

Africa Centers of Excellence

COVID-19 Response Task Force: Capacity Building

Introduction and Assessment of Needs. The Capacity Building task force is established to (i) assess the existing online learning capacity at the ACEs, (ii) identify and liaise with the various potential partners that can support now and in the future, and (iii) identify resources that are free and for those that come at a cost, determine cost and the terms that apply.

In coordination with the other elements of the broader ACE COVID-19 Response Task Force, the Action Plan for Capacity Building focuses on:

- Short Term Actions to provide immediate support to ACE Centers and host institutions
- Longer Term Actions to provide support to the development of digital education resources at ACE Centers and host institutions
- Online resources that can be used by faculty members and institutions to facilitate the immediate transition to more online teaching and learning.

Recommended/Draft Short-term Action Plan. The goal is to implement the following short-term actions within the next six months. Specific details on webinars (time and date; connection platform) will be distributed as they become available.

- Assess the already existing digital capacity at the centers and the host institution
- Identify a point of contact at each University or ACE (if not an IT person, the person should have basic computing knowledge)
- Finalize and distribute resource packages to all ACEs by beginning of May
- To coordinate a series of Webinars (2 Anglophone; 1 Francophone) led by AAU/IUCEA and the World Bank TTLs for all ACEs to discuss the general resources available as a result of the ACE COVID-19 Response Task Force
 - Timeline: week of May 18
- To organize introductory webinars in each subtheme in May. Given the large number of ACEs and time differences, each webinar should be offered in multiple sessions, as well as (Anglophone/Francophone)
 - Focusing on the Capacity Building scope:
 - For Faculty members
 - Pivoting to delivering classes online
 - Incorporating online resources/content in your course
 - Data privacy and intellectual property in online resources
 - Using an LMS and why it matters
 - Introduction to digital content providers
 - Introduction to specific content providers for faculty members (based on institutional response)
 - edX
 - Coursera
 - FUN
 - For Center and university IT teams
 - Requirements for effective digital education
 - Introduction to digital content providers

- Facilitating content provider partnerships in the COVID era
- For University Leadership
 - Practical considerations for the re-opening of the university and development of an institution level action plan
 - Important considerations for developing a strategic plan for emergency closures (including practical examples)
 - Introduction to digital content providers
 - Importance of using an LMS (including discussion on the use of a national/regional centralized LMS vs university-level LMS)

Recommended/Draft Medium- and Long-term Action Plan. These actions should be implemented between 7 months and remainder of project implementation period.

- Support for digital studio procurement for interested Centers and host universities
 - Webinar on the requirements for a digital studio to develop digital learning resources and course materials
 - Written resources on requirements
 - Consultations on demand
- ACE-based Network for Digital Education
 - Develop web-based resources
 - Training institutional Project Managers
 - Training the trainers
 - Pedagogical Engineers
 - Digital Content Producers
 - IT Specialists with Multimedia Production Experience
 - Faculty members to become campus champions
- Facilitate Digital Learning training for faculty and staff
 - For Faculty members
 - 1 year training program

Resources. The team has gathered resources from multiple learning platforms that can be used by the centers for capacity building (see annex).

ANNEX: LIST OF RESOURCES

Source/Learning Platform	Area	Course Description (and website link)
FOR FACULTY		
edX	Teach Online	Pivoting to Online Teaching: Research and Practitioner Perspectives This course explores research-informed effective practices for online teaching and learning in postsecondary institutions, providing faculty and staff with guidance on how to pivot existing courses online while enhancing student success and engagement.
EPFL	Teach Online	Online Lecturing with ZOOM This page provides support for the online conferencing tool ZOOM, Moodle and Speakup.
Arizona State University (ASU)	Teach Online	Design for Online Webinars A collection of webinars to assist with the transition to online learning.
Arizona State University (ASU)	Teach Online	Foundations in Excellence for Teaching Online In this self-paced experience, you'll learn about topics that are recognized to be effective in online teaching, yet they really can be applied in any modality.
Arizona State University (ASU)	Teach Online	Video Spotlight: Creating Effective Lecture Videos In this short video you will see both strategies and processes for creating effective video lectures. A lecture can be an integral part of any learning experience providing information and instructor led insights into how to use information in various learning approaches.
Stanford University	Teach Online	SCPD creates guide to transitioning courses online The Stanford Center for Professional Development, a part of the Office of the Vice Provost for Technology & Learning, has published a guide to support faculty and instructors in moving their course delivery online. Stanford Online Course Creation Essentials provides instructors with step-by-step guidance on planning, developing, and delivering their online courses.
Stanford University	Teach Online	Stanford Teach Anywhere Includes short videos that often include links to articles and further reading
Carnegie Mellon University (CMU)	Teach Online	Preparing to Teach Online In the event you need to translate your course(s) to an online/remote format, this web resource is designed to provide you with pedagogical strategies and how-to resources to shift as quickly as possible.
Carnegie Mellon University (CMU)	Teach Online	Teaching Excellence & Educational Innovation Adjusting Your Course Design for Online Learning (and fast)

Udemy	Teach Online	<p>How to teach an online course</p> <p>You want to make online courses, tutorials or demos but you don't know where to begin? Top-selling instructor, Huw Collingbourne, reveals the secrets of making professional videos on an amateur budget. Huw has taught more than 43,000 students on Udemy. He recorded all his videos single-handedly in a tiny room at home with budget-priced equipment. If Huw can do it, so can you. This course shows you how.</p>
Udemy	Teach Online	<p>How to Teach Online 24/7/365</p> <p>In this course, University of Phoenix Advanced Certified Online Instructor David Lantz walks you through the teaching strategies being used by the best online college instructors to teach in an asynchronous online course.</p>
Udemy	Teach Online	<p>How to teach online courses - a practical guide from a pro</p> <p>This course will give you the skills you need to teach online courses with confidence, even if you don't have a background in teaching.</p>
Swiss MOOC Service	Develop Online Content	<p>MOOC Video Creation – from concept to creation</p> <p>Matthew Goodman, expert video editor at the EPFL Center for Digital Education (CEDE), presents on video production for education. You can follow the recorded webinar here and learn tips and tricks for MOOC video production.</p>
Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)	Develop Online Content	<p>Online Course Design Guide</p> <p>The Online Course Design Guide was produced by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Office of Educational Innovation and Technology (MIT-OEIT), in collaboration with the New Media Consortium (NMC), to support instructional designers, educators, and facilitators in the development and implementation of online courses. Each section of the guide contains critical information, recommendations, examples, checklists, and resources for further exploration to create and deliver effective online learning experiences.</p>
Arizona State University (ASU)	Develop Online Content	<p>What Makes an Online Course Remarkable?</p> <p>What makes a learning experience for online students truly remarkable? We recently surveyed a group of ASU faculty in order to identify course design and facilitation elements they believe help to create remarkable learning experiences for online students. For this article, we'll review course design recommendations the faculty shared in the survey.</p>
edX	Develop Online Content	<p>Design and operate the learning platforms of the future (4 courses longer term)</p> <p>Learn how to create enhanced learning opportunities using the latest tools and techniques to connect with today's digital-first students. Our unique approach to instructional design focuses on understanding learning theory, blending traditional instructional design models with rapid prototyping and data analytics to create online courses. You will gain hands-on experience developing and publishing online courses using the edX platform.</p>

Udemy	Develop Online Content	Teach Online: How To Create In-Demand Online Courses You will know how to pick a course topic to ensure it will attract student enrollments; You will know how to name your course so it will be found by prospective students; You will know what equipment you need to create an online course; You will know how to shoot, edit, and publish 4 types of online course videos; You will know how to create an animated, branded video bumper, with music; You will know how to pull it all together into a high-quality, in-demand online course.
FOR STUDENTS		
Udemy	Learn Online	Taking Online Classes - Skills To Help You Succeed This training will give you the fundamental skills necessary to take online courses well and use computers well. This course is designed for individuals who are just getting started with computers. This course will show you basic computer skills. This course is also designed for people who want to know how to get the most out of online courses.
Udemy	Learn Online	Ace Your Online Class Ace Your Online Class is a course designed to help people who have never taken an online college class before, or struggled with one in their first go around. The course teaches students how online learning differs from traditional learning, the tools needed for success, the main features of your course, and tips on how to navigate them.
edX	Learn Online	How to Learn Online Learn essential strategies for successful online learning
Coursera	Learn Online	Mindshift: Break Through Obstacles to Learning and Discover Your Hidden Potential Mindshift is designed to help boost your career and life in today's fast-paced learning environment. Whatever your age or stage, Mindshift teaches you essentials such as how to get the most out of online learning and MOOCs, how to seek out and work with mentors, the secrets to avoiding career ruts (and catastrophes) and general ruts in life, and insights such as the value of selective ignorance over general competence.