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: 2007-5-15

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Associated Change request number: 2007-090 (completed by Registration Authority)
Tentative assignment of new identifier: lkc (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:
   Kucong

b) Autonym (self-name) for this language:
   Lahu

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

d) Reason for preferred name:
   Used in Chinese sources to refer to this language as distinct from Lahu proper (cf. Sun 1992, YJDZ 1983, etc). Treated as a distinct ethnic minority in Vietnam under the similar name, "Cosung".

e) Name and approximate population of ethnic group or community who use this language (complete individual language currently in use):
   40,000 in China; 6,874 in Vietnam; 47,000 in all countries (Bradley 2007) cf., Bradley (1997).

f) Preferred three letter identifier, if available: lkc

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

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Artificially constructed language
Macrolanguage

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

For individual languages, also complete:

b) Countries where used:
   China, Vietnam

c) Region within each country: towns, districts, states or provinces where used. Include GPS coordinates of the approximate center of the language, if possible:
   Scattered in Central Yunnan Province, China, in the following counties: Jinping, Luchun, Jiangcheng, Mengla, Yuanjiang, Xiping, Jinggu, and other counties. Also living in Muang Te District of Lai Chau Province, Vietnam.

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:
   Sino-Tibetan, Tibeto-Burman, Burmic, Ngwi (Loloish), Central.

c) Closest language linguistically. For a Macrolanguage, list the individual languages (adopted and/or proposed) to be included in its group. For signed language, note influence from other signed or spoken languages:
   Lahu [lhu]

4. LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT AND USE

a) What written literature, inscriptions or recordings exist in this language? Are there newspapers, radio or television broadcasts, etc.?:
   None.

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?:

c) Comment on factors of ethnolinguistic identity and informal domains of use:
   Number of speakers is decreasing. Declining use among children. Potentially endangered. Most speakers also speak Hani and/or Chinese.
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:
   Dr. David Bradley

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:
