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: 2021-8-21

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Associated Change request number : 2021-031   (completed by Registration Authority)
Tentative assignment of new identifier : lsc   (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:
        Lengua de señas Albarradas

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

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

    d)   Reason for preferred name:
        The communities known to use the language all have "Albarradas" as part of their name.
        Having a name in Spanish is more respectful for the community than a name in English

    e)   Name and approximate population of ethnic group or community who use this language (complete individual language currently in use):
        Deaf and hearing people in and near Santa Catarina Albarradas and San Antonio Albarradas (two neighboring towns that have grown together). Approximately 10-15 deaf at any one time. There is a hearing population of 250-500, many of whom also sign, but the exact number is unknown.

    f)   Preferred three letter identifier, if available: sca

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:
Santa Catarina Albarradas (SCA) and San Antonio Albarradas (SAA). Distrito de Tlacolula, Estado de Oaxaca, México. 17.061435466901095, -96.29641819685737. Possibly one other nearby town (see below).

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:
Isolate (with the possible exception of the other nearby town, if it is a different language). Sign language > Shared sign language

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:
Santa Catarina Albarradas Zapotec [ztn] is the spoken language of the community where the LSAlb was first identified, and where we have had contact with it. The two languages share some typological traits, such as a vigesimal number system. Linguistically, though, they are not related, as they are in two different modalities.

d) LSAlb is clearly distinct from Mexican Sign Language (Lengua de Señas Mexicana, LSM, [mfs]). Two deaf members of the community know LSM and it is clearly distinct from LSAlb in their minds.

e) There is a relatively nearby town (20 minutes by car, a couple of hours by foot) that also has a high incidence of deafness and a signing community. Deaf people in Santa Catarina Albarradas report that "they can communicate" with the deaf people in the other town and there are family ties between the two communities. We have not visited the other community nor collected any data from it, so we cannot attest whether it is part of the same unified language community, a separate dialect or a distinct sign language (possibly with historical ties to LSAlb).

4. LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT AND USE

a) What written literature, inscriptions or recordings exist in this language? Are there newspapers, radio or television broadcasts, etc.?:
   Nothing published. A couple of research videos.

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 recognized by the Mexican government or used in any schools.

c) Comment on factors of ethnolinguistic identity and informal domains of use:
   Most deaf members in SCA and SAA appear to identify first with the local community and (except for the two that know LSM) do not have any significant connection with the national Deaf community. They show little or no interest in learning LSM. LSAlb is used in many places in SCA and SAA, wherever deaf and hearing people congregate, including the local evangelical church and a store run by a deaf family.

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:
see "Request for Change" form.

b) Knowledge through personal communication. Describe:
see "Request for Change" form.

c) Knowledge from published sources. Include known dictionaries, grammars, etc. (please give complete bibliographical references):
see "Request for Change" form.

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