

The AFAAS-COL Webinar

Strengthening the capacity of Agricultural Extension and Advisory Services through utilizing the Agricultural Massive Open Online Courses (AgMOOCs) in Africa

May 28, 2021

13:30- 16:00 GMT (2h30 hrs)

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Moderators



Dr Hlami Ngwenya
University of Free State



Dr Samson Eshetu
AFAAS



Max Olupot
AFAAS



AFAAS Technical team

Andrianjafy
Rasoanindrainy

Esther Michaala

Kenneth

Moris Egesa

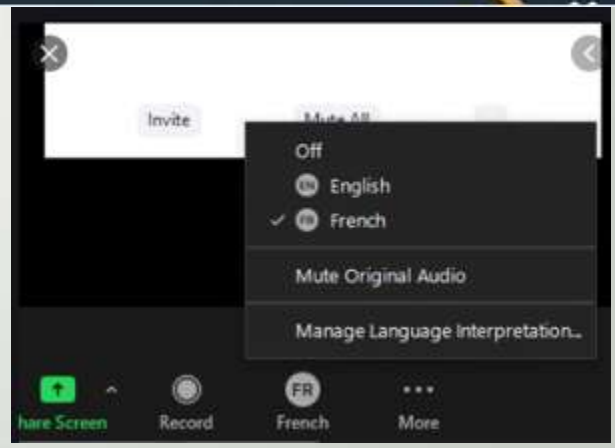
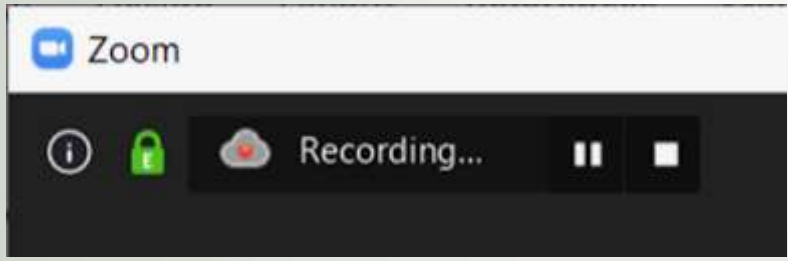
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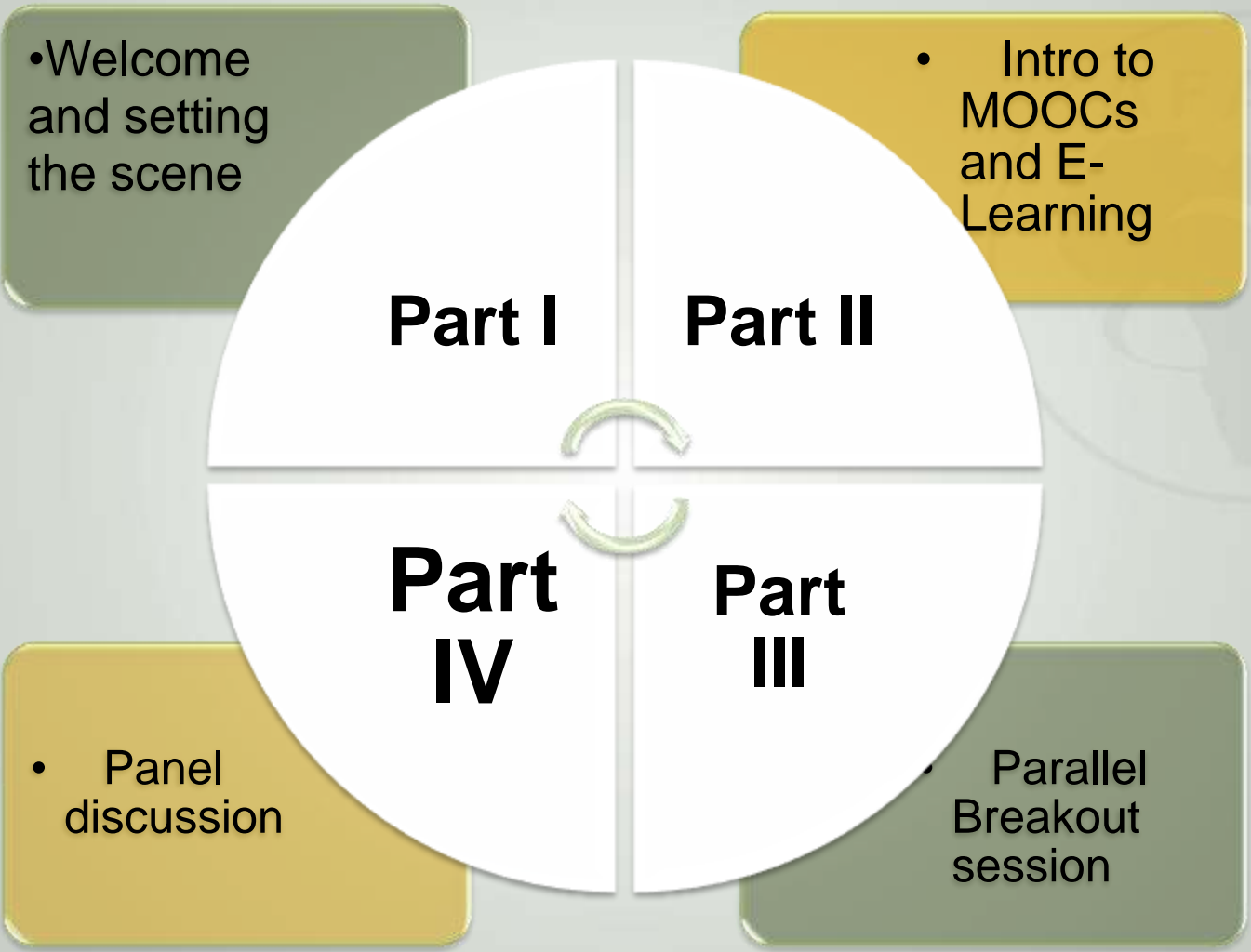
Tell us who you are



Name & Country



Program Overview



Part V: Closing remarks





Part I



Welcome and setting the scene

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What do you know about MOOCs?





Dr. Venkataraman Balaji
Vice President
COL



Dr. Mohammed Silim Nahdy
Executive Director
AFAAS





Dr. Balaji took over as **Vice President of the Commonwealth of Learning (COL)** on 1st January 2019.

He had served as the **Director of Technology and Knowledge Management** at COL.

He is a specialist in the area of **Information and Communication Technology** applied to rural development and has a long association with applications of **Knowledge Management** and Information Technology in agriculture.



Dr. Venkataraman Balaji
Vice President
COL

His work at COL in applied technology focuses on testing new models and practices in technology-mediated outreach that can be deployed in support of learning at all levels.

His role also included work related to MOOCs and Aptus. He also oversees the Directory of Open Educational Resources (DOER).



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Dr. Nahdy is the **Executive Director** of the African Forum for Agricultural Advisory Services (AFAAS).

He has over 30 years wealth of experience in university teaching, scientific research in crop post-harvest systems, as well as planning and managing national agricultural research and advisory services.



He led the team that designed the National Agricultural Advisory Services (NAADS) of Uganda. He was the **Director** of Kawanda Agricultural Research Institute – one of the Uganda's premier research institutes.




He holds a BSc in Zoology and Botany from Makerere University (Uganda), MSc in Entomology from Khartoum University (Sudan) and a **PhD** from the University of Reading (UK).



**Dr. Silim Nahdy
Executive Director,
AFAAS**



Part II



**Introduction
to MOOCs and E-
Learning**

**3 input
presentations**

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FAO




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AgMOOCs experience by COL




Dr. Tenywa is **Specialist in Agriculture and Livelihoods**, joined the Commonwealth of Learning (COL) on September 16, 2019




He served as a **Professor and Coordinator Research Grants Office** at the College of Agriculture & Environmental Sciences as well as Director of Agricultural Innovation Systems Brokerage Association in Uganda before joining COL.



Dr. Moses M. Tenywa
Education Specialist for
Agriculture & Livelihoods
COL



He has had a long career linked to achieving more effective, sustainable and equitable livelihood results in agriculture



His qualifications include a **PhD (Agronomy)** from Ohio State University, USA and a MSc from Makerere University, Uganda.



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Micro-Learning and Micro-credentials to certify workforce competencies



Dr. Porter is a **Senior Advisor Higher Education**, joined the Commonwealth of Learning (COL) in June 2020.

He served as a **Dean of Innovative Learning at Humber Institute of Technology** and Advanced Learning in Toronto, Canada.

He has been working in **the higher education sector** for many years providing leadership direction in support of academic planning, quality assurance, teaching and learning and is a **strong advocate for adapting new technologies**.

He was also **the CEO of eCampus Ontario**, the primary face of the Ontario Online Learning Consortium, a not-for-profit corporation whose membership is composed of all 45 publicly funded colleges and universities in Ontario, Canada

He holds an **Edd in Educational Leadership** and MEd from Simon Fraser University and a BA from University of Toronto.



Dr. David Porter
Senior Advisor
Higher Education, COL

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About the



**Dr. Petracchi heads the
FAO eLearning Academy**

She manages and coordinates the design, development, delivery and language adaptations of an extensive portfolio eLearning courses and blended learning programmes, related to the SDGs, Nutrition and Sustainable Food Systems, food safety etc, for the benefit of FAO member countries.

She engages actively in consolidating partnerships across UN agencies, academic institutions and universities, regional organizations, CSOs and NGOs, for capacity development initiatives

She has created a number of University Masters' and Post Graduate Degree Programmes.

She holds University Degree in Biological Sciences and PhD in Nutrition and Food Science

She has several years of capacity development experience in various countries worldwide.



**Dr. David Porter
Senior Advisor
Higher Education, COL**





About the
feasibility of
MOOCs?

Idea

Part III



Breakout Session



Group 1

The role of extension practitioners and leadership in contextualizing current skill sets

Group 2

Prospect for advancing scalable online courses in education



Part III



Report back

Group 1

Group 2

Rapporteur

Rapporteur



Part IV



Panel Discussion

Experience of Extension practitioners on online tools



Dr Mercy Akeredolu
SAFE



Prof Maina Muniafu
KeFAAS



**Prof Kolodafe
Olawale**
Uni of Ilorin, Nigeria

Prof Dele Tologbonse
NiFAAS



Closing remarks and Way forward



Dr. Venkataraman Balaji
Vice President
COL



Dr. Mohammed Silim Nahdy
Executive Director
AFAAS

