

Two languages of the Papuan Tip Cluster (Continuation of the project: Towards the documentation of Saliba-Logea, an endangered language of Papua New Guinea)

Initiative: Dokumentation bedrohter Sprachen (beendet)

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Papua New Guinea hosts over 800 different languages and is well known for its great linguistic diversity. Throughout much of Papua New Guinea, shift to the dominant languages English and Pidgin is well under way and many languages are already severely threatened. Target of this documentation project are Saliba and Logea, two Western Oceanic languages of the Papuan Tip cluster spoken in Milne Bay Province (estimated number of speakers 2,500). The project started in 2004. The planned second phase builds on the achievements of the first phase and on the infrastructure the project has set up. For the archived corpus to be a resource that is as accessible and useful as possible to other researchers and to future generations of probably non-fluent speakers, the lexicon database and the quality of the text translations will be essential. That is why in the project's one year final phase the Australian-German team will extend and improve the existing draft lexicon and provide more fine-tuned translations for a larger part of the Saliba-Logea corpus.

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