ISO 639-3 Registration Authority

Request for New Language Code Element in ISO 639-3

This form is to be used in conjunction with a “Request for Change to ISO 639-3 Language Code” form

Date: 2007-5-14

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Associated Change request number : 2007-017 (completed by Registration Authority)
Tentative assignment of new identifier : wmd (completed by Registration Authority)

PLEASE NOTE: This completed form will become part of the public record of this change request and the history of the ISO 639-3 code set. 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:
      Mamaindé

   b) Autonym (self-name) for this language:
      Mamainsahai'gidu

   c) Common alternate names and spellings of language, and any established abbreviations:

   d) Reason for preferred name:
      This is the name used by most researchers when referring to this group.

   e) Name and approximate population of ethnic group or community who use this language:
      Total population for all dialects is 326. Mamaindé is the language name. There are three ethnic groups who speak this language or a dialect of this language. The majority ethnic group is also called Mamaindé (in the vernacular, they call themselves Mamainsidu or Mamainsani). According to a 2006 census by FUNASA, the Brazilian Health Agency, there are 217 ethnic Mamaindé located in two villages.

      At one time there was an ethnic group called Tawendé that spoke a dialect of Mamaindé. As a separate community, the Tawendé have become extinct. The survivors of this group have become totally integrated into the Mamaindé, living in the main Mamaindé village. The Tawendé now consider themselves Mamaindé, but some remnants of the Tawendé dialect may still be detected in the speech of some members of this formerly separate ethnic group.

      The third ethnic group that speaks a dialect of Mamaindé is called Negaroté. The name of their dialect is also referred to as Negaroté. They are definitely a distinct ethnic group that has not integrated with the Mamaindé, although intermarriage between them is common. The Negarote still consider themselves to be Negaroté and not Mamaindé. Their autonym is "Nagadotdu". According to the 2006 FUNASA census there are 109 Negaroté. They live in two villages (not the same villages as the Mamaindé).
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. The identifiers is 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
- [ ] Macrolanguage

(Select one. See explanations of these types at http://www.sil.org/iso639-3/types.asp)

b) Countries where used:
   Brazil

c) Region within each country: towns, districts, states or provinces where used. Include GPS coordinates of the approximate center of the language, if possible:

   The Mamaindé live in the northwest of the state of Mato Grosso in Brazil between the Cabixi and Pardo Rivers. There are 192 speakers in the village of Capitão Pedro and 25 speakers in the village of Cabixi.
   The Negaroté live south of the Pardo River. They live in two villages, Negaroté village is the main village and Piolho village is a smaller village.
   The Mamaindé, Negaroté and Tawendé form a group or cluster that originated from the Guaporé River area.

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
- [x] Spoken
- [ ] Attested only in writings

b) Language family, if classified; origin, if artificially constructed:
   Nambiquaran, Northern (note, Northern is a new level in the language classification paradigm).

c) Closest language linguistically. For signed language, note influence from other signed or spoken languages:
   Latundê, Lakondê, and Tawandê are the closest languages. These three form a group or cluster that originated from the Roosevelt River area.
4. LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT AND USE

a) What written literature, inscriptions or recordings exist in this language? Are there newspapers, radio or television broadcasts, etc.?:
- a revised edition of Kingstons set of literacy primers
- a complete new series of 7 literacy primers with new orthography
- a book of colors
- various readers or short stories to be used in school
- a Maimainde glossary of nouns (with some indigenous artwork)
- a redemptive analogy book (comparing 4 legends to parallel scripture passages)
- translation of Genesis 1-11
- translation of a "New Believers Book" - a compilation of 125 scripture passages throughout scripture, accompanied by a tape
- a songbook of ethnic music with scriptural lyrics (composed by Dr. Tom Avery) accompanied by a tape
- a songbook of portuguese choruses translated into Maimainde accompanied by a tape

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?
Materials are available in the schools for literacy instruction, but are mostly left unused.

c) Comment on factors of ethnolinguistic identity and informal domains of use:
In spite of speaking close varieties of the same language, the Negaroté and the Maimaindé continue to have strong individual ethnic identities and think of themselves as separate peoples.

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:
This proposal is based in general on my field work among the Maimaindé for the the past 16 years, as well as my numerous contacts with the Negarote. Also, a sociolinguistic survey of Maimaindé/Negaroté/Latundé conducted by Stan Anonby and myself in 2004. The word list for this survey is available at - "Eberhard, David. 2006. Maimaindé/Latundé Comparative Word List. SIL Brazil Technical Publications. Dallas, Tex.: SIL International. Online. URL:http://www.sil.org/americas/brasil/PUBLCNLS/LING/MDLatwdl.pdf. May 15, 2007

b) Knowledge through personal communication. Describe:

c) Knowledge from published sources. Include known dictionaries, grammars, etc. (please give complete bibliographical references):


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  
Email: 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:
