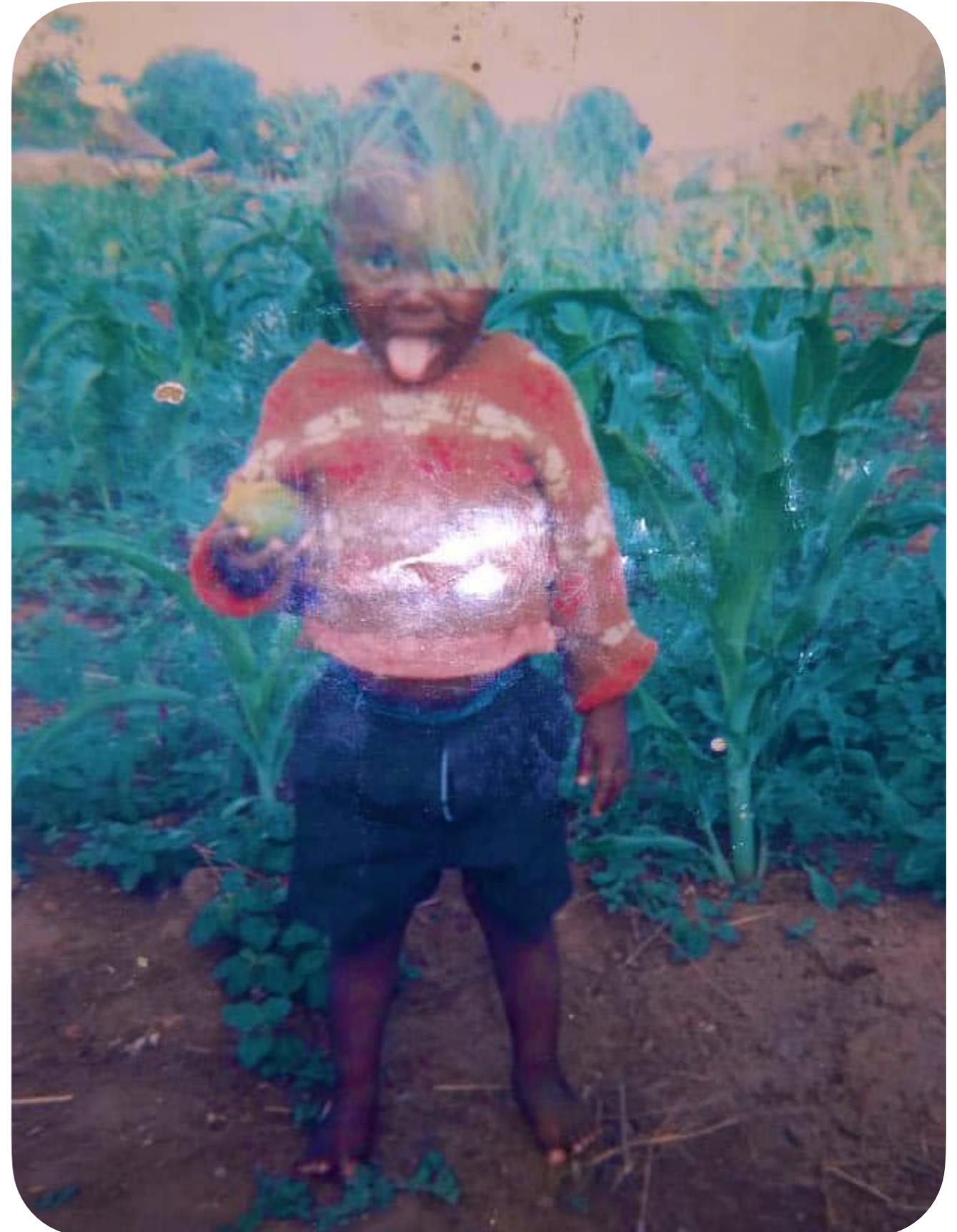


Mukondleteri Dumela

Founder, Xitsonga.org, Angula

Twitter handle: @mukondli





Xitsonga.org

Xitsonga.org is a non-profit organization dedicated to digitising the Xitsonga language

- A website with over 5 million hits
- Mobile apps with over 200,000 downloads
- MTN Best Educational Solution award in 2020
- Website <https://xitsonga.org>



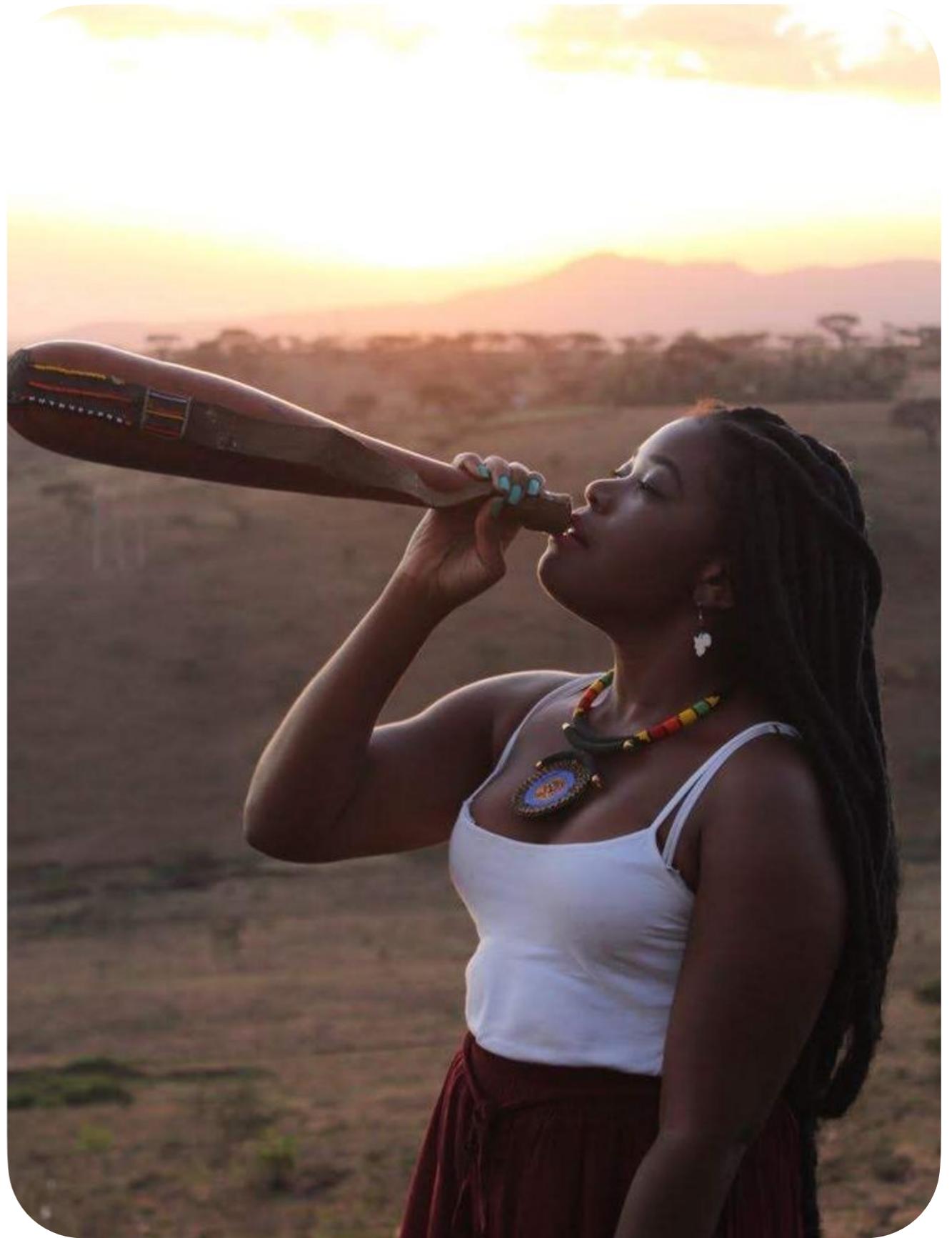
Angula

ANGULA is an app that teaches African languages

- We partner with experts and native speakers to create content
- We currently have 9 languages
- We are in beta currently in BETA
- Website <https://angula.app>



Why African human language technology is important



*“Ku tlula ka mhala swi letela
n’wana wa le ndzeni.”*

Language

A system of communication used by a particular community

- **Dialects** / Particular form of a language
- **Language groups** / A group of related languages



“A language a dialect with an army”

Early publications

The initial comprehensive publications were by native speakers, missionaries, and historians.

“It defined the tone of the language”

A VOCABULARY WITH A SHORT GRAMMAR

OF

XILENGE

THE LANGUAGE OF THE PEOPLE COMMONLY
CALLED CHOPI, SPOKEN ON THE EAST
COAST OF AFRICA BETWEEN THE
LIMPOPO RIVER AND
INHAMBALE

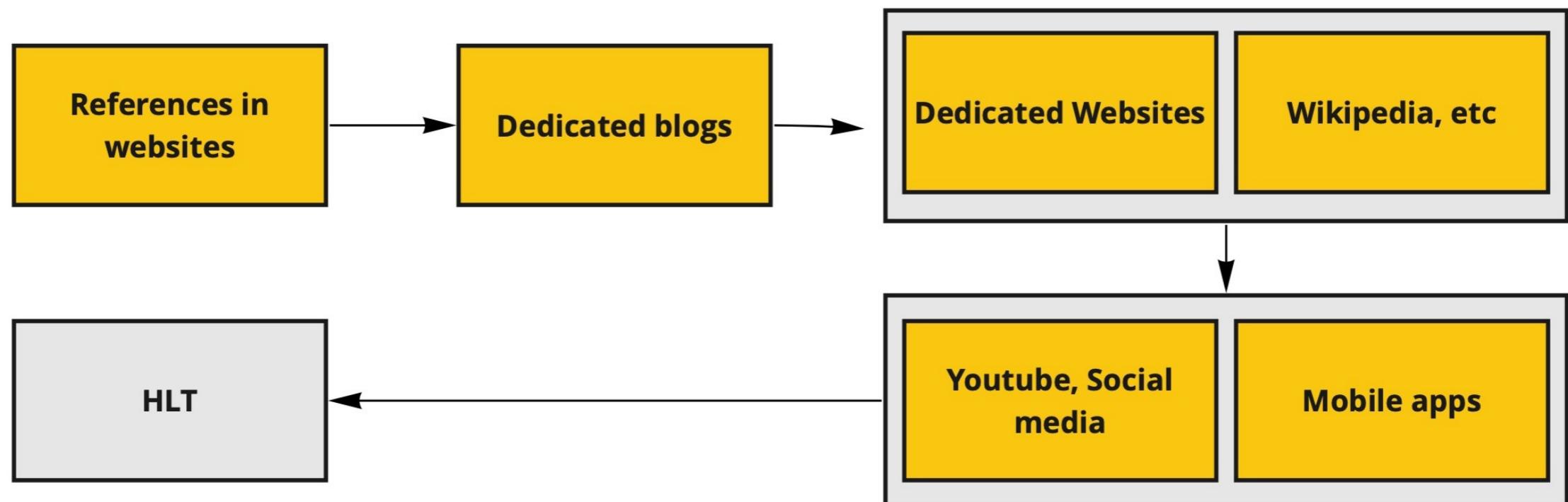
COMPILED BY

BISHOP SMYTH AND JOHN MATTHEWS

SOCIETY FOR PROMOTING CHRISTIAN KNOWLEDGE,
LONDON : NORTHUMBERLAND AVENUE, W.C.

1902

Early technologies



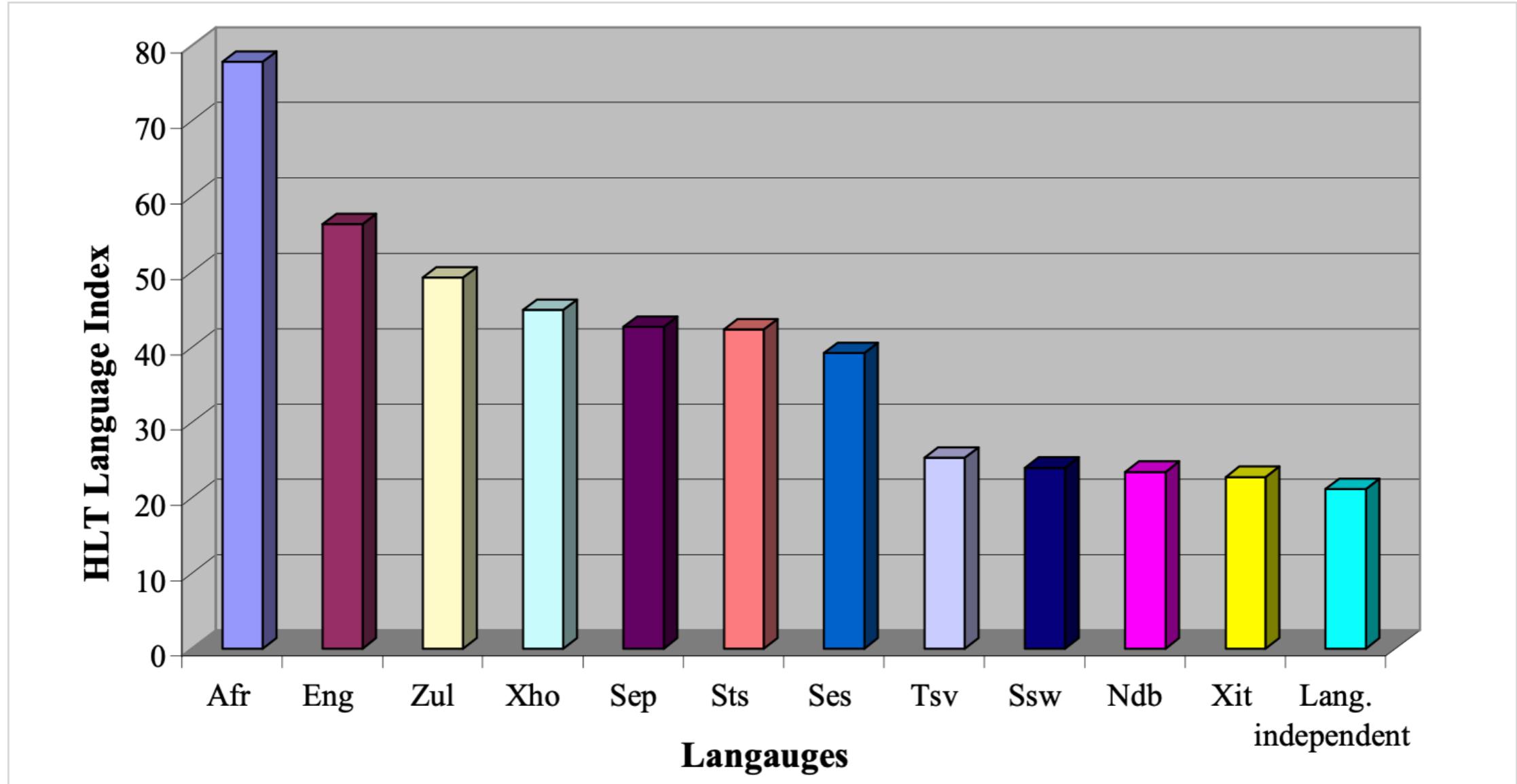
Human language technology

HLT refers to methods of how computer programs or electronic devices can analyse, produce, modify or respond to human texts and speech.

Examples

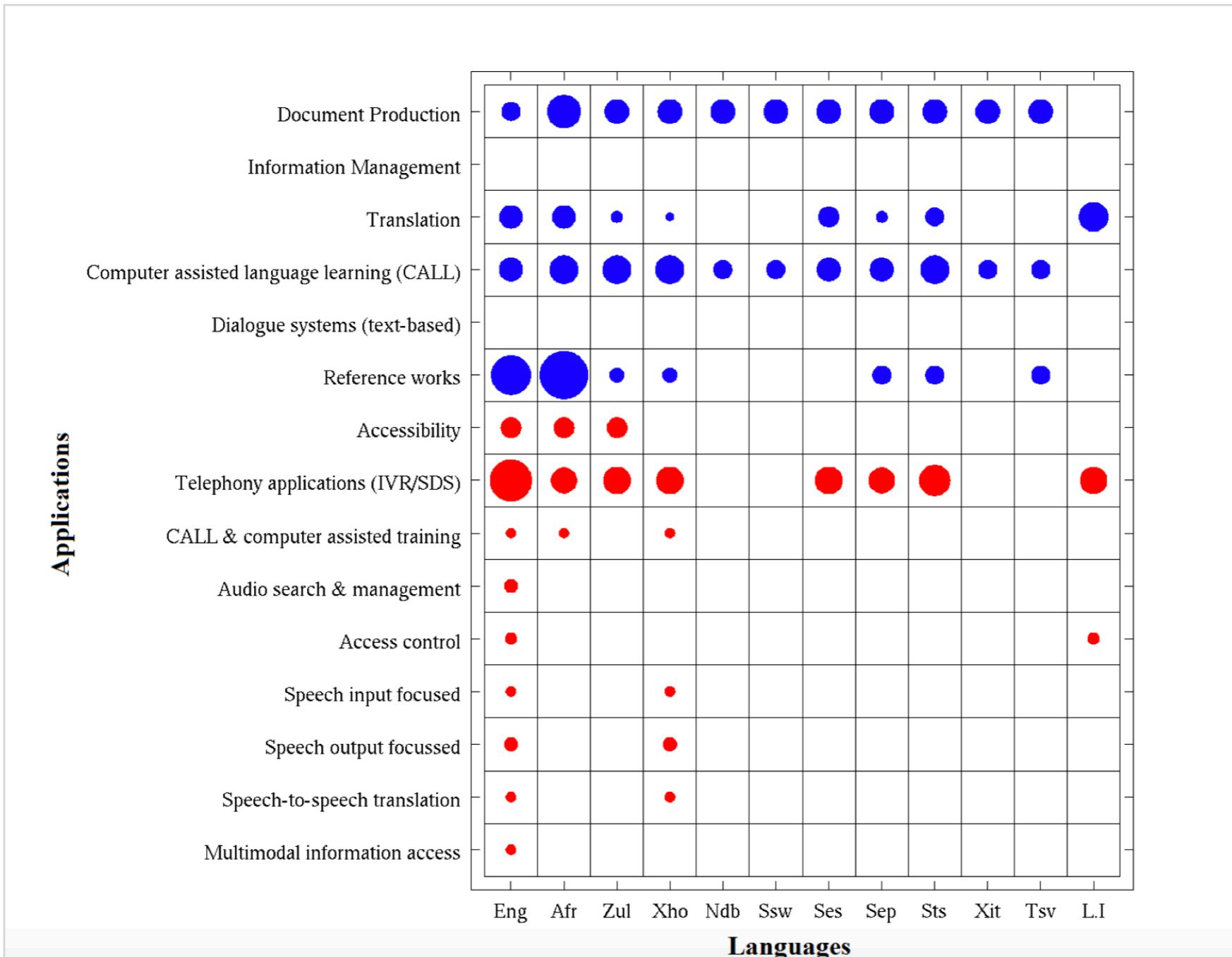
- Translations
- TTS
- STT
- ... and more

The SA HLT audit



2011

The SA HLT audit



Why it matters

- “Language is culture”
- “Language is heritage”
- It helps connect Africans
- It deepens your connection with other cultures
- It opens new opportunities



The future

- Support for minority languages
- Continued research and development
- Setting global technology trends
- Adopting global technology trends
- Investments and collaborations

Q & A