

Which countries have a national authority for geographical names?
Information received up to July 2021

Country	Authority?	Yr of Auth.	Name	Contact, if no Nat. Auth.
1 Afghanistan	Y	2009	The Board on Geographic Names for Afghanistan (BGN-A)	
2 Albania	N			Military Geographical Institute / Geographical Studies Center
3 Algeria	Y	1998	Commission Permanente Spécialisée de Toponymie	
4 Andorra	Y	2005	Commission de toponymie d'Andorre	
5 Angola	Y	2004	Commission (approved by President)	
6 Argentina	Y	1983	Instituto Geográfico Nacional de la Republica Argentina	
		1972	Servicio de Hidrografia Naval	
7 Armenia	Y	1999	Committee on Real Estate Cadastre of the Republic of Cadastre	
8 Australia	Y	1985	Permanent Committee on Place Names	
9 Austria	Y	1968	Arbeitsgemeinschaft für Kartographische Ortsnamenkunde (AKO)	
10 Azerbaijan	Y	2008	State Committee on Land and Cartography	
11 Belarus	Y	1991	Toponymic Commission of the Republic of Belarus	
12 Belgium	Y	1831	Institut géographique national / Nationaal Geografisch Instituut	
	Y	1926	Also: Commission royale de Toponymie et Dialectologie	
13 Bhutan	N			Department of Survey & Land Records
14 Bosnia and Herzegovina	N			Federalna uprava za geodetske i imovinstopravne poslove
15 Botswana	Y	1967	Botswana Place Names Commission	
16 Brazil	Y	2009	Comitê de Nomes Geográficos da Comissão Nacional de Cartografia, Brazil Institute for Geography and Statistics (IBGE)	
17 Brunei Darussalam	Y	1976	National Committee on Geographical Names Brunei Darussalam	
18 Bulgaria	Y	1951	Council of Orthography and Transcription of Geographical Names (Geodesy, Cartography and Cadastre Agencies)	
19 Burkina Faso	Y	1986	Commission nationale de toponymie (CNT)	
20 Burundi	N			Institut Géographique du Burundi
21 Cabo Verde	N			Service National de la Cartographie et du Cadastre
22 Cambodia	Y	?	National Commission on Geographical Names, Ministry of Land Management, Urban Planning and Construction	
23 Cameroon	N			National Commission on Toponymy / Commission nationale de Toponymie
24 Canada	Y	1897	Geographical Names Board of Canada / Commission de toponymie du Canada	
25 Chad	N			
26 Chile	N			Instituto Geográfico Militar
27 China	Y	1977	Administrative Areas and Geographical Names Division, Civil Affairs Ministry / China Institute of Toponymy	

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28 Congo	Y	1979	Comité national de toponymie (CNT), Centre National de Cartographie	
29 Cote d'Ivoire	N			Centre National de Télédétection et d'Information Géographique
30 Croatia	N*			Croatian Geodetic Institute
31 Cuba	Y		La Comision Nacional de Nombres Geográficos de la República de Cuba	
32 Cyprus	Y	1977	Cyprus Permanent Committee for the Standardization of Geographical Names	
33 Czechia	Y	1993	Czech Office for Surveying, Mapping and Cadastre	
34 Democratic People's Republic of Korea	Y	2002	DPRK Committee of Geographical Names within Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly	
35 Democratic Republic of Congo	N			Institut Géographique du Congo (IGC)
36 Denmark	Y	1910	Stednavneudvalget/The Place-Name Commission	
			Kalaallit Nunaat/Greenland	Y 1989 Nunat Aqqinik Aalajangiisartut
			Føroyar/Faroe Islands	Y 2010 Stáðarnavnanevndin
37 Ecuador	N			Instituto Geográfico Militar
38 Egypt	N			Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics (CAPMAS)
39 Estonia	Y	1994	Place Names Board of Estonia (Ministry of Regional Affairs)	
40 Ethiopia	N*			Ethiopian Mapping Agency (EMA)
41 Fiji	N*			Ministry of Lands and Mineral Resources
42 Finland	N*			Institute for the Languages of Finland
43 France	Y	1985	La Commission nationale de toponymie (CNT)	
44 Gabon	Y	before 1992	Commission Nationale de Toponymie, Institut National de Cartographie	
45 Gambia	Y	1970	In the National Environment Agency	
46 Georgia	Y	2001	Governmental Commission on identification, normalization, usage, registration and protection of names of geographical features of Georgia	
47 Germany	Y	1959	Ständiger Ausschuss für geographische Namen (StAGN)	
48 Greece	Y	re- established 2012	National Committee on Geographical Names	
49 Guinea	Y			Institut Géographique National de Guinée
50 Holy See	N*			Secretariat of State - 2nd Section
51 Hungary	Y	1989	Hungarian Committee on Geographical Names (Földrjzinév- bizottság)	
52 Iceland	Y	1935	Ornefnanefnd	
53 Indonesia	Y	2006 (2001) (1993)	Geospatial Information Agency	
54 Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Y	2000	Iranian Committee on the Standardization of Geographical Names	
55 Ireland	Y	1946	The Placenames Commission	
56 Israel	Y	1951	Government Names Commission	
57 Italy	Y	2017	Commission for Italian official toponymy	
58 Jamaica	Y	pre-1970	Place Names Committee	
59 Japan	Y	1960	Joint Committee on the Standardization of Geographical Names (Geographical Survey Institute)	
60 Jordan	Y	1984	National Committee on Geographical Names	

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61 Kenya	Y	mid 1960s	Standing Committee on Geographical Names, Survey of Kenya	
62 Kyrgyzstan	Y	1997	Inter-Department Commission on Geographical Names (c/o State Service of Cartography and Geodesy)	
63 Lao People's Democratic Republic	N*			National Geographic Department
64 Latvia	N			Latvian Geospatial Information Agency / State Land Service
65 Lebanon	Y	1962	Direction des Affaires Géographiques (DAG)	
66 Lesotho	N			?
67 Liberia	Y	before 1979	Board on Geographic Names	(Ministry of Lands, Mines, Energy)
68 Libya	Y	2000 (1971?)	National Committee for the Standardization of Geographical Names	
69 Lithuania	Y	1990	The State Commission of the Lithuanian Language	
70 Madagascar	Y	1973	Komitim-Pirenena Miandraikitra Ny Anaran-Tany (K.P.M.A.)	
71 Malawi	Y	before 1971	Office of President & Cabinet administering Regional and District Boundaries & Place Names Act	
72 Malaysia	Y	2002	National Committee on Geographical Names	
73 Mali	Y	2005	Comité national d'information géographique (CNIG)	
74 Mauritania	Y	1985	Direction de la Cartographie et de l'Information Géographique	
75 Mexico	N		Instituto Nacional de Estadística y Geografía (INEGI)	
76 Mongolia	N*		[National Council for Geographic Names	Administration of Land Affairs, Construction, Geodesy & Cartography
77 Montenegro	N			Montenegro Department of Real Estate
78 Morocco	Y	?	Commission Nationale de Normalisation des Noms Géographiques (ANCFCC)	
79 Mozambique	Y	2009	Institute of Geographical Names of Mozambique (INGEMO)	
80 Myanmar	Y	?	National Geographical Names Authority	
81 Namibia	N*			Directorate of Survey & Mapping
82 Nepal	N*			Survey Department
83 Netherlands	N			Kadaster (The Netherlands' Cadastre, Land Registry and Mapping Agency) Nederlandse Taalunie (Dutch Language Union)
84 New Zealand	Y	2008 (1946)	New Zealand Geographic Board / Ngā Pou Taunaha o Aotearoa	
85 Niger	N*			Institut géographique national du Niger
86 Nigeria	Y	before 1975	Nigeria Committee on Geographical Names	Federal Survey Department
87 Norway	Y	1879	Norwegian State Consultancy on Place-Names	
88 Oman	Y	1983	National Survey Authority	
89 Pakistan	N*		(National Geographic Naming Authority)	Survey of Pakistan
90 Panama	Y	1970	Autoridad Nacional de Nombres Geográficos	
91 Papua New Guinea	Y		Place Name Committee (inactive)	
92 Paraguay	N			
93 Peru	N			Instituto Geográfico Nacional
94 Philippines	N			National Mapping and Resource Information Authority (NAMRIA)

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95 Poland	Y	1939	Commission on Names of Localities and Physiographic Objects (Ministry of Internal Affairs and Administration)	
96 Portugal	Y	before 1992	The National Council of Portuguese Toponymy	
97 Qatar	N			Ministry of Municipal Affairs
98 Republic of Korea	Y	2009 (1958)	Korea Committee on Geographical Names (KCGN)	
Republic of Moldova	Y	1994	Agency for Land Relations and Cadastre	
99 Romania	Y	2010	c/o Military Topographic Directorate, Ministry of National Defence	
100 Russian Federation	Y	2008	Federal Service for State Registration, Cadastre and Cartography (Rosreestr)	
101 Samoa	N*			National Mapping Section Ministry of Natural Resource and Environment
102 Sao Tome and Principe	N*		Place-Name Advisory board	Direcção de Serviços Geográficos e Cadastrais
103 Saudi Arabia	Y	2013	The National Committee on Geographical Names in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia	
104 Senegal	Y	?	Comité national de toponymie (en cours de reforme)	
105 Serbia	Y	2009	Commission for the Standardization of Geographical Names	
106 Singapore	N			Singapore Land Authority
107 Slovakia	Y	?	Geodesy, Cartography and Cadastre Authority of the Slovak Republic	
108 Slovenia	Y	1986	Commission for the Standardization of Geographical Names	
109 South Africa	Y	1998	South African Geographical Names Council	
110 Spain	Y	2004	Comisión Especializada de Nombres Geográficos, Instituto Geográfico Nacional	
111 Sri Lanka	Y	2010	Committee for Standardization of Geographical Names [approved in principle]	
112 State of Palestine	Y	2010	Palestine National Committee on Geographic Names (PNCGN)	
113 Sudan	Y	1996 (1976?)	Geographical Names Committee	
114 Suriname	Y	2012	National Geographical Names Authority Suriname	(Civil Registry Office)
115 Swaziland	N*			Land Surveying & Mapping
116 Sweden	Y	1974	Sweden Mapping, Cadastre and Land Registration Authority (Lantmäteriet)	
117 Switzerland	N*			Federal Office of Topography
118 Syria	Y	1996	Committee of Geographical Names	
119 Tajikistan	N			National Space Geodetic and Cartographic Agency of Tajikistan (Tojikkoinot)
120 Thailand	Y	1992	National Committee on Geographical Names	
121 The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	Y	2000	Commission for the standardization of geographical names	
122 Togo	N			Ministère de l'Administration Territoriale
123 Tunisia	Y	2013 (1983)	Commission nationale de toponymie	
124 Turkey	Y	2004	Board of Experts for Geographical Names of Turkey (BEGeoN_T)	
125 Uganda	Y	1995	Lands & Surveys Department	

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126 Ukraine	Y	1991	The State Service of Ukraine for Geodesy, Carography & Cadastre	
127 United Arab Emirates	N*			Military Survey Department
128 United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	N			Ordnance Survey
129 United Republic of Tanzania	Y	1982	National Committee on Standardization of Geographical Names	(Surveying and Mapping, Ministry of Lands)
130 United States of America	Y	1890	U.S. Board on Geographic Names (USBGN)	
131 Uzbekistan	N*		(Republican Toponymic Commission)	National Centre of Geodesy and Cartography
132 Vanuatu	N*			Department of Land Surveys
133 Venezuela	Y	1989	Instituto Geográfico de Venezuela Simón Bolívar	
134 Viet Nam	Y	2002	Department of Survey and Mapping Vietnam	
135 Zambia	Y	before 1975	Geographical Place Names Committee	Zambia Survey Department
136 Zimbabwe	Y	1952	Geographical Names Standing Committee (GNSC)	

N* = hopefully soon