ISO 639-3 Registration Authority

Request for Change to ISO 639-3 Language Code

Change Request Number: 2018-089 (completed by Registration authority)

Date: 2018-8-20
Primary Person submitting request: Iris Sacson
Affiliation: SIL Nigeria
E-mail address: iris_sacson at sil dot org

Names, affiliations and email addresses of additional supporters of this request:
Luther Hon, SIL Nigeria (Language Survey and Assessment Coordinator), survey_nigeria at sil dot org

Postal address for primary contact person for this request (in general, email correspondence will be used):
ELM House, PO Box 953, Jos, Plateau State, Nigeria

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 and will be posted on the ISO 639-3 website.

Types of change requests

This form is to be used in requesting changes (whether creation, modification, or deletion) to elements of the ISO 639 Codes for the representation of names of languages — Part 3: Alpha-3 code for comprehensive coverage of languages. The types of changes that are possible are to 1) modify the reference information for an existing code element, 2) propose a new macrolanguage or modify a macrolanguage group; 3) retire a code element from use, including merging its scope of denotation into that of another code element, 4) split an existing code element into two or more new language code elements, or 5) create a new code element for a previously unidentified language variety. Fill out section 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 below as appropriate, and the final section documenting the sources of your information. The process by which a change is received, reviewed and adopted is summarized on the final page of this form.

Type of change proposed (check one):

1. ☐ Modify reference information for an existing language code element
2. ☐ Propose a new macrolanguage or modify a macrolanguage group
3. ☐ Retire a language code element from use (duplicate or non-existent)
4. ☐ Expand the denotation of a code element through the merging one or more language code elements into it (retiring the latter group of code elements)
5. ☐ Split a language code element into two or more new code elements
6. ☒ Create a code element for a previously unidentified language

For proposing a change to an existing code element, please identify:
Affected ISO 639-3 identifier:
Associated reference name:
1. Modify an existing language code element
   (a) What are you proposing to change:
      ☐ Language reference name; generally this is changed only if it is erroneous;
      if usage is shifting to a new preferred form, the new form may be added (next box)
      ☐ Language additional names
      ☐ Language type (living, extinct, historical, etc.)
      ☐ Language scope (individual language or macrolanguage)
   (b) What new value(s) do you propose:
   (c) Rationale for change:

2. Propose a new macrolanguage or modify a macrolanguage group
   (a) For an existing Macrolanguage, what change to its individual language membership do you propose:
   (b) Rationale for change:
   For a new Macrolanguage proposal, please also complete the form “Request for New Language Code Element in ISO 639-3” (file name “ISO639-3_NewCodeRequest.doc” or “ISO639-3_NewCodeRequestForm.rtf”), which must also be submitted to fully document the intended meaning for the new macrolanguage.

3. Retire a language code element from use
   (a) Reason for change:
      ☐ There is no evidence that the language exists.
      ☐ This is equivalent to another ISO 639-3 language.
   (b) If equivalent with another code element, with which ISO 639-3 code element (identifier and name) is it equivalent:
   (c) Rationale for change:

4. Expand the denotation of a code element through merging of one or more code elements
   (a) List the languages (identifier and name) to be merged into this code element and retired from use:
   (b) Rationale for change
5. Split a language code element into two or more code elements

(a) List the languages into which this code element should be split:

By the language identification criteria set forth in ISO 639-3, the simple fact of distinct identities is not enough to assign separate identifiers. The criteria are defined in the standard as follows:

For this part of ISO 639, judgments regarding when two varieties are considered to be the same or different languages are based on a number of factors, including linguistic similarity, intelligibility, a common literature (traditional or written), a common writing system, the views of users concerning the relationship between language and identity, and other factors. The following basic criteria are followed:

- Two related varieties are normally considered varieties of the same language if users of each variety have inherent understanding of the other variety (that is, can understand based on knowledge of their own variety without needing to learn the other variety) at a functional level.

- Where intelligibility between varieties is marginal, the existence of a common literature or of a common ethnolinguistic identity with a central variety that both understand can be strong indicators that they should nevertheless be considered varieties of the same language.

- Where there is enough intelligibility between varieties to enable communication, the existence of well-established distinct ethnolinguistic identities can be a strong indicator that they should nevertheless be considered to be different languages.

(b) Referring to the criteria given above, give the rationale for splitting the existing code element into two or more languages:

(c) Does the language code element to be split represent a major language in which there already exists a significant body of literature and research? Are there contexts in which all the proposed separate languages may still be considered the same language—as in having a common linguistic identity, a shared (or undistinguished) body of literature, a written form in common, etc.? If so, please comment.

In order to complete the change request, the form “Request for New Language Code Element in ISO 639-3” (file name “ISO639-3_NewCodeRequestForm.doc” or “ISO639-3_NewCodeRequestForm.rtf”) must also be submitted for each new identifier that is to be created. That step can be deferred until this form has been processed by the ISO 639-3 registrar.

6. Create a new language code element

(a) Name of missing language: Aninka

(b) State the case that this language is not the same as or has not been included within any language that already has an identifier in ISO 639-3:
Ethnically, the Aninka are a distinct people group from the Numana. According to sociolinguistic questionnaires conducted in each group in November 2017, these two
groups have distinct origins; the Aninka originate from Bauchi State, while the Numana have roots in the Zaria region of Kaduna state. Another important piece of evidence concerning the separate sociolinguistic identity of the Aninka people is that they wrote a petition for a separate Sanga District to be carved out of the Gwantu District. The Aninka are also known as Sanga people; the Gwantu are a dialect group within the Numana. Though the Aninka live alongside the Numana people, they have such strong resistance to being called Numana people that they are seeking a separate geo-political designation.

Recorded Text Testing (RTT) which was done on a 2008 survey shows that the Aninka test subjects had a mean score of 86% of the Numana text. However, with a high standard deviation of 16%, it is likely that another factor, such as bilingualism, may be at play. When the Numana speakers were tested on an Aninka text, the mean score was only 72%.

The fairly high comprehension scores revealed by the RTT may be due to language contact/ acquired comprehension as opposed to inherent intelligibility, since the Aninka and Numana language communities live in the same area.

Though the linguistic similarity is inconclusive, the language attitudes held by the Aninka and their insistence that they are a distinct group from the Numana drives our proposal that Aninka be given a distinct ISO 639-3 code and removed from the Numana listing.

(c) Please see supporting documents.

(d) Table 3: Preliminary Numana area intelligibility testing summary statistics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Test Site (Home dialect)</th>
<th>Text</th>
<th>Mean Score</th>
<th>Standard Deviation</th>
<th>Sample Size</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Langa (Numana)</td>
<td>Numana</td>
<td>95%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Numbu</td>
<td>no test</td>
<td>no test</td>
<td>none</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Aninka</td>
<td>72%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ningye</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Numbu (Numbu)</td>
<td>Numana</td>
<td>86%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Numbu</td>
<td>94%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Aninka</td>
<td>92%</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ningye</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sanga (Aninka)</td>
<td>Numana</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Numbu</td>
<td>96%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Aninka</td>
<td>99%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ningye</td>
<td>72%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gwantun Kurmi (Aninka)</td>
<td>Numana</td>
<td>84%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Numbu</td>
<td>92%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Aninka</td>
<td>98%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ningye</td>
<td>74%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Kobin          Numana  74%     21%    10
(Ningye)       Numbu  86%     12%    10
Aninka          96%     5%      10
Ningye          98%     4%      10

In order to complete the change request, the form “Request for New Language Code Element in ISO 639-3” (file name “ISO639-3_NewCodeRequest.doc” or “ISO639-3_NewCodeRequestForm.rtf”) must also be submitted to more fully document the new language.

Sources of information

Please use whichever of the points below are relevant in order to document the sources on which you have based the above proposal.

(a) First-hand knowledge. Describe:

(b) Knowledge through personal communication. Describe:

This information was given to the SIL Nigeria survey team (of which I am a member) in person on a survey trip. Through a participatory sociolinguistic questionnaire and the use of the dialect mapping tool, a large represenation of the Aninka community reported that they speak Nka (also called Aninka or Sanga), which is different from Numana. They understand the Gbantun and Numbu dialects of Numana well, but consider themselves a different people group speaking a different language.

(c) Knowledge from published sources (please give complete bibliographical references):

Included below is an Executive Summary Report of the Aninka (soon to appear in REAP).

The change proposal process

A request to change the code set goes through a six-step process:

1. A user of ISO 639-3 proposes a change and submits it to the ISO 639-3 Registration Authority (ISO 639-3/RA) using this form.

2. The ISO 639-3 registrar processes the change request to verify that the request is compatible with the criteria set forth in the standard and to ensure that the submitter has supplied all necessary information. This may involve rounds of interaction with the submitter.

3. When the change request proposal is complete in its documentation (including all associated New Code Requests), the change request is promoted to “Proposed Change” status and the ISO 639-3 registrar posts the request on the official web site of the ISO 639-3/RA. Also at this time, an announcement is sent to anyone requesting notification of new proposals matching their specified criteria (region and/or language family of interest). Periodically, a message may be sent to the general LINGUIST discussion list on Linguist List (http://linguistlist.org/issues/index.html), and other appropriate discussion lists, inviting individuals to review and comment on pending proposals. Anyone may request from the ISO 639-3 registrar to receive notification regarding proposals involving languages in a specific region of the world or specific language family.
4. Individuals may send comments to the ISO 639-3 registrar for compilation. The consensus of early reviews may result in promotion to “Candidate Status” (with or without amendment), or withdrawal of the change request, if the conclusion is that the request is not in keeping with the stated criteria of the ISO 639-3 standard.

5. Three months prior to the end of the annual cycle of review and update, a new notice is posted on the official web site of the ISO 639-3/RA, and an announcement listing the Candidate Status Change Requests is posted to the LINGUIST discussion list and other discussion lists, as requested by their owners. All change requests are then open to further review and comment by any interested party for a period of three months. A Change Request received after the start of Candidacy phase must wait until the next annual cycle for consideration. The purpose of this phase is to ensure that a minimum of three months is allotted for the review of every proposal.

6. At the end of the formal review period, a given Change Request may be: 1) adopted as a whole; 2) adopted in part (specific changes implicit in the whole Change Request may be adopted separately); 3) rejected as a whole; or 4) amended and resubmitted for the next review cycle. All change requests remain permanently archived at the official web site of the ISO 639-3/RA.

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
E-mail: iso639-3@sil.org

An email attachment of this completed form is preferred.

Sources of documentation for ISO 639-3 identifiers:
Executive Summary of a Sociolinguistic Survey of the Aninka of Kaduna State
Luther Hon, Fittokka Gobak, Iris Sacson, John Muniru, John Sacson, Julius Dabet & Yakubu Danladi
SIL Nigeria, November 2017

Aninka [nbr]

Introduction
This report is a summary of findings of further assessment of the Aninka of Sanga LGA of Southern Kaduna State. The primary aim of the survey was to determine indicators of Bible translation needs for Luke Initiative for Scripture Translation (LIST), so they could make informed decisions on potential Bible translation projects among Aninka speakers.

Ethnolinguistic Identity
The Aninka identified themselves and their language as Aninka or Nka and Sanga. Aninka is listed in the ethnologue as a dialect of Numana, but, the people reported Numana to be different from their own language. They traced their origin in Sanga of Bauchi State. The Aninka at Zange (Nindam) told us that the language was primarily spoken in four villages: Zange (Nindam), Sanga (Ninkashin), Gwantun Kurmi (Anakpara), and Ninkashu.

Reported Comprehension of the local language
The Aninka reported to understand and speak their language better than any other. They reported their people’s ability to speak Aninka the same way in all their villages, without any form of variation. We observed all age groups speak their language to each other at Zange (Nindam) and Gwantun Kurmi (Anakpara).

Vitality
The Aninka reported that the language was used by everyone, everywhere in their communities. Parents were said to speak to each other and their children. To confirm their claim, we observed adults and children speak the language everywhere in the villages that we visited.

Bilingualism/language use
The Aninka reported to be highly bilingual in Gwantu (Gbantun) and Numbu dialects of Numana. They said they also understood Hausa very well, and a few were said to speak English. We observed them speak Hausa to us during our work with them in their communities.

Attitudes towards language
Aninka people felt that their language was good as other languages. They regarded their language as a strong mark of their identity.

Literature/literacy
The old were reported to read and write in Hausa very well. Those in the middle age, the young and children were reported to read and write well in both Hausa and English. They also reported to be able to write letters in their language without any difficulties.

**Available religious organizations in the area**
The following churches can be found in their areas: ECWA and Catholic Church at Zange, and ECWA, ERCC, Baptist and Catholic Church at Gwantun Kurmi.

**Estimated populations: All speakers, Christians and Moslem in the visited villages:**
All Aninka speakers: 120,000 (This figure seems exaggerated)
Zange (Nindam) village: Christians 99%, Moslems 1% ATR 0%
Gwantun Kurmi (Anakparah): Christians 90%, Moslems 10%, ATR 0%

**Interest in Bible translation**
The people reported a high interest in having the Bible translated into their language. They felt having the Scriptures in Aninka would foster understanding of the words of God amongst their people, especially their children.

**Mostly likely dialect for BT/Acceptability**
Aninka was reported to have no variation. As said above, all Aninka people were reported to speak the same way.

**Project support**
The people expressed their willingness to support any Bible translation project in their language. They said they would be able to provide finances, food, and accommodation for translators and other BT workers, whenever there was the need.

**Likely best location for workshop**
Gwantu seems to be a good location for the Aninka to attend a workshop. It not a very long distance from the Aninka communities. Refer to the Numana executive summary for more information on the likelihood of Gwantu as a good site for workshop.

**Recommendation**
- We suggest you talk more with the Aninka in Sanga and Gwantun Kurmi. These places are towns where many churches are located.

**Contact phone numbers/addresses**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Phone number</th>
<th>Village</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rube Monday</td>
<td>08060866575</td>
<td>Zange (Nindam)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tanko Bako</td>
<td>08030831232</td>
<td>Zange</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philimon</td>
<td>09093131092</td>
<td>Zange</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joseph Yusuf</td>
<td>08032856459</td>
<td>Zange</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yakubu Madaki</td>
<td>08065844257 or 08097350752</td>
<td>Zange</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Akpotus Madaki</td>
<td>08146304994</td>
<td>Gbantun Kurmi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Phone Number</td>
<td>Contact Person</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------</td>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>----------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alpha Danjuma</td>
<td>08030820299</td>
<td>Gwantun Kurmi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abu Madaki</td>
<td>09069083297</td>
<td>Gwantun Kurmi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caleb Thomas</td>
<td>07034662204</td>
<td>Gwantun Kurmi</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>