Sonja Bosch

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Sonja Bosch is professor in the Department of African Languages at the University of South Africa (UNISA), an open distance learning institution. Her main research focus is on the technological development of African languages.

Her main field of interest is natural language processing of languages in the Nguni language group, i.e. Zulu, Xhosa, Swati and Ndebele. She has extensive experience in morphological analysis and the development of lexical resources. The research and development activities in this project are divided into two areas, namely the computational morphological analysis of a variety of African languages; and machine-readable lexicons as basic resources in the natural language processing of these languages. Both areas are multi-disciplinary, requiring knowledge, expertise and skills associated with the disciplines of linguistics of the South African indigenous languages and of computing science.

She is also project leader of the African Languages Wordnet project which aims to promote multilingualism in South Africa by developing Wordnets for a number of African languages and linking them to one another in order to facilitate cross-linguistic information retrieval.

She is also involved as principal investigator in the DAAD 'Welcome to Africa' supported project *Scientific e-Lexicography for Africa* which is concerned with methods for the preparation of electronic dictionaries for South Africa; both theoretical and practical aspects are covered; methods from linguistics, language technology and information science are used (cf. http://www.uni-hildesheim.de/iwist-cl/projects/sela/index.html).