

Partnerships

As an international nongovernmental organization (INGO), SIL partners with government organizations, local groups and other INGOs. SIL has special consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and formal consultative relations with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

Language Technology

SIL joins with partner organizations in the research and development of computer software solutions needed to study languages and to publish literature in a wide variety of writing systems.



SIL's service is founded on the principle that communities should be able to pursue their social, cultural, political, economic and spiritual goals without sacrificing their ethnolinguistic identity. SIL makes its services available to all without regard to religious belief, political ideology, gender, race or ethnic background.

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SIL International

SIL is a faith-based nonprofit organization, committed to serving language communities worldwide as they build capacity for sustainable language development. SIL does this primarily through research, translation, training and materials development.



语言

From its beginnings in 1934 as a small linguistics training program, SIL has expanded into an organization of more than 5,500 people from over 60 countries. SIL has conducted linguistic analysis in more than 2,590 languages spoken by 1.7 billion people in nearly 100 countries.

Language research and documentation are core contributions SIL makes to the world's understanding of languages. As a leader in linguistic research, SIL has surveyed more than 2,500 languages, contributing unique and significant data to the *Ethnologue*, a reference volume cataloging the world's known living languages.

SIL operates on contributions from individuals and organizations who are interested in various aspects of language development. Major contributors include affiliated member organizations of Wycliffe International.

Language Development

Language development is a series of ongoing planned actions that a language community takes to ensure that their language continues to serve their changing social, cultural, political, economic and spiritual needs and goals. SIL is committed to building capacity among members of minority language communities who want to achieve and sustain their own language goals.

Linguistics

Linguistics is the foundation for SIL's activities in literacy and translation. Field linguists work in partnership with minority language speakers to collect and analyze language and culture data.

SIL linguists do quality research and mentor others to produce linguistic descriptions—phonologies, grammars and dictionaries. SIL facilitates the publication of research in linguistics, anthropology, ethnomusicology and other related fields.

In partnership with academic institutions and other organizations, SIL offers courses in applied linguistics and other disciplines at more than 20 locations around the world.

Literacy and Multilingual Education

Through multilingual education, minority language communities build positive bridges to languages of wider communication without sacrificing their heritage language and culture. One of SIL's primary activities is supporting communities in their efforts to develop their own mother-tongue education programs.

