The African Studies Center at Michigan State University has been awarded a grant from the U.S. Department of Education for the production of a handbook of human, institutional and material resources for the teaching and learning of African languages. Because of the existence of over 2000 languages now being spoken in Africa, this investigation has been restricted to the 82 highest priority languages established in a 4-tier ranking by the 1979 meeting of Africanist linguists and area specialists representing the major African studies centers in the U.S. (See Wiley, David and David Dwyer, compilers, African Language Instruction in the United States: Directions and Priorities for the 1980s, East Lansing, Michigan: Michigan State University, African Studies Center, 1980.)

As a first step in this project we are assembling for each of the languages listed below a list of individuals throughout the world who are actively engaged in scholarly studies in the language, whether teaching, linguistic research, preparing language materials or producing literature.

All scholars interested in being included or who have recommendations for inclusion should write to David Dwyer, Language Resource Project Director, or Kay Irish, Administrative Assistant, c/o African Studies Center, Room 100 International Center, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan, 48824. Please include the following: name and title (where relevant), correspondence address, language(s) appearing on the list for which the scholar has experience. Those responding will then be contacted for further information.
Group A Languages (Highest Priority)

Akan (Twi/Asante/Akuapem/Fante), Amharic, Arabic, Chewa/Nyanja, Fula (Pululde/Peulh/Pulani), Hausa, Igbo, Kongo, Malagasy, Mandingo (Bambara/Mandinga/Dyula), Ngala (Lingala), Oromo (Galla), Ruanda/Rundi (Kinyarwanda/Kirundi), Sango, Shona, Somali, Sotho/Tswana, Swahili, Tigrinya, Umbundu, Wolof, Xhosa/Zulu/Swazi (Ndebele), Yoruba.

Group B Languages (Second Priority)

Anyi/Baule, Bamileke, Bemba, Berber (Tamazight/Tamacheq/Kabyllè), Chokwe/Lunda, Efik/Ibibio, Ewe/Mina/Fon, Ganda (Luganda), Gbaya, Kalenjin (Kikuyu/Kipsigis), Kamba (Kikamba), Kanuri, Kikuyu, Krio/Pidgin (Cluster), Luba (Chiluba), Luhyia, Luo (Acholi/Lango), Makua (includes Lomwe), Mbindu (Kimbundu), Mende/Bandi/Loko, Mswi/Nkundo, More/Mossi, Nubian, Senufo, Songhai, Sukuma/Nyamwezi, Tiv, Tsonga (Shitsonga/Ronga or Shironga/Tswa or Shitswa), Yao/Makonde (Bulu), Zande (Azande).

Group C Languages (Third Priority)

Dinka (Agar/Bor/Padang), Edo (Bini), Gogo (Chigogo), Gurage, Hehe, Idoma, Ibibia, Ijo, Kpelle, Kru/Bassa, Lozi (Loloki), Maasai, Mauritian Creole, Meru, Nama (Damara), Nuer, Nupe, Nyakusa, Nyoro, Sara, Serere/Sine (Serer), Sidamo, Soninke, Suppire, Susu, Temne, Tumbuka (Chitumbuka), Turkana/Teso, Venda.

Group D Languages (Lowest Priority)

All remaining languages.