

Documentation of Shape File
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My coordinates for Kenya were obtained from this website http://earth-info.nga.mil/gns/html/cntry_files.html

I downloaded them in September, 2007. The database I have been working with has 29984 points including schools, areas, administrative units, hills, markets, streams, and some other units associated with their respective latitude and longitude.

They are assembled by the National Geospatial Intelligence Agency. The point of contact is the GEOnet Names Server. geonames@nga.mil. NGA Bethesda, phone 301-227-3059, Here is what their website says.

Complete Files of Geographic Names for Geopolitical Areas from GNS (ISO/IEC 10646 [Unicode UTF-8] Compliant as of 18 July 2002)

Database Last Update February 29, 2008

We provide complete files of geographic names information covering countries or geopolitical areas. The files are not in customary gazetteer format, but are in a special format amenable to input into geographic information systems, databases, and spreadsheets, giving end users powerful capabilities for data analysis, manipulation, and display. Follow the links below to learn more and to begin downloading files.

[Download Names Files for Countries and Territories \(FTP\)](#)

[Description of Names Files for Countries and Territories Format](#)

[Click here to Download a single compressed zip file that contains the entire country files dataset \(220MB compressed/900MB uncompressed\)](#)

Note: NGA makes available a free tool (GEOTRANS) to generate MGRS coordinates.

In general, I always used the most recent coordinate. So, for example, if I was coding the town of Eldama Ravine, and there was data modified on 1/6/1994 and 11/15/2000, I would put my code on the data point modified in 2000.

I received data from the Kenya Postal Service. On March 2, 2007, Permanent Secretary Dr. Bitange Ndemo, of the Ministry of Information and Communications (via Fred Odhiambo, Postmaster General) forwarded me a list of postal outlets in Kenya hooked to GPRS. The list also included postal outlets with electricity.

In addition, on June 22, 2007, I received an email from Obrian O Wejuli, PA to the Postmaster General of Kenya. With a list of 105 stations in the country that do not have electricity.

I have coded postal stations without electricity as 11, postal stations with electricity as 12, and postal stations with GPRS (i.e. Internet connectivity) as 13. I did the coding myself.

Not every point that was in the postal service list could be found in the GNS database. Attached please find a list of locations by province which I could not locate on the GNS list. Wherever possible, I coded the relevant location to a place I thought was nearby. So for example, I could not find Kibiricha in Eastern province, but I coded a postal service

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as existing in Kibiriswa. I similarly could not find Nairobi –GPO 7 in the GNS database, so I coded an electrified post office as being located in “Nairobi area,” a location which did show up in the database.

Some postal stations which the post office identified as having no electricity showed up on the list of stations with electricity. I assume that means that there are two stations in that town, one with electricity and one without, but I need to verify that assumption with the Kenyan postal service.