

# Ethics training session (background and information)

University of Lapland

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# a Introduction

## Hennie Swart



## Director: SASI

- Joined the SA San Communities in 1990 as a Teacher.
- Qualifications: Degree in Psychology and Education.
- Main interest area is ECE (former ECD)
- Development experience: Xun and Khwe Communities, Project Manager for a Belgium collaboration project in ECE, Consultant for WarChild (Dutch INGO): children in the Sudan affected by War.
- Currently the Director of SASI
- Festival Manager of the Kalahari Desert Festival.

# SASI

## South African San Institute

- RSA Independent NGO
- NPO
- Existent from 1996
- 21 years in the Development arena
- Originally established to help the ≠Khomani San land claim.
- <http://www.africanstudies.uct.ac.za/cas/gallery/khomani>

## In the 21 years....

- SASI played a roll in the land- claim of the ≠Khomani San.
- SASI developed programmes for the !Xun & Khwe San of South Africa.
- !Xun and Khwe Communities: A history of relocation...

# Before we continue on the San groups...

## Background

- Wikipedia:
- [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/San\\_people](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/San_people)
- <https://itunes.apple.com/WebObjects/MZStore.woa/viewPodcast?id=310241441>

## First people's of Africa

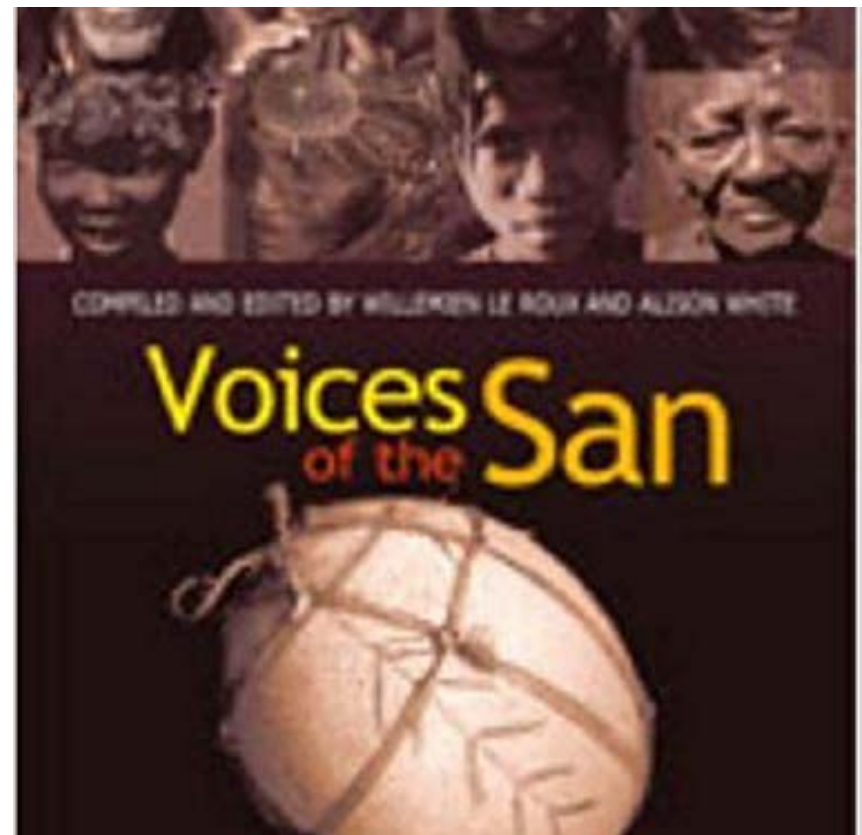


# Informative literature

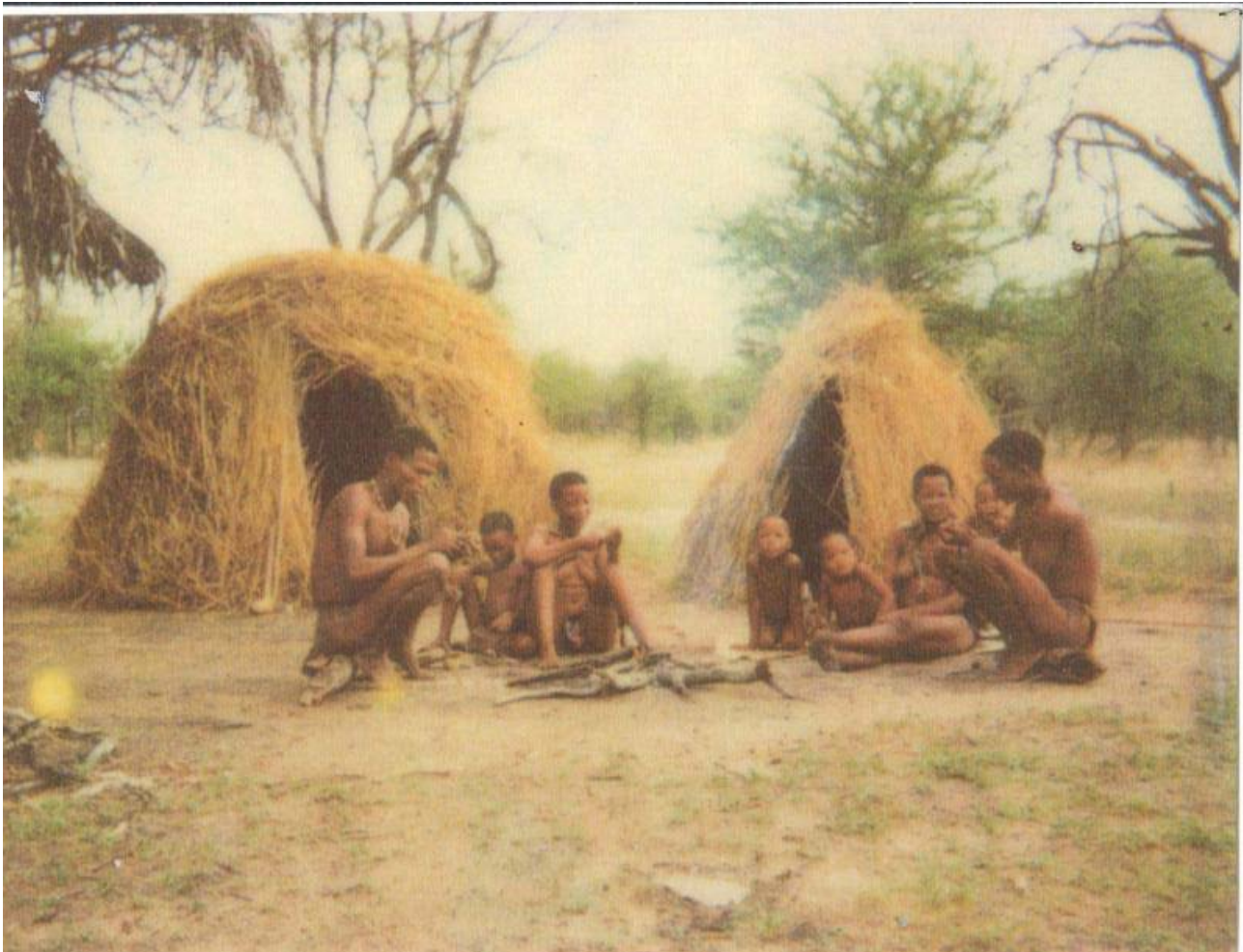
## Historical context

- San Rock Art:
- Divided into: Rock paintings and Rock Engravings.
- <http://www.kimberley.co.za/city/wildebeest-kuil-rock-art-centre/> (\*)
- <https://www.amazon.com/Voices-San-Living-Southern-Africa/dp/0795701926>

## Voices of the San: More recent perspective



# The !Xun and Khwe (and all San): traditional lifestyles)





# From the Old to the New....

- In less than 100 years....



Sabao's  
story."Do you  
think you will  
change our  
culture".

# The !Xun & Khwe situation

- Two different San groups: Cultural, language, customs and traditions.
- Relocated from Namibië, Botswana in 1990 to the RSA due to the Namibian Independence.
- 800 soldiers employed by the (then) SADF to relocate to RSA.
- 800+ their dependents = 5000 people relocating from Namibië to the RSA.



# The !Xun and Khwe Communities in RSA

- Differences in Culture
- Differences in language
- Physical differences



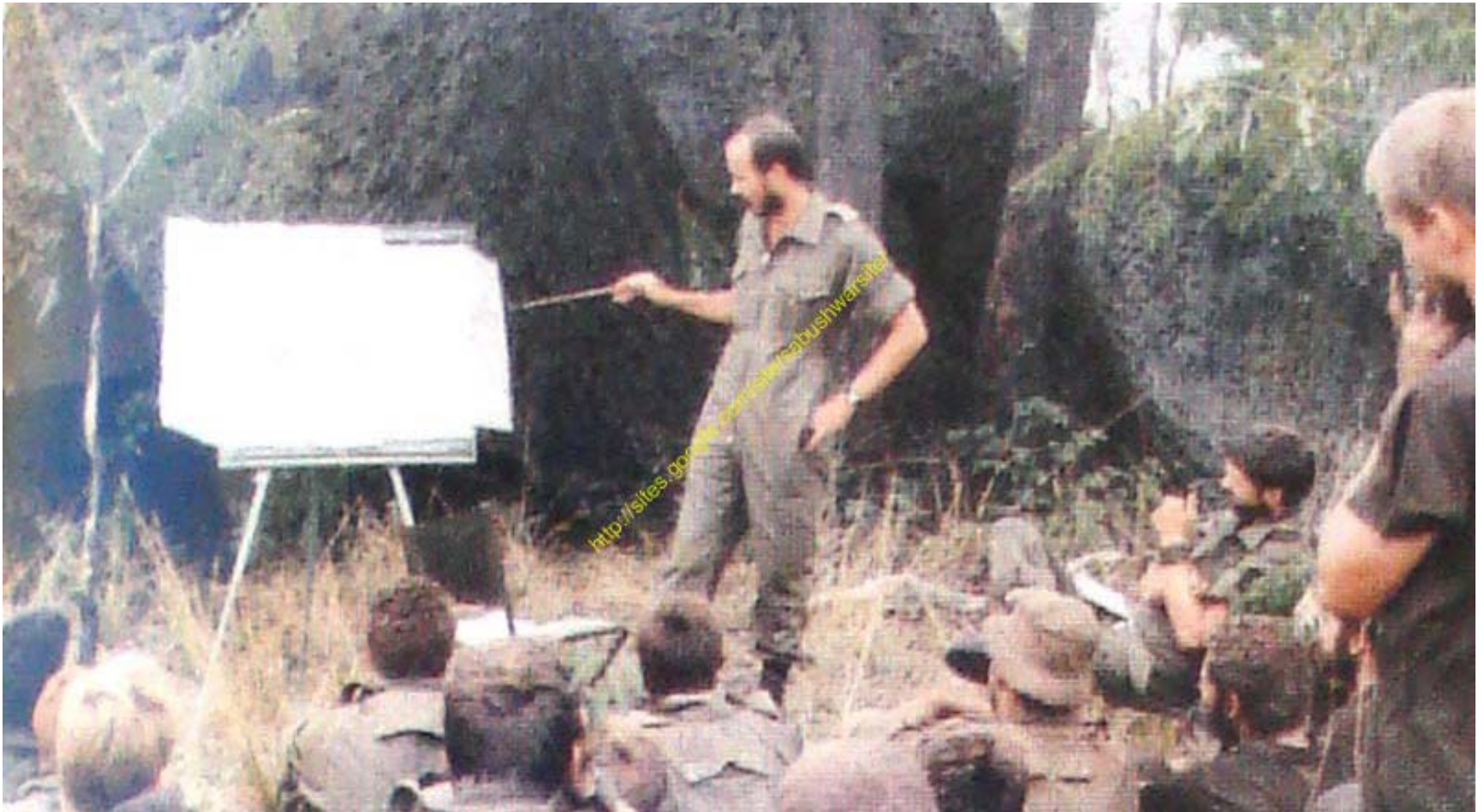
# The period: Colonial war Portugal

The San (men) joined Portugal as soldiers in the Colonial War, 1950's.

Large impact on Culture of the San.



# The Omega period: “Bush War” RSA





# The !Xun and Khwe soldiers brought their families to Omega Defense base



During this period (1970's), the SA Defense force youngsters were accommodated into a schools.



A Khwe soldier.



# The grade 1 class of Omega Base



<https://www.warbooks.co.za/products/as-the-crow-flies-my-bushman-experience-with-31-battalion-delville-linford>



# The next relocation...from Namibia to the RSA in 1990





# The Schmidtsdrift Chapter

- Relocation from Omega Base to a area called Schmidtdrift in the Northern Cape Province of South Africa.
- A complete different landscape. (semi-desert area).
- Far from towns.
- A in-between (temporary period) – six months-became 16 years.
- Some opinions reflect this as a “refugee camp” .

# Schmidsdrift...



# A day in the life of the Schmidtsdrift San...



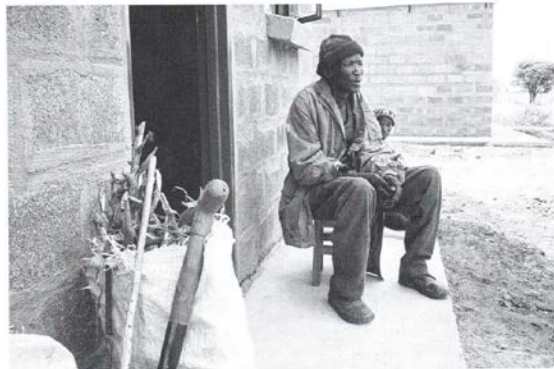


# Another new chapter...the 'promised land- Platfontein'

## LIFE AT PLATFONTEIN



*San families arrive from Schmidtsdrift to take possession of their new homes on Platfontein, December 2003. (Photo: W. Heath. SABC)*



*An ex-soldier contemplates the view afforded from the 'veranda' of his new Platfontein home. (Photo: W. Heath. SABC)*



# The ≠Khomani San

- Also decedents of the !Xam San
- Lived throughout South Africa for decades
- South African Government (1962 and further), divided people in the RSA into different groupings.
- Classification: White/Black/Indian/Coloured.
- The San were classified as “Coloured”.

Interesting: <https://www.amazon.com/Born-Crime-Stories-African-Childhood/dp/0399588175>

# The Land claim and people moved back to the Kalahari area of RSA.





# The San in the Kalahari today...





# The #Khomani San today



# Some statistics (RSA context)

- Khomani San = approx 700 people
  - !Xun San = approx 5000 people
  - Khwe San = approx 2000 people.
  - !Xam San = a few families approx 200 people.
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- In the whole of the SADC region, approx 50,000 San left.

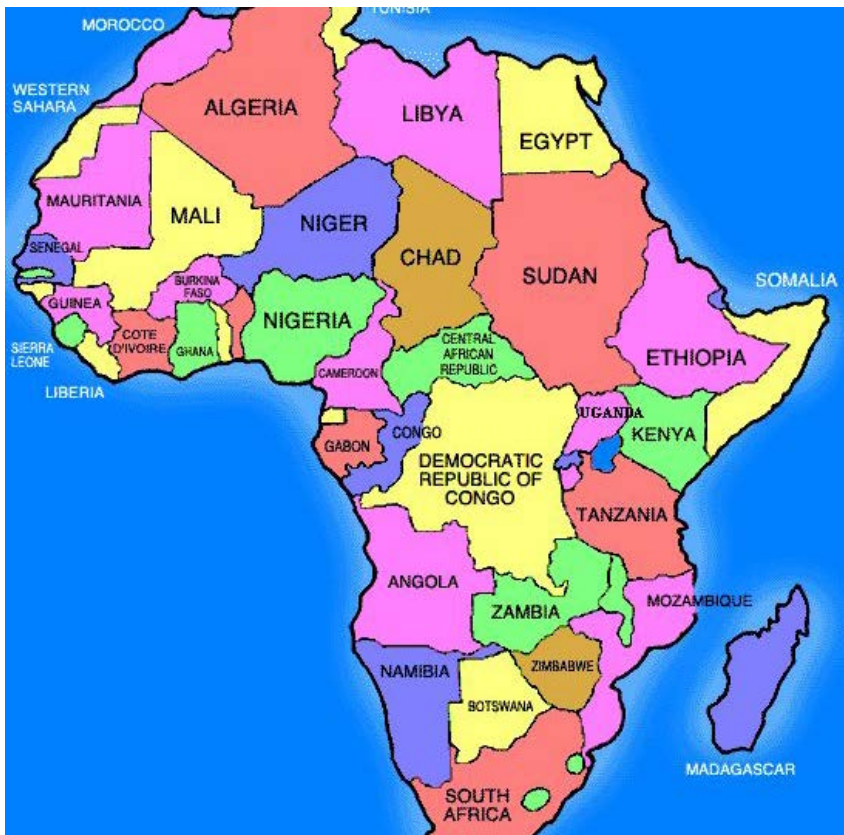
# Literacy levels (RSA context)

- Highest: Khwe speaking San
- 2<sup>nd</sup> : Khomani San
- 3<sup>rd</sup> : !Xun San.

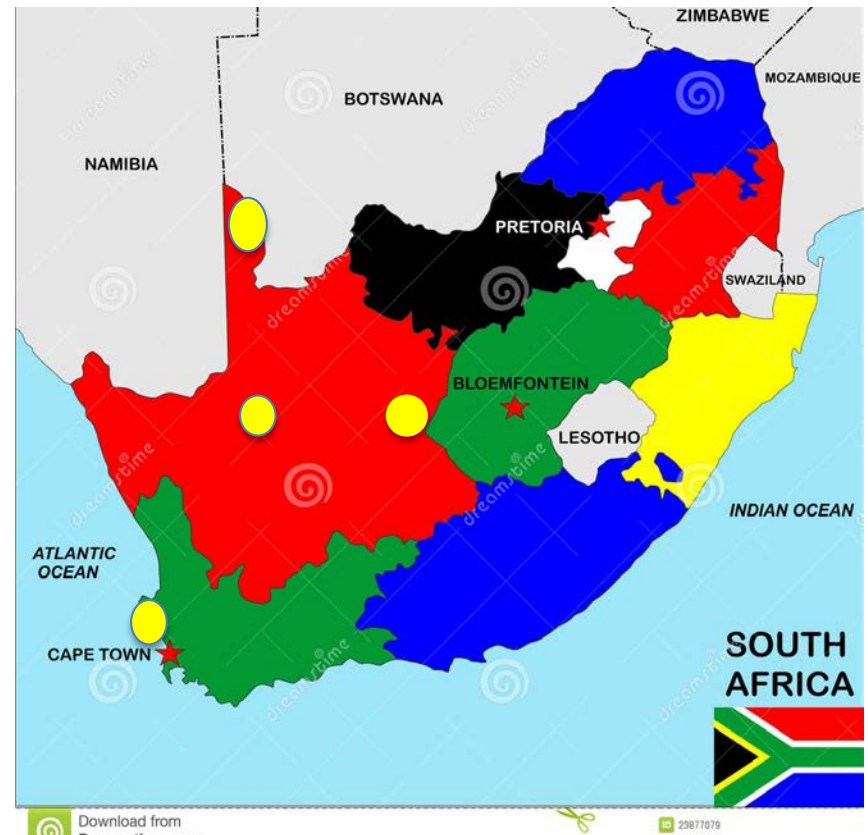


# Orientation....where we work

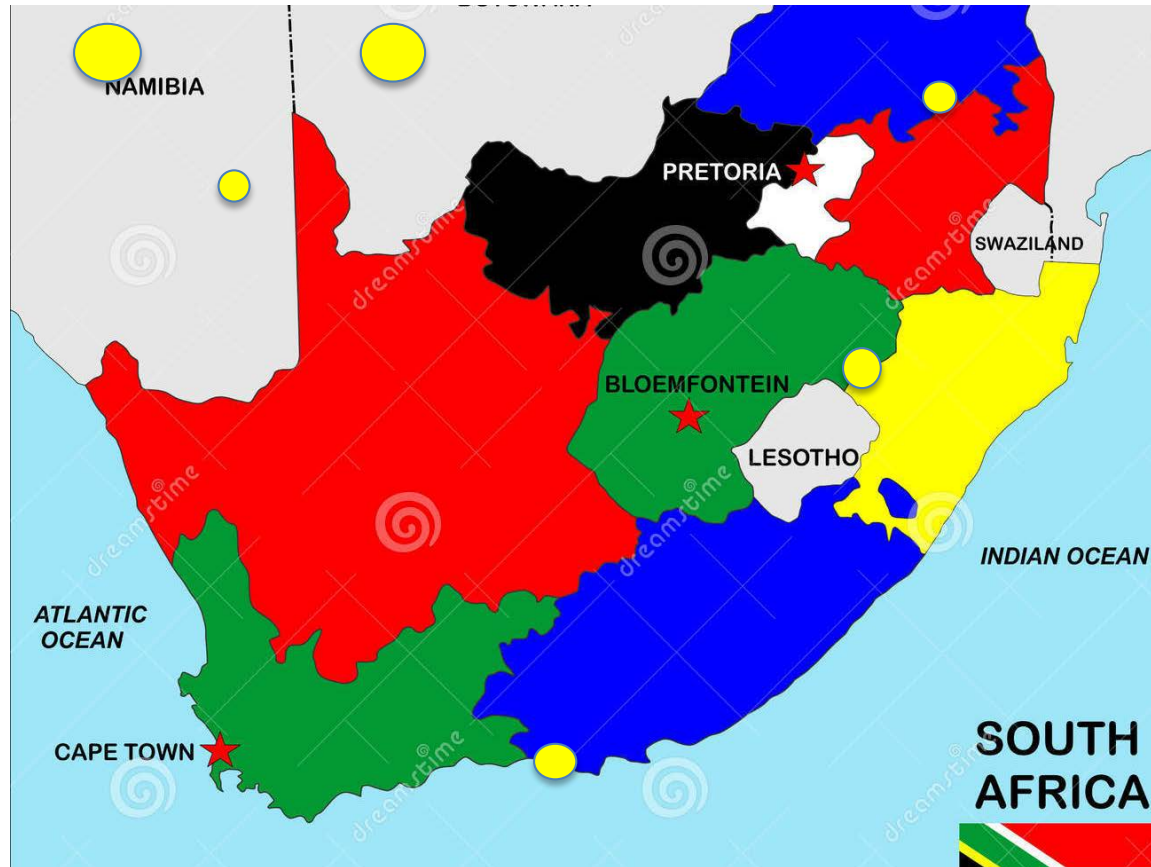
## In Africa....



## In South Africa.....



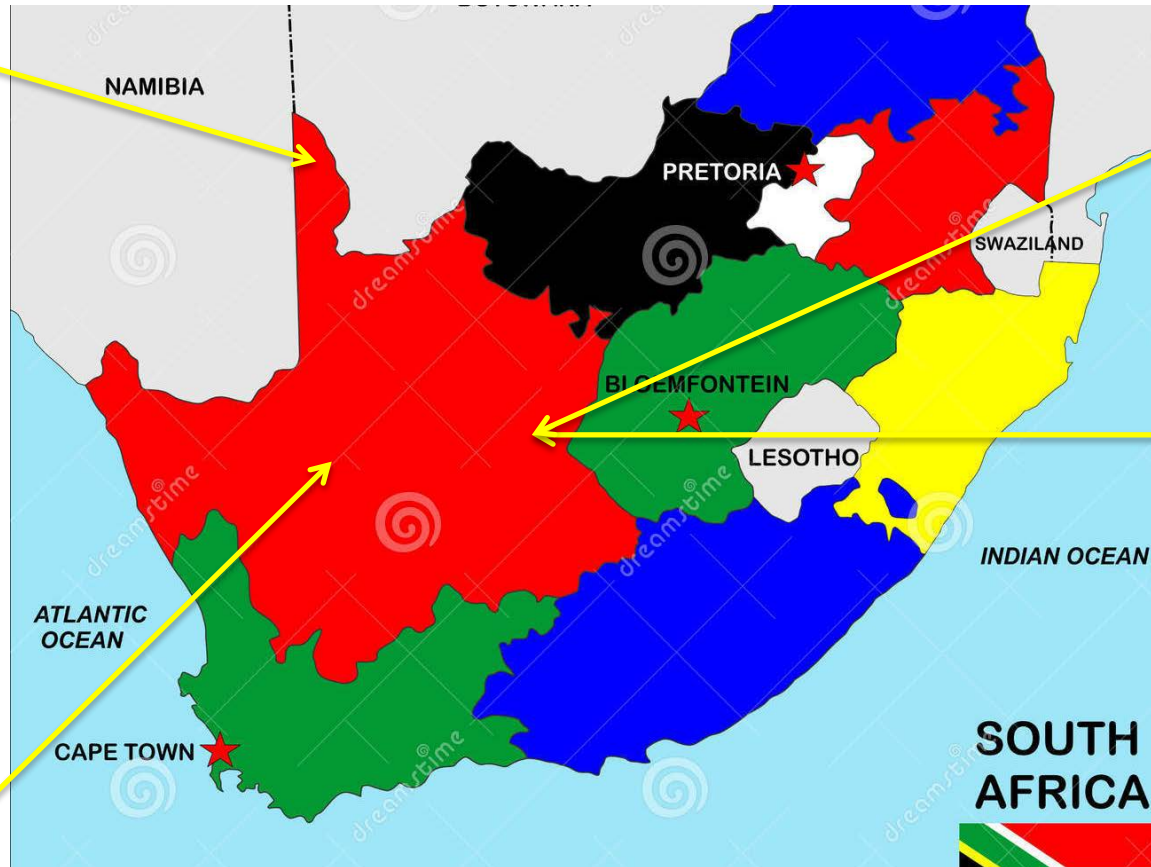




**For thousands of years the San used to live all over Southern Africa**

Therefore SASI also links with other San partners in Namibia and Botswana as well.

Khomani  
Community



!Xun  
Community

Khwe  
Community

Khomani  
Community

## Our main focus groups currently:

!Xun

Khwe

Khomani: Upington and Kalahari

# If I say 'we', I am referring to the 'Four Cousins'.



- *The metaphor...*
- Each cousin operates independant BUT:
- Each cousin work together as we all have the same 'image'.
- Lot's of people (including the San itself, researchers, friends etc), would like to taste from our wine.
- AND, as there are those who drink, there are also those who ADD wine to our 'bottle'.
- The above could be: Researchers, Educationists, Anthropologists, Universities etc.



# Who are the 'cousins'?

- Cousin ONE: South African San Institute
  - Cousin TWO: San Council of South Africa.
  - Cousin THREE: !Khwa ttu
  - Cousin FOUR: The !Xun & Khwe CPA/ The Khomani CPA.
- Thus:
    1. SASI
    2. SASC
    3. !Khwa ttu
    4. CPA's.
  - Each of the Cousins carry different responsibilities, but 'we' operate as ONE family for CPA members, as well as other San.

# Before we step into 'ethics'...



- The story of Matokka:
  - “Buying land”.
- The story of Kaumama
  - The value of ‘responsibility’.
  - The story of Andries Steenkamp.
  - ‘Your house should have a door’.

# Some key characteristics of the San culture

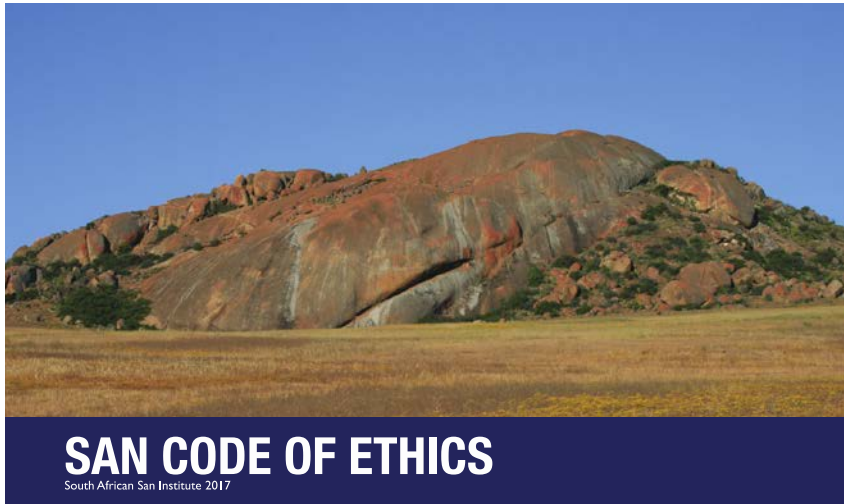


- A *unique-one-dimensional-thinking* and interpretation of the world.
- A deep understanding of the world as a 'system' of inter-dependence and exchange; e.g., culture, agriculture, language, nature, health are all inter-related.

# The Process of developing a Ethics Code

- A process that took 'us' almost 12 years to complete.
- Many levels of consultation.
  - - International levels
  - - National and regional levels.
  - - Community levels
- SASI projects: (e.g)
- PROGRESS project :Informed consent, Responsible Innovation, Countering Exploitation etc.
- <http://trust-project.eu>

# The San Code of Ethics



- Respect
  - Honesty
  - Justice and Fairness
  - Care
  - Process
- 
- REF material:
  - <http://www.sciencemag.org/news/2017/03/san-people-africa-draft-code-ethics-researchers>

# Some interesting articles

- <http://www.groundup.org.za/article/san-council-launches-code-ethics-researchers/>
- <http://www.sciencemag.org/news/2017/03/san-people-africa-draft-code-ethics-researchers>
- <http://m.news24.com/news24/SouthAfrica/News/san-council-launches-code-of-ethics-for-researchers-20170304>

# The different values:

- Respect:

E.g. Leadership were excluded.

- Honesty:

E.g. “They (researchers) makes promises, and we never hear from them again”.

- Justice and fairness:

E.g.. “You will be on TV...”

- Care:

E.g. “Some of the research should help to improve our lives”.



# Value # 5: Process

- *This is where PARTY could play a huge roll:*

- **The development of LIAZ:**

L= Local

I = Infrastructure

A-Z = The process from A to Z

- The LIAZ 'project' is UNDER CONSTRUCTION.

- SASC
- SASI
- Ethical clearance from Universities- then SASC
- Research interest and contract
- SASI's role and logistical support
- Information and orientation
- Literature available.

# An example of a good research project

- The UNISA IDRA model on Platfontein.
- The balance 'model'.
- [http://www.unisa.ac.za/sites/corporate/default/Colleges/Law/Community-Engagement/Institute-for-Dispute-Resolution-in-Africa-\(IDRA\)](http://www.unisa.ac.za/sites/corporate/default/Colleges/Law/Community-Engagement/Institute-for-Dispute-Resolution-in-Africa-(IDRA))



# Why was this a balanced 'scale' model

- UNISA did research by students.
- The research did include participants from the !Xun & Khwe Communities
- Research articles were published.
- Participants learned skills to interview their own families in their own languages.
- The booklet: "Essays uit die hart", or "Essays from the Hart" **ISBN 978-1-886888-802-3** published by UNISA print production.

[https://www.facebook.com/  
Platfontein-San-Community-  
Dispute-Resolution-Project-  
467391136726060/](https://www.facebook.com/Platfontein-San-Community-Dispute-Resolution-Project-467391136726060/)

# The Research aspect of our work...

- The San Communities are NOT against research. To quote Collin Louw (secretary of the SA San Council): “We need researchers, and researchers needs us”.
- BUT:
  - “We are not in the Research ‘Industry’”
  - “We are NOT Academics”
  - “We do not understand academic ‘lingo’, but we respect it”.
  - “We are human’s, and therefore would like to give our information to humans”.



# Some faces in the family... (leadership).





# Some faces you will see (the family & cousins)

- SASI:



# How do we work....

- SASI works in different Consortiums in order to get as much possible input from specialists, in order to develop systems together with the San. SASI operates in partnership-projects.

A few examples:

- TRUST Project
- PARTY Project
- PROGRESS Project
- IKSDC Projects etc...
- ALSO with our sister organisations: SASC/ Khwattu

- A example of what SASI is currently doing with the TRUST Project:
- <http://www.scidev.net/global/ethics/multimedia/ethical-research-code-san-leader.html>
- There are numerous other examples as well. For eg the PARTY project which aims and focus on Youth Development.

# Thank you



- <http://www.sahistory.org.za/article/san>
- [http://www.krugerpark.co.za/africa\\_bushmen.html](http://www.krugerpark.co.za/africa_bushmen.html)
- <http://www.san.org.za/history.php>