

# ISO 639-3 Registration Authority

## Request for New Language Code Element in ISO 639-3

Date: 2007-2-20

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Associated Change request number : 2006-089

(completed by Registration Authority)

Tentative assignment of new identifier : nsu

(completed by Registration Authority)

Do not be concerned about your responses causing the form text spacing or pagination to change. Use Shift-Enter to insert a new line in a form field (where allowed)

### 1. NAMES and IDENTIFICATION

- a) Preferred name of language for code element denotation:  
Sierra Negra Nahuatl
- b) Autonym (self-name) for this language:  
none
- c) Alternate names and spellings of language, and any established abbreviations:
- d) Reason for preferred name:  
Identifies language family and specifies which by the region.
- e) Name of ethnic group or description of people who use this language and approximate population of users, if in use today:  
25,000 - 30,000
- f) Preferred three letter identifier, if available:

Your suggestion will be taken into account, but the Registration Authority will determine the identifier to be proposed. Language identifiers are not intended to be an abbreviation for a name of the language, but to serve as a device to identify a given language uniquely. With thousands of languages, many sets of which have similar names, it is not possible to provide identifiers that resemble a language name in every case.

### 2. TEMPORAL DESCRIPTION and LOCATION

- a) Is this a
  - ☒ Living language
  - ☐ Nearly extinct/secondary use only (includes languages in revival)
  - ☐ Recently extinct language
  - ☐ Historical language
  - ☐ Ancient language
  - ☐ Artificially constructed language

(Select one. See explanations of these types at <http://www.sil.org/iso639%2D3/types.asp>)

- b) Countries where used:  
Mexico
- c) Region within each country: towns, districts, states or provinces where used:  
State of Puebla, southern part of the state, 13 towns
- d) For an ancient or historical language, give approximate time frame; for a recently extinct language, give the approximate date of the last known user's death

### 3. MODALITY AND LINGUISTIC AFFILIATION

- a) This language is: ☐ Signed ☒ Spoken ☐ Attested only in writings
- b) Language family, if classified; origin, if artificially constructed:  
Uto-Aztecan
- c) Closest language linguistically. For signed language, note influence from other signed or spoken languages:  
Southeastern Puebla Nahuatl

### 4. LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT AND USE

- a) What written literature, inscriptions or recordings exist in this language? Are there newspapers, radio or television broadcasts, etc.?:  
Only a few survey tapes and transcriptions.
- b) Is this language officially recognized by any level of government? Is it used in any levels of formal education as a language of instruction (for other subjects)? Is it taught in schools?:  
INALI, the national indigenous institute is still working on their catalogue of Mexican indigenous languages. So at this point, I don't know what language variants are on that list.
- c) Comment on factors of ethnolinguistic identity and informal domains of use:  
Used in homes, local government, stores, on the street, etc. Not used much in schools and clinics as well as other state and federal government programs.

## 5. SOURCES OF INFORMATION

You do not need to repeat sources previously identified in the form, “Request for Change to ISO 639-3 Language Code”

a) First-hand knowledge. Describe:

b) Knowledge through personal communication. Describe:

c) Knowledge from published sources. Include known dictionaries, grammars, etc. (please give complete bibliographical references):  
Official government sites were consulted in initial research.statistics.

### **Please return this form to:**

ISO 639-3 Registrar  
SIL International, Office of Language Information Systems  
7500 West Camp Wisdom Road  
Dallas, Texas 75236 USA  
ISO 639-3/RA web site: <http://www.sil.org/iso639%2D3/default.asp>  
Email: [iso639-3@sil.org](mailto:iso639-3@sil.org)  
An email attachment of this completed form is preferred.

### **Further information:**

If your request for a new language code element is supported by the Registration Authority as a formal proposal, you may be contacted separately by researchers working with the Ethnologue or with LinguistList asking you to provide additional information.

### **Sources of documentation for ISO 639-3 identifiers:**

Gordon, Raymond G., Jr. (ed.), 2005. Ethnologue: Languages of the World, Fifteenth edition. Dallas, Tex.: SIL International. Online version: <http://www.ethnologue.com/> .  
Linguist List. Ancient and Extinct Languages. <http://linguistlist.org/forms/langs/GetListOfAncientLgs.html>  
Linguist List. Constructed Languages. <http://linguistlist.org/forms/langs/GetListOfConstructedLgs.html>