

This project aims to investigate dynamics of linguistic diversity by exploring social interactions between geographically adjacent groups in the Colombian parts of Northwest Amazonia. It expects to create a framework for analysis of diffusion patterns in situations of language contact. Intended outcomes include enhancement of linguistic models in terms of cross-cultural appreciation of causes, processes, and results of language change in multilingual societies. Anticipated benefits are in a broader understanding of multicultural situations involving indigenous groups, the promotion and assistance of cultural awareness programs, and the revitalisation and maintenance of endangered indigenous languages.