



Participants of the OpenLab in Rabat, Morocco  
(picture courtesy of the IUCR)

*Rabat, Agadir, El Jadida – the universities of these three well known cities hosted a series of OpenLab organized by the Moroccan Association of Crystallography and supported by Bruker.*

Organized as part of the worldwide IYCR activities, these OpenLab events fit perfectly with the IUCR's long term "Crystallography in Africa" initiative.

The organizers of the OpenLabs were positively surprised by more than 190 applicants. All of them were keen to participate in both the lectures, and the hands-on training offered. Due to a lack of space finally 120 doctoral students from all regions of Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia and other francophone regions of Africa were accepted. They received five days of intense training on the concepts of crystallography, X-ray diffraction and its applications for solving structures. A large number of doctoral students happily took the opportunity to prepare their samples and run their samples on the two Bruker diffractometers. "This experience was a great success in Morocco and had a lot of echoes [...] in Moroccan universities", Prof Abdelmalek THALAL, Président de l'Association Marocaine de Cristallographie, stated and continued "We would be very happy, if we could get the possibility to organize another OpenLab with Bruker later this year."

# Morocco OpenLabs

- 120 Students selected to participate in Morocco's OpenLabs

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