

7.9.2. INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK OF LANGUAGE STUDY: SUMMER INSTITUTE OF LINGUISTICS

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7.9.2.1. INTRODUCTION

The Summer Institute of Linguistics (SIL) is an international organisation with centres located in Huntington Beach, California (administration), Dallas, Texas (training), Accra, Ghana (Africa area), Jayapura, Indonesia (Asia area), Burbach-Holzhausen (W. Germany), Huntington Beach, California (Latin America area), and Auckland, New Zealand (Pacific area). Members come from Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, England, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Hong Kong, Jamaica, Japan, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Peru, The Republic of South Africa, Sweden, Switzerland and the United States. SIL works in co-operation with two subsidiary organisations: the Jungle Aviation and Radio Service with headquarters in Waxhaw, North Carolina and the Wycliffe Bible Translators, also with headquarters in Huntington Beach, California. In certain countries the organisation is known by a more local name such as Instituto Linguistico de Verano (in most Latin American countries), the Institute of Linguistics (in several African countries), and the Société Internationale de Linguistique (in the African Francophone areas).

At present (the beginning of 1977) the Institute is engaged in language projects in the following countries: Australia, Bolivia, Brazil, Cameroun, Canada, Chad, Central America (Guatemala and Honduras), Colombia-Panama, Ecuador, Ghana, Indonesia, Ivory Coast-Upper Volta, Mexico, Mainland South-East Asia, North America, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Surinam and Togo.

7.9.2.2. SUMMER SCHOOLS

The name of the Summer Institute of Linguistics is derived from the historical precedent of holding linguistic courses during the summer months in the United States and other countries. Although the organisation began its first SIL in Sulphur Springs, Arkansas in 1934 with two students, it later moved to a university campus in 1942. In 1941 Regents of the University of Oklahoma approved an affiliation with SIL whereby the University provided living quarters and educational facilities and accepted courses offered by SIL for credit with the University. In 1944 an SIL course was begun in Canada and this continued until 1958 when it moved to the University of Washington and in 1950 a course was begun in Australia near Melbourne. Later this school moved to Brisbane, then to Sydney, and is now held at New College, University of New South Wales, Sydney. This course now combines a course that was begun in Auckland, New Zealand (1965). Other courses began at the University of North Dakota (1952), England (1953), Germany (1957), Gordon College at Boston, Massachusetts (1970), University of Texas at Arlington (1972), University of North Carolina (1975) and Japan (1975). The course in Dallas, Texas is held during the academic year and students may pursue the M.A. or Ph.D. in Humanities in a joint SIL-UTA programme.

All of the SIL schools offer, in addition to basic beginning linguistic courses, advanced courses as well. Courses are divided into three basic 'packages' with undergraduate or graduate credit provided in the United States by the universities with which the course is affiliated. At the University of Oklahoma introductory courses are offered in phonology and grammatical analysis, with advanced analysis in the same areas, as well as field methods in Ethnology, principles of translation, and introduction to literacy also available. Supplementary courses on clause and discourse in translation and readings and problems in literacy can be taken at Oklahoma. Literacy courses can also be studied in Australia and England as well as assimilation courses for language learning. Each of the SIL schools places strong emphasis on the practical skills of mastering the phonetic alphabet and the utilisation of phonetics in field methods with language assistants. The descriptive framework for language analysis follows not only tagmemic theory, but other linguistic theories as well. For example at North Dakota transformational grammar or relational grammar is taught, in Seattle stratificational grammar, and in England systemic grammar.

Once a member of the Summer Institute of Linguistics is assigned to a specific branch, international linguistic consultants provide supervision and additional training for the members. In the Papua New Guinea

Branch consultants are classified into three categories: senior, regular, and trainee. A senior consultant must have the background and skill necessary to conduct and supervise a workshop. In the Papua New Guinea Branch workshops are held in language learning, beginning anthropology, low and high level grammar, low and high level phonology, beginning and advanced translation, beginning and advanced dictionary preparation, literacy, and editing. In addition, courses are held for the training of indigenous writers and of practical skills for the language helpers. The emphasis on consultants and field training programmes means that each branch recommends that as many as possible of their members study for advanced degrees. At present in the Papua New Guinea Branch there are eight Ph.D.s plus another six who are in training for the Ph.D. Most of these degrees are in linguistics, although others have completed their work in chemistry and agriculture, as well as anthropology and ethnomusicology. One of the Branch's outstanding linguistic members (Dr Darlene Bee) was killed in an aeroplane crash in early 1972.

In addition, each branch has many members with M.A. degrees, usually in linguistics or some related field. Members of the Papua New Guinea Branch have studied at the following universities: Indiana, Michigan, Pennsylvania, Cornell, U.C.L.A., University of California at Davis, University of Texas at Arlington, University of Papua New Guinea, Monash, Sydney, Macquarie, Australian National University, Hawaii, Auckland, Simon Fraser, and the University of Toronto. The continuing training programme for field members assures a quality control for publications by the Institute as well as a continuing programme to provide the consultant core that is needed.

Over the years the Summer Institute of Linguistics has been responsible for developing textbooks and materials which have been used in the summer courses. In the Papua New Guinea Branch a number of books have been written or edited which are designed to help new members both in school and in the field. Some of these books are: *Neo-Tagmemics* (Bee 1973); *Language Learners Field Guide* (Healey, A., ed. 1975); *A Programmed Course in New Guinea Pidgin* (Litteral 1969); *A Manual of Literacy for Pre-Literate Peoples* (Gudschinsky 1973 but edited by members of the Papua New Guinea Branch); and the *Technical Studies Handbook* (SIL (N.G.) 1975) by various members of the Branch. This latter handbook is intended to provide members with information on what is required at various stages of their analysis of the language, particularly in phonology, grammar, anthropology, and translation. A reading list is offered for each area of analysis with comments and goals for each stage of language learning and analysis.

Many of the Papua New Guinea Branch members assist in the summer courses by teaching at the University of Papua New Guinea (Lahara courses are offered in literacy, alphabet design and translation). Others who are on leave in the United States, England, or elsewhere assist in the same way in these countries. Each year a report of the activities of SIL is published and distributed by individual branches.

7.9.2.3. HISTORICAL COMMENTS

The founder of the Summer Institute of Linguistics is Mr W.C. Townsend. A short biography of Mr Townsend and his work has been written by Eunice Pike and can be found in Elson and Comas, eds 1961, and a more detailed outline of the joint efforts of SIL and the Wycliffe Bible Translators is Hefley and Hefley 1974. Mr Townsend's motivation has always been to serve other groups through scientific, cultural, and spiritual efforts. Language is seen as a key to understanding people's aspirations, expressed through language, and without some understanding of the language of an ethnic group there cannot be a true identification with the people. Mr Townsend had always recommended a balanced programme with heavy practical emphasis on community and rural projects. The writing down of languages and providing descriptive grammars, dictionaries, literacy materials, and translation is one process of enhancing cultural pride and motivation. Without such an emphasis and interest, minority groups in any country may suffer complete cultural assimilation.

The Papua New Guinea Branch of SIL began in 1956 with its headquarters located at Ukarumpa in the Eastern Highlands District (now Province). The first linguistic work began in Tairora of the Eastern Highlands in 1957. In the next 20 years (until 1976) the Branch averaged over six new language projects begun per year. A few of these languages (for example, Duna, Pawaia, Iwam) have now been permanently vacated because other organisations are now working in the area. The biggest gain in the initial language work was between 1962 and 1964 when the Branch began work in some 31 languages. In addition to having begun work in 116 languages in Papua New Guinea, SIL has also placed literacy teams in seven of the languages as well.

The language families or stocks in which SIL is now working in Papua New Guinea are as follows: Eastern Family (of the East New Guinea Highlands Stock = ENGHLS), East-Central Family, Binandere Stock, West-Central Family (ENGHLS), Buang Family, Belan Family, Hote Family, Siasi Family, Kowan Family, Goilala Family, Ok Family, Central Family, Left May Family, Yuri (Isolate), Oriomo River Family (or Eastern Trans-Fly Family), Arifama-Miniafia Family, Duna Family, Pawaian Family, Angan

Family, West Kutubu Family, Kwoma Family, Wapei Family, East Strickland Family, Rossel (family-level Isolate or a member of the Central Solomons Family), Baining Family, Kimbe Family, Madak Family, Whiteman Family, Patpatar Family, Tinputz Family, Bariai Family, Ndu Family, Tama Family, Iwam Family, Karam Family, Koiarian Family, Teberan Family, Erap Family, Yareban Family, Dagan Family, Nasioi Family, Petats Family, Sepik Hill Family, Kiriwina Family, Buin Family, West Huon Family, Atzera Family, D'Entrecasteaux Family, Gusap-Mot Family, Senagi Family, Kabenau Family, Mindjim Family, Numagenan Family, Rotokas Family, Waris Family, Yupna Family, Arapesh Family, Oksapmin (an isolate). Wurm, ed. 1975 indicates that there are 208 Papuan language families (including 68 family-level and stock-level isolates) in the New Guinea area (including Irian Jaya), as well as eight phylum-level isolates; the SIL has at present begun linguistic work in almost 60 of these. It is hoped that in the next ten years the work will rapidly accelerate by the incorporation of national translators into the programme. The initial linguistic work will be done by nationals familiar with the language family or by linguistic consultants who are especially assigned for training purposes.

As a result of the linguistic work today, the Papua New Guinea Branch of the SIL has published 587 articles, monographs, or books in linguistics and anthropology and 937 in literacy. These publications are from 1956 to 1975 (for complete details and references see Murane 1975).

Many of the literacy materials have been published because of the sponsoring agencies of Miles for Millions (Calgary, Canada), the Central Agency of the West German Government, the Canadian International Development Agency, and the National Cultural Council. In September 1969 the Branch was awarded an honorable mention by the International Jury of the Mohammed Reza Pahlavi Prize for literacy. The award was presented through the offices of UNESCO.

The SIL has also been active in the field of translation and has published 500 Biblical books in various languages of New Guinea, including 14 New Testaments.

Other publications by the Branch include a Technical Studies Memo and the series *Workpapers in Papua New Guinea Languages*. The latter are a publication through the Technical Studies Department of the Branch with 18 volumes now published including papers in grammar, phonology and literacy. In addition to the Technical Studies Memo the department has through the years prepared survey wordlists, given instructions for the collection and gathering of texts for computer concordances, and provided other services for the membership.

The linguistic projects initiated by SIL include all except two provinces: the Enga and Manus. Future efforts are expected into each language family or isolate, with primary consideration to training nationals for the work. The complete list of members, languages, and geographical areas where SIL is working in Papua New Guinea can be found in the Appendix.

7.9.2.4. ORGANISATIONAL FRAMEWORK

The SIL is controlled by an international board of directors with Professor K.L. Pike as president and Dr J. Bendor-Samuel as vice-president. The board consists of 18 members, including five branch directors, and formulates policy for the organisation. There are several international administrators including an executive vice-president as well as vice-presidents for academics, personnel, operations, and finances. The vice-president of operations has area directors and service co-ordinators under his direction. The vice-president of academics is responsible for the SIL school directors as well as the corporation academic co-ordinators and consultants.

In Papua New Guinea there is a general branch director and two associate directors who administrate, as well as an executive committee which formulates policy for the Branch. At present in Papua New Guinea there are ten regional assistant directors located in the areas of the North Solomons, New Ireland and New Britain, Milne Bay, Northern Papua, Madang, Morobe, Eastern Highlands, Central Highlands, Western and Sepik. Each branch of SIL operates according to a constitution which is approved by the international board of directors.

The organisation of the linguistic services in Papua New Guinea is supervised by the Associate Director in charge of Language Affairs. There are several language oriented sections which function in the branch, namely, linguistics, translation, literacy, editing, and anthropology. The linguistic section includes both grammar and phonology as well as an orthography committee while the literacy section includes literature development and the anthropology section includes community development.

7.9.2.5. CONCLUDING COMMENTS

The Summer Institute of Linguistics is deeply indebted to the government of Papua New Guinea for permission to use our skills in linguistics and other practical ways and thus aid the development of the country. We are especially grateful to the Ministries of Education and Culture

for encouragement to pursue specific activities which have benefitted the rural areas of the country. Some of these activities include the intensive study of the local languages with a view to preparing suitable orthographies for writing these languages, the collection of legends, songs and traditions, the recording of the customs and cultures of the people, the publication of Scriptures, as well as the provision of technical advice for community-centred projects. The Summer Institute of Linguistics, with a long history of pursuing such activities successfully in many countries, hopes to give this continuing emphasis to the languages of Papua New Guinea.

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APPENDIX¹

- ABISAN (Wanuma), 1,300 speakers. Numagenan Family, Pihom Stock. In Madang District, Madang Province. Team: Ger and Lidy Reesink 1975 to present.
- ABULAS (Abelam, Maprik), over 40,000 speakers (including 12,500 Wosera dialect speakers - see below). Ndu Family, Middle Sepik Stock. In Maprik District, East Sepik Province. Teams: Norman and Sheila Draper 1965-73; Barry and Helen Wearne Baker 1974 and 1968 to present, Patricia Wilson 1968 to present. See also Wosera.
- AGARABI, 12,000 speakers. Eastern Family, East New Guinea Highlands Stock. In Kainantu District, Eastern Highlands Province. Team: Lorna Luff* 1959-76, Jean Goddard 1960 to present.
- ALAMBLAK, 1,500 speakers. Sepik Hill (stock-level) Family. In Angoram District, East Sepik Province. Team: Les and Kathi Bruce 1970 to present.
- AMA, 380 speakers. Arai Family (= Left May Family). In Ambunti District, East Sepik Province. Team: Sören and Britten Årsjö 1973 to present.
- AMANAB, 2,800 speakers. Waris Family, Tami Stock. In Amanab District, West Sepik Province. Team: Glenn and Dorothy Graham 1965 to present.
- ANGAATAHA (Langimar), 1,000 speakers. Anga Family. In Menyamya District, Morobe Province. Teams: Richard Brett* 1960-63; Ken and Donnajean Davis 1964-66; Ronald and Roberta Huisman 1968 to present.

¹Editor's Note: There are some differences between the numbers of speakers of languages as given here, and those presented in volumes I and II. The figures given in this Appendix represent information available to the SIL.

'Names of members who have since left the organisation are marked with an asterisk (*). Names of members who have died are marked with a dagger (†).' (Murane 1975).

- ANGGOR (Bibriari, Senagi, Watapor), 1,250 speakers. Senagi (stock-level) Family. In Amanab District, West Sepik Province. Team: Robert and Shirley Litteral 1965 to present.
- ASARO, UPPER, 9,500 speakers. East-Central Family, East New Guinea Highlands Stock. In Goroka District, Eastern Highlands Province. Team: David and Gladys Strange 1964 to present.
- ATZERA (Acira, Adzera, Azera), 18,000 speakers. Atzera Family, Austronesian. In Kaiapit District, Morobe Province. Teams: Larry and Ann Roke Cates 1967-72; Dorothy Price 1967-72; Isabel Leckie 1970-72.
- AU, 3,700 speakers. Wapei-Palei Stock. In Lumi District, West Sepik Province. Team: David and Jackie Scorza 1968 to present.
- AUYAANA-KOSENSA, 6,500 speakers. Eastern Family, East New Guinea Highlands Stock. In Kainantu District, Eastern Highlands Province. Team: Doreen Marks 1957 to present.
- AWA, 1,500 speakers. Eastern Family, East New Guinea Highlands Stock. In Kainantu District, Eastern Highlands Province. Team: Richard and Aretta Loving 1959 to present.
- BAHINEMO (Gahom, Wogu), 325 speakers. Sepik Hill (stock-level) Family. In Ambunti District, East Sepik Province. Team: Wayne and Sally Dye 1964 to present.
- BAINING (Kakat, Makakat), 4,500 speakers. Baining Family, North New Britain Stock (?). In Rabaul District, East New Britain Province. Team: James and Dianna Parker 1971 to present.
- BARAI, 1,500 speakers. Koiarian Family, Koiari-Manubara-Yareba Stock. In Popondetta District, Northern Province. Team: Michael and Donna Olson 1969 to present.
- BARIJI (Aga Bereto), 260 speakers. Yareban Family. In Popondetta District, Northern Province. Team: Harry and Natalia Weimer supervising national translators 1976 to present.
- BARUYA (Barua), 4,400 speakers. Anga Family. In Wonenara District, Eastern Highlands Province. Team: Richard and Joy Lloyd 1961 to present.
- BENABENA, 15,000 speakers. East-Central Family, East New Guinea Highlands Stock. In Goroka District, Eastern Highlands Province. Teams: Robert and Rosemary Young 1957 to present; Maurice and Denese Grace 1972-75.

- BIANGAI, 1,100 speakers. Goilala Family (= Kunimaipa Family). In Wau District, Morobe Province. Team: Ray and Marjorie Dubert 1962 to present.
- BINE, 1,800 speakers. Oriomo River Family. In Daru District, Western Province. Team: Lillian Fleischmann and Sinikka Turpeinen 1973 to present.
- BINUMARIEN (Binumaria), 190 speakers. Eastern Family, East New Guinea Highlands Stock. In Kainantu District, Eastern Highlands Province. Team: Desmond and Jennifer Oatridge 1959 to present.
- BOIKEN (Yangoru), 31,000 speakers. Ndu Family, Middle Sepik Stock. In Maprik District, East Sepik Province. Team: Allen and Marlene Freudenburg 1968 to present.
- BUANG, CENTRAL (Mapos Buang), 6,100 speakers. Buang Family. Austro-nesian. In Mumeng District, Morobe Province. Teams: Bruce and Joyce Hooley 1959 to present; Ian and Doris Davidson 1969-72.
- BUANG, MANGGA, 2,500 speakers. Buang Family, Austronesian. In Mumeng District, Morobe Province. Team: Roma Hardwick and Joan Healey 1963 to present.
- BUIN (Rugara, Telei, Terei), 9,000 speakers. Buin Family, Nasioi-Nagovisi-Siwai-Buin Stock. In Buin District, Bougainville Province. Teams: Pamela Cooper 1964 to 1973; Margie Griffin 1964 to present; Margaret Vaughan 1973 to present.
- BUNAMA (Duau), 4,800 speakers. D'Entrecasteaux Family, Austronesian. On Normanby I., Esa'ala District, Milne Bay Province. Team: David Lithgow supervising national translators 1975 to present; Isabella Leckie and Ngaire Hughes 1975 to present.
- CHUAVE (Tjuave), 21,000 speakers. Central Family, East New Guinea Highlands Stock. In Chuave District, Chimbu Province. Teams: Ronald and Joyce Swick 1960-69; Robert and Ruth Thurman 1969 to present.
- DADIBI (Daribi, Mikaru), 5,500 speakers. Teberan Family (= Mikaruan Family), Teberan-Pawaian Stock. In Kundiawa District, Chimbu Province. Team: George and Georgetta MacDonald 1962 to present.
- DAGA (Dimuga), 5,000 speakers. Dagan Family. In Rabaraba District, Milne Bay Province and Abau District, Central Province. Team: John and Elizabeth Murane 1963 to present.
- DAMI (Ham), 1,000 speakers. In Madang District, Madang Province. Team: George and Wendy Elliott 1976 to present.

- DOBU, 8,000 speakers, also lingua franca in Milne Bay Province.
D'Entrecasteaux Family, Austronesian. On Dobu I., Esa'ala District, Milne Bay Province. Team: David and Daphne Lithgow 1972 to present.
- DORIRI, 600 speakers. Yareban Family. In Popondetta District, Northern Province. Team: Harry and Natalia Weimer supervising national translators 1976 to present.
- DUNA, 6,000 speakers. Duna-Bogaye Family, Central and South New Guinea Stock. In Lake Kapiago District, Western Highlands Province and Koroba District, Southern Highlands Province. Teams: Ray and Ruth Brown* 1960-63; Dennis and Nancy Cochrane 1963-68.
- EWA GE (Ewage, Notu), 10,000 speakers. Binandere Family. In Popondetta District, Northern Province. Team: Douglas and Margaret Parrington 1973 to present.
- FAIWOL (Unkia), 2,500 speakers. Ok Family, Central and South New Guinea Stock. In Kiunga District, Western Province. Team: Frank and Charlotte Mecklenburg 1967 to present.
- FASU, 750 speakers. West Kutubuan Family, Central and South New Guinea Stock. In Nipa District, Southern Highlands Province. Team: Eunice Loeweke and Jean May 1961 to present.
- FORE, 18,000 speakers. East-Central Family, East New Guinea Highlands Stock. In Okapa District, Eastern Highlands Province. Teams: Ray and Ruth Nicholson 1957-71; Graham and Margaret Scott 1961 to present.
- GADSUP, 9,000 speakers. Eastern Family, East New Guinea Highlands Stock. In Kainantu District, Eastern Highlands Province. Team: Chester and Marjorie Frantz 1959 to present.
- GAHUKU (Gafuku), 6,500 speakers. East-Central Family, East New Guinea Highlands Stock. In Goroka District, Eastern Highlands Province. Teams: Ellis and Katherine Deibler 1959 to present; Al and Dellene Stucky 1965-66.
- GAIKUNTI (a form of Sawos, 9,000 speakers), 700 speakers. Ndu Family, Middle Sepik Stock. In Ambunti District, East Sepik Province. Team: Leon and Betty Schanely 1962-64; Philip Staalsen supervising national translators 1973 to present.
- GIMI, 18,000 speakers. East-Central Family, East New Guinea Highlands Stock. In Okapa District, Eastern Highlands Province. Teams: Nancy Knippel McBride and Jean Smith 1964-65; Sam and Nancy McBride 1968 to present.

- GIRAWA (Bagasin), 3,000 speakers. Kokon Family, Mabuso Stock. In Ramu District, Madang Province. Team: Eileen Gasaway and Heather Sims 1976 to present.
- GOLIN (Marigl), 27,000 speakers. Central Family, East New Guinea Highlands Stock. In Gumine District, Chimbu Province. Team: Gordon and Ruth Bunn 1960 to present.
- GUHU-SAMANE (Mid-Waria), 4,000 speakers. Remotely related to Binandere Family, stock-level isolate. In Lae District, Morobe Province. Team: Ernest and Marjorie Richert 1957-75 (Phil and Sherry Richert 1974-77).
- HALIA (Hanahan, Tasi, Tulon), 13,000 speakers. Petats Family, Austronesian. In Buka Passage District, Bougainville Province. Team: Gerald and Janice Allen 1964 to present.
- HOTE (Ho'tei, Hotec, Yamap), 3,200 speakers. Hote Family, Austronesian. In Wau District, Morobe Province. Team: Rowena Donald, Mary Martens and Marguerite Muzzy 1975 to present.
- IAMALELE (Yamalele) 2,500 speakers. D'Entrecasteaux Family, Austronesian. On Fergusson I., Esa'ala District, Milne Bay Province. Teams: Bryan and Janet Ezard 1968-71; John and Margaret Beaumont 1971 to present.
- IATMUL (Big Sepik), 8,000 speakers. Ndu Family, Middle Sepik Stock. In Ambunti and Angoram Districts, East Sepik Province. Team: Philip and Lorraine Staalsen 1962 to present.
- IDUNA (Vivigani), 4,500 speakers. D'Entrecasteaux Family, Austronesian. On Goodenough I., Esa'ala District, Milne Bay Province. Teams: Joyce Hockett 1964 to present; Nancy Sampson 1964-65; Ramona Lucht 1971 to present.
- IWAL (Kaiwa), 1,500 speakers. Siasi Family, Austronesian. In Lae District, Morobe Province. Team: Ian and Doris Davidson* 1974-76.
- IWAM (May River Iwam), 2,000 speakers. Iwam Family, Upper Sepik Stock. In Ambunti District, East Sepik Province. Team: Robert and JoAnn Conrad 1963-65.
- IWAM, SEPIK, 3,500 speakers (including May River Iwam). Iwam Family, Upper Sepik Stock. In Ambunti District, East Sepik Province. Team: Marilyn Laszlo 1969 to present; Judith Rehbarg 1969-74.

- KALAM (Karam), 11,000 speakers. Karam Family, East New Guinea Highlands Stock. In Ramu District, Madang Province, and Hagen District, Western Highlands Province. Team: Lyle and Helen Scholz 1962 to present.
- KAMANO-KAFE (Kamano), 47,000 speakers. East-Central Family, East New Guinea Highlands Stock. In Kainantu and Henganofi Districts, Eastern Highlands Province. Teams: Dorothy Drew and Audrey Payne 1959 to present; Colin and Pearl Collins* 1969-74.
- KANITE-YATE (Kanite), 8,000 speakers (+ 8,000 Ke'yagana dialect). East-Central Family, New Guinea Highlands Stock. In Okapa District, Eastern Highlands Province. Teams: Joy McCarthy 1957 to present; Gwen Gibson 1959 to present; Stephen and Joy Harris 1970-71.
- KAPAU (Hamday, Hamtai, Kamia, Watut), 32,200 speakers. Anga Family. In Lae District, Morobe Province and Kukipi District, Gulf Province. Team: William† and Lynette Oates 1958 only.
- KAUGEL (Gawigl, Gawil, Kaul), 35,000 speakers. Central Family, East New Guinea Highlands Stock. In Hagen District, Western Highlands Province. Team: Robert and June Head 1969 to present.
- KE'YAGANA (dialect of Kanite-Yate), 8,000 speakers. East-Central Family, East New Guinea Highlands Stock. In Okapa District, Eastern Highlands Province. Team: Gwen Gibson and Joy McCarthy 1964 to present.
- KEWA, EAST, 20,000 speakers. West-Central Family, East New Guinea Highlands Stock. In Ialibu and Kagua Districts, Southern Highlands Province. Teams: Karl and Joice Franklin 1958 to present; Kevin and Margaret Newton* 1964-67.
- KEWA, WEST, 20,000 speakers. West-Central Family, East New Guinea Highlands Stock. In Kagua and Mendi Districts, Southern Highlands Province. Team: Karl and Joice Franklin 1967 to present.
- KOBON, 3,900 speakers. Karam Family, East New Guinea Highlands Stock. Ramu District, Madang Province. Teams: Marcus and May Dawson* 1967-71; John and Maila Davies 1973 to present.
- KOMBA, 10,500 speakers. Western Huon Family, Huon Stock. In Kabwum District, Morobe Province. Team: Neville and Gwyneth Southwell 1966 to present.
- KORAFE (Korafī, Korape, Kwarafe, Okeina), 1,800 speakers. Binandere Family. In Tufi District, Northern Province. Team: James and Cynthia Farr 1972 to present.

- KUMAN (Chimbu), 66,000 speakers. Central Family, East New Guinea Highlands Stock. Kundiawa District, Chimbu Province. Team: David and Judith Trefry* 1963-64.
- KUNIMAIPA (Gajili, Hazili), 8,000 speakers. Goilala Family (= Kunimaipan Family). In Wau District, Morobe Province and Goilala District, Central Province. Teams: Alan and Patricia Pence 1959-66; Doris Bjorkman and Elaine Geary 1966 to present; Mary Jones* 1971-73; Joan Coleman 1972 to present.
- MALEU (Kilenge), 4,000 speakers. Bariai Family (within Siasi Family), Austronesian. In Talasea District, West New Britain Province. Team: Graham and Irene Haywood 1972 to present.
- MANAGALASI, 4,000 speakers. Kolarian Family, Koiari-Manubara-Yareba Stock. In Popondetta District, Northern Province. Team: James and Judith Parlier 1962 to present; Roy and Janet Gwyther-Jones 1969 only; Carl and Gaynor Brown 1974-75.
- MANAMBU, 1,500 speakers. Ndu Family, Middle Sepik Stock. In Ambunti District, East Sepik Province. Teams: Janice Dodson Allen and Phyllis Walker Hurd 1962-63; Robin and Marva Farnsworth 1963 to present; Carl and Gaynor Brown 1972-73.
- MANDAK (Madak), 2,600 speakers. Madak Family, Austronesian. In Kavieng District, New Ireland Province. Team: Robert and Carolyn Lee 1975 to present.
- MANGSENG, 1,500 speakers. Whiteman Family. In Talasea District, West New Britain Province, and Pomio District, East New Britain Province. Team: Martin and Elisabeth Combs 1974 to present.
- MARING (Mareng), 8,000 speakers. Central Family, East New Guinea Highlands Stock. In Hagen District, Western Highlands Province. Team: Lance and Margaret Woodward 1963 to present.
- MENYE, 11,000 speakers. Anga Family. In Menyamya District, Morobe Province. Team: Len and Amy Chipping 1970-75; Carl and Pat Whitehead 1975 to present.
- MIANMIN, 1,500 speakers. Ok Family, Central and South New Guinea Stock. In Telefomin District, West Sepik Province. Teams: Jean Smith and Pam Weston 1967 to present; Graham and Muriel Collier 1975 to present.
- MINIAFIA, 2,000 speakers. Arifama-Miniafia Family, Austronesian. In Tufi District, Northern Province. Team: David and Fran Wakefield 1973 to present.

- MOTU, 10,000 speakers. Motu Family, Austronesian. In Port Moresby District, Central Province. Teams: Richard Brett*, Ray and Ruth Brown*, and Velma Foreman 1961 only. See also Police Motu.
- MOUNTAIN ARAPESEH (Bukiyip), 10,000 speakers. Arapesh Family. In Maprik District, East Sepik Province. Teams: Amy Skinner Chipping and Ruth Pitt 1968 only; Robert and JoAnn Conrad 1971 to present.
- MOUNTAIN KOIALI (Mountain Koiari), 1,700 speakers. Koiarian Family, Koiari-Manubara-Yareba Stock. In Port Moresby District, Central Province. Team: Roger and Susan Garland 1970 to present.
- MUHIANG (Southern Arapesh), 10,000 speakers. Arapesh Family, Kombio Stock. In Maprik District, East Sepik Province. Team: Robert Conrad supervising national translators 1976 to present.
- MUYUW (Muruwa), 3,000 speakers. Kiriwina-Muyuw Family, Austronesian. On Woodlark I., Samarai District, Milne Bay Province. Team: David and Daphne Lithgow 1964 to present.
- NABAK, 12,000 speakers. Western Huon Family, Huon Stock. In Lae District, Morobe Province. Team: Edmund and Grace Fabian 1970 to present.
- NAGOVISI, 5,000 speakers. Nasioi Family, Nasioi-Nagovisi-Siwai-Buin Stock. In Buin District, Bougainville Province. Team: Bruce and Eula Hunt 1969-73.
- NAKANAI (West Nakanai, Bileki), 8,000 speakers. Kimbe Family (= Nakanai Family), Austronesian. In Hoskins District, West New Britain Province. Team: Ray and Marilyn Johnston 1971 to present.
- NARAK (Ganja), 4,000 speakers. Central Family, East New Guinea Highlands Stock. In Hagen District, Western Highlands Province. Team: Joan Hainsworth and Kay Johnson 1962 to present.
- NASIOI, 13,000 speakers. Nasioi Family, Nasioi-Nagovisi-Siwai-Buin Stock. In Kieta District, Bougainville Province. Team: Conrad and Phyllis Hurd 1964 to present.
- NII (Ek Nii), 9,300 speakers. Central Family, East New Guinea Highlands Stock. In Minj District, Western Highlands Province. Team: Alfred and Dellene Stucky 1967 to present.
- OKSAPMIN, 5,000 speakers. Stock-level isolate. In Telefomin District, West Sepik Province. Team: Marshall and Helen Lawrence 1968 to present.

- ÖMIE (Äömie), 1,100 speakers. Koiarian Family, Koiari-Manubara-Yareba Stock. In Kokoda District, Northern Province. Teams: Alan and Minnie Tobitt* 1963-65; John and June Austing 1965 to present.
- ONO, 3,000 speakers. Western Huon Family, Huon Stock. In Finschhafen District, Morobe Province. Team: Tom and Penny Phinnemore 1972 to present.
- OROKAIVA, 25,000 speakers. Binandere Family. In Popondetta District, Northern Province. Team: Robert and Marlys Larsen 1971 to present.
- PATEP, 1,200 speakers. Buang Family, Austronesian. In Mumeng District, Morobe Province. Team: Karen Adams and Linda Lauck 1972 to present.
- PAWAIA (Pavaia), 2,300 speakers. Pawaian Family, Teberan-Pawaian Stock. In Kundiawa District, Chimbu Province. Team: David and Judith Trefry* 1960-64.
- PETATS, 2,000 speakers. Petats Family, Austronesian. In Buka Passage District, North Solomons Province. Team: Jerry Allen supervising national translators 1973 to present.
- PIDGIN ENGLISH (Neo-Melanesian, New Guinea Pidgin, Melanesian Pidgin), close to 1,500,000 speakers. In New Guinea. Teams: Roy Gwyther-Jones 1969 to present; Robert Litteral 1967-68; James Parker 1972 to present.
- PODOPA (Polopa), 2,500 speakers. Teberan Family (= Mikaruan Family), Teberan-Pawaian Stock. In Baimuru District, Gulf Province. Team: Neil and Carol Anderson 1972 to present.
- POLICE MOTU (Hiri Motu), about 200,000 speakers. A pidgin form of Motu spoken as a lingua franca throughout Papua. Teams: Richard Brett*, Ray and Ruth Brown*, and Velma Foreman 1961 only.
- RAWA (Erawa), 6,000 speakers. Gusap-Mot Family, Finisterre Stock. In Ramu District, Madang Province. Teams: Marie Chapman Zylstra* and Francine Derk Claassen† 1965-66; Oren† and Francine Claassen† 1967-72; Donald and Norma Toland 1973 to present.
- ROKOKAS, 4,200 speakers. Rotokas Family, Kunua-Keriaka-Rotokas-Eivo Stock. In Kieta District, Bougainville Province. Team: Irwin and Jacqueline Firchow 1965 to present.
- SALT-YUI (Salt-Iui), 6,000 speakers. Central Family, East New Guinea Highlands Stock. In Gumine District, Chimbu Province. Teams: Barry and Ruth Irwin 1963 to present; Cliff and Irene Shelton 1971 to present.

- SAMO-KUBO (Supei-Kubor), 1,200 speakers. East Strickland Family (= Bedamini Family), Central and South New Guinea Stock. In Kiunga District, Western Province. Team: Daniel and Karen Shaw 1970 to present.
- SANIO-HIOWE (Sanio), 600 speakers. Sepik Hill (stock-level) Family. In Ambunti District, East Sepik Province. Team: Ronald and Sandra Lewis 1968 to present.
- SELEPET, 6,300 speakers. Western Huon Family, Huon Stock. In Kabwum District, Morobe Province. Team: Kenneth and Noreen McElhanon 1964 to present.
- SIANE, 16,000 speakers. East-Central Family, East New Guinea Highlands Stock. In Goroka District, Eastern Highlands Province. Team: Dorothy James 1960 to present; Ramona Lucht 1960-71; Denise Potts 1973 to present.
- SIROI (Suroi, Pasa), 700 speakers. Kabenau Family, Rai Coast Stock. In Saidor District, Madang Province. Team: Margaret Mathieson and Margaret Wells 1965 to present.
- SUENA, 2,000 speakers. Binandere Family. In Lae District, Morobe Province. Team: Darryl and Lael Wilson 1964 to present.
- SURSURUNGA (Hinsal, Kinsal), 1,800 speakers. Patpatar Family, Austro-nesian. In Namatanai District, New Ireland Province. Team: Donald and Sharon Hutchisson 1974 to present.
- TAIRORA, 8,500 speakers. Eastern Family, East New Guinea Highlands Stock. In Kainantu District, Eastern Highlands Province. Team: Alex and Lois Vincent 1957 and 1958 to present.
- TAKIA, 11,000 speakers. Belan Family, Austronesian. On Karkar I., Madang District, Madang Province. Team: Judy Rehbarg and Salme Tuominen 1975 to present.
- TAWALA (Tawara, Tavara, Keherara, Basilaki), 8,000 speakers. Austro-nesian. In Alotau District, Milne Bay Province. Team: Bryan and Janet Ezard supervising national translators 1974 to present.
- TELEFOL (Teleefool, Telefolmin), 3,800 speakers. Ok Family, Central and South New Guinea Stock. In Telefomin District, West Sepik Province. Team: Alan and Phyllis Healey 1959-69.
- TIFAL (Tifalmin), 2,800 speakers. Ok Family, Central and South New Guinea Stock. In Telefomin District, West Sepik Province. Teams: Walter† and LaVonne Steinkraus† 1961-71; Alfred and Susan Boush 1973 to present.

- TIMBE, 11,000 speakers. Western Huon Family, Huon Stock. In Kabwum District, Morobe Province. Team: Michael and Margaret Foster 1970 to present.
- TINPUTZ (Timputz), 1,400 speakers. Tinputz Family, Austronesian. In Buka Passage District, Bougainville Province. Team: Roman and Carolyn Hostetler 1971 to present.
- TOLAI (Kuanua, Tuna), 61,000 speakers. Patpatar Family, Austronesian. In Rabaul District, East New Britain Province. Teams: Karl Franklin and Harland Kerr 1959-60; Clive Beaumont 1967 only.
- URII (Uri, Erap), 2,500 speakers. Erap Family, Finisterre Stock. In Lae District, Morobe Province. Teams: Doris Bjorkman and Jean Christie*† 1962-63; Tom and Gwen Webb 1965 to present.
- USARUFA (Usurufa), 1,000 speakers. Eastern Family, East New Guinea Highlands Stock. In Okapa District, Eastern Highlands Province. Teams: Darlene Bee† 1958-72; Vida Chenoweth 1965 to present; Kathleen Barker Glasgow 1958-61; Robert and June Head 1965-67.
- WAFFA, 1,000 speakers. Eastern Family, East New Guinea Highlands Stock. In Kaiapit District, Morobe Province. Team: Joyce Hotz and Mary Stringer 1962 to present.
- WAHGI (Middle Wahgi), 45,000 speakers. Central Family, East New Guinea Highlands Stock. In Minj District, Western Highlands Province. Team: Donald and Janet Phillips 1963-74.
- WANTOAT, 5,000 speakers. Wantoat Family, Finisterre Stock. In Lae District, Morobe Province. Team: Donald and Launa Davis 1958 to present.
- WARIS, 3,000 speakers. Waris Family. In Amanab District, West Sepik Province. Team: Robert Brown 1973 to present; Geoff Copland 1973-74.
- WASHKUK (Kwoma), 2,500 speakers. Kwoma Family, Middle Sepik Stock. In Ambunti District, East Sepik Province. Team: Orneal and Martha Kooyers 1961 to present.
- WASKIA (Woskia, Vaskia), 9,200 speakers. Kowan Family, Isumrud Stock. In Madang District, Madang Province. Team: Fay Barker and Janet Lee 1976 to present.
- WERI (Wele), 4,200 speakers. Gollala Family. In Wau District, Morobe Province. Teams: David and Ruth Cummings 1960-61; Maurice and Helen Boxwell 1962 to present.

- WIRU (Witu), 15,000 speakers. West-Central Family, East New Guinea Highlands Stock. In Ialibu District, Southern Highlands Province. Teams: Harland and Marie Kerr 1958 to present; Graham and Muriel Collier 1966-75.
- WOJOKESO (Wajakes, Wajokeso, Ampale), 3,000 speakers. Anga Family. In Kaiapit District, Morobe Province. Team: Dorothy and Edith West 1963 to present.
- WOSERA (dialect of Abulas), 12,500 speakers. Ndu Family, Middle Sepik Stock. In Maprik District, East Sepik Province. Teams: Jack and Louise Bass 1962-63; Philip Staalsen supervising national translators 1972 to present.
- YAREBA (Middle Musa), 750 speakers. Yareban Family, Kolari-Manubara-Yareba Stock. In Popondetta District, Northern Province. Team: Harry and Natalia Weimer 1963-75.
- YAWEYUHA (Yabiyufa), 2,000 speakers. East-Central Family, East New Guinea Highlands Stock. In Goroka District, Eastern Highlands Province. Team: Ellis Deibler supervising national translators 1974 to present.
- YELETNYE (Rossel, Yela, Yele), 2,500 speakers. Language isolate. On Rossel I., Misima District, Milne Bay Province. Team: James and Anne Henderson 1970 to present.
- YESSAN-MAYO, 1,000 speakers. Tama Family. In Ambunti District, East Sepik Province. Team: Velma Foreman and Helen Marten 1962 to present.
- YOLIAPI (dialect of Hewa), 150 speakers. Sepik Hill (stock-level) Family. In Telefomin District, West Sepik Province. Team: Anne Cochran 1968 only.
- YUPNA (Kewieng). Yupna Family (over 7,000 speakers in the Family), Finisterre Stock. In Saidor District, Madang Province. Team: John and Judith Tonson 1975 to present.
- YURI, 1,200 speakers. Language isolate. In Amanab District, West Sepik Province. Team: Thea Lake* 1973 only; Veda Rigden and Dorothy Price 1973 and 1974 to present.
- ZAKA (Siane dialect?), ? speakers. East-Central Family, East New Guinea Highlands Stock. In Goroka District, Eastern Highlands Province. Team: Ellis Deibler supervising national translators 1975 to present.
- ZIA, 3,300 speakers. Binanderean Family. In Lae District, Morobe Province. Team: Darryl Wilson supervising a national translator 1974 to present.

