

## Living Dictionaries: A Tutorial for Specialists in Nilo-Saharan Languages

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Living Dictionaries are collaborative multimedia web tools that can help Nilo-Saharan languages survive for generations to come. Ideal for maintaining indigenous as well as diasporic languages, Living Dictionaries are never out-of-print, infinitely expandable resources. They go well beyond a static print dictionary, combining language data with digital audio recordings of native speakers, photos and videos. Living Dictionaries address the urgent need to provide comprehensive, freely accessible tech tools for both linguists engaged in documentation and to assist community activists in grassroots conservation efforts and revitalization programs. The intended audience of this web app is inclusive, diverse and multilingual. The software works seamlessly across all mobile devices. Living Dictionary managers and contributors may create new entries, edit entries, add images, upload audio files, as well as record directly into dictionaries using microphones on smartphones or laptops. The interface is currently available (or in preparation) for use in a range of languages including the following relevant to the Nilo-Saharan world: English, French, Arabic, Kiswahili, Amharic, and Hausa. Dictionary users can select from a wide range of glossing languages that include major world languages, as well as locally and regionally dominant Nilo-Saharan languages such as Dinka, Kanuri, Kunama, Maasai, Nuer, Sara, possible L2s like Fulani/Fulfulde, Kikuyu, Kikongo, Luganda, Oromo, Sango, or Zarma among many others.