



Abridged Biography | Prof Langa Khumalo



Langa Khumalo is a Professor and Executive Director of the South African Center for Digital Language Resources (SADiLaR) at the North West University (NWU). SADiLaR is one of the 13 Research Infrastructures as established in the South African Research Infrastructure Roadmap (SARIR), that is funded by the Department of Science and Innovation (DSI). Professor Langa Khumalo is the former Director of Language Planning and Development at the University of KwaZulu-Natal (UKZN). He holds a PhD in Linguistics from the University of Oslo (Norway), and an MPhil in Linguistics from Cambridge University (UK).

He is the current Chair and Coordinator of the Africa Union (AU) IsiZulu Language Commission. He is an expert in Corpus Linguistics and Computational Solutions for the African Academy of Languages (ACALAN), which is a Secretariat of the AU. He is the Chair of the Universities South Africa (USAf)'s Community of Practice for African Language Teaching and Learning (CoPAL). He is a member of the SARIR Planning & Management Forum. He is also a member of the Common Language Resources and Technology Infrastructure (CLARIN), which is a European Research Infrastructure for Language Resources and Technology. He represents South Africa in the CLARIN National Consortium Forum (NCF). He is the current President of the African Association for Lexicography (Afrilex). He is a Fellow of the Cambridge Commonwealth Society (FCCS), a former Language Champion in the Oxford Global Languages programme (OGL) for Oxford University Press (UK), and a member of the Scientific Board of the Centre for Advanced Studies of African Society (CASAS, University of the Western Cape).

He served as a member of the Language Policy Review Working Group appointed by the Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET), which produced the current Language Policy Framework for Higher Education (gazetted in 2020). He is a member of the SADC Indigenous Knowledge Systems (IKS) Scientific Community of Practice. He is an award-winning author in Intelligent Text Processing and Computational Linguistics. He has been an invited speaker and keynote speaker at various local and international conferences and colloquia.
