

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910822182103321
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Titolo	Linguistic ecology : language change and linguistic imperialism in the Pacific region / / Peter Muhlhausler
Pubbl/distr/stampa	London ; ; New York, : Routledge, 1996
ISBN	1-134-93488-2 1-134-93489-0 1-280-32446-5 0-203-21128-6 0-203-31797-1
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (411 p.)
Collana	Politics of language
Disciplina	306.4409164
Soggetti	Linguistic change Sociolinguistics - Pacific Area
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Book Cover; Title; Contents; List of illustrations; Acknowledgements; The changing linguistic ecology of the Pacific region; Language ecology in pre-European days; Disruptions in the linguistic ecology; Pidgins and creoles; Case studies; Mission languages and language policies; Official policies and language planning; The impact of literacy; The impact of foreign language teaching; The sociolinguistics of language shift, decay and death; Assessing the damage: structural and lexical effects; Preserving linguistic diversity: outlook and prospects; Appendix: Linguistics in the Pacific; Notes References Index
Sommario/riassunto	In this topical study of the large scale loss of human language, the author examines the transformation of the Pacific language region. He focuses on cultural and historical forces to explain such loss.