

# Combining Development and Democracy : Lessons from Botswana



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**5:00pm – 6:00pm**

**Lam Woo Lecture Theatre (MB-G06), Main Building,  
Lingnan University**

## **Abstract:**

In 1966 Botswana became an independent country with seemingly hopeless prospects: a drought-prone, poverty-stricken country surrounded by white-minority regimes, half the budget supported by British grants, few university graduates, virtually no public education and no modern institutions of politics or business. Yet for forty years it has had among the world's fastest economic and employment growth rates and now enjoys the best health care delivery system in Africa, universal junior secondary education, and the second-lowest level of corruption in the developing world. Multi-party elections every five years have been enlivened by a vigorous free press and vocal opposition parties.

Professor Stephen R. Lewis, Jr., who worked for many years as a consultant to Botswana's government, will review how Botswana built the institutions of political governance and economic management and will suggest some lessons that might be of use in other countries pursuing both democracy and development in Africa and Asia.

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