

# PROGRAMME PROGRESS REPORT

**SEPTEMBER 2018** 

## "UMRIO GIVES KIDS IN MORRO DO CASTRO A LIFELINE"

Rony dos Santos, 21 years old, Dark Blue

## SUMMARY

September marked the start of a new direction for UmRio English, as well as exciting visits from the Meu Copo Eco company, and the Laureus Sport for Good Foundation. September was also an exciting month for our Project Blue Ambassadors who received legal support from our legal team to attain documentation that they did not have, and successfully apply for their passports ahead of their travels in December.

## **DEVELOPMENTS**

#### PROGRAMME ACTIVITY:

#### **RUGBY**

**University Championship:** The date for the 2<sup>nd</sup> University Championship this year was moved to 6<sup>th</sup> October. Our preparation, however, was well underway in September. Being invited for the second time to the University Championship is very special to everyone at UmRio, as in many ways, by combining rugby and further education, the event represents a microcosm of our theory of change.

In our last outing, we noticed our young people were lacking experience, and as such, we have recruited legends of Brazilian rugby to play alongside our students on the 6<sup>th</sup> October.

## These include:

**Daniel Gregg** played and captained Brazil XV and Sevens squads for 17 years. Today Gregg works at the Confederation of Brazilian Rugby, and is World Rugby Educator that trains coaches on the best coaching techniques. He will run rugby sessions in Morro do Castro in the run up to the tournament. Gregg represented UmRio in 2016 at the Rio Beach Rugby tournament where UmRio won gold.

**Julio Fígalo** is one of only two Brazilians to represent the South America Select squad to face the Pumas in their preparation for the 2011 World Cup. Julio also represented UmRio in 2016 at the Rio Beach Rugby tournament where UmRio won gold.

**Marcos Paixão** was trained by the Rio Rugby team on the beaches of Copacabana close to the favela where he and his family live (Cantagalo). Marcos and his family coach rugby to local children in Cantagalo, who were actually the first team that UmRio played against in the "Favela Rugby Union Cup" back in 2014. Marcos has gone on to represent Brazil Beach Rugby, and currently plays in the Brazil's Premier, Super 16 Division. In 2016, Marcos and his brothers (who will also be playing with our students on the 6<sup>th</sup>) faced UmRio in the final of the Rio Beach Rugby tournament, which went down to a Golden Try.

**Robledo Veiga** captains Niterói Rugby Club, and has been part of the Brazil National Team set up. Robledo represented UmRio in the successful 2016 Rio Beach Rugby squad.

As in the Development Circuit, Nikki Monteiro, who was unable to lead the squad in the previous tournaments because she was representing Brazil Cricket and Hockey in Colombia and Bolivia respectively, will be Head Coach.

#### **EDUCATION**:

## **UmRio English:**

**New Cycle**: September marked the start of a new cycle at UmRio English, with the departure of longstanding volunteer, co-founder and coordinator of the UmRio English programme Monique Mendes. Morro do Castro-based English teacher, Aline Barros will be coordinating the programme moving forward.

Aline has more than 10 years of experience teaching English at a local school. Moreover, recent internal research has found that 82% of our students feel more comfortable in learning environments that include Morro do Castro-based teachers and staff – data that has helped inform our recruitment strategy moving forwards.

Joining Aline will be:

- Ester Lee, a rugby player from the Federal University Fluminense, with ample experience as a private English tutor.
- Rebeka Aytenfisu, a Canadian English Teacher who will be running an advanced English course on Saturdays which will lead into a TEFL course, coaching advanced students on how to teach English.

UmRio English students who have completed our employability course, and who have applied for work experience in UmRio English will support Ester and Aline in Baby Blue English sessions on Mondays and Wednesdays respectively.

**Course-based news**: we were very excited to receive Andrew Griffiths, Global Director of the Laureus Sport for Good Foundation this month. In line with our project-based approach to learning, we set our advanced class a task of organising a visit in Morro do Castro, where they would guide Andrew through the community in English.

**Educational Support & Employability**: this month our young people have been preparing CVs and Cover Letters for their interviews for paid and voluntary work experience within UmRio. Notably, 67% of students aged 17-25 claimed that the employability course, along with the prospect of work experience within the UmRio structure have motivated them to remain in education. Indeed, this data is key, as it underpins the logic behind the Eu Quero Ser programme, which combines education and employability to supress financial pressures that so frequently force vulnerable young people to drop out of education to pursue informal work.

In September, we were also pleased to invite Martin Jouffineau from Meu Copo Eco, a social business which seeks to provide ecologically sustainable solutions to disposable cups. Martin, a keen rugby player from France, kicked off the rugby session with a lecture on ecological solutions and habits that our young people should take on board. This has led to our Dark Blues (18-21 years) leading an effort to organize recurrent rugby pitch cleaning days, and pursuing solutions to the constant littering on the pitch that they train on.

#### PROJECT BLUE

With the support of UmRio Legal Director Bruno Bastos, Project Blue Ambassadors, Ivan Silva, Matheus Oliveira and Matheus Silva were able to attain the documentation they needed to successfully obtain their passports ahead of their flight to London on the 4<sup>th</sup> December 2018.

They should all have passports in hand by mid-October.

## **MOVING FORWARDS**

#### **IMPORTANT DATES IN SEPTEMBER:**

**02**<sup>nd</sup> **October:** Daniel Gregg training session **04**<sup>th</sup> **October:** UmRio Work Experience Interviews

**06**<sup>th</sup> **October:** Rio de Janeiro's University Rugby Sevens Championship **11**<sup>th</sup> **October:** Maria Chantal Creative and Personal Development Workshop

## **FINANCIALS**

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