

Tone in Saxwe Beavon Ham, V.R.

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Author: Beavon-Ham, V.R.

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Curriculum vitae

Virginia Renee Beavon-Ham was born in Besançon, France on October 27, 1975. After graduating from Hudsonville High School in Michigan (U.S.) in 1993, she attended Wheaton College in Illinois, graduating *summa cum laude* in 1997 with a Bachelor's degree in French. Following this, she studied at the University of Texas at Arlington, where she received in 2000 a Master's degree in linguistics. She began work in 2002 under the auspices of SIL International in the country of Benin, helping to develop literacy materials and doing linguistic research. The languages she worked most closely with were Aja and Saxwe—two languages spoken in the southern part of Benin that belong to the Gbe continuum. Administrative roles she filled included those of Training Coordinator and Linguistics Coordinator for the collective activities of SIL in the countries of Benin and Togo. Currently, she works in the country of Cameroon and is involved in staffing linguistics training courses, as well as coordinating a linguistics service team which serves the Central African countries.