

## **The Role of Technology in the Protection and Preservation of Endangered Languages as Linguistic Heritage in Indonesia**

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Linguistic heritage is one of the cultural heritages that require an urgent attention. The reason is that many of languages in Indonesia especially in the eastern parts are in the process of extinction. The traditional methods of saving languages have not been successful. In these methods, researchers try to describe the structure of a language through the collection of primary data gathered by interaction with native-speaking consultants without the application of technology, the tape recorder usually being the only tool used to record the languages. The common outputs are a grammar, a dictionary, and a set of texts. Meanwhile, the documentation produced by these methods seems to run slowly and do not parallel the rapid extinction process. Many of languages in Indonesia now are dying and even now some of them are extinct. One of the reasons is the lack of technology application in the documentation process. The materials are usually kept in libraries for use in academic work and are difficult to access and in fact hardly accessed by the public. The audience is restricted to linguists and language researchers. However, modern methods of saving languages could do much more than traditional methods.

The application of the technology in relation to the study of languages, especially from an interdisciplinary approach is known today as documentary linguistics. From the documentary linguistic point of view, researchers can not only record linguistic phenomena, but also many different things providing much information to scientists from other disciplines who could gain from a study of the documentary endeavors. The audiences are not only linguists but also anthropologists, musicologists, oral historians, speech communities, or other interested people. The process of documentation comprises of recording, capturing, analysis, archiving, and mobilization. This paper tries to explain the role of documentary linguistics in protecting and preserving endangered languages in Indonesia through the application of modern technology for sustainable development and shows how it can be used profitably in countries with high linguistic diversity.