

INVITATION

FACULTY OF SCIENCE, AGRICULTURE AND ENGINEERING

TOPIC: Harnessing indigenous neglected underutilised crops for sustainable food security: lessons from South Africa

DATE: 24 April 2024

TIME: 14H00 – 15H00

Facilitator: Prof M. Sibanda

Speaker: Dr G.M. Senyolo



Dr. Granny Senyolo is a distinguished scholar in Agricultural Economics with a notable career path bridging academia, advisory roles, and research. Since July 2019, Dr Senyolo has been a pivotal member of the Reference Group and Advisory Committee for the Office of the Valuer General in Pretoria, where she advises on property valuation crucial for land reform, leveraging her expertise in influencing policy and implementation strategies. Her academic journey commenced at the

University of Limpopo, where she obtained her BSc and MSc in Agricultural Economics (2001-2007) and contributed as a lecturer. Her quest for knowledge led her to Texas A&M University in the United States, where she earned a Master of Science in Agricultural Economics (2009-2011). Upon returning to South Africa, Dr Senyolo joined the University of KwaZulu-Natal, where she obtained her PhD in Agricultural Economics and also tenured as a lecturer (2011 - 2014). Since 2014, she has shaped minds at the Tshwane University of Technology, dedicating herself to teaching, research, and extending her influence through community outreach. Dr. Senyolo's advisory role expanded to the National Agricultural Marketing Council (2019 - 2021), where she offered critical insights for developing the Smallholder Market Access Tracker (SMAT) tool, demonstrating her commitment to enhancing market access for smallholders. Her prolific research output, evident through publications in esteemed journals, addresses critical issues like farm entrepreneurship, market participation decisions, and adopting climate-smart agricultural practices such as neglected underutilised crops (NUCS). Dr. Senyolo's career reflects a profound dedication to agricultural economics' practical and scholarly aspects, showcasing her as a beacon of knowledge and influence in the field.

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VENUE: Online (MS Teams)

RECORDING: Will be shared on FSAE Moodle LMS



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PRESENTS

A GUEST LECTURE

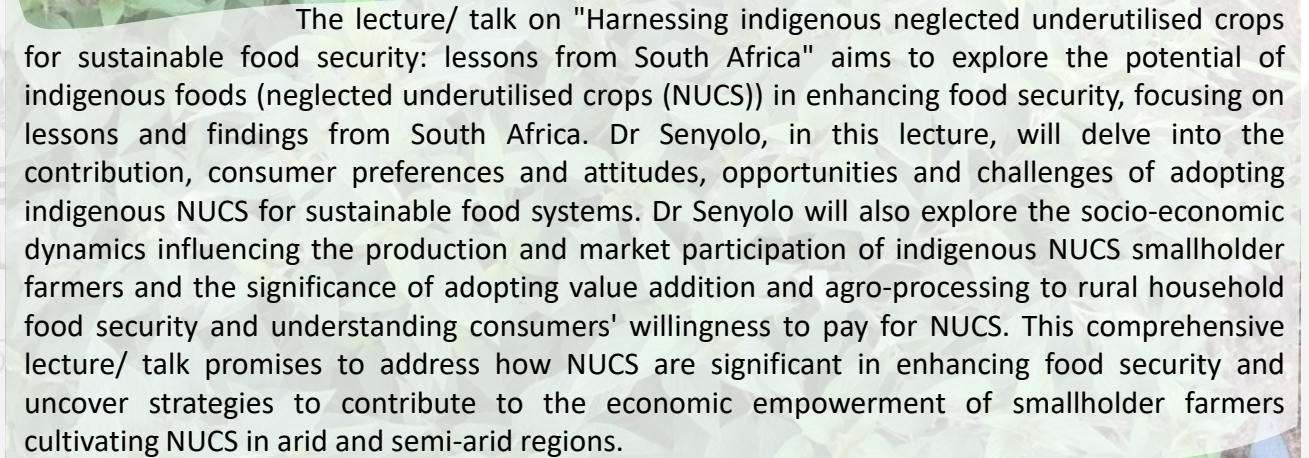
on

Harnessing indigenous neglected underutilised crops for sustainable food security: lessons from South Africa

Facilitator: Prof Melusi Sibanda

Invited Speaker: Dr Grany Mmatsatsi Senyolo

- 1. Welcome remarks** – Prof I. Moyo, D/Dean of FSAE (Research & Innovation) (5 mins)
- 2. Talk/ lecture delivery** – Dr Senyolo (40 mins)
- 3. Question and answer** – All (10 mins)
- 4. Vote of thanks and closure** – Prof I. Moyo (5 mins)



The lecture/ talk on "Harnessing indigenous neglected underutilised crops for sustainable food security: lessons from South Africa" aims to explore the potential of indigenous foods (neglected underutilised crops (NUCS)) in enhancing food security, focusing on lessons and findings from South Africa. Dr Senyolo, in this lecture, will delve into the contribution, consumer preferences and attitudes, opportunities and challenges of adopting indigenous NUCS for sustainable food systems. Dr Senyolo will also explore the socio-economic dynamics influencing the production and market participation of indigenous NUCS smallholder farmers and the significance of adopting value addition and agro-processing to rural household food security and understanding consumers' willingness to pay for NUCS. This comprehensive lecture/ talk promises to address how NUCS are significant in enhancing food security and uncover strategies to contribute to the economic empowerment of smallholder farmers cultivating NUCS in arid and semi-arid regions.

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