Details on Project: Onomastics: Place names and Tribal names

Focus Area

OTHER

Particulars of Applicant

Project Leader	
Faculty	The Humanities
Department/Unit/	Unit for Language Management
Centre	

Proposal Details

Title	Onomastics: Place names and Tribal names
Description	The aim of the project is to point out and describe the Khoisan influence on Southern African place names, as well as the linguistic processes that went hand in hand with the phonological and orthographic adaptation of the place names in the African languages. Sound shifts will be identified, as well as loan words from the Khoisan languages - particularly loan words that are only encountered in place names, or as Hlonipha terms. New insights on dialectic phenomena, as well as on the relationships between the Khoisan languages and their categorisation, will be obtained from the word corpus. This project is in keeping with the recommendation of the Constitution of the RSA that the status and use of the San and Khoi languages should be enhanced, as well as with resolutions of the United Nations, recommending that place names of indigenous groups should be researched, recorded and protected as indigenous cultural goods and national identity markers.
Funding	