

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910824976203321
Titolo	The expression of information structure : a documentation of its diversity across Africa // edited by Ines Fiedler, Anne Schwarz
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Philadelphia, : John Benjamins, 2010
ISBN	1-282-55863-3 9786612558634 90-272-8842-9
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (399 p.)
Collana	Typological studies in language ; ; 91
Altri autori (Persone)	FiedlerInes SchwarzAnne
Disciplina	496
Soggetti	African languages - Grammar, Comparative Focus (Linguistics) Typology (Linguistics) Intonation (Phonetics)
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Papers presented at the International Conference on Focus in African Languages, held October 6-8, Berlin, Germany.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Introduction / Ines Fiedler and Anne Schwarz -- Information structure marking in Sandawe texts / Helen Eaton -- Topic and focus fields in Naki / Jeff Good -- The relation between focus and theticity in the Tuu family / Tom Guldemann -- Focus marking in Aghem: syntax or semantics? / Larry M. Hyman -- On the obligatoriness of focus marking: evidence from Tar B'arma / Peggy Jacob -- Focalisation and defocalisation in Isu / Roland Kiessling -- Discourse function of inverted passives in Makua-Marevone narratives / Oliver Kroger -- Topic-focus articulation in Taqbaylit and Tashelhit Berber / Amina Mettouchi and Axel Fleisch -- Focus in Atlantic languages / Stephane Robert -- Topic and focus construction asymmetry / Ronald P. Schaefer and Francis O. Egbokhare -- Verb-and-predication focus markers in Gur / Anne Schwarz -- Why contrast matters: information structure in Gawwada (East Cushitic) / Mauro Tosco -- Focus and the Ejagham verb system / John R. Watters.
Sommario/riassunto	This study concerns the interaction of 'focus' with the verbal system of

Ejagham, an Ekoid Bantu language. In particular it concerns the multiple forms of the perfective and imperfective aspects. The Ejagham system differs from the tendency in Bantu systems. The verb forms in Ejagham have a 'constituent' focus form that sub-categorizes predicates ("verbs") with terms ("nps"), and an 'operator' focus form used whenever the verbal operator is within the scope of focus. Bantu languages commonly have a form used when the verbal complement falls within the scope of focus but another form for other cases. So Bantu languages tend to group predicates with verbal operators. In addition, Ejagham conflates assertive and contrastive focus, a distinction that is important in other Bantoid languages in the general vicinity of Ejagham but not in Ejagham.
