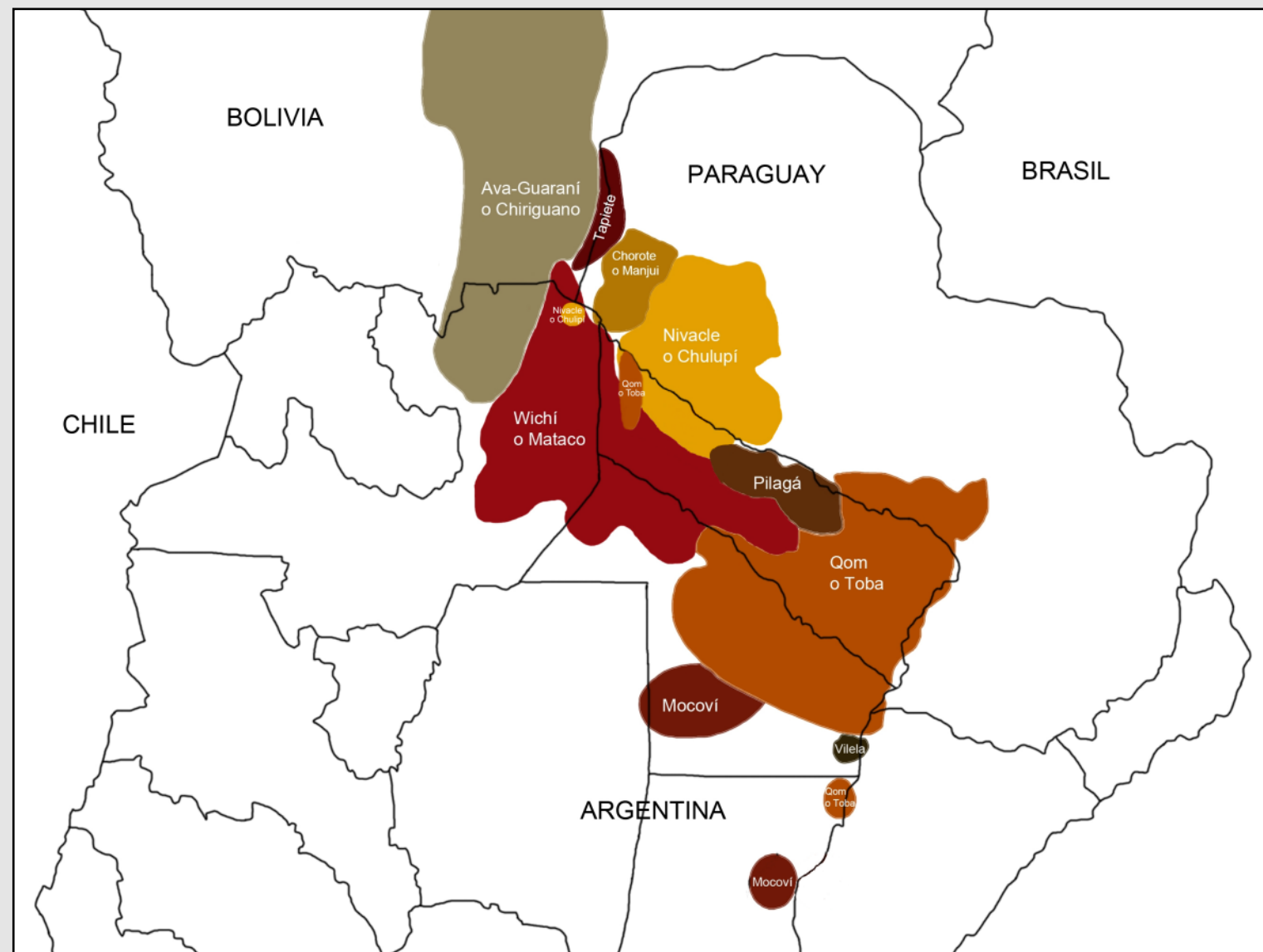




Mobilizing the Chaco Languages DoBeS Archive: from documenting and preserving to networking

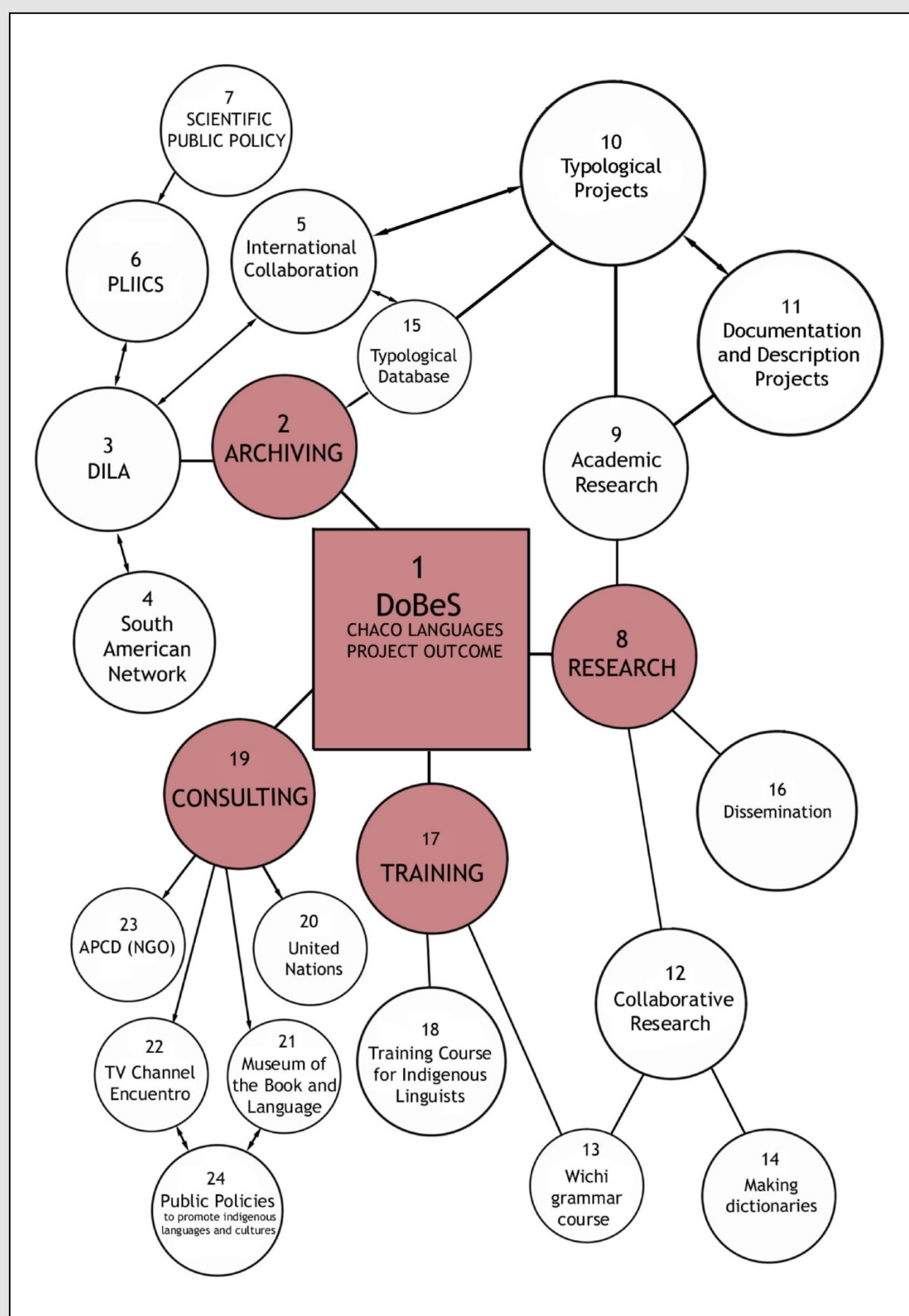
The Chaco Languages Project (2002-05) documented four indigenous languages and cultures -Mocovi (Guaycuruan), Tapiete (Tupi-Guarani), Vilela (Lule-Vilela), and Wichi (Mataguayan) - that have shared the geographical habitat since before colonial times. Research adopted a multidisciplinary perspective encompassing linguistics, ethnography, visual anthropology, and ethnomusicology. It was carried out by UBA, in collaboration with the Department of Linguistics, MPI-EVA.



Distribution of the Chaco languages spoken in Argentina. Number of speakers: Ava Guarani (ca. 10,000); Ayoreo (ca. 4,500); Mocovi (ca. 12,200); Nivacle (ca. 14,700); Pilaga (ca. 5,000); Qom (ca. 40,600); Tapiete (ca. 2,500); Vilela (2); Wichi (ca. 40,000)

Along the lines of this project, since 2006 the Chaco Languages program in Argentina has been organized in four main working areas - Archiving, Research, Training and Consulting - thus widening language documentation and description to incorporate Ayoreo (Zamuco), Pilaga (Guaycuruan), and Nivacle (Mataguayan), mobilizing the DoBeS archive in typological research, and deepening the process to build a South American archive network.

Networking: The Chaco Languages DoBeS and post-DoBeS outcomes



References

1. **DoBeS CHACO LANGUAGES PROJECT OUTCOME (UBA/MPI-EVA, 2002-05)**
 - » Audio, video and photo ethnographic and linguistic sessions
 - » Demographic maps
 - » 10 documentaries
 - » 19 linguistic and didactic publications and games for the communities
 - » Lexicons and grammatical sketches
 - » 21 academic publications
 - » 49 presentations at meetings and congresses
 - » Workshops with students and indigenous communities
 - » Development of multidisciplinary tools to trigger linguistic memories
 - » 3 PhD dissertations



Children in Misión Los Tapietes. Tartagal, Salta (Argentina), 2010

2. ARCHIVING

3. **Documentation and Research in Linguistics and Anthropology Laboratory (DILA), CONICET, Argentina**
Created by CONICET-MPI agreement (2007).
Digital Archive:
 - » DoBeS Chaco Languages local mirror
 - » American Indigenous Languages Program (LIA)
 - » Migration Languages Program (LEM)
 - » Dr. Alberto Rex González Fonds (Archaeology)

4. **South American Regional Archive Network**
DILA (Argentina)-IIAP (Peru)-Museu do Índio (Brazil)-Museu Goeldi (Brazil)

5. **International Collaboration**
 - » The Language Archive, MPI for Psycholinguistics
 - » INNET Project, CLARIN
 - » Department of Linguistics, MPI-EVA

6. **Interactive Platform for Social Sciences Research (PLIICS), CONICET, Argentina**
Launched in 2012

7. **Scientific Public Policy**
The Argentine National Bill for "The Creation of Open Access Institutional Digital Repositories", 2012

8. RESEARCH

9. Academic Research

10. **Typological Projects**
 - » Chaco languages areal typology (UBA-UNFormosa-UNSanJuan, Argentina/MPI-EVA, Germany, 2009-13). Funded by MINCYT and DFG-CONICET
 - » Subordination in Chaco Languages (UBA, 2011-2014)
 - » Space in Chaco Languages (A.Vidal and I.Quadrio)

11. **Documentation and Description Projects**
Ongoing:
 - » Ayoreo Documentation and Description (S.Durante, PhD diss.)
 - » Nivacle Phonology (A.Gutiérrez, PhD diss., ELDP)
 - » Nivacle Grammar (A.Vidal)
 - » Pilaga Syntax (A.Vidal)
 - » Tapiete Attrition and Recovery (F.Ciccione, PhD diss.)
 - » Vilela Documentation and Grammar (L.Golluscio)
 - » Wichi Syntax and Prosody; Dialectology (V.Nercesian, Post-doc)*Completed:*
 - » Wichi Grammar (V.Nercesian, PhD diss.)
 - » Visual Culture and Socialization of Mocovi Children (M.Hellemeyer, PhD diss.)

12. Collaborative Research (2006-present)

13. **Wichi grammar course**
(V.Nercesian/Interwichi Organization/APCD)

14. **Making dictionaries**
 - » Pilaga-Spanish-English (A.Vidal, ELDP)
 - » Wichi-Spanish (V.Nercesian/Interwichi Organization)

15. Typological Database

16. **Dissemination**
 - » Websites: www.caicyt.gov.ar/DILA, www.lenguawichi.com.ar, www.lenguapilaga.com.ar
 - » Interviews in the media
 - » Three International Symposia on Language Documentation (Buenos Aires, 2007-2008)



Chaco Languages Exhibit, Museum of the Book and Language, National Library, Buenos Aires, 2012

17. TRAINING

18. **Training Course for Indigenous Linguists** (ME-UBA, 2008-09)

19. CONSULTING

20. **United Nations**
Declaration of Indigenous Rights in Wichi (2009)
21. **Museum of the Book and Language**
Chaco Languages Exhibit (2012). National Library, Argentina
22. **TV documentary series**
"Pueblos Originarios", *Encuentro* TV Channel, ME (2008-2009)
23. **APCD (NGO)** Wichi-Spanish written materials (2007-12)
24. **Public Policies** to promote indigenous languages and cultures

DoBeS Chaco Languages Team

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B. Comrie, *General Advisor* (MPI-EVA, Germany)

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León Ramírez, elder of the Nivacle community of La Madrid, Formosa (Argentina), 2011

Institutions mentioned above

- » APCD - Association for the Promotion of Culture and Development (Argentina)
- » CLARIN-Common Language Resources & Technology Infrastructure, EU
- » CONICET - National Council for Scientific and Technological Research, MINCYT, Argentina
- » DILA - Laboratory for Linguistic and Anthropological Research and Documentation, CONICET
- » ELDP - Endangered Languages Documentation Program, HRELP, SOAS, University of London
- » IIAP - The Institute for Peruvian Amazonian Research
- » INNET - Innovative Networking in Infrastructure for Endangered Languages, CLARIN
- » ME - Ministry of Education, Argentina
- » MINCYT - Ministry of Science and Technology, Argentina
- » MPI-EVA - Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology
- » UBA - University of Buenos Aires, Argentina

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