

# Living Dictionaries

**A Web Platform to Protect Endangered Languages  
and Maintain Global Linguistic Diversity**

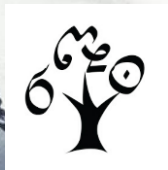
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# Technology & Endangered Languages

- What if technology can disrupt language bias?
- With over 3,000 languages in danger of being lost before 2100, we know there is a need to act quickly.
- There is a strong need to develop free tech tools that serve citizen-linguists and communities of speakers.





# Language Justice Issues to Address

- Colonization has caused thousands of language communities to become disenfranchised.
- Most countries are not investing in resources needed to support minority languages.

● We aim to obviate institutionalized barriers that prevent equal status and equitable treatment of all forms of linguistic communication.



A moral imperative of the 21st century is  
the decolonization and democratization of  
linguistic resources.





# What Are Living Dictionaries?

- A mobile-friendly web platform where citizen-linguists can build online dictionaries on any device.
- Living Dictionaries are multimedia tools for language documentation and language revitalization or maintenance.
- Accessible for free at: <https://livingdictionaries.app>



# Living Dictionaries: Our Approach

Community-driven

Ease of Use

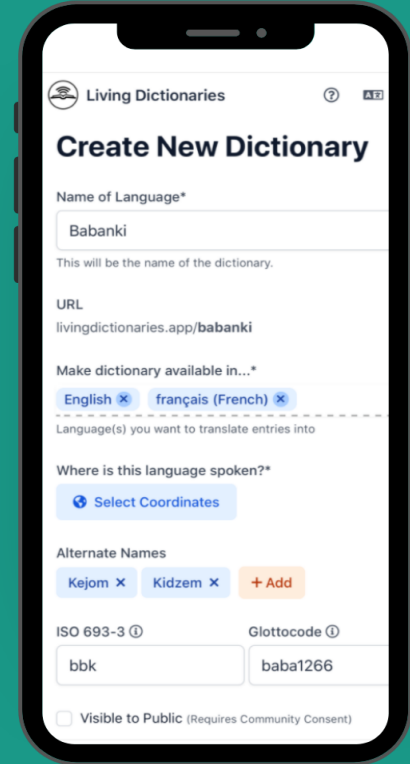
Training citizen-linguists

Accessibility

Remote collaboration

User feedback in design process

Website: <https://livingdictionaries.app>



The screenshot shows the 'Create New Dictionary' form in the Living Dictionaries app. The form includes the following fields and options:

- Name of Language\*:** A text input field containing 'Babanki'. Below it, a note states: 'This will be the name of the dictionary.'
- URL:** A text input field containing 'livingdictionaries.app/babanki'.
- Make dictionary available in...\***: A section with two selected language tags: 'English' and 'français (French)'. Below this, a note says: 'Language(s) you want to translate entries into'.
- Where is this language spoken?\***: A section with a blue button labeled 'Select Coordinates'.
- Alternate Names:** A section with two tags: 'Kejom' and 'Kidzem', and an orange '+ Add' button.
- ISO 693-3 ①:** A text input field containing 'bbk'.
- Glottocode ①:** A text input field containing 'baba1266'.
- Visible to Public** (Requires Community Consent)





Cari sebuah Kamus

Kamus Saya

Diccionario de lengua Tehuelche (aonekko 'a'ien)

Patagonia

Achi

Guatemala

Akateko

Guatemala

Apatani

India

Aren (Aiome)

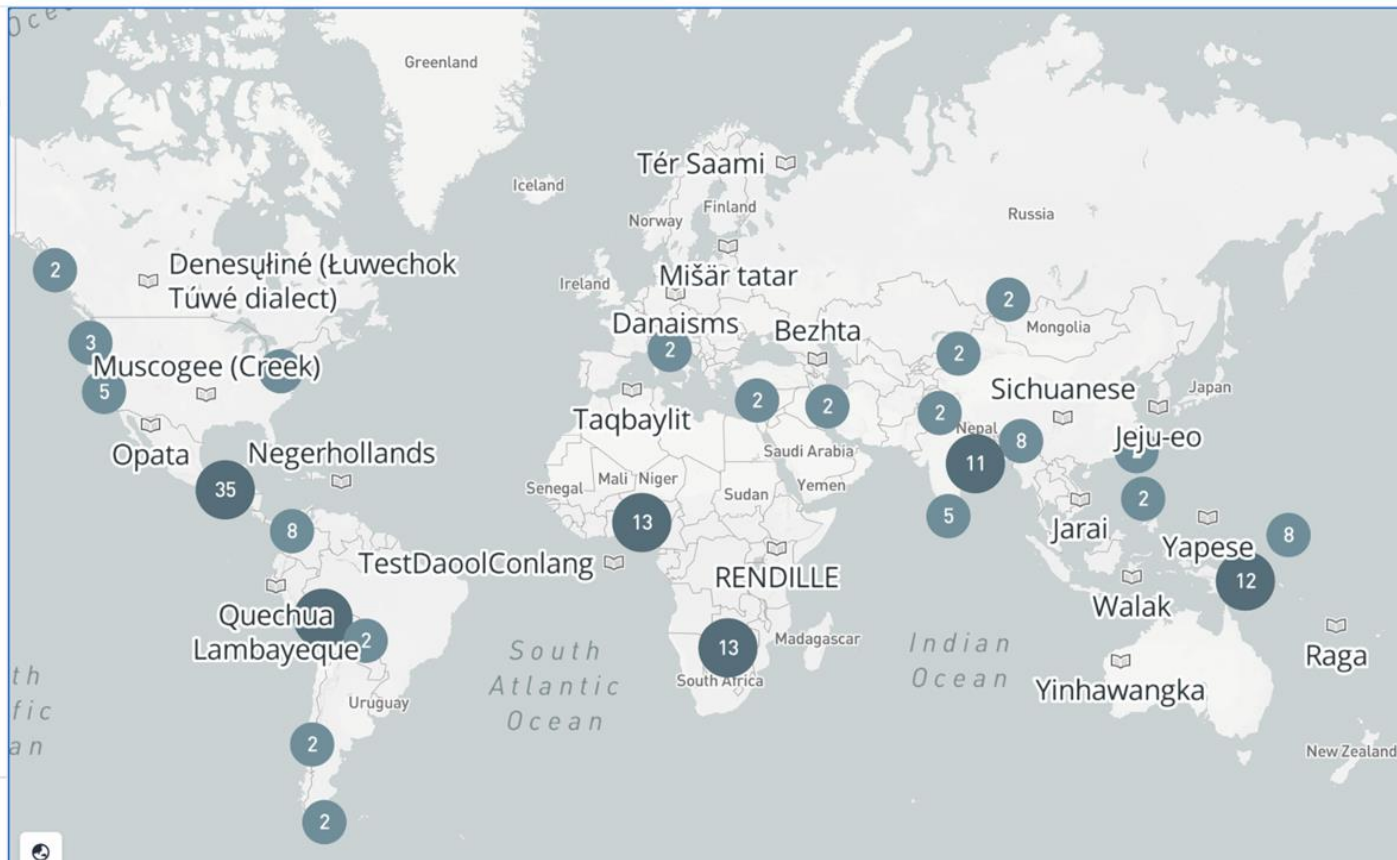
Papua New Guinea

Ayoreo

Alto Paraguay y Bolivia

Dik...

+ Membuat Kamus Baru





Living Dictionaries: Zoom webinar for linguists in Africa (2021)







# Living Dictionaries: Community Usage

Dictionary managers

**300**

Number of citizen-linguists  
using the platform

Living Dictionaries

**200+**

Number of Living  
Dictionaries created on the  
platform

Total entries

**250K**

Total number of entries of  
all Living Dictionaries  
combined

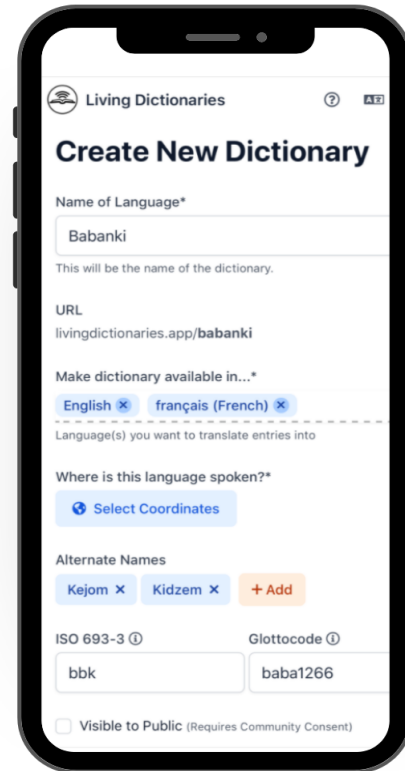




# Upcoming Features

**Short-term:** Video integration, more interface languages, an IPA Chart picker, export functions, links to ecological databases, and regular training workshops

**Long-term:** speed optimization, offline mode functionality, audio analysis, expanded storage, prompts integration, automated features such as an image bank, and advanced training for linguists who wish to create monolingual dictionaries.



A short horizontal bar with a teal-to-orange gradient.

# Thank you.



**LINKS:**

<https://livingdictionaries.app>

<https://livingtongues.org>

