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

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Associated Change request number : 2012-140 (completed by Registration Authority)
Tentative assignment of new identifier : sfn (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:
      Sane, North-Western
   b) Autonym (self-name) for this language:
      Sane
   c) Common alternate names and spellings of language, and any established abbreviations:
      Matya, Goe (by speakers of San), Northern Samo
   d) Reason for preferred name:
      combination of regional distribution and autonym
   e) Name and approximate population of ethnic group or community who use this language (complete individual language currently in use):
      Based on 1995 SIL number of Matya speakers of 105.000 updated with an estimated annual population increase of 2,5% (in reality, the population of Burkina Faso increases by about 3% a year. Our estimation reflects the decreasing tendency to use Sane both as L1 or L2.). So the actual number of Matya speakers could be about 105.000 X 1,52 = 160.000 persons which has to be divided between North-Western, Central and Southern Sane speakers. The total of the population of settlements dominated by North-Western Sane is about 15,7% of the total population of settlements dominated by Matya speakers. So the total number of North-Western Sane speakers could be around 25.000 persons.
   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)

For individual languages, also complete:

b) Countries where used:

Burkina Faso  

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


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:

Mande  

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:

North Eastern Sane, Central and Southern Sane  

4. LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT AND USE

a) What written literature, inscriptions or recordings exist in this language? Are there newspapers, radio or television broadcasts, etc.?:

no written literature. The Southern Sane dialect of Kouy is used in the North-Western Sane region for evangelisation and for the production of manuals. From a linguistic point of view, this choice is far from being excellent.
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?: not used in schools (where French, Dioula and Moore are used).

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:
Intensive research on Sane languages and dialectology from 1984-2005. Research in Sane settlements for about 2 years in all Sane regions, but mostly effected within the North-Eastern Sane region. Socio-linguistic survey and basic data collection in 60 Sane settlements. Collection of more detailed comparative data (lexical data, tonology, phonology, morphology, syntax) in 12 different Sane settlements in all 4 Sane language regions. Close cooperation with priests using Sane languages for evangelisation (especially Kiembara and Tougan). On demand of the parish of Kiembara (Père Eugenio Jover), I described the alphabet and transcription principles of the Sane language of Bangassoko for the then publication Dakoye Nunu. The Sous-commission nationale du San, comité nord, published my lexical data, I transmitted to the parish of Kiembara, during a longer absence: Lexique San-français (dialecte de Bangassogo). Kiembara: Paroisse de Kiembara under the name of Erwin E. (unfortunately with a wrong set of phonetic symbols).

b) Knowledge through personal communication. Describe:
Many discussions with field workers like (Sane and non-Sane) priests working in all Sane regions about their communication experiences, e.g. Père Eli Telia Koussoube (curé de Tougan), Père Daniel (Curé de Kiembara), Père Eugenio Jover ( former missionary in Kiembara, editor in chief of Dakoye Nunu who knows Sane extremely well).

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:

