

A META!

AJUDAR,
APOIAR,
E CONSTRUIR
MOÇAMBIQUE

+

HELP,
SUPPORT,
AND BUILD
MOZAMBIQUE

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MEPM WELCOMES YEAR 2



MEPM GIRLS AND THEIR PARENTS WELCOMING THE START OF THE PROGRAM'S SECOND YEAR. BECAUSE OF LMF AND THEIR OWN DETERMINATION, THESE 40 GIRLS WILL HAVE THE CHANCE TO CONTINUE THEIR SECONDARY SCHOOL EDUCATION.

On January 28, 2009, LMF officially launched Year 2 for the *Mais Escola Para Mim* (MEpM) scholarship program in Magude. The young participants, their parents, LMF staff members and Magude educational officials were all in attendance to celebrate the occasion and look ahead to a year of hard work and self-improvement.

Deputy Director of LMF, Mr. Gabriele Fossati-Bellani, opened the festivities with a speech that welcomed parents from the many outlying districts of Magude and recounted the success experienced by the first group of MEpM scholars.

Afterwards Gabe presented each new family with a symbolic LMF diploma. "Each time you look at these diplomas," Gabe explained, "know that your daughters are being cared for, that they are studying, that they are working to better their lives and that of their families."

Parents then took turns thanking LMF, in speech and in song, followed by a delicious luncheon (prepared by MEpM staff coordinators Mariana Manhique, Fatimah Manhique, and Iracema Matsinhe).



DEPUTY DIRECTOR GABRIELE FOSSATI-BELLANI (FAR LEFT) WITH MAGUDE SCHOOL OFFICIALS, 12-YEAR OLD VELOSA JOAO COSSA AND HER MOTHER DURING THE DIPLOMA CEREMONY.

MUTOLA'S LEGACY SEALED

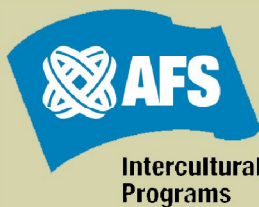
Mozambique has five national symbols: the President of the Republic, the national flag, the national anthem, the currency, and—without dispute—Maria de Lurdes Mutola. For many, at home and abroad, Mutola standing proudly on the athletic podium, wrapped in the flag, listening to the anthem, is the single most vivid embodiment of Mozambique.

On January 21, 2009 the Mozambican postal service and the Mozambican Ministry of Youth and Sport launched an official 8.00 MT Lurdes Mutola stamp (approximately USD 0.30) to commemorate the career and celebrate the success of the country's recently retired golden girl and preeminent philanthropist.



THE **YES** PROGRAM CURRENTLY EXISTS IN THE FOLLOWING COUNTRIES:

- EGYPT
- GHANA
- INDIA
- INDONESIA
- MALAYSIA
- THE PHILIPPINES
- SAUDI ARABIA
- THAILAND
- TURKEY
- KENYA



STARTED IN 1919 BY AMERICAN AMBULANCE DRIVERS STATIONED IN FRANCE DURING WORLD WAR I, AFS INTERCULTURAL PROGRAMS HAS GROWN TO NEARLY 13,000 INTERCULTURAL EXCHANGE PARTICIPANTS IN OVER 50 COUNTRIES.

YES MOZAMBIQUE SUMMER 2009 CALENDAR

JAN 24-25: ORIENTATION 1

FEB 1: FINAL SELECTION

APRIL 11-12: ORIENTATION 2

MID AUGUST: GATEWAY ORIENTATION AND US ORIENTATION IN WASHINGTON D.C.

MZ YOUTH: YES WE CAN



PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Young people, aged 16-18, from countries with significant Muslim populations live as a “son” or “daughter” in an American family and attend high school for an academic year. YES students share their host families’ everyday lives, engage in school activities and volunteer in their communities. They learn about American society and values while helping to educate others about the customs and culture of their homelands. The Educational and Cultural Affairs Bureau of the U.S. Department of State, along with other organizations in the US exchange community, started YES in the years following September 11th to build bridges between citizens of the U.S. and countries around the world.

In 1991, Maria de Lurdes Mutola came to the state of Oregon on a grant provided by the International Olympic Solidarity Committee. She stayed with an American family, enrolled in local schools to learn English, and trained with some of the best track coaches in the world. There, in the Pacific Northwest, thousands of miles away from her beloved home city of Maputo, Mutola developed into an elite athlete and a national symbol.

This is the type of experience the Lurdes Mutola Foundation hopes to offer by linking with AFS Intercultural Programs, a new partnership that will provide five talented Mozambican teenagers from Maputo and Nampula with an opportunity to spend a year living in and learning about American culture. Whether or not they’re athletes like Maria, the expectation is that these special participants will return home recommitted to their personal future and to bettering the future of their country.

Bert Vercamer of AFS South Africa and Felicidade Moiane of LMF have co-organized the implementation and selection processes for YES in Mozambique. Initial plans began in September with a focus on working through the Ministry of Education and secondary school system to include as many students as possible in the cities of Maputo and Nampula. The combined LMF-AFS team met with school directors and ministry officials, held town-hall style information sessions, and sat down with interested parents of applicants to answer questions and address any concerns. Felicidade and LMF Director of Institutional Development, Gabriel Fossati-Bellani, also sat in on Radio Mozambique to publicize YES through the Maputo airwaves.

LMF-AFS has also been working closely with Viraj LeBailly and the U.S. Embassy’s Public Affairs Office in Maputo. The Embassy has graciously supported YES Mozambique with additional travel funds has agreed to help arrange student visas and plan official send-off events. In Nampula, where there is a significant

population of Muslim Mozambicans, English professor Joao Sales from the Language Institute has helped tremendously with logistical planning.

On December 5th and 6th in Maputo and December 7th and 8th in Nampula, LMF-AFS held its selection (long) weekend. Having already received applications that include personal information, essays, academic record, teacher recommendations, and photographs, teams of volunteers conducted personal interviews, parent interviews, and group interview sessions. This greatly helped in gauging personalities and determining if an applicant could be successful in an American school and family. The following week volunteers then made selective visits to the homes of the strongest candidates.

On January 23rd, 24th, and 25th LMF hosted the first YES-Mozambique orientation for the top 10 finalists at the Hoyo-Hoyo Hotel in Maputo. Candidates participated in group discussions and information sessions focused on personal identity and volunteer-led presentations on cultural sensitivity and awareness. The orientation also served as the first time the candidates had a chance to interact (cont.)



(L-R) BERT AND BONGANI OF AFS AND MACAME AND FELCIDADE OF LMF EXCHANGING MEMORANDUMS AT LMF’S HEAD OFFICE IN MAPUTO ON NOVEMBER 7th, 2008.

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE YES PROGRAM GO TO WWW.YESPROGRAMS.ORG

with each informally. On Sunday afternoon, after the Maputo finalists returned home and the Nampula finalists departed Maputo International Airport, the volunteers sat down for the final stage of selection. LMF is proud to announce that Ivan Jose Costa, Arsenio Antonio Pemba, and Eurico Rogirio Roque from Maputo and Marcia Isabel Jose and Jonito Xavier Ribeiro from Nampula will together serve as

Mozambique's inaugural YES representatives.

LMF and AFS will support these young adults now and throughout their year-long US experience. We hope that with time and success this is a program that will grow to include more scholarships and more opportunities for young Mozambicans to learn and represent their country abroad.

LMF "SPOTLIGHT": PROGRAM DIRECTOR IN EDUCATION IRACEMA WILLIAM MATSINHE

Iracema,, can you please introduce yourself and explain briefly why you wanted to work with LMF and the MEpM project?

My name is Iracema William Matsinhe. I'm 26 years old and live in Matola. I hold a degree in International Relations and Diplomacy from the Superior Institute of International Relations in Maputo. I wanted to work with LMF because it gives me an opportunity to apply some of the knowledge I acquired over 4 years at university, and above all, it's a chance to work with young people. I wholly believe that education is the key to a population's development. MEpM is very special to me because it deals with issues of gender and class. It promotes victims of marginalization in Africa and recognizes the role of women as a force for development.

You've only been working on MEpM for a short while. What are your initial thoughts?

Positive. Things are going well. I see MEpM as a baby that I need to keep in good health. The program is fully operational and is already showing results. Our work has been recognized by parents and school officials in the district of Magude. I could see the satisfaction and excitement of the faces of participating parents and girls during the opening ceremony for the 2009 campaign. It was great.

What do you think the LMF should do to improve the project and make it more productive?

It's crucial that the project improves in two areas. First we need to make the community of Magude more aware of what we're trying to do with MEpM and what issues the program is trying to address, namely the disparity in educational opportunities between boys and girls. We faced enormous difficulties during the recruitment process because unfortunately there's still a lack of understanding in Magude and the outlying villages. Either we can wait for that to change with time or we can actively build bridges with the community.

Secondly, we're working to supplement the girls' school education with some constructive, regular extra-curricular activities. For example, a series of workshops on sexual and reproductive health (HIV / AIDS), computer training, cooking and sewing lessons. A lot of girls say they want to become nurses or doctors when they're older. So why not help out and learn from the nurses and doctors working at the health clinic in Magude? This is a way to address both of the issues I mentioned.

Professionally, what do you expect to gain from working at LMF?

I expect to gain experience in the development sector and rural development. I expect to better understand the actual situation in Mozambique. I've learned a lot about my country and my country's development on paper, but this is a chance to see it with my own eyes.



"I see MEpM as a baby that I need to keep in good health."

LMF SIGNS CAPACITY BUILDING MEMO

In mid-January LMF signed a Memorandum of Understanding with WINGS (Worldwide Initiatives for Grantmaker Support) that will provide a USD 20 000.00 grant in order to address the costs related to building institutional capacity. These funds will enhance board member participation in Foundation activities, allay travel and document translation costs, and will help the Foundation directors design a comprehensive fundraising strategy and endowment policy.





“META” IS PORTUGUESE FOR “FINISH LINE.” AT LMF, WE BELIEVE THAT DEVELOPMENT CAN ONLY OCCUR WITH A CLEAR OBJECTIVE IN SIGHT. OUR WORK AIMS TO HELP MOZAMBICANS VISUALIZE THAT ENDPOINT, AND THEN ACHIEVE THEIR PERSONAL, COMMUNAL, AND NATIONAL BEST.



MACAME BRUHANE MACAME (ABOVE) IS A FOUNDING MEMBER OF LMF AND CURRENTLY SERVES AS THE FOUNDATION’S EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR. MR. MACAME HOLDS UNIVERSITY DEGREES IN LAW AND SOCIAL ANTHROPOLOGY, AND HAS WORKING EXPERIENCE IN THE FIELDS OF YOUTH, ENVIRONMENTAL, AND INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT IN MOZAMBIQUE, AS WELL AS NGO MANAGEMENT. FEEL FREE TO CONTACT BRUNO AT MMACAME@FLMUTOLA.ORG.MZ

GET YOUR MUTOLA BIOGRAPHY NOW!

Copies of Maria Mutola’s official biography, “My Life in 1 Minute, 55 seconds and 11 milliseconds,” are now available in local Mozambican bookstores. Please note that currently copies are only available in Portuguese. Please visit the following distributors:

Mabuku – on Ave. Julius Nyere (next to Xenon)

Editores e Livreros -

CNA – Annexed to the Maputo and Matola Shoprite grocery stores.

Livros & ETC – Maputo Shopping Center

Lurdes Mutola Foundation

If you are interested in acquiring a copy outside of Mozambique, please contact LMF directly.

MOZAMBICAN SPORTS INFORMATION: C.E.D.I.D. AT YOUR FINGERTIPS

Want the latest news or images in Mozambican sports? Need information related to Mozambican athletic federations, associations, clubs, organizations, competitions, and athletes? CEDID (Centro de Documentação e Informação Desportiva de Moçambique) online, an initiative of the Lurdes Mutola Foundation in partnership with the Mozambican Ministry of Youth and Sport, is the easiest way to access and learn about the competitive world of Mozambican amateur and

professional athletics. CEDID is also an information depot for international sporting matters, from English Premier League updates to cricket scores. Vasco Zaracias, LMF’s Program Officer in Sports and IT, is CEDID’s webmaster. He can be reached through email at zitobulls@gmail.com.

[HTTP://WWW.CEDID.ORG.MZ](http://www.cedid.org.mz)

VISIT THE LURDES MUTOLA FOUNDATION AND THE FRIENDS OF LMF ONLINE

WWW.FLMUTOLA.ORG.MZ

WWW.YOUNGMINDSOFAFRICA.ORG

ABOUT OUR ORGANIZATION

The Lurdes Mutola Foundation, a not-for-profit, non-governmental organization was founded in 2001 in Maputo, Mozambique. It now works in five of Mozambique’s eleven provinces.

The Foundation is chaired by Maria de Lurdes Mutola, Mozambique’s only Olympic gold medalist. The thematic areas of its programs are: education, sports, culture, and entrepreneurship.

Vision

A society that recovers the self-esteem, initiative, entrepreneurship, solidarity, and the sense of leadership of youth, with a view to their professional, social, intellectual and physical development, while simultaneously creating bases for its sustainability.

Mission

Promote and facilitate the empowerment and development of youth, encouraging them to awaken their entrepreneurial spirit, their creativity, initiative and their physical and intellectual capacities, through working in partnership with interested organizations and communities.



LMF IS RAPIDLY EXPANDING. CURRENTLY WE WORK IN THE PROVINCES HIGHLIGHTED HERE IN ORANGE.