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: 2009-8-25

Name of Primary Requester: Jason Lobel

E-mail address: jasonlobel1 at yahoo dot com

Names, affiliations and email addresses of additional supporters of this request: William Hall, SIL Philippines, william_hall at sil dot org

Associated Change request number : 2009-078 (completed by Registration Authority)
Tentative assignment of new identifier : fbl (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: Bikol, West Albay
   b) Autonym (self-name) for this language: Oasnun, Ligaoño, Polanguinon, Bikol
   c) Common alternate names and spellings of language, and any established abbreviations: Ligaoño, Oasnún, Oasnun, Polanguinon, Bicol, Bikol
   d) Reason for preferred name: It is a neutral term that is based on the geographical location of the language, and does not give preference to one town over another, especially since there is variation from one town to another, and there is no "standard" form of this language agreed upon in all of the towns where it is spoken.
   e) Name and approximate population of ethnic group or community who use this language (complete individual language currently in use): Bikolano (name of ethnic group, vs. "Bikol" which is the name of the languages they speak), approximate population 260,000
   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. 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
      - [x] 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%2D3/types.asp)

For individual languages, also complete:

b) Countries where used:
   Philippines

c) Region within each country: towns, districts, states or provinces where used. Include GPS
   coordinates of the approximate center of the language, if possible:
   Luzon, Albay Province, Polangui, Oas, Ligao, and Pio Duran 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:
      Austronesian, Malayo-Polynesian, Philippine, Greater Central Philippine, Central Philippine,
      Bikol, Inland

   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:
      Bikol, Miraya

4. LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT AND USE

   a) What written literature, inscriptions or recordings exist in this language? Are there newspapers,
      radio or television broadcasts, etc.?:
      Limited amount of written literature; NT translation nearly complete.

   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:
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:
   Jason Lobel, language researcher and Ph.D. candidate at the University of Hawaii, who has done extensive fieldwork on 180 languages in the Philippines, Sabah (Malaysia), Sulawesi (Indonesia), and Brunei.

b) Knowledge through personal communication. Describe:
   Curtis McFarland, who was present for the SIL-Philippines conference on updating and correcting the Ethnologue in 2008, and various members of the Translators Association of the Philippines who were present at the 2008 and 2009 meetings.

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: