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: 2011-8-10

Name of Primary Requester: Margarita Castro, PhD

E-mail address: margarita underscore castro at sil dot org

Names, affiliations and email addresses of additional supporters of this request:
Thomas L. Willett, PhD, tom underscore willett at sil dot org; H. Andrew Black, PhD, andy underscore black at sil dot org

Associated Change request number : 2011-111   (completed by Registration Authority)
Tentative assignment of new identifier : azd   (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:
        Nahuatl, Eastern Durango

    b)   Autonym (self-name) for this language:
        Meshikan de San Pedro Shikora

    c)   Common alternate names and spellings of language, and any established abbreviations:
        Durango Aztec Eastern, Meshikan del este, Mexicanero del este, Nahuat del Este de Durango.

    d)   Reason for preferred name:
        There are two Meshikan (Nahuatl) languages in the state of Durango; therefore it is necessary to give names with geographic distinctions.

    e)   Name and approximate population of ethnic group or community who use this language (complete individual language currently in use):
        Meshikan Eastern, around 400 people.

    f)   Preferred three letter identifier, if available: AZD

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%2D3/types.asp)

For individual languages, also complete:

b) Countries where used:
Mexico

c) Region within each country: towns, districts, states or provinces where used. Include GPS coordinates of the approximate center of the language, if possible:
Municipio of Mezquital in Durango State of Mexico: San Pedro Jicora, Agua Caliente, Agua Fria and La Tinaja. GPS: West: 104°45' - East: 104° 30' - North: 22°45' - South: 22°35'

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, Southern Uto-Aztecan, Aztecan, General Aztec

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:
Eastern Durango Nahuatl. 85% intelligibility between Eastern Durango Aztec [AZD] and Western Durango-Nayarit Aztec [AZN]. Most similar to Michoacan Nahuatl [ncl] with 76% intelligibility.

4. LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT AND USE

a) What written literature, inscriptions or recordings exist in this language? Are there newspapers, radio or television broadcasts, etc.?:
Several books and booklets have been published for literacy in the schools. Some bilingual teachers are producing other materials and literature (short stories) about their culture. Some recordings and videos with information, songs, and narrations about their own culture have been made. Radio broadcasts (dialogs, messages and songs) have been broadcast from Jesus Maria in Nayarit. A written grammar exists, and a book of spelling rules.

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?:

Recognized by INALI (see supporting documentation). A community-based literacy project is in operation, and bilingual teachers continue to assess the sociolinguistic situation. The language is taught in primary schools and is used in radio programs.

c) Comment on factors of ethnolinguistic identity and informal domains of use:
The migration of speakers of Southeastern Tepehuan (stp) into the Eastern Durango Aztec area over the last few decades has put more pressure on the Nahuatl speakers than the influence of Spanish as a lingua franca. This has come about because the Tepehuan group is much larger, and has resulted in many mixed marriages between the two groups. In this situation, the Aztecs have felt their language threatened with extinction, which has generated some interest in promoting their language in their homes and schools. A few speakers have also been motivated to prepare materials in this language.

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):

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/iso639-3/default.asp
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:

Gordon, Raymond G., Jr. (ed.), 2005. Ethnologue: Languages of the World, Fifteenth edition. Dallas, Tex.: SIL International. Online version: http://www.ethnologue.com/ .

LinguistList. Ancient and Extinct Languages. http://linguistlist.org/forms/langs/GetListOfAncientLgs.html

LinguistList. Constructed Languages. http://linguistlist.org/forms/langs/GetListOfConstructedLgs.html