



## So you want to publish a dictionary?

You have been collecting words and you have a target audience in mind. You would like to make those words available so that others can read, browse, and search them.

## Consider publishing online at Webonary.org<sup>1</sup>

Webonary gives language groups the ability to publish bilingual or multilingual dictionaries on the web with a minimum of technical help. First, Webonary requires lexical data to be in FieldWorks Language Explorer<sup>2</sup> (FLEX). If your lexical data is in another format, it can be easily imported into FLEX. Starting with FLEX 8.3, lexical data can be published to Webonary directly from inside FLEX.



## Features of Webonary.org:

- Webonary can handle sizeable dictionaries.
- Webonary has a fast search engine, searching the entire database for a word, whether it occurs as a headword or in the definition, and places the more relevant search results at the top of the list.
- Webonary allows you to update your online dictionary easily and frequently from inside FLEX.
- Webonary depends on FLEX for layout, fonts, colors, etc. allowing for customization.
- Webonary allows readers to comment on individual entries.
- Webonary supports images and audio files in

individual entries.

- Webonary supports many different languages, their scripts and specialized fonts.
- Webonary allows for a UI that can alternate between two or more languages.



<sup>1</sup> Webonary.org is owned and maintained by SIL International®, a faith-based nonprofit organization committed to serving language communities worldwide through research, translation, training and materials development. SIL works in partnership with host governments, NGOs, universities, churches and local communities in nearly 100 countries, without regard to religious belief, political ideology, gender, race or ethnolinguistic background.

<sup>2</sup> FieldWorks is SIL's lexical database software tool for compiling dictionaries - <http://fieldworks.sil.org/flex/>.

## Testimonials:

*“The Webonary dictionary is, in my view, a substantially more usable lexical resource than what was previously available. In particular, the searchability and the audio files have made it much easier for Triquis to use the dictionary and find the words that they want.”*

– George Aaron Broadwell, Dept. of Anthropology, UAlbany, Albany NY

*“I am very thankful for Webonary. I have used it for making beginning dictionaries available to language communities, as well as to the academic community which often searches for data in little described languages, such as the ones I work with. Because Webonary is easy to use, I can upload dictionaries soon after being drafted, with minimal effort. I can also make grammar books and phonology/orthography statements available through the same website on the ‘language’ tab.”*

– Tim Stirtz, South Sudan Group

*“With Webonary you can upload any modifications so that the online version can always be up-to-date and so everyone is up-to-date. Printed dictionaries are heavy and costly and it can often be difficult to find the word, whereas electronic dictionaries are so much easier to search.”*

– Jenni Beadle, Togo-Benin branch

*“We feel that providing lexicon/dictionary data on-line [using Webonary] will inspire people to see the legitimacy of a written form of their language and to take an interest in its development.”*

– John Berthelette, Directeur des Programmes de Langue, SIL Togo-Bénin

## The Next Step:

For more information about publishing on Webonary, visit <http://www.webonary.org/> and fill out the application form or contact Verna Stutzman at [verna\\_stutzman@sil.org](mailto:verna_stutzman@sil.org).



Each flag represents one bilingual or multi-lingual dictionary published on Webonary.org as of 1/1/2016