



THE **FuQueroSer** YEAR

PROGRAMME PROGRESS REPORT

APRIL 2018

"AT UMRIO I HAVE BEEN ABLE TO BUILD MY AMBITIONS, AND TODAY, I BELIEVE IN MY ABILITY TO ACHIEVE MY DREAMS!"

– Larissa Lopes, 15 years old, Sky Blue

SUMMARY

The month of April was marked by the launch of our Employability Course on Thursdays, a health and well-being event, another round of free dental care in Morro do Castro, as well as the participation of our UmRio Dark Blues in their first ever Development Sevens tournament.

The final details of Project Blue have also been finalised with our UK team.

DEVELOPMENTS

PROGRAMME ACTIVITY:

UmRio English: In our last two reports (ref. February 2018, and March 2018) we highlighted the popularity of our UmRio English programme, as well as several measures we have taken to mitigate these developments.

These included launching an adult programme for 18+ year olds (which includes 30+ year old participants).

While this helped us provide more needs-specific support at all levels, class sizes for UmRio Blues (12-17 year olds), remained high, with an average of X students per class. This has effected the implementation of the UmRio English curricula. We thus took the following measures in April, in response to the continued to these findings:

- 1) **Recruitment:** we have recruited a further two volunteers to support UmRio English classes on Monday's and Wednesdays.
- 2) **Teacher Training:** In consultation with coordinators for the UmRio English and Employability programmes as well as our Monitoring & Evaluation manager, we will be designing an UmRio English training programme. The programme will be designed to train residents from Morro do Castro, with advanced/fluent English, on how to use their language skills professionally. The programme will include an intensive training programme on Saturdays, followed by a 12-month (renewable) work experience opportunity at UmRio English. Those who complete the 12-month programme will receive signed reference letters from our UmRio English coordinator, Training manager, and UmRio's President, and will be connected to prospective employers within the UmRio Network.

On Monday the 16th of April, as per our previous report (ref. March 2018) our partner school launched their educational support classes. This has both reduced UmRio English class sizes on Mondays, as well as the number of classrooms available for our activities. In light of these expected developments, we have taken the following measures:

- 1) **Recruitment:** we have begun recruitment for volunteer English teachers who can run classes on Monday's between 16:30-18:30h, for students are unable to attend earlier sessions, due to educational support classes.
- 2) **Classrooms:** we have established a partnership with a local health centre (located opposite our partner school) who have an unused classroom available.

Project-based Learning: Our project-based learning support class was launched on Thursday 5th April, with a particular focus on entrepreneurship. Students began the course by designing S.W.O.Ts for themselves, mapping out their key strengths and weaknesses, and identified factors they saw as opportunities and threats to their medium and long-term goals. They have since worked on identifying business opportunities within the community, mapping out commercial and private service gaps for their hypothetical business ideas, engaging in mathematics and Portuguese through quantitative research and brainstorming potential business ideas.

As per our previous report, this programme will be running alongside our partner school's preparatory course for secondary school entrance exams, which launched on Monday the 16th April.

Rugby: our Dark Blues participated in their first State wide sevens tournament in Itaipuaçu/RJ on Saturday 28th April, 2018. In the run-up to the 28th, the team established three key goals for the tournament, (1) to reproduce UmRio's values on and off the pitch; (2) to learn; (3) to gain game experience.

The team's development is evident from their results. While they lost their first two games 17-0 and 19-7 respectively, they went onto win the Shield Semi-Final 22-0, and then the Shield Final 14-12. According to members of Rio's Refereeing Body, and coaches from local clubs, the Dark Blues' values of respect, teamwork, camaraderie and leadership stood out among the rest, and was a key factor to their success.

Nikki Monteiro was appointed Head Coach earlier in the month and will be leading the Dark Blues through the development sevens circuit. Beyond her significant experience with high profile rugby clubs in South Africa, Nikki is to our knowledge, the first woman to be appointed Head Coach to a men's rugby team in Brazil. We hope that by having more women involved in coaching roles in our rugby programme, we can generate further interest in rugby from girls, as well as help shift gender norms in Brazil's highly chauvanistic society.

Preparatory Course for University Entrance Exams: Participation in the Preparatory Course for University Entrance Exams remains high, with an average of X students per class. April was, however, included two national holidays, which meant tha the programme only ran on two Saturdays.

The next class following this short recess will be on Saturday 5th May, and we expect our timeline to be uninterrupted until the exams in November.

Healthcare: The Atraumatic Restorative Treatment (ART) programme from the State University of Rio de Janeiro (UERJ) returned to Morro do Castro on Friday 27th April. Due to

national holidays and student commitments, the ART team will be providing treatment twice in the month of May.

Beyond providing free dental care, the ART team have also moulded several mouth guards for our participants.

VOLUNTEER / STAFF RECRUITMENT

With the heightened demand for our UmRio English programme, we have recruited a further **2** volunteer English teachers, as well as an UmRio English training programme coordinator.

On the rugby front, we have recruited a Head Coach to lead our Dark Blue (adult) rugby team to tournaments.

We have also recruited an internal monitoring & evaluation manager to collect qualitative and operational data that can be analysed in conjunction with one another to evaluate progress and identify areas for improvement.

Below is a breakdown of UmRio's current organizational structure, which consists of **56** volunteers:

Administrative: **7**

Rugby: **5**

Education & Development: **32**

Team Breakdown:

UMRio English: **10**

Educational Support & Employability: **3**

Preparatory Course for University Entrance Exams: **19**

Healthcare: **12**

MOVING FORWARDS

PROJECT BLUE:

The launch of Project Blue was postponed due to several minor administrative delays. With promotional material now complete, we will be launching Project Blue on Monday 7th May, 2018.

Project Information: Project Blue is linked to our education & professional development strategy. It does this by offering two participants a unique academic, cultural and sporting exchange experience to travel to the UK, in partnership with Oxford and Cambridge University Rugby Clubs and the Varsity Match.

Project Blue has three key objectives:

- 1) To raise academic and professional aspirations of participants
- 2) To develop the skills and attributes of participants to help them make positive decisions in the future
- 3) To engage more hard to reach vulnerable young people in our education & employability programme.

The programme is already producing results. Four of our more vulnerable young people have registered themselves back into the education system to complete either primary or secondary education, and we have recorded some of the highest attendance rates for UmRio English, and educational support classes that relate to their academic goals for 2018/19 (i.e. project-based learning, preparatory course for university entrance exams)

IMPORTANT DATES IN MAY:

07th May: Launch of Project Blue

11th May: Relaunch of UmRio Website: www.umrio.org

18th May: Dentistry Visit

20th May: Development Rugby Tournament in Volta Redonda

25th May: Dentistry Visit

26th May: Launch UmRio English Training Programme

FINANCIALS

Financial Statements, and monthly audited accounts can be made available by our partners at **Multiplic Contabilidade** (a Brazilian-based accountancy firm) upon request.