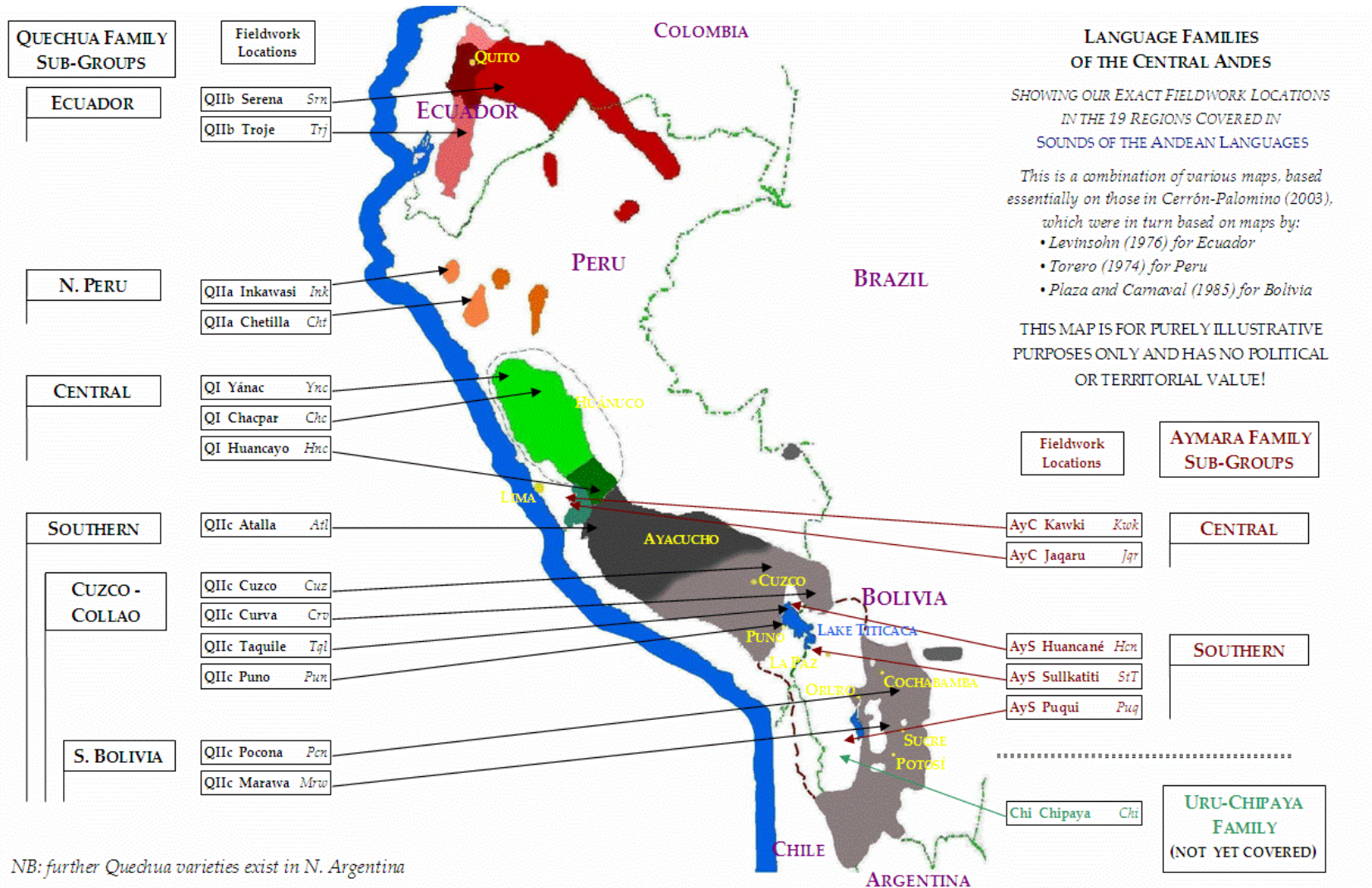


FAILURES IN THE LEXICAL MODERNISATION OF SOUTHERN QUECHUA AND POSSIBLE WAYS TO OVERCOME THEM

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QUECHUA LANGUAGE FAMILY



NB: further Quechua varieties exist in N. Argentina

“A situation that is much less well represented among the projects funded by programs for endangered languages is that of historically important languages with large numbers of speakers but no well-defined official status. Such languages are located and often dispersed in regions where their speakers have occupied an inferior socio-economic position for many centuries, and they are much more difficult to reach and support than small speaker communities with a high degree of internal cohesion. Most of these languages are subject to a dramatic language shift that threatens to interrupt their transmission to future generations, if it has not already done so. This process has already caused enormous losses, and it seems to be only a matter of time before such languages will disappear completely. Driven by social and attitudinal factors deeply rooted in history, this massive language shift is difficult to reverse, and it requires more complex techniques than language maintenance and revitalization in small language communities, if any success can be expected at all.” (Adelaar 2014)

Table 8.2 Peru: Population over 5 years of age according to language learned in childhood. [Source: *Perfil Sociodemográfico del Perú, Censos Nacionales 2007: XI de Población y VI de Vivienda*. 2nd ed. (Lima: Instituto de Estadística e Informática, 2008)]

Language	1993 census	%	2007 census	%	% variation
Total	19 190 624	100	24 687 537	100	
Spanish	15 405 014	80.3	20 718 227	83.9	3.6
Quechua	3 177 938	16.6	3 261 750	13.2	−3.3
Aymara	440 380	2.3	434 370	1.8	−0.5
Other native language	132 174	0.7	223 194	0.9	0.2

Howard (2011)

STATE OF QUECHUA AND AYMARA IN BOLIVIA

(FIRST LANGUAGE LEARNED IN CHILDHOOD)

	2001	2012
Spanish	5,064,992 (61.2 %)	6,690,486 (64.4 %)
Quechua	1,555,641 (18.8 %)	1,680,384 (16.2 %)
Aymara	1,277,881 (15.4 %)	1,021,513 (9.8 %)
Total Population	8,274,325 (100 %)	10,389,903 (100 %)

<http://www.ine.gob.bo/indice/visualizador.aspx?ah=PC20113.HTM>,
Cancino 2015

Failures at the stage of elaboration of neologisms

Two strategies of lexical modernization

1. Use of borrowings

2. Coinage of neologisms based on indigenous lexicon and morphosyntax

Cerrón-Palomino (1990): coinage is a preferable strategy in the case of minority and oppressed languages, since loanwords are already used extensively and an increase in their number only contributes to the “lexical subjugation” of these languages

On the other hand, massive coinage of new words and rejection of well-established borrowings may alienate common speakers and create a gap between them and language planners

Four criteria of a “good neologism”

(Cabr  1999, “Terminology: Theory, Methods and Applications”)

1. It has to designate an explicitly delimited, stable concept.
2. It has to be as transparent is possible
3. It has to be brief and concise as possible.
4. It has to conform to the phonology and grammar of the language.

Failures at the stage of elaboration
Quechua neology of individual authorship:
two dictionaries of the same period

Gómez Bacarreza, Donato (1992): *Diccionario Quechua especializado*. La Paz, Bolivia: Teddy Libros. (GB)

Manya Ambur, Juan Antonio (1993): *Paqtay Rimayqelqawa: Diccionario Jurídico Castellano – Quechua*. Cusco, Peru: Cultura Inca de América. (MA)

Preference for compounds over derivations

ley orgánica (‘constitutional law’) -

suyu paqtay qelqamanta kamasqa apusimi (MA)

Use of one Quechua term for interpretation of two or more concepts

qhaparichiq (‘one who makes shout’) -

a) ‘speech apparatus’, b) ‘prosodic accent’ (GB)

sananpa (‘sign’) - a) ‘letter’, b) ‘phoneme’ (GB)

Use of few Quechua terms for interpretation of one concept

‘science’ - a) *yachana*, b) *yachaq* (GB)

plazo/‘term’ - *hunt’ana punchay*, *hunt’akuy*, *hunt’akuq*, *unay* (MA)

Quechua Language Pack for Microsoft Windows (v. 8.1)

‘notepad’ - *willakuykuna qillqana* (“place/tool for writing messages”)

‘documents’ - *qillqa willakuqkuna* (“those which inform by writing”?)

‘my documents’ - *qillqasqa willakuyniykuna* (“my written messages”)

‘switch off [computer]’ - *wañuchiy* (“to kill”)

Unexpected switching from three-vowel to five-vowel orthography

The language pack is heavily incomplete, many terms are used in Spanish or even English language

Failures at the stage of implementation of neologisms

Divergence of terminology

(the case of “Medical Quechua”)

Quechua names for tuberculosis

SOURCE	QUECHUA TERM
Academia Mayor de la Lengua Quechua (2005): <i>Diccionario Quechua – Español – Quechua / Qheswa – Español – Qheswa Simi Taque</i> . Segunda edición. Cusco: Gobierno Regional.	soq’a onqoy qhaqya onqoy
Cadillo Agüero, Silvestre F. (2012): <i>Quechua médico: curso selectivo</i> . Lima: Universidad de San Martín de Porres, Facultad de Medicina Humana.	tuberculosis tuwirculuusis tiisiku
Pan-American Health Organization, World Health Organization (2013): <i>Diálogo Médico Paciente en Quechua</i> , review of translation by Diether Flores Chumacero. La Paz, Bolivia: PAHO / WHO.	ch’ujuwan unquy
United Nations Population Fund (2011): <i>Palabras Clave para Atención en Salud – Quechua de Cusco</i> .	surq’an unquy

Negative factors in Quechua language planning (and in the implementation of neologisms accordingly)

1. Lack of coordination between Peruvian and Bolivian agents of Quechua language planning

2. Conflicts between agents within one country

In Peru: between the *Academia Mayor de la Lengua Quechua* in Cusco and linguist circles of the Lima universities.

As a result, Quechua language planning acquires horizontal character, whereas, according to the classical theory, only vertical language planning can be successful.

How the new terminology can reach the speakers?

The planners usually try to introduce their achievements with the help of dictionaries (for example, AMLQ).

A common problem of Quechua dictionaries and other printed materials in the language is small numbers of copies. It is almost impossible to find this production on sale in Quechua-speaking areas

In addition, dictionaries are not considered as a primary tool of lexical modernization, as they mostly serve lexicographic purposes (documentation and not implementation)

Other channels of the implementation of Quechua neologisms (actual and potential)

1. Bilingual education

The development of IBE in Peru and Bolivia in the end of 20th century boosted creation of new Quechua terminology that could be used in educational curriculum.

The most remarkable project - PROEIB-Andes (Cochabamba, Bolivia)

A number of schools where IBE is implemented is still not large, especially in Peru (no bilingual education in Cusco and its surroundings).

Teachers involved in IBE do not always properly realize their tasks and often do not use the elaborated terminology in the way it should be used or do not use it at all.

Common problems of the rural education in Andean countries in the case of IBE only turn to be more acute.

Other channels of the implementation of Quechua neologisms (actual and potential)

2. Mass media

Periodicals in Southern Quechua have very scarce presence, and are found only in Bolivia.



There is a Quechua broadcast on many provincial radio stations, but it is never full-time and mostly consists of folk songs and evangelical programs. President Evo Morales recently prompted development of TV broadcast in Quechua and Aymara, but there has been no evidence of any significant outcome (only short round-ups twice a day).

Main problems of the lexical modernization of Southern Quechua

1. Decentralization/Fragmentation of activities

2. Sociocultural gap between

planners and ordinary speakers

- a) the primary language of the majority of planners is not Quechua but Spanish;
- b) sometimes the planners also tend to create an opposition between the language promoted by them and the daily spoken language (the case of the Academia Mayor de la Lengua Quechua)

What can be changed

1. An institution engaged in lexical modernization must not despise the common speakers for their manner of speaking, but instead should study the daily speech and seek for a compromise, explaining and trying to convince the people that the conducted planning process is justified.
2. An institution or a group of activists must be concerned with creation of an informational organ, where they could present their achievements to the public, explain the meanings of new terms and how they are formed. It is also preferable that such an organ would be interactive. If dictionaries are published, they must be easily accessible to the population of speakers.

It should be always taken into account that elaboration cannot exist without implementation, so we can assume that the most effective organization would be the one, which would conduct both of these activities.

Can horizontal language planning be successful?

A foundation of an authoritative commission, supported by the governments of both countries, could help to solve the problem of decentralization, but the governments are indifferent to the unification of Quechua planning.

The presence of many agents of Quechua language planning makes it difficult to obtain financial support.

On the other hand, horizontal language planning creates the field always opened for a new initiative, and such a new initiative may be more effective than the methods practiced by experienced and reputable institutions (as they see themselves).

“Institución Tarpurisunchis” and their video programming



“Institución Tarpurisunchis” and their video programming

