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Nota di contenuto	LANGUAGE DEATH AND LANGUAGE MAINTENANCE; Editorial page; Title page; Copyright page; Table of contents; PREFACE; INTRODUCTION LANGUAGE DEATH AND LANGUAGE MAINTENANCE PROBLEMS AND PROSPECTS; References; THE ENDANGERED LANGUAGES ISSUE AS A HOPELESS CAUSE; 1 Introduction; 2 We linguists don't care; 2.1 Theory; 2.2 The culture of linguists (as opposed to anthropologists); 3 We linguists care too much; 4 Our non-western colleagues don't care and would be unprepared to help out even if they did; 5 Conclusion; References; THE LANGUAGE SITUATION AND LANGUAGE ENDANGERMENT IN THE GREATER PACIFIC AREA 1 General remarks 2 The Austronesian language group (background information); 2.1 Past migrations of the Austronesians and the history of their languages; 2.2 Classification of the Austronesian languages; 3 Endangerment of Austronesian languages (with statistics on endanger

ment of Papuan languages where relevant); 3.1 Introductory remarks; 3.2 Taiwan; 3.3 The Philippines; 3.4 Indonesia; 3.4.1 Introduction; 3.4.2 Borneo; 3.4.3 Sumatra; 3.4.4 Sulawesi; 3.4.5 Maluku; 3.4.6 Timor-Flores and Bima-Sumba areas; 3.4.7 West Papua (formerly Irian Jaya); 3.4.8 East Timor; 3.5 Papua New Guinea
3.6 Solomon Islands3.6.1 Main Solomon Islands Chain; 3.6.2 The Santa Cruz Archipelago; 3.7 Vanuatu; 3.8 New Caledonia; 3.9 Fiji Area; 3.10 Polynesia; 3.11 Micronesia; 4 The Papuan languages; 4.1 Probable migrations and the history of Papuan languages; 4.2 Classification of the Papuan languages; 4.3 East Papuan languages; 4.4 Endangerment of Papuan languages; 5 The Australian languages; 5.1 The picture and history of Australian languages; 5.2 Classification of the Australian languages; Appendix: The northern islands of the Pacific world; 1 Japan, Sakhalin and The Kuril islands
2 Aleutian islands3 St. Lawrence Island; References; LANGUAGE ENDANGERMENT IN INDONESIA THE INCIPIENT OBSOLESCENCE AND ACUTE DEATH OF TEUN, NILA AND SERUA (CENTRAL AND SOUTHWEST MALUKU1); 1 Introduction; 2 Genetics; 3 Typology; 4 Demographic history in Indonesia and in the Netherlands; 5 Language economy in the Indonesian and Dutch settings; 6 Language obsolescence or linguistic innovation?; 7 What to salvage in acute language death?; Appendix: List of quarters in Waipia & their island and language affiliation; References; SIBE: AN ENDANGERED LANGUAGE; 1 Historical Background
2 The Evolution of the Linguistic Situation3 The Present Situation; 4 Conclusion; References; THE GRADUAL DISAPPEARANCE OF A EURASIAN LANGUAGE FAMILY THE CASE OF YENISEYAN; References; THE ENDANGERED URALIC LANGUAGES ROGIER BLOKLAND & CORNELIUS HASSELBLATT; 1 General information on the Uralic language family; 2 Geographical distribution, figures; 3 Degrees of endangerment; 4 Medium Uralic languages: Mordvin, Mari, Udmurt, Komi, and Komi-Permyak; 4.1 Mordvin: Erza and Moksa; 4.2 Mari; 4.3 Udmurt; 4.4 Komi and Komi-Permyak
5 Smaller Uralic languages: Karelian, Saami, Nenets, Khanty, Mansi, Vepsian

Sommario/riassunto

Languages are dying at an alarming rate all over the world. Estimates range from 50% to as much as 90% by the end of the century. This collection of original papers tries to strike a balance between theoretical, practical and descriptive approaches to language death and language maintenance. It provides overviews of language endangerment in Africa, Eurasia, and the Greater Pacific Area. It also presents case studies of endangered languages from various language families. These descriptive case studies not only provide data on the degree of endangerment and the causes of language death, but als
