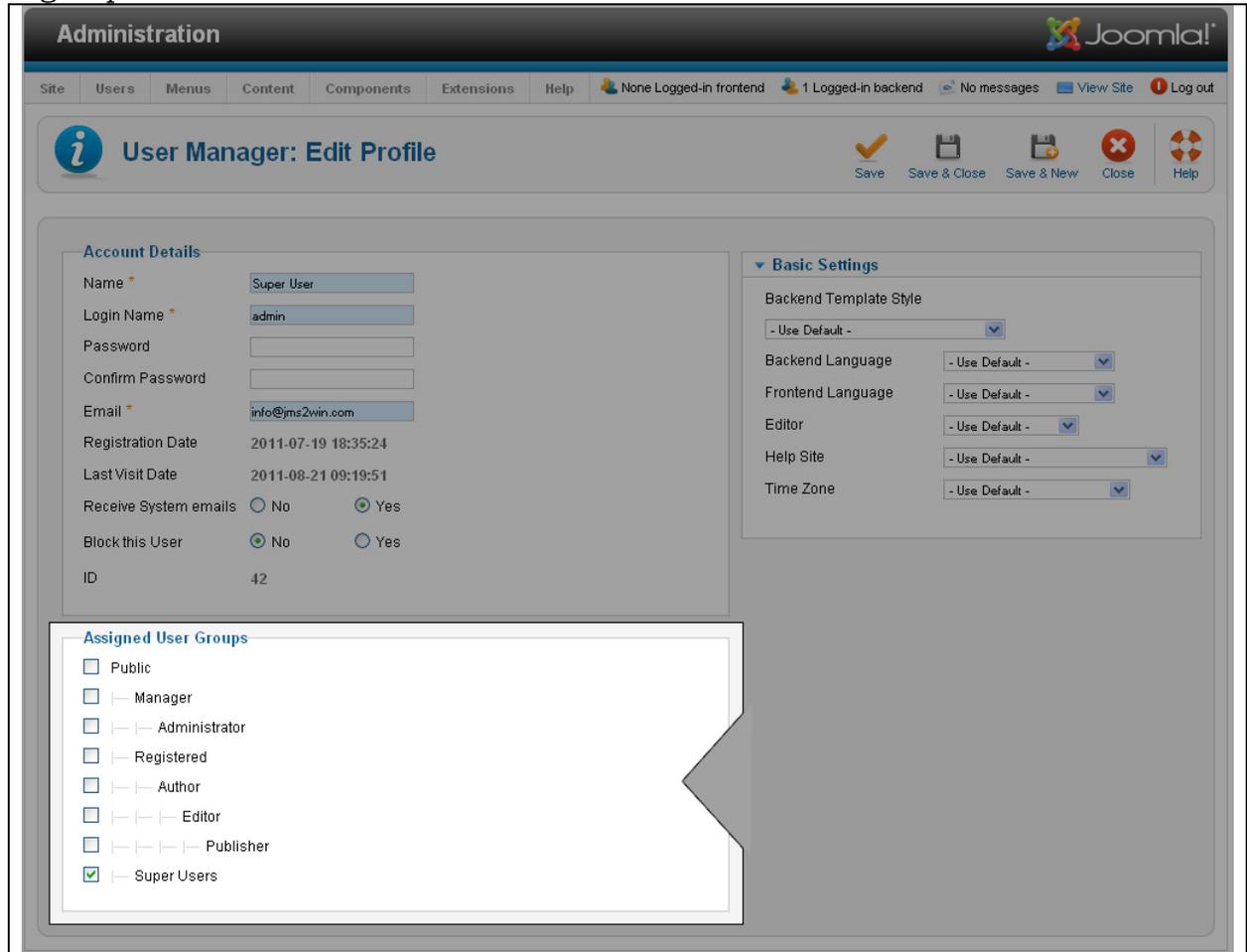


You can also see that a “default” column is present in the “User/Site” management. This column allow identifying which is website where the user

were created. This information can be helpful to know the virtual “owner site” of the user id.

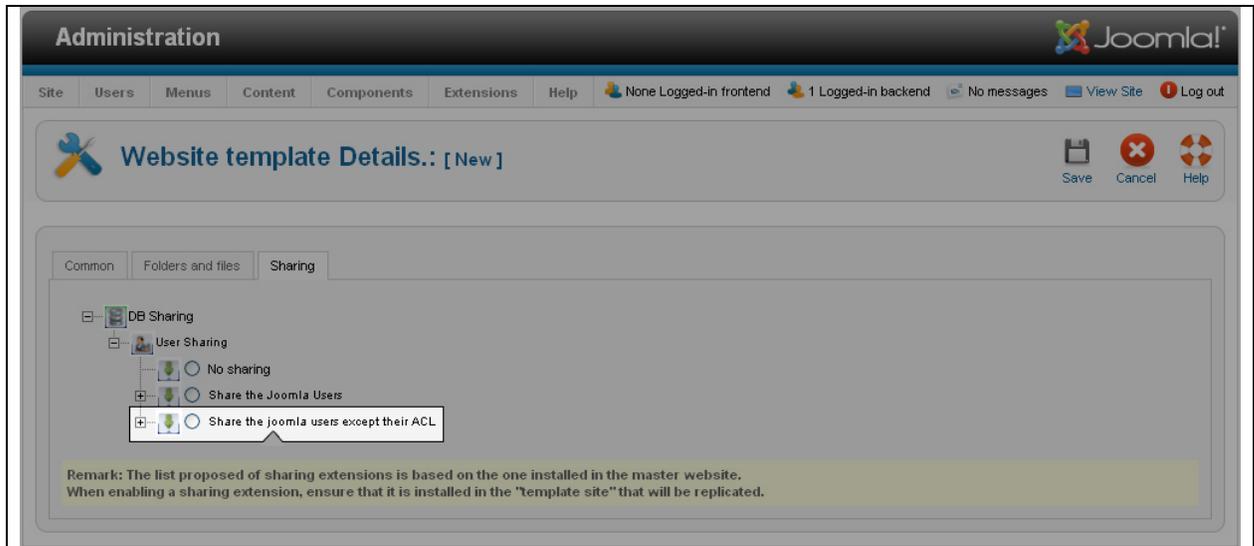
3.1. Joomla 2.5, 3.x & 4.0 specific facilities

In Joomla 2.5 and higher, it is possible to assign the users with different group for each website.



Therefore, to have a partial user sharing, the idea is to share all the users information between the website except their User Group association.

This specific “Partial User Sharing” is defined in the “Multisites Patches User Sharing” plugin that add a new option to share the user except their “ACL” access control level.



When this kind of partial user sharing is selected, this mean that each time a user is created in a website, this user is shared between the website except it group level association.

If you want during the user creation that he has access to several website automatically among all the “share sites” then the second “partial user sharing” plugin must be setup.

This allow for example:

- Suppose that you have defined that site 1, site 2, site 3, site 4, site 5 can share the users
- When a user is created on site 1, you also want that the user has automatically access to the site 3 and site 4.

In this case, the “Partial User Sharing” plugin allow setting up the site 1 to propagate the “User Group Level association” automatically in the Site 3 and Site 4.

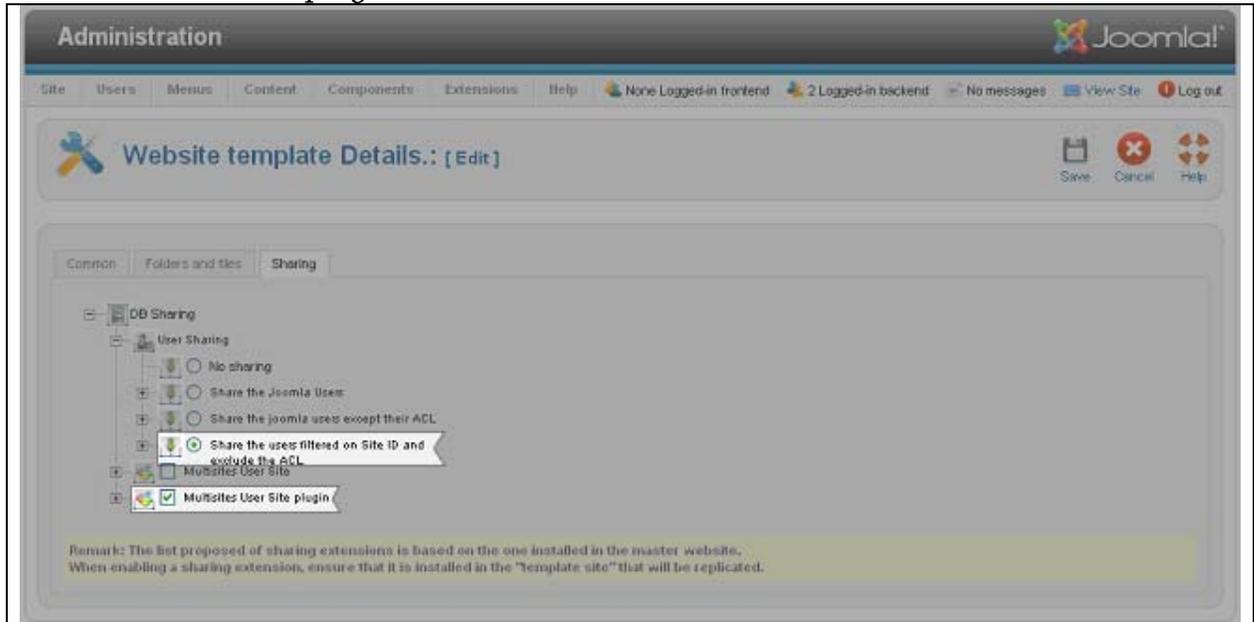
Otherwise, you should login as Super Administrator in each sites and change manually the “User Group association” to authorize or reject the access on a website.

This solution has the disadvantage that the “Super Administrator” of the websites see all the users including the one that does not have any assigned “group level”.

If you also want that the “Super Administrator” only see the user that are defined with the “User/Site” component then you need to use the solution to filter the users on the “Site ID” described hereafter.

When you share the users but also filter them on the Site ID like illustrated below, this result by removing the users totally from a slave site depending on the setting that is defined in the “Multi Sites User Site” component.

In this case, you need to share the users between the website with *”Share the users filtered on Site ID and exclude the ACL”* and also to request sharing the *”Multisites User Site plugin”*



3.2. Summary of a typical installation

Here we summarize the procedure to do a “slave 2” and “slave 3” websites that share a fresh “slave 1” websites users.

- Install the *”Multisites User Site”* on the master
- Verify that the *”Multisites - Patches Partial User Sharing”* is enabled in the master.
- Create a fresh slave site to build the “slave 1”
- Use the JMS Tool menu to install the *”Multi Sites User Site”* component in the “slave 1”.
- Create a JMS template rule (shSlave1) where you select the “slave 1” as template site and where you select the sharing with
 - *”Share the users filtered on Site ID and exclude the ACL”*
 - *”Multisites User Site plugin” (System – save Multisites ID).*
- Create the slave 2 and slave 3 using the rule “shSlave1” defined in the previous step.
- Ensure that the *”Multisites - delete Multisites ID”* is enabled in each website where JMS component is available in the back-end. Normally, it should only be available from the master but sometimes, it may also be installed in the slave site when a website creation from the front-end is required from a slave site.
- Ensure that the *”System – save Multisites ID”* is installed and enabled in each websites that share the users.

4. Configuration of the plugins

As explained in the previous chapter, there is 1 component and (3 or 4) plugins depending on the Joomla version:

- **“Multisites - User Site”** component that allow defining the website where a user is present. Otherwise, this is like if the user does not exists at all in the slave site (event when it is shared).
- **“Multisites - Patches User Sharing”** that add the “Share the Joomla users except their ACL” option into the Jms Multi Sites sharing definition
- **“System - Save Multisites ID”** (multisites / multisitesusersite) that automatically create an entry in the User/Site corresponding to the user and give him the access.
This plugin is called when a user is created or deleted.
The new user entry created in the User/Site is also assigned as default site.
- **“Multisites - Delete Site ID”** allow cleanup the User/Site relationship to remove all the entries corresponding to a site ID that is deleted.
This plugin should only be installed and enabled in the website that allow removing slave sites. (Normally the master website).
- **“User - Partial User Sharing”** that allow propagating the Joomla 2.5 “User Group association” to a list of slave sites.

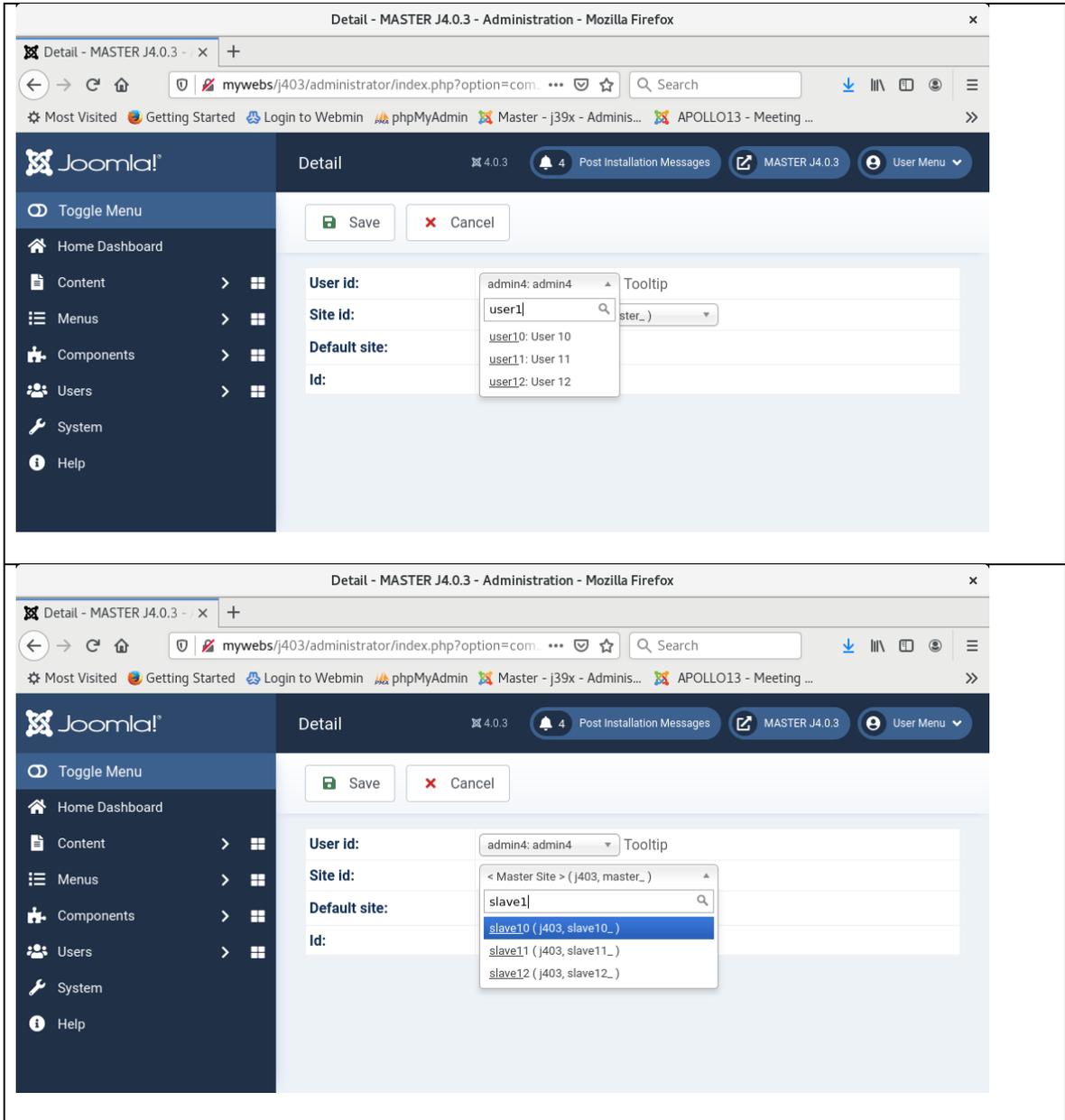
4.1. Multisites - User / Site relationship

The “Multisites User/Site” component is used to manage the relationship between the users and the websites and define where the list of websites where a user is present.

In addition, it is possible to define a “default site” for each user the default website (or the website that own the user). In general, the default website is the website where the user were originally created.



Starting with the version 1.3, it is now possible to filter the users and the sites to make the selection easier when there is a large number of users or slave sites.



4.2. Multisites - Patches User Sharing

This plugin is only required on the master website.

It allows patching the standard “Jms Multi Sites” to add the possibility to partial share the users.

This add in the JMS Template rule the possibility:

- To “*Share the Joomla users except their ACL*”.
- To “*Share the Joomla users except the Access Control Level and also filter them on Site ID*”.
- To share the “*Multisites User Site*” component
- To share the “*Multisites User Site plugin*” also called “*System – save Multisites ID*” plugin.

There is no parameter for this plugin.

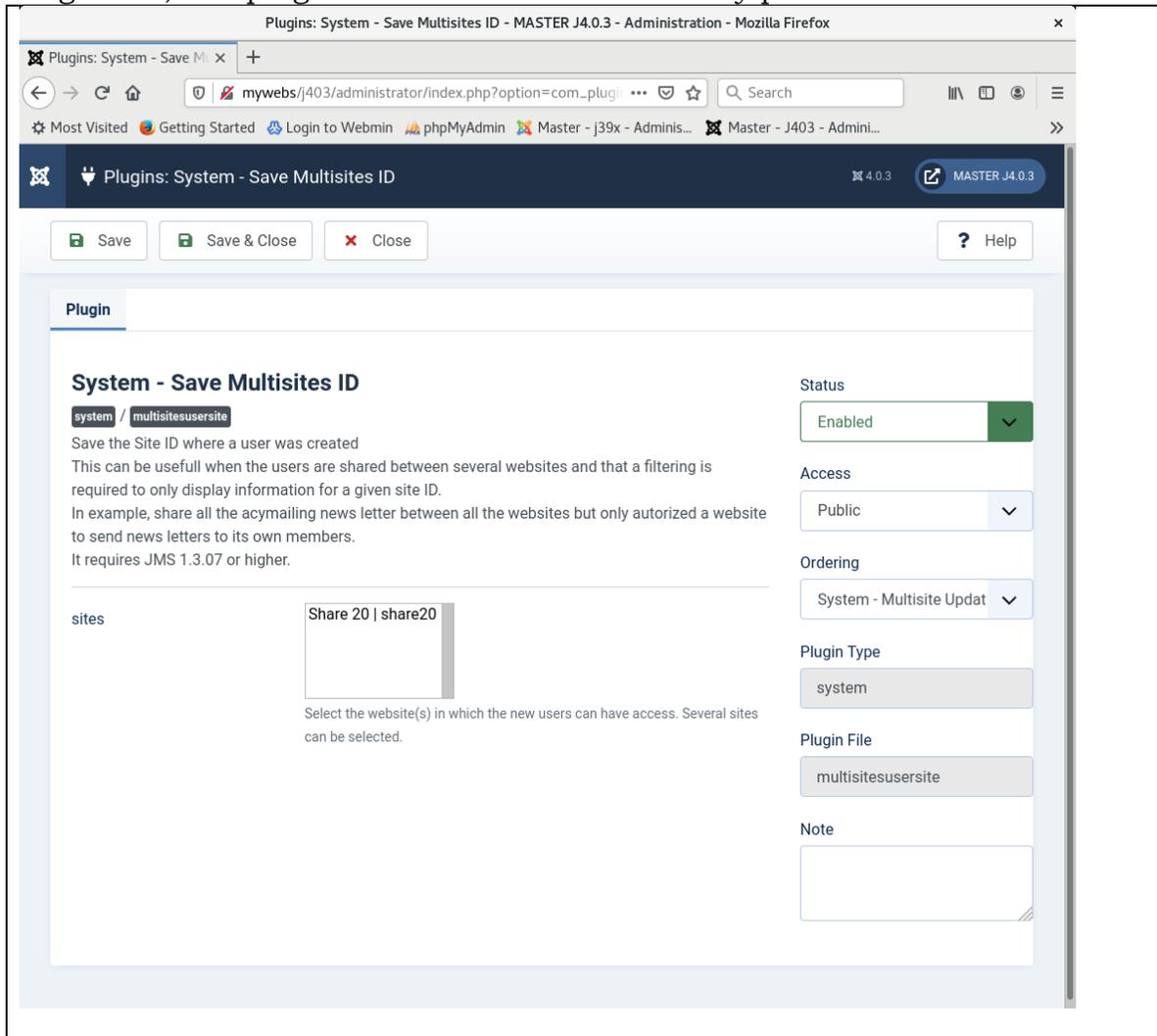
You just need to enable the plugin in the master website to have the new options added into Jms Multi Sites.

4.3. System- save Multisites ID (multisites / multisitesusersite)

This plugin is responsible to add new (or remove) entries automatically in the User/Site table when the users are created or deleted.

So that the new users created are automatically granted into the slave site where they are registered. In addition, the new users are automatically assigned as default to the website where they are created.

In general, this plugin does NOT need to select any parameters.



Under version 1.3, it has been given the possibility to save the “Site ID” of the user into another slave site to grant the permission to a “brother” site like a “portal” or something like that.

It must be enabled in each websites that require sharing the users and where the “User/Site” filtering is enabled.

It also requires that the “User/Site” table be shared between the websites.

4.4. Multisites- delete Multisites ID

This plugin does not contain any parameters.

It must be only enabled in each websites that can delete a JMS site definition.

In general it is only present in the master website that is normally the website that manage the site definition and that can delete websites.

4.5. User - Partial User Sharing

This plugin must be installed in each website where you want to propagate the “user group association” to other “shared sites”.

The screenshot shows the Joomla! Administration interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with 'Administration' and the Joomla! logo. Below it, a menu bar includes 'Site', 'Users', 'Menus', 'Content', 'Components', 'Extensions', and 'Help'. A status bar indicates 'None Logged-in frontend', '1 Logged-in backend', 'No messages', 'View Site', and 'Log out'. The main content area is titled 'Plug-in Manager: Plug-ins'. It features a search filter, a table of installed plugins, and action buttons (Edit, Enable, Disable, Check In, Options, Help). The table lists the following plugins:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Plug-in Name	Enabled	Ordering	Type	Element	Access	ID
<input type="checkbox"/>	User - Partial User Sharing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	0	user	partialusersharing	Public	10009
<input type="checkbox"/>	User - Profile	<input type="checkbox"/>	0	user	profile	Public	433
<input type="checkbox"/>	User - Contact Creator	<input type="checkbox"/>	1	user	contactcreator	Public	431
<input type="checkbox"/>	User - Joomla!	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2	user	joomla	Public	432

At the bottom of the table, there is a 'Display # 20' dropdown menu.

The screenshot shows the configuration page for the 'User - Partial User Sharing' plugin. The page title is 'Plugins: User - Partial User Sharing - MASTER J4.0.3 - Administration - Mozilla Firefox'. The browser address bar shows 'mywebs/j403/administrator/index.php?option=com_plugins...'. The page has a dark blue header with 'Plugins: User - Partial User Sharing' and 'MASTER J4.0.3'. Below the header are buttons for 'Save', 'Save & Close', 'Close', and 'Help'. The main content area is titled 'Plugin' and contains the following information:

User - Partial User Sharing
 user / partialusersharing
 Propagate the Joomla 1.6, 17, 2.5, 3.x or 4.0 User Group Access Level to the list of shared websites selected.
 It is recommended to use Jms Multi Sites version 1.3.81 or higher to have the list of sites filtered on the sites that are shared together.
 This plugin is not designed and does not work for Joomla 1.5.

Sites selection
 All Selected only
 Define if you want to select all sites or just some specific selected sites only.

sites
 Share 20 | share20
 Select the website(s) in which the new users can have access. Several sites can be selected.

Synchronize on update
 Yes No
 Synchronize the User Group on update. No means that the user group is only copied when the user is created

Configuration options:

- Status: Enabled
- Access: Public
- Ordering: User - Partial User Sharir
- Plugin Type: user
- Plugin File: partialusersharing
- Note: (empty text area)

5. System requirements

In the version 1.0.x we originally developed the following plugins for Joomla 1.6.5 or Joomla 1.7.0

Later in the version 1.1.x we added a component to allow filtering the users under Joomla 1.5 and 1.7.

We didn't test the extensions under Joomla 1.6. So we cannot guarantee that it still works under Joomla 1.6.

With the version 1.3.x, we added the compatibility with Joomla 4.0 and therefore require JMS 1.3.81 or higher for this compatibility.

5.1. Joomla 1.5.x, 2.5.x, 3.x and 4.0.x

- MySQL 5.x or higher is required.
Latest tested under MariaDB 10.1.48
- PHP 5.3 or higher is required.
Latest tested under 7.4.16
- The Jms Multisites Version 1.3.81 or higher is required for a compatibility with Joomla 4.0.

6. License & copyrights

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