

## Welcome & Opening Comments

*Tuesday, 10 October 2023 15:00 (10 minutes)*

Session Moderator: Prof Diouma Kobor and Prof Simon Connell

This presentation is the context for the session.

The AfLS Roadmap toward the new large scale research infrastructure requires a well developed network of smaller but very capable national and regional level research infrastructures. These build the community, build the research infrastructure in a well distributed way across the continent, and lead to deep local training and technology transfer. This will provide employment opportunities to combat or reverse the African Science Diaspora and establish a foundation for the future AfLS, without yet the large price-tag. These intermediate milestones increase the logic for Africa to build ultimately the AfLS.

**Presenter:** CONNELL, Simon (University of Johannesburg)