

INVITATION

The University of Johannesburg Confucius Institute (UJCI) and Oxfam Pan Africa in collaboration with the University of Johannesburg Library cordially invite you to a seminar on:

The Future of Africa-China Relations: Conclusions from FOCAC 2018

DATE 11 October 2018
TIME 10:00 to 14:30
VENUE UJ APK Campus Library
 Chinua Achebe Auditorium (6th Floor)
RSVP Monday 8 October to smangelez@uj.ac.za

DRAWING PARTICIPATION FROM A diverse set of scholars, representing various parts of the continent, the seminar will seek to unpack the outcomes of the 2018 FOCAC summit in historical perspective and take stock of some of the features of Africa-China relations in bilateral and multilateral terms in a changing global order; from infrastructural partnership, to trade, to an increasingly growing private sector investment in the continent, with implications for how much Africa can be seen as the “next China” in terms of rapid, meaningful development. The seminar will address the extent to which China can be seen as a partner in Africa’s priority areas (as articulated in Agenda 2063), as well as the various plans of action of the composite states. Crucial to the seminar will be the following questions:

What is the nature of China’s relations with Ethiopia? Is Ethiopia’s growing manufacturing sector to be seen in the same terms as Beijing’s was in its early years? In light of changing geopolitics in the Horn of Africa, what opportunities arise for Ethiopia, and Africa at large? What overlooked areas of research in the Sino-Ethiopia relationship need attention?

Has Kenya successfully balanced and extracted economic benefits from the west and the PRC? As the original touchpoint of the BRI’s Maritime Silk Road, what underlines this closeness? How has Kenya grown from it?

As China’s leading African partner (and marking 20 years of formal diplomatic relations), what are the key elements of the SA-PRC relationship? What changes and affirmations are to be expected in light of the recent FOCAC summit? What is to be expected for the next twenty years as they interact at a bilateral and multilateral level (including BRICS, and for 2019/20 the United Nations Security Council?)

How has FOCAC evolved over time? What is win-win in the context of this formation in this, its eighteenth year? How much of Africa’s goals and aims are represented in its agendas?

What is the Belt and Road Initiative? What are its synergies with the African Union’s Agenda 2063? What directions and indicators has the 2018 FOCAC Summit given with regards to its African interface? What is the view from China for the next number of years? In what directions is China headed towards in the near future regionally and globally, and where does Africa find itself in this regard?