



## Help us rescue the native language of the children of Eastern Island

According to Unesco data, there are at least six thousand consigned languages in constant risk of disappearance. Every two weeks one of them is lost.

In the furthest place in the world, we are working to preserve our language and culture. This project aims to create children's stories in Rapanui language so that our children can access the language in a format other than oral.

The idea: Own books for our own stories:

In 2014, children from the island created animated short films with stories based in their cultural references. On that occasion, the stories were translated into the original language. At present, the objective is to generate new formats of these stories, which allow to support the learning work of the Rapanui. The creation of illustrated books for the children of the island, will allow generating different actions of educational

approach of the language. Our goal is that all the children of Easter Island have at least one book in their native language, which allows them to learn and preserve their culture.

## The Problem: Rapanui language is going to extinct

Easter Island, belongs to the state of Chile, which recognizes Spanish as the official language. Over the years, the island's community became bilingual and the Spanish language was adopted as the primary language.

At present only 10.9% of the children that inhabit Easter Island understand their original language and the Rapanui, is becoming extinct.

*"If I speak in my root language, the language is attached to one's own being, identity, and worldview. It is a tremendous wealth; it involves different interpretations, different alternatives to the resolution of problems, different ways of living ".* María Virginia Haoa, Living Human Treasure of Easter Island.



## The Solution: Start with our children

Through this project, we are creating educational and cultural instances where children can interact directly with the language. Usually this interaction is only orally within families. Access to books in the



Rapanui language will allow children to interact not only with the oral component of the language, but also to see it written, to understand it through the support of the illustrated images and to practice pronunciation through the audio book version.

We hope to generate new books that allow our children to interact with the Rapanui language on a regular basis. This project is in addition to the efforts made by our organization and the Easter Island community to preserve our language and culture. Our ultimate goal is to prevent our language from dying, promoting its daily use, teaching future generations and sharing it with the rest of the world.



### About Us:

Municipal Corporation of Art and Culture Rapa Nui of Eastern Island is an entity of private law, nonprofit, whose vision aims to lead and establish the Rapa Nui cosmovision to continue, perpetuate and expand the Rapa Nui culture. We work for generate a positive impact on the integral development of people.

### Our mission:

Implement social actions and own and third-party cultural proposals that promote transformative experiences to develop the expansion and cultural legacy of Rapa Nui.

### What we do:

We deliver opportunities and transformative experiences related to art and culture, which lead people to discover a world of possibilities and develop their potential.