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Teanu — English Dictionary
Vanikoro, Solomon Is.

(mamote nisi awoiu tae)
(work in progress)

May 2012
A - a

~a [•a] vt. (body) tremble with fear; feel very uncomfortable. > Ebel' en' i-a. I'm terrified! cf. ~ekilikili 'tremble'.

abia [a•b•ia] ADJ. (1) many, a lot of; numerous.
	> Ne ngogoro unña menuko abia, ka pe-romo p-ajau! There are many animals in the woods, be careful! > Abia tamwase! There are too many! cf. engaenga 'various'; Ant. amjaka 'few'.
(2) all, every. > kiapa abia na all of us here
	◆ idi abia NP. lit. "people all": everybody. > idi abia ne kulumoe everyone in the village > Na tanoe aidi abia. (possessor) This land belongs to everyone.
	◆ ngatene abia NP. lit. "thing all": everything.
	◆ moro abia ADV. lit. "day all": every day, always. > Moro abia pon, nga pon. The same would happen every day.

abiaini [a•b•i•ai•ni] ADJ. thick. > Abiaini tamwase. It's too thick. Ant. meñeviro.

abigo [a•b•i•go] N. k.o. plant. Acalypha hispida; A. grandis.

abilo [a•b•i•lo] N. snake. > Abilo pon i-ovei pe i-somoli mwaliko. This kind of snake can be harmful.
	◆ lava abilo N. lit. "sides of a snake": name of a large liana whose shape is reminiscent of a large snake. cf. lava.

abo [a•bo] N. grass. > kiñe abo blades of grass

abo [a•bo] N. blood. > Abo peini ma i-udu. His blood was dripping from his hand.
	> Buro pon i-katau abo ne enel! (hum) This song suits my blood! (=I love it!)

abu [a•bu] MOD. (1) [preceding imperative verb] marks polite order: 'please'. > Abu bai-aiu ba-vio me ne-rom! Could you please stand up and let me have a look there? > Ab' u-leng' i-ka. Listen to me for a second. ♦ Cognate with the conative prefix bu-.
(2) [used alone] encouragement towards action: 'come on'. > O, abu, kaipa! Pe-ka p-atui botu 'none! Come on, you all! Come and check out my boat!

(1) [physical motion] go down, esp. from inland towards the sea. > I-sabu i-abu ne ero. He fell down in the river. > Kuo ponu i-atili i-abu i-le. The canoe slid all the way down (to the sea).
(2) (fi) subside, slow down. > Pana iawo i-abu mijaka. The flames (of the fire) have died down a little. > O, tae, la-waiaka iada ka i-abu i-wene. That's all right, their dispute has gone down now.

~abu [•a•bu] VT. (1) hit, strike. > Ka vitoko kape i-abu tanoma ini, ia i-abu i-kovi. He almost hit her face, luckily he missed her. > Filisao i-abu toñaki pon. The ships were struck by a tornado. > Dapa kula li-abu revo, me le-labu namuko. The others slap the water, in order to (scare and) catch the fish. cf. ~wete.
(2) kill, slay, murder <s.o.>  ▶ Pon tadoe? Pon tepakola? Kape i-abu idid? Is he a devil, a giant? Does he kill people? ▶ Nga po idid le-sune ngele kape i-te, pon kape l-abu. If they found somebody around, they would kill him.

(3) kill <animal>, hence hunt, fish+. ▶ Mobo kape le-lui nuduro me l-abu namuko. Tomorrow we'll carry the scareline to get some fish.

(4) play <musical instrument> using hands. ▶ li-abu gita play the guitar ▶ Ngele i-abu? (music) Who's playing? cf. ~vi, 'blow'.

~abu [~aⁿbu] vt. wash <clothes+> with water, esp. vigorously. ▶ Kape n-abu lusa ene iaero. I'm gonna wash my shirt in the river. cf. ~aka, 'wash gently'.

~abui [~aⁿbui] vt. take <s.th.> down. ▶ Pi-ka pi-abui ngatene upa pi-ko me p-ajau toñaki iote. We took our tools down (from the ship) and brought them to build another boat. cf. abu~.

ada [aⁿ'da] POS. their: form of the possessive classifier used for food, tools, customary possessions etc. (enaka*), with a 3 dual possessor (see da). ▶ mama ada their taro pudding ▶ buioe ada their areca nut (for them to chew) ▶ ngaten' ada their food/their *affaires*

ada [aⁿ'da] POS. their: form of the possessive classifier used for kin terms (one*), with a 3 dual possessor (see da). ▶ et' ada their mother ▶ tili' ada their brother (of them two)

adapa [aⁿdapa] POS. their: form of the possessive classifier used for kin terms (one*), with a 3 plural possessor (see dapa). ▶ et’ adapa their mother ▶ gi’ adapa their uncle ▶ dapa tieli adapa their brothers / their friends

adawo [aⁿdawo] N. (gen) cloud. ▶ adawo beve white cloud ▶ adawo boroboro dark, rainy cloud. cf. ioti 'rain cloud'.

adie [aⁿdie] NOP. (1) (arch) (s.o.) back. Syn. utedie.

(2) rear part of <s.th.>. ▶ La-koie Teanu la-koie ne Adie Vono. They came on shore on Teanu via the rear side of the island. Syn. viri.

B ADV. (rare) afterwards, then. ▶ Adie, pi’ iape ini i-ka, i-atevo iepiene peini noma. Then her grandfather came in and told her a story. ♦ More commonly preceded with a preposition ne. Cf. n’ adie.

ae [ae] INT. (1) what? ▶ A-vete a-ko ae? What did you say? ▶ Na, pie ne adapa Teanu a-ko ae? How is this called in Teanu? [lit. this, in Teanu language, you say what?] ▶ Na toñaki ae na? What sort of ship is this? ♦ Sometimes longer form ngan*ae, from ngaten’ ae.


(2) [between pauses] hesitation marker used when looking for one’s words, espec. before a noun. ▶ Enga ini iote li-ko, ae, Taiko. It also had another name, (what is it?) Taiko. cf. vele.

~ae [~aⁿ] VT. dig.

(1) hollow out; remove stuff from <wood+>. ▶ Tano ponu, li-ae mijaka me kava i-pu i-katau. This kava bowl has been hollowed out a little, to allow kava to flow along. ▶ I-bo kua awoiu, i-ae lema. Once he had cut out the canoe, he began to hollow out its inner part.

(2) dig a hole in <ground>. ▶ Li-mabui li-ae tanoe, wako ka li-lateli teve. They quietly
dug a hole in the ground, and put (the treasure) there.
(3) dig hole in s.th. > **Li-ae kie.** They're digging a grave.
(4) dig out, harvest yam, taro. > **Na uo kula kupa ka pi-ae.** These are a few yams we just dug out. > **Pe-le, p-ae none!** P-ae jebute, me pe-tau me p-e! Go and dig out some food! Dig out some taros you can cook and eat!

**aele** [aele] ~ *ale.* NOP. (s.o.) lower limb: leg, foot. > **Loubo iote i-ke vidiviko ne ale ene.** A crab has bitten my toe.

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**aero we anive** [aero we anive] N. (s) "shellfish for dugong": small cowrie shell used as traditional money in some areas of Melanesia, though not in Vanikoro. **Conus musicus ceylanensis.** > **Li-ia aero.** scrape cone shells to make cowries

**aeve** [aeve] N. (1) the sun. > **Aeve pana!** The sun's hot! > **Aeve ka i-vene awoiu.** The sun has long risen already.
(2) (esp) the sun in its course, insofar as it is taken as reference to assess the time of the day. > **Aeve ka i-tavali.** ~ **Aeve ka i-le.** [The sun has gone down] it is late afternoon.
(3) (hence) hours on the clock. > **Aeve ka tivi na? — Aeve ka tili.** [lit. How many suns?] What time is it now? — It's five o'clock.

~ ago [•a*go] VT. (1) spear fish. > **U-la tepao u-ago ñe namuko pon.** You spear the fish with a harpoon. > **Ni-ago namuko i-kovi.** I speared a fish but it escaped. Syn. —wete.

(2) shoot s.o., s.th. using bow and arrow; hence hunt. > **La-le lai-ago telupe? Shall we go pigeon-hunting?** Syn. —wete.

**ai-** [ai+] PPP. you: variant of a- (2sg Realis prefix) before a vowel or certain monosyllabic roots. > **Ai-ovei Cindy?** Do you know Cindy? > **Ka ai-ve?** Have you given birth?

**aia** [aia] NK. (1) father. > **ai’ one my father** > **aia your father** > The symmetrical term is **menu** (pl. **dameliko**) or **apali**.

(2) classificatory father: any male member of the parental generation (F, FB, FZH...) except the maternal uncle (MB = **gea**).

**B** INTJ. lit. "father!": affectionate address term, used by an elderly person, to a young man who has children — including to his own son. Sometimes a child's name is mentioned. > **Awis pine, aia! Thanks a lot, my dear!** [lit. father!] > **Mobo wako, a’ie Womtelo! Good morning, father of Womtelo!**

~ aiae [•ai•ae] VL. (s.th.) be difficult. > **Li-vete piene ni i-iae, ia li-lengi wako.** They
speak it with difficulty, but they understand it well. *~wene molì ‘easy’.

aìdi [aìdi] POS. form of the possessive classifier used for food, tools, customary possessions etc. (*enaka*), with an impersonal possessor (idi ‘people’). ✐ Na tanoe aìdi abia. *This land belongs to everyone.*

*~wene molì ‘easy’.*

aìdi [aìdi] POS. form of the possessive classifier used for kin terms (*one*), with an impersonal possessor (idi ‘people’). ✐ Et’ aìdi li-odo uko ñe basa damilik iadapa. *We viñe buioe aìdi. In the olden days, black sorcery would make use of someone’s leftover food, or of their leftover betel nut.*

*~wene molì ‘easy’.*

aìpa [aìpa] POS. your: form of the possessive classifier used for food, tools, customary possessions etc. (*enaka*), with a 2 plural possessor (see *kaipa*). ✐ Pi-valangia nganae aìpa ponu? *What are you guys carrying?* ✐ Ka vitoko kape le-mui piene aìpa. *They will soon forget your language.*

*~wene molì ‘easy’.*

aìpa [aìpa] POS. your: form of the possessive classifier used for kin terms (*one*), with a 2 plural possessor (see *kaipa*). ✐ Pie aìpa li-atevo i-ka? *Did you hear them from your grandparents?*

*~wene molì ‘easy’.*

~aiu [•aiu] VI. (1) stand up, get up. ✐ Ka u-aiu! *Stand up!* ✐ Abu bai-aiu ba-vio me ne-rom! *Could you please stand up and let me have a look there?* cf. vie ‘stand’.

*~wene molì ‘easy’.*

*~aiu momobo* VI. ii. "get up in the morning": wake up. ✐ Dapa li-aiu momobo li-vongo adapa. *They woke up in the morning and took their breakfast.*

*~wene molì ‘easy’.*

(2) depart, leave a place, take leave. ✐ Idì abia ne kulume li-aiu li-le li-langatene ne sekele. *All the villagers have left to go and work in their gardens.* ✐ P-aiu pe-wo pe-le ne ngogoro! *Get up and run away to the bush!* ✐ Ngiro Palapu i-ka ka li-aiu li-ke li-pwala li-le Iura. *As soon as the northern wind began to blow, they left [Vanikoro] and set off to sail southwards.*

*~wene molì ‘easy’.*

ajau [•aìjau] VT. do, make: variant of ~ejau.*

*~wene molì ‘easy’.*

ajekële [aìjekële] N. rubbish, refuse, garbage. ✐ Ni-bo ajekële mina mevele ‘none. I have collected rubbish from my front yard.’ ✐ Kape le-loko ajekële le-iui ne revo. *They’re going to gather rubbish and throw it in the sea.*

*~wene molì ‘easy’.*


*~wene molì ‘easy’.*

~aka [•aka] VT. wash s.th. gently, rinse with water. ✐ Ni-aka okoro ne ero. *I washed the knife in the river.* ✐ Kape n-aka basa ene. *I’m gonna wash my face.* cf. ~abu, ‘wash energetically’.

*~wene molì ‘easy’.*

akapa [akapa] POS. our: form of the possessive classifier used for food, tools, customary possessions etc. (*enaka*), with a 1st inclusive plural possessor (*kiapa*). ✐ Dapa Tukupie li-kioe li-te ne tanoe akapa Vanikoro ponu. *Tikopians have settled on our land of Vanikoro.*

*~wene molì ‘easy’.*

pie ene i-aka. *They don’t know how to count in Teanu.*

*~wene molì ‘easy’.*

akapa [akapa] POS. our: form of the possessive classifier used for kin terms (*one*), with a 1st inclusive plural possessor (*kiapa*). ✐ Pi’ akapa dapa li-atevo nga pon. *That’s what our ancestors used to say.*

*~wene molì ‘easy’.*

ako [•ako] VI. (1) (hair) blond. ✐ Noma, viabas’ ene i-ako. *I used to have blond hair.*

*~wene molì ‘easy’.*

(2) (plant) becomeyellowish as a result of growing.

(3) (esp) (banana) be ripe and sweet. ✐ Udo pe i-ako (type of banana) ripe bananas cf. moso ‘ripe’.

*~wene molì ‘easy’.*

Alvaki [Alfaki] LOC. name of a small island close to Utupua (Tetevo).

amjaka [am*jaka] ADJ. (rare) diminutive: small, in small quantity; few. > none aidi mijaka food for just a few people > Li-ejau aña none mijaka. We cook a little (bit of) food. > N-atevo ipiemi amjaka peini Laperus. I'll tell a short story about Lapérouse. cf. apilaka 'little'. ~ mijaka ~ mijaka.

B ADV. (comm) a little bit. > U-katau anoko u-vane u-le amjaka. Just follow the road a little further up. > Ni-ovei mijaka ponu. I only know that little bit. > Kap' ne-langatene mijaka. I'm going to work a little. > I-te i-labiou mijaka. He's been here for quite long.

Amo [Amo] N. Sir, Mr: abbreviation of amoso 'old man'.


[POc *matuqa]

amuko [amuko] N. (1) seaweed.

(2) crushed seaweed, traditionally used as a protective varnish and insect repellent on wood. > Li-bi vilo li-la ŋe amuko. They carved some wood and applied seaweed varnish to it.

amwaliko [am*waliko] N. variant of mwaliko.

mwaliko.

ane [ane] N. sea urchin.

anesi [anesi] ~ anes. N. P. (animal+) flesh, meat. > anes kulevelu chicken meat > anes poi pork meat > anes namuko fish meat > anes mwaliko (rare) human flesh

Aneve [Aneve] LOC. name of an ancient village in Teanu island. > Da-tiulu pe Teanu. Kulomoe iada Aneve. They were from Teanu island; their village was Aneve.

~aneve [~aneve] VT. sweep <place, s.th.> with a broom. > Li-aneve lema mwoe, ka maro. They sweep inside the house, and outside too.


> Ni-rom anive iote pine ni-sai ŋe kuo 'none ne. I saw a large dugong, I thought it was (as big as) my canoe.

♦ aero we anive N. lit. "shellfish for dugong": small cowrie shell used as traditional money in some areas of Melanesia. Conus ceylanensis.


anoko [anoko] N. (1) road, path on land.


> U-katau anoko u-vane u-le amjaka. Just follow the road a little further up.

(2) (abstr) path, route, itinerary. > Nga ne bogo, le-romo i-katau vangana kanmoro iu, li-ovei li-ejau anoko iadapa. (sailing ships) At night, they would follow the shining stars, and thus recognise their itinerary.

~anu [~anu] VT. drink. > Awa ini i-ko i-anu laro. He'd like to drink a fresh coconut.

> Li-anu kava awoiu ka li-vongo viri. We first drink kava, and then have dinner.

> Li-anu ero pana ka li-kanu, ka li-mole ne kat. We drink tea, we chew areca nuts, and we play cards.


> viňe anuele turtle shell (often cut into various ornaments)

♦ anuele anaero N. Hawksbill turtle. Eretmochelys imbricata.

♦ anuele tukuteleu N. Green turtle. Chelonia mydas.


aña [aña] N. (1) piece, bit of <food+>. > aña mana luro a bit of rice > Li-ejau aña
none mijaka. We cook a little (bit of) food. cf. añaña ‘small bits’.

(2) taste of <s.th.> ▶ Aña wako tadoe! [Taste is terribly good] This is absolutely delicious! ▶ None ne aña tamwaleko. [This food, taste is bad] This food doesn’t taste good.

(3) noise of <s.th.> ▶ aña ruene pe li-ko the noise of a door being slammed ▶ Li-viane tepapa me aña ini. They jump on the (dancing) boards for the sound it makes. cf. mama ‘sound’.

(4) (fīg) strength, energy of <s.o.> ▶ Ebele ene aña ini tae tmwase, ka ni-atui pe ni-aiu. My body has no strength, I can hardly get up.

añaña [apaña] NOP. small bits of <s.th.> ▶ Li-mali lawo semame añaña longe. We light a fire with small bits of firewood. ▶ Morph. Reduplication of aña, with pluralising and diminutive effect.

▶ loro ie añawo  N. lit. “whale vomit”: amber.

angede [aŋeⁿde] NOP. (1) footprint, tracks left by <man, animal> on the ground. ▶ angede eñe my footprints ▶ angede vao tracks of wild pig ▶ angede kulevulu tracks of chicken ▶ angede ovene tracks of heron; writing

(2) relic, remains, vestiges of <s.th.>; traces left by <s.o.>, esp. in the landscape. ▶ angede Upeire traces left in (the landscape) by Upeire the mythical ogress


(2) written message, letter, email. ▶ Minga kape le-sune angede ovene po Laperus i-si ponu. One day someone will find the message which was written by Lapérouse.
▶ Awisi pine peini angede ovene ai-akasi i-ka. Many thanks for the email you sent to me.

apali [apali] N. child, young person. ▶ E, apali! U-ka ko! Hey, child! Come here! ▶ Basavono pon ene mamote apali. At that time, I was still a child. Syn. menu.


(1) little, small in size. ▶ okoro aplaka a small knife ▶ toñaki apilaka a small boat ▶ monone aplaka a small box ▶ basakulumoe iote aplaka a little island ▶ Oie ini aplaka. [her size is small] She is slim.

(2) small in age, young. ▶ men’ iaba aplaka their small baby ▶ emele aplaka [lit. a small woman] a young girl ▶ Mwasu iote apilaka the younger Mwasu

~apilo [•apilo] VT. make, create <s.th.> ▶ Li-apilo toñaki. They made a ship. Syn. ~ejau.
▶ ~apilo sekele VOL. lit. “make garden”: prepare <garden> for cultivation, cultivate. ▶ Li-apilo sekele i-le li-teli avtebe. They prepared their gardens, and then planted their taros.

~apinu [•apinu] VT. cook, prepare dinner. ▶ Noma, li-apinu ne mwoe. In the old days, cooking was done inside the house.
▶ moe pe li-apinu ene kitchen [lit. house where we cook]

▶ Apono i-somoli otovo peini mwoe iupa. The hurricane damaged the roof of our house. cf. ngiro ‘wind’.


~arevo [•arevo] VT. break into pieces, shatter, destroy <s.th.>. ▶ Vilisao i-ka i-arevo toñaki pon kulá ti tu na. The tornado split the ship into two halves. ▶ Li-arevo uo. They have destroyed the cairn. Syn. ~panade ‘split’.

~asai [•asai] VT. (1) sew <clothes+>. ▶ li-asai lusa idi sew a shirt

(2) [medic.] stitch up <wound>. ▶ Ni-woi basa ene li-asai. I banged by head, and it was stitched up.


ata [ata] NOP. soul, spirit of <s.o.> insofar as it can be separated from the body. ▶ Ata
ini kape i-le ne Popokia. (abode of the Dead) His soul will travel to Popokia.

> Nga u-le, ata tadoe kap’ i-ejau bas’ eeo mumule. If you go there, the (evil) spirit of Ghosts can make your head go crazy.

[PoC *qata ‘soul, spirit’]


ate [ate] ADP. for good, forever. > Ka li-te ka li-te ate. They stayed there, and stayed forever.


~atēvo [~atevo] VT. narrate, tell <story>. > Li-atēvo iepiene pe no-ma ka li-oburo. We tell old stories and we sing songs. > Pi’ akapa dapa li-atēvo nga pon. That’s the story our ancestors used to tell. cf. iepiene ‘tale’.

~atili [~atili] VI. slide along a surface. > Kuo pine ponu i-atili i-abu i-le. The huge canoe was sliding down (on the rollers).

~atui [~atui] VT. (1) make effort upon <s.th.>, have a go at <s.th. difficult>. > Pe-ka p-atui botu ‘none! Come and have a go at (lifting) my boat!
(2) [no object] try hard. > I-atui i-atui: tae! i-tabo i-le. He tried on and on, with no success, and went back.
(3) [→ Subord. pe] try unsuccessfully, hence fail, not manage to do s.th. > Ebele ene aña ini tae tamwase, ka ni-atui pe ni-aiu. My body has no strength, I can hardly get up.

~au [~au] VT. (1) pluck out <s.th.> by pulling it out. > Li-av i via kulevelu pluck children feathers
(2) [esp] remove <water taro+> by plucking it out; hence harvest. > Li-au basa kava iune. They pulled out a head of kava. > Pi-romo uie i-maili pine, ka pi-au. (ta-ros) When its leaves have grown big, it's time to harvest them. > Vono i-sodo li-le li-au gebute. In the morning they went to harvest some (water) taros.

~au [~au] VT. wrap <s.th.> with a leaf or equivalent. > Kape li-au ūe uie baudo. We will wrap (the food) with baudo leaves. > U-au ūe pepa. Wrap it in paper.


ava [ava] N. NOP. (1) (bird+) wings.

> ava saba N. lit. "frigate wings": name of a traditional geometrical design (tetawene), whose shape is reminiscent of open wings.
(2) (fish) side fins. > U-toe dekele namuko, ava ka wabasena mina. You cut off the fish’s tail, side fins and head.

~ava [~ava] VI. (bird+) fly. > Menuko ka i-ava. The bird has flown away.

ave [ave] N. spider.

> bea ave N. lit. "spider’s excretion": spider silk; spider web.

> moe iae ave N. lit. "spider’s house": spider web.

~avi [~avi] VT. separate.


[PoC *kapika]

aviro [aviro] N. tongs, esp. long wooden tongs used to manipulate the hot stones of the oven (awene) while cooking. > Li-avi visiboko ūe aviro. You remove the oven stones with the tongs.


> ~la i-avo VT. lit. "take s.th. it hangs": hang, hook <s.th.>. > Le-la i-avo korone nara i-sabu. We must hook (the bait) firmly for fear it might fall off. ♦ Morph. The sequence ~la i-avo is sometimes contracted into a single verb ~laiavo* ‘hang, hook+’.
(2) be located above. > Telau i-avo boso iawo. The cupboard is located above the fire.

> ~la i-avo VT. lit. "head is hanging in the air": (head) feel dizzy. > Basa ene i-avo. (drinking kava) I’m feeling dizzy.
(4) (boat+) float, stay afloat (vs. sink). > Toñaki ka i-avo ka i-tab’ i-le. The ship remained afloat, and began its way back.
(5) (hence) be anchored somewhere. *Ant. * tavea ‘drift’.

~avo [~avo] vt. husk <coconuts>.  > ekuo pe li-avo luro a stick used to husk coconuts

avtebe [aftebe] N. (formal) taro. Colocasia esculenta.  > Li-apilo sekele i-le li-teli avtebe. Once they had prepared the gardens, they planted taros.  > Formal synonym of jebute.

awa [awa] NOP. (1) throat.  > Awa ene i-meli. I have a sore throat.

(2) the seat of feelings, the ‘heart’. Grammatical subject of certain predicates referring to feelings.  > Awa* ene i-su. [my throat is blocked] I am sorry.  > Awa* ene i-aka. [my throat blows] I am angry.  > Awa ene motoro ni pe a-a-viñ’ ene. [my throat/mind is heavy...] I give a lot of consideration to your words.

(3) (esp. [+object NP, or object clause] the seat of will and desire. The combination of awa with ~viaene* ‘hit’, and/or with ~ko ‘say’, results in the meaning ‘want, like’.  > Awa ene i-viaene tamwase! [my neck/mind hits it!] I absolutely love it!  > Awa kupa i-viane pi-ko u-le u-romo tadoe akapa. [our neck/mind hits says you go and see...] We’d like you to go and meet our god.

(4) (hence) will, desire.  > Emele pon i-katau awa enel. (hum) This girl sure suits my desire!

(5) ideas, thoughts.  > Ka ni-la awa eo. I understand what you mean.  > Awa ini engaiote. [her neck/mind is different] She doesn’t have the same point of view.  > Awa ini abia. He has lots of ideas. Cf. ~vodo ‘think’.

awene [awene] N. traditional stone oven.  > Li-mali iowo ne lema awene, semame añaña longe. We light a fire inside the stone oven, using small bits of firewood.  > Emel' iote i-le i-wowo revo i-ka i-sabisi se awene. A woman went to draw saltwater, and brought it back to pour above the oven.  > A Pit is dug in the ground of the kitchen, filled with cooking stones (visiboko). Once the fire (iowo) has heated these stones, the food (none) is placed on them so as to be cooked (~apinu) or baked (~vai).

awis [awis] INTJ. thanks.

awisi [awisi] INTJ. thanks.

awo [awo] N. lime, used when chewing areca nut (buioe), in combination with betel leaves (puluko). Cf. ~kanu.

awoiu [awoiu] PRÉD. finish.

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**b**

**ba** [³ba] INTJ. [following a question word] discourse particle, expressing the speaker’s surprise or disbelief.  > Na ngaten’ ae ba? Hey what (the hell) is this?!

**ba** [³ba] N. (1) plant stem, stalk.  > ba vilo flower stem  > Ka ba wopine ponu! Look at those huge (taro) stalks!

(2) (crab) large claw. Cf. kukubo.

**ba** [³ba] ~ baj-. PPP. (1) 1st exclusive Dual prefix, whether realis or irrealis: the two of us. Cf. keba.

(2) 2nd person Dual prefix, whether realis or irrealis: you two. Cf. keba.

**bai-** [⁴ba*] PPP. Exc:du.


**bale** [⁴bale] N. breadfruit (Moraceae). Artocarpus altillis.  > mata bale sprout of breadfruit tree  > vese bale breadfruit seeds  > uie bale breadfruit leaves  > U-bi bale u-toe u-ajau tepwoe. You pick some breadfruit, cut it, and make dried-breadfruit with it.  > lavatunu peini bale breadfruit pudding

[POc *baReko]
bamele [bamele] N. philodendron, k.o. large-leaved vine that grows up and wraps around trees. Epipremnum spp.

* bamele kiñekeñe N. it. "pinnate philodendron": k.o. philodendron with pinnate leaves. Epipremnum pinnatum.

Banie [Banie] LOC. Banie.

bara [bara] ADV. variant of bwara.

  > boe baro [coconut-petiole shark] hammerhead shark

basai [basa] NOP. head.
  (2) (hum) head, mind, as the seat of intelligence. > Basa tae! [No head!] You mindless! > Dapa damala, basa dapa wako. White people are clever: [their head is good]
  (2) (plant) head, root. > basa kava a head of kava
  (3) (boat) front part, prow. Syn. noma; teviumu.
  (4) prominent part of s.th.>

[POC *batu]

basai [basa] N. mountain. > Basa iupa re po i-wen' iu re, enga ini Popokia. That mountain of ours up over there is called Popokia.

basai [basa] ADJ. (blade+) blunt, dull. Ant. metene.

basakulumoe [basakulumoe] N. island.


baudo [bau'do] N. k.o. leafy tree, unidentified. > Kape li-au ne uie baudo. We will wrap (the food) with baudo leaves.


bava aele [bava aele] N. foot.

bavede [bave'de] N. Tmn amnala. (1) (ship) sail. > Li-vesu* bavede hoist the sail; hence sail > Li-bu bavede furl the sail
  > Li-re bavede release the sail > Dapa noma, li-ovei pe li-loko uie woubo pe

le-vei bavede peini. People before used to weave sails out of pandanus leaves. (2) [by analogy of shape] butterflyfish. Chaetodontidae spp.


* bavolo we Tangalo N. it. "Tangalo's bavolos": Humpback red snapper. Lutjanus gibbus.

be [be] N. ashes.

be [be] PTC. discourse particle, of unclear meaning. > Metae kape ne-vete, susuko metae ka ni-tabo ni-mui be! I can't tell you, it wouldn't be accurate, and besides I've forgotten it all!

be mata [be mata] N. long antennae found on certain ritual headdresses (tamate), representing the Spirit’s eyes. > Noma, mata pon, be mata pon! Tilu. (mythical times) In the olden days, eyes were on two antennae. Cf. mata ‘eye’.

bea [bea] NOP. (1) (man, animal) guts, bowels, intestine. > bea namuko fish bowels
  > U-do ngava, awoiu u-ia bea mina. You scrape off the scales, and then gut it [lit. remove its guts]. Cf. sa ‘belly'; teede ‘faaces’.
  (2) (spider) silk secreted by s.th.; hence spider web, cobweb. > bea ave a cobweb
  Syn. moie i ave 'spider house'.


~bei [~bei] VT. (1) cover 's.th., s.o.', esp. with (ñe) s.th. heavy. > Li-bei ne uie vilo kula. We cover (the food) with a few leaves.
  > Li-iu dapai bei dapai ne voko li-ko nga uo. They would bury them and cover them with stones, it was like a cairn.
  (2) walk on 's.th.', squash 's.th.' with o.'s foot.
  (3) (gen) squash, crush, destroy 's.th.>
  > U-bei i-metelu i-wene ne mataiko ponu! (invocation to a god) Squash (this ship) and let it sink in this very gulf.
(4) *(fig)* trample on *law, ethics, taboo*, infringe.  > *Ka i-bei nuro*, [trample on a taboo] He has infringed the law. Cf. *nuduro*.

~bei bete [‘*bei ‘bete*] Vol. (1) *(periph)* lit. "squash mats": lay down, sleep.  > *Namana kape le-bei bete vele?* Where shall we sleep [lit. squash mats] tonight?

(2) *(cush)* a funeral ceremony taking place in the house of a recently dead person.  > Anth. Relatives gather in the house and sit for a whole night....


bele [‘bele] Nop. (1) *(man, animal)* skin.  > *bele* voro skin of stingray; grater

(2) *(vegetable+)* skin.  > *bele udo* banana skin  > *Li-la uo li-ta bele mina*. They're peeling off the skin of yams.

(3) *(tree)* bark.  > *Li-kai bele dero*. tear off the bark of the kaori tree

bele mwa [‘bele m‘a] Nop. lit. "skin of mouth": lips.


The stingray sander

*bele voro*

*Li-la voro po bele ini jieje, li-kai bele utedie ini, awoiu li-la li-teli ne a eve me kokoro. Awoiu li-dai i ne vilo li-asai botongo. Awoiu ka i-wene peini u-totoñe via kome, via wele, tekumete, nga pon.*

‘If you catch one of those stingrays whose skin is rough and rugged, you tear the skin off its back, and put it to dry in the sun. Then, you wrap it around a stick, and tie it with a stitch. It can be used for sanding axe handles, paddles, wooden dishes, and so on.’

beenuro [‘benuro] N. k.o. creeping vine, probably *Mikania micrantha*.

bete A [‘*bete*] N. mat.  > *bete peini uie kie* mat made of pandanus leaves  > *bete peini uie luro* mat made of coconut leaves  > *li-vei bele* weave a mat  > *li-bu bele* fold a mat  > *li-lu bele* roll a mat (to put it away)

~lu bete Vol. lit. "put away mats": hold a funeral ceremony at the house of a dead person. Cj. ~lu.

bebe [‘beve] ADJ. white, bright *(opp. bworo ‘dark’).*  > *adawo beve* a white cloud Syn. koro ‘white’.

bevoko [‘bevoko] N. Stripped bristle tooth, a fish. *Clenochaelus striatus*.

~bi [‘*bibi*] vt. pick *(fruit)* from its tree.  > *Li-bi bile* pick breadfruit  > *Li-bi balawe* pick pineapple  > *Li-bi vongoro* collect Canarium almonds  > *U-le u-bi avie, me u-kamai, me le-sai i ne kava*. Go pick some Malay apples, and bring them so we can eat out the taste of kava.

~bi [‘*bibi*] vt. fan *(s.o., s.th., *fe)*.  > *U-la teili u-bi ñ‘ eo*. Just take a fan and fan yourself.

~I-bi ñ‘ iawo*. She fanned the fire. Cf. *teili ‘a fan’*.

bilibiro [‘*bili ‘biro*] ~ bilibiro. N. Sea hearse tree *(Hernandiaceae)*. *Hernandia nymphaefolia*.  > *POc* *biRibiRi*

biouro [ gating] ADJ. long.

bisa [ gating] NOP. shoulder.

~bisi [ gating] VI. surprised.

blateno [ gating] N. pole.

~bo [ gating] VT. collect, gather, heap up <s.th.>. 
  ➔ Waiero li-bo voko i-wapio. The waves have piled up the stones together. ➔ Ni-bo ajekele mina mevele 'none. I have collected rubbish from my front yard. cf. ~wapiro 'gather'.

~bo [ gating] VT. carve <wood>, to give it a specific shape or sharpen it. ➔ Li-bo kuo. make [carve] a canoe ➔ Li-bo digo. cut out house beams cf. toe 'cut, chop'.

  ♦ boe baro α. lit. 'coconut-petiole shark': hammerhead shark. Sphyrnidae spp.
  ♦ boe temiao N. Whitetip Reef Shark. Triacodon obesus.

bogo [ gating] ~bwoogo. N. night. ➔ bwogo.

boke [ gating] N. banyan tree. Ficus sp. ➔ kara boke banyan roots

[Poe *bogra]


~bono A [ gating] VI. be shut. 
  ➔ Matarune i-bono. The door is shut. cf. ~su 'blocked'; Ant. ~ko.
  B VT. shut <door>. ➔ Ka li-ko ruene, ka li-tabo li-bono. They open the door, and then shut it again. Ant. ~ko.

bonge [ gating] N. cave.


[Poe *brose 'Scarus sp. ']

boro [ gating] ~bworo. ADJ. black.

boroboro [ gating] ADJ. dark. cf. boro 'black'.

boso [ gating] PRÉP. under.

~botongo A [ gating] VT. [often serialised after a first V] (s.o.) interpose (s.th., oneself) between A and B, so as to prevent B from reaching A. ➔ Synt. The grammatical object is sometimes A, sometimes B.

1) block, impede access to <s.th.>. ➔ U-botongo ero etapu, u-sali! Stop blocking the water (with your hands), let it go! ➔ Vilisao i-botongo se mataiko ponu. The tornado was blocking the passage.

2) protect <s.th., s.o.> from a potential danger. ➔ Dapa li-woi nuduro ne touro, me i-botongo temaka. They put up taboo signs on the seashore, to protect the area (from poachers). ➔ Kupa pi-kamai monone ne pe-ko me u-botongo. We brought this chest for you to look after it.

3) (hence) take care of, look after <s.o., s.th.>. ➔ Dapa Pauj li-botongo dapa France. The villagers of Paiou were looking after the French. ➔ Ni-la piene ono me ne-botongo ne-mini kaipa. I'm recording your language so I can take care of it for you. ➔ U-botongo men's one! Take care of my kid! ➔ U-botongo eo u-ejaal (reflexive construction) Take good care of yourself!

4) [serialised after posture V] (sit+) besides or with <s.o., s.th.> as a way to protect. ➔ 1-te i-botongo menu. She's sitting with the baby (to look after him). cf. samame 'with'.

5) do s.th. in favour of <s.o.>. ➔ Ni-vet' piene ni-botongo eo. I stood up for you. [lit. I spoke I protected you]

6) [after posture V] be in a position that blocks access to <s.th.>, whether deliberately or not; hence (sit+) on <s.th.>. ➔ Bara ba-te ba-botongo oroko ponu. I'm afraid you may be sitting on my knife. ➔ Van' ni-wene ni-botongo nara kape le-punuo ñi. [I lie I block it] I sleep on (my money) so nobody can steal it.

7) prevent <s.o.> from doing s.th. (me or nara +lrr.); forbid. ➔ Li-botongo ene me ne-le. They're preventing me from going there. ➔ U-botongo ini nara kape i-koe ne moe. Make sure he doesn't come inside the house.

8) [object non-sg] separate <people> from each other. ➔ Ka ni-aiu ni-vio
ni-botongo da. (two men fighting) So I rose and separated them.

† botongo ADV. (rare) [after verb] (do s.th.) so as to cover, close, protect+.

† Li-dai ñe vilo li-asaï botongo. We wrap it around a stick and [stitch cover] tie it with a stitch.


~bu [ⁿʰu] vi. die, pass away.

~bu [ⁿʰu] vt. (1) fold or roll s.th. flexible: cloth, leaf+.

Ni-bu bete ene me ne-lui. I've rolled my mat to take it away.

U-bu namolo iono. Fold your clothes away.

(2) (esp) furl sail, bavede. Bavede iada ka la-bu. They furled the sails.

bu- [ⁿʰu] PPP. conative prefix, presenting action as tentative. Combines especially with verbs in order sentences. [See abu.]

~bubu [ⁿʰuⁿʰu] vt. plait.

buia [ⁿʰuia] NOP. testicles.

La buia pwoi. castrate a pig

Buia loubaido [testicles of c.c.] *greasy appendix* of a coconut crab

buia luro N. germinated coconut; sprout ball formed inside such a coconut.

buioe [ⁿʰuioe] N. (1) Areca palm, a tree. Areca catechu. Taapaia* buioe wooden platform made of Areca planks

(2) (esp) areca nut, as commonly chewed (~kanu). Li-ali buioe pick areca nuts (by climbing)

La-la buioe ada me puluko ada. They took their areca nuts, together with their betel leaves. Synt. Takes the Food possessive classifier (enaka).

buluko [ⁿ³łuko] N. (1) (tree) gum. puluko peini vongoro gum of Canarium tree

Buluko peini dero gum of kaori tree (2) candle or torch, traditionally made with kaori gum. Li-su buluko. They lit their torches.

(3) (gen) lamp, light. Buluko ie ngele ponu? Whose flashlight is that?


[bu³lu³]


[bunu³]

bunero [ⁿ³nu³'] N. batfish. Platax sp.

[bunaR³]


[buna³]

[buro³]

buro [ⁿ³uro] N. song. Utele buro beginning of a song. Buro i-viane dapa ka li-le. As they walked, they were suddenly moved by a (beautiful) song. Cf. ~oburo 'singing'.

Buro buro NOP. lit. "song of?": song about (s.th., s.o.); song designed for (s.th.). Buro buro Teulu the song of the wind Teulu. Buro buro Tamate song for the Spirit Masks

Buro buro okoro N. lit. "song of bamboos": song genre, meant to accompany on the sound of pounded bamboos. Cf. ~wori okoro 'pounding bamboos'.


Sekele bute taro garden. Li-æ au bute. harvest taro (by pulling on it) More commonly referred to as jebute*.

Bw - bw

bwara [ⁿ³w³ra] ADV. maybe.

bwogo [ⁿ³w³go] N. night.

bworo [ⁿ³w³oro] ADJ. black. Boro.
D - d

da [da] PP. third dual independent pronoun.

~da [~da] VT. (1) go past, cross <s.th., s.o.>.
   > Li-da dapa ne anoko. They crossed [lit. went past] each other on the road.  > Li-da noma re i-ka. They came here rounding the cape over there.

(2) [after a first adjectival or verbal predicate] exceed, surpass <s.th., s.o.> in doing s.th., hence do s.th. better or be more than. Forms comparative structures.  > Ini bwara biouro i-da eo. She's probably taller than you. [she's tall she surpasses you]


~dadi [~dadi] VT. surround.  > ~dai.

~dai [~dai] VT. surpass.


dameliko [dameliko] N. children.  > datilu meliko  > Suppletive plural of menu or apali. Cf. menu.

dapa [da-pa] PP. 3pl.

daviñevi [davinevi] N. women.  > datilu viñevi  > da meliko viñevi


dele sà [dele-sà] N. petal.  > dele sa mana vilo a flower petal

   > Po ka li-bo ebele kuo awoi, kape le-toe demene peini na ta. Once the hull of the canoe is finished, it's time to cut its outrigger.
   > [POc *saman]

   > [POc *dom]

dere [de-re] N. k.o. tuna. Thunnus sp.

❖ dere wablubu  N. lit. "round tuna": k.o. bonito fish. Thunnus sp.

❖ dere mie boe  N. lit. "shark-smelling tuna": Narrow-barred Spanish mackerel. Scomberomorus commerson.


~di [~di] VT. (1) cut off, prune <tree>.
   (2) shave <beard>.  > U-di vagumia eo ko! Shave your beard!

die [die] NOP. bone.

❖ die i-meli  PHR.

❖ die i-valai

❖ die i-valai


   > [POc *sikap]


~do [~do] VT. plant <trees>.
   > Li-do bale plant a breadfruit  > Li-do balawe plant a pineapple  > Li-do mana vilo plant flowers  > La-tabe mata ka la-lui la-do i-katau ngogoro. (kaori tree) They collected shoots, and began to plant them around the island.

Words for planting  [~do*]

~do1  plant tree, flower
~tei  plant fruit, taro
~vo1  plant a banana
~woi  plant maniok
~woi  plant yam, tuber
vose  seed
mata  sprout
jie  taro shoot, sucker
ekuo  digging stick
[Poc *dolom]

~do [~do] vt. scrape off 〈fish scales, ngava〉 when scaling a fish. ➤ U-do ngava, awoiu u-ia bea mina. You scrape off the scales, and then gut it.

[Poc *raqu(p)]


~e [~e] vt. eat.

ebele [ebele] N. body.

(1) (man, animal) body. ➤ Ebele ene pana. 〈my body is hot〉 I feel hot. ➤ Leka, kape u-labu ebele ini metae. With your (opp.-sex) cross-cousin, you are not allowed any body contact. ➤ Nga mwaliko i-bu, le-iu ebele ini i-wene ne kie ini. When somebody dies, their body is buried in a grave. ➤ Li-romo po dapa ebele dapa tae. 〈We can't see their bodies〉 These creatures are invisible.

(2) (s.th.) major constituting element; structure, core. ➤ ebele moe the structure of the house ➤ ebele kuo canoe hull

(3) real, genuine, true, actual; authentic version of 〈s.th.〉. ➤ Ebele kuo i-karem demene. Genuine canoes have an outrigger. ➤ Dapa wopine iupa na li-ovei ebel' ini. Our elders know what the real (language) should be. ➤ Ini i-te Frans, ia ebele kulumoe iape Japan. She lives in France, but she is actually from [lit. her genuine country! Japan].

(4) [exclamatory] beautiful. ➤ Ebele kuo me! What a beautiful boat! ➤ ebel' ini INTJ. lit. "its body": wonderful! great! fabulous! ➤ Ebel' ini me! That's wonderful! ➤ Emele iape, ebel' ini! His wife is gorgeous! ➤ Intensifier me.

(5) meaning.

(6) example.

ebele piene [ebele piene] N.

(1) [always predicate] lit. "real speech": true words, the truth. ➤ Ene ni-lengi ŋe taña ene, ka ebele piene, ene ni-le ene. I heard it with my own ears. It's the truth, I believe it. cf. ~tako 'speak the truth'.

(2) [foll. by NP] true, real, genuine; specific. ➤ Ebele piene uo tae. This is not real yam. ➤ Ebele piene sekele peini jebute upa i-wene ne tevie. We have a genuine water-taro garden on the other side.

B INTJ. really! An expression of surprise. ➤ Ebele piene? Really?! ➤ O, ebele piene, mwalik' iote i-bu! Oh, really! Someone is dead!


Erythinas and calendars [ebieve*]

Noma, ebieve nga calendar adapa. Pe ka mana dapa ka li-ovei li-ka li-ka ne to ebieve. – In the olden days, Erythrina flowers would serve as a kind of a calendar. When people would see its flowers had come out, they knew they were in the middle of the year.'

The annual flowering of this tree was traditionally a marker of the yam-planting season. This correlation accounts for the homophony between the two words, ebieve, 'Erythrina flower' and ebieve, 'season, year'.

ebieve [ebeive] N. yearly season, year. ➤ ne to ebieve in the middle of the year ➤ ebieve 2005 in 2005 ➤ ebieve iote k'awoiu ponu last year ➤ Ebieve iono tivi? [how many are your years?] How old are
you? ♦ Etym. This noun is metonymically named after the yearly flowering of the Erythrina flower (*ebie*,

**ebo** [e•bo] N. Spotted unicorn fish. *Naso bre-virostris.*

ei [ei] INTJ. hey.

~ejau [•e•ja•u] VT. make.

~ekoke [•ekoke] VT. laugh.

~ekili [•ekili] VT. tremble.

**ekuo** [ekuo] N. various forms of wooden stick, with various usages. ♦ **ekuo pe li-avo luro** a stick used to husk coconuts ♦ **ekuo pe li-wete** ɓe tanoe a digging stick [stick used to spear the ground]

ela [elal] NOP. branch.


~elele [•elele] VT. drag.

elene [elene] N. clearing.


**emele** [e•mele] N. woman.

en’ [en’] PP. elided form of ene ‘1sg pronoun’.

enga [e•nga] NOP. name.

~engi [•engi] VT. kiss <s.o.>. ♦ **Ni-ko ni-engi eeo,** I want to kiss you.

**epu** [epu] NK. ♦ Originally an address term. Syn. pie.

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**G**

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**gea** [‘gea] NK. 1s gi’ one. 2s **gea.** 3s gi’ iape.

(1) uncle: mother’s brother (MB). ♦ I call my uncle’s wife my mother (**ete**).

(2) [ego male] nephew, niece (ZC): child of o.’s sister. ♦ I call my nephew’s wife my daughter-in-law (**uku**).

(3) [ego male] nephew, niece (MBDC): child of o.’s female cross-cousin **leka.**
-i [•i] vt. call out with high-pitched voice, *typic.* in order to reach out to a distant or invisible person in the bush. ▶ **Ni-le ne ngogoro n-i, ia ni-lengi ngele i-laiaini tae.** As I was walking in the forest, I called out, but I heard nobody reply.

i- [•i] PPP. (1) Realis 3rd singular mood prefix.
(2) Irrealis 3rd singular mood prefix.

ia [ia] INTJ. exclamatory particle used when handing s.th. to s.o. ‘here you are’. ▶ **Ia! Okor’ ono!** Here you are! This is your knife.

ia [ia] [•ia] COORD. but.

~ia [•ia] VT. (1) rub intensely <s.th.> so as to alter its shape; file <s.th.>. ▶ **li-ia aero file shells (to make shell-money)**
(2) light <fire, iawo> by rubbing wooden sticks together. ▶ **Li-ia iawo ni ve wilo.** We light fire with (pieces of) wood.

~ia [•ia] remove <guts of fish+>. ▶ **U-do ngava, awoiu u-ia bea mina.** You scrape off the scales, and then gut it [lit. remove its guts]. *cf. bea ‘guts’.*

iaero [iaero] N. (1) river. ▶ **iaero Païou the river Païou.** Ni-lebie ne iaero, I bathed in the river. ▶ **ne pwama iaero on the river bank** ▶ **al’ ero ne iaero the river mouth** [lit. foot] *cf. ero ‘water’.*
(2) the Milky Way.


▶ **wowo iero the top of the Casuarina tree**

[POc *arRu]

ije [i[e] N. (man, animal) tooth, teeth. ▶ **ije ene i-makoe.** I have a broken tooth.
▶ **ije p(w)oi** N. pig tusk. ▶ **ije pwoi i-ke i-dadaï.** The pig tusk has come out and spun around.
▶ **ije b(w)oe** N. shark tooth, *tradit.* used as a razor.

iliro [iliro] N. Polynesian apple (*Anacardiaceae*). *Spondias cytherea*; *S. dulcis.*

[POc *quRis]*

▶ **ilo we uvilo** N. lit. “Terminalia for rats”: variety of *Terminalia* not suitable for consumption. *Terminalia littoralis.*


ioti [ioti] N. dark cloud carrying rain. *cf. adawo ‘cloud’.*

iu [iu] ADV. up, above.

~iu [•iu] VT. bury <s.th., s.o.> in the ground.


(2) [by analogy] Diodon or Porcupine fish, a toxic fish. *Diodon holacanthus.*

ive [ive] PRED. why? ▶ **Morph. 3g form of the interrogative verb ~ve.** ▶ **~ve.**
(1) bamboo rod, of any usage. > Ni-toe jokoro iote me susuko me ngasune semame jokoro iote. I cut a bamboo rod to the same length as the other one.
(2) (esp) fishing rod. > Kape le-la teuko ne jokoro me le-katei ŋe namuko. We'll take a fishing rod and go angling.


jokoro [jokoro] N. name of various artefacts made of bamboo. Etym. From jie okoro.
(1) bamboo rod, of any usage. > Ni-toe jokoro iote me susuko me ngasune semame jokoro iote. I cut a bamboo rod to the same length as the other one.
(2) (esp) fishing rod. > Kape le-la teuko ne jokoro me le-katei ŋe namuko. We'll take a fishing rod and go angling.

ka [ka] COORD. and.
(1) and. Coordinator between noun phrases.
(2) and. Coordinator between clauses.

ka [ka] ASP. (1) [+Realis predicate] marker of Perfect aspect.
(2) [+Irrealis V] ...

~ka [~ka] VI. come, towards speaker or deictic centre.
(1) come. > U-ka ko! Come here!
(2) come from (somewhere). > Pi-ka vele? Where are you coming from?

J  -  j

(3) bamboo water-carrier. > jokoro peini ero bamboo for freshwater
(4) bamboo used as a stamping tube. > Le-la jokoro me le-woi, me le-mako. We'll take bamboos and pound them (on the ground) for the dances. > jokoro pe li-woi [lit. bamboos to be stamped] stamping tube Cf. ~woi okoro.
(5) bamboo flute; esp. Pan pipe. > jokoro pe li-vi [lit. bamboos to be blown] Pan pipe > An instrument recently introduced from islands further west (esp. Malaita).
(6) bamboo organ: a large panpipe-shaped instrument made of bamboo tied together. > jokoro pe li-abu [lit. bamboos to be struck] bamboo organ > Dameliko kape li-abu jokoro. The kids will play the bamboo organ. An instrument recently introduced from islands further west (esp. Malaita). The sound is produced by striking (~abu) the mouth of each tube with a beater made of wood or plastic.

[See okoro]

K  -  k

ebele u-ka pon etapu! Don't shake your body like that! cf. ~kae 'do how'.

~kae [~kae] VI. question verb enquiring on a situation, or the manner of an action.
(1) [dynamic reading] do how? > Kape le-kae?! How were they supposed to proceed?! > Morph. Probably from ~ka, 'do like' + ae 'what'.
(2) [static reading] be how? > I-kae eo? How are you? Syn. ~vei.
(3) [V2 in serialisation, with subject agreement] how? > A-ka a-kae? - Ni-katau anoko ni-ka. How did you come? - I just followed
the road.  ► Kape le-te le-kae? How could they have remained there? Syn. kavele; ngapwae 'how'.


◆ we i-kae?  PHR. [question tag] lit. "or how?": ...or what? ...or something?
  ► Mata ini i-ledi, we i-kae? Was he hungry or something?

~kamai [kamai] vt. bring s.th., s.o.: here, towards deictic centre.  ► mwali ko po i-kamai tamate pon the man who brought the Tamate masks [to this island]  ► Kupa pi-kamai monone apilaka ne pe-ko me pe-kamai i-wene tev' eo. We have brought here this small box, with the idea to leave it with you.  Syn. Often the object is expressed in preceding clause, and not repeated after kamai. Ant. ～lui 'take away' . [Pileni ka ma]


◆ kanikawo teiene N. Yellow-edged Lyretail. Variola louti.

~kanu [kanu] vt. chew s.th., esp. areca nut.  ► Li-nge to, li-kanu buioe me puluko. They would suck on sugarcane, and also chew areca nuts with betel leaves. Cf. ～nge.

B vt. [absol.] chew areca nut.  ► Li-anu ero pana ka li-kanu, ka li-moloe ne kat. We drink tea, we chew areca nuts, and we play cards.

[ Tiki. kamo]

**Chewing areca nuts (～kanu)**

Vanikoro is, with Tikopia, the world's easternmost place where the chewing of areca nuts is a traditional practice. People go in the forest to pick (～ali) areca nuts (buioe), and pinch (～kidi) betel leaves (puluko). The two elements are then mixed with lime (awo), and chewed together (～kanu) until feeling dizzy (see ～avo).


(2) [often foll. by ～vene 'up'] (child) grow up, become older.  ► Ini i-karau Vonovono. She grew up in the Reef Islands. Syn. pine.

(3) (s.o.) grow stout, put on weight.  ► Na oie ini ka wako, na ka i-karau wako. She's of a healthy size now, she has nicely put on weight. Cf. oie.

~karem [karem] vt. (s.o., s.th.) have, have got.  ► Ebele kuo i-karem demene. Genuine canoes have an outrigger. ◆ Although this verb is criticised as a loanword, it is frequently heard in informal speech. The equivalent in the vernacular would involve an existential predicate, usually with ～wene.

[kasule] [kasule] N. generic name for a number of creepers and vines.  ► Kasule, li-oive pe l-ejau ņe idi pe li-tavie. (medicine leaves) Some vines are useful for sick people.

◆ kasule aulo N. lit. "hermit-crab's vine": k.o. creeper.

◆ kasule ijene N. k.o. creeper.

◆ kasule lava abilo N. lit. "snake vine": k.o. liana, 'Great bean vine'. Syn. lava abilo.

◆ kasule loubaido N. lit. "coconut-crab's vine": k.o. creeper.

◆ kasule moloe N. lit. "red vine": k.o. creeper.

◆ kasule vorobiliko N. k.o. creeper.


◆ kasule we menuko N. lit. "vine (food) for birds": k.o. creeper.

[See ule]

(1) join <s.o.> in motion or in action; follow.  
▷ Ba-ko ba-katau ene le-le ne tololo? Do you guys want to join me to the lake? Syn. ~kila.  
(2) (fig) follow, come after <s.o.>  
▷ tili' one pe i-katau ene viri [my brother who follows me behind] my next brother (in age)  
♦ i-katau-teve  N. lit. "he follows after"; second-born, in a group of siblings. cf. makumoso 'firstborn'.  
(3) follow <s.th.>  
▷ Kape le-tabo le-katau na kiapa ponu. Let’s retrace our own steps again.  
(4) [often serialised] follow <path, road+>; <move, walk+> along <place>.  
▷ U-katau anoko u-vene u-le amjkaka. Just follow the road a little further up.  
▷ I-kotu i-katau ero ponu i-ven’ i-le. He ran along the river, all the way up.  
▷ Li-ele kuo i-katau revo. They dragged the boat [following the sea] along the coast.  
▷ Tano ponu, li-ae mijaka me kava i-pu i-katau. This kava bowl has been hollowed out a little, to allow kava to flow along.  
(5) [→ location] (do s.th.) systematically, from <place> to <place>; (do) in every <place>.  
▷ Uña toñaki van li-ka, li-ka li-dai temaka i-katau uña basakulumoe. Ships used to come and explore the area, going from one island to the other [lit. following islands].  
▷ I-e idi, i-e idi, i-katau kulumoe ra ra ra ra ra – kulumoe moli. (the Ogre) ate people, dozens of people, going from one village to another [lit. following villages], on and on and on, until all the villages were empty.  
▷ La-tabe mata ka la-lui la-do i-katau ngogoro. They collected tree shoots, and began to plant them everywhere in the forest [lit. following the forest].  
(6) (fig) follow intellectually <a changing referent>; refer to, adapt to, (do s.th.) according to.  
▷ Noma li-katau ñe metele. (calendar) In the old days, people would just refer themselves to [lit. follow] the moon.  
♦ mata i-katau  PHR. lit. "eyes follow": (s.o.) observe carefully <s.th.>.  
▷ U-ka u-te u-romo. Mata i-katau tetawene na! Come sit here and look. Observe carefully [lit. let your eyes follow] these drawings!  
(7) [often serialised] adapt o.’s actions+ to <s.o., s.th.>; hence (do) along, according to <s.th.>.  
▷ Le-woi okoro awoiu le-(wo)-bujo i-katau. We pound bamboo [giving the rhythm], and then we sing along.  
(8) be sufficient in quantity; enough for <s.o., s.th.>.  
▷ Li-bi vongoro we teliki iote, teliki iote, i-katau dapa awoiu. They collected almonds for each chief, one after the other, enough for [lit. following] them all.  
(9) be suitable for, suit <s.o., s.th.>.  
▷ Buro pon i-katau abo ne ene! (hum) This song suits my blood! (=I love it!)  
▷ Emele pon i-katau awa ene! (hum) This girl sure suits my desire! (=I dig her!)  

kava  [kava] N.  
(1) kava plant.  
Piper methysticum.  
▷ kara kava a kava root  
♦ kava moloe  N. lit. "red kava": a reddish variety of kava, now fallen into disuse.  
♦ kava tebenė N. lit. "yellow kava": a yellowish variety of kava, now fallen into disuse.  
♦ kava ele N. a wild variety of kava, not suitable for drinking. Macropiper latifolium.  
(2) a narcotic drink made after this plant, and consumed by men on important occasions.  
▷ Dapenuo li-le ne toplau, li-anu kava. Li-anu kava awoiu, ka li-vongo viri. Men would go in the men’s clubhouse, and drink kava. Once they had drunk kava, they would eat.  
▷ Damiyevi wopine li-ovei pe li-anu kava. Old women are allowed to drink kava.  
▷ Tano ponu, li-ae mijaka me kava i-pu i-katau. This kava bowl (tano*) has been hollowed out a little, to allow kava to flow along. ♦ The consumption of kava is claimed to be customary on Vanikoro. However, the fact
that this is a Polynesian loanword suggests this practise was introduced in relatively times. Still today it is only drunk on rare occasions; the traditional daily drug of Vanikoro is really the areca nut (buioe).

[Polynesian kava]

<table>
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<th>Words of kava</th>
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<tr>
<td>kava</td>
<td>kava</td>
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<tr>
<td>teipu</td>
<td>coconut shell</td>
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<tr>
<td>tano</td>
<td>kava bowl</td>
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~ke [ke] VT. (man, animal) bite. ▸ Nara bwoe i-ke eo! Make sure sharks don't bite you.
▸ muko pe i-ke idi [fly that bites people] mosquito

[(?) POc *kaRat]

~ke [ke] VI. (1) go outside, go out; come out (of, mina). ▸ U-ke u-ka na! Come here!
(2) [geocentric coordinates] go from inland towards the sea; go downhill; (at sea) move away from the island, towards the ocean. cf. teta-ke 'seawards'.
(3) (fig) come out, come to light, appear.
▸ tje pwoi i-ke i-dadai. The pig tusk has come out and spun around.


(2) Pink Squirrlfish. Sargocentron tieroides.

kidisa revo N. salit. cf. revo 'sea'.

kie [kie] N.O.P. (1) hole of <s.th.> dug in the ground. ▸ Li-ae kie tepapa i-dadai awouj ponu, li-iu tepapa ene. They dug holes for the dancing boards all around (the village area), and then they buried the boards in them. cf. moboe 'hole'.
(2) (esp) grave of <s.o.>, sepulture. ▸ Nga mwaliko i-bu, le-iv bebele ini i-wene ne kie ini. When somebody dies, their body is buried in a grave. ▸ kie Laperus the sepulture of Lapérouse

~kila [kila] VI. (1) call out to <s.o.>. ▸ Abu u-kila in' i-koie! Call him in! ▸ Li-si teveliko ne kulumoe, me le-kila idi le-ka le-mako. Someone in the village is blowing the conch, calling out to people to come and dance.
(2) invoke <deity>, with a prayer or curse.
▸ Li-la viko li-lateli, li-ka li-kila tadoe pon li-ko "Visipure! U-abu ne adawo!" Once they had put the sacred money down, they began to invoke their gods: "Fisipure! Come down from your clouds!"
(3) call, get <s.o.> on the phone or the teleradio. ▸ Abu ne-kila Pumal (teleradio) I'll try and get (the people of) Puma. ▸ Vanikoro has no phone. Communication between villages, or with other islands, is done by teleradio.
(4) [followed by ~ko] call <s.th., s.o.> with such and such a name. ▸ Dapa li-kila li-ko "Beme" pe ini beme. They call him "Baldhead" because he's bald. ▸ Li-kila temaka pon li-ko "Moe ma Tadone". This place is called "Devils' Lair".

~kila [kila] VI. (1) follow, join <s.o., s.th.> in motion or action. ▸ A-ko u-ka u-kila keba? Would you like to join us? cf. ~katau 'follow'.
(2) marry <s.o.>. ▸ Ni-kila emele pe Tetevo. I married a woman from Utupua.
▸ basavono pe da-tulu kape la-kila da [lit. when two people follow each other] when there is a wedding ▸ Nga u-romo leka, kape u-kila. Should you have any eye contact with your cross-cousin, you will have to marry her.
~kilase

~kilase [~kilase] ~ ~kilasi ~ ~klas(e,i). VT. (1) address, talk to <s.o.>, esp. with a formal or solemn tone; invoke. ▷ Li-又能 li-kilasi tadoe adapa me i-somoli ortion i Laperusi. So they addressed solemnly their god, begging him to destroy the ships of Lapérouse. Cf. ~votei.
(2) inform <s.o.> (about s.th., ñe), esp. in some length; explain, tell. ▷ Ini i-kilasi mwalik' iape, ñe ngaten' na po i-rom' pon. She told her husband about all she had seen.
▷ Dapa iono le-ka, kape u-kilase dapa ñei. When your family comes, you'll explain it all to them. Syn. ~viñi.

kiñe [kiñe] N.O.P. long, thin appendage hanging from <s.th.> in high number. ▷ kiñe abo blades of grass ▷ kiñe luro leaflets of the coconut palm ▷ kiñe otovo long and thin leaves on the eaves of a sago thatch ▷ kiñe udo young and small bananas on a banana bunch ▷ kiñe tebo long rain drops during a shower ▷ kiñe-biouro* [long tentacles] octopus

~kiñe vabasa ~ kiñe viabasa. N. hair, considered in its length rather than its volume. ▷ kiñe viabasa one hair ▷ La-katei kiñe vabasa da. They're pulling each other's hair!

~kiñe tamate N. the long, many fibres made of leaves, which hang down from a tamate ritual mask, by way of the Spirit's hair.

▷ motomoro ie kiñe-biouro sucker of an octopus

kiñekiñe [kiñekiñe] ADJ. (leaf, plant) pinnate.
▷ bamele kiñekiñe pinnate philodendron • Reduplication of kiñe.

ko [ko] ADV. ◦ Clause-final particle.
(1) first, as a first action. ▷ Mou me ne-iumu ne-le n-oi teuko ko. Let me first go angling.
(2) [with imperative] (do) for a second: forms a polite order; hence please. ▷ U-ka ko! Come here a second! cf. abu.
(3) [deictic use] exclamatory particle pointing to the immediate context, òptic. to the addressee's speech or action. ▷ A-tomoli ko! That's just a liar! ▷ Na bwara eo ko! I'm sure that's you! ▷ In' na nga barava tadoe ko! Isn't he absolutely incredible?!

~ko [~ko] VT. (1) say <s.th.>, declare. Introduces direct reported speech. ▷ Na, piene adapa Teanu a-ko ae? [this, the language of Teanu, you say what?] How do you say this in Teanu?
(2) ....
(3) [often foll. by bwara] think.
(4) [foll. by Irrealis clause] want to.
(5) [serialised after a verb of speech or thought] that: equivalent of a complementiser.


~ko pine VT. lit. "open big": (mouth, eyes, legs+) be wide open. ◦ Origin of ~kopine 'deep'.

ko [ko] VT. open <s.th.>. ▷ Ka li-ko ruene, ka li-tabo li-bono. They open the door, and then shut it again.

~ko [~ko] VT. wait for <s.o., s.th.>.

kobe [ko*be] N. k.o. tree with hard wood; unidentified.
koene [koene] vt. put on, wear <clothes, hat->. ▶ I-koene namolo 'none. She's wearing my clothes. ▶ mwaliko pe ka i-koene Tamate ponu the man who's wearing the Tamate mask

koioi [koioi] causative of ~koie 'enter': cause <s.o., sth.> to go in, introduce.
(1) cause <s.th.> to go in, hence insert, put in, pack. ▶ U-koioi etapu! Don't put it in!
(2) cause <s.o.> to go in, hence bring in, lead <s.o.> in. ▶ Ai' iape kape i-la men' iape i-koioi ne Toplau. The father would introduce his son into the Men's House.
(3) [geocentric coordinates] cause <s.th.> to go inland: take <s.th.> from the sea towards the shore, or from the shore towards the village. ▶ Dapa kula li-katei noma nuduro tilu ponu, li-koioi tetakoie, i-le i-vene ne moko taniboro. Some people pull the two ends of the scareline towards the shore, to a dry zone.
(4) [id.] cause <s.o.> to go inland, esp. welcome <travellers> on the beach and lead them inland. ▶ Ka li-loko dapa li-koioi. Li-koioi li-su buluko ka li-koie li-vagasi ta-koie. (The islanders) welcomed them inland. They lit torchlights and led them in, until they reached (the village) inland. cf. ~wokobe.

konge [konge] N. prawn, shrimp. ▶ Kape la-re tetaki me la-labu neido konge ne ero. We will set a trap to catch small shrimps in the river.

kopine [kopine] vt. deep. ▶ Etym. From ~kopine 'wide open'.

koro [koro] ADJ. (1) white. ▶ ovene koro white heron ▶ Vilisao tilu: iote bworo, iote koro. Suddenly there were two tornados: one was dark, one was white. Cf. beve.
(2) (s.o.) person of white skin, European. ▶ emele koro a White woman Syn. damala.

kulaña [kulaña] ~ kula. NOP. half of <sth.>.
▶ Li-bo nga kulaña metele We carve it in the shape of a half-moon. ▶ Ni-nabe jokoro lea iune ka kula. I measured the bamboo to be one fathom and a half.

kulevelu [kulevelu] N. fowl, poultry, chicken.
▶ kulevelu mwalikote [male fowl] rooster ▶ via kulevelu chicken feather ▶ Kulevelu ka i-ve waluluo tete. The fowl has laid three eggs. ▶ anes kulevelu chicken meat
▶ neido kulevelu N. lit. "child of fowl": chick.

kulumoe [kulumoe] N. inhabited place. ▶ Etym. Perhaps from kula 'several' + moe 'house'. cf. temaka 'place'.
(1) (gen) hamlet, village. ▶ Da-tilu pe Teanu. Kulumoe iada Aneve. They were from Teanu island; their village was Aneve.
(2) (rare) area, zone within an island, not necessarily inhabited. ▶ kulumoe peini sekele an area for garden cf. vono 'district'.
(3) island as a whole. SYN. basa kulumoe.
(4) country. ▶ Ini i-te Frinis, ia ebele kulumoe iape Japan. She lives in France, but she is actually from [lit. her genuine country is] Japan.
(5) (rare) the world. ▶ ne tevie kulumoe the other side of the world
~la  [-la] VT. take <one thing> (vs. ~loko, 'take several things').

(1) take <s.th.> with o.'s hands, grab, carry.
   » Nganae pe kape le-la tae. They didn't need to carry anything. cf. ~labu; ~lui.

(2) (esp.) [often first verb in serialisation] take <s.th.> in order to use it or move it. Serves to introduce a new participant in a situation, often an instrument or a theme, even when no actual 'grabbing' event is referred to. » Abu u-la kangele teuko u-kamai! [take a fishhook & bring it] Please bring a fish-hook! » Li-la ruene li-tabo li-bono. [they 'take' the door and shut it] They shut the door again. » U-la teili u-bi ni' eo. [take a fan and fan yourself] Fan yourself with a fan! » Ai' iape kape i-la men' iape i-koioi ne Toplau. The father would introduce his son into the Men's House [lit. would 'take' his son and introduce him].

   ♦ ~la ~lui  VT. lit. "take carry-away": take <s.th.> away. ♦ ~lui.

   ♦ ~la ~teili  VT. lit. "take put-down": put <s.th.> down. ♦ ~la ~teili.

(3) [switch-subject serialisation] forms causative constructions with motion or posture verbs. » li-la i-avo [they take it hangs] they hang s.th. » li-la i-abu [they take it goes down] they put s.th. down » li-la i-koie [they take it enters] they put s.th. in

   » Vilo pe i-bu, ni-la enga ene i-wene ñei. I left my name on a dead tree. [lit. I 'took' my names it was left there]

   » Nobwogo miko i-la i-wai moe ne. Last night [an earthquake 'took' & shook this house] this house was shaken by an earthquake.

(4) give <s.th.> » U-la i-ka kiane! [take it it comes quickly] Give it to me, quick! » Program kula idi li-la moli. Some softwares are free [lit. people take/give them unconstrained]. » Taluaito i-la ero ie menu apilaka. The doctor gave medicine to the little child [lit. he took/gave the child's water]. ♦ Usually followed by ~mini* to introduce the recipient. cf. ~lamini.

   ♦ ~la ~mini  VT. lit. "take give": give <s.th.> to s.o. ♦ ~la ~mini.

(5) (fig.) take <s.th. abstract>, keep. » Ni-la piene ono. I'm recording [taking] your language.

(6) (s.o.) understand <s.o., s.th.>. » Ka ni-la awa eo. [I took your mind] I understand what you mean. » Ai-la ene? [did you take me?] Did you get my point?

(7) (action) require, take <amount of time>. » I-la wik iune! It takes a whole week! » Li-bo kuo votobo pe i-la moro tete we teva. Making a canoe can take up to 3 or 4 days.

(8) do, make. Combines with certain objects, to form semantically non-compositional phrases.

   ♦ ~la aele  VOL. lit. "take legs": take a number of steps. » I-la aele wa-tuo. He took six steps.

   ♦ ~la ngatene  VOL. lit. "take things": work, do some work. ♦ ~la ngatene.

labiou  A  [la-'biou] ADJ. lasting a long time, long. » Labiou metabae. It won't take long. ♦ Itym. Prob. from ~la 'take' + biouro 'long'.

   ♦ labiou tae  PHR. lit. "it was not long": just a moment later. Links events in a narrative. » Li-koie ne moe, ka labiou tae, dapa ka tabo li-ke li-ka. They went inside, and just a moment later, again they came out.

B ADV. (1) (do) for a long time, for long. » I-vet' piene labiou. He talked for ages.

(2) [perfective context] (have done) a long time ago. » Aeve ka i-vene labiou awoiu. The sun had long risen in the sky.

lebwogo [le=bw ə go] N. (1) Black Sweetlips. 
Plectorhinchus gibbosus.

(2) Harlequin Sweetlips. Plectorhinchus chaetodonoides.

~ledi [ə le ˈdi] VI. [Subject = mata ‘eyes’] be hungry. > Mata ene i-ledi. [my eyes are hungry] I am hungry!


leka [leka] Nk. 'le' one. [symmetrical term] cousin, cross-cousin, whether male or female (MBC, FZC). > leka emele female cousin > U-le pon etapu! Na leka kape i-rom’ eo! Don’t go there! Your cousin might see you! > Leka, kape u-labu ebele ini metae. With your (opp.-sex) cross-cousin, you are not allowed any body contact. ▷ Anh. Any sort of contact between cross-cousins of opposite sex, whether eye- or body-contact, is strictly prohibited. If it ever occurs, then the two individuals must marry. As a consequence, cross-cousins – who can be potentially spouses – avoid each other strictly.

~lemoli [le mol] ~ le moi. VI. contraction of ~le moi* ‘go randomly.’


(2) (fig) be random, unruly; follow no particular rules.


(4) unimportant; common, ordinary. > Moe iaidi i-lemoli. This is just a house for ordinary people.

leñe [lepe] N. k.o. tree, unidentified.


~loko [loko] VT. (1) [typic, first verb in serialisation] take <several objects>, esp. before displacing them somewhere. > Le-loko ajekele le-iui ne revo. They collect the rubbish and throw it into the sea. Cf. ~la.
(2) take <people> somewhere, lead. > Kape pe-loko dapa gete enone, da meliko viñevi, pe-lui ne moe re. We'll take my boys and my girls, and lead them to that house over there. > Ka li-loko dapa li-koioi. They led them inside. > Toñaki iote ka i-tabo i-ka! Kape i-loko idil! (Blackbirding) Here comes another ship again! They're going to kidnap people!

(3) (gen) introduces a plural object, animate or not, before a verb of motion or displacement. > Li-loko none i-le ne lema awene. We put food into the stone oven.

> Dapa li-loko mana vilo i-vio ne viabasa dapa. People put flowers in their hair.


♦ loro ie añawo N. lit. “whale vomit”: amber.

B (~loro) vi. vomit, puke. > Basavono po mwaliko malaria i-vagasi, basa i-meli, mwaliiko i-loro, panavono i-ke. When someone has malaria, their head aches, they vomit, they sweat...


loubo [lou-bo] N. crab. > ba loubo crab’s claw > utedie loubo [back-side of crab] crab’s shell

> ma loubo crab’s hole > Loubo iote i-ke vidiviko ne ale ene. I had one of my toes bitten by a crab!

♦ loubo antebe N. lit. “mud crab”: k.o. crab.


~lovei [loovei] VI. Redup. ~lulovei. [non-sing subject] fall one after the other. > Lulo i-(lo)lovei i-abu. The coconuts keep falling. cf. ~sabu ‘fall once’.

lovia vono [lovia fono] N. lit. “section of the universe”: any one of different worlds or realms. > lovia vono te te [three parts of the world] the three different worlds. > Basavono po li-bu, kape le-tomoe mina Lovia Vono na, le-le ne Lovia Vono iote. When we die, we leave this World, and migrate to the Other World. * The word marama, borrowed from Mota, is sometimes used with the same meaning.

Lovono [Lovono] LOC. Vono* or Lovono: a village on the north coast of Banie, to-gether with its area. > piene adapa Lovono the language of Lovono

~lu [lu] VT. scrape <tuber> or grate <coconut flesh>, with a bivalve shell (aero) or grater. > I-tau jebute awoi futuro, i-lu. Once the taro was done, he scraped its (skin).

<< FOLDING AWAY THE DEADMAN’S MATS [~lu bete] >>

Idi le-bei bete awoi, kape le-lu bete. Bete ka mwowe pon, le mwaliko pe i-bu. Li-aneve lema mwoe, ka maro. Awoiu, le-loko ajekle le-iui ne revo.

‘At the end of the funeral vigil (~bei bete), comes the time when we fold the mats away. These are the mats, and the house, of the person who died. So we clean the house, both inside and outside. We collect the garbage (including the mats) and we go throw them in the sea.’

~lu [lu] VT. fold <s.th.>, esp. in order to put it away. > Kape le-lu bete. They are ready to fold their mats. Syn. ~bu.
come here to buy troca shells and take them away. ▷ Uña udo pe i-ako, li-lui i-avo ne tone. The ripe bananas had been [taken] put to hang from the hook. ▷ li-lui nuduro carry the scareline, go fishing with the scareline (see nuduro)

(2) take <s.o.> somewhere or away. ▷ Kupa pi-lui ini teve taluaito. We took him to the doctor. ▷ Vana uña toñaki i-ka i-loko dapa ne kulumoe na, dapa li-lui li-langatene ne lura. Ships used to come to this island to collect people, and then take them away to make them work somewhere in the south. ▷ Ngiro i-aka i-lui dapa. The wind blew and took them away.


Heliconia indica. ▷ Etym. Takes its name from the habit of using this leaf to wrap vekai pudding.
(2) (plant+) grow big. > Ngogoro ka i-maili. The bush has grown there. > Pi-romo uie i-maili pine. You can see how the leaves have grown big. > Avtebe adapa ka i-maili i-vene kata ka vitoko kape moso. Their taros had grown up and were almost ripe.

~maili [~maili] vt. light fire, iawo. > ~maili iawo is sometimes contracted as ~mailowo. cf. ~su, 'burn'.


makumoso [makumoso] N. (1) first-born, elder (sibling, child). cf. moso 'ripe, old'.

(2) (esp) (chief) paramount, supreme. > Teliki Makumoso supreme chief; Supreme God

mama [mama] N. (1) s.o. voice. > Mama ini pine. He has a loud voice. > Ni-lengi mama Stanley ni-sai ñe mama Alex. I heard Stanley's voice, I thought it was Alex.

(2) (s.th.) sound, esp. singing sound of an instrument (vs. aña 'noise'). > Ni-lengi mama gita. I can hear the sound of a guitar.

(3) (rare) message sent by <s.o.>.

(4) (esp) (man) marriage proposal sent (~tel*) to the family of a woman. > U-teli mama ene se. (formula for official engagement) Please send her 'my voice'.

mama [mama] N. k.o. traditional pudding, made of taros (jebute) and Canarium almonds (vongoro), and served in important social occasions. > Li-wete jebute li-wete vongoro awoiu pon, li-jeau mama. We mash taros, we crush almonds, and make the pudding. > li-wete* mama prepare the pudding > One cooks taros first, and then mash them, together with almonds, in a mortar (monone), until it becomes a tender dough.


mata [mata] N. (1) man, animal eyes. > Mata ene tevie i-meli. [lit. My eyes on one side hurt] One of my eyes is painful. > Ene ni-mede kaipa tae, ene niromo ñe mata ene! I'm not lying to you, I saw it with my own eyes! > Mata ene i-mokoiu. [my eyes are asleep] I'm feeling sleepy. > Mata ini kilo. She's blind.

(2) [foll. by motion or directional verb] look, direction of the eyes as they look. > Mata da i-koie ne moe ponu la-romo. [their eyes went into the house] They looked into the house and then saw it. > Mata i-katau tetawene na! Observe carefully [lit. let your eyes follow] these drawings!

(3) face. Syn. tanoma.

(4) grammatical subject of ~ledi 'be hungry'. > Mata ene i-ledi. I feel hungry!

(5) (s.th.) opening, passage. > mata pele net mesh > mata* ruene opening of doorway, doorway cf. moboe 'hole'.

(6) cover for an opening, hence lid+.
mata [mata] v. rock. "point of arrow": tip of arrow.  vt.  k.o. plant with red leaves (Euphorbiaceae). Homalanthus spp.  Used for medicinal purposes (tongolukilo).
mata bule [mata bule] N. lit. "tarosprout": variety of the former, found in the bush.
mata bule [mata bule] v. rock. {k.o. plant with red leaves (Euphorbiaceae). Homalanthus spp.  Used for medicinal purposes (tongolukilo).
mata piene [mata piene] N. way of life.  vt. rock. Mata piene pon, i-wene moli teve dapa. That way of life was easy to them. Cf. maluo ‘life’.
matamulue [matamulue] N. k.o. tree, perhaps: Semecarpus spp.  Used for medicinal purposes (tongolukilo).
matani [matani] N. first element in the name of certain stars. Cf. kanimoro ‘star’.
~mede [~mede] vt. vt. lead (s.o.), whether in motion or in action.  vt. Buro pe li-mede idí ñei. It's a song for leading (the dancers).
memia [memia] ADJ. [Sb = ije 'teeth'] feel a bitter taste. ➔ ije ene memia. I feel a bitter taste. ➔ Dapa pe li-anu kava, li-e vebe ŉe ponu, me kape ije dapa memia etapu. Kava drinkers eat cutnut right after it, to take away the bitter taste. [lit. for fear their teeth might taste-bitter]


~mene [•mene] VI. (1) dislike, not want s.th. ➔ Awa eo i-viane? – Tae, ni-mene! Do you want it? – No, I don't (want it).

(2) reject, refuse; say no. ➔ "U-ka me la-le nai"! Emele pon i-mene. "Come, let's go!" But the woman refused.

(3) be tired of, fed up with s.th. ➔ A-mene pe u-e none ponu? Aren't you tired of eating that food?

~mete [•mete] VRFL. lit. "shy of oneself": be shy, timid; shy away (from, ne). ➔ U-met' eo ŉe ene etapu! Don't shy away from me!

Emel' enone i-mete ini pe i-rom dokta. My wife is too shy to see the doctor.

~metelu [•metelu] VI. (ship+) sink. ➔ U-bei i-metu i-wene ne mataiko ponu! (invocation to a god) Squash (this ship) and let it sink in this very gulf! ➔ Temotu tilu ponu i-metu. The two islets were engulfed (in the disaster).

mevele [mevele] N. front yard: private, open-air area in front of a house. ➔ Ni-bo ajekele mina mevele 'none. I have collected rubbish from my front yard.


• meviko lekele N. lit. "eel flying-fox": Giant moray. Gymnothorax javanicus.


mijaka [mi³jaka] ADV. a little. ➔ amjaka.

miko [miko] N. earthquake. ➔ Nobwogo miko i-la i-wai moe ne. Last night an earthquake shook the houses here.


mjaka [mi³jaka] ADV. a little. ➔ amjaka.

~mo [•mo] VI. (1) (animal) make noise, call. ➔ Vono i-sodo, ka menuko i-mo. The dawn came, and birds began singing.

(2) (human) talk, utter words, considered as a general faculty (vs ~veti piene 'say s.th.'). ➔ I-mui pe i-mo. (disabled child) He cannot speak. ➔ Ka i-mo tae! (accident+) He cannot speak any more.

• ~mo korone VI. lit. "talk strong": speak with a firm tone of voice, esp. in giving a lesson or firm advice; hence reprimand (s.o., se). ➔ Da la-mo korone da œpe. They are arguing with each other.

• ~mo ~mabui VI. lit. "talk slow": speak slowly; whisper.

• ~mo ~susoko VI. lit. "talk fast": speak loudly, quickly.

• ~mo susuko VI. lit. "talk straight": speak properly or appropriately. ➔ Ini i-mo susuko. He spoke properly ~ He made a fair speech.

moe ma tadoe [moe ma ta⁰dœ] ~ mom tadoe. N. lit. "Devil's lair": place (typic. cave) haunted by spirits or deities; hence heathen temple. ➔ Ka ponu li-la viko, li-lui li-lateli ne moe ma tadoe. They took the shell-money, and put it down in the gods' lair.

moko [moko] N. coral reef. ➔ Basavono na toñaki ka moko. Today the ship has turned into coral reef. ➔ Moko ka i-ma. [The reef is dried up] It's low tide.

• moko taniboro N. dry area on the reef, out of the sea's reach. ➔ Dapa kula li-katei nomo nuduro tilu ponu, li-koioi tetakioi, i-le i-vene ne moko taniboro. Some people pull the two ends of the scareline towards the shore, to a dry zone.


(2) deprived of any binding rule: hence free, unconstrained, random. ➔ Kava, pe li-anu moro moli tae. Kava is not something you drink randomly [lit. just any day).

(3) (s.o.) foreigner, stranger. ➔ emele moli a foreign woman.
[B] ADP. (1) in an unconstrained way: freely, easily.

♦ ~te moli VI. lit. "sit/live unconstrained": (s.o.) be free (opp. be busy, or married, etc.). ➤ A-te moli? Are you free?

♦ ~wene moli VI. lit. "lie unconstrained": be easy. ☞ ~wene moli.

(2) without expected effects: hence (do) in vain, for nothing; with no satisfying result. ➤ Li-vo moe moli. They built a house in vain. (it's useless) ➤ Ni-sava none moli. I bought food for nothing. (it was wasted)

(3) (hence) (do/buy) for free, with nothing in exchange. ➤ Program kula idi li-la moli. Some softwares are free [lit. people give them unconstrained]. ➤ Ini i-langatene moli. He works for free.

(4) (eat, drink+) without expected ingredients: hence minimally, simply, in a sober or pure fashion. ➤ Ni-anu moli. (water) I'm drinking it pure (=without adding sugar etc.). ➤ Ni-vongo moli. I'm eating 'minimally' (=only vegetables, but no meat).

(5) with no binding rules or ties: hence randomly, aimlessly, haphazardly.

♦ ~le moli VI. [serialised after a verb] lit. "go aimlessly": go random; go with no specific rules; hence not matter, etc. ☞ ~le moli.


momoso [momoso] N. (1) old woman: a respectful term. Ant. amoso 'old man'.

(2) adult woman (opp. emele aplaka 'young girl'). ➤ uia momoso me dameliko women and children ➤ Ini ka emele aplaka tae, ini ka momoso iote. She's not a young girl any more, she has become a woman now. cf. emele 'woman'; vihevi 'women'.

(3) [possessed] wife: a respectful term. ➤ Momoso iono, ini bworobworo, we koro? Your wife, is she black or white?

[POc *matoqa]

monone [monone] N. Poss enaka. (1) a sturdy, round wooden mortar used in cooking, esp. to pound taros and Canarium almonds (vongoro) during the preparation of the pudding (mama). ➤ I-tau jebute moioe ponu, i-loko i-ka i-le ne monone ka i-wete. I-wete ao ni ko i-ejau mama ada. Once the taro was cooked, she put it in a mortar and began to pound it. When she finished pounding it, she made the pudding.

(2) a sturdy box, typic. made of wood, where to stow things; chest, trunk. ➤ Kupa pi-kamai monone apilaka ne pe-ko me pe-kamai i-wene tev' eo. We have brought here this small chest, with the idea to leave it with you.

moro [moro] N. day. ➤ moro abia every day

moro [moro] N. k.o. fish, unidentified.

♦ moro peini pwa motono N. lit. "moro fish from the ocean": Oriental Sweetlips. Plectorhynchus orientalis.

moso [moso] ADJ. (1) (taro, fruit+) ripe, well grown, ready to harvest. ➤ Jebute ka moso. The taros are ready to harvest.

♦ Udo kata kape ka moso. Bananas are almost ripe.

(2) (fig) compound element found in several (now opaque) words referring to old age and maturity: amoso, momoso, makumoso.

[Poc *matoqa]

moso [moso] N. big?

♦ die moso N. lit. "big (?) bone": spine.

moso [moso] ADJ. right hand, right hand side.

♦ ma ene moso my right hand Ant. mouro.

[Poc *matoqa]

motoro [motoro] ADJ. (1) heavy. ➤ Pe li-anu kava, ebele idi motoro. When you drink kava, you feel your body is heavy. Ant. mimione.

(2) (fig) important, major, significant. ➤ Ne-ko ne-viñ' eo ne piene motoro. I'd like to tell you about an important issue.

(3) (behaviour) respectful; considerate, esp. towards elders and institutions. ➤ Awa ene motoro ne piene pe a-viñ' ene. [my mind is heavy...] I give a lot of consideration to your words. ➤ U-labu idi motoro! [Take people 'heavily'] Be respectful to people!
mouro [mouro] N. left hand; left side. Ant. moso.

mouro [mouro] NOP. bunch, group, cluster, set.

(1) (animal) shoal, swarm, gaggle, flock+. ▷ mouro paiuko a shoal of paiuko fish

(2) (bananas) bunch. ▷ mouro udo a bunch of bananas Syn. taña.

moworo [moworo] ADV. in the air. ▷ I-avo moworo. It's hanging in the air.

~mui [•mui] VT. (1) (comm) [static reading] not know, be ignorant of <s.th.>; have no idea (if, ~ko). ▷ 1a ni-mui, nga u-ium’ u-viñ’ ene! I didn't know, you should have told me!

▷ Ene ni-mui ni-kö kape n-ajau nganae kape wako. I don't know what to do. Ant. ~ovei.

(2) be unable (to do, pe+Clause). ▷ I-mui pe i-mo. He cannot speak.

(3) [dynamic reading] forget, be unable to remember <s.th.>. ▷ Dapa pie aipa ka vitoko kape le-mui pie ne aipa. Our grandparents will soon forget our language.

(4) forget (to do, pe+Clause). ▷ Ka ni-mui pe ni-vete. I forgot to say it.

(5) (rare) forget <object>, leave behind.

▷ Ni-mui temamene ’none i-wene ne moe. I left behind my bag in the house!

mule [mule] NK. Is mul’ one. affine of same generation (vs. uku).

(1) (ego male or female) sibling-in-law, whether male or female: spouse of o.’s sibling (ZH, BW), or sibling of o.’s spouse (WB, WZ, HB, HZ). ▷ mul’ one mwalkote my brother-in-law ▷ mul’ one emele my sister-in-law cf. tieli ‘sibling’.

(2) spouse of o.’s cross-cousin, cousin by marriage (MBDH, MBSW; FZDH, FZSW; HFZC, WFZC…). cf. leka ‘cross-cousin’.

Mw - mw


mwaele [mʷaele] N. ginger. Zingiber officinal. ▷ miakaia mwaele the smell of ginger

B ADJ. yellow.

¥ voko mwaele N. lit. “yellow stone”: yellow stone (sulphur?) used as dye.

~mwagali [•mʷa’galì] vi. be disgusted (by s.th., ne), get sick. ▷ Ni-mwagali ne none ponu. That food is disgusting!

▷ Dapa ne kulumoe ponu li-e ngatene pe ene ni-mwagali ene. People in that country eat stuff that I just find disgusting.
### N - n

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<th>[n' a'die]</th>
<th><strong>ne adie.</strong> PREP. [spatial] lit. &quot;in the back of&quot;: beyond, on the other side of a place. &gt; n' adie kulumoe on the other side of the village &gt; n' adie ngamuli beyond the ocean &gt; ne Adie Vono (place name) on the rear side of the island</th>
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<td>NOP. (1) face. &gt; viabasa ini ka noma ini ka mata ini her hair, her</td>
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<td>NOP. what relation to s.o.? Question word standing for kin term. &gt; Ini nava eo? What is she to you? (e.g. your sister? cousin?) [Poc <em>sapan</em>]</td>
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#### 1. Components, pieces, parts of a bigger whole. **Nengele moe** the components (timbers) of a house > nengele kuo the elements of a canoe > Kape le-toe langasuo peini, ka nengele wamitaka. *(canoe)* You cut out the big rig, and then the smaller pieces. |

#### 2. (Body) Parts, limbs. **Ne-labu ebel' ini pe nengele i-meli.** I'll massage her body because some spots (on her body) are painful. |

#### 3. (Accessories for s.th.) **Nengele makone** accessories of dance the accessories necessary to carry out traditional dances (instruments, jumping boards+) |

- **Netebe** [netebe] ~ antebel. N. (1) marsh, swamp. > Vivelo li-teli ne netebe. Swamp taros are planted in swamps. |
- **Nom' ole** [nom' ole] N. lit. "front of sand": sand beach. > Laperusi vana i-moloe ne nom' ole take ne. Lapérouse used to stroll around along that sand beach over there. *Cf.* ole. |
face, her eyes > ni-aka noma I'm washing my face. cf. tanoma 'face, forehead'.

(2) (gen) front part of <s.th.> > noma toañaki the prow of the ship > noma nuduro the (front) end of the fishing-scareline

(3) (time period) end of <s.th.> > ne noma metele at the end of the month

B N. promontory, cape. > Li-da noma re li-ka. They crossed the cape over there and came here. > Nomlemlesu noma pine. Nomlemlesu is a major promontory. ♦ Most cape names begin with the syllable Nom', from noma.

C ADV. (1) [spatial meaning] in front.

(2) [temporal meaning] before this, previously.
> Noma, viabas' ene i-ako. My hair used to be blond.

(3) (esp) a long time ago, in the old days.
> Noma li-katau ūne metele. (calendar) In the old days, people would just refer themselves to [lit. follow] the moon.

♦ pe noma ADJ. lit. "of the past": ancient, old; historic; traditional.
> kulumoe pe noma a historic village
> iepiene pe noma traditional legends
> Piene adapa Teanu, ia vesepiene pe noma. This is Teanu language, but with some archaic words.

♦ dapa noma N. lit. "those before": the people of the past, the ancestors. > Dapa noma, li-ovei pe li-vesu bavede. Our ancestors used to sail. Syn. wopine.


[POC *mapuqun]


♦ wonone N. (rare) plural form of none.
> wonone pe li-e the various types of food


♦ tetawene peini nuduro N. geometric pattern similar in shape to a centipede.
	nuduro [nu-duro] N. by analogy of shape with the centipede (nuduro), designates various artefacts characterised by their length.

Scareline fishing
[~lui nuduro~]


'When we prepare the scareline, we go cut rattan stems and tie them together. Once they're tied together it becomes a 'scareline' (nuduro). Some people pull the two ends of the line towards the shore, to a dry zone; others stand in the water, on the other side of the scareline, and hit the water to (scare and) catch the fish.'

(1) long rope made of rattan stems (woworo) tied together, used as a scareline for fishing; "fishing rope", "scareline". > Lingago woworo awoiu ka li-kila li-ko nuduro. We tie together rattan stems, and call it a nuduro (scareline). ♦ Contrary to what is observed in other parts of the Pacific, this scareline does not include coconut palms or leaves.

♦ ~lui nuduro VOI. lit. "carry the scareline": a fishing technique whereby a group of men surround the reef at low tide, holding a long 'scareline' (nuduro), and catch the fish kept prisoner within the line. > Mobo kape le-lui nuduro me l-abu namuko. Tomorrow we'll carry the scareline to get some fish.

(2) palm of coconut or palm tree, displayed in some specific location to mark it as private or taboo; hence taboo, ban, prohibition to enter a place. > li-vi nuduro set a taboo leaf > Gi' one i-la nuduro i-vio ne sekele / moe / moko... (ñie uie luro).
My uncle put up a taboo in his garden / in his house / on the reef... (using a coconut palm). > Dapa li-woi nuduro ne touro, me i-botongo temaka. They put up taboo signs on the seashore, to protect the area (from poachers). > Mwalik' iote i-ka i-vokoiu nuduro. Someone came and tore out the taboo (leaf).

vi nuduro [vuduro] Vol. lit. "attach a taboo-leaf": reserve (s.th., s.o. se) for oneself; hence get engaged to (s.o.). > Mwatagete iote ka i-vi nuduro se. She's already engaged to someone. [lit. A boy has already put up a taboo on her]

(3) (fig) proscription, taboo, whether legal or moral. > i-sube ñe nuduro [make a mistake on a taboo] infringe a moral taboo; do wrong, intentionally or not > i-bei nuduro [trample on a taboo] deliberately infringe a proscription

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Nivale [nivale] LOC. name of an islet, facing the village of Pakare. According to the myth, Nivale, together with its neighbouring islet Sebei, were separated from the mainland of Banie by the legendary hero Mwasu.

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Ng - ng

gamuli [gamuli] N. ocean, open sea. > Toñakí pine pe kape le-ke le-lui ne gamuli tae. It was not the kind of large ships that can go out into the ocean. Cf. revo.

gatene [gatene] N. Pos enaka. thing.

(1) (concr) thing, object. > Ìñá ngatene' na, kape i-vio tev' iu re. All those things will be yours.

(2) (esp) s.o.'s belongings; luggage. > Ìñá ngatene' enaka i-wene tev' iu re. My stuff (bags+) is up over there. Cf. namalo.

(3) (c eup) piece of food. > Le-le le-labu* ngatene? Shall we go grab something? (=food) Cf. none.

(4) (rare) animal; non-human creature. > Ngatene ponu, li-romo nga mwaliko, ia mwaliko tae. (Spirts) Those creatures look like they're human, but they are not. > Ka kaipa mwaliko na, ia kupa na ngatene nga na. You people are human; but we are just non-human creatures [lit. just things] like this. > Dapa na ngatene nga tevie mwaliko, tevie nga li-romo nga tadoe. These are special creatures, half man, half spirit.

(5) (abstr) thing; topic, issue, idea, meaning. > Ngatene pon etapu tamwase. This is a taboo issue. > Vesepiene iune, i-vete ngatene tilu. (polysemy) It is the same word, but with two distinct meanings. [lit. it says two things] Cf. awa.

(6) effort, work. > Awis pine peini ngatene pe a-la ponu. Thank you for your efforts. [lit. for the things you took] > Ni-ovei ni-ko ngatene abia teve eo. I know you have a lot of work. [lit. many things are with you] The combination of the verb ~la 'take' and ngatene 'things' results in the meaning 'to work'. Cf. ~langatene.

nge [nje] VT. chew <sugarcane+> so as to suck out its juice while avoiding to eat the fibres. > Dameliko li-nge to. The kids are chewing some sugarcane. > Lekele i-inge ua vede. Flying-foxes chew fruits of pandanus.

O - o

**oie** [oie] NOP. (1) (tree) central part, trunk.  
▷ oie bale the trunk of a breadfruit tree cf. utele 'base'.  
(2) (s.o.) size of body, stoutness.  
▷ Oie ini aplaka. [her stoutness is small] She is slim.  
▷ Oie ini tae. [she has no stoutness] She is skinny.  
▷ Oie ini ka wako. [her size is good now] She has put on weight now.  
 Cf. ~karau 'grow stout'.

**oko** [oko] N. bamboo. ♦ Shorter variant of okoro, used in some compound forms.  
♦ oko mwaliko N. lit. "male bamboo": k.o. bamboo. *Bambusa* spp.  
♦ oko woko N. k.o. bamboo. *Bambusa* spp.  
[POc *qauR*]

**okoro** [okoro] N. *Poss enaka*. (1) bamboo.  
*Bambusa* spp. > mulusa okoro bamboo knot  
♦ okoro mulusa pine N. lit. "large-internode bamboo": variety of bamboo, larger and stronger. *Bambusa* spp.  
(2) name of certain artefacts made of bamboo.  
▷ Li-panade okoro awoiu li-si tele-mwoe peini mwoe. We split the bamboo, to make the wallings of a house.  
Syn. jokoro.  
(3) a heavy bamboo, used as a stamping tube. Singers of buro bu la okoro 'bamboo songs' stamp (→woi) the bamboo on the ground, thereby producing a deep sound as they sing along.  
▷ buro bu la okoro (song genre) Songs for Bamboos  
▷ Le-woi okoro awoiu l-oburo i-katau. They pound bamboos, and then they sing along.  
▷ ~woi.  
(4) (esp) a traditional knife made of bamboo; hence (modern) knife; bushknife, machete.  
▷ Ni-aka okoro ne ero. I washed the knife in the river.

♦ okoro aplaka N. lit. "small knife": metal knife, esp. used for cooking, peeling, etc.  
▷ I-ta balawe ni okoro aplaka. He's peeling a pineapple with a small knife.  
♦ It is called 'small knife' by comparison with the ordinary bushknife or machete.  
[POc *qauR*]


**ole** [ole] N. (1) sand. > Nara ole i-somoli! Make sure it's not damaged by the sand. cf. tanoe.  
(2) area covered by sand; esp. sand beach.  
▷ pwama ole along the beach > Ini i-le i-katau ole. He was walking along the beach. Syn. nom' ole 'beach'.  
[POc *gone*]

~oma [~oma] VI. (gen) fish or forage for seafood. > Le-le tetake ne touro l-oma! Let's walk to the shore and find some (sea) food.

(2) (esp) Bluefin trevally. *Caranx melampygus*.

[POc *kanase*]

♦ onoro woro N. smaller variety of barracuda.

♦ otovo kangilo N. variety of sago tree, characterised by a smaller trunk and smooth leaf sheaths. *Metroxylon warburgii*.  
♦ otovo kote kote N. lit. "spiny sago": variety of sago tree, characterised by a larger trunk and spiny leaf sheaths. *Metroxylon rumphii. > Otovo kote kote, utele pine. Spiny sago trees have large trunks.*
(2) (meton) sago leaves, esp. used for roofing houses. > li-wete otovo [lit. pin sago] put together a set of sago leaves, in preparing the roofing (see wete*) Syn. uie otovo ‘sago leaves’.

(3) (meton) thatch, roof of a house, typic. made of sago leaves. > Otovo iupa ka tamwaliko, pi-tabo pi-wete kula motoe. Our roofing has been damaged, we are making [lit. pinning] a new one. > Okoro ‘naka i-vio ne otovo lu tae? Can you see my knife, hanging from the roof? Syn. ote.

[pOc ‘qatop]

~ou [~ou] vi. (dog) bark. > Kuli i-ou pe bogo. The dog is barking because it’s night. Cf. ~mo.


♦ ovene boro n. lit. “black heron”: Reef Heron, dark variety or phase.

♦ ovene koro n. lit. “white heron”: Reef Heron, white variety or phase.

♦ angede ovene n. lit. “Heron’s tracks”: written signs or letters; letter, message. > angede ovene.

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P - p

pana A [pana] adj. (1) (s.th.) hot, burning.

> ero pana The sun’s hot! Ant. medigo.

♦ ero pana n. lit. “hot water”: tea or coffee.

(2) (body) feel hot. > Ebele ene pana. [my body is hot] I feel hot. Ant. ~mamei.

B n. heat. > Pana iawo i-abu mijaka. The heat of the fire goes down a little. > pana vono [heat of weather] sweat

[pOc “panas]


> Po mwaliko malaria i-vagasi, basa i-meli, ebele i-ekilikili, panavono i-ke. When somebody has malaria, they have a headache, they tremble, they sweat. [lit. sweat comes out]

~papa [~papa] vt. carry <child> on o.’s back (vs. ~tabe ‘carry on o.’s chest’). > Ini i-papa men’ iap’ pon la-ke. She took her baby on her back and out they went. Cf. ~lui*

[pOc “papa]

~pape [~pape] vt. whistle, esp. to call out to s.o. Cf. ~i.

~pei [~pei] vrf. rejoice <s.o.> be happy, merry, satisfied. > Ni-lengi ni-p’ ene tamwase. I was very happy to hear (the news). > Kiapa ka li-pei kiapa, pe menuku iakapa dapa Frans. We are all delighted, because the French are our friends.

~pei [~pei] vt. be jealous, envious (of s.o., ēne); sulk. > U-pei ēne etapu! Don’t sulk at me!

peko [peko] n. k.o. tree with unedible, small round fruit clustered together; probably: Ficus aspera.

pie [pie] nk. syn. epu.

(1) grandparent; anybody from the grandparent generation, whether male or female (FF, FM, MF, MM, MMZ, MMB...).

♦ pi’ iape his/her grandfather

(2) grandchild; anybody from the grandchild generation, whether male or female (SC, DC+).


B vt. (1) taste bitter or unpleasant to <s.o.>

(2) (esp) (fish) poison <s.o.>, make <s.o.> sick.

> Nga namuko i-pono eo, kape sa eo i-meli. If fish poisons you, your stomach will ache.

~pu [~pu] vt. (liquid) flow, run. > Ero i-pu i-abu i-vagasi revo. The river flows down
to the sea. ➤ Tengiro i-pu i-abu. His tears were running down.

~pu [pu] vi. (1) burst, blow up, explode. ➤ Bomb i-pu ne kulumoe. A bomb exploded in the city.
(2) (fg) (meeting, celebration) break up, come to an end. ➤ I-leng’ i-ko mobo ngapiene kape ka i-pu i-sali. She heard that the next morning, the festival would break up and finish. cf. ~sali.


B vi. [esp. serialised to a verb V1] (do) stealthily, illegally. ➤ Dapa Tukupie li-ka li-punuo. The Tikopians have come (and colonised) here illegally.

[POc *panako]

R - r

re [re] dx. Distal demonstrative: there, over there.

~re [re] vt. let go of, leave.
(1) let go of <s.th.>, release, drop. ➤ U-re mevia* eo. [Release your breath!] Have a rest! ➤ Menu ka i-re tengiro. The baby was shedding tears. ➤ U-re bavede! Release the sail!

◆ ~re i-wene PHR. lit. “leave-it-it-lies” leave <s.th.> somewhere. ➤ U-re i-wene! Leave it there! • Sometimes contracted to ~rewene*.

(2) leave <s.th.> somewhere; put <s.th.> down, lay, set. ➤ Voko iote pon li-re ne elene Lege ponu. They took stones and laid them down in the clearing of Lengge.

(3) (esp) set <trap>; cast <net>. ➤ Kape la-re teta ki me la-labu neido konge ne ero. We will set a trap to catch small shrimps in the river. ➤ Ne-le ne-re pele. I’m going net-fishing.

(4) spend <money, viko>, pay <fine>. ➤ Ka a-romo leka! Kape u-re viko! You had eye contact with your cousin! You will have to pay a fine!

(5) let go of, release <s.o.>; leave <s.o.> alone. ➤ U-re ene! Leave me alone!

(6) allow <s.o.> to do s.th.

(7) leave <s.o.>; drop <s.o.> somewhere, walk <s.o.> back. ➤ Awa ene i-su pe ni-re kaipa damilikono. I am sad to have left you and your family. ➤ A-re Bakap vele? Where did you drop Bakap?

(8) divorce <s.o.>. ➤ Ka i-re emele iape. [he has released his wife] He is divorced.

Words of the sea [revo*]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>revo</th>
<th>revo</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>sea, sea water</td>
<td>high tide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>revo i-kopine</td>
<td>low tide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>revo i-ma</td>
<td>beach, sand</td>
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<tr>
<td>ole</td>
<td>reef</td>
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<tr>
<td>waiiero</td>
<td>lagoon</td>
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<tr>
<td>waiero peini vono</td>
<td>surf, wave</td>
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<tr>
<td>pwa motono</td>
<td>tidal wave</td>
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<tr>
<td>ngamuli</td>
<td>ocean, open sea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>vilisa revo</td>
<td>sea spray</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>kidisa revo</td>
<td>salt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>vioe peini revo</td>
<td>sea foam</td>
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revo [revo] n. (1) sea, esp. marine zone surrounding the island and accessible on a daily basis (vs. ngamuli ‘ocean’). ➤ abilo peini revo seasnake ➤ Ero i-pu i-abu i-vagasi revo. The river flows down to the sea. ➤ Dapa kula li-abu revo, me le-labu

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namuko. The others slap the (sea) water, in order to catch the fish. ▶ Kape le-loko ajekele le-iui ne revo. They’re going to gather rubbish and throw it in the sea.

◊ ~le ne revo N. (euph) lit. “go to the sea”: go relieve o.s. in the sea. ◊ Just like in other islands of the area, Vanikoro people use the sea as their toilets.

(2) tide. ▶ Revo i-koie. [the sea is coming in]
The tide is rising. ▶ Revo i-kopine. [the sea is deep] It’s high tide. ▶ Revo i-ma. [the sea is dry] It’s low tide.

(3) salt water, sea water. ▶ Ni-wowo revo i-ke mina lema kuo. I’m bailing out the (sea) water from inside the canoe. ▶ Emel’ iote i-ke i-wowo revo i-ka i-sabisi se awene. A woman went to draw saltwater, and brought it back to pour it above the oven.


S - s


◊ ava saba N. lit. “frigate wings”: name of a traditional geometrical design (tetawene), whose shape is reminiscent of open wings.

~sabisi [•sa°bisi] ~saisi vt. pour (liquid+), opic. into a container. ▶ Emel’ iote i-ke i-wowo revo i-ka i-sabisi se awene. A woman went to draw saltwater, and brought it back to pour it above the oven. ◊ Li-bi vongoro li-kamai, li-loko i-vene ne belemele li-sabisi li-maliawo boso. They picked almonds and brought them home, poured them all up on the almond shelf; then they lit a fire underneath. cf. ~wabe ‘fill up’.


B vt. (canoe, s.o.) land, dock on the beach. ▶ Kuo i-le i-sai. The canoe landed (on the beach). ▶ La-ka la-koie la-sai. They approached the island and landed.

~sai [•sai] vt. (1) liken <s.o., s.th.> to (ñe) s.th. else; confuse with s.th. else. ▶ Ni-rom anive iote pine ni-sai ñe kuo ‘none ne. I saw a large dugong, I thought it was (as big as) my canoe. ▶ Ni-lengi mama Stanley ni-sai ñe mama Alex. I heard Stanley’s voice, I thought it was Alex.

(2) [never alone; always serialised after ~ekeke ‘laugh’] lit. “laugh compare s.o.”: (laugh) at, (make fun) of <s.o.>. ▶ U-ekeke u-sai ene etapu! Stop making fun of me! cf. ~wabe ‘make fun’.

~sai ñe [•sai ne] vt. eat out the taste of <kava> with refreshing food. ▶ U-le u-bi avie, me u-kamai, me le-sai ñe kava. Go pick some Malay apples, and bring them so we can eat out the taste of kava.


~sali [A] [•sali] vt. (1) release <s.th. which was blocked or tense>, let go of. ▶ U-botongo ero etapu, u-sali! Stop blocking the water (with your hands), let it go!

(2) untie, release <s.th.>. ▶ U-le u-vene u-sali luro i-abu. Go up and release a few coconuts down. cf. ~oi ‘throw’.

(3) shoot <gun, tekipa> by releasing the trigger. ▶ Ni-sali tekipa li-kovi. I shot at them but they dodged it. cf. ~ago.

B vt. (1) (ground+) sink, collapse. ▶ Tanoe i-sali i-abu. (landslide) The ground collapsed down. ▶ Ni-sali ne ma loubo. I sank into a crab’s hole.
(2) (~sugu) it. "be released": (meeting, celebration+) break up; come to an end, finish.
▶ Makone ka i-sali. The dances are over.  
▶ Ngapiene ka i-sali pon ta — bwogo tili. Then the festival (ngapiene) comes to an end, after five days. Syn. ~sabu; ~pu.; awayu.


~songai [ˈsongai] vt. repair, fix <s.th.>.  
▶ Pi-wete otovo pi-ko pe-songai moe. We are making the roofing to repair our house.

~su [su] vt. (1) set fire to, burn <s.th.> to get rid of it.  
▶ Ajekele pon, kape le-su. This is rubbish, we're about to burn it.  
▶ Li-su moe enone. They burnt my house. C.f. ~maili 'light (fire)'; ~vongo 'burn'.

(2) light <torch, buluko>.  
▶ Li-su buluko ka li-koi si dapa li-vagasi ta-koie. (The islanders) lit torchlights and led them inland.

(3) set fire to <cultivated land, sekele> in order to make it ready for cultivation; practise slash-and-burn cultivation.  
▶ Nanana kape le-su sekele. Today we're burning the land.

~su [su] vi. (1) (opening) obstructed, clogged up, blocked by s.th.  
▶ Visingele dapa i-su. They have a blocked nose.

(2) (ears) deaf.  
▶ Taña ini i-su. [his ears are blocked] He's deaf.

(3) (awa 'neck') be sad, feel sorry.  
▶ Awa ene i-su. [my neck is blocked] I am sorry.

~sube [sube] vi. (1) make a mistake (in talking, in writing+).

(2) make a faux pas; do wrong, by accident rather than deliberately; infringe (s.th., ñe).  
▶ A-sube ñe nuduro. You have infringed the rules.


susuko [susuko] ADJ. (1) [static reading] straight, rectilinear. Ant. ~vele.  

(2) [dynamic reading] go straight (towards s.o., s.th.).  
▶ Ka kuo iada ka susuko se. The boat went straight towards (the islet).

(3) accurate, true, exact.  
▶ Kape ne-vele susuko metae. I'd be unable to tell the exact story. Syn. ebele.

(4) (words+) proper, correct, flawless.  
▶ Dapa li-ejau ngatene susuko tae. They didn't do (the ritual) correctly.

(5) morally right, good. Syn. wako.

B ADV. (1) straight, directly.  
▶ Vilisao tilu pon lai-abi susuko ñe toñaki pon. The two tornados went straight down to the ships.

(2) [+location] exactly, precisely.  
▶ N' adie Laperus dapa li-ka Ngama susuko. Then Lapérouse and his men arrived precisely where Ngama is.

(3) correctly, properly, with no mistake.  
▶ Ini i-mo susuko. He spoke properly (with no mistake).

(3) morally well, rightfully, appropriately.  
▶ Ini i-mo susuko. He gave a fair speech.

INTJ. fine! alright!  
▶ Kape ne-ле ne-mokoiu. — Susuko! I'm going to bed. — Alright! Syn. wako.
ta [ta] PTC. [clause-final, following demonstrative] focus marker.

~ta [•ta] VT. (1) peel <fruit, tuber+>.
  ▷ Davinevi li-ta bele mina. The women are peeling the skin (of yams). ▷ I-ta balawe ñe okoro aplaka. He's peeling a pineapple with a small knife.
(2) split <nut> in two. ▷ li-ta vebe split a 'cutnut' cf. ~panade 'split'.

~tabe [•tabe] VT. (1) (plant+) grow spontaneously.
  ▷ None pon, ini ñepe pe i-ta, pe li-wowo tae. This kind of tuber grows spontaneously [by itself], it is not planted. cf. ~karau 'grow'.
(2) [with adv. ñei] emerge, appear, come to light. ▷ Basavono po kulumoe i-ta ñei, Teliki Makumoso li-ko Banie. (myth of origin) When our country emerged, our Ancestral God was called Banie.

~tabo [•tabo] VT. carry <s.o., s.th.> above o.'s belt, i.e. in o.'s arms or on o.'s shoulders.
  ▷ Ini i-aiu i-ka i-le i-koie i-tabo pi' iape. She came into the room and took (the baby) in her arms. ▷ La-tabe voko la-lui. They picked up some stones and carried them away (in their arms). ▷ Dapa kula ka li-li le-toe longe ne ngogoro ka li-tabo li-kamai ne moe. Some men went to cut firewood in the forest and brought it back (on their shoulders). cf. ~valangia 'carry home on stick'.

~tako [•tako] VT. (1) repeat. ▷ I-kae? Mou, u-tabo! What? Come again! ▷ I-tabo! (when transcribing) [let it repeat!] Play it again!
(2) (comm) [auxiliary-like; foll. by verb V2, with same subject] repeat doing s.th., do again.
  ▷ Le-tabo le-le, [we repeat we go] Let's go there again. ▷ Ni-tabo ni-mui. I've forgotten again. ▷ Menu emele ie teliki i-tabo sa-pine. (non-verbal predicate) The chief's daughter is pregnant again.
(3) [idem] do back; do an action that compensates or reacts to a previous action.
  ▷ Ka li-ko ruene, ka li-tabo li-bono. They open the door, and then shut it back.
  ▷ Otovo iupa ka tamwaliko, pi-tabo pi-wete kula mote. Our roofing has been damaged, we're making a new one again.
  ▷ Menu emele ie teliki i-tabo sa-pine. (non-verbal predicate) The chief's daughter is pregnant again.
  ▷ Le-tabo le-le, [we repeat we go] Let's go there again. ▷ Ni-tabo ni-mui. I've forgotten again. ▷ Menu emele ie teliki i-tabo sa-pine. (non-verbal predicate) The chief's daughter is pregnant again.
  ▷ Ka li-ko ruene, ka li-tabo li-bono. They open the door, and then shut it back.
  ▷ Otovo iupa ka tamwaliko, pi-tabo pi-wete kula mote. Our roofing has been damaged, we're making a new one again.

[PTC. (rare) [precedes verb] again. ▷ Labiou tae, dapa ka tabo li-ke li-ka. After a moment, again they came out. ▷ Mor. The particle occurs at the same place as the auxiliary-like verb form ~tabo, except that it does not take verbal prefixes.

~tabulu [•tabulu] VT. decorate <building+> in preparation for a celebration.
  ▷ Pi-tabulu mwoe. We've decorated the house.

takalamu [takalamu] N. k.o. edible plant, similar to avocado.


talaito [talaito] N. (1) traditional healer – both a seer and a sorcerer. cf. tongolukilo 'medicinal leaves'.
(2) medical doctor. ▷ Talaito i-la tongolukilo i-mini men' one. The doctor gave some medicine to my child. Syn. dokita.

tanoe [tanoe] N. (1) ground, soil. ▷ Li-ae tanoe dig the ground ▷ Tanoe i-wai. (earthquake) The ground shook.
(2) Poss enaka. (esp) land, insofar as it belongs to s.o. ▷ Da la-via ñe tanoe. They're arguing about land. ▷ Na tanoe aidi abia. This land belongs to everyone. Cf. temaka 'place'.
  [POC 'tanoo]


te [te] PRÉP. shorter variant of teve* 'with, at'.

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te [te] PTC. [foll. by negation] (not)... at all, (not)... the least.

~te [•te] VI. (1) (s.o.) sit, be sitting. ▶ U-abu u-te u-kal! Come sit down here! ▶ Bara ba-te ba-botongo okoro ponu. I'm afraid you may be sitting on my knife.

(2) (gen) (s.o.) be located somewhere, whether sitting or not. ▶ Dapa gete li-te ne Topla. The boys are in the Men's House. ♦ Inanimate subjects would take ~wene.

(3) (s.o.) remain, stay. ▶ Ka u-te! (greeting) Good bye! [lit. you're staying!] ▶ Nga i-te kape li-abu. If he had remained (in the island) he would have been killed.

(4) wait. ▶ Li-te li-te li-ko "Mamote!" They waited, waited..., and said "No, not yet!"

(5) dwell, live. ▶ dapa pe li-te ne kulumoe na the people living in this village ▶ Ini i-te Franis, ia ebele kulumoe iape Japan. She lives in France, but she is actually from [lit. her genuine country is] Japan.

(6) [foll. by predicate or other modifier] (s.o.) be: be in such and such a condition, whether temporarily or permanently. ▶ A-te moli? Are you free? ▶ Pi-te wako? Are you okay? ▶ Ini i-te mumule ňe eo! He's crazy about you! ▶ daviñevi pe li-te ne manoko women who're having their periods

(7) [foll. by verb V2] (s.o.) be doing s.th. Encodes progressive aspect. ▶ Menu i-te i-etengi. The baby was crying.

[POC *toka]

-te [•te] NUM. radical of tete* 'three'. ▶ kwa-te [ten-three] thirty

[POC *tolu]

~te teve [•te teve] VT. (1) (literal) lit. "be with": ▶ Noma, po apali i-maili i-ven' i-ka, i-te tev' ai' iape me et' iape. In the old days, when a child grew up, he would stay with his parents.

(2) (esp) be married with <s.o.>; have <s.o.> as partner or spouse. ▶ Ka i-te te mwaliko, we mamote? [is she living with a man] Has she got a man in her life, or not yet?


tebekuma [tebekuma] N. k.o. round basket, coarsely woven with coconut leaves, and used to carry food.

tebene [tebene] ADJ. (plant) of a pale or yellowed colour. ▶ kie* tebene variety of Pandanus with yellow leaves ▶ kava* tebene variety of kava of a pale colour


telí [telí] N. (1) fan, tradit. woven with coconut leaves. ▶ U-la telí u-bi ňé eo. Just take a fan and fan yourself. ♦ Fans are traditionally woven with coconut leaves. They are diamond-shaped, and have a handle at one end. cf. ~bi~.

(2) the Fan: name of a constellation, whose stars seem to delineate a diamond-shaped fan with its handle.

tekilikili [tekilikili] N. coral stones on the reef. cf. touro 'reef flat'.

tekumete [tekumete] N. k.o. seashore tree, whose hard wood is used for several artifacts, incl. tekumete, Pemphis acidula.

tekumete [tekumete] N. k.o. wooden dish.


tele [tele] N. walls of a house, tradit. made of plaited bamboo. ▶ Li-wete otovo awoiu pon li-ejau tele moe. Once the thatch is finished, we make the house walls.

tele [tele] N. oil, extracted from certain plants, and cooked. ▶ tele peini luro coconut oil ▶ tele peini vongoro oil of Cnarium almonds

~tele [•telí] VT. (1) put <s.th.> down.

♦ ~la ~tele SVT. lit. "take & put": put <s.th.> down. ♦ The combination ~la ~tele is often contracted as ~latelí~.

(2) plant <fruit, taro+>. ▶ li-telí balawe to plant pineapples ▶ Li-tau sekele ponu awoiu, moro iote li-li-telí avtebe. After burning their garden, the next day they went to plant taros. ▶ I-iumu, pi-telí mataña (jebute). First of all, we planted
the (taro) shoot. ✠ Vivilo li-teli ne netebe.
Cyrtosperma taros are planted in swamps. cf. ~do.*

(3)(plant) grow *leaves*. ✠ Jebute i-teli uie. The taros have grown leaves.
◆ ~teli utele Vol. lit. "grow a base": begin, start (to do, me + Irr.). ✠ ~teli utele is often contraceted as ~tetele*, with the same meaning. cf. ~tetele.

(4) send ‹message›.
◆ ~teli mama Vol. lit. "put/send o.'s voice": (man) require official engagement (to a woman, ñe/se) from her family.
✠ Kapo ne-teli mama ene ñ' eo. I will ask to be engaged to you [lit. I shall put my voice for you]. ✠ U-teli mama ene se. Please arrange my engagement with her [lit. you send my voice for her].

(2) (esp) White-throated Pigeon. Columba viotiensis.


[POc *tawan]

[Polynesian te valovalo]
teve [teve] PRÉP. with, to……
~teve [~teve] VL. (s.th.) melt, decompose.
✠ Kunini ka i-teve! Your tablet is melting!

(1) triton of Charonia tritonis.
(2) (hence) conch shell, traditionally used as a trumpet, esp. when sending out public signals or calling out to people. ✠ Ni-si teveliko. I'm blowing in the conch. ✠ Li-si teveliko ne kulumoe, me le-kila idi le-ka le-mako. Someone in the village is blowing the conch, calling out to people to come and dance.

[POc *tapuRiq]

teviri [teviri] N. (boat) stern. ✠ Morph. From tevi(e) viri 'rear side'. Ant. bara; teviumu 'prow'.

tieli [tieli] [tíeli] NK. sibling: irregular form of tilio* for 3sg ('his/her sibling') and when followed by a noun ('sibling of X'). ✠ Tilio, we tieli? Is he your brother, or her brother?
✠ Gea ini tieli ete mwalkote. Your uncle is your mother's brother [lit. her male sibling]
✠ Da tieli. They are siblings.

tilio [tilio] NK. 1s tili' one. 2s tilio. 3s tieli*; til' iape. 
(1) [symmetrical term] (ego male or female) sibling of either sex (Z, B).
(2) [classificatory sibling] parallel cousin of either sex (MZC, FBC). ✠ Anth. Parallel cousins cannot marry together, unlike cross-cousins (leka).
(3) [symmetrical term] great-grandparent or great-grandchild.

to [to] N. sugarcane. Saccharum edule.
✠ li-ngē to chew sugarcane ✠ Ne-bo to ne-min' eo. I'm cutting some sugarcane for you.

[POc *topu]

to [to] NOP. middle.
(1) [spatial] middle; space between two spots.
✠ ne to ñe na ka Tekupie between here and Tikopia ✠ Li-vo aero i-dai, me kape le-mako ne to. They erected a fence around (the village area), for us to dance in the middle.
(2) [temporal] middle. ✠ ne to ebieve in the middle of the year.
◆ to moro N. lit. "middle day": midday.
✠ tomoro.
~to [~to] VTL. [+oblique] pole a boat on shallow sea. ✠ I-to ñe kuo iape. He's poling his boat.

~tobo [~tobo] VTL. poke out, break through, in the form of a longish object.
✠ Dapa li-romo vilisao ka i-tobo i-ke – li-romo nga luro. They suddenly saw a tornado break through the clouds - it was [long and thin] like a coconut tree.
**~tobo**

B  vt. (1) press s.th., s.o. with finger or longish object (stick+); poke s.th., s.o.  
   ➢ U-tobo ma ene etapu! Stop poking my arm! cf. ~wete ‘pound’.

(2) pierce a hole in s.th.  ➢ I-tobo tanoe pon i-vene. It made a hole from below the ground, and came out of it.  
   ➢ Ka li-tobo ŋe tamate pe ka mata mwaliko i-ke me i-romo. They've made holes in the Tamate masks, so that (the dancer) can see through.

(3) (esp) hook s.bait on fish hook.  ➢ Kape le-tobo ŋe kangele teuko ono me le-mede ŋe namuko. We'll hook it on your hook, to attract fish.

~tobo [•tɔ=bo] vi. [•adv. ŋei] restrain o.s., remain in the limits of decency.  ➢ Dapa kula li-wabela pien, ia li-tobo ŋe, pe dapa ie mwaliko po awa dapa i-su. (funeral ceremonies) Some people may make jokes, as long as they restrain themselves, with respect to the family who are in mourning.

**toe**  [toe] N. k.o. tree. *Excoecaria agallocha.*


**toloto**  [toloto] N. lake, pool, lagoon.  
   [Tik. te roto]

**tongolukilo**  [toŋolukilo] N. (1) (gen) medicinal plants.  
   ➢ Jeboro ini tongolukilo iote. Wild basil is (used as) a medicinal plant.  
   ➢ Tongolukilo ponu wako peini basa idĩ i-meli. This medicinal plant is useful against headaches.

(2) (hence) medicine.  ➢ Taluaito i-la tongolukilo i-mini men’ one. The doctor gave some medicine to my child.

**totokale**  [tɔtɔkɛlɛ] N. photo, picture, representation of s.o., s.th.  
   ➢ Ene totokale menu one. This is a photo of my kid.  
   ➢ Ene ni-rom ne totokale. I saw it on a photo / on TV.  
   ➢ I-la totokale ai’ iape. [he’s taken the likeness of his father] He looks like his father!

B  N. photo, picture (considered as an object in itself); somet. video, TV.  
   ➢ Ene ni-rom ne totokale. I saw it on a photo / on TV.  
   ➢ Le-le ne touro li-odo aero? Shall we go to the reef shore look for seashells?  
   ➢ Dapa li-woi nuduro ne touro. They put up taboo signs (nuduro*) on the reef shore. cf. moko.

**touro**  [tɔuɾo] N. reef shore.  
   ➢ Le-le ne touro li-odo aero? Shall we go to the reef shore look for seashells?  
   ➢ Dapa li-woi nuduro ne touro. They put up taboo signs (nuduro*) on the reef shore. cf. moko.

**tove**  [tɔvɛ] N. panax (Araliaceae). *Polyscias scutellaria.*
ua [ua] ~ wa. N.O.P. (plant) fruit. ▶ ua wido fruit of Barringtonia cf. ~wo, 'bear fruit'.

 уни bale we Ginio [ua]


(2) ankle rattles used in dancing. ▶ Ua bale we Ginio, pi-pinoe ñei. We use ankle rattles to perform our dances.

udo [u’də] N. banana. Musa spp. ▶ li-vo udo plant a banana tree ▶ moouro udo / taña udo banana bundle ▶ bele udo skin of banana fruit ▶ Udo ono pe a-vo ka i-wo. The banana trees which you planted have already borne their fruits. ▶ Udo kata kape ka moso. The bananas are almost ripe.

 уни pe i-ako N. lit. "ripe bananas": k.o. banana, characterised by a sweeter taste. ▶ Uña udo pe i-ako, li-lui i-avo ne tone. The ripe bananas had been put to hang from the hook.

 уни pe li-vo N. lit. "planted bananas": k.o. banana.

 уни vaiene N. k.o. banana.

 уни vakaero N. k.o. banana. ▶ Udo, enga tilu: udo vaiene, ka udo vakaero. They had two types of bananas: vaiene, and vakaero.

 уни we tadoe N. lit. "Spirits' banana": unidentified plant from the bush, unedible.

~udu [~u’də] vt. (liquid) drip, fall by drops. ▶ Tengiro i-udu. His tears were dripping. ▶ Abo peini ma i-udu. His blood was dripping from his hand. cf. ~pu, 'flow'.

uiwe baliñeoe [uⁿdu] N. unidentified tree variety, similar to Areca catechu (see buioe), yet unsuitable for human consumption.


 уни mada uko N. lit. "?? of louse": nit.

uku [uku] NK. Is uk’ one. affine of different generation (vs. mule).

(1) father-in-law (WF, HF), mother-in-law (WM, HM), and their siblings.

(2) son-in-law (DH), daughter-in-law (SW), and their siblings.

(3) (ego male) nephew's wife (ZSW, MBDSW).


ule [ule] N. (gen) creeping vine. Hyperonym for a number of creeping plants. cf. kasule.


[POc *puRe 'beach creeper, prototypically Ipomoea pes-caprae']

uo [uo] N. yam, esp. Greater yam. Dioscorea alata. ▶ li-wowo uo plant yams ▶ li-vai uo bake yams ▶ uo moloe red yam ▶ Na uo kula kupa ka pi-ae. These are a few yams we just dug out. cf. none 'Potato yam'.

[POc *qupi]

uo [uo] N. cairn of stones. ▶ Li-iu pada li-bei dapa ñe voko li-ko nga uo. They would bury them and cover them with stones, it was like a cairn.

~vagasi [vagasi] vt. reach.
(1) [+location] go as far as <specific location>, reach. ▶ U-katua anoko u-vene u-le amjaka, u-vagasi pongo gilita. Just follow the road a little further up, and you’ll reach the top of the hill.
(2) [serialised after motion vb] go and reach <somewhere>; hence all the way to <a place>. ▶ Li-koioi li-su buluko ka li-koie li-vagasi ta-koe. They lit torchlights and led them in, until they reached (the village) inland. ▶ Ero i-pu i-abu i-vagasi revo. The river flows down to [lit. reaches] the sea.
(3) [+time] (do) until <specific moment>. ▶ Ba-mako ra i-vagasi vono i-sodo. You danced together until dawn! ▶ Voko i-te ponu ra ka i-vagasi nanana. The stone has been there until this day. ▶ Voko [s.o.] -o i-pu i-abu i-vagasi revo. The river flows down to [lit. reaches] the sea.

reach, come to meet <s.o.; meet. ▶ Keba kape ba-vagas’ eo Ostrelia. We will come to (visit) you in Australia. ▶ Mamote ni-vagasi Ezzy tae. I haven’t met Ezzy yet.
(4) reach, come to meet <s.o.; meet. ▶ Keba kape ba-vagas’ eo Ostrelia. We will come to (visit) you in Australia. ▶ Mamote ni-vagasi Ezzy tae. I haven’t met Ezzy yet.
(5) (sickness+) affect <s.o.>. ▶ Emel’ enone malaria i-vagasi. My wife has malaria. [lit. malaria has caught her]
~vai [Vai] vt. bake <food>, cook in the stone oven (awene). ▶ Li-vai uo bake yams


vakaboro [faka-boro] N. k.o. creeper, unidentified.

~valangia [valangia] vt. carry <burden> on o.’s shoulder using a stick. ▶ Pi-valangia nganae aipa ponu? What are you guys carrying (on your sticks)? cf. ~tabe.

vao [Vao] ADJ. (1) (animal) wild (opp. tame). ▶ Vao, we pe li-womanga? Is it wild, or tame?
(2) (plant) wild, growing in the bush (opp. cultivated). ▶ matamulue vao wild variety of matamulue plant

B N. (1) wild pig.
(2) (gen) pig. Syn. poi.

~ve [fe] vt. interrogative verb enquiring about a whole situation. ▶ Contrary to ~mikae* ‘do what’ and ~kae* ‘do how’ which both take a personal subject, ~ve always takes a (semantically impersonal) 3sg subject i-. The surface form is therefore always ive (for i-ve).
(1) [main predicate] what happens? what’s up? how’s things? ▶ Eo pon, i-ve? [lit. as for you, how's things?] What's up with you?
(2) (in hesitation) what? Used when the speaker looks for his words to describe a whole event. ▶ Li-ka ponu, li-ko (ive?) li-wokobe da. So they all came in order to... (to do what again?) ...to welcome them.
 ▶ pe i-ve INT. [clause-final] lit. "because it's why": why? ▶ Eo a-mokoiu ai-ovili pe i-ve? Why are you sleeping so late?


B VT. (1) (female animal, woman) lay <egg>, give birth to <offspring>. ▶ Kulevelu ponu i-ovei pe i-ve walulu ino abia na. This hen is able to lay eggs every day. ▶ Ne metele tilu-tae kape i-ve menu. She will give birth in August.
(2) (man, woman) beget, be parent of <s.o.>. ▶ Da ka lai-ve menu? Do they already have a child?
vebe [fe®be] N. cutnut, bush nut (Lecythidaceae). *Barringtonia edulis.* → *li-ta vebe* split a ‘cutnut’ → *Dapa pe li-anu kava, li-e vebe ñe ponu,* me kape ijë dapa memia etapu. Kava drinkers eat cutnut right after it, to take away the bitter taste.

♦ vebe mata diro N. lit. “arrow-tip vebe”: k.o. cutnut, whose elongated fruit reminds of an arrow tip.

vede [fe®de] N. k.o. pandanus, the leaves of which cannot be woven (*vs kie ~ woubo*). *Pandanus* spp. → *Lekele i-nge ua vede.* Flying-foxes chew fruits of pandanus.

[POc *padran]

~vei [±fei] vt. weave. → *li-vei bete* weave a mat → *Li-vei (uiie) kie / (uiie) woubo.* weave pandanus leaves → *Dapa nomia,* li-ovei pe li-loko uie woubo pe le-vei bavede peini. People before used to weave sails out of pandanus leaves.


vekai [fekai] N. k.o. pudding made of taros (*jebute*) and almonds (*vongoro*), always presented in a long shape, and served on long Heliconia leaves (*lukilo vekai*) during public celebrations. → *Li-apilo vekai wamtaka,* biouro iape nga ne! They made small puddings, but still they were as long as this! Cf. *mama.*


♦ vese ma N. lit. "element of arm": elbow.

♦ vese ngele N. nose, snout.

→ *vesengele pwoi* pig’s snout

♦ vese piene N. lit. "bits of speech": word. → *vesepiene.*

vesepiene [fesepiene] N. lit. "bits of speech": word. → *Piene adapa Teanu,* ia vesepiene pe nomia. This is Teanu language, but with some archaic words.

→ *Vesepiene iune,* i-ve te natene tilu. (polysemy) It is the same word, but with two distinct meanings. Cf. *piene* ‘speech’.

~vesu [A] [±fesu] vt. Causative counterpart of ~vene ‘go up’, hence raise, put up <s.th.>.

(1) erect, put up, stand up <s.th.> vertically.

→ *Li-vesu wolowolo* erect a cross

→ *Li-vesu blateno i-vio.* They erected the ritual pole. → *Li-vesu moe.* erect a house

→ *Li-nabe na ini wako,* li-vesu iuro. Once we’ve marked the site (of the house), we stand up the pillars. → *Li-vesu bavede hoist the sail* cf. ~vo; ~woi.

♦ ~vesu bavede VOL. lit. “hoist the sail”: sail, go sailing, travel on sailing boat.

→ *Dapa nomia,* li-ovei pe li-vesu bavede. Our ancestors used to sail. [lit. to hoist the sail] → *Basavono na ka tae,* ka li-vesu bavede ñe kuo nga nomia tae. Nowadays it’s over: people don’t sail any more like they used to. Cf. ~pwalau.

(2) perform (?) <dances+>. → *I-ko kape le-vesu makone,* ngapiene. He wanted people to perform dances, to hold a dancing festival.

B vt. (1) (s.th.) rise, go up. → *Basa i-abu i-ka mijaka,* i-ka i-vesu. The hill goes down a little bit, and then rises again.

(2) (s.o.) sail. → *Nga ne tomoro nga le-romo ngiro wako,* le-vesu i-katau. If they found the wind to be fine, they would sail along.

~vete [±fete] vt. say.

(1) [+object NP or direct speech] tell, say, declare <s.th.>. → *Pi’ one i-ve te tae.* My grandfather never told me. → *Pon i-vete (i-ko) “Wakol!’* So he said “That’s fine!”

(2) mention <s.o., s.th.>, talk about. → *Na tepakola pe li-ve te na? Is this the giant whom people keep talking about?* → *Iote pe eo a-ve te ponu,* i-wene ne moe ‘none. The one you were mentioning is in my home.* → *Ka ni-mui pe ni-ve te temotu aplaka.* I forgot to mention the small islet.
Some speech verbs [~vete*]

| ~vete  | say, mention |
| ~vete pie ne | talk, speak |
| ~mo   | talk, speak |
| ~ate vo | tell s.th. |
| ~vi ni | tell s.o. |
| ~wasi | show s.o. |
| ~wa vo | teach s.o. |
| ~k ilase | address s.o. |
| ~ko 2  | say, think |
| ~vodo | think |

(3) (word+) mean <s.th.>. ➢ Vesepiene iune, i-vete ngatene tilu. (polysemy) It is the same word, but with two distinct meanings. [lit. it says two things]

(4) give away <s.o.>, denounce publicly. ➢ U-vet’ ene etapu! Don’t give me away!

(5) (Chief) call, convene <event, meeting>. ➢ Teliki iadapa i-vete ngapiene. The chief proclaimed the opening of the Festival.

~vete pie ne [~vete piene] VT. (1) lit. "say words": talk, speak, communicate. ➢ Li-vet’ piene ni ma dapa. They talk with their hands. ➢ Ini i-vete pie ne wako se idi abia. She talks easily to everybody. Syn. ~mo.

(2) talk about (s.th., ñe), mention. ➢ Ngatene pon etapu tamwase pe li-vet’ piene ni. This topic is very delicate to talk about.

(3) speak (a language, ñe). ➢ Ini i-ovei pe i-vete pie ne pie ne adapa Teanu. He can speak Teanu. ➢ Li-vete pie ne ni i-aiae, ia li-lengi wako. They speak (that language) with difficulty, but they understand it well.

veve [veve] N. k.o. plant whose leaves are traditionally used for wrapping food.

vewo [fewo] N. Polynesian chestnut. Inocarpus fagifer. ➢ ulete vewo pine ponu at the base of that big chestnut tree over there

~vi [~vi] VT. blow.

(1) (wind, s.o.) blow gently onto <s.th., s.o.>. ➢ Ngiro i-vi idi. The wind is blowing gently on us (like a breeze). cf. ~aka ‘blow strongly’.

(2) (esp) blow into <wind instrument> to play music. ➢ Li-vi jokoro. They’re playing [bamboo] panpipes. ➢ jokoro pe li-vi flute, panpipe

~via ne [~via ne] ~viane. VT. (1) (s.o.) trample, hit <s.th.> noisily or violently with o.’s feet. ➢ Li-viane tepapa me aña ini. They jump on the (dancing) boards for the sound it makes.

(2) (s.o.) stumble upon <s.th.> with o.’s feet; hence slip, fall. ➢ Netebe pon, nara u-viane! This is mud here, make sure you don’t stumble! Syn. ~tabau.

(3) (s.th.) trip <s.o.> up. ➢ Vilo i-viane ale ene. [a plant hit my foot] I banged my foot on a tree.

(4) (fig) (food plants) be so plentiful as to trip <their owner> up in their garden. Proverbial saying referring to s.o.’s economic prosperity. ➢ Utele i-viane eo? (prov) Are you so prosperous? [lit. do roots trip you up?] ➢ A-vi ni dapa a-ko le-ka pe i-viane eo? (elliptical) You invited them (for a meal): is it because you are rich? [lit. because it trips you up] ➢ The grammatical subject, usually utele ‘root, plant’, is sometimes omitted.

(5) (s.th.) hit <s.o.>, touch, esp. with some physical impact.

(6) (fig) (event+) reach <a certain moment>; last <a certain time>. ➢ I-viane bwogo tilu. (the festival) reached the fifth day.

(7) (event+) become suddenly known to <s.o.>, with some emotional impact; hence affect, disturb, move, catch by surprise. ➢ Buro i-viane dapa ka li-le. [a song hit them as they went] As they walked, they were suddenly moved by a (beautiful) song.

(8) (comm) lit. ‘my desire hits s.th.’: (awa* ‘neck > will’) like <s.o., s.th.>; want, desire <s.o., s.th.>. ➢ Awa ene i-viane imalu o iape. I like her character. ➢ Awa ene i-viane tamwase! I absolutely love it!

(9) (foll. by ~ko) | awa* ‘neck > will’) want to do s.th; want that. ➢ Awa kupa i-viane
pi-ko u-le u-romo tadoe akapa. [our neck/will hits that you go see...] We’d like you to go and meet our god.

(10) (rare) (s.o.) want, desire. ▶ mwaliko pe i-viane da-viñevi tmawase a man who loves woman too much

viapwene [flapwene] N. k.o. reed. Miscanthus floridulus. Etym. ‘large feathers’ (?).

vidiko [fi̱diko] NOP. (hum) finger.


(1) Palm Lorikeet. Charmosyna palmarum.

(2) Rainbow Lorikeet. Trichoglossus haematodus.


vilisafo [filisao] ~ vilasao. N. tornado. ▶ Vilisaso tilu: iote bworo, iote koro. Suddenly there were two tornados: one was dark, one was white. Cf. apono ‘hurricane’.
   ¬ Vilisao NP. Filisao: the god of hurricanes and tornados.

〜vili [filii] vt. wander.

viœ ne [fiœ] N. k.o. tree, unidentified.

viñe [fiñe] NOP. (1) hard shell of <animal+>. ▶ viñe anueli turtle shell
   ▶ viñe anuele N. turtle shell, often cut into various ornaments.
   ▶ viñe basa NOP. lit. “head shell”: (man+) skull, cranium.

(2) hard shell used as a container; hence container. ▶ viñe teipu a coconut shell (used as a container, e.g. to drink kava)


visiboko [fišišbo] N. stones used in the traditional oven (awene) for cooking and baking food. ▶ Li-avi visiboko ŕe aviro. You remove the oven stones with the tongs. Cf. voko ‘stone’.


〜VO [fiœ] VT. (1) pound, beat* <s.th.>, esp. with long and heavy stick. Cf. ~wete.

(2) (esp) grind, crush <nuts+>. ▶ li-vo vongoro to crush canarium almonds

〜VO [fiœ] VT. (1) ‘hit’, reach the limits of <a place>; hence fill <a place>, take up <room>. ▶ None ka i-vo sa eo? Has your meal filled up your tummy? (i.e. are you full?)
   ¬ ~vo mwa tanoe VOL. lit. “hit edge of pit”: (taro) grow large enough to reach the edge of the taro pit (mwa tanoe) in the garden; hence grow big.

〜VO [fiœ] VT. (1) (rare) tie <s.th.>, fasten with rope. ▶ Kape li-odo tenumo le-vo ŕe nengele kuo korone. Then we find a rope and fasten tight the canoe’s elements.

(2) put up, erect <s.th.>, with or without usage of rope. ▶ Li-vo aero i- vai. They have erected a fence around it. Syn. ~-vesu, ~woi.

(3) (esp) build <house>. ▶ I-woivo idie pe li-vo mwooe. She taught people how to build houses.

〜VO [fiœ] VT. plant <banana>. ▶ udo pe li-vo (type of banana) planted bananas cf. ~do*.

Vono [fonu] LOC. Vono or Lovono*: a village on the north coast of Banie, together with its area. ▶ Kula ka i-ka se vono Lale, Ngama, Vono. Some people (from Paiu) had moved to the areas of Lale, Ngama and Vono. Syn. Lovono.

Vono [fonu] N. a generic term referring to space. Cf. temaka ‘place’.

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vongo


> li-bi vongo col-llect canarium almonds
> li-vo vongo to crush canarium almonds
> iunubo vongo basketful of almonds
> Li-wete jebute li-wete vongo awoi pon, li-ejau mama. We mash taros, we crush almonds, and make the mama pudding.

[vono i-sodo] it is dawn
>vono ka-ila it is dusk

The phrase vono i-ila ‘it is dusk’ has been contracted into vonila ‘evening’.

(1) (rare) the world, universe. ne lovia* it is dusk
> vono iote in the Other World

Neither vono or lovia are used as the normal word to designate the present world. Cf. marama.

(2) [+placename] district, limited area around a certain village.
> Kula ka i-ka se vono Lale, Ngama, Vono. Some people (from Paiu) had moved to the areas of Lale, Ngama and Vono. Cf. kulumoe ‘village’;
apro ‘district’.

vovoie


[vono iote] it is dusk

vono iote in the Other World
> vono iote the universe, atmosphere, insofar as it is subject to the diurnal cycle.

(1) [subject of impersonal predicates] the universe, atmosphere, insofar as it is subject to the diurnal cycle.

(2) (s.th.) be burning, burn; perish in fire.

Moe enone i-vongo ne iawo. My house perished in the fire.
> Kuo enone i-vongo. My canoe was burnt! cf. ~su, ‘burn s.th.’.
W - W

~wabe [~wa~be] vt. fill up. ▷ Dapa gete le-wabe, le-lui tev’ dapa li-anu. The young men fill up (the cups) and give them to (the elders) for them to drink. cf. ~sabisi ‘pour’.

~wai [~wai] vi. paddle, row, go on a canoe.
▷ U-wai u-mabui! Paddle slowly!

▷ Ni-lengi tanoe pe i-wai. I felt the ground shake. cf. ~ekili ‘tremble’.

B vt. (s.o., s.th.) shake <s.th.>. ▷ U-wai ebele u-ka pon etapu! Don’t shake your body like that! ▷ Li-wai eelea vongoro pon. We shake the branch of the almond tree (to knock the nuts down). ▷ Nobwogo miko i-la i-wai moe ne. Last night an earthquake shook the houses here.

waiero n. wave, surf of the sea. cf. revo ‘sea’.
❖ waiero peini vono n. lit. “wave on land”: tidal wave.

(1) (leg) side of the waist, hip. ▷ waluko aele hip cf. utele.
(2) (river) side, bank. ▷ Li-le li-tele teta-vene pon, ne waluko ero. They went to stay uphill over there, along the river.

B n. side of the waist, hip. ▷ I-la puro kula i-vio ne waluko. He had a few arrows tied around his waist.

waluko ote [waluko ote] n. a membranophone drum, not native from Vanikoro, but found in islands further West. ▷ Etym. The body of the drum is made out of a sago tree, hence the name ote ‘sago tree’.

❖ ~wamu piene vol. lit. “hide speech”: talk using cryptic words, in order to keep o.’s speech hard to understand for the casual hearer. ▷ Le-wamu piene mina dapa. Let’s keep our discussion secret from them.

B vRFL. (s.o.) hide <oneself>, hide. ▷ Li-le li-wamu dapa ne pwa moe. They went to hide [lit. hide themselves] beside a house.

~wasu [~wasu] vt. (1) make <things> come back in order: tidy, straighten, fix <s.th.>
▷ Ne-wasu ngaten’ enaka i-vio. I’ll tidy up my stuff.
(2) correct <mistakes>. ▷ U-wasu piene ‘none. [fix my words] Please correct my mistakes.
(3) sort out <issues>, settle <conflict>.
(4) arrange, organise <s.th.>. ▷ U-wasu kuro re u-min’ ene. Please could you arrange for me a trip on that boat?
(5) (sorg) fix a girl:- arrange a romantic relationship with a girl on behalf of s.o. ▷ U-le u-wasu omele re u-min’ ene! [Go fix this girl for me] Please go and connect me with that girl!

[POc *qa*paliR ‘Acanthurus’]

we [we] conj. or.

we [we] pos. posfood. cf. enaka.

webwe [we·b·e] n. troca.


~wene [~wene] vi. (1) (s.o.) lie down, be lying. ▷ Ka i-mamei ponu ka i-maliawo ka i-wene teve. As she was feeling cold, she lit a fire and lied down beside it. ▷ Van’ ni-wene ni-botongo nara kape le-punumo fii. I sleep on (my money) so nobody can steal it. ▷ Nga mwaliko i-bu, le-ii ebele ini i-wene ne kie ini. When somebody dies, their body is buried [and lies] in a grave. cf. ~mokoiu ‘sleep’.
(2) (s.th.) be located somewhere, in whatever position. ▷ basa re po i-wen’ ii re that mountain that’s lying over there ▷ Okoro ‘naka pon i-wene vele? So where’s my knife? ▷ Uana ngaten’ enaka i-wene tev’ ii re. My stuff (bags+) is up over there.
Kie dapa i-wene Paiu. Their graves are in Paiou.Animate subjects take ~te.
(3) (esp) [resultative serialisation] (s.th.) be located somewhere after having been displaced. Usually not translated. > U-re i-wene! Leave that alone. [lit. you drop it, it lies] > La-wamu ne bonge iote i-wene pon. They hid (the treasure) in a cave. [lit. they hid it in a cave it's 'lying' there]
(4) (gen) (s.th.) exist, be there.
(5) (hence) [combined with possessed NP] forms possessive predicates similar to Eng. 'have'. > Monon' enaka iote pine i-wene. [one big box of mine is there...] I've got a huge wooden trunk.

[wene moli] [wene moli] vi. lit. "be-there unconstrained": be easy (to s.o., teve).
> Piene adapa i-wen' moli, i-aiæ tae! Their language is easy, it's not difficult.
> Matapiene pon, i-wene moli teve dap. That life was so easy for them.
> Nganae le-ko l-ajau, i-wene moli teve dap. Whatever they wanted to do, was easy to them. Ant. ~aiaæ.

[wene teve] [wene teve] vii. lit. "be-there with": belong to <s.o.>. Forms possessive predicates equivalent to Eng. 'have'.
> Nganae awa dap i-vaæne, na, i-wen' teve dap. Whatever they wanted, they could have it. [lit. it was there with them]
> Sitoa iote i-wene tev' ai' one. My father had a shop.

[wete] [wete] vt. Lvn ~vele. violently push a long, hard object into <s.o., s.th.>: pierce, spear, stab, pound+. Syn. ~woi; Cf. ~tobó 'poke, pierce'.
(1) spear <fish+>. > Li-wete namuko go fishing using a spear
(2) shoot <s.o., s.th.> with arrow. > Pe li-wete telupe, u-avi visone ka u-iui diro i-le i-wete ini. When you hunt [lit. shoot] pigeons, you bend your bow, and let the arrow fly and hit it.
(3) pound or kill <s.o.> with the end of a long stick, or any similar implement. > Vilisao i-abu i-wete toñaki ie Laperus pon i-metelu. The tornado came all the way down and pounded Lapèrouse's ship, which sank immediately.
(4) drive <digging stick, ekuo> into the ground, to soften it when planting tubers. > Ekuo pe li-wete ñe tanoe a digging stick [stick used to spear the ground]
(5) in gardening: dig out <swamp taro, vivilo> by driving a digging stick into the ground; hence harvest. > Vivilo li-wete ñe ekuo, li-wete li-kamai. Cyrtosperma taros, we dig them out with the digging stick, and take them home. > Techn. Alocasia taros (vioæ) are harvested by digging (Cf. ~ae); whereas Colocasia taros (jebute) are harvested by pulling (Cf. ~au).
(6) in cooking: pound <taro, almonds+> in a bowl, using a long and heavy pestle. > I-tau jebute moioe ponu, i-loko i-ka i-le ne monone ka i-wete. I-wete awoiu ka i-ejau mama ada. Once the taro was cooked, she put it in a bowl and began to pound it. When she finished pounding it, she made the pudding. > Li-wete jebute li-wete vongoro awoiu pon, li-ejau mama. We mash taros, we crush almonds, and thus make the pudding.

[Wete mama] [wete mama] vol. lit. "pound pudding": prepare the mama* pudding, by pounding cooked taros and Canarium almonds in a bowl (monone) with a pestle.
> Li-wete mama adapa. They prepared the pudding. > This dish is prepared for important social occasions.
(7) grind <kava+> using a longish coral stone or a pestle. > Li-wete kava awoiu ka li-vili. After grinding the kava, we squeeze it.
(8) pin <clothes, leaves+> using a needle or a small pointed stick. Cf. ~sai 'sew'.

[wete otovo] [wete otovo] vol. ltn. "pin sago leaves": prepare the roofing of a house, by pinning together sago leaves. > Li-wete otovo awoiu pon li-ejau tele moe. Once the thatch is finished, we make the house walls. > Otovo iupa ka tamwaliko, pi-tabo pi-wete kula motoe. Our roofing
has been damaged, we are making [lit. pinning] a new one.

**wido** [wi³do] N. Fish-Poison tree. *Barringtonia asiatica.*

[POc *putun*]

~**WO** [³wo] VI. run away, escape (from, *mina*).
  - P-aiu pe-*wo* pe-*le* ne ngogoro! Get up and run away to the bush!  
  - *Ba-wo* etapu! Don't run away!

~**WO** [³wo] VT. carry ‹basket, net+› on o.’s back, hanging from a strap put around forehead.
  - Ni-*wo* topola ’none ne die ‘ne. I’m carrying my basket on my back.  
  - This way of carrying is typically used when coming back home from the gardens, whether to carry firewood or harvested food.

~**WO** [³wo] VT. (1) count.
  - (2) list, enumerate ‹several things›, mention one by one.
  - Dapa li-*wo* enga dapa i-ka. They told out their names, one after the other.  
  - La-tabo la-*wo* enga temaka. Let’s list all the place names again.
  - (3) (hence) read.  
  - Ka a-*wo* awoiu? Have you read it?

~**WO** [³wo] VI. (plant) bear fruit.
  - Udo ono pe a-*vo* ka i-*wo*. The banana trees which you planted have already borne their fruits.  
  - *Cf.* ua ‘fruit’.

[³POc *puaq*]

~**WOI** [³woi] VT. (1) stick ‹long object›: knife+› into s.th; drive in.
  - Li-*woi* okoro ne utedie ini. They stuck a knife in his back.
  - (2) plant ‹manioc+› into the ground.
  - Li-*woi* elela manioka. They planted a stock of manioc. *Cf.* ~**wowe**, ‘plant tuber’.
  - (3) put up, erect ‹post+› by sticking it on ground.
  - Blateno ponu li-*woi* ne mane. They have put up the ritual posts on the dancing area.  
  - Dapa li-*woi* nuduro ne touro. They put up taboo signs (*nuduro*) on the seashore. *Syn.* ~**vo***.
  - (4) pound, bang ‹long object› with an impact, e.g. shock or noise.
  - Ni-*woi* basene li-asai. I banged by head, and it was stitched up.  
  - li-*woi* okoro pound bamboos on the ground, to make music [see ~**woi okoro**] *Syn.* ~**wete**.

~**WOI** [³woi] VT. welcome ‹traveller› upon their arrival, typic. on the beach.
  - Teliki iadapa li-abu li-ka, li-*wokobe* da po la-sai kuo. The chiefs came down and welcomed them as they landed their canoe (on the beach).

**wokobe** [³wokø³be] VT. welcome ‹traveller› upon their arrival, typic. on the beach.


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~womanga [•womanga] VT. give food to, feed 〈man, animal〉. ▶ *A-ko bwara kape u-e namuko, ia vana a-womanga dapa nga ponu! You thought you would eat these fish, but actually you’re only feeding them!*

♦ pe li-womanga PHR. lit. “(one) which is fed”; (animal) tame, domestic. ▶ Vao, we pe li-womanga? Is 〈this animal〉 wild, or tame? *Anu. vao.*

[POc *mōgan]*


WOWO [wowo] NOP. top of 〈tree+〉. ▶ *wowo iero the top of the Casuarina tree*

~WOWO [•wowo] VT. swim. ▶ *Dapa kula ka li-bu ne revo, dapa kula li-wowo li-koie ne kulumoe. Some of them died in the sea, some others swam till they reached the island. ▶ *Li-wowo ŉe viko iadapa. They swam with their treasures.***

~WOWO [•wowo] VT. plant 〈tuber, esp. yam〉 in the ground. ▶ *None pon, ini ŉepe pe i-ta, pe li-wowo tae. This kind of yam grows on its own, it is not planted. Cf. ~teli.*

~WOWO [•wowo] VT. (1) draw 〈water, salt water〉 in bamboo. ▶ *Emel’ iote i-le i-wowo revo i-ka i-sabisi se awene. A woman went to draw saltwater, and brought it back to pour it above the oven. (2) bail out 〈water〉 from a boat. ▶ *Ni-wowo revo i-ke mina lema kuo. I’m bailing out the (sea) water from inside the canoe.*

1 Entries remaining to be written

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ai-di
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ajekele
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blateno
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bono
bonoro
bonge
boroboro
boso
botongo
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## 2 English – Teanu Finderlist

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<td>a little</td>
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heron ovene.
hey ei.
hibiscus tawo.; voro.
hide ~wamu.
hit ~abu. (1).
hold ~tabe.
hole kie. (1).
hungry ~ledi.
hurricane apono.
husk ~avo. (1).
Inocarpus fagifer vewo.
introduce ~koioi.
island basakulumoe.
jealous ~pej. (1).
join ~kila. (1).
kauri dero.
kill ~abu. (2).
kingfisher dingobe.
kiss ~engi.
knife devele.
lagoon toloto.
lair ma. (1).
latch naka ruene.
laugh ~ekeke.
lawyer-cane woworo.
leave ~re. (2).
left mouro. (1).
leg aele; ale.
letter angede ovene (1).
lightning megilo.
like ~ka. (1).
lime awo.
lips bele mwa.
long biouro.
lorikeet vili.
louse uko.
Lovono Lovono; Vono.
lychee teno.
make ~ajau; ~apilo; ~ejau.
Malay apple avie.
man amwaliko.
manioc mañoika.
Manta vovoie.
many abia. (1).
mat bete.
maybe bara; bwara.
medicine tongolukilo (1).
melt ~teve. (2).
middle to. (1).
mirror duduko.
moment basavono.
mother ete (1).
mountain basa. (1).
mushroom ten'gale.
name enga.
narrate ~atevo.
Neisosperma vovo.
ettles iunido (1).
night bwogo.
noddy bauro.
not know ~muri (1).
octopus kiñe-biouro.
of ie. (1).
oil tele. (1).
old amoso.
old woman momoso (1).
open ~ko. (2).
or we. (1).
our akapa.; akapa. (1).
outrigger demene.
oven awene.
overtake ~da. (1).
owl eluro.
paddle ~wai. (1).
Pagurus aulo.
pain melia.
painful ~meli.
pal ebe.
pandanus kie; vede; woubo.
parrotfish boro. (1).
parts nengele.
peel ~ta. (1).
Perf ka. (1).
petal delesa.
petiole baro.
pick ~bi. (1).
picture totokale (1).
pierce ~tobo. (2).
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**Awisi pine**

Thank you

Merci