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ON GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES**

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**Item 17 of the provisional agenda**

**Toponymic guidelines for map and other editors for international use**

## **Toponymic Guidelines (South Africa)**

Submitted by South Africa \*

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\*Prepared by Trueman Kubheka

## TOPONYMIC GUIDELINES FOR MAP AND OTHER EDITORS

In support of the United Group of Experts on Geographical Names (UNGEGN) in its aims towards the standardisation of geographical names, South Africa as a member state of the Africa South Division acknowledges the *Resolutions* adopted at the UN Conferences on the Standardisation of Geographical Names. It was recognised *inter alia* that national standardisation is an essential preliminary to international standardisation (*Resolution II/31(2)*).

*Resolution 4* of the 4<sup>th</sup> Conference was adhered to by the South African names authorities:

“*The Conference,*

*Recognizing* the desirability of international exchange of information concerning the main facts, measures and achievements in the field of national name standardization,

1. *Recommends* that countries should be encouraged to publish and keep up-to-date toponymic guidelines for map and other editors which may enable cartographers of other countries to treat correctly all problems of cartographic toponymy of the countries that produced such guidelines, and which may be of help to all users in interpreting maps;
2. *Further recommends* that those guidelines contain, inter alia and as appropriate, the following items:
  - (a) **Legal status of geographical names in the respective languages of multilingual countries;**
  - (b) **Alphabets of the language or languages** and furthermore, in the case of non-Roman alphabets and scripts, the officially introduced romanization keys;
  - (c) **Spelling rules for geographical names;**
  - (d) **Aids to pronunciation** of geographical names;
  - (e) **Linguistic substrata recognizable** in the existing place names, but only as far as their knowledge may be of benefit to the cartographer;
  - (f) Relationship between **dialect(s) and standard language(s)**;
  - (g) **Peculiarities of dialect** and arial distribution of the main dialects;
  - (h) **Arial distribution of languages within multilingual countries;**
  - (i) **Names authorities and measures taken in names standardization;**
  - (j) **Source material;**
  - (k) **Glossary of words necessary for the understanding of maps;**
  - (l) **Abbreviations in official maps;**
  - (m) **Administrative divisions;**

Professor Josef Brey was appointed as co-ordinator for toponymic guidelines at that time. On his retirement in 1991, and at his recommendation, Dr Peter E. Raper (South Africa) was appointed co-ordinator for toponymic guidelines by the UNGEGN.

In terms of the multilingual character of the African sub-continent, and in view of the change in political dispensation, it was necessary to review and adapt the guidelines for South Africa. This publication was prepared in compliance with the *Resolutions* of the United Nations mentioned for the benefit of users of geographical names in South Africa.

SOUTH AFRICAN TOPONYMIC GUIDELINES FOR MAP AND OTHER EDITORS  
FOURTH EDITION  
2012

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## PREFACE

Subsequent to the submission in 1991 of the third edition of the Toponymic Guidelines for South Africa, some important developments have taken place in the country. In 1994 a new government came into power with new authoritative structures, a new constitution and eleven official languages. Although South Africa has had a national geographical names authority since 1939 (The National Place Names Committee - NPNC), it was felt that a new body with a broader mandate was to be established, falling under the Ministry of Arts, Culture and Heritage. Accordingly a Working Forum on Geographical Names came into place with a professional team selected from the Directorate of Surveys and Mapping, and language professionals.

” The Working forum prepared a draft report, taking into account relevant United Nations resolutions and recommendations on the standardisation of geographical names, the principles and procedures of the NPNC, international practices, and the recommendations of the White Paper on Arts, Culture and Heritage.” (Report on the South African Geographical Names Commission). Following the White Paper recommendation for terminological corrections, this draft report recommended the authoritative body on geographical names be renamed to South African Geographical Names Commission and eventually called **The South African Geographical Names Council**. The composition of this body was to be in accordance with practices in other countries. Other recommendations concerned the terms of reference and functions of the council; its areas of jurisdiction; powers; policies; principles and procedures; involvement in provinces; staff support; updating; verifying and networking databases; the publication and promotion of the work of the Council; and initially supporting the preparation and publication of a Dictionary of South African Geographical Names and the projects of the Survey of South African Geographical Names.

In the light of these developments, a fourth edition of the Toponymic Guidelines for South Africa has been prepared to accommodate the multilingual language policy of the country. The hope is expressed that it will be of practical use to cartographers and other editors.

Appreciation is expressed to:

- the University of South Africa who approved this as a project for study leave twenty years ago on recommendation of the Chairman of UNGEGN at that time, Dr Peter Raper;
- the valuable and enriching discussions, co-operation and contributions with colleagues from the Department of African languages, the National Language Board, SAGNC and Names Society of Southern Africa whose expert linguistic knowledge made this edition

possible;

- officials of the Geographical Names Unit at the Department of Arts, Culture and Heritage who accepted the results of this project as a working document to be updated regularly.

Dr. Barbara Meiring

## 1 LANGUAGES AND LEGAL STATUS OF NAMES

### 1.1 General remarks

The history of South Africa and its peoples allowed for many languages to be spoken and the geographical names of South Africa are thus derived from a number of languages of which the first two that explorers came into contact with were the Bushman dialects and Khoe (various dialects). Other indigenous languages are the Sotho languages: Sesotho sa Leboa (Northern Sotho), Sesotho (Southern Sotho) and Setswana (Tswana); the Nguni languages: IsiXhosa (Xhosa), IsiZulu (Zulu), Siswati and IsiNdebele (Southern Ndebele); Xitsonga (Tsonga) and Tshivenda (Venda). Non-African languages influencing the South African toponymy include English, Dutch, Indian Languages, Portuguese, Dutch, French and German. An important contribution is made by Afrikaans, a language that developed from contact between the Dutch, French and German officials and their Malay and Khoe staff.

In the present edition attention will be given primarily to geographical names from the eleven official languages of the country, namely, in alphabetical order, **Afrikaans, English, Nguni languages (IsiZulu, IsiXhosa, IsiNdebele, Siswati), Sotho languages (Sesotho sa Leboa, Sesotho, Setswana), Tshivenda, Xitsonga** and names from **Bushman** and **Khoe** languages (on which a comprehensive investigation has been carried out by experts, and the results published in various publications mentioned in Chapter 6 as Source material. Other historically relevant languages like Dutch, Portuguese, German, French and Indian languages will be mentioned. In view of the divergence of the African languages and the fact that these languages are in the process undergoing reformulation of their orthographies, geographical names from these languages should not be regarded as immutable at this stage.

### 1.2 Official languages

After the change of government in 1994 South Africa's bilingual language policy was replaced by a multilingual policy. The new constitution gave official status to the above mentioned nine indigenous languages and the two former official languages, that is eleven languages spoken



by a substantial number of speakers in the country, also allowing for the promotion of languages brought in by immigrants, for instance Portuguese, German, French and Indian languages.

### 1.2.1 General remarks

The eleven official languages of the Republic of South Africa are all written in the Roman script, as are all the other languages from which geographical names in South Africa have been derived. The click or suction consonants encountered in the Bushman and Khoe languages (cf. par.4.4) are not reflected in geographical names.

Regardless of the language from which a geographical name is derived, that name has official status if it is the name of an official place,(cf. par. 2) and if it has been approved by the national geographical names authority of South Africa. It is thus recognized that the toponymic landscape is multilingual. Once the spelling of a geographical name has been standardised in a certain language, this is its official status. On an **unofficial** level, however, names in different languages could be applied to the same entity. However, in view of the policy to redress the past inequalities with regard to the representativeness of all official languages in the toponymical landscape, some of the present examples could possibly be outdated due to continuous standardisation.

### 1.2.2 The alphabet

In all official languages the same alphabet is used:

A a	H h	O o	U u
B b	I i	P p	V v
C c	J j	Q q	
D d	K k	R r	X x
E e	L l	S s	Y y
F f	M m	T t	Z z
G g	N n		

In addition to the normal alphabetical sequence there are certain diacritic signs in some African languages, Afrikaans, Bushman and Khoe which are used in conjunction with particular vowels and consonants to produce specific pronunciation and stress, for example in

Afrikaans: â ä á à ê ë é è î ï í î ô û

Setswana: ê ô ù ú ó

Northern Sotho: ê ô

Sesotho: ê ô

Khoe (on the national emblem): *!KE E: /XARRA //KE*

Also the diaeresis occurs in geographical names.

## 2. SPELLING RULES FOR GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES

The rules given below have been formulated by the South African Geographical Names Council

and the National Language Boards for the various languages for implementation as well as by the Directorate of Surveys and Land Information, state departments, provinces, municipalities and other naming bodies.

## 2.1 General rules

- “(i) The recognized spelling and styling of the language from which the name is derived should be adhered to as far as possible.
- (ii) Diacritical signs should be used in accordance with the requirements of the language” (*UN Resolutions*).
- (iii) Although standardised names are language specific, translations often occur in a multilingual country and commonly used as such by different language groups, for instance *eKatikati*, Xhosa for the official *Cathcart*. However, it is recommended that the official names and spelling are to be used for public transport and tourism purposes as indicated on maps.
- (iv) When a place is known under more than one name, one of the names is usually the official name, however more than one official name for a place may also exist, i.e. *Cape Town* and *Kaapstad* that have equal status.
- (v) Names of rivers, dams, mountains, routes etc. often appear without the generic item which is then indicated by a symbol. The topographical reference is implied.

The rules are applicable to:

- (i) new place names which are submitted and ultimately approved by the Minister after recommendation by the SAGNC for official use, i.e. future official place names;
- (ii) any existing non-official place name for which official status is obtained on application, e.g. a farm name as the name of a motor bus stop, a street name for a post-office, a topographical name as name of a town, etc.
- (iii) unofficial place names, among which existing and new topographical names, e.g. names of mountains, lakes, rivers;
- (iv) existing place names which are incorrectly spelt or written and submitted to the SAGNC for standardisation.

### 2.1.1 Geographical names from African languages

Geographical names from African languages are unique in the sense that a name is usually a compound consisting of a phrase, an expression or full sentence with the locative prefix or suffix indicating ‘place of’ or ‘river’, i.e. *Boitumelong* (‘place of happiness’); *Mangaung* (‘place of cheetas’); *KwaZulu* (‘place of the Zulu’); *uMhlanga* (‘the river Mhlanga), etc.

When European missionaries first attempted to describe and write the African languages, the

orthographies were European versions and many phonological features were lost. Therefore many place names derived from African languages in various parts of South Africa are adapted forms of the African languages not only in pronunciation but also in their written form. Thus we find *Kyalami* instead of IKhaya lami ('my home') and *Silkaatsnek* from the Europeanised Silkaats, which is Moselekatse in Sesotho and uMzilikazi in IsiZulu. *Magalies* should be *Mogale* and *Marico* should be *Madikwe*. Some of these names are currently under scrutiny where language communities prefer the language specific spelling. African place names which are phonological adaptations from English, Afrikaans or other languages should be written in accordance with the officially recognized orthography of the African language concerned, e.g. KwaMashu (< 'place of Marshall'), *Moriya* (<Moriah). This includes the language specific diacritical signs of the language and the spelling of personal names and surnames occurring in or used as geographical names, unless it does not comply with UNGEGN'S international requirements for maps.

The names from African languages are presently being standardised according to the respective orthographies as part of the standardisation process regarding geographical names. Examples given might still be in their linguistically incorrect form but will come under scrutiny if proposed by the respective communities and language groups involved.

Although the South African Geographical Names Council is concerned primarily with the writing of place names in accordance with the conventions of each South African language, UNGEGN guidelines have to be taken into consideration for international purposes. This could necessarily result in breaches of African language orthography in the above-mentioned respects.

### **2.1.1.(a) Geographical names from Nguni languages**

In the Nguni languages the locative prefixes *e-*, *o-*, *ku-* and *kwa-* combine with the element that follows them. In the same way the initial vowels *i-* and *u-* combine with the element that follows them, the first consonant of which is always written with a capital. The different Nguni languages differ with regard to the capitalisation of the initial vowel and consonant.

The suggestions given below are recommended with a view to establishing principles in order to obtain some degree of uniformity. The problem with Nguni place names can be resolved only if a distinction is drawn between the way they are written in the context of the Nguni syntax and in the context of most international languages. The demands of these contexts are different and, in the difficult cases, irreconcilable. In other words, it is not possible to write IsiZulu / IsiXhosa/ Siswati / IsiNdebele so that it conforms at once with the orthographic requirements of Nguni languages as well as with the writing conventions of other languages.

Three conventions in particular could present problems:

- (a) The use of more than one capital letter within the same name, e.g. *EMpangeni* (to denote a post office) and *KwaZulu*;
- (b) the use of a capital letter for the second letter of a name, e.g. *eMpangeni* (town name), and
- (c) varying initial vowels in different syntactic contexts, e.g. *uMzimkhulu* (as subject or object or river name) as opposed to *eMzimkhulu* (as a place name).

In addition many isiZulu and isiXhosa geographical names are adaptations from Khoe or Bushman languages and are pronounced with a click sound where the *gq*, *qu* *x* and *c* represent different clicks, e.g. *Gqunube* (Gonubie), *Qumrha* (Komgha), *Kwenxurha*, *Xariep*, *Cacadu*, etc.

### **Guidelines for Nguni names**

The following guidelines are therefore suggested for the writing of Nguni names:

**Capital letters:** The different Nguni languages each have their own system.

- (a) Only the first letter of a name used to be written with a capital, for example *Amatikulu* but the current isiZulu orthography dictates that the initial vowel, for instance indicating place (e) or a river (u) becomes a lower case and the following letter becomes a capital, i.e. *aMatigulu*, *eZwelethemba*, *eMoyeni*, *uMzimvubu*, *eMalahleni*. IsiXhosa, isiNdebele and Siswati has a different orthography, i.e. *Mthatha*, *Mpekweni*, *Dutywa*, *Emoyeni* etc. Exceptions in all cases are the names of post offices, i.e. *UMkhuze*, *UMzimvubu*, etc.
- (b) This principle need not necessarily be applied to names that begin with the prefixes *Kwa-*, *Ku-* and *Ka-*. *KwaZulu*, *KwaMashu* is acceptable.
- (c) Where it can be established that the initial vowels of names may vary with syntactic context, it could be a consideration to write these names without an initial vowel. Should this be the case with Umzimkhulu for example, *Mzimkhulu* could be considered.

Names from the Nguni languages include:

<b>IsiXhosa</b>	<b>Siswati</b>	<b>IsiNdebele</b>	<b>IsiZulu</b>
<i>Bhisho</i>	<i>Dingamanzi</i>	<i>Enzwabuklunga</i>	
<i>eMzimkhulu</i>	<i>Bongolethu</i>	<i>Emgwenya</i>	<i>Limpopo</i>
<i>Eshowe (eKhowe)</i>			
<i>Cofimvaba</i>	<i>Komati</i>	<i>Mbembaneni</i>	<i>eThembisa</i>
<i>Emathafeni</i>	<i>Mabhemana</i>		<i>uMhlanga</i>
	<i>Malalane</i>		<i>uMdloti</i>
<i>Engcobo</i>	<i>Mlaleni</i>		
<i>eMalahleni</i>			
<i>Entsimkeni</i>	<i>Muhlambamadube</i>		<i>eMkhondo</i>
<i>Guguletu</i>	<i>Nhlangamzwane</i>		<i>eMakhazeni</i>
<i>Ikhala</i>	<i>Salitje</i>		<i>KwaDlangezwa</i>
<i>Indwe</i>	<i>Sibhamu</i>		<i>KwaDukuza</i>

*Intabamnyama*

*Sundwini*

*KwaMhlanga*

*Khanyiso*

*Thambokhulu*

### 2.1.1.(b) Geographical names from the Sotho languages

The locative affixes used in the Sotho geographical names are *Ga-*, *Ha-*, *-ng*.

Ga- and Ha- in the Sotho languages are joined to the component that follows, e.g. *Gadikgale*, *Garankuwa*, *Gamosetlha* and *Harasebei*.

The suffixes follow the specific element and is written as one word, i.e. *Bolokaneng*, *Boipatong*. Not all names have these affixes but are statements or phrases written as one word. Other Sotho geographical names include:

*Bolokaneng*  
*Bophelong*  
*Bothibelong*  
*Botshabelo*  
*Dikakhatlong*  
*Diphelaneng*  
*Kutloanong*  
*Lejwaneng*  
*Lekaneng*  
*Letlhabile*  
*Mahlalerwa*  
*Mahlatswetsa*  
*Mahwelereng*  
*Majwemasweu*  
*Makeleketla*  
*Malebogo*  
*Masjaing*  
*Matimachwewu*  
*Matlakeng*  
*Matlapeng*

*Ditlhaila*  
*Dikhorong*  
*Ditshukudu*  
*GaMmabasotho*  
*Ikageleng*  
*Ikageng*  
*Matlhwaring*  
*Mmabatho*  
*Monyakeng*  
*Moriting*  
*Morojaneng*  
*Moshaweng*  
*Motlomo*  
*Mpharani*  
*Naledi*  
*Ntsoanasati*  
*Ntunjenkala (Untunja)*  
*Nyakallong*  
*Palala*  
*Phalaborwa*

*Ikhutseng*  
*Ipopeng*  
*Itekeng*  
*Itshokolele*  
*Katlehong*  
*Kgopeng*  
*Qhoweng*  
*Refilwe*  
*Rweleleyatunya*  
*Sefikeng*  
*Sekhutlong*  
*Seretse*  
*Shamariri*  
*Thabanchu*  
*Thushang*  
*Tladi*  
*Tlhabologang*  
*Tswaraganang*  
*Tswelelang*  
*Utlwanang*

Adaptations of Khoe and San also occur as in *Ntha* < Khoi *Nta* / *Entaap* ‘false river’; *Qhoasing* < San *!khwa* ‘water’;

### 2.1.1.(c) Geographical names from Xitsonga / Shangaan

In Xitsonga geographical names Ka- and Eka- and the component following them are written as separate words, e.g. *Eka Mpopfu* and *Eka Mhinga*. However, in *Ekandustria* the prefix Eka precedes a specific element from another language, and it is written as one word. The prefix *n’wa* indicates a class of nouns that also refer to rivers, places, mountains, etc. as in *N’wanedzi*/*Nwanedzi*. The prefix *ma-* is also used to indicate a toponym, as in the river *Matyulu* and the town in Gazankulu

*Malamulele.*

Other Xitsonga names are

<i>Manyeleti</i>	<i>Hlamvu</i>	<i>Makulujana</i>
<i>Manyukelani</i>	<i>Likhwani</i>	<i>Makuweni</i>
<i>Dobodzi</i>	<i>Luvhundini</i>	<i>Malahlapanga</i>
<i>Fayini</i>	<i>Mabyandzawu</i>	<i>Marico</i>
<i>Hetajomboro</i>	<i>Mabyematsuna</i>	<i>Mhlambanyati</i>
<i>Hlahleni</i>	<i>Mahlambandlopfu</i>	<i>Mikhothweni</i>
<i>Mpanamana</i>	<i>Nwarihlangari</i>	<i>Shigomeni</i>
<i>Munywini</i>	<i>Nwatamhiri</i>	<i>Shiswayini</i>
<i>Murhiwoyila</i>	<i>Nwatindlopfu</i>	<i>Timbavati</i>
<i>Nhlangamutwana</i>	<i>Shibyeni</i>	<i>Timfeneni</i>
<i>Ntsumaneni</i>	<i>Shihloka</i>	<i>Vulwamati</i>
<i>Nwanedzi</i>	<i>Shilalani</i>	<i>Xilala-xa-botse</i>

#### **2.1.1.(d) Geographical names from Tshivenda**

In Tshivenda locality is indicated by prefixing *ha-* to a personal name or noun or by adding *-ni* as a suffix. The *Ha-* as well as the personal name begins with a capital letter, e.g. *HaMasia*, *HaMakuya*. The majority of geographical names in Tshivenda do not use the locative. Other Tshivenda names include:

<i>Botsoleni</i>	<i>Matangari</i>	<i>Luvuvhu</i>
<i>Fundudzi</i>	<i>Mukumbani</i>	<i>Luvhundini</i>
<i>HaTshikota</i>	<i>Tshiugani</i>	<i>Messina</i>
<i>HaTshirundu</i>	<i>Tshitambo</i>	<i>Nzhelele</i>
<i>Mapungubwe</i>	<i>Vhubvumanyundo</i>	<i>Shashanga</i>
<i>Moebeni</i>	<i>(Bvumanyundo)</i>	<i>Tshidzivhan</i>
<i>Magoni</i>	<i>Dzithomboni</i>	
<i>Sibasa (&lt; Tshivhase)</i>	<i>Thulamila</i>	<i>Tshitambo</i>
<i>Thohoyandou</i>	<i>Tshamavhudzi</i>	

#### **2.1.2 Afrikaans place names**

In accordance with a revision of the orthographic rules applying to the fused or separate writing of compound geographical names in Afrikaans, the toponymic guidelines applying to these names in Afrikaans correspond to the rules of the 2009 edition of *Afrikaanse Woordelys en Spelreëls* (Afrikaans Word list and Spelling rules).

#### **GUIDELINES**

(a) Names consisting of a simplex are to be written in the official form, i.e. *Hendrina*, *Montana*, *Zastron*, *Bethlehem*, *Napier*, *Kosmos*, etc.

(b) Capital letters are used:

(i) At the beginning of all Afrikaans geographical names

(ii) At the beginning of main elements in compound names and syntactic structures as place names like the following:

*Drie Susters, Twee Riviere, Klein-Letaba, Groot-Karoo, KwaZulu-Natal, Vallei van 'n Duisend Heuwels, Port Elizabeth, Aliwal-Noord, Somerset-Wes, Noordoos-Vrystaat, Jan Smitstraat, Molopo se Oog, Die Oog, Fort Klapperkop, Berg-en-Dal, Aanhou Wen, Koppie Alleen* and names from other languages like *Les Marais, La Lucia, Con Amore, The Pines, KwaDlangezwa*.

(iii) For the generic term following a number in street names: *7de Laan, 20ste Straat, Derde Laan/Derdelaan*.

(c) Hyphenated names. Compound geographical names are hyphenated in the following cases:

(i) A proper noun preceded or followed by descriptive terms like adjective(s), adverbs and/or locatives, for instance *Agter-Paarl, Bo-Kaap, Waterval-Onder, Groot-Karoo, Durban-Noord, Nieu-Bethesda, Oos-Rand, Beaufort-Wes*.

(ii) A conjunction of more than one proper noun, for instance *Graaff-Reinet, Leeu-Gamka, Ukhahlamba-Drakensberg*.

(iii) Where a name becomes difficult to read due to length or an accumulation of vowels or consonants:

*Ukhahlamba-Drakensberg-roete, Perde-eiland, Van Lill-laan*.

(iv) Names based on the spelling of fauna or flora:

*Wag-'n-bietjie, Haak-en-steek*.

(v) Syntactic structures like: *Bos-en-Berg, Berg-en-Dal*.

(d) Compound geographical names: Although geographical names based on Afrikaans personal names have historically followed an inconsistent pattern, i.e. *Roosenekal* but *Paul Roux, Piet Retief* (now *eMkhondo*), and those with a generic term written as *Pietermaritzburg, Paulpietersburg* but *Jan Kempdorp, Willem Kloppersville*, the recommended spelling for compound geographical names have the following ruling:

(i) Based on a combination of a personal name, surname, title, etc. the elements are preferably to be written separately, i.e. *Paul Roux, Sir Lowry's-pas*. A geographical name derived from a nickname written in a specific way cannot be prescriptive except when a generic item is involved, i.e. *Rooikooslaagte/Rooi Koos-laagte*.

(ii) When a generic term is added to a compound or word, whether proper noun, common noun, numerical, adjective, adverb, abbreviation or acronym to form a geographical name, it is written as one word in conjunction with the last item or hyphenated if required on the grounds of (c) above, i.e. *Jan Kempdorp, Nelson*

*Mandelaweg, Gariepdam, Tafelberg, Sir Lowry's-pas, Hamerkopstraat, Springbokvlakte, Eersterivier, Unisarand, Mooikloof, Middeburg.*

For a list of generic elements see Chapter 7.

### 2.1.3 English place names

Although English names already existing overseas should best be avoided, these names that are given to places in South Africa in most cases retain their original spelling and form. English names that are formed and given in this country, however, may differ in spelling and form from the 'imported' names due to the influence of local languages.

(a) Simplex names

There should be no problems in regard to the spelling of simplex names.

(b) Compound names

In practice a certain amount of irregularity is found in the writing of compound English place names. For example, names ending in crest, end, gate, hill, ridge, view, may be written either as one word or as two. Thus are encountered *Wavecrest* but *Leisure Crest*, *Teaksend* but *Flats End*, *Westgate* but *North Gate*, *Foxhill* but *Calf Hill*, *Redhouse* but *Blue House*, *Aloeridge* but *Gravel Ridge*, *Bayview* but *Mountain View*.

An analysis of certain types of word combinations in the written form of English place names in South Africa has indicated a tendency in the writing of English place names.

(i) Names that are written separately

(a) Most names of which the first part is one of the following adjectives: *Bonny*, *Golden*, *Lower*, *Old*, etc. Examples are *Bonny Rest*, *Golden Gate*, *Lower Sabie*, *Old Town*, *Rocky Hill* but *Newlands*, *Saltville*.

(b) Names in which the generic term is still strongly felt as a common noun, e.g. *Albert Falls*, *Algoa Bay*, *Amatole Basin*, *Berg River Valley*, *Breby Mine*, *Brighton Beach*, *Cape Flats*, *Nagle Dam*, *Sand River*, *Table Mountain*.

(c) Most names of which the second element is a plural noun, e.g. *Birch Acres*, *Beecham Woods*, *Broken Slopes*.

(d) Names with *Crown*, *Fort*, *Loch*, *Mount* and *Port* as the first part, e.g. *Crown Reefs*, *Fort Beaufort*, *Loch Maree*, *Mount Frere* and *Port Alfred*.

(e) Names of which the second part indicates the situation, e.g. *Beaufort West*, *Boksburg North*, *Modder East*, *Randfontein South*.

(f) Names consisting of a numeral plus a noun, e.g. *Four Pines*, *Three Sisters*, *Twenty Four Rivers*.

(g) Names consisting of *Glen* plus a personal name, e.g. *Glen Karen*, *Glen Lynden*.

(h) Phrases used as place names, e.g. *Ascot on Vaal*, *Ebb and Flow*, *Henley on Klip*, *Hole in*



*the Wall.*

- (i) Names of which the first part is written with an apostrophe, e.g. *Davey's Halt, Gordon's Bay, Eagle's Crag, Lion's Head* but *Grahamstown*.
- (j) Names consisting of the abbreviation *St* plus a proper name, e.g. *St Andrew's, St Mark's*.

(ii) Names written as one word

The following names are usually written as one word:

- (a) Names ending in *bourne, bury, combe, dene, hurst, lea, leigh, mere, wick, etc.* For example *Ashbourne, Woodbury, Ashcombe, Forestdene, Meadhurst, Birchleigh, Buttermere, Thornwick*.
- (b) Names beginning with *Broad, Cross, Gay* or *Middle*, e.g. *Broadlands, Crossmoor, Gayridge, Middlebrook*.
- (c) Names beginning with *Bal, Brae, Clan, Craig, Dal, Holm, Pen, Sel, Strath*, etc. For example *Balcraig, Braeview, Clanville, Craigend, Dalview, Holmleigh, Pendale, Selcourt, Strathcona*.
- (d) Names composed of syllables or parts of names or words, such as *Atcem* (from Atlas Cement Company), *Corobrick* (Coronation Brick), *Navex* (Navarro Exploration), *Soweto* (South Western Townships), *Soshanguve* (Sotho, Shangaan, Nguni, Venda).

#### **2.1.4 Khoe and Bushman place names**

Archaeological research has proved that Southern Africa was inhabited by the Bushman (and later the Khoe) for thousands of years. As the only inhabitants, they named places where they resided. With the arrival of the European settlers and later the African groups from the great lakes of Africa, these indigenous names for geographical features were translated and replaced. The Khoe (formerly written Khoikhoi) and Bushman languages were virtually extinct within the borders of South Africa, but under the inspiration of a few descendants some of these languages are being revived and taught in schools and cultural gatherings of these cultural groups. A large number of names of geographical entities derived from these languages exist, which may be submitted to the SAGNC for approval as official names.

In such cases the following principles will apply:

- (a) Bushman and Khoe place names are normally styled solid.
- (b) Diacritical signs to indicate pitch, nasalization, etc., are generally not used.
- (c) Clicks could be indicated as in new names like *!Xhariep*. The UN recommendation regarding pronunciation should however be kept in mind.
- (d) Established forms of spelling, such as *Kei, Goukou, Henkries, Kango, Knysna, Quora* are usually left unchanged although they do not accord with the orthography of the languages concerned.
- (e) Due to pronunciation difficulties spelling should be changed as little as possible, except that at the end of a name:
  - (i) *-p* may be standardized as *-b*,

- (ii)-*bep/-beb/-bes, -beep/-beeb/-bees, -biep/-bieb/-bies*, may be standardized as *-bib/-bis*,
- (iii)-*sep/-seb/-ses/-sieb/-sies*, etc., can be normalised as *-sib/-sis, -reb/-res*, etc.
- (f) The sound (x) is represented by *ch*, except in cases where its representation in some other way has already become established, e.g. *Gamka, Khorixas*.

Place names and compounds of which one element is Bushman/Khoe and the other of another language are treated in accordance with the principles that apply to the other language. Hence the forms *Kei Mouth, Gouritzrivier / Gouritz Rivier, Naab se Berg, Keiskammahoek*.

Many isiZulu and isiXhosa names are of Khoe and Bushman origin (Cf Ch.6, Raper 2011 and 2012)

### 2.1.5 Contraction or abridgements in geographical names

When a geographical name consists of a contraction or an abridgement of more than one word, it is written as one word, e.g. *Thabatshweu, Intabankulu, Thohoyandou, Masakhane*, etc.

### 2.1.6 Other languages

The South African Geographical Names Council has a policy to replace existing foreign names (like *Amsterdam, Belfast, London*) with indigenous South African names. The following rulings, however, are still applied subject to approval by the SAGNC:

#### a. Dutch names

Dutch names are retained where the Dutch spelling has become the accepted form and is being used as such. For example, we write *De Doorns, Franschoek, Volksrust, Zeerust, Garstfontein*. This rule normally applies to important places.

The Dutch spelling can also be retained if a post office or siding, etc., is named after the farm on which it is situated and the farm name has a registered Dutch spelling and the South African Geographical Names Council is requested to retain the old spelling. Each case is decided on merit.

The Council still maintains the general principle of giving an Afrikaans form to certain names that are submitted in the Dutch form. Thus we write *Blouberg, Noupoot, Seekoeivlei* and *Sondagsrivier*.

#### b. Portuguese names

Most South African geographical names of Portuguese origin have been anglicised and retain this form for official purposes: *Dias/ Diaz, Algoa, Agulhas, St. Bras, Saldanha*, etc.

#### c. German names

Most South African place names of German origin retained their German orthography as they primarily refer to the names of Rhenish and other missionaries or governors: *Steinkopf, Stutterheim, Döhne, Hermannsburg, Haenitsburg*.

#### d. French names

Place names from French origin retain the registered spelling: *Marseilles, La Rochelle, Mont-aux-Source, Saron, Picardie, Val de Grace* and many farm names in adapted forms like *Laborie* (< La

Brie); *Lekkerwyn* (<Lecrevent); *Fleurbaay* (<Fleurbaix) etc.

e. Indian names

There are not many towns with Indian names in South Africa.

*Desainagar* means “Desai town” after the first registered Indian millionaire in South Africa, Mr. Desai. There are, however street names in certain areas named after prominent Indian personalities.

f. Hebrew/Biblical names

Many geographical names in South Africa have Biblical references. These names have been adapted to languages spoken in the area, i.e. *Morija* (<Moriah - ‘provided by the Lord’); *Bethlehem* (<Hebrew for ‘house of bread’ with reference to the town lying within an important wheat producing area); *Elim*, *Bethany*; *Bethesda*, *Pniël*; etc.

### 2.1.7 Dual and multilingual forms

In South Africa, where there are eleven official languages, one may expect a large number of geographical names that are used in one language also to be used in a translated form in other languages. In the course of time different names have established themselves for the same places.

The following combinations can be encountered, viz.

- (a) Names of which all the parts are translated, e.g. *Bloedrivier/ Blood River*, *Drieankerbaai/Three Anchor Bay*, *Kaapstad / Cape Town / eKapa*.
- (b) Names of which both parts are ordinary words in the language concerned, but only the second part is translated, e.g. *Gariëp Dam /Gariëpdam*; *uMngeni/uMngeni River*.
- (c) Names of which the first part is a personal name and the second part a generic term, e.g. *Nelson Mandela Drive/Nelson Mandelarylaan*, *Boshoffweg/ Boshoff Road*, *Caledon Square/ Caledonplein*, *Simons Town/ Simonstad*.
- (d) Multilinguistic combinations like *Ukhahlamba-Drakensberg*, *KwaZulu-Natal*, *Leeu-Gamka*.

In terms of the country’s policy of multilingualism the members of each language group have the right to insist on the form they use in the natural context of their own language. For official purposes, however, precedence may be given to one form, that is, ‘the first of the two equals’. This precedence is based on the derivation and linguistic composition of the name, its age, the population group preponderating in the locality concerned, the official languages of the Province, etc.

## 2.2 Pronunciation of South African geographical names

### 2.2.1 General remarks

- (a) When geographical names are spoken, they tend to be pronounced as though they belonged to the language of the speaker, or to the language in the context of which they are being used. Thus the pronunciation of names could be anglicized by English-speaking persons, africanised by African language speakers or pronounced according to Afrikaans pronunciation.
- (b) This tendency is particularly strong in the case of Bushman and Khoe. Not only are the

suction consonants or “clicks” omitted, but the original pitch (high, middle and low) is ignored, and the names are pronounced as though they are African, Afrikaans or English. This phonological adaptation is usually reflected in the orthography.

- (c) Geographical names derived from the various African languages, too, were adapted phonologically (and orthographically) to Afrikaans and English. Many of these names have become standardised in this adapted form, i.e. *Eshowe, Phalaborwa*, etc. many of which are in line for standardisation according to the orthography of the African language concerned.

## 2.2.2 Pronunciation Key for South African languages

### a. Nguni languages

The Nguni languages distinguish between vowels formed in front and in the back of the mouth with tones ranging from high (**i** and **u**), mid-high (**e** and **o**), mid-low (**ê** and **ô**) and low (**a**).

Vowels	Isizulu	Isixhosa	Siswati	Isindebele
a [a]	-lala(sleep)	-lála		-lala -lala
e [e]	-leli (this one)	êli	-leli	leli
[ɛ]	-enza(do)	énza	-enza	enza
i [i]	insipho(soap)	isépha	insipho	isibha
o [o]	iloli(lorry)	ílori	iloli	ilori
[ɔ]	-oma(become dry)	ôma	-oma	oma
u [u]	-vula(open)	-vula	-vula	-vula

### Consonants

The 18 click consonants in isiZulu and isiXhosa and the 7 in Siswati are represented by [l], [ll] and [!] in various combinations with **c,h,g,k,q** and the nasal **n**. Some clicks are voiceless, others not. However, place names derived from expressions with clicks are usually pronounced without the clicks.

	Isizulu	Isixhosa	Siswati	Isindebele
b	[b] ubaba(father)	úbawó	babe	ubana
bh	[b] -bhala(write)	bhâla	bhala	bhala
mb	[b] imbazo(axe)	imbûzi(goat)	imbazo(axe)	imbuzi(goat)
c	[ʔ] -cula(sing)		-conga(collect)	cima(extinguish)

ch	[h]	-chita(throw out)	-chitsa		chatjha(hire)
d	[d]	idada(duck)	amádoda(men)	lidada(duck)	idada
nd	[d]	indaba(a case)	ídoda(man)	ndanda(float)	indoda(man)
dl	[z]	-dladla(play)	-dlâdla	dladla	dladla
ndl	[dlz]	indlovu(elephant)	índlovu	-	indlovu
dy	[dʃ]	-	ídyasi(coat)	-	-
dy	[tʃ]	-	índyebo(harvest)	-	-
f	[f]	-funa(want)	-fá (die)	-funa (want)	-fa(die)
mf	[mpf]	imfene(baboon)	ímfe(sweetreed)	imfene	imfene
g	[g]	ugogo(grandmother)	-gula(be ill)	gogo(gr.mother)	ugogo
ng	[ng]	ingubo(garment)	íngubo(blanket)	ingubo(garment)	ingubo
ngc	[n/g]	ingcosana(little)	-	-ngcunu(naked)	ingcuba (carcass meat)
gc	[/g]	-gcoba(anoint)	-	-gcoba	gcoka(dress up)
gx	[/ig]	-gxibha(slander)	-		
(r)h	[x]	-hola(money)	írháfu(tax)	-hola(earn)	rhola(earn)
gr	[gr]	-	ígrónya(sack cloth)	-	-
h	[h]	-hamba(go)	-húhúza(blow)	-hamba	iholo(hall)
h	[h]	ihhashi(horse)	iháshe	lihhashe	-
hl	[p]	-hlala(sit,stay)	-hlála	-hlala	-hlala
nhl	[ntpʻ]	inhlanhla(luck)	-	-	-
j	[dz]	ijuba(dove)	-juba(unconscious)	lijuba	ijuba
nj	[ndz]	inja(dog)	ínjá	inja	inja
k	[kʻ]	ikati(cat)	kákubi(badly)	likati	ikosi(chief)
kh	[kh]	-khala(cry)	-khá(pick)	-khala	khamba(go)
k	[k]	ukukhala(to cry)	-	-faka(put in)	kuhle(pretty)
kl	[kpʻ]	-klikliza(choke)	-	-klebhula(rip)	kleza(milk)
kr	[kxʻ]	-	íkrêle(sword)	-	-
l	[l]	-ilala(sleep)	-lála	lala	lala
lh	[l]	-	úLholhó(name)	-	-
m	[m]	umama(mother)	-mêma(invite)	make(mother)	mema(invite)
m(h)	[mʰ]	Mina!(Here,take)	mhumha(drink)	Mina!	Mina
n	[n]	-nona(be fat)	-na(rain)	nona	nona

nh	[nh]	nhinhiza(speak)	îsínhanha(richman)	nesi(nurse)	-
p	[pʼ]	ipipi(pipe)	pása(out of breath)	lipipi	ipipi
ph	[ph]	-phupha(deam)	-phá(give)	phupha	phapha(fly)
q	[!]	iqoqo(collection)	-	iqoqo	iqaqa(frog)
qh	[!h]	iqhude(rooster)	-	-	qhula(knock)
gq	[!g]	gqagqaza(scatter)	-	-	gqaba(vaccinate)
nq	[n!]	-nqanda(turn away)	-	-	-
nkq	[n!]	qonkqela(amass)	-	-	-
nkc/nc	[n/]	-	-	nconcotsa(knock)	ncenga(beg)
nch	[n/h]	-	-	nchanti(long ago)	-
n(˘)	[n]	-	ingwe(leopard)	-	ingwe
nyh	[hʼ]	-	inyhólóba(elbow)	-	-
nty	[ncʼ]	-	ntyélo(information)	-	-
ndy	[ndj]	-	ndyebo(bigharvest)	-	-
r	[r]	uMariya(Maria)	uMariya	Mariya	uMaria
s	[s]	-susa(take away)	-sála(remain)	-susa	susa
sh	[ʃ]	-shosha(bend low)	-shushú(hot)	-shosha	-
t	[tʼ]	into(a thing)	itakáne(lamb)	intfo	into
th	[th]	-thatha(take)	-thêtha(speak)	ithaya(tyre)	thatha
ts	[tsʼ]	tsatsaza(spurt)	-tsîba(jump)	lutswayi(salt)	tsatsaza
tsh/tj	[tʃʼ]	utshwala(beer)	tshîxa(lock)	tjani(grass)	utjani(grass)
tsh/tjh	[tʃʰ]	-	-tshisa(burn)	tsatsa(take)	tjhada(marry)
ty	[cʼ]	-	úkutyá(eat)	-	-
tyh	[ch]	-	ítyhéfu(poison)	-	-
ths	[tsh]	-	isíthsaba(crown)	-	-
v	[v]	-vula(open)	-vala(close)	vula	vula
mv	[mʋ]	imvula(rain)	ímvubú(hippo)	imvula	imvu(sheep)
W	[W]	Woza!(Come!)	-wa(fall)	Wota!(Come)	Woza!
x	[//]	-xoxa(talk)	-	xoxa	-
xh	[//ih]	xhuga(limp)	-	-	-
nxg	[n//g]	-ngxangxasha(hop)	-	-	-
nx	[n//g]	nxa(when,if)	-	-	nx!(sound of annoyance)

nkx	[n//]	-xhonkxa(sow thick)	-	-	-
y	[j]	yebo(yes)	ukúya(to go)	yebo	yami(mine)
ny	[ɲ]	inyoni(bird)	inyama(meat)	inyoni	inyoni
z	[z]	-zama(try)	-zama	-zama	zama
nz	[dz]	inzalo(progeny)	ínzalo	-	-
dz	[ndz]	-	îdzedze(flea)	-	idzila(copper rings)
tf	[tf] / [tø]			tfumba	
tf	[tøh]			intfombi	
dv	[dv]				
ndv	[ndv]				

## b. Sotho languages

The Sotho languages distinguish between vowels formed in front and in the back of the mouth with tones ranging from high (**i** and **u**), mid-high (**e** and **o**), mid-low (**ê** and **ô**) and low (**a**).

Vowels		Sesotho sa Leboa	Sesotho	Setswana
a	[a]	-araba(answer)	-araba	-araba
e	[e]	-lema(plough)	-lema	-lema
ê	[ɛ]	-êma(stand)	-êma	-êma
i	[i]	-ipshina(enjoy)	-idibana(faint)	-itse(know)
u	[u]	-utshwa(steal)	-utlwa(hear)	-utlwa
o	[o]	-gola(grow big)	-hola(grow big)	-gola
ô	[ɔ]	-ôma(become dry)	-ôma	-ôma

Consonants		Sesotho sa Leboa	Sesotho	Tswana
p	[pʼ]	pitsa(cooking pot)	pitsa	pitsa
ph	[ph]	-phela(live)	phio(kidney)	philo(kidney)
pj	[pf]	-	-pjapjata(boil well)	-
pjh	[pfh]	-	-pjha(become dry)	-
b	[β]	-bitsa(call)	-botsa(ask)	-botsa

m	[m]	maabane(yesterday)	-metsa(swallow)	-metsa
f	[f]	-fofa(fly)	-fetsa(complete)	-fetsa
fj	[ff]	-	-lefjwa(be paid)	-
fs	[fs]	bofsa(youth)	-	-
psh	[psh]	pshikologa(roll down)	-	-
f(s)	[ff]	-bofsa(is tied)	-	-
p	[pʼ]	papa		
ph	[ph]	phatla		
pš	[pf]	mpša(dog)	-	-
p(s)h	[pfh]	-psha(dry up)	-	-
bj	[βz]	bjang(grass)	-bjaratsa(crush)	-
my	[mj]	-myemyela(smile)	-	-
w	[w]	wena(you)	-wa(fall)	-wa
c	[/]	cecece(expressing pity)	c-c-c	c-c-c
nc	[n/]	nce-nce(ticking watch)	-ncama(eat)	ncencana(small)
t	[t] / [tʼ]	tau(lion)	tau	tiro(work)
th	[th]	-thiba(stop)	-thiba	-thiba
ts	[tsʼ]	-tseba(know)	-tsela(road)	-tsela
tsh	[tsh]	tshipi(iron)	-tshela(cross)	-tshela(live)
r	[r]	-rora(roar)	-rema(chop)	-rema
s	[s]	-soal(serve up)	-seha(cut)	-sega(cut)
n	[n]	noga(snake)	-nea(give)	-naya(give up)
nq	[n!]	nqwaa(bad beer)	-	-
tl	[tl/tlʼ]	-tla(come	-tlola(jump over)	-tlola(jump over)
t(s)/tj	[tfʼ]	-tsea(take)	- tjeka(dance)	tjaraloga(bitter)
t(s)h	[tfh]	-tshaba(flee)	-	-tshomoga(jerk)
(s)/sh	[f]	-soma(work)	-shapa(punish)	-(s)apa(punish)
j	[dz]	-ja(eat)	jwang(how)	jaanong(now)
tlh	[tlh]	ntlha(point)	tlhaho(origin)	-
nx	[n//]	nxanxae!(pardon!)		
hl	[ʔ]	-hlotla(filter)	hloho(head)	-
l	[l]	-leka(try)	lela(cry)	-lela



d	[d]	-dula(sit)	duma	modumo
y	[j]	-bolaya(kill)	-ya(go)	-ya
ny	[ɲ]	-nyaka(search)	-nyala(marry)	-nyema(weaken)
h	[ɦ]	-huma(become rich)	-haha(build)	-huhumela(crawl)
k	[kʰ]	koloi(wagon)	-kumola(uproot)	-kumola
kh	[kh]	-khutsa(rest)	khabetjhe(cabbage)	-khutla(end)
kg	[kxh]	kgomo(cattle)	dikgomo	-kgama(strangle)
g	[g]	-gama(milk)	galase(glass)	-gama
ng	[ŋ]	ngaka(witchdoctor)	-ngola(write)	-ngapa(scratch)
x	[//]	-	(interjection of annoyance)	
nx	[ɲ//]	-	nxanxabetsa(treat gently)	
q	[!]	-	-qala(start)	qo-qo(social greeting)
qh	[!h]	-	-qhala(disperse)	-
nq	[ɲ!]	-	nnqa(direction)	-

### c. Xitsonga

Vowels	Example
a [a]	aka
e [e]	vele
i [i]	kwihhi
o [o]	nhloko
u [u]	huku

#### Consonants

b [b]	hambana
bv [bv]	
c [tʃ]	cina
d [d]	
dy [dj]	dyambu
dz [dz]	dzaha
f [f]	fanele
g [g]	
h [h]	huma
hl [ɦ]	nhlampfi
j [dz]	jomela

k	[k]	kala
l	[l]	lowu
m	[m]	marito
n	[n]	nala
p	[p]	peletywa
pf	[pf]	pfelelaka
q	[l] / [ʔ]	qulu
r	[r]	rito
s	[s]	sasekile
sh	[ʃ]	
sw	[sw]	
t	[t]	
ts	[ts]	
ty	[tj]	
v	[β]	
vh	[v]	
	w [w]	
x	[f]	
y	[j]	
z	[z]	

#### d. Tshivenda

Venda distinguishes between a high tone and a low tone. The meaning of some words may depend on the tone, i.e. thóhó (head) has two high tones and thòhó (monkey) has one high and one low tone. Some consonants are also aspirated.

Vowels	Examples
a [a]	u amba (to speak)
e [ɛ]	u renga (to buy)
i [i]	u lisa (to herd)
o [ɔ]	u vona (to see)
u [u]	u ruma (to send)

#### Consonants

b [b]	bako (cave)
bv [bv]	u bvuma (to rumble)
bw [bj]	u bwa (to dig)
p [pʰ]	u panda (to stamp)
pf [pfʰ]	kupfene (small baboon)
pw [pj/pxw]	u pwasha (to shatter)
ph [ph] (aspirated)	u phapha (to cleave)

	pf	[fh] ( “ )	pfene (baboon)
	phw	[pjh] ( “ )	u phwama (to be moist)
	d	[d]	u daha (to smoke)
	dy	[dj]	dyelo (to crawl)
	dz	[dz]	dzembe (hoe)
	dzh	[dzh]	u dzhena (to enter)
	dzw	[dzw]	u dzwala (to bear young)
	d	[th] (dental)	u da (to come) diacritic under d pronounced with tongue against the front teeth.
	t	[tʰ]	u takala (to be glad)
	ts	[tsʰ]	kutsimu (small field)
	tsh	[tʰh] (aspirated)	tshifu (trap)
	tsw	[tʰh] (aspirated)	u tswa (to steal)
	tzh	[tʰʰ]	u tzipa (to strangle)
	tzw	[tʰʰ]	u tzipudza (to strike with a whip)
	ty	[cʰ]	u tyetyenea (to laugh loudly)
	th	[th] (aspirated)	thavha (mountain)
	t	[tʰ]	u tafuna (to chew) - dental t.
	g	[g]	u goga (become lean)
	k	[kʰ]	kokodza (to pull)
	kh	[kh] (aspirated)	khuhu (fowl)
	f	[f]	u fa (to die)
	fh	[ø]	u fha (to give)
	v	[v]	u vala (to close)
	vh	[β]	u vhalala (to read, count)
	s	[s]	u sala (to remain)
	z	[z]	u zazamela (to itch, burn)
	sh	[ʃ]	u shavha (to flee)
	zh	[ʒ]	u zhaka (to trample)
	sw	[ʃw]	u swika (to arrive)
	zw	[ʃw]	u zwifha (to tell lies)
	x	[x]	u xa (to dry up)
	h	[h]	u hana (to refuse)
	hw	[ʰw]	u rahwa (to be kicked)
	r	[r]	u ruma (to send)
	l	[l]	u la (to eat) - dental l.
	l	[l] (dental)	u lala (to lie down)
	m	[m]	u mama (to suck)
	mm	[mh]	o mmbikela (she cooked for me)
	n	[n]	u nona (to be fat)
	nn	[nh]	nndwa (war)
	n	[ɲ]	u nama (meat) – dental n.
	Nn	[ng]	onndu (hut/house)
	ny	[ɲ]	vhunyuny (mosquitoes)
	nny	[ɲɲ]	o nnyimbela (he sang for me)
	ng	[ŋ]	nngu (sheep)
	w	[w]	u wa (to fall)

y [j]

u ya (to go)

### e. Afrikaans

#### Vowels

Spelling	Example	Spelling	Example
a [a]	kat	aa/a [a:]	vader/maan
e/ee [e]	predikant/been	ee [e:]	vee
eë [eə]	reën	ae [a]	waens
e [ɛ]	vet	ê [ɛ:]	sê
e [i]	bedjie	e/ê [æ]/[æ:]	werk/skêr
i/e [ɪ]	begin	i/ie [i]	lied/ basilika
ie [i:]	mier	ei/y [ɔi]	reis/ys
o/oo [o]	bote/noot	o/oo [o:]	bo/voor
oë [uə]	oë	oei [ui]	koei
ou [œu]	trou	ui [œy]	lui
ooi [oi]	mooi	oi [ɔi]	toiings
o [ɔ]	kom	ô [ɔ:]	môre
eu [ø]	neus	eu [ø:]	treurig
u [œ]	stuk	û [œ:]	brûe
oe [u]	soet	oe [u:]	loer
u/uu [y]	brute/minuut	uu [y:]	uur

#### Consonants

Spelling	Example	Spelling	Example
b/bb [b]	baba/robbe	b [p]	rob
d/dd [d]	dam/beddens	d [t]	bad
f/ff [f]	fiets/effens	g [ç]	gee
g [x]	gaan	ch [x]	chaos
g [dz]	gentleman	g/gh [g]	berge/gholf
h [h]	hulle	j [j]	julle
k/kk [k]	koop/lekker	k [ç]	kies/bietjie
l/l [l]	laat/julle	m/mm [m]	mamma
n/nn [n]	nag/panne	n/ng [ŋ]	lank,sing
n [ŋ]	handjie	n [ñ]	mens
p/pp [p]	pop/poppe	r/rr [r]	rook/karre
s/ss [s]	sag/visse	sj [ʃ]	sjokolade
t/tt [t]	tafel/letter	tj [t]	tjek

ts	[ts]	tsetse	v	[f]	vra
w	[v]	wag	w	[w]	kwart
z	[z]	zulu	x	[ks]	oxo

#### f. English

See Toponymic Guidelines for the United Kingdom. Pronunciation of British English may however differ from general South African English although it may not be reflected in the spelling.

#### g. Khoes and Bushman languages

The languages are characterized by suction consonants or ‘clicks’ which are, or may be, semantically determinative. They are the dental click, represented in writing by the symbol /, the palatal click ʘ, the lateral click //, and the cerebral click, represented by ! as seen on the country’s national emblem: **!KE E: /XARRA //KE** (‘diversity in unity’). In place names these suction consonants are generally omitted. Thus for /Ae//gams the form *Aegams* is written, yet for Gariep the form *!Xhariep* is also written for the new name of the dam or Municipality.

#### h. Other languages

For the pronunciation of Dutch, Portuguese and German geographical names, see Toponymic Guidelines for The Netherlands, Austria, Germany, always taking into account (a) above.

### 3. LINGUISTIC SUBSTRATA IN SOUTH AFRICAN GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES

Geographical names in South Africa are mainly of African, Bushman, Khoes, Afrikaans, English and other European (e.g. Dutch, English, French, German, Italian, Portuguese, and others) origin, or have their origin in these languages. The linguistic substrata peculiar to each of these languages will *ipso facto* feature in these place names. This will also apply to elements from these languages occurring in hybrid place names in which elements from different languages present. Then there are etymological (or folk etymological) adaptations which seem on the surface to be, for example, isiZulu, English or Afrikaans names, but which are, or were, Bushman, Khoes, etc., for example *uMzinyati*, *Mangaung*, *Blood River/Bloedrivier*, *Goodhouse*, *Koppies*, *Koringhuis*. Certain names of which the lexical meaning is not immediately evident, e.g. *The Coombs*, *Illovo*, *Clocolan* also reveal Bushman, Khoes or African language substructures when researched. By and large the linguistic substrata can readily be discerned in geographical names which have become adapted into English or Afrikaans from the indigenous languages, e.g. *Abbabis*, *GaMarota*, *eHlobane*, *Kraggakamma*, and the like. Less readily discernible is the Khoes and Bushman substratum in names adapted into, for example, Xhosa, e.g. *Bulura*, *Qora*; and isiZulu names. (Cf. Raper 2011, 2012 in Chapter 6).

## **4. RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN DIALECT(S) AND STANDARD LANGUAGE(S)**

### **4.1 Peculiarities of dialect in different languages**

The dialects of each language spoken in South Africa are seen as the rightful home language (mother tongue) of their users. Technically the standard form of any language is but one of the variations with a specific function, usually for official correspondence. The social reality is that all the languages in South Africa have more than one dialect spoken in different parts of the country which reflects the inherent diversity of the population. Sesotho sa Leboa, for instance has at least 15 dialects spoken in Limpopo, Mpumalanga and Gauteng. Dialects will inevitably be reflected in names, therefore *Recommendation B(a)(1)* in the United Nations Document on Geographical Names (1996) states that :”*The field and office research be as complete as possible in order to provide information on 1. The written and spoken form of the name and its meaning according to local inhabitants” and 2.”The spelling of geographical names be as much as possible in accordance with the current orthographic practice of the country concerned with due regard to dialect forms ..”* Where a geographical name has been given by local people using a dialect, and this name became common usage, the name is acknowledged, i.e. Letaba < Sesotho sa Leboa *le thaba* , dialectical for *le hlaba* (‘sandy river’). In the same way Mulalani was derived from a Sotho dialect referring to ‘place of small palm trees’ and Kaditswene, a name that represents part of the oldest recorded vocabulary in the Sehurutsho dialect of Setswana. Although guidelines for standardisation take the rules for the standard variety of each language into account, established names derived from dialects should be approved if the local speakers prefer it in that form.

### **4.2 Aerial distribution of languages within South Africa**

(To be inserted)

## **5. NAMES AUTHORITIES AND NAMES STANDARDISATION**

### **5.1 The South African Geographical Names Council**

The United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names (UNGEGN) was established for the international standardisation of place names. Recognising that national standardisation is a basic prerequisite for international standardisation, and that each country has the sovereign right to decide on names and written forms for its features, United Nations Resolutions recommend that each country should have a national geographical names authority to standardise names.

South Africa has had such an authority since 1939, first known as the National Place Names Committee (NPNC). However, the NPNC has previously had too narrow a mandate, excluding, for example the names of topographical features. New names were sometimes given and existing names changed without consultation with the NPNC. A Working Forum

on Geographical Names was accordingly established to advise the Minister of Arts, Culture, Science and Technology on the reconstitution of the NPNC in accordance with the recommendations of the White Paper on Arts, Culture and Heritage, and according to international standards". (Report of the South African Geographical Names Commission).

The recommendations of the new commission to the Minister included that the name should be The South African Geographical Names Council with the responsibilities as indicated in the Council's *Handbook on Geographical Names* based on international guidelines as suggested by UNGEGN. This *Handbook* covers the following:

*What are geographical names?*

*What is the South African Geographical Names Council (SAGNC)?*

*What does the SAGNC do?*

*What geographical names are covered by the SAGNC?*

*What geographical names fall outside the jurisdiction of the SAGNC?*

*Provincial Geographical Names Committees (PGNCs)*

*Functions of a PGNC*

*Why geographical names should be standardised?*

*Policies for standardisation*

*Principles for geographical names in South Africa*

*Recognition of names not previously approved*

*Grounds, procedures, considerations and categories for changing geographical names*

*Application for approval of a geographical name*

## **5.2 Provincial Names Committees**

Each of the nine provinces in South Africa should have a Geographical Names Committee whose main purpose is to standardise existing names and propose new names in the place of names that are perceived as abusive or do not comply with the rules set out in the Handbook for South African Geographical Names. Procedures are in place by which such proposals are to be handled in a democratic manner. These proposals are then sent to the SAGNC on a specific proposal form for further consideration.

## **5.3 Urban Advisory Committees on Street and Place Names**

An Urban Advisory Committee on Street and Place Names is recommended for municipalities, comprising experts in all official languages of South Africa and in local history, as well as a representative with Onomastic research experience and city councillors. Its function is to consider proposed names for suburbs, streets and parks of a metropole/city/town, and to advise the City Council on these names. A name-bank from which names may be drawn when required could be established.

## **6. SOURCE MATERIAL**

## 1. TOPONYMIC GUIDELINES FOR MAP AND OTHER EDITORS (Third edition)

The third edition contains an extensive list of sources used for its compilation. Based on this information, the present edition is an adaptation to comply with the demands for a multicultural language policy. Sources used in the previous edition are:

### 1.1 (a) Maps

South Africa 1:50 000, 1 920 sheets, 1967-1988.

South Africa 1:250 000 Topo-cadastral edition, 70 sheets, 1970-1988.

South Africa 1:250 000 Topographical edition, 70 sheets, 1970-1988.

Southern Africa 1:500 000 Administrative edition, 23 sheets, 1977-1986.

Southern Africa 1:500 000 Aeronautical edition, 23 sheets, 1977-1986.

Southern Africa 1:500 000 Topographical edition, 23 sheets, 1977-1986.

World Aeronautical Chart ICAO 1:1 000 000 (Southern Africa), 16 sheets, 1972-1990.

*Note:* All of the above map series are published by the Chief Director of Surveys and Land Information, Mowbray.

### 1.1(b) Gazetteers

#### 1.1.1 Official

(a) National Place Names Committee, comp. 1991. Official Place Names in the Republic of South Africa (Approved 1978-1988). Pretoria: Government Printer. As the title states, this publication contains names of “official” places, i.e. names of cities, town, townships, post offices, railway stations, and stopping-places of buses of the South African Transport Services (now Transnet), some 1 700 in all. An introduction of 11 pages outlines the procedures followed by the NPNC when considering proposed names, as well as general suggestions and guidelines for the spelling and styling of names from the various languages from which the names are derived.

(b) Onomastic Research Centre, comp. 1976. Place Names in the Cape Province and South West Africa. Pretoria: Human Sciences Research Council. Comprizing some 30 000 entries, this computerized gazetteer was compiled for the Cape Province from the Topo-cadastral series 1:250 000 (Pretoria: Government Printer, 1954-1975).

(c) Place Names Committee comp. 1978 Official Place Names in the Republic of South Africa and in South-West Africa. Pretoria: Government Printer. This publication contains an alphabetical list of all “official” place names (cf. par. (a) above) approved to 1 April 1977, some 18 500 entries. An indication is given of the location of each named entity in terms of province, the route on which it is situated, or the centre under which it falls, as relevant, and the feature type to which the name refers. An introduction of 121 pages, in Afrikaans and English, is devoted to principles



governing the approval or rejection of names, guidelines on the spelling and styling of names in Afrikaans, English, Bushman, Khoe and the indigenous African languages, and to historical aspects of the National Place Names Committee.

- (d) Raper, P.E. ed. 1991. Concise Gazetteer of South Africa. Pretoria: Onomastic Research Centre. Compiled in accordance with Recommendation E of Resolution 4 of the First United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names, this gazetteer contains some 5 636 entries. It is based on the 1:1 000 000 scale aeronautical charts and other sources, with relevant data as stipulated in *Resolution 4E* of the First UN Conference. Besides the standardized geographical name, each entry gives an indication of the type of feature, its location in terms of degrees and minutes, district and province, and its status (official or unofficial). Where relevant, official and unofficial variants have been added, as well as names and data from other sources. With a view to a second, expanded edition, the names are being updated in accordance with the latest orthographic rules applicable to the various languages from which they are derived.

### 1.2.2 Private

- (a) Skead, C.J. 1973. Zoo-Historical Gazetteer. Grahamstown: Cape Provincial Museums. Published as Volume 10 of the Annals of the Cape Provincial Museums, this gazetteer contains a list of some 11 000 place names with alternative (historical) names for the place or entity concerned. The location of each feature is given in terms of degrees and minutes.
- (b) Leistner, O.A. & Morris, J.W. 1976. Southern African Place Names. Grahamstown: Cape Provincial Museums. Published as Volume 12 of the Annals of the Cape Provincial Museums, this gazetteer contains some 42 000 geographical names taken from maps, other gazetteers, lists of farms and of post offices, and other sources. The location of each feature is given in terms of one sixteenth of a degree square (e.g. 22 19 AC), magisterial district, and province.
- (c) Rousseau, W.L. 1975. Suid-Afrikaanse Pleknaamleksikon. Cape Town: Kennis-uitgewers. This 'lexicon' of geographical names, in Afrikaans, is contained in the same volume as the index to a children's encyclopaedia entitled Kennis ('knowledge'). It comprises about 130 pages (triple column), some 11 000 entries, and gives the location of each place in terms of province, grid reference (e.g. K-6, L-3, etc.), and description (e.g. 'west of Springs', 'at Germiston').
- (d) Nienaber, G.S. and Raper, P.E. Toponymica Hottentotica, Vol. 3, Pretoria: HSRC 1980, pp. 71-122.

## 2. Other sources also used for the fourth edition

- (a) Raper, P.E. et al 2014 Dictionary of Southern African Place Names. This publication contains more than 6000 entries, including names of major features in neighbouring countries like Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia and Swaziland, with information dating from

the year 1486 where applicable. Cognisance has been taken of resolutions of the United Nations and each entry complies with the minimum requirements recommended. In all entries the feature type is indicated, as well the location of the named entity in terms of the sixteenth of a degree square in which it is situated, as well as province, and distance and direction from one or more other features. The scope and intention of this publication are wider than those of a traditional gazetteer, for it also contains information on the origin and meaning of the names, some local historical data, an indication of the language(s) from which the name is derived, and so forth.

2010 “Translations as key to the meanings of Khoisan hydronyms” in LANGUAGE MATTERS Vol 41(1) July 2010.

2011 “Interpretations and translations of Bushman (San) place-names” in ACTA VARIA 2011 (2) .

2012 “Bushman (San) influence on Zulu place names” in ACTA ACADEMICA Supplementum 2012 (2).

- (b) Department of Arts and Culture APPROVED NAMES until 2000, [www.dac.co.za](http://www.dac.co.za)
- (c) PANSALB Booklets on language rules for the official languages of South Africa.

## **7. GLOSSARY OF WORDS FREQUENTLY OCCURRING IN GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES AS DESCRIPTIVE TERMS, AS SPECIFIC ELEMENTS OR GENERIC TERMS, AND WHICH ARE USEFUL FOR THE UNDERSTANDING OF MAPS**

### **7.1 KHOE and BUSHMAN(San) languages**

**KHOE:** With the exception of Nama and Damara (both spoken in Namibia and the Northern Cape), the Khoe languages have mostly become extinct within the Republic of South Africa as spoken languages but are being revived by the descendants of the Khoe and Bushman cultural organisations. In place names the suction consonants typical of these languages are generally omitted. Thus for /Ae//gams the form *Aegams* is written. In appellatives, epithets and other words, these suction consonants are indicated. In the following lists, the suction consonants are given where relevant, for it is from these appellatives etc. from which place names are derived.

Although some of these elements are not in line with the modern orthography (of Nama for instance) they are listed here because that is how they are encountered in place names. Only the most frequent elements are listed. For a more comprehensive listing see the Source Material in Chapter 6 of this document.

In common with other substantives, place names in Khoe generally end in -b (masculine) or -s (feminine). These endings are not reflected in the following lists of generic terms. Here

again the elements are sometimes given as they occur in place names, and consequently they do not always comply with the modern orthography. The click or suction consonants: /, //, ≠ and !, are integral element of words or morphemes and, although omitted from place names when these are written, they are or may be semantically determinative. The following lists should, therefore, correctly be systematized under each of these consonants. However, in view of the use for which they are intended, and the fact that the users may not be au fait with the Khoe languages, and since these consonants are not reflected in place names and one would not know under which consonant to seek the element, the listing is alphabetical according to the letter following the suction consonant. Thus a, /a, //a, ≠a and !a would all be listed under a.

<b>a</b> (hole)	<b>/a</b> (marsh, swamp)	<b>≠a</b> (reed)	
<b>!a</b> (river)			
<b>am</b> (mouth, fountain)	<b>!am</b> (green)	<b>ami</b> (ostrich)	<b>ani</b> (bird)
<b>/ara</b> (gully)	<b>//ara</b> (blunt)	<b>!are</b> (hill, hillock)	
<b>#are</b> (grass)			
<b>//ari</b> (raisin bush)	<b>aru</b> ( <i>Albizzia</i> )	<b>/aru</b> (dung)	<b>!ari</b> (steenbok)
<b>/asa</b> (new)	<b>au</b> (bitter)	<b>/au</b> (fountain)	<b>bi</b> (milk)
<b>dai</b> (milk)	<b>dana</b> (head, hill)		
<b>dani</b> (honey)	<b>dao</b> (mountain pass)	<b>dawe</b> ( <i>Tamarix</i> )	<b>dom</b> (throat, channel, furrow)
<b>ei</b> (face, plain)	<b>//eixa</b> (angry)	<b>≠ga</b> (flat, plain)	
<b>!ga</b> (poison)	<b>//gam</b> (water)		
<b>!gam</b> (deep)	<b>/gam</b> (two)	<b>!gan</b> (path, road)	
<b>gama</b> (crooked)			
<b>#gama</b> (brown)	<b>//gana</b> ( <i>Acacia giraffae</i> )	<b>ganna</b> ( <i>Salsola</i> )	
<b>//gara</b> (quiver tree)			
<b>!gari</b> (river)	<b>//garu</b> (waterhole in rock)	<b>/garu</b> (leopard)	<b>//gau</b> (place, settlement)
<b>/gawa</b> (hat, cliff)	<b>gaxu</b> (long)	<b>gei</b> (large)	<b>/gho</b> ( <i>Acacia hebeclada</i> )

**/gina** (fly)            **/giri** (jackal)            **≠go** (peak)            **goba** (speak, argue)  
**≠goa** (mud)    **!goa** (ravine)    **/goa** (child)    **goma** (cow,ox)    **/gowa** (dune)  
**!gom** (wild olive)            **!gou** (transverse)    **gu** (sheep)    **≠gui** (nose,cliff)    **//ha**  
(gorge, ravine)    **#ha** (flat plain)            **hai** (tree)            **/hara** (knoll)    **!hao**  
(ledge, sill, bank)    **!hara** (kraal)    **/hara** (breast)            **//haragu** (korhaan)  
**#hawa** (broad, wide) **/haru** (bulrush)    **hei** (tree)            **/hei** (grey)  
**//hoa** (cliff, hollow)    **#hoa** (blue)            **!hoa** (crooked)    **!homi** (mountain)  
**/horo** (neck)    **!hu** (earth, ground, land) **/huni** (Boscia tree) **!huni** (yellow) **!kae**  
(dark)    **kamma** (water, river) **/kama** (hartebeest) **/kara** (gully)            **//khae**  
(sand)            **#khari** (small)            **!kho** (lime, limestone) **/khom** (stone)  
**//khu** (thorn) **!khoru** (limestone)    **#khoa** (elephant)            **/kuru** (sour)  
**!khuwi**(marsh,swamp) **//kara**(gravel) **koe** (hill, mountain) **≠kuru** (watervein)  
**kuwi** (marsh, swamp)    **mû** (eye, spring)    **//na** (horn)    **!na** (stomach, plain)  
**!naba**(rhinoceros)    **!nae** (giraffe)            **!naru** (ebony)            **!nau** (ochre)  
**!nawa** (rhinoceros)    **!nani** (ridge, edge)            **≠nari** (island)            **/near**  
(baboon)            **//noa** (hollow)            **!noa** (porcupine)            **!nom** (head, hill)  
**!noro** (hind-head, hill) **!nu** (far, distant)    **!noma** (fig)    **#nu** (black)            **/o**  
(stinking)  
**#o** ( narrow)            **ob** (river)            **om** (house)            **/ori** (iron)            **/oro**  
(old)  
**ro** (round hill)    **sam** (breast)            **sana** (mole)    **su** (pot, depression)    **toro**  
(Karoo ground)            **tsau** (well)            **tsawi** (ebony(Euclea pseudebenus))  
**/ui** (rock, stone, mountain)            **/u**(salt)            **!uri** (white)            **!unia**  
(palmtree)

**xora** (waterhole dug in sand)    **xam** (lion)    **xau** (excrement)                      **xanu** (drift, ford)

**BUSHMAN:** The following information was kindly provided by Prof. Peter Raper for a clearer understanding of the complexity of research into the origin of South African geographical names. Names with a Bushman heritage are tested against words from the different Bushman languages. Raper (2011) states that due to the fact that the Bushman inhabited all parts of southern Africa, names from Bushman languages have to be assumed in all languages everywhere in the region where language contact was possible. Adaptations in African languages have clicks as well as click replacements and sound shifts according to the phonological and orthographical systems of the various languages, for instance Zulu (Cf. Raper 2011,2012).

Dorothea F Bleek (*Comparative vocabularies of Bushman languages*, 1929 and *A Bushman dictionary*, 1956) classified the Bushman peoples and their languages into three groups, the Southern, Northern and Central Groups, and allocated symbols to them, e.g. S1, S2, S3, N1, N2, N3, C1, C2.

The names of the languages are the following:

(S1): /Xam	(S5): Sesarwa	(C1): Hie
(S2): //ŋ !ke	(S6): /Nu //en	(C2): Naron, //Aikwe
(S3): Batwa, //Xegwi	(N1): Auen, //K'au //en	(C3): Hadza
(S4): /Auni	(N2): Kung, !Kũ, !Kuŋ	
(S4b): Ki/hazi	(N3): !O !kuŋ	

The Bushman languages are characterized by suction consonants or ‘clicks’. These are  
 /, the dental or alveolar fricative click;  
 //, the retroflex fricative click, or lateral click;  
 !, the cerebral or retroflex plosive click,  
 ≠, the palatal or palato-alveolar click;  
 ʘ, the lip click, also called the labial and bilabial click  
 !!, the retroflex click, between the palate-alveolar and lateral click.

The symbol  $\bar{\quad}$  is used to indicate a high tone; the symbol  $\underline{\quad}$  is used to indicate a low tone;  
 the colon : after a vowel indicates that the vowel is a long vowel.  
 ʌ is pronounced like the ‘u’ in the English word “bun”.  
 k’ indicates that the velar ‘k’ is pronounced with glottal closure.  
 k” indicates that the velar ‘k’ is pronounced with strong glottal closure.  
 y is pronounced as ‘u’ in the French word “du”.

**GENERIC TERMS**

<b>Bank</b>	(N2) $\bar{\text{T}}$ kaŋ	(C1) koro
(N3) !ku	(N3) !gãu, gãu, !ʔo	<b>Flat, plateau</b>
<b>Bush, Tree</b>	(C1) hie /kwa	(S1) swa:, ts'wa:
/Xam (S1) ʘho:	(C2) hi:fa	(S2) tã:, /k'ã
(S2) ʘbo:	<b>Cave</b>	(C1) borot'e
(S4) ʘbwa, ʘmwa	(S1) !kau-ka //neiŋ	(C2) /ka:ba
(S5) ʘmse:	(S6) žo:e	
(S6) ʘpwoi-ma	(C2) //ei:fa	<b>Gorge</b>
(N1) !gãi tse $\bar{\text{a}}$	<b>Cliff</b>	(S1) !kãũã
	(S1) ≠k'aurukən	

**Ground**

(S1) !ãu  
 (S2) !ãu  
 (N1) kʼa  
 (N2) kʼa  
 (N3) kʼa  
 (C2) xumfa

**Hill**

(S1) \_/kao  
 (S2) /nau  
 (S5) !gɔm  
 (N1) ṽno:  
 (N3) ṽni  
 (C1) tʃou /kwa  
 (C2) !noáfa  
 (C3) han !a, //a, !a

**Hole (in ground)**

(S1) !kwe!kwe  
 (S3) ku:mi  
 (S4) //kʔe:  
 (S5) džu  
 (S6) žo:e  
 (N1) \_dum  
 (N2) !koro  
 (N3) tsʼi:  
 (C1) kooje

(C2) \_aija, \_dum

**Kloof**

(S1) /ara

**Lake**

(C1) džiba

**Lizard**

(S1) !kha\_u  
 (N1) tsaĩ, !khau

**Mist**

(S1) /khum, /kum

**Mole**

(S1) //khũ, //hũ

**Mountain**

(S1) !kau, !kou  
 (S2) ṽkau  
 (S5) /num  
 (S6) !nau, !gum  
 (N1) !num, ṽno:  
 (N2) !num  
 (C1) !goa  
 (C2) !naufa, !gabifa

**Neck**

(S1) !xã:

**Pan**

(S4) !howa  
 (S5) luṽbu, lebala

**Pass**

(C1) !kuu

**Pit, well**

(S1) xwara  
 (S2) xora, //karu  
 (S5) //kana

(C1) džinaa

(C2) tʃauba

**Pond, pool**

(S1) ≠kauru  
 (S2) //kwe:f  
 (S3) kha:  
 (S5) !nau, luṽbu

(N1) //naŋ

(C1) jiba

(C2) !kubifa

**Porcupine**

(S1) !xō:  
 (S2) /kwi:  
 (S4) /ũ  
 (N1) !u:m, !noi  
 (N2) ṽ//um  
 (N3) !ō  
 (C1) gwee  
 (C2) ≠nwe:ba

**Ravine**

(S1) /ara

**Ridge**

(S2) ≠kã:

**River**

(S1) /kʼa  
 (S2) /kʼëi  
 (S5) !na:ũ

(S6) !nau

(N1) ≠ka:

(N2) ṽkã, //xum

(N3) !kai, kai

(C1) kwe

**Riverbed, dry**

(S1) !kyri, !kwiri  
 (S6) dum  
 (N1) \_dum  
 (N2) //kɔ//kɔnu  
 (C2) \_dumba

**Spring (fountain)**

(S1) !khwa:tsaxau  
 (S2) \_/kan /karuke

(S6) !kha≠ũ

(N1) ≠ha

(C2) /goãsa

**Stone**

(S1) !kau, !kou, //o:e

(S2) ṽkau, !kn !néi

(S3) že, žu:

(S4) //kʼɔ

(S4b) \_!oe

(S5) /nyle

(S6) !um, ≠ɔje

(N1) !num

(N2) !num

(N3) !num

(C1) //gwa

(C1b) 'goa

(C2) //noa:ba, ≠gnoa

(C3) //a

**Stream**

(S1) ṽi:

**Valley**

(S1) ṽko:  
 (S2) ṽkã:, !nō, ≠eṽru  
 (S6) /kau  
 (N1) !kube, \_tsa !ni:  
 (N3) \_!gai, !kai  
 (C1) hore  
 (C2) !xubisa

**Veld**

(S1) !kauxu  
 (S2) !kã, !ãu tsĩ  
 (S3) /kama  
 (N1) \_!kai  
 (C1) kaoo  
 (C2) ≠ka:

**Water**

(S1) !khwa:, !kwa  
 (S2) !kha:  
 (S2d) kho  
 (S3) //kha:, fa:  
 (S4) //kha  
 (S5) ṽ!kha:  
 (S6) !kha:  
 (N1) ṽ!gu:  
 (N2) ṽ//gu:  
 (N3) ṽ//gu:  
 (C1) tsaa  
 (C2) tʃafa  
**Waterfall**  
 (N2) //kubṽbu

**Waterhole**

(S1) xwara, ≠hauru  
 (S2) !kha: xəra:  
 (S3) //a

(S5) !na<sup>-</sup>u, //gāna  
 (N1) k'oa, //xwe  
 (N2) sisi  
 (C1) hwere, džinaa

**Well**

(S3) //’a  
 (N1) ≠ha

**SPECIFIC TERMS****Ants**

(C1) simesime

**Antbear**

(S2) !k’wa:  
 (S4) si k’ai  
 (S6) //go:de  
 (N1) !gāi  
 (C1) go  
 (C2) !go:ba

**Baboon**

(S1) /hu/hu, //xetten  
 (S2) /hu, //hū //ka  
 (S4) //nwaŋ, /nera  
 (S5) /ammi, ≠habi, /ami  
 (S6) /ka<sub>-</sub>/ka, /gori  
 (N1) !//kei, !//gora  
 (N2) //ke  
 (C1) džwere, džwene,  
 jwene  
 (C2) /goraba

**Bare**

(S1) !≠ka:  
 (N1) !/kau  
 (N2) /Λhá:

**Beautiful**

(S1) a:kn  
 (S2) !/kaukə  
 (S5) gakə, !xe:

(S6) !kāŋ, //xai

(N1) !/m

(N3) !//hm

(C1) kaa, kaika, twenje

(C2) tōë, /u:i

**Big**

(S1) !keri, !kui:ja  
 (S2) !go:  
 (S3) /a:  
 (S4) !kā  
 (S5) !xai  
 (S6) !xai, !//karri, !//kare  
 (N1) !na:, !nwi:, !a:m, /kā  
 (N2) /ne<sup>-</sup>//a

(N3) !//ne//ne, //ka//ka

(C1) !kxowe, //koo

(C2) !kei

**Bitter**

(S1) //k’aowa, /u:

**Black**

(S1) /hoa:ka  
 (S2) /gɔ:, !kwe:  
 (S5) /k’a:, dani  
 (S6) ≠kana  
 (N1) !žɔ:  
 (N2) !džɔ:  
 (N3) !džɔ:

(C1) džunje

(C2) ≠nu:

**Blue, pale**

(S1) /kainja  
 (S2) /k’i:  
 (S5) xwi:  
 (S6) //gai  
 (N1) !kāu, /gāu

(N2) /kaŋ

(N3) /gã

(C1) kwe:ba

(C2) tǰã

**Blue, dark**

(S1) /hoa:ka  
 (S2) !/xau  
 (S6) /gwi/gwi

(N1) !žɔ:

(N2) !žɔ:

(N3) !džɔ:

**Brackish**

(S1) /u:

**Break**

(S1) ! /k’’abbu, k’’abbu,  
 xubbu

**Bright**

(S1) ≠xi:, ≠ka:  
 (S2) /kāi  
 (S5) //ki:  
 (N2) ≠k’i:

**Broad**

(S1) kōri:a

(N2) //xai

(C1) kam ≠kowe

(C3) ≠kaija

**Brown**

(S1) !keija  
 (S2) hərə:  
 (S5) xwi:  
 (S6) ≠nə<sub>-</sub>a:  
 (N1) ≠gau  
 (N3) //gāu  
 (C1) tokwa  
 (C2) !/nwa

**Calabash**

(C1) guju  
 (N3) tǰikov

**Camelthorn tree**

(S2) !kū:, //kana  
 (S4) //k’a  
 (S5) !//ka:  
 (S6) !//ka:  
 (N1) ≠ai

(C2) //kamaba

**Chalk**

(C1) hwe !gwa, džuawe  
 (C2a) ≠a

**Cold**

(S1) !k’’ao, tā, serriten  
 (S2) kian, /hu:, sǰja  
 (S3) !xoa  
 (S4) //xau  
 (S5) //k’we:, /ka  
 (S6) //kāu

(N1) ≠xi:

(N2) ≠karau

(N3) /k’au, /k’kxau

(C1) /guruwa

(C2) ≠xei

**Crooked**

(N1) ≠k’<sup>-</sup>o  
 (C1) //gaihe, //gaiehe

**Crow, black**

(S1) !//ho<sup>-</sup>e, !gauru, !  
 xuru

(S2) //gwa;  
(S6) \_oä  
(N2) !kwara  
(N3) \_!nwala  
(C1) kola kola

**Crow, pied**

(S1) \_!k'agn  
(S6) /kanabe  
(N1) !ka  
(C1) !kahabe

**Dark**

(S1) \_!ho  
(S1) \_!ho  
(N1) \_žo:  
(N2) \_žo  
(N3) \_džo  
(C1) džunje  
(C2) \_gai  
(C3) fai

**Deep**

(S1) \_!kōuwā  
(S5) /khe  
(N2) ≠gaáŋ  
(C1) oe  
(C2) !nu:, !gam

**Double**

(S1) !kou\_!kou

**Dry**

(S1) k'orokn, //ko:wa  
(S2) k'o  
(N2) tfa, ≠khu, \_ku  
(C1) /ko  
(C2) /o:

**Eland**

(S1) s'a  
(S2) sa:  
(S4) !kã  
(S5) dũ  
(S6) !gum  
(N1) \_!ni:  
(N2) //niŋ !!na  
(N3) 7/ni:  
(C1) du  
(C2) \_du:ba

**Elephant**

(S1) ≠xoä  
(S2) /xwa  
(S6) ≠xabe  
(N1) !xo:

(N2) !xo  
(N3) !xo:  
(C1) tʃowa  
(C2) ≠koäba  
(C3) be//k'au

**Fire**

(S1) /i  
(S2) /i  
(S3) /i:  
(S4) /i  
(S5) /a:  
(S6) /ã:  
(N1) \_da:a  
(N2) daá  
(N3) \_da:a  
(C1) /tee  
(C2) /e:fa

**Flat**

(S1) botənbətən  
(S2) /k'ã  
(C1) tari  
(C2) /nu:a

**Fowl**

(S1) kukuru  
(N1) huŋkeri  
(C2) huŋkəriŋ

**Fresh**

(N1) dau

**Giraffe**

(S1) !nu:i  
(S5) xuä, //kõ  
(N1) ≠koä, !nabe  
(N2) ≠koá  
(C1) gabee  
(C2) !nabe

**Glitter**

(C2) ≠ga

**Green**

(S1) /kainja, kəruwa  
(S2) /kxre, /karowa  
(S5) \_/gai  
(S6) ≠kaba, bana  
(N1) /käu, /noussi  
(N2) /kaŋ, \_≠ke  
(N3) /kãŋ  
(C1) tʃabe, barat'i  
(C2) tʃã, !Λm  
(C3) tikitʃi

**Grey**

(S1) \_!kue:tən  
(S2b) \_!khain  
(N1) \_žo:  
(N2) /nau  
(C1) kwebu

**Hard**

(S1) /yri:ja, //kwĩ  
(N1) /goru  
(N2) !kaŋ

**Hartebeest**

(S1) !k'wa  
(S2) !ga:  
(S4) !k'e  
(S5) \_!nae  
(S6) !nai  
(N1) \_džo:  
(N2) /ku  
(N3) /kokwe  
(C1) //kama  
(C2) //kamaba

**High**

(S1) !xo:wa  
(S4) \_usi, \_ufi  
(N1) \_!ko  
(N2) ≠xã  
(C1) njim

**Hippopotamus**

(S1) \_/ga:  
(S2) //k'wa:  
(N1) !kau  
(N2) !kao  
(N3) \_!xai, nguvu  
(C1) kubu  
(C2) kore  
(C2b) hau

**Hot**

(S1) tã /i  
(S2) //ko: \_na  
(S4) /kΛm  
(S5) ʃiŌwi  
(S6) //u:  
(N1) \_kwi  
(N2) \_kwi  
(N3) \_khw  
(C1) ≠kee  
(C2) kuru

**Jackal**

*mesomelas*  
(S1) koro  
(S2) \_ko\_ ro

(*Canis*)



(S2d) tʃekasa  
 (S4) ʔpo sa  
 (S5) !gauʃi  
 (S6) /go:xu  
 (N1) !gwa /na:  
 (N2) /kara  
 (N3) po  
 (C1) n!gaa  
 (C2) /geriba  
**Jackal**, silver (*Vulpes chama*)  
 (S1) !gwi:tən  
 (S6) //nautʃa  
 (N1) !u:, //nwoi  
 (N3) //ai  
 (C1) /gire  
 (C2) \_//a:ba  
**Large**  
 (S1) !keri, !kui:ja  
 (S2) !ne, !na  
 (S5) \_//ka:  
 (S6) !xaija  
 (N1) !naa  
 (N2) //noa, /ne\_//a  
 (N3) //na:a  
 (C1) ≠khau  
 (C2) //kuŋ  
**Lime**  
**Lion**  
 (S1) \_//khã  
 (S2) !ʃhe:kia  
 (S3) \_/kai  
 (S4) \_ka:i  
 (S6) xam  
 (N1) \_!nai, xam  
 (N2) \_!ne, xam  
 (N3) \_nai, \_nei  
 (C1) kxam, ho:m  
 (C2) xamba  
 (C2b) hum, hom  
**Little**  
 (S1) ≠eni, -ʔpwa  
 (S2) ≠ẽ, -ʔpwa  
 (S3) ʔpa:ri  
 (S5) //ʌni,  
 (S6) /e:  
 (N1) -tʃe, -tse, -ma  
 (N2) tsema, -ma  
 (N3) dze, dzema  
 (C1) haini

(C2) /k'ari, -/kwa  
**Long**  
 (S1) !xo:wa  
 (S2) /a:  
 (S4) xaras  
 (S5) \_!kum  
 (N1) !gẽ  
 (N3) ≠gana  
 (C2) \_kei  
**Mussel**  
 (C1) lamba  
**Nice**  
 (S1) a:kən, twai-i  
 (S2) \_/kau, tsai:  
 (S3) /keo  
 (S5) \_ʔp'um  
 (N1) tãi, \_/m  
 (N2) dʒa, ʒa  
 (C1) kaa, kaie  
 (C2) tõi, \_kare  
**Old**  
 (S1) !kəri  
 (S2) !naiŋ  
 (S3) //xeo  
 (N1) !na:, \_/ga  
 (N2) ≠ga:, //ga:  
 (N3) /ga, //ga:a, //na:a  
 (C1) kaide, //gao  
 (C2) \_kei, xai  
**Ostrich**  
 (S1) to:i, k'ani  
 (S2) kwe  
 (S4) ko:  
 (S5) //gwe:  
 (S6) koi  
 (N1) \_!go:  
 (N2) \_!kui, ≠kam, ≠gam, \_n'am  
 (N3) \_!goe  
 (C1) !gano, /garo  
 (C2) /garoba  
 (C3) kenanɟu  
**Owl**  
 (S1) !hũ!hũ  
 (S2) !nõna  
 (N2) !konuko \_!hu:ko  
 (C2) /kõfa  
**Ox**

(S1) xoro  
 (S2) xurumba  
 (S3) !khoa  
 (S4) gumi  
 (S5) gume  
 (S6) gume si !xadi  
 (N1) gume  
 (N2) gumi  
 (N3) \_gumi  
 (C1) dʒube  
 (C2) gwe:ba  
**Poison**  
 (S1) \_!ga:okən, !gwe:  
 (S2) /xoa, /ha  
 (N1) !õa, \_kai  
 (N2) !kara (vegetable), ka\_i (beetles)  
 (N3) /noxu, \_≠ka:la  
 (C1) kiki kakxo  
 (C2) tãnxu, !gaixa, ≠no:  
 (C3) k''ada  
**Porcupine**  
 (S1) !xo:  
 (S2) /kwi:  
 (S4) /ũ  
 (S4b) /õ  
 (N1) !u:m, !noi  
 (N2) \_//um  
 (N3) !kõ  
 (C1) gwee  
 (C1a) umkwe, ≠nwe:ba  
 (C2) ≠nwe:ba  
**Pretty**  
 (S1) a:kn  
 (S2) \_/kaukə  
 (S5) gakə, !xe:  
 (S6) !kãŋ, //xai  
 (N1) \_/m  
 (N3) \_//hm  
 (C1) kaa, kaika, twenje  
 (C2) tõe, /u:i  
**Quagga**  
 (S1) //k'wi  
 (N1) /gwe  
 (N2) /kwe  
 (C2) bi:eba  
**Red**  
 (S1) \_!ki:  
 (S2) xre:

(S3) /kamse  
(S5) /kanja  
(S6) \_/gane  
(N1) !gã  
(N2) !gã, !ga:  
(N3) !gai  
(C1) taakue, /geje  
(C2) /nuo\_a

### **Reed**

(S1) !nwa:  
(S2) //xe: /ã  
(S3) ga:si  
(S6) //ante  
(N1) !nwa:, //ẽ //o  
(N2) //noa, //kao  
(N3) !kai 'a  
(C1) džuu, saka  
(C2) ≠a:ba, //k'õ:ba

### **Rhinoceros bicornis**

(S1) //xoa:kən  
(S5) dju:  
(N1) /xi:  
(N2) /khi:  
(N3) //xei  
(C1) kxii

### **Rhinoceros simus**

(S5) !goba  
(N1) !naba  
(N2) !naba  
(C1) gaba  
(C2) !naba

### **Rock Rabbit**

(C1) pela

### **Roobok**

(C2b) pala, gala

### **Round**

(S1) \_korekore,  
kwærekwære  
(S2) kækəriŋ  
(S5) /kha ki  
(C1) \_!guvu

### **Salt**

(S1) ≠ko:  
(S5) !xa:ne  
(S6) !nɔb  
(N1) dabe  
(N2) \_gwi  
(N3) \_gwi  
(C1) debe  
(C2) dabe

### **Sand**

(S1) !kâu  
(S5) //xu:m  
(S6) ≠gum  
(N1) k''a  
(N2) k''a  
(N3) k''a  
(C1) hom  
(C2) xum-ʃa

### **Sharp**

(S1) \_tsi:  
(S5) ʃi:, \_taa  
(N2) !ne, ≠nabe  
(N3) \_!ne  
(C1) haja

### **Sheep**

(S1) !gei  
(S2) ≠ger\_u, uru  
(S3) !xa: /i  
(S5) gu:, ku:  
(S6) //gwoi  
(N1) gu:  
(N2) gu:  
(N3) \_gu:  
(C1) dʃu  
(C2) \_gu:sa

### **Shiny**

(S1) !gwa:i, /kai, /kâi,  
/kain, /kainja  
(S2) tabe  
(C2) taba, tabi, tjaba

### **Small**

(S1) ≠ëri, ts'ære  
(S2) ɔpwoinki  
(S3) //kxeni  
(S4) //nai  
(S5) /gona  
(S6) /kari, /ki:  
(N1) tse-ma, \_!gɔ  
(N2) tse-ma  
(N3) tse-ma, !ko:  
(C1) dwee, //gom  
(C2) /k'are, -/kwa

### **Snake**

(N1) 'gai:

### **Springbok**

(S1) wa:i  
(S2) !gai  
(S3) !kõa  
(S4) //kum

(S5) //kwa:  
(S6) /goa  
(N1) !kõ, !gub  
(N2) //kha, ≠exa  
(C1) /kxaie  
(C2) \_!gaiba

### **Steenbok**

(S1) !koeŋ  
(S2) !koeŋ  
(S3) !xo:  
(S4) ≠kõ  
(S5) /gai  
(S6) /gi:  
(N1) /ou, /hõ  
(N2) /ou  
(N3) /hum  
(C1) gaie  
(C2) \_!geiba, !giba, !gai

### **Steep**

(S1) ≠khaĩ

### **Strong**

(S1) !na:, /gi:  
(S2) \_!nai:  
(C1) karie

### **Sweet**

(S1) t'wai:i  
(S2) t'jaŋ  
(N1) t'õi  
(N2) \_taŋ  
(C1) kaiho, eje  
(C2) \_kare

### **Thorn**

(S1) //këin  
(S2) //këi  
(S2a) //kho:si  
(S4) /xu:  
(S5) //kaba  
(S6) //kaba  
(N1) \_!ku  
(N2) \_!ku  
(N3) !ku  
(C1) //kam  
(C2) //gama

### **Under**

(S1) !kuŋ  
(S2) !kâu  
(S5) !na:ma, ke  
(S6) ka  
(N1) !kâ!kâ, !nu://ne:  
(N2) daŋ

(N3) /ko  
 (C1) kxumka  
 (C2) !o:kw̄e  
**Vulture**  
 (S1) /kwi:  
 (S2) /kwi:  
 (S2b) //araŋ  
 (N1) ≠nwi  
 (N2) ≠nuē  
 (C1) hi  
 (C2) kʷēi  
**Warm**  
 (S1) !ku:i  
 (S2) !kwona, hai-i  
 (S3) kuruwa  
 (S5) ʰopwi, go:ba  
 (N1) kw̄i

(N2) ≠xaŋ  
 (N3) kw̄hi  
 (C1) tʃobehe  
 (C2) kuruʃa  
**White**  
 (S1) kw̄!kui:ta, /kʷo:wa,  
 \_//xaŋ//xaŋ  
 (S2) /o:wa  
 (S4b) //na:  
 (S5) ʰxwa  
 (S6) !kari  
 (N1) kw̄!kau  
 (N2) !kʷao  
 (N3) kw̄!kau  
 (C1) hwehe  
 (C2) !u:  
**Yellow**

(S1) /kainja  
 (S2) \_/kala  
 (S6) !komi  
 (N1) /gāu  
 (N2) /kaŋ  
 (N3) /kaŋ  
 (C1) /a  
 (C2) /kore  
**Zebra**  
 (S1) kw̄dou, \_/haba  
 (S5) !i:  
 (S6) xa !i  
 (N1) /gwe:  
 (N2) !kwore  
 (C1) koha  
 (C2) bi:eba

## 7.2 ENGLISH

See Toponymic Guidelines - United Kingdom. To this certain loanwords considered as South African English can be added, for instance vlei, rand, kloof, spruit, kaya, safari, kraal as well as the common names of indigenous fauna and flora.

## 7.3 AFRIKAANS

aar (underground water course)	(apple)	bamboes (bamboo)
aalwyn (aloe)	appelkoos (apricot)	bank (bank)
aan (at, on)	arbeid (work)	bas (bark)
aand (evening)	arend (eagle)	bees (ox)
aap/apie (monkey /little monkey)	armoe d (poverty)	berg (mountain)
aarde(earth)	assegaai (assegaay)	bitter (bitter)
aasvoël (vulture)	as (ash)	biesie (reed, bulrush)
agter (behind)	baai (bay)	blik (tin)
akker(field, acorn)	baard (beard)	blink (shiny)
amandel (almond)	bad (bath, mineral spring)	bloed (blood)
amper (nearly)	baken (beacon)	blom (flower)
appel	(baboon)	bok (buck)
blou (blue)	boegoe (buchu,herb)	bont (pied, spotted)
blydschap (happiness)	boesman (bushman)	boom (tree)
bo (upper)		bos (bush, wood, thicket)
bobbejaan		

botter (butter)	dorp (town)	mercy)
brak(brackish, saline)	draai (bend, curve)	gif (poison)
brand (burn, fire)	drie (three)	glad (smooth)
breë (broad, wide)	drif (ford)	goed (good)
bron (source)	droog (dry)	gras (grass)
bruin (brown)	duin (dune)	groen (green)
	duiwel (devil)	groot (big, large)
buffel (buffaloe)	dwaal(roam)	grot (grotto, cave)
burg (castle, town)	dwars (transverse)	gruis (gravel)
bul (bull)	eend (duck)	grys (grey)
bult (hillock)	een (one)	hartebees (Bubalis caama)
	eerste (first)	helder (clear, bright)
burger (citizen)	eiland (island)	heuning (honey)
dagbreek (daybreak)		heuvel (hill)
dal (valley, dale)	esel (ass, donkey)	hoek (corner)
dam (dam)	fort (stronghold)	hof (court, garden)
dassie (rock rabbit, coney)	fontein (fountain)	hol (hollow)
deel (part, portion)	gans (goose)	hoogte (heights)
derde (third)	gat (hole)	hoop (hope)
die (the)	geduld (patience)	hoog (high)
diep (deep)	geel (yellow)	hout (wood)
dik (thick)	geluk (luck, happiness)	huis (huis)
donker (dark)	gemsbok (oryx)	
doring (thorn)	genade (grace, giraffe)	kom (basin, bowl)
jag (hunt)	kamp (camp, paddock)	kat (cat)
jakkals (jackal)	karee ( <i>Rhus lancea</i> tree)	keurboom (Virgilia oroboides)
kaal (bare, barren)	kasteel (castle)	klein (small)
kaap (cape)	kannon (cannon)	klip (stone)
kabeljou (cob)		kloof (ravine)
kalk (lime)		
kameelperd		

koedoe (kudu)	moed (courage)	plaat (stretch)
kop/koppie (hill/hillock)	mooi (pretty)	plat (flat)
koring (wheat)	nek (neck)	poel (pool)
kraai (crow)	neus (nose, headland)	pos (post)
kraal (village, corral)	nooit (never)	poort (opening, entrance)
krans (cliff)	noord (north)	put (well)
kruin (summit, crest)	nou (narrow)	punt (point)
kuil (pool)	nuwe (new)	rif (ridge, reef)
krom (crooked)	oog (fountain)	rand (edge)
kruis (cross)	oord (resort)	rant (ridge)
kwagga (zebra)	olien (wild olive, <i>Olea Africana</i> )	renoster (rhinoceros)
laagte/leegte (dip, valley)	olifant (elephant)	riet (reed)
lang (long)	onder (lower, under)	rivier (river)
leeu (lion)	ongeluk (misfortune)	rond/e (round)
lekker (pleasant)	oorlog (war)	rooi (red)
lelie (lily)	oos (east)	rots (rock)
lemoen (orange)	os (ox)	rug (ridge)
loerie (lourie)	ou (old)	ruigte (thicket)
loop (water course)	oranje (orange)	rus (rest)
los (loose)	palmiet ( <i>Prionium</i> <i>sp.</i> , reed)	rif (ridge)
lughawe (airport)	pampoens (pumpkin)	saai (sow)
matjies (reed mat, bulrush)	pan (pan)	seekoei (hippo)
meer (lake)	pas (mountain pass)	ses (six)
mond (mouth, estuary)	plaas (farm, place)	silwer (silver)
myn (mine)	patrys (partridge)	sewe (seven)
melk (milk)	perd (horse)	skaap (sheep)
middle (middle)		skiet (shoot)
modder (mud)		skoon (clean)
		skilpad (tortoise)
		skurwe (rough)

slang (snake)	taaibos ( <i>Rhus spp.</i> )	volstruis (ostrich)
sloot (ditch, gully)	tafel (table)	voor (in front)
small (narrow)	tier (tiger)	vrede (peace)
sneeu (snow)	toring (tower)	vryheid (liberty)
soet (sweet)	turf (peat)	vye (fig)
sout (salty)	twee (two)	vyf (five)
son (sun)	twyfel	waai (blow)
spioen (spy)	(doubt, uncertainty)	wal
spits (pointed, peak)	tee (tea)	(embankment)
springbok (springbuck)	uitkoms (deliverance)	warm (hot)
spruit (creek, stream)	uitkyk (look-out)	water (water)
stasie (station)	uitsig (view)	wel (well)
stad (city)	uitspan (outspan)	waterfall (waterfall)
steenbok (steenbok, ibex)	vaal (grey)	wei (graze)
steil (steep)	val (falls)	wes (west)
sterk (strong)	vallei (valley)	wild (wild)
stil (quiet)	vals (false)	wildebeest (gnu)
storm (storm)	vark (pig)	wind (wind)
stof (dust)	veg (fight)	winter (winter)
strand (beach)	vet (fat)	wilger (willow)
stroom (stream)	ver (far, distant)	wit (white)
stryd (struggle)	vier (four)	wonder (wonder)
suid (south)	vis (fish)	wolwe (wolf)
suikerbos ( <i>Protea mellifera</i> )	vlak (shallow)	yster (iron)
suur (sour)	vlakke (plain, flats)	ystervark (porcupine)
swart (black)	vlei (marsh)	
	voël (bird)	

**Examples:**

dam ( <i>Gariepdam</i> )	rivier ( <i>Stormsrivier</i> )	park ( <i>Monumentpark</i> )
burg ( <i>Boksburg</i> )	rand ( <i>Unisarand</i> )	stad ( <i>Kaapstad</i> )
ton ( <i>Standerton</i> )	ville ( <i>Nieuwoudtville</i> )	vliet ( <i>Sandvliet</i> )
vue ( <i>Heldervue</i> )	dorp ( <i>Humansdorp</i> )	mond ( <i>Gouritsriviermond</i> )
hoek ( <i>Franschoek</i> )	fontein ( <i>Bloemfontein</i> )	rus ( <i>Eersterus</i> )
dal ( <i>Hoopdal</i> )	spruit ( <i>Nelspruit</i> )	kraal ( <i>Hammanskraal</i> )
pan ( <i>Blinkpan</i> )	hoop ( <i>Delportshoop</i> )	sig ( <i>Amandasig</i> )
bult ( <i>Amandelbult</i> )	hoogte ( <i>Diamanthoogte</i> )	nek ( <i>Mauersnek</i> )
vlei ( <i>Bainsvlei</i> )	heuvel ( <i>Bontheuvel</i> )	hof ( <i>Dewetshof</i> )
drif ( <i>Muldersdrif</i> )	laagte ( <i>Graslaagte</i> )	punt ( <i>Groenpunt</i> )
fort ( <i>Brandfort</i> )	kloof ( <i>Diepkloof</i> )	poort ( <i>Derdepoort</i> )
draai ( <i>Kromdraai</i> )	berg ( <i>Winterberg</i> )	kop ( <i>Verkykerskop</i> )
bos ( <i>Baardskeerdersbos</i> )	kus ( <i>Suidkus</i> )	land ( <i>Riemland</i> )
vlakte ( <i>Knersvlakte</i> )	eiland ( <i>Robbeneiland</i> )	

## 7.4 NGUNI languages

### Nguni languages

The African languages are characterised by the use of imagery to refer to a topographical feature, i.e. in isiZulu two hills near uLundi in KZN, positioned next to each other resembling tiny breasts of a Zulu maiden (amabedlana) is called *aMabedlana*.

amabedlana (little breasts)

amabele (breasts)

amadi (water)

amanzi (water)

amati (water)

amatshe (stones)

amayiwa (hlonipha for stones)

banga (beer calabash with broad mouth, species of flat-topped tree (*Albizia gummifera*))

bazo (axe)

bele (breast)

bhembhedu (water tree (*Anastrabe integerrima*)) bhuma (bulrush (*Prionium* spp., *Typha capensis*))

bogodo, imbogodwe (grindstone)  
from clay)

bhubesi (lion)

bumba (clay, to form)

bululu (puff-adder)

buzana (small goat)

buzi (goat)

caba (flat area, cleared of bush)

chibi (pan)

chweba (lagune)

cibululwana (small puff-adder)

chweba (lagune)

omba (sugar cane (Sorghum saccharatum) duli (anthill, hill, hillock)  
 duma (hillock) dumbe (edible tuber(Colocasia antiquorum)  
 dwala (large, flat rocks) fafa (driving mist, spray of waterfall)  
 fazi (woman) fene (baboon, monkey) fenjane (small baboon,  
 monkey)  
 godi (hole, ravine, hollow, valley) gude ( wild banana (Strelitzia augusta)  
 gudu(herb(Hypoxis latifolia) hlaba (small aloe (Sonchus dregeanus)  
 hlabathi (soil, sand) hlahla (tree) hlanga ( reed(s)  
 hlathi (forest) hlawe (gravel) hlinza (to strip, to skin)  
 hohoba (gorge) hosha (gorge) gazi (blood)  
 gquma (dune, mound, hillock) gqunyana (hillock) juba (dove)  
 khanda (head) kawu (vervet monkey) khaya (home)  
 khaza (common red tick) khomazi (whale cow) khukhuze (tree (Cassine  
capensis)  
 lalazi (whetstone) lambo (river) langa (day, sun )  
 laza (whey) lotha (ash, ashes) manzi ( water )  
 mati (water) mazambane (potatoes) mbila (rock rabbit,  
 coney)  
 mehlo (eyes) mfula (river) mkhondo (spoor,  
 tracks)  
 mkhonto (spear, assegai) mlotha (ashes)  
 mpange (impange) forest tree (Olinea cymosa)  
 mphanga(umphanga) fern tree(Cycadaceae, Encephalartos altensteinii)  
 mpophoma (waterfall) mpofu (eland buck) mpukane (fly)  
 mpungushe (jackal) mthunzi (shade, shadows) mvula (rain)



muzi (home)	ndawo (place, town, settlement)	ndlela (road, path)
ndlovu (elephant)		ngwe (leopard)
ngwenya(crocodile)		
nja, (dog)	nkangala (ridge)	nkentshane (wild dog)
nkonjane (swallow)	nkonyane (calf)	nkosi (chief)
ntaba (mountain)	ntenesha (red hare)	ntombi (girl, maiden)
nyathi (buffalo)	nyoka (snake)	nyoni (bird)
nkunzi (bull)	phondo (horn)	sangoma
(healer)		
sundu (date palm ( <u>Phoenix reclinata</u> ))	tshe (stone)	tuba (a pass)
vubu (hippopotamus)	zangoma (medicine man)	zembe (axe)
zi /umzi/ mzi (kraal, village, home, town)		zimbi (iron, iron ore)

In the Nguni languages the generic term usually precedes the specific. Specific terms and other words occurring in geographical names are not always readily recognizable as such, since they are subject to adaptation as required in different syntactic contexts.

Some geographical names derived from the Nguni languages are marked by initial vowels, prefixes and suffixes. The most prevalent of these are:

**Prefixes:**

aba-

ama-

e-

i-

ka-

ko-

ku-

**Suffixes:**

-ana

-ane

-eni

-ini

-weni

-wini

kwa-  
o-  
um-  
umu-

**Specific elements and descriptive terms:**

amanzi (water)

baba (father)

bele (breast)

bila (to boil, stirring furiously)

bhula (sound of hitting/ thrashing)

bomvu (red, earth colour)

busa (to reign)

cwili (to sink away, dive)

daka (muddy, dirty)

deda (to make way for)

(i)dla (to eat, devour)

donsa (to pull, tear, drag)

duma (thundering, running engine)

fafaza (to spray)

fihla (to hide away, conceal)

fu (to strip)

geza (to wash)

ginga (to swallow)

goja (to swallow)

kude (distant, far away)

hlamba (to wash, washing)  
hlanga (reed(s))  
hlanganisa (to bring together, gathering) hlaza (blue, green)  
hlaza (green grass/ herbage, freshness)  
hlaza (edible tuber species (Plectranthus ulenthus))  
hlaza (bush shrike (Laniarius spp.))  
hlaza (rude, uncouth)  
hle (good,nice,lovely,beautiful,pretty)  
jabula (to rejoice, be happy)  
khanya (to glow, clean)  
khonjwa (to point, indicate)  
kude (distant, far away)  
k(h)ulu (large, great)  
kunetha (raining, where it rains)  
kunuka (smelly, bad odour)  
khwela (to climb, ascending)  
lambo (river, water)  
lola (to sharpen)  
makhaza (cold, frost)  
ne (four)  
bili (two)  
mhlophe (white)  
mpunga (grey)  
mnyama (black, darkness, unfathomable, deep)  
mpofu (tawny, yellow, ochre)

mpuphu (sandy)

mphuphu (finely ground like powder,  
sand)

mtoti (sweet, agreeable)

ncane (small)

ndlula (to pass, to go across to)

nyama (meat)

phamba (to catch, to puzzle)

phuma (to rise, to come out)

shona (sinking, setting (of the sun))

tshaa/tshaza (spraying of mists)

tshezi (brick red, ground coloured)

thwala (to carry)

vuka(to arise, awaken)

## 7.5 SOTHO languages

Prefixes

mo- ; ba-; ga-

Suffixes

-ng

### Specific elements and descriptive terms

-adima	borrow
-akanya	consider, guess, assess, wonder, reason
-ama	involve, affect, touch
-amogela/amohela	adopt, receive, accept, welcome, get
-araba	answer, respond, echo
-atisa	multiply, usually, often
baagi	population
-badimo	ancestral
batho	people
-be	bad, evil, mean

-bela	boil, cook
bogale	blade, bravery, sharp, rage
bogare	middle. Centre
bogodimo	height
-bolaya	kill, slaughter, poison
-bolela	talk. tell, say, allege, report
-bona	see, find
borwa	south
bosego/bosiu/bosigo	night
botshabelo	refuge
dikeledi	tears
dikgomo/diruiwa	cattle
-fetsa	complete
gauta/gouta	gold
-golo/-holo	big, capital, chief, main, eldest, etc.
homotsa/gomotsa	comfort
kabelo	portion, tation, share, fate, offer
kamogelo/kamohelo	welcome, reception, adoption
kgabo	monkey, ape
kgaka	guineafowl
kgobokana	gather, congregate
kgosi	king, chief
komelelo/komello	drought

kopano	meeting, congress, union, society
konyana/kwana	lamb
(-)kota	peg, log, stump
kubu	hippopotomus
kwano/kutlwano	harmony, agreement
kwena	crocodile
lebaka	cause, reason, occasion, turn
(-)leboa	north
lefase/lefatshe	earth, land, world
lefa	inheritance
legongtshipi/lehongtshepe	ironwood
lenong	vulture
lepogo/lengau	cheetah
leraga	mud, sediment
lerato	love, affection
leswika/letlapa	stone
letsatsi	sun, day
letsoku	ochre
letsopa	clay
letswai	salt
mafolofolo	diligence, enthusiasm
mafulo /makgulo	pasture
mafura/makhura	fat
makatso	surprise

mantsiboa	evening
marega/mariha/mariga	winter
(-)maswabi	sad, tragedy, disappointment
meetse/metsi	water
mmogedi	spectator
mmutla	rabbit
moagi/moahi	citizen, tenant, mason
moago	building
Modimo	God
modumo	sound, thunder, roar
moduwane	willow
moedi, moela	valley, stream
mogoma	plough
mohlape	herd, flock, swarm
mohlodi	source, flavour, taste
mokgopha	aloe
molaetsa	message
mollo/molelo	fire
monate	nice, sweet, pleasure
moswe/mosha	meercat
motho	person, individual
motse	town, village, city
mouwane	fog, mist, vapour

moya/mowa	air, breath, soul, spirit, wind
mpho	gift, donation, present, offer
naga/naha	area, field, state, veld
nakedi	skunk, polecat
naledi	star, planet
nama	meat, flesh
nawa	bean
nku	sheep
nkwe	leopard
noga/noha	snake
noka	river
noko	porcupine
nonyana/nonyane	bird
ntshu/ntsu	eagle
-nyane/nyenyane	small, little, less, petty
pela	dassie
-pele	ahead, further, front, forward
-phala	excel
-phaphathi	flat, broad, wide
-phela	live
phenyo	triumph
phiri	hyena
phohu/phofu	eland
phororo	waterfall



-phadima/-phatsima	glitter, shine
phefo	wind
pitsa	cooking pot
podu/pudi	goat, buck
pula	rain
-rata	favour, prefer, like
-robala	sleep
sebaka	chance, opportunity, space
sediba	pool, fountain, well
sekokgo	spider
sehlabelo	sacrifice
sekhutlo/sekwahelo/sekhumelo	lid, cap
setshaba/setjhaba	nation
taba	case, issue
taemane/teemane	diamond
tau	lion
tebogo/teboho	gratitude, thanks
thaba	mountain
thabo	pleasure
-thabilego/-thabang	cheerful
thapelo	prayer
-thata	hard, difficult, very
tholo	kudu

thuso	help, assistance, aid
thutlwa	giraffe
tladi	flamingo
tlou	elephant
tokologo/tokoloho	freedom
tsebo	knowledge, information
tsela	path, way, road
tshephe/tshepe	springbok
tshukudu	rhinoceros
tshwanelo/-tshwanetso	duty
tshwano	likeness
tshwene	baboon
-tsokotsa	rinse
tswelopele	advance, progress
tumelelo/tumello/tumelo	admission, approval, permit
-tumeleng/-tumelego	famous, popular
-utolla/-utulola/-utulla	disclose, explore

(To be completed)

## 7.6 XITSONGA

### Prefixes

n'wa- / ma-

### Suffixes

Specific elements and descriptive terms

(To be completed)

### **7.7 TSHIVENDA**

Prefixes

Suffixes

Specific elements and descriptive terms

(To be completed)

### **7.8 OTHER languages**

See Toponymic Guidelines for Britain, The Netherlands, Portugal, Germany, England, etc.

## **8. ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISIONS**

The Republic of South Africa is divided into nine provinces, namely the Eastern Cape, Free State, Gauteng, KwaZulu-Natal, Mpumalanga, North West, Northern Cape, Limpopo and Western Cape. The country is divided into 52 districts (Metropolitan and District Municipalities). There are 6 Metropolitan municipalities which act as both district and local municipalities. The other 46 District Municipalities contain more than one local municipality each, which in turn contain more than one town each. As may be expected in a country in which there are eleven official languages, the names of the administrative divisions reflect all the cultures or languages.

## **METROPOLITAN MUNICIPALITIES**

- City of Cape Town Metropolitan Municipality (Cape Town and surrounds)
- Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality (East Rand)
- eThekweni Metropolitan Municipality (Durban and surrounds)
- City of Johannesburg Metropolitan Municipality (Johannesburg and surrounds)
- Nelson Mandela Metropolitan Municipality (Port Elizabeth and surrounds)
- City of Tshwane Metropolitan Municipality (Pretoria and surrounds)

## **DISTRICT MUNICIPALITIES**

### **Eastern Cape Province**

- Sarah Baartman District Municipality

Local Municipalities:

- Camdeboo
- Blue Crane Route
- Ikwezi
- Makana
- Ndlambe
- Sunday's River Valley
- Baviaans
- Kouga
- Kou-Kamma

- Amatole District Municipality

Local Municipalities:

- Mbashe
- Mquma
- Great Kei
- Amahlati
- Buffalo City
- Ngqushwa
- Nkonkobe
- Nxuba

- Chris Hani District Municipality

Local Municipalities:

- Inxuba Yethemba
- Tsolwana
- Inkwanca
- Lukanji
- Intsika
- Emalahleni
- Engcobo
- Sakhisizwe

- Ukhahlamba District Municipality

Local municipalities:

- Elundini
- Senqu
- Maletswai
- Gariep

- O.R. Tambo District Municipality

Local Municipalities

- Mbizana
- Ntabankulu

- Qaukeni
- Port St. Johns
- Nyandeni
- Mhlonto
- King Sabata Dalindyebo

- Alfred Nzo District Municipality

Local Municipalities

- Umzimvubu
- Matatiel

**Free State Province**

- Xhariep District Municipality

Local Municipalities:

- Letsemeng
- Kopanong
- Mohokare

- Motheo District Municipality

Local Municipalities

- Naledi
- Mangaung
- Mantsopa

- Lejweleputswa District Municipality

Local Municipalities:

- Masilonyana
- Tokologo
- Tswelopele
- Matjhabeng
- Nala

- Thabo Mofutsanyane District Municipality

Local Municipalities:

- Setsoto
- Dihlabeng
- Nketoana
- Maluti a Phofung
- Phumelela

- Northern Free State District Municipality

Local Municipalities:

- Moqhaka
- Ngwathe
- Metsimaholo
- Mafube

## **Gauteng Province**

- Sedibeng District Municipality

Local Municipalities:

- Emfuleni
- Midvaal
- Lesedi

- Metsweding District Municipality

Local Municipalities

- Nokeng tsa Taemane
- Kungwini

- West Rand District Municipality

Local Municipalities:

- Mogale City

- Randfontein
- Westonaria
- Merafong City

### **KwaZulu-Natal Province**

- Ugu District Municipality
  - Vulamehlo
  - Umdoni
  - Umzumbe
  - UMuziwabantu
  - Ezingoleni
  - Hibiscus Coast
  
- Umgungundlovu District Municipality  
Local Municipalities:
  - uMshwathi
  - iMngeni
  - Mooi Mpofana
  - Impendle
  - The Msunduzi
  - Mkhambathini
  - Richmond
  
- Uthukela District Municipality  
Local Municipalities:
  - Ennambithi-Ladysmith
  - Indaka
  - Umtshezi



- Okhahlamba
- Imbabazane

- Umzinyati District Municipality

Local Municipalities:

- Endumeni
- Nqutu
- Msinga
- Umvoti

- Amajuba District Municipality

Local Municipalities:

- Newcastle
- Utrecht
- Dannhauser

- Zululand District Municipality

Local Municipalities:

- eDumbe
- Upongolo
- Abaqulusi
- Nongoma
- Ulundi

- Umkhanyakude District Municipality

Local Municipalities:

- Umhlabuyalingana
- Jozini
- The Big Five False Bay
- Hlabisa
- Mtubatuba

- uThungulu District Municipality

Local Municipalities:

- Mbonambi
- uMhlatuze
- Ntambanana
- uMlalazi
- Mthonjaneni
- Nkandla

- iLembe District Municipality

Local Municipalities:

- eDondakusuka
- KwaDukuza
- Ndwedwe
- Maphumulo

- Sisonke District Municipality

Local Municipalities:

- Ingwe
- Kwa Sani
- Greater Kokstad
- Ubuhlebezwe
- Umzimkhulu

## **Limpopo Province**

- Mopani District Municipality

Local Municipalities:

- Greater Giyani
- Greater Letaba
- Greater Tzaneen
- Ba-Phalaborwa

- Maruleng

- Vhembe District Municipality

Local Municipalities:

- Musina
- Mutale
- Thulamela
- Makhado

- Capricorn District Municipality

Local Municipalities:

- Blouberg
- Aganang
- Molemole
- Polokwane
- Lepele-Nkumpi

- Waterberg District Municipality

Local Municipalities:

- Thabazimbi
- Lephalale
- Mookgopong
- Modimolle
- Bela-Bela
- Mogalakwena

- Greater Sekhukhune District Municipality

Local Municipalities:

- Greater Marble Hall
- Greater Groblersdal
- Makhuduthamaga
- Fetakgomo

- Greater Thubatse

## **Mpumalange Province**

- Gert Sibande District Municipality

Local Municipalities:

- Albert Luthuli
- Msukaligwa
- Mkhondo
- Pixley Ka Seme
- Lekwa
- Dipaleseng
- Govan Mbeki

- Nkangala District Municipality

Local Municipalities:

- Delmas
- Emalaheni
- Steve Tshwete
- Highlands
- Thembisile
- Dr JS Moroka

- Ehlanzeni District Municipality

Local Municipalities:

- Thaba Chweu
- Mbombela
- Umjindi
- Nkomazi
- Bushbuckridge

## **North West Province**

- Bojanala District Municipality  
Local Municipalities:
  - Moretele
  - Madibeng
  - Rustenburg
  - Kgetlengrivier
  - Moses Kotane
  
- Central District Municipality  
Local Municipalities:
  - Ratlou
  - Tswaing
  - Mafikeng
  - Ditsobotla
  - Ramotshere Moiloa
  
- Bophirima District Municipality  
Local Municipalities:
  - Kagisano
  - Naledi
  - Mamusa
  - Greater Taung
  - Molopo
  - Lekwa-Teemane
  
- Southern District Municipality  
Local Municipalities:
  - Venterdorp
  - Potchefstroom
  - Matlosana
  - Maquassi Hills
  - Merafong City

## **Northern Cape Province**

- Namakwa District Municipality

### Local Municipalities:

- Richtersveld
- Nama Khoi
- Kamiesberg
- Hantam
- Karoo Hoogland
- KhÔi-Ma

- Pixley ka Seme District Municipality

### Local Municipalities:

- Ubuntu
- Umsobomvu
- Emthanjeni
- Kareeberg
- Renosterberg
- Thembelihle
- Siyathemba
- Siyancuma

- Siyanda District Municipality

### Local Municipalities:

- Mier
- !Kai! Garib
- //Khara Hais
- !Kheis
- Tsantsabane
- Kgatelopele

- Francis Baard District Municipality

Local Municipalities:

- Sol Plaatjie
- Dikgatlong
- Magareng
- Phokwane

- Kgalagadi District Municipality

Local Municipalities:

- Moshaweng
- Ga-Segonyana
- Gamagara

### **Western Cape Province**

- West Coast District Municipality

Local Municipalities:

- Matzikama
- Cederberg
- Bergrivier
- Saldanha Bay
- Swartland

- Cape Winelands District Municipality

Local Municipalities:

- Witzenberg
- Drakenstein
- Stellenbosch
- Breede Valley
- Breede River/Winelands

- Overberg District Municipality

Local Municipalities:

- Theewaterskloof
- Overstrand
- Cape Agulhas
- Swellendam

- Eden District Municipality

Local Municipalities:

- Kannaland
- Hessequa
- Mossel Bay
- George
- Oudtshoorn
- Bitou
- Knysna

- Central Karoo District Municipality

Local Municipalities:

- Laingsburg
- Prince Albert
- Beaufort West