Connected Learning and Ag Extension
Shall the twain meet?

Venkataraman Balaji
Commonwealth of Learning (COL), Canada
8th GCRA@UAS-Bengaluru, India

January 2016
Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting
Vancouver, 1987
Commonwealth of Learning

WHAT IS IT FOR?

To help Commonwealth governments and institutions use various technologies to improve and expand education, training and learning in support of development.
Three S’s

Skills

Scale

Speed
Green Revolution
Disruptive Innovations in Media
The Famous REF Triangle

- education
- research
- extension
- farmers
Limited Strategies to Harness New Media
Rise of Connected, Online Learning

Face-to-Face
Distance Learning
E-learning
Online Learning

Internet-based or Connected Learning
Increased Acceptance of Online Learning

74.1%
Proportion of academic leaders rating the learning outcomes in online education as the same or superior to those in face-to-face

70.8%
Proportion of chief academic leaders reporting online learning is critical to their long-term strategies
Large Scale Online Learning in Ag is Meaningful
MOOC on Mobiles for Dev
(Oct-Dec 2013)
National Academy of Ag Sci-COL policy brief on MOOC (Nov 2014)
IIT Kanpur-COL mobile-based foundation course in horticulture
vKVK Web to Mobile Service

- Expert
- vkvk.in
- Login Form
  - Username
  - Password
  - Login
- Voice Message Created
- Select crops
- Select Practices
- Message types
- Message Description
- Record voice message
- Via
  - System mike
  - Call to record
- Upload
- Advisory
- Alert
- Message
- Create voice message
- Send
- Message sent to farmers
- Farmers

Message sent to farmers
Typical Learners in Mobi MOOC
AgMOOCs India Consortium (since March 2014)
Upcoming Courses
@ AgMOOCs (Jan 2016)

Upcoming Courses

- Integrated Pest Management (IPM)
- Nutrition, Therapeutics and Health
- GIS in Ag-Essentials and Applications

- Weather Forecast in Agriculture and Agro-advisory
Thank You

www.col.org