



Polytechnic of Namibia

## PUBLIC INVITATION

### Public Dialogue on

#### **“The Impact of Chinese Businesses on the Socio-Economic Development in Namibia: A Case Study of the Retail and Construction Sectors in Windhoek”**

There are conflicting perspectives on the increase of Chinese businesses in Africa and in particular Namibia. Some local communities tend to regard Chinese traders as rescuers from the local and South African monopolistic companies of whose products prices are in general considerably higher compared to those of the Chinese.

The government which is a signatory of various bilateral agreements with the People’s Republic of China believes in economic liberalisation and attraction of foreign investment. The business community on the other hand, feels the pinch of the market threat.

The principal questions to which the study to be presented was trying to find an answer were:

- (a) To what extent is China’s businesses impact on Namibia’s retail and construction sector, investment and social benefits policies?
- (b) What has been the local response to the impact?

It is against this background that the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung in partnership with the Polytechnic of Namibia is inviting you to attend the above event.

**Date:** Thursday, **16 October 2008**

**Time:** 08h30 – 12h30

**Venue:** Polytechnic of Namibia – Auditorium 0.9  
Engineering Block

Due to limited seats, we kindly urge participants to confirm their attendance with Ms. Rachel Shiweda via email [fes@fesnam.org.na](mailto:fes@fesnam.org.na) or via Tel. 061 237438 before **16 October 2008**.