

**Ian Cheffy** is a Senior Literacy and Education Consultant with SIL, the international NGO specialising in the study and development of the world's unwritten languages. He has worked in literacy for almost 25 years. Although now based in the UK, he spent 10 years working in Cameroon as a literacy specialist, initially assisting one language community to develop a literacy programme for children and adults and subsequently setting up a training centre for local people in literacy and translation work.

Since returning from Cameroon in 1999, he has been a literacy trainer, providing training in the UK and elsewhere for organisers of literacy programmes in developing countries. He is currently Senior Tutor at the European Training Programme of SIL, and is responsible for the MA Literacy Programme Development.

He has recently provided consultant help to the United Bible Societies in Africa on the development of a literacy strategy for the continent and on the production of literacy materials. He has also contributed to the development of two MA programmes relating to literacy at the University of the Free State in South Africa.

He has a particular interest in social practice theory as applied to local level literacy programmes. His PhD research (Lancaster University, 2008) examined attitudes to literacy among members of a village community in northern Cameroon.