



Minority languages in Indonesia: Challenges and Opportunities

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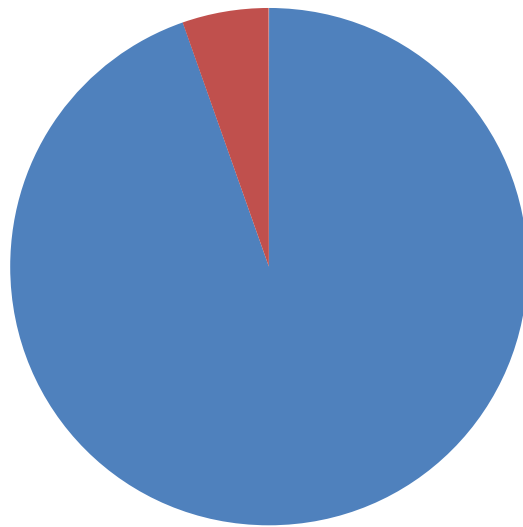
Leiden University

EuroSEAS Lisbon, July 5 2013

Introduction

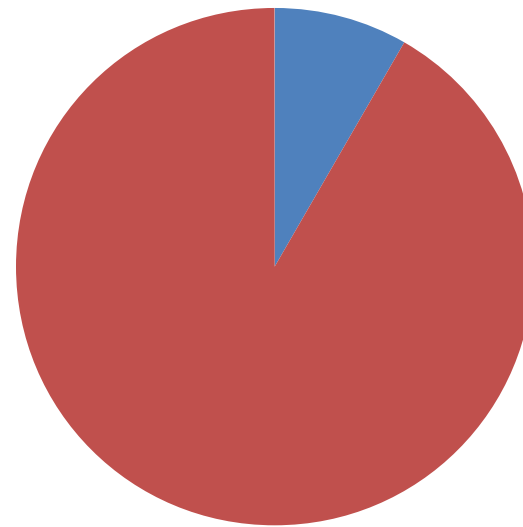


Different proportions of Languages and Speakers in Indonesian regions



Papua

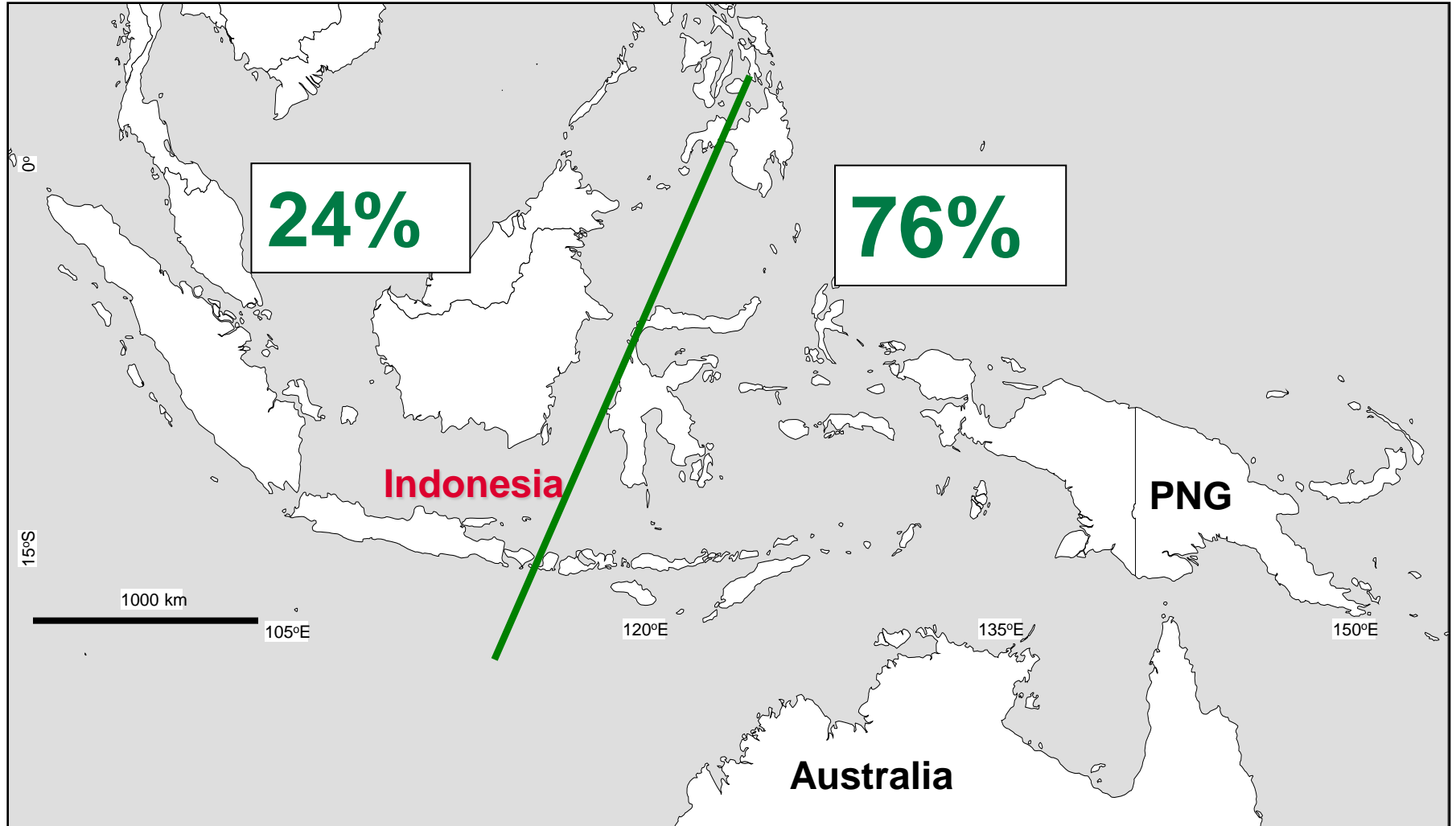
■ languages
■ speakers



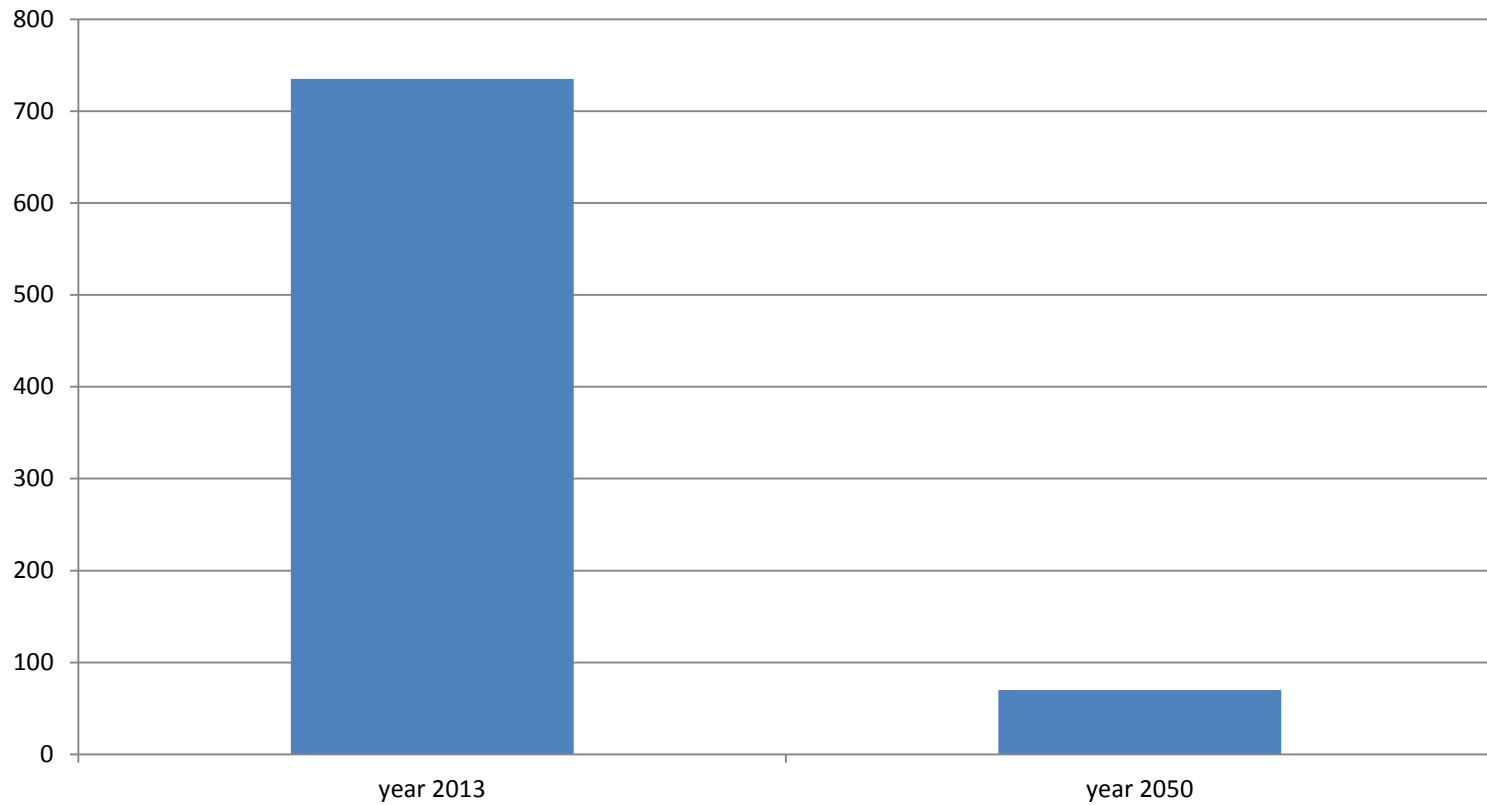
Java, Bali, Madura

■ languages
■ speakers

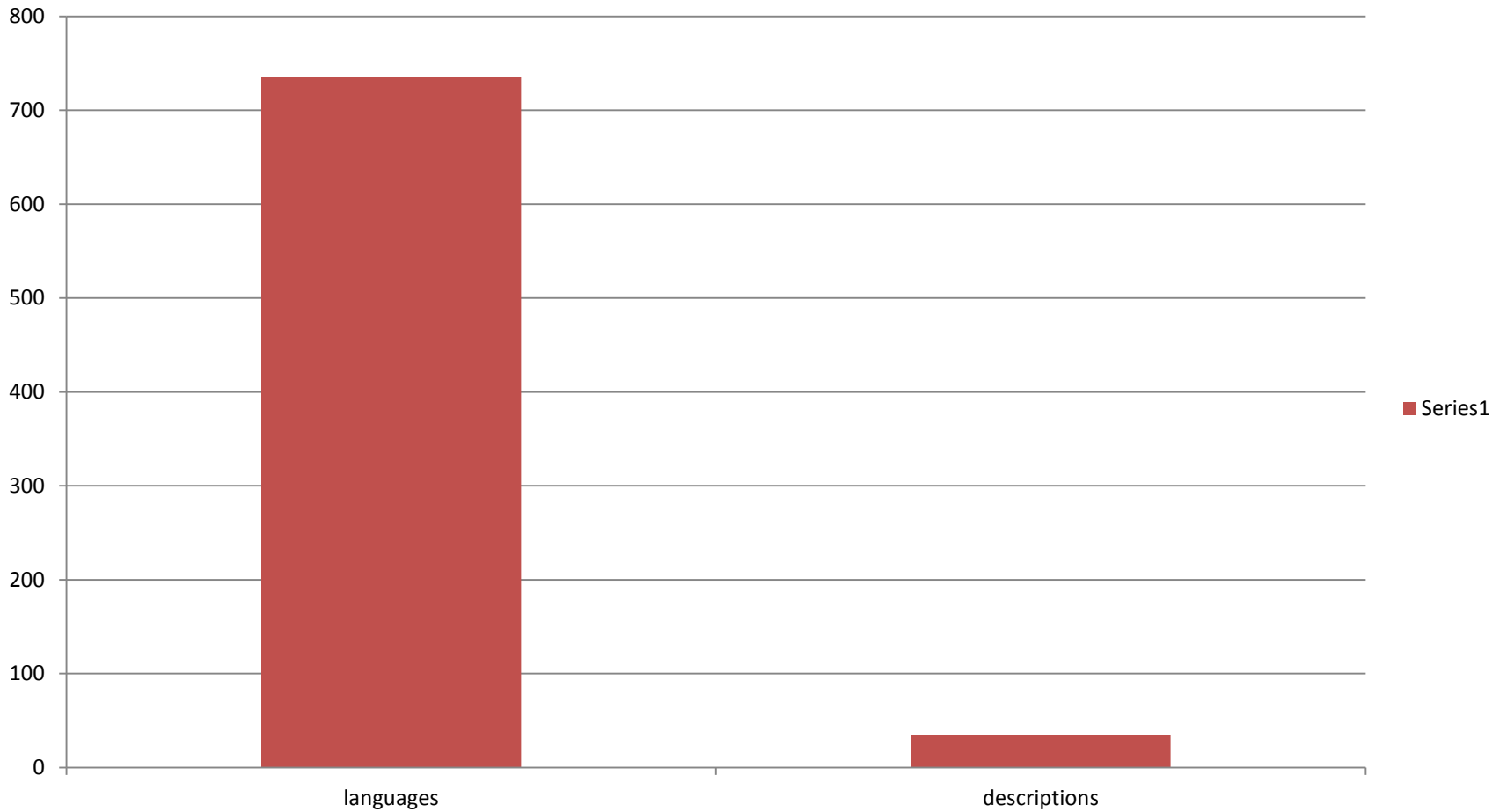
700+ languages in Indonesia



No of languages 2013 & 2050



Languages & grammatical descriptions





Is this a problem?

- How does a language die?
- Whose problem?
 - Speakers?
 - Their children?
 - Local government?
 - National government?
- Why?
- Challenges for speakers?



Against Minority Language

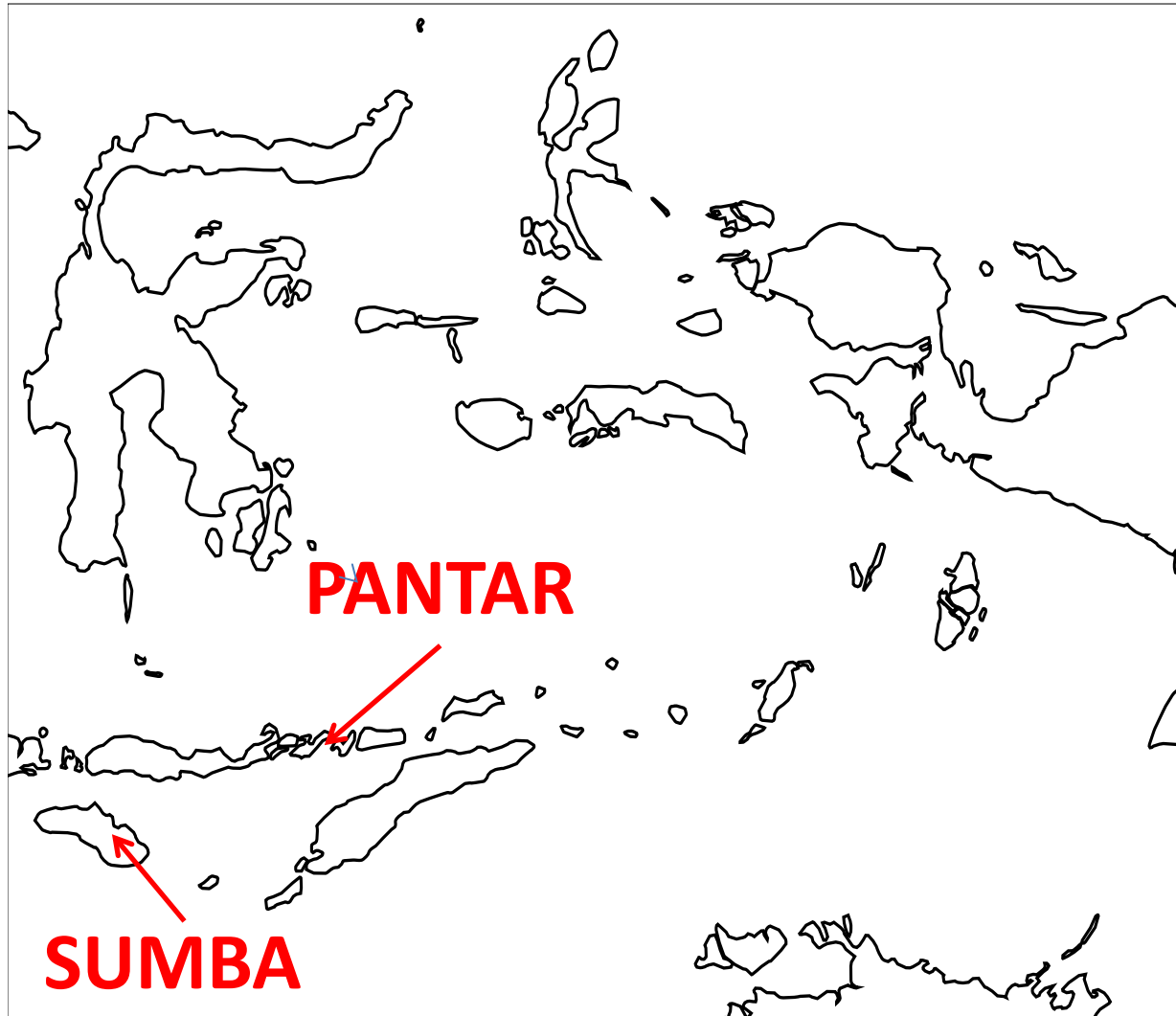
- Low status
- Unwritten
- Restricted domains: home, 'old' rituals
- Not used in school and media



Pro Indonesian

- High standard: language of education, media, government
- Parents speak Indonesian/Malay to their children because they believe this provides better opportunities
- More children acquire Indonesian as first language

Local Variation



Sumba

- 12,300 square kilometers = half of Belgium
- 320,000 inhabitants
- Languages:
 1. Kampera 150,000
 2. Weyewa 75,000
 3. Kodi 40,000
 4. Lamboya 15,000
 5. Wanukaka 10,000
 6. Anakalang 14,000
 7. Mamboru 16,000

Sumba



Pantar



Pantar

- 693 square km = the size of Singapore
- 40,000 inhabitants
- Languages:
 1. Teiwa 4000
 2. Western Pantar 10000
 3. Alorese 5000 (+ 10000 on Alor)
 4. Blagar 5000 (+ 5000 on Pura)
 5. Nedebang 200?
 6. Kaera 5500
 7. Bajau 300?
 8. Reta ?

Pantar

- Small area, many languages
- Mostly Papuan languages
- Small speaker groups (average 2,500)
- Often several languages in 1 village
- Several languages in 1 primary school
- Some languages recently got an orthography
- Two languages have dictionaries

Sumba

- Large area, larger speaker groups (av. 45,000 speakers)
- Typically 1 language in 1 village
- 1 minority language in primary school
- Most of the languages had orthographies since the 1930's thanks to Louis Onvlee's work
- Bibles, hymn books, dictionaries of everyday and ritual speech, children's primers, etc. etc.

Observations

- Linguists and missionaries provide materials but speakers don't use them
- Primary schools prefer using Indonesian
- Teacher(s) are often from other islands and do not speak the local language
- Parents disfavour bringing up their children in local language

What linguists cannot do

- Change language attitude of communities
- Change school teachers
- Change language use of parents
- Change the influence of Indonesian

What linguists can do

- Support education of young local speakers by finding funds for:
 - University training in Kupang (Timor)
 - Extra training in English
 - Do an MA or PhD in Linguistics abroad
- Support university staff teaching linguistics by inviting them for workshops and conferences
- Develop orthographies

What linguists can do

- Archive language materials
- Make these materials available to speakers
- Language Archive of Insular South East Asia and West New Guinea (LAISEANG)

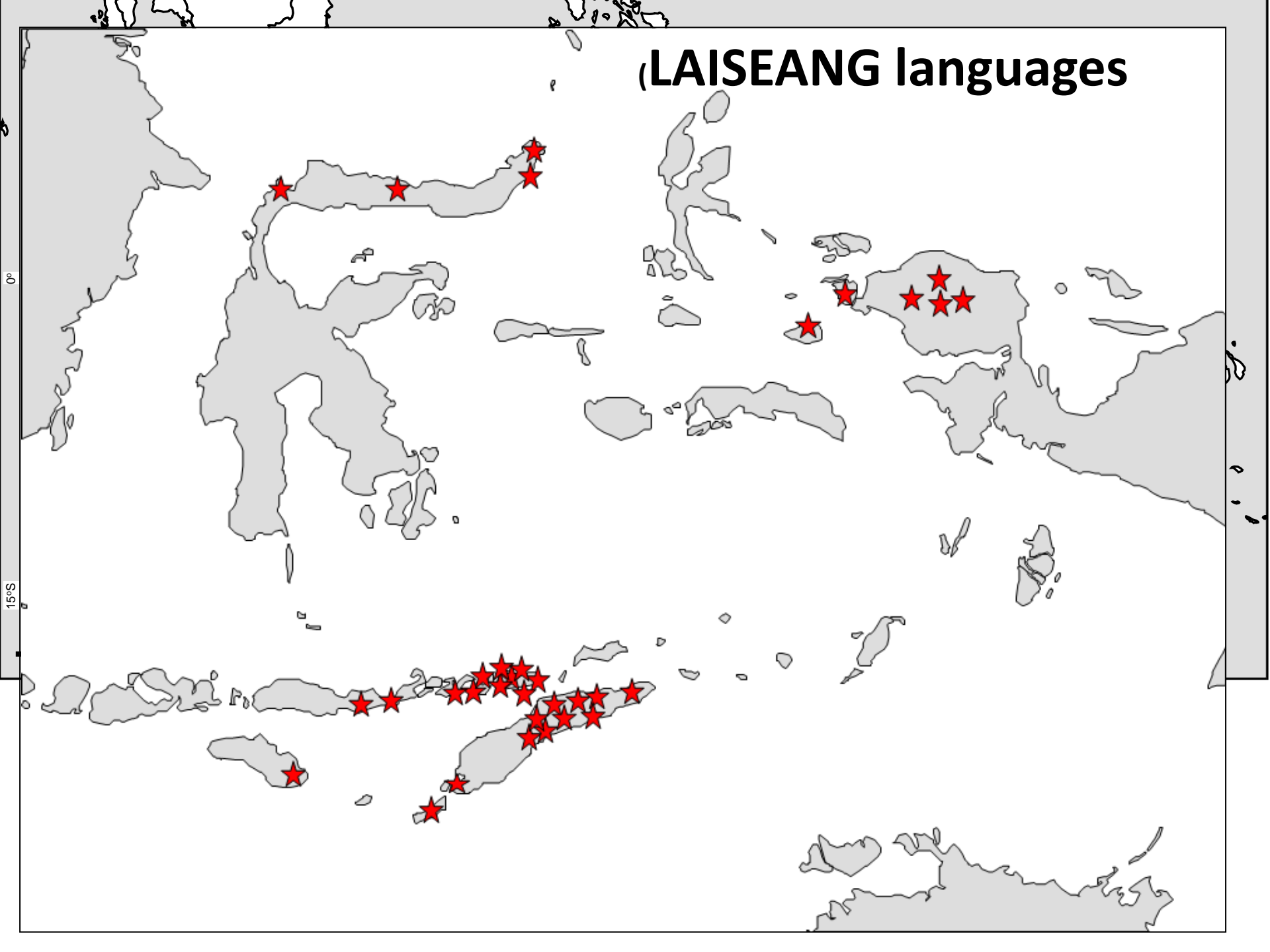
Language Archive of Insular South East Asia and New Guinea (LAISEANG)

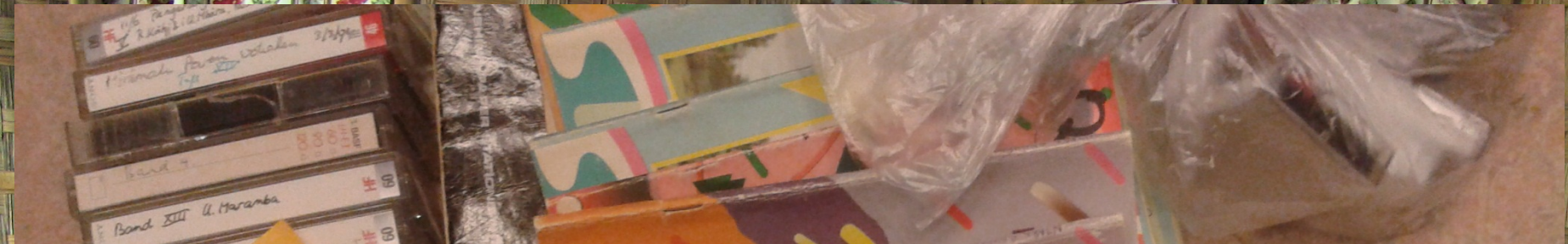
- Preserve unique records of languages and the cultures encapsulated by them.
- Compile and archive language multimedia materials and written documents from over 50 languages in Insular South East Asia and West New Guinea.

Language Archive of Insular South East Asia and New Guinea (LAISEANG)

- Digitization:
 - Convert older recordings into WAV files
 - Scan paper materials and converting them into PDF files
- Compile metadata descriptions of language resources
- Store materials in The Language Archive at the Max Planck Institute in Nijmegen, NL.
- Make materials available online

(LAISEANG languages





A27		fx KamberaTape_XIVa							
A	B	C	G	H	I	J	K	L	
1	Tape	Clj Date	Speaker	Topic	Transcript	In electronic cor	Code		
2	KamberaTape_1988_01a		1988 U Daud Maramba	Holle List (part)	In schrijfblok				
3	KamberaTape_1988_01b		1988 U Daud Maramba	Holle List (part)	In schrijfblok				
4	KamberaTape_1988_02a		1988 U Daud Maramba	(i) sentences and short story (ii) words (trans	Getypt; In schrijfblok				
5	KamberaTape_1988_02b		1988 U Daud Maramba	(i) minimal pairs (ii) Holle lists	In schrijfblok				
6	KamberaTape_1988_03a	04/04/1988	U Daud Maramba	(i) nominal phrases/compounds; Holle lists (i	Excercisebook 88-2				
7	KamberaTape_1988_03b	04-04-1988; 09-04-1988	U Daud Maramba (i, ii); U Makaborang Watuwaya (iii); G	(i) sequel to The lost Son (ii) The Poor and th	Excercisebook 88-1 (i) Verhaal A; (ii) Verhaal B; (iii) Verhaal C; (iv) Verhaal				
8	KamberaTape_1988_04a		1988 Grandfather Watuwaya; Daud Maramba; U.L. Watuwaya	(i) sequel to story (ii) reduplication (from 4 min); (iii) history of Wai Marang (from 8:19 min); (iv) minimal pairs (from 20:50					
9	KamberaTape_1988_04b		1988 U Daud Maramba	(i) sequel to translation of story grandfather (ii) reduplication old compounds (from 25 min)					
10	KamberaTape_Ia	19/02/1991	R. Miting (P); U. Tay (T); R. Danga (R); R. Hudang (H); U	(i) Conversation (ii) Religious speech with qu	Green Notebook	yes			h.v; i.v; j.v
11	KamberaTape_Ib	19/02/1991	R. Miting (P); U. Tay (T)	Sequel of Prayer	Green Notebook	yes			j.v
12	KamberaTape_Ila	21-02-1991; 01-03-1991	R. Paki, R. Ina, Ibu Miting, U. Li; I. MOha	(i) conversation at home (ii) watching pictures: No		No			
13	KamberaTape_Ilb	01/03/1991	Apu Pindi Wani; Ibu & Bpk Miting; R. Utu; R. Ana Jawa	(i) sequel watching pictures (ii) conversation \L1 utterance 1-25; L2 utterance 25-46		yes			l.v
14	KamberaTape_Illa	13/03/1991	Ibu Miting	(i) Personal narrative about the Japanese era	Smiling Face Notebook	yes			f.v
15	KamberaTape_Illb	(i) 06-04-1991; (ii) and ((i) R. Yana, R. Ana Hamu, Ibu & Bpk Miting (ii) and (iii) U		(i) Conversation (ii) Process description How	Smiling Face Notebook	yes			g.v; m.v; n.v
16	KamberaTape_IVa	06/05/1991	U Prai Malinya	Narrative 'Li Ndai' (Ancient story)	Young acress	yes			o.v
17	KamberaTape_Va	10/06/1991	U. Yiwa Maru Matu	Narrative 'Palita Ndai' (Old Lamp) utterance 1	Brown Notebook	yes			e.v
18	KamberaTape_Vb	11/06/1991	U. Yiwa Maru Matu	(i) Sequel narrative 'Palita Ndai' (Old Lamp) u	Brown Notebook; Notebook L2 (2nd half)	yes			e.v; l.v
19	KamberaTape_Xa	26/01/1992	U. Pindu Jawa	Sermon in church about John the Baptist (M	R	yes			r.v
20	KamberaTape_Xb	26/01/1992	U. Hapu (H); U. Yiwa (Y); U. Raji (R); U. Pindu Jawa (P)	Meeting of congregation to discuss church at S		yes			s.v
21	KamberaTape_Xla	16/02/1992	U. Ndena Laki Banju	Narrative Tawuru Mbiha (Magic Ring)	P1 utterance 1-58; P2 utterance 59-109; F	yes			p.v
22	KamberaTape_Xlb	16/02/1992	U. Ndena Laki Banju	Sequel Tawura Mbiha		yes			p.v
23	KamberaTape_Xlla	17/02/1992	U. Tai Landu Paraingu	Narrative 'Njara Hawurung' (Flying Horse)	Q1 utterance 1-59; Q2 utterance 60-114; t	yes			q.v
24	KamberaTape_Xllb	17/02/1992	U. Tai Landu Paraingu	Sequel Njara Hawurung		yes			q.v
25	KamberaTape_Xllla	17/02/1992	U. Musa Maramba Hau	Narrative 'Sampuraga'	T1 utterance 1-68; T2 utterance 69-96 (end)				
26	KamberaTape_Xlllb	17/02/1992	U. Musa Maramba Hau	Narrative 'Landu Niki' (Landu Niki is a name)	U entire story	yes			u.v
27	KamberaTape_XIVa								
28									
29	Additional utterances (writte	Feb 1990-March 1994			Gentleman Notebook	yes			xxxx
30									





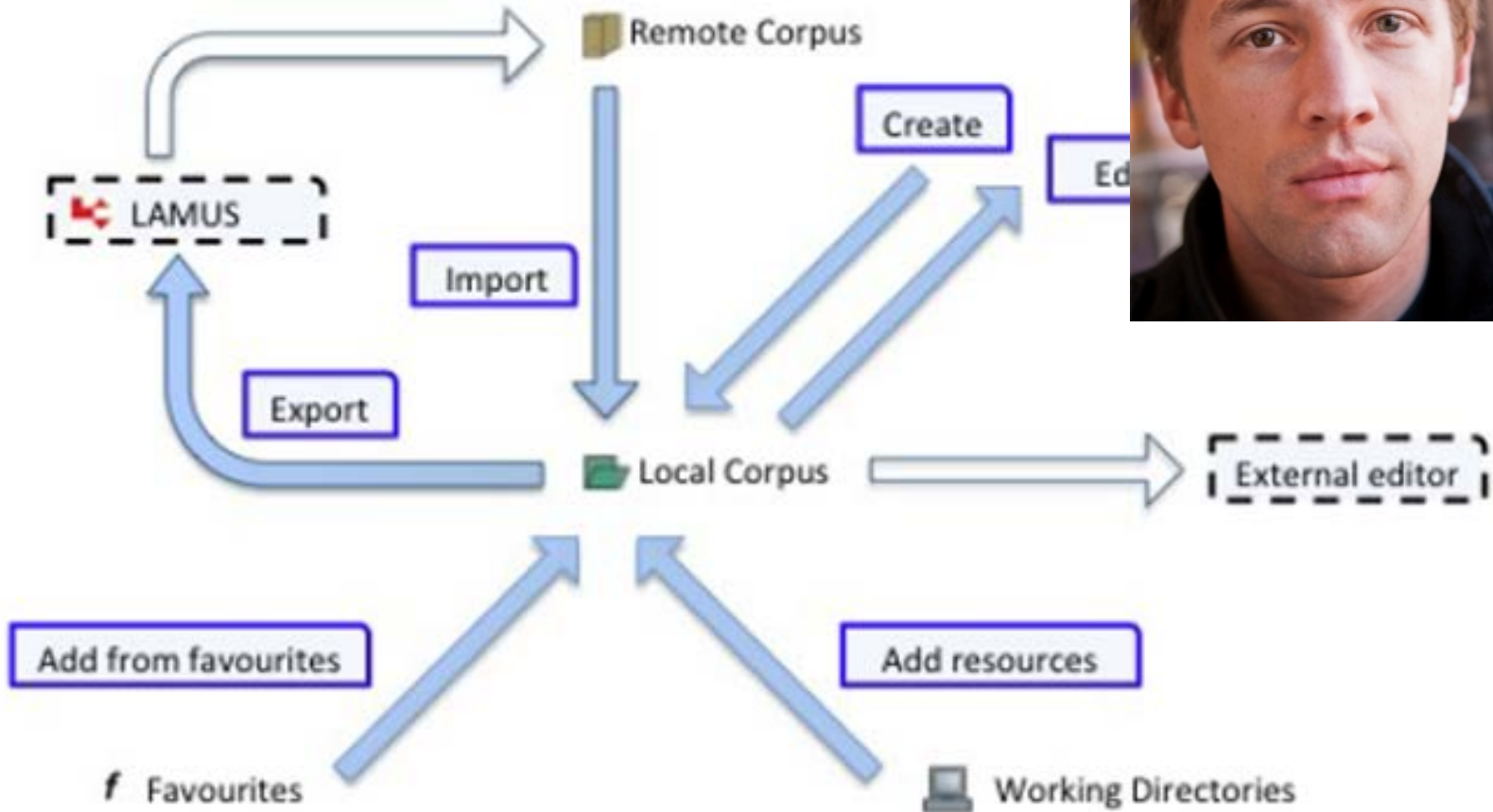
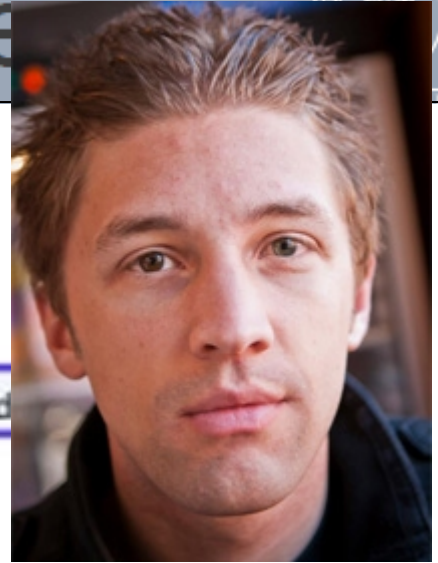
Opnamen 1 (verschillende vaders)

RA#	MS/ MF/ Biga	Naam (Leeftijd)	Plaats	Opmerkingen	datum
1	RA#2-MS-01	m Hud Arfan (35)	Samate	dorp daja lyf min pare van MS	4/1/2000
2	RA#2-MS-02	f Maryam Mayyablit (+30)	Samate	"	"
3	RA#2-MS-03	f Hajer Arfan (+50)	"	"	"
4	RA#2-MS-04	m Saefuddin Mayablit (25)	"	"	5/1/2000
5	RA#2-MS-05	f Zma Arfan (31)	"	+ 3 min. pare	5/2/2000
6	RA#2-Banld-01A68	Maez Al-bal (54)	Triand	+ 2 min. pare Sunderlit - A-5/2/2000 dell 4,2 -> 8 6/2/2000	
7	RA#2-MS-06	m Ridwan Arfan (46)	Samate	lyf min. pare	6/1/2000
8	RA#2-MS-07	f Airun Mae (35)	"	+ 3 min. pare lyf min. pare	6/2/2000
9	RA#2-MS-08	m Alwi Sagaf (53)	"	lyf min. pare + 3 min. pare	7/2/2000
10	RA#2-MF-01A68	m Muhamadita Saltip (53)	Fafanlay	Sunderlit lyf min. pare	11/1/2000
11	RA#2-MF-02	"	"	"	"
12	RA#2-MF-03	m Muhamad Noh Saltip (53)	"	"	dell 13/2/2000
13	RA#2-MF-04	"	"	"	dell 13/2/2000
14	RA#2-MF-05	m Ka'idat Saltip (66)	Fafanlay	lyf min. pare van en-stien	18/2/2000
15	RA#2-MF-06	m Muhamad Ali Saltip (42)	"	"	19/2/2000
		neef van Ka'idat - woont in Japapara			
16	RA#2-MF-07	m Abdulgafur Ledyi (50)	"	"	19/2/2000
17	RA#2-MF-08	m Muhamadita Saltip (60)	"	"	19/2/2000
18	RA#2-MF-09	m Albar Umarbali (55)	"	"	19/2/2000
		speker community - slechte kwaliteit			
19	RA#2-MF-10	f Halima Wayusaf (25)	Fafanlay	lyf min. pare van en-stien	20/1/2000
20	RA#2-MF-11	f Fatma Alhamsid (46)	Fafanlay	"	20/1/2000
21	RA#2-MF-12	f Maimuna Saltip (40)	"	"	20/1/2000
22	RA#2-Biga-1	m Christan Samigita	Biga	Sunderlit	21/2/2000
23	RA#2-Biga-2	m "	Biga	" dell 2	21/2/2000
24	RA#2-Biga-3	m Samigita, Nad, Malbalat	Biga	min. pare stien en pare	21/2/2000

24 + 27 + 4 = 55



Work Flow Overview



The database

Arbil Fri Feb 08 10:40:58 CET 2013

File Edit Options Window

Remote corpus

- File not found
- File not found
- File not found
- File not found
- ? http://corpus1.mpi.nl/d

Local corpus

- LAISEANG
 - actors (temporary node)
 - Ambel
 - Blagar
 - Butleh
 - Ende-Lio
 - Kambara
 - Lamaholot
 - Lamaholot_I
 - Lamaholot_II
 - Ma'ya
 - Makasae
 - Matbat
 - Roti
 - Tetun
 - Tetun_I
 - Tetun_II
 - Woisika

Local corpus

- LAISEANG
 - actors (temporary node)
 - Ambel
 - Blagar
 - Steinhauer T
 - Actors (1)
 - Hein S
 - Content
 - MediaFile
 - Un-nu
 - Un-nu

Files Favourites

Working Directories

- Alor server metadata
 - A.V
 - A.V_Notes on NPs
 - C.V
 - C.V_09-04-1988_
 - D.V
 - D.V_09-04-1988_
 - E.V
 - E.V_10-06-1991_
 - F.V
 - F.V_early 1991_L
 - G.V
 - G.V_06-04-1991_
 - H.V

Value
Collector
Hein Steinhauer
Student
Dutch, Indonesian, Russian, Croatian, French, German, English
unspecified
32

Value

3 hr 03 min (60%) remaining

18:55
28/05/2013

Lessons from the past

- Recordings (WAV / Mpeg-4) are extremely useful data for linguists, anthropologists, ethnomusicologists, historians
- Metadata with recordings are essential: What? Where? When? Who?) are essential.
- A consistent system of archiving them will help future scholars in their search through cyberspace.

Open questions

- How can local communities benefit from language preservation techniques?
- What will be the role of internet?
- Should a language be documented when its speakers don't mind it to disappear?
- Will researchers allow others to access and use their data?

The Language Archive (TLA)

- CLARIN-NL
- Leiden University Centre of Linguistics
- Max Planck Institute Nijmegen

- Data to archive? Google *The Language Archive*
MPI or contact me
(m.a.f.klamer@hum.leidenuniv.nl).