

UNESCO's Active Learning in Optics and Photonics (ALOP) is a program designed to strengthen the learning environment for students in developing countries by training teachers in a 5-day hands-on, minds-on, intensive workshop. ALOP workshops



provide participants with an introductory update in the fields of optics and photonics, and active learning strategies for teaching that have been demonstrated to be more effective than traditional methods.

Since 2004, there have been 37 ALOP workshops throughout the world. These workshops have included over 1,100 teachers from nearly 30 developing countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America. There have also been several follow-up workshops to train trainers, by giving them the opportunity to work as assistant facilitators. This international award-winning program is designed to empower teachers to educate their students effectively using locally-available resources. ALOP workshops are facilitated by internationally recognized experts in optics and education.







ALOP Dhulikhel, Nepal

ALOP São Paulo, Brazil

ALOP Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

ALOP workshops are based on the ALOP Training Manual (published by UNESCO) that contains six optics and photonics modules: Geometrical Optics, Lenses and Optics of the Eye, Interference and Diffraction, Atmospheric Optics, Optical Data Transmission and Wavelength Division Multiplexing, that make use of low-cost, locally available materials. The participants are university professors and secondary teachers of introductory optics.

Sustaining program support from:









Zohra Ben Lakhdar—UNESCO L'Oréal Prize winner and ALOP volunteer facilitator—discussing with participants.