

**De Beers continues to deliver on its Commitment
to Skills Training in Namibia**

20 March 2009 De Beers is pleased to take part in the opening of a new campus of the Namibia Institute of Mining and Technology (NIMT) in Keetmanshoop. The campus is located in Namibia's southern Karas region, which is home to Namdeb's mining operations. The campus was inaugurated by President Hifikepunye Pohamba in the presence of new NIMT trainees, Cabinet Ministers and other senior government officials as well as Nicky Oppenheimer, Chairman of De Beers and other senior executives from the company.

NIMT is an autonomous technical institution subsidized by the Namibian government. Its main campus is in Arandis, central Namibia. NIMT trains boilermakers, electricians, fitters, diesel mechanics and other artisans for the Namibian mining and engineering industry.

De Beers has an association with NIMT that dates back to the establishment of the Northern campus in November 2007. De Beers provided financial support for NIMT to acquire the property for the establishment of the Northern campus and is proud to have been the first company to provide financial support for the establishment of the Southern campus.

Commenting at the inauguration, Nicky Oppenheimer, Chairman of De Beers said: "Skills development plays a vital role in our business, which is why we feel so strongly about investing in and nurturing what NIMT is doing. Skills development, among its citizens, is critical for Namibia's future, and is an important part of achieving Namibia's Vision 2030 goals."

Also speaking at the same occasion, the Minister of Education, Hon Nangolo Mbumba, commended the private sector for its contribution; "Government alone cannot address all the challenges of socio-economic development in the country. We can only achieve our developmental goals through smart partnership – Government working in tandem with the private sector to achieve our developmental goals."

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