



Dialect Mapping

Presented by the SIL-PNG
Language Survey Team



What is Dialect Mapping?



How's it done?

1. Basic information
2. List villages

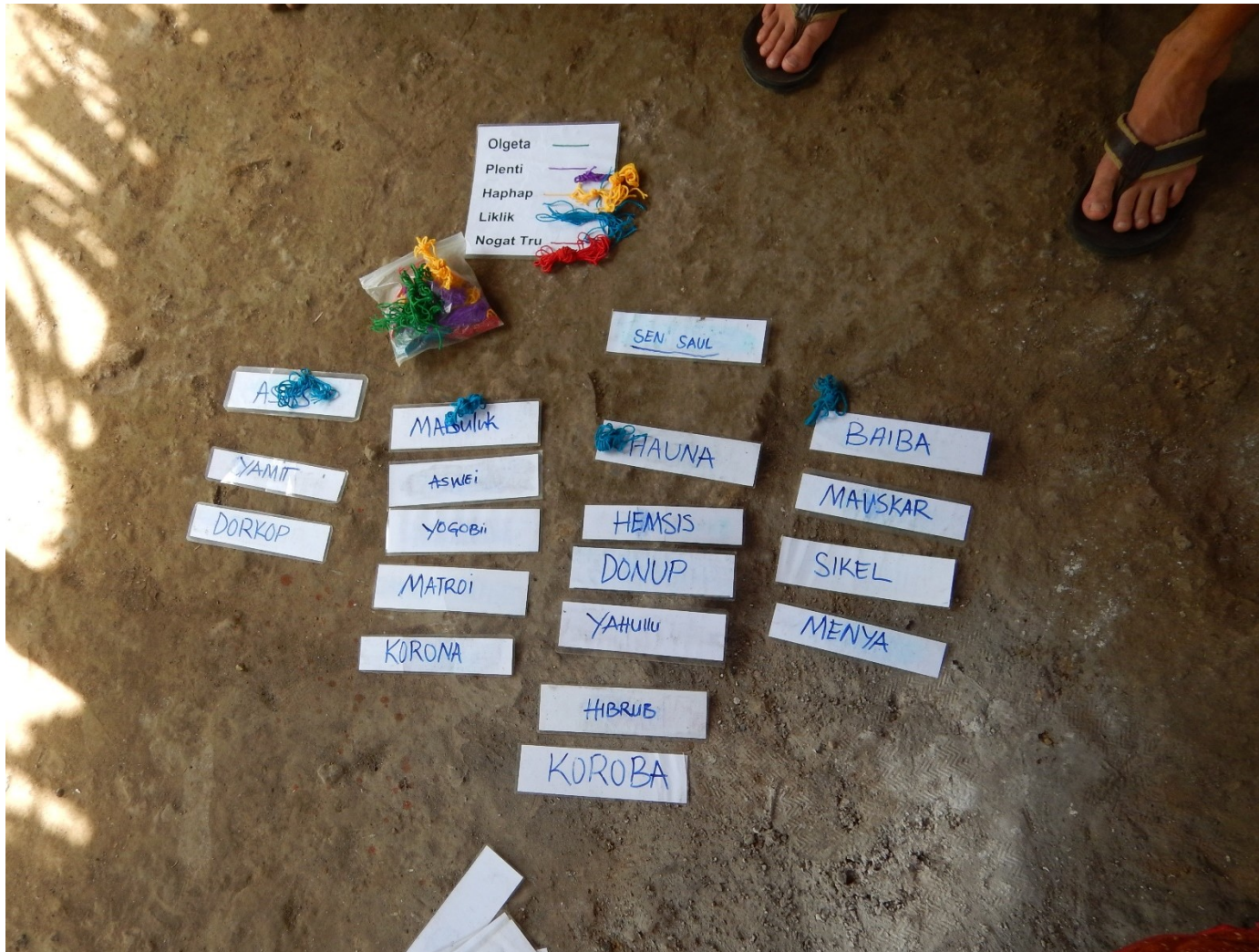


How's it done?

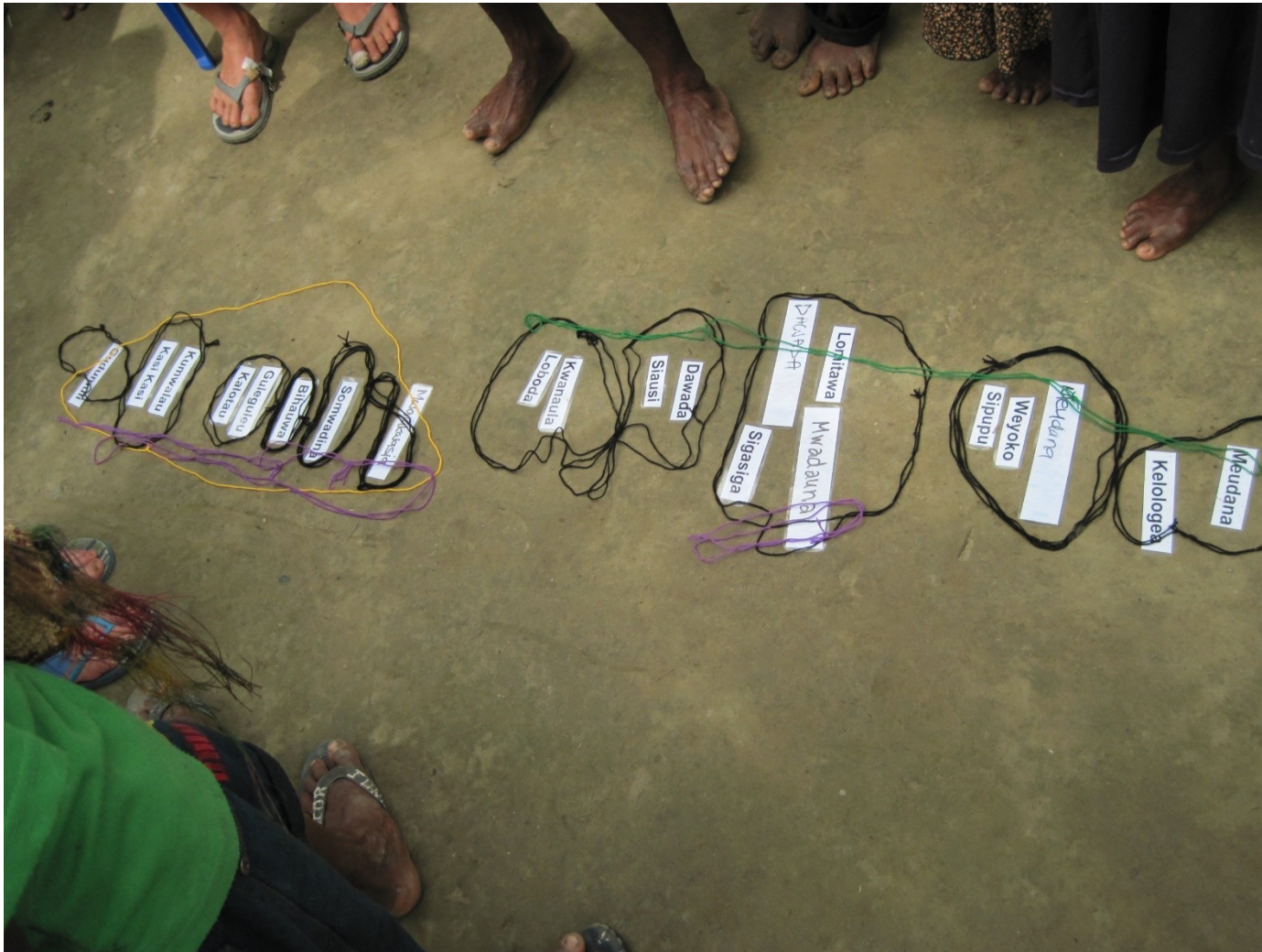
1. Basic information
2. List villages
3. Group villages
4. Indicate level of comprehension



How's it done?



How's it done?



How's it done?

1. Basic information
2. List villages
3. Group villages
4. Indicate level of comprehension
5. Can also ask about travel patterns, children's comprehension, and prestigious dialect

Roles

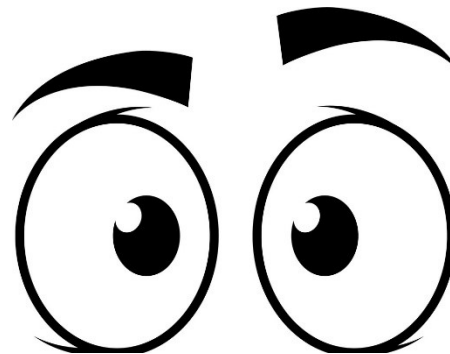
Data Recorder



Facilitator



Observer



Why DM verses Word lists?

- What is your goal?
- More culturally appropriate
- Emic perspective
- Wider and broader perspective



Why DM verses Word lists?

- What is your goal?
- More culturally appropriate
- Emic perspective
- Wider and broader perspective
- Community consensus
- Community feels more involved
- Get a general idea of the situation quickly
- Language attitudes
- Researcher can be hands off

Limitations of Dialect Mapping

- Dialect Mapping is only a piece of the dialect puzzle
- Reported comprehension may not always reflect actual comprehension
- Recent events can impact reports
- Sampling – may not be a full sample, may only have a few people giving input
- Village may not be the best way of looking at dialects (people may think in different units)
- Lexicostatistics can clarify DM data

Sampling Matters

- Men and Women
- Young and Old
- All church denominations
- Important community leaders
- Educated and uneducated



Triangulation Matters

- Word list comparisons
- Language Attitudes
- Travel Patterns
- Historical conflicts
- Children's comprehension



This information can often be gathered during the same visit, using other research tools (e.g. interviews, other participatory discussions).



Questions?



Interested in the
Participatory Methods for
Engaging Communities
(PMEC) Workshop?

E-mail languagesurvey_png@sil.org