

THE RISE OF SOUTH AFRICA'S MIDDLE CLASS – MYTHS AND REALITIES

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BOOK RELEASE



The Rise of Africa's Middle Class
(Wits University Press 2017)
by Henning Melber (ed)

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AT THE SEMINAR!

SEMINAR

Pretoria 9 November, 2017

How do we define middle class? In emerging economies all over the world, it is not obvious who belongs or not. In South Africa, definitions are challenged and often misleading as tools for development. Moreover, even when we manage to define – is it certain they are the drivers of socio-economic change? In this seminar, we gather scholars and practitioners to discuss and offer a critical perspective on the role of the new middle classes in South Africa.

- 9:00 **Welcoming and opening remarks**
Jane Mufamadi, Freedom Park; *Iina Soiri*, Nordic Africa Institute; *Cecilia Julin*, Ambassador of Sweden; and *Kari Alanko*, Ambassador of Finland.
- 9:30 **Discussing middle class(es) – why and how?**
Roger Southall, University of the Witwatersrand; *Claudia Gastrow*, University of Johannesburg; and *Farai Maunganidze*, University of Pretoria.
MODERATOR: *Sabelo Ndlovu-Gathseni*, UNISA.
- 11:00 **Tea and coffee break**
- 11:30 **Explorations into the South African middle class (1)**
Jason Musyoka, University of Pretoria; *Christi van der Westhuizen*, University of Pretoria; and *Max Boqwana*, Thabo Mbeki Foundation.
MODERATOR: *Roger Southall*, University of the Witwatersrand.
- 13:00 **Lunch break**
- 14:00 **Explorations into the South African middle class (2)**
Thabisani Ndlovu, Walter Sisulu University; *Sabelo Ndlovu-Gathseni*, UNISA; and *Amuzweni Ngoma*, Rhodes University.
MODERATOR: *Jason Musyoka*, University of Pretoria.
- 15:30 **Tea and coffee break**
- 16:00 **Middle class(es), gender and development – Nordic experiences and lessons for South Africa**
Iina Soiri, Nordic Africa Institute; and *Elina Oinas*, University of Helsinki.
MODERATOR: *Henning Melber*, Nordic Africa Institute.

TIME:
Thursday 9
November, 2017,
9:00-17:00 hrs

VENUE:
Freedom Park
Sanctuary,
Corner Koch and
7th Avenue,
Salvokop, Pretoria

RSVP:
Register to Pamela@freedompark.co.za
no later than 5
November

The seminar is co-arranged by the Nordic Africa Institute and Freedom Park

Nordiska Afrikainstitutet
The Nordic Africa Institute

Freedom
PARK

Department of Arts and Culture