



Basic Tools for Promoting Cameroon's Language Vitality in Today's Digital World

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Language Technology Consultant and Linguist at SIL Cameroon



Basic Tools for Promoting Cameroon's Language Vitality
in Today's Digital World, by Matthew R. Lee

Who am I?

Matthew R. Lee

- Language Technology Consultant & Linguist
- Serving SIL Cameroon since 2010 with Teresa
- American
- Bachelors in Integrated Science and Technology
 - James Madison University
- Working on a Master in Descriptive Linguistics
 - Dallas International University
- Maintainer of the SIL Cameroon Keyboard



SIL

Who am I? I am a Language Technology Consultant and Linguist here at SIL Cameroon. I've been serving SIL Cameroon. I've been serving here since 2020, and I serve with my wife Teresa. We're Americans. I have a Bachelor in Integrated Science and Technology from James Madison University, and I am working on Finishing a Master's in Descriptive Linguistics from Dallas International University.

CMB Language Technology



- Current Team
 - Matthew LEE
 - NGONO Louis Pascal



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The current Language technology team consists of myself and Louis Pascal Ngono.



(Traditional) Language Vitality



We will start with “Traditional” Language Vitality.

EGIDS

Expanded Graded Intergenerational Disruption Scale

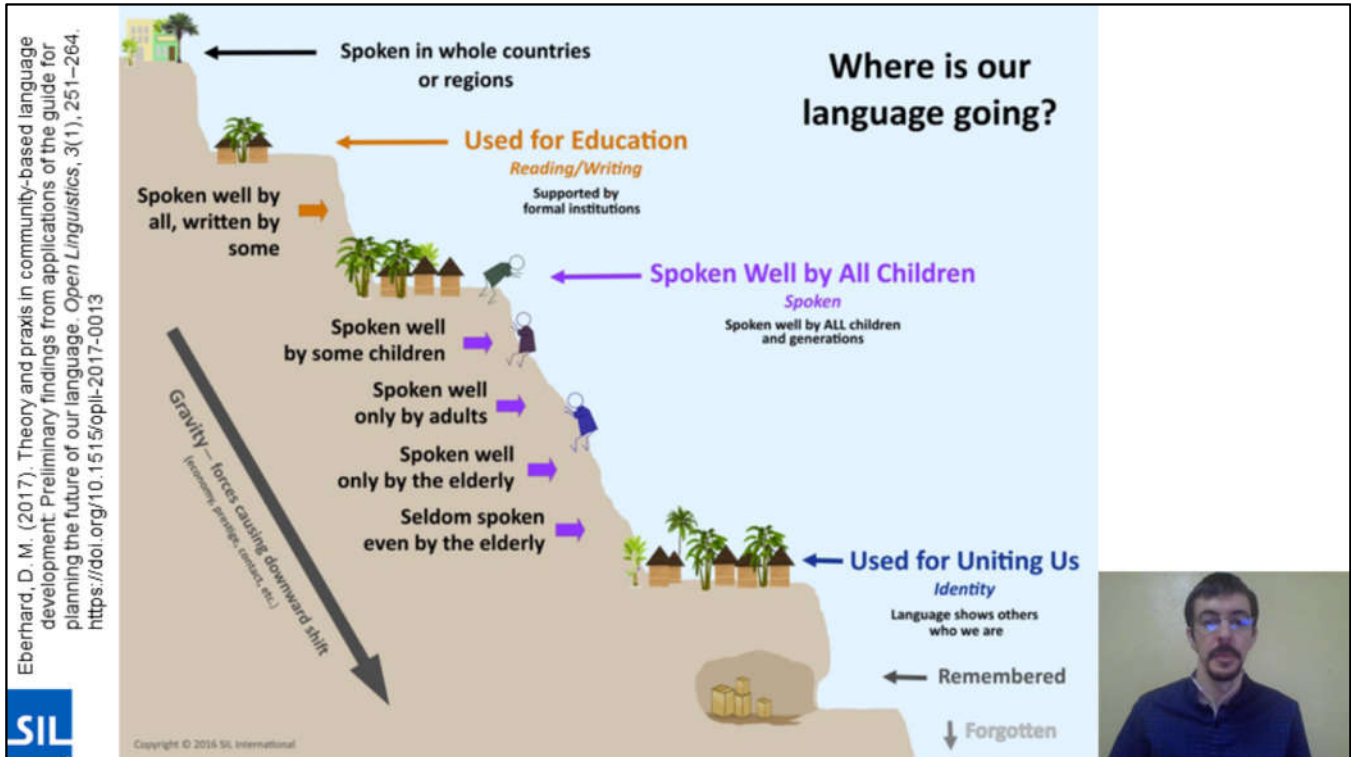
- EGIDS stands for the Expanded Graded Intergenerational Disruption Scale. This is a tool that is used to measure the status of a language in terms of endangerment or development.



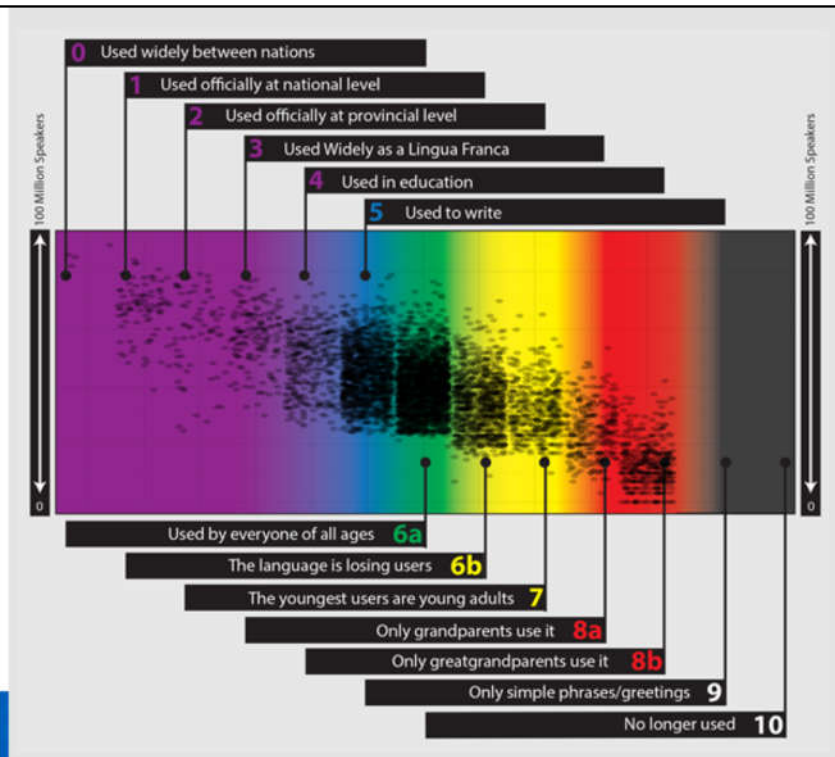
<https://www.sil.org/about/endangered-languages/language-vitality>



If you are familiar with linguistics or sociolinguistics, you may be familiar with EGIDS, the Expanded Graded Intergenerational Disruption Scale. EGIDS is a tool that is used to measure the status of a language in terms of endangerment or development.



This is an illustration of the EGIDS scale. At the left, we would see national languages like Swahili, English, or French. At the right, you would find languages like Latin or Babylonian that no longer have a population. The most important indicator of future language vitality is not the number of speakers, but (as you see marked in violet) whether young people are learning and using a language.



This chart shows the vitality of the known languages of the world. Each dark dot represents a language. The height of each dot represents the relative number of speakers. Languages to the left are likely more secure. Languages in the middle are in transition, and languages toward the right are in extreme danger. You can see that most of the languages of the world are between 5 and 7.

Ethnologue
Languages of the World

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Basaa

LANGUAGE
MAP
CONTRIBUTE

A language of Cameroon

ISO 639-3	bas
Alternate Names	Basa, Bassa, Bicek, Bikyek, Bisaa, Mbele, Mee, Mvele, Northern Mbene, Tupen
Autonym	Basaa
User Population	300,000 (2005 SIL). Based on the actual population of the subdivisions where the Basaa people are present, as of the official 2005 census (2014 C. Hamm).
Location	Centre region: widespread in Nyong-and-Kéllé division; Littoral region: Nikam and Sanaga-Maritime divisions; South region: Océan division; West region: Menoua division.
Language Status	5 (Developing).
Classification	Niger-Congo , Atlantic-Congo , Volta-Congo , Benue-Congo , Bantoid , Southern , Narrow Bantu , Northwest , A , Basaa (A.43)
Dialects	Bakem, Bon, Bibeng, Diboum (Dibobom), Log, Mpo, Mbang, Ndokama, Basso, Ndokbele, Ndokpenda, Nyamtam.

SIZE AND VITALITY

Click to enlarge with explanation

PLACE IN LANGUAGE CLOUD

Click to enlarge with explanation

BECOME A CONTRIBUTOR

Are you an expert on Basaa? If so, we invite you to join our Contributor Program. You'll receive

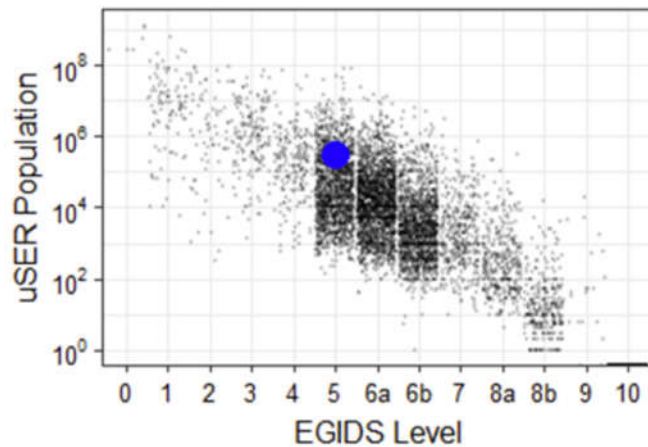
If we look at Basaa, for example, on the Ethnologue, a resource managed by SIL International...

ISO 639-3	bas
Alternate Names	Basa, Bassa, Bicek, Bikyek, Bisaa, Mbele, Mee, Mvele, Northern Mbene, Tupen
Autonym	Basaa
User Population	300,000 (2005 SIL). Based on the actual population of the subdivisions where the Basaa people are present, as of the official 2005 census (2014 C. Hamm).
Location	Centre region: widespread in Nyong-and-Kéllé division; Littoral region: Nkam and Sanaga-Maritime divisions; South region: Océan division; West region: Menoua division.
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Here we see that the status is listed as 5, Developing.

Basaa in the Language Cloud



The EGIDS level for this language in its primary country is 5 (Developing). The language is in vigorous use, with literature in a standardized form being used by some, though this may not yet be widespread or sustainable.

Eberhard, David M., Gary F. Simons, and Charles D. Fennig (eds.). 2020. *Ethnologue: Languages of the World*. Twenty-third edition. Dallas, Texas: SIL International. Online version: <http://www.ethnologue.com>.



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According to the Ethnologue, The EGIDS level for this language in it's primary country is 5 (Developing). The language is in vigorous use with literature in a standardized form being used by some, though this may not yet be widespread or sustainable.

You can see the blue dot that represents Basaa among the world's languages.

[Read The Description]

Ethnologue: Free resource to you in Cameroon!



<https://www.ethnologue.com/>
Just register on the site!





Unlock this profile with an [Essentials plan](#).

- ✓ See language counts and details for Cameroon, plus:
- ✓ Profiles for every other country in the world
- ✓ 7,464 profiles covering every language in use today
- ✓ And more!

Free in your country [Register >](#)



I have mentioned SIL's Ethnologue, a database of the languages of the world. You may have heard recently that it is no longer available online for free. Actually, the Ethnologue is available for free in many countries of the world, such as Cameroon. All you need to do is register (for free), click the link in your email, and you will have instant access.



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Wait a minute...I did say I work in language Technology, where's the technology part? Don't worry, it's coming!

Limits of EGIDS

EGIDS measures the use of languages in social situations and includes written and spoken usage as appropriate.



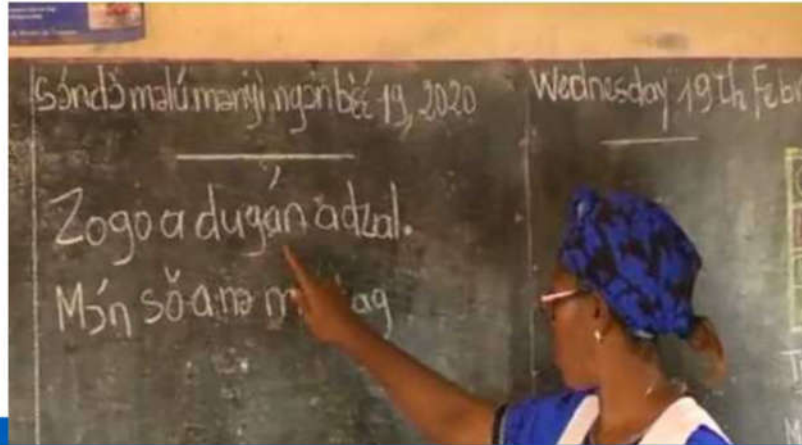
Photo: <https://unsplash.com/photos/oTmivPvpVo>

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Writing Systems Technology

But once an orthography is developed, accepted, documented, and shared, how does it get from here...

Kindzeka, M. E. (2020, February 21). How Cameroon Plans to Save Disappearing Languages | Voice of America - English. VOA News. Retrieved from <https://www.voanews.com/africahow-cameroon-plans-save-disappearing-languages>



Writing Systems Technology

...to here?



<https://unsplash.com/photos/bz9mq3SP9uy4>





Digital Language Support

Soutien numérique des langues



Disclaimer

While there are many excellent Language Software tools and resources created by individuals and organizations in Cameroon and around the world, this limited presentation will focus on SIL Tools.

SIL



Before I get too far, I need to put in a little disclaimer.

Assessing Digital Language Support



(Simons and Thomas 2019)

- They began by identifying six categories of digital language support:
 - Encoding support (e.g. keyboards, fonts)
 - Localized user interface (e.g. OS, browsers, messaging)
 - Surface-level processing (e.g. spell-checking, completion)
 - Meaning-level processing (e.g. machine translation)
 - Speech processing (e.g. speech-to-text, text-to-speech)
 - Virtual assistance (e.g. Siri, Alexa)

What are some indicators of digital language support? Simons and Thomas sought to answer this question to add an index of Digital Language support.

Assessing Digital Language Support



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 - Virtual assistance (e.g. Siri, Alexa)

And we will discuss two of these today. Encoding Support (for example keyboards and fonts), and Surface level processing (for example, spell-checking or autocompletion)

Encoding Support

Unicode

Ađéîũ						
A	đ	é	´	î	˘	ũ
U+0041	U+0257	U+0259	U+0301	U+0268	U+1DC6	U+0289



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When we talk about Encoding support, we need to talk about Unicode. The Unicode Consortium takes each unique character from the world's languages and assigns it a static number to avoid confusion.

[Show a couple of numbers]

Most of the time, computers handle these hidden numbers properly without you having to worry about them.

If a new character or variation is being actively used by a community, partners can present this as a request to Unicode.

Encoding Support

Unicode

αεαββcdddeəfæg’hαιijklmnnηοωρøqrstœuυvwÿxyÿz
ΑΕΒΒCDDDEƏFÆG’HIIJKLMMNŊOΩΡØQRSTŒUΥVWÿXYÿZ

Ɔ	Ɔ
U+0186	U+0244



This is the General Alphabet of Cameroon. All of these characters have been added to Unicode, and in my understanding, some of the last ones added, in 2007, were capital Ɔ (open o) and capital Ɔ (barred u).

Encoding Support

Fonts

- Basic Fonts
 - Andika
 - Charis SIL
 - Arial
 - Times New Roman
 - Harmattan (حرمطان)
- Fancy Fonts
 - Handwriting Fonts
 - **Artistic Fonts**
 - Monospace Fonts
 - *Script Fonts*

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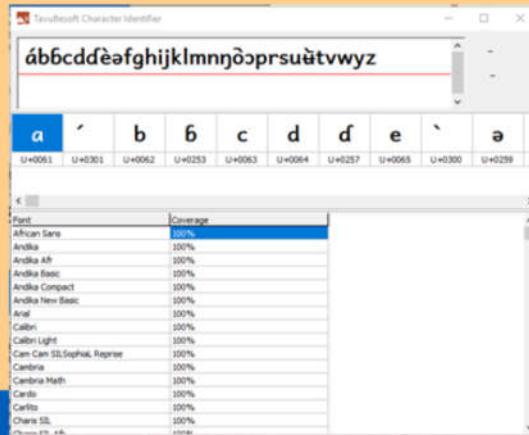
Typically, within a few years, SIL and some of the base Microsoft and open-source fonts will support most of the characters added in Unicode. Unfortunately, you will find various “fancy” fonts that may not support all of the characters in your language. Some of these “fancy” fonts may be handwriting fonts, Artistic fonts, monospace fonts, and script fonts.

Tavultesoft Character Identifier



What fonts on my computer support my language?

- <https://blog.keyman.com/2011/07/character-identifier-tool/>



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What if you want to know which fonts on your computer can display all of the characters of a particular language? You can use the Tavultesoft Character Identifier, and it will show not-only the precise identity of each character you typed, but also a sorted list of fonts that support all of the needed characters.

Encoding Support

Keyboards

- Add-On Keyboards
 - Keyman (Mobile and Desktop, SIL)
 - Gboard (Mobile, Google)
 - Swype (Mobile, Microsoft)
 - MSKLC (Desktop, Microsoft)
- OS-Native Support
 - Windows
 - macOS
 - Android
 - iOS
 - Linux (XKB, SCIM, iBUS)



Where are we with Encoding Support?

Encoding

- All Cameroon Characters have been in Unicode since 2007
 - Font-makers are catching up.



Where are we with Encoding Support?

Fonts

- SIL Fonts (Charis, Doulos, Andika) have supported those characters and displayed them properly for many years.
- Microsoft fonts such as Calibri, Arial, and Times New Roman, contain all of the needed characters since about 2009, but don't always place diacritics properly (especially in italics).
- Google Fonts, such as Noto or Roboto, do a great job with Cameroonian characters since 2014 (Android 5.0).



Where are we with Encoding Support?



Unified Keyboards

- SIL's Unified Cameroon Keyboards are available for Windows, Linux, Android, Mac and iOS.
 - *You should be able to type any language that follows the GACL.*
- Other tools like the African or PanAfrican Keyboard support languages beyond Cameroon, but they can be a bit overwhelming.

Unified Keyboards are ideal for users of many languages.

Where are we with Encoding Support?

Language-Specific Keyboards

- Google's Gboard and Microsoft's Swype for mobiles are starting to release individual keyboards for some well-documented Cameroonian languages.
- We'd love to work with communities who wish to develop a simplified custom layout for their language.



Surface-Level Processing

Simple linguistic tools that work at the word level.

- Spell-checking
 - Hunspell
Works in LibreOffice and other tools
- Autocompletion and Autocorrection
 - Keyman Mobile Keyboards



Digital Language Support is Measurable

All that is required is to think of a tool, and then read the documentation, or just try it out.

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Foundational Technologies

Technologies de base



In this section, I will introduce you to several Foundational Technologies.



The screenshot shows the homepage of the website. At the top, there is a banner with the text "Language Technology in Cameroon" and "La Technologie Linguistique au Cameroun". Below the banner is a navigation menu with links: Home, Cameroon Keyboard/Clavier, Fonts/Polices, General Alphabet, Tools, About, Contact. The main content area features a post titled "PrimaryLines Literacy Font" with a sub-header "Saunter vers le français." and a paragraph of text. To the right of the main content, there are sections for "External" links, "About the Author", "Recent Posts", and "Follow Blog via Email".



We start out with this site, <http://LangTechCameroon.info>. This site is the home of Language Technology at SIL Cameroon, and you can find resources about keyboards, fonts, and Language Technology tools which might be interesting, and also presentations like this one.



Cameroon Keyboard

Clavier Camerounais



The site, <http://LangTechCameroon.info>, is also the home of the Cameroon Keyboard.

The Home of the Cameroon Keyboard



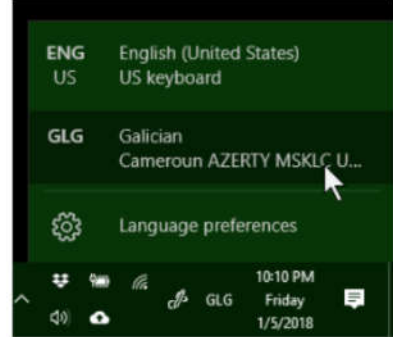
The screenshot displays the website's layout. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for Home, Cameroon Keyboard/Clavier, Fonts/Polices, General Alphabet, About, and Contact. The main content area features a large header with the title 'Language Technology in Cameroon' and 'La Technologie Linguistique au Cameroun', along with the SIL Cameroon logo and the tagline 'Promoting the mother tongues of Cameroon!'. Below this, the page is titled 'Cameroon Keyboard/Clavier: MSKLC' and includes a search bar. A central image shows a keyboard with the text 'Cameroon Keyboard Microsoft KLC' and the Cameroonian flag. The 'Download & Installation' section provides software requirements (Windows XP through Windows 10) and a two-step installation process. A sidebar on the right contains tags like 'Cameroon', 'Language Technology', and 'News', along with an 'About the Author' section and a 'Recent Posts' list. At the bottom left, the SIL logo and 'LangTechCameroon.info' are visible. A video player in the bottom right corner shows a man speaking.

Here is the site, where you can see that this site helps you to download and install the Cameroon Keyboard on your machine or device.

Windows AZERTY “Galicien”



Clavier Cameroun AZERTY Unifié



It may be helpful to explain that there are two versions of the Cameroon keyboard for desktop. This is the AZERTY version, that follows the French Keyboard, AZERTY. This one is known as “Galicien”, because we did not have the opportunity to add languages. The Azerty keyboard uses the exclamation point key to access most of the special characters.

Windows QWERTY “Afrikaans”

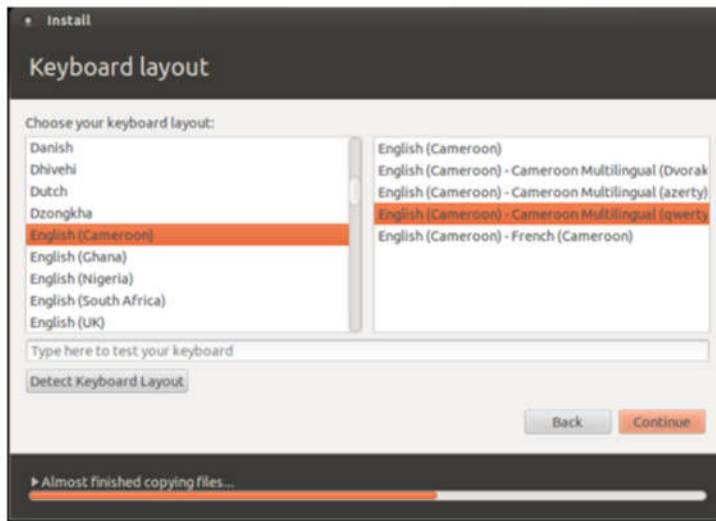


Cameroon QWERTY Unified



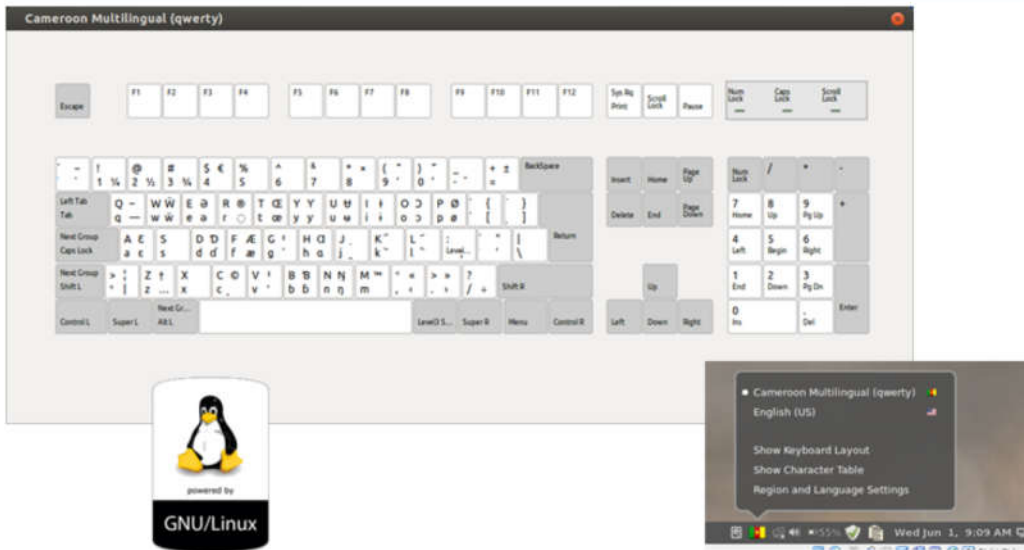
Also, we have the QWERTY Version that follows the English keyboard of the US and UK. This one is known as Afrikaans, for the same reason as before. The Qwerty Keyboard uses the semicolon key to access most special characters. These versions are less than 2 megabytes each, and can be found on <http://LangTechCameroon.info>

Linux (Ubuntu, Zorin, etc.)



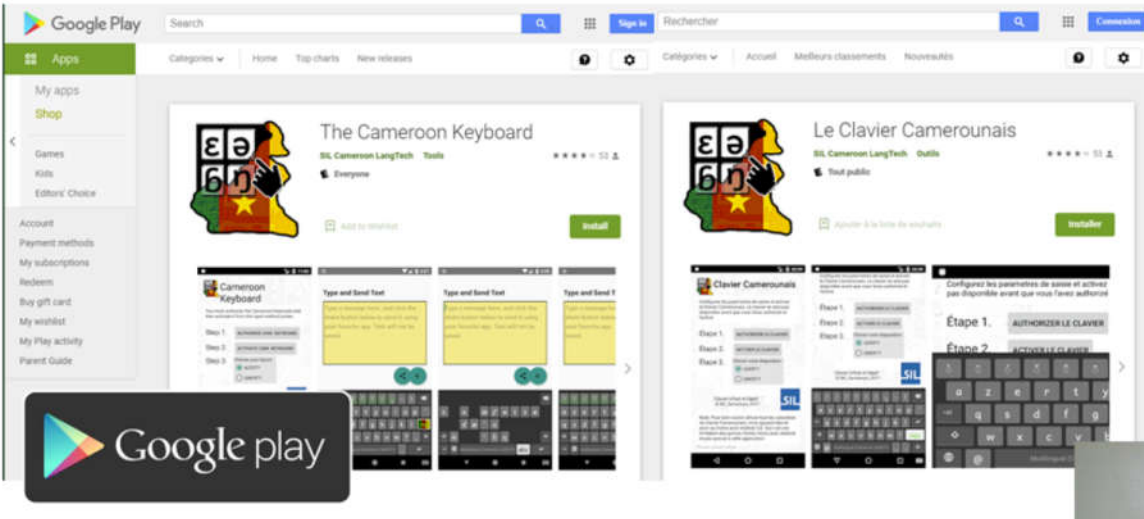
You can install the Cameroon keyboard on other operating systems. For Linux, if one installs Ubuntu or Zorin, and most “flavors” of Linux, you can choose the Cameroon Keyboard from the settings without having to install other applications on top.

Linux (Ubuntu, Zorin, etc.)



Once installed, it will be available for typing in all of your programs.

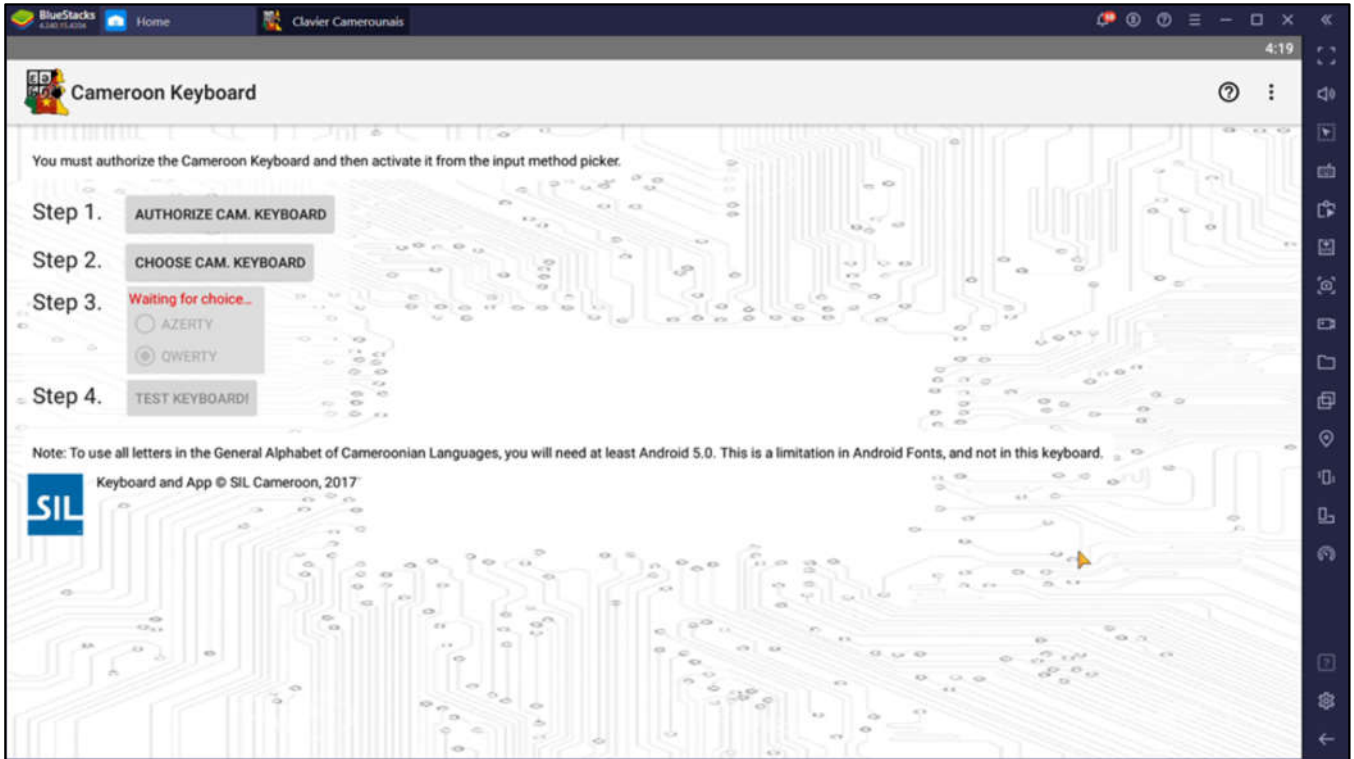
Android: On Play Store



The screenshot displays the Google Play Store interface. On the left, there is a navigation menu with options like 'My apps', 'Shop', 'Games', 'Kids', and 'Editors' Choice'. The main content area shows two app listings side-by-side. The first is 'The Cameroon Keyboard' by SIL Cameroon LangTech, with a rating of 5 stars and 52 reviews. The second is 'Le Clavier Camerounais' by SIL Cameroon LangTech, also with a 5-star rating and 52 reviews. Both apps feature a logo with a map of Cameroon and the letters 'E', 'O', 'A', 'B'. Below the app listings, there are preview images showing the keyboard layout on a mobile device. A blue banner at the bottom left contains the SIL logo and the URL goo.gl/Lfb9UP. In the bottom right corner, there is a small video inset showing a man with a beard and glasses.

For Android, you can install the Cameroon keyboard from the Play Store on tablets and telephones that have at least Android 5, called Marshmallow. Once installed, you can use the keyboard for text messages (SMS), to write emails, to post on Facebook, to chat on WhatsApp, or in any other application. You can write and work in your language on the telephone!

Just open up the Play Store, and search for Cameroon Keyboard, or Le Clavier Camerounais. When you see the Icon with the map and letters, you have found it!



Note

The fact that the last Cameroon Characters were added in 2014 is quite important, as phones released before Android 5 (Lollipop) probably use old fonts that don't support all Cameroon characters.

Even if you could type all the characters, in Facebook, for example, sometimes they might not display at all.

This is why SIL Cameroon's Cameroon Keyboard requires Android 5.0.



Keyman sur iOS and macOS

www.keyman.com



SIL LangTechCameroon.info

You can use the Cameroon Keyboard on iPhones, iPads, and Macs, but until someone offers me a Mac, I cannot release a dedicated Cameroon Keyboard App. You can install Keyman (www.keyman.com), an application made by SIL International, and the Cameroon Keyboards, both AZERTY and QWERTY, are available inside.

IPA Keyboards / Claviers API



- Windows/Mac/Linux:
 - <https://scripts.sil.org/uniipakeyboard>
- Android?
 - <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.edwardgreve.ipakeyboard>



It's good to know that there are other keyboards available. If you need a keyboard for the IPS, here are some links.



Fonts for Cameroon Languages

*Polices pour des langues
camerounaises*



Best Fonts for Cameroon Languages

Des recommandations de police

Language Technology in Cameroon
La Technologie Linguistique au Cameroun
Promoting the mother tongues of Cameroon!
Promouvons les langues maternelles du Cameroun!

Home Cameroon Keyboard/Cleartex **Fonts/Polices** General Alphabet About Contact

Cameroon Fonts / Polices Camerounaises

[Savoir plus le Français >](#)

Fonts for Cameroon Languages

Between the 7th and 9th of March 1979, the National Committee for the Unification and Harmonisation of the Alphabets of Cameroon Languages decided on a Unified Alphabet for the orthographies of Cameroon languages. The choices follow the roman alphabet used in English and French, but with the addition of extra letters from the International Phonetic Alphabet.

The letters intended to be used for representing Cameroon Languages are as follows (represented here in Charis SIL):

arobcddfeafg'hciijklmngopqqrstœu'vwxy'z
ÆEBBCDDEGF:EGHUIKLMNŊOOPQQRSTœU'VW'WXY'Z

Choosing a font for your publication:

Some fonts you have on your computer may not contain all necessary characters (which may show up as rectangles or other strange ways), and others may be

Tags:
Cameroun
Cameroon
Language
Technology
Nouvelles
Technologie Linguistique

About the Author:
I'm a researcher in language technology at SIL Cameroon. I'm also a parent and I'm interested in helping my children learn to read and write through technology.

Recent Posts:
• SIL's new dictionary software
• Windows 10
• Translating English

SIL | LangTechCameroon.info

On the site, LangTechCameroon.info, there is a guide for

Once characters are added to Unicode, it takes a few years for those who develop fonts (or typefaces) to catch up. Have you ever tried to type something like this

...and gotten something like this, or even worse, like this.

Disclaimer (Again)

Just because a font contains a set of letters and symbols doesn't mean it will always show them correctly.

î ò



Disclaimer (Again)

Just because a font contains a set of letters and symbols doesn't mean it will always show them correctly.

î ÷



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The following fonts are some that should contain all of the characters you need, and display them properly...avoiding some of the issues shown here.



Abɔ̀àáǵìɔ̀ɛ̀
Abɔ̀àáǵìɔ̀ɛ̀



First, there is Charis SIL. This is a serif font that is similar to Times New Roman, but it has a full set of characters for many languages that use Roman, or Latin, Script.



A b d â é ġ ã ð ù

A b d â é ġ ã ð ù



Doulos is often used for the phonetic alphabet because there are signs, like the diacritics that are easier to see than with Charis SIL.



Aɓɗàáǵǐǔǔ

Aɓɗàáǵǐǔǔ



For those who work in Literacy, it can be useful to have the simpler literacy forms of several characters. There are Literacy versions of several fonts. In Charis SIL Literacy, we see that we have the simplified “a” instead of the double-story a. like we write by hand.



Aḅḁàéḡĩḁḥ

Aḅḁàéḡĩḁḥ



Doulos SIL also has the simple a and the simplified hooked “g”, as we write by hand.



A b d à á ġ ʼ ɔ ɛ

A b d à á ġ ʼ ɔ ɛ



For those that are learning to write, we also have Andika. Andika is a simplified font without the hooks of serif fonts, and we see simple forms that could almost be written with a pen. We see the same simple characters.



How are you?

Ba suki báy wa?



For those that are working on Primers, the font PrimaryLines is Developed here in Cameroon that gives you the option to display a font that already has lines showing the extents of each letter.



Evaluating Digital Language Support

Basaa Digital Language Support

Encoding Support

- Entry in the Common Locale Data Repository
- Entry in the SIL Locale Data Repository
- Keyman and Gboard Keyboards



Basaa Digital Language Support

Localized Content

- Indigenous Blogs
- Online Dictionaries
- Health Resources
- Scripture Publications
- More



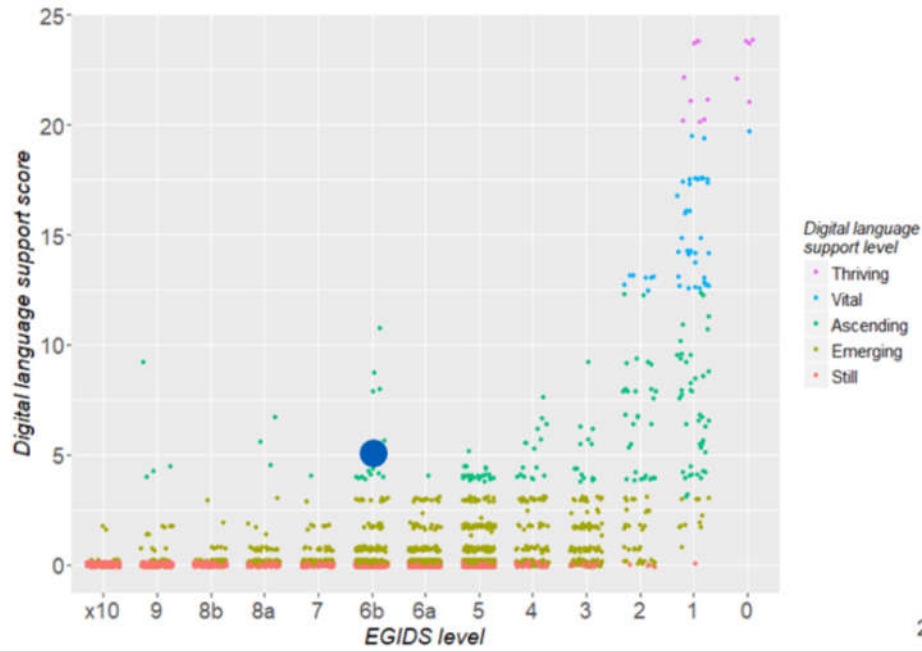
Basaa Digital Language Support

Surface-Level Language Processing

- Gboard Spelling Dictionary



DLS score by EGIDS level



Review: Digital Language Support



So now we've established that Cameroonian Languages (following the GACL) have basic digital support.

- All Cameroon Characters are in Unicode
- Most base fonts, SIL and non-SIL, contain these characters, and many of them align the diacritics correctly.
- Some “fancy” fonts will contain most Cam. Characters.
- Virtual Keyboards are available on Windows, Linux, MacOS, Android and iOS.
- Autocorrection is now possible on Mobile Keyboards with a basic wordlist.

Bridging the Gap

As the telephone networks reach further into the villages, Internet access is growing in Cameroon.

- Mobile
- Office
- Home
- Cyber-Cafe

SIL



As you know, larger cities tend to benefit first from internet technologies. While there is always room for improvement in speed, cost, and reliability, the telephone networks are reaching further and further into Cameroon's distant villages. More and more people are finding ways to access the internet, through mobile technologies, office and home connections, and at cyber-cafes.

Review: Digital Language Support

So...what is next?

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Digital Language Vitality

How are languages used in the digital world?



How can you measure Digital Language Vitality?

- Localized Content
 - Blogs, Stories, Poetry
 - Scripture
 - Dictionaries
 - News
 - Wikipedia
- Public Social Media Posts
 - Twitter, Facebook, etc.
- Look at the number of users of that content
- Users of Localized User Interfaces Support
 - Android
 - Web Browsers

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First, Simons and Thompson looked for minority languages where other languages are found.

Do you have a Wikipedia?

The Wikimedia Incubator is where Wikipedias start.

Recently Active:

- Fulfulde (all varieties): 100+ articles <https://ff.wikipedia.org/>
- Ghomálá' (bbj): 123pg. <https://incubator.wikimedia.org/wiki/Wp/bbj>
- Bafia (ksf): 17pg. <https://incubator.wikimedia.org/wiki/Wp/ksf>
- Fe'fe' (fmp): 4pg. <https://incubator.wikimedia.org/wiki/Wp/fmp>

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The Wikimedia Incubator is a place to start a Wikipedia. Once a community reaches over 100 pages of quality content, they can petition to have their project moved to Wikipedia.

Do you have a Wikipedia

Wikimedia Incubator (as of Jan 2021)

Inactive:

- Bafia (ksf): 17pg.
- Ewondo (ewo): 7pg.
- Basaa (bas): 4pg.
- Bulu (bum): 4pg.
- Medumba (byv): 4pg.
- Akoose (bss): 2pg.
- Ngomba (jgo): 3pg.
- Aghem (agq) 2pg.
- Duala (dua): 2pg.
- Kwasio (nmg): 2pg.
- Mundang (mua): 1pg.
- Yangben (yav): 1pg.

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Wp/agq (2 P)
Wp/bas (4 P)
Wp/bbj (1 C, 123 P)
Wp/bss (2 P)
Wp/bum (4 P)
Wp/byv (4 P)
Wt/dua (2 P)
Wp/ewo (7 P)
Wb/fmp (4 P)
Wp/fmp (4 P)
Wp/jgo (3 P)
Wp/ksf (17 P)
Wp/nmg (2 P)
Wp/yav (1 P)

How can you measure Digital Language Vitality?

- By searching the language name, they could find some local content, but this content is spread across many places.
- Smaller social networks, blogs, and sites, are everywhere.

- It is likely that most communications in each language are interpersonal, direct messages between individuals sharing a language or language family.



How is Your Community Communicating online?

- When communicating digitally with a friend that speaks the same language, are you more likely to communicate using French or English?
- Are people in your community encouraged to write, publish, and share printed and online works in the language?
- If you wanted to read a book in your language, where would you go?
- Is your language community represented on sites where other languages are spoken?



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These are questions that NGOs like SIL can't answer for you.

How is Your Community Communicating online?

- Are there digital literacy classes and discussion groups?
- Do you have community websites? How are they promoted?
- Are there community centers where people can connect to the Internet and share in communication?
- Where else would you like to see your languages?



Putting this into Perspective

- SIL Cameroon continues to improve support for using Cameroon Languages in basic technologies on major operating systems.
- SIL maintains tools to make publishing simpler, such as Bloom.
- But while SIL has the capacity to assist you when you need an advocate or partner to make things possible, the authors, listeners, readers, and users are in your communities.



Review

- The reality is that the future Digital Vitality of your language, or languages, starts with you.
 - Local members and diaspora members
 - Speakers and listeners
 - Authors and programmers
 - Elders and youths



The New Model

- Traditional Language Vitality is driven by the adults of a community, and how much value they put on passing on their language and culture to the next generations.
- In contrast, Digital Language Vitality may be in the hands of the youths, who have the opportunity and the obligation, to preserve the cultural history of their parents and to develop new forms of digital expression.



Traditional Language Vitality is driven by the adults of a community, and how much value they put on passing on their language to the next generations. In contrast, Digital Language Vitality may be in the hands of the youths (the Android Generation), who have the opportunity, and the obligation, to preserve the cultural history of their parents and to develop new forms of digital expression.



**What part will you play in the
Digital Language Vitality of
your community?**



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