

Engaging teachers for informal education in modern physics

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The International Masterclasses (IMC) Programme was launched in 2005 by IPPOG (then EPOG/EPPOG) – the International Particle Physics Outreach Group – on the occasion of the celebration of UNESCO’s 2005–World Year of Physics. The programme has grown substantially since then, attaining today a level of nearly 14 000 students participating in 220 institutes in 52 countries. A student participating in IMC would go to the closest university hosting a session, and “Be a scientist for a day...with hands-on particles”. The day consists of training in the morning, data analysis paired with another student after lunch, and discussion of results in an international videoconference, connecting high-school students that participated in different institutes, moderated by scientists at CERN and other places. However, the number of involved countries in IMC from the African continent remains relatively low. To get more African students involved, one of the paths pursued was to reach their teachers, particularly through the CERN’s Portuguese Language Teachers Programmes. These were started in 2009, following the CERN Portuguese Teachers Programmes started in 2007.

In this presentation, a small review of such programmes is discussed (the Teachers Programmes and the IMC programmes), along with plans for the immediate and medium- term future.

Abstract Category

Particle Physics

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