

PAKISTAN



TEACHERS' TRAINING PROGRAMME

Background

The innovative switch to virtual teachers training was rooted from the challenge to impart training to greater number of teachers from vast geographical scale with limited financial and human resources. Alight kick-started its online teacher training program in September 2019 because in the era of technology, e-Learning is the future of acquiring knowledge as it is cost-effective and also provides greater value for money. It makes it easier for trainees to receive training in the comfort of their homes and at their own pace.

Participants only require an internet connection and an internet accessing device to receive the lessons and course material. Lessons are delivered via email. The online training program imparts training to participants at a fraction of the cost. The use of this technology saves cost of commuting long distances for both trainers and participants. It saves time for both as well.

Switching to online training can allow Alight to achieve its training targets in available resources. It increases outreach as the classroom setting is not required. This has also opened up an interface between trainer and trainee, where the participants can send queries and receive replies daily pertaining to the learning content.

Providing this extent of follow up in person is humanly impossible while covering participants at such a large scale and geographical scope. The vision is to contribute to the quality of education services in Pakistan through provision of accessible, cost-effective and institutionalized teachers training. Alight envisions improved quality education services through qualified teachers in formal and non-formal schools.

Current Program

Alight aims to incorporate technology into teaching and learning to train teachers across Pakistan. For this purpose, Alight has launched a cutting-edge Online Teachers Training Program in partnership with Oxademy Education, UK.

This online training is provided free of cost with UK certification at the end of a four weeks course, which is tailor-made for formal and non-formal streams of teachers.

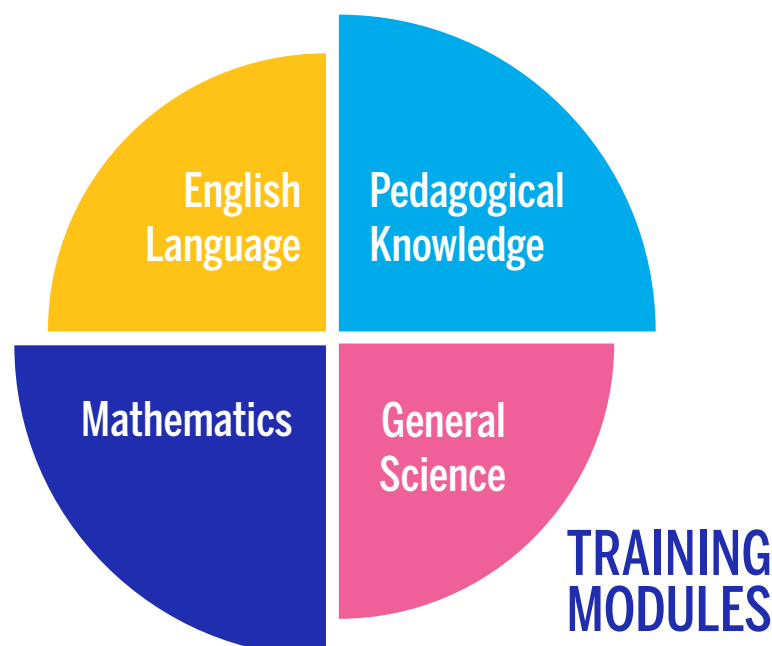
It comprises the four of english language, pedagogical knowledge, mathematics and general science.

Training is currently being imparted to the staff of the Federal

Directorate of Education (FDE), Ministry of Federal Education and Professional Training, Alight's partners, School Education Department of all provinces and WaterAid Pakistan.

These courses are available to teachers, head teachers, field managers, middle managers, officers, master trainers and other management and teaching staff.

So far Alight has received over 7,000 nominations from all provinces of Pakistan including GB, ICT and AJK. There are currently over 1500 participants enrolled in the online training with over 400 graduates who have already received their certification from UK.



Details regarding teachers' nominations, enrollments and graduation is following:

Province	Nominations	Enrollments	Graduates
Azad Jammu Kashmir	21	6	5
Balochistan	1385	600	600
Islamabad Capital Territory	500	380	380
Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	1428	906	906
Punjab	5253	2059	2039
Sindh	150	105	70
Total	8737	4056	4000

Nomination Process



Training Methodology

The course content is broken down into bite-size learning packages so the lessons require only 5-10 minutes reading time. This helps ensure that the content is easy to grasp and implement in the practical setting.

These lessons are delivered on a daily basis to participants through email, which include daily assessment to ensure that the participants are able to understand the concepts covered in the lessons.

The progress of participants is monitored through the online dashboard of the platform. Support is provided to participants through an inbuilt system, where they can send their queries through text, voice messages and even video messages. They can also contact a designated support number to ask queries through phone calls, SMS message and even WhatsApp.

The online training content is delivered in both English and Urdu. Having the content available in Urdu helps ensure

better grasp of concepts covered and retention of knowledge for the participants as it is in local language.

Sustainable Development Goals

Alight's online teachers training program is in line with the UN's SDG 4, Target 4C, for provision of world class teacher training with the help of Oxademy UK.

The content is approved by the FDE and made to fit the local context in order to build the capacity of the teachers.

Future Prospects

In order to improve quality of service delivery and training, Alight has planned to introduce pretest assessments to assess prior knowledge of the participants. There can also be the addition of a post-test assessment to monitor their level of understanding and determine if the teachers have passed the course to be eligible for receiving the certification. The post-test assessment will also include a course evaluation to enable participants to provide feedback on their experience of the course and further recommendations for improvements.

Online Teachers Training program will be expanded through a state-of-the-art Virtual Training Academy (VTA). This project is underway in collaboration Allama Iqbal Open University (AIU). Establishment of such a facility will

'Target 4C: INCREASE THE SUPPLY OF QUALIFIED TEACHERS IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES:

By 2030, substantial increase in the supply of qualified teachers through international cooperation for teacher training in developing countries, especially least developed countries and small island developing states.-UN

increase accessibility to training for teachers through utilisation of AIOU's 49 virtual campuses that are located throughout Pakistan. Avenues for future expansion can also include regional satellite offices, which would be set up in collaboration with district and provincial authorities.

The academy will include tailor-made content for teachers, head teachers, field managers, middle managers, officers,

master trainers and other management and teaching staff. The academy can also introduce various types of trainings such as mid-career training, senior management courses, accelerated learning program, e-learning and teaching, ECE, skill development, etc. to cater to a larger audience. This will help equip teachers with resources and build upon or refresh their knowledge base in order to increase not only their capacity but student learning outcomes as well.

Muallim Knowledge Platform

Launched in partnership with Allama Iqbal Open University (AIOU) and KarMuqabla, objective of Muallim Knowledge Access Platform (KAP) is to enhance the quality of learning opportunities provided to trainers. KAP shall enable partners by strengthening their capacities and capabilities. The focus will be on technology-driven KAP educational initiatives, specifically in Non-Formal Education and Accelerated Learning Program in ways that optimize efficiency and sustainability. It will provide a next-generation technology-based ecosystem, practical guidance on training and education to stakeholders and how learning can be designed, adapted and scaled to improve education and learning effectiveness while maintaining quality and relevance.



Partners



Federal Directorate
of Education



National Commission
for Human Development



CONTACT

Dr. Tariq Cheema +1 (312) 715 8061 tariqc@WeAreAlight.org



alightpakistan.org

WeAreAlight.org