Application Form for Joint Research Project 2010

Applicant(Coordinator) :   Hieda, Osamu

1. Project title		
Language Documentation of African Languages		
2. Project term	April, 2010 ～ March, 2012　　(　　3　years)	
3. Coordinator	(Name)　Hieda, Osamu	(Role) Coordination, Promotion of research
Sub-coordinator	(Name)　Shiino, Wakana	(Role) Publicity
ILCAA member	(Name)	(Role)
4. Number of project members	18	
5. Research Field of joint researchers	Language documentation and publicity of African languages	

6. Summary of the project
Organization of researchers who are engaged in language documentation of African languages. In order to manifest what language documentation is the project prepares meetings for researchers who study African languages. The scope of language documentation discussed in the project includes socio-linguistic and ethno-linguistic domains. The project aims at organizing research-network of Japanese active researchers with linkage to international research-network through institutes which ILCAA has academic agreement with.

7. Aim of the project
Language documentation is an urgent issue that international organization has to work on because many languages are endangered in the world. Many of African languages are also endangered to be extinct. Among the languages which are not endangered at present time more languages will be extinguished from the earth. The aim of the project is to manifest what language documentation is. Researchers who engage in language documentation of African languages in domains of sounds, meanings and forms, including socio-linguistic as well as ethno-linguistic elements will tackle the urgent issue.

8. Significance of the research , especially the significance of carrying out the project as a joint research
Language documentation is an urgent issue that international organizations are required to work on. Researchers who study African languages are belonging to various institutions in Japan. They are suffered from a lot of limitations. The project can prepare better circumstances to them for working on language documentation of African languages. The project can organize researchers into research-network nationally and internationally with linkage to international network through institutions that ILCAA has academic agreement with.

9. Research results expected
Organization of researchers who engage in language documentation in Japan. Linkage between Japanese research net-work to international research-network. Promotion of research for language documentation of African languages in Japan. To bring up young researchers for language documentation of African languages. Research results are grammars, dictionaries, texts, phonic records of African languages, including socio-linguistic and ethno-linguistic description.

10. Project plan
Academic meetings every year. Members and visiting researchers are expected to participate in the regular meetings. 2010: International meeting of language documentation held in ILCAA 2011: International meeting of Nilotic morphosyntax held in ILCAA (planed)

11. Plans to make research results public
Publications: Asian & African Lexicon series & Bantu vocabulary series & Grammatical sketch series.

12. Documents needed from those applying for joint researchers
A copy of recent publication of African languages or a report of language documentation of African languages (200 words)