

lan 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 over 30 years. Although now based in the UK, he spent 10 years working in Cameroon as a literacy specialist, supporting a language community in developing a literacy programme for children and adults and subsequently setting up a training centre for local people in literacy and translation work.

Latterly, he provided training in the UK and elsewhere for organisers of literacy programmes in developing countries and developed an MA in Literacy Programme Development for the SIL training centre. He has represented SIL at the UNESCO headquarters in Paris.

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.