

THE INTER COUNTRY COMMITTEE (ICC) GOES TO DISCOVER ROTARY PROJECTS IN MOZAMBIQUE

On 23 June 23 2024, we left Cagliari for a long journey to discover Rotary projects that can help the needs of a beautiful and resourceful country like Mozambique.

We found an incredibly welcoming country, where human values and civic respect make you feel part of a large community, without cultural differences.



In the district of Matola (Maputo) we visited the Muchisso school where in one day from 06:00 to 17:30, 47 teachers look after two thousand children.

Poverty is considerable, but the desire to learn is great. There are children, even very young ones, who walk 10 km a day to have the privilege (because that is how they see it) of going to school.

Unfortunately, there are not enough classrooms, and lessons are also held sitting in the shade of large trees. All with great harmony and respect for the institutions.



Machisso School - Richard and Evelina with two students



Machisso School - Rotary Project for the Construction of a Block of 3 Primary School Classrooms



Machisso Primary School



Machisso Primary School



Machisso School – Rotary Project for the Construction of a Block of 3 Primary School Classrooms

We then visited the Casa Madre Maria Clara Orphanage located in the Mission of S. José de Lhanguene in Maputo and managed by Sister Elisa.

The compound hosts a community of about 100 orphans who study and manage the entire orphanage. A local charity organization teaches the girls the techniques of growing vegetables or fruit trees of all kinds. This fantastic community needs to renovate a small room to create a space for computers and IT education.

At the age of 18/20, the girls lose their right to live inside the Casa Madre Maria Clara. Learning to use a computer could help them find a future job in different sectors.



Casa Madre Maria Clara Girls' Orphanage in Maputo



Casa Madre Maria Clara Girls' Orphanage in Maputo



Maputo - St. José de Lhanguene Mission - Evelina with Sister Elisa

Other projects that were presented to us on paper mainly concern the construction of water wells and bathrooms for the school communities in the Maputo area.

Finally, we were invited to participate in the Presidential Handover of the Rotary Club Maputo (D-9400), where Richard Knowlton - President of the Italy, Malta, San Marino Section of the Inter-Country Committee with Mozambique - explained to a particularly attentive audience, the importance of Rotary's Inter-Country Committees and the need to create cultivate understanding and collaboration that fosters peace between countries in the world.



Rotary Club Maputo – Speech by Richard Knowlton



Fellowship with the Rotary Clubs Maputo and Maputo Metro

We left Mozambique after ten days of intense work but with a great satisfaction. We met many committed and active Rotarians, and we of the Inter-Country Committee Italy, San Marino and Malta would like to support them.

An important journey that has put us in front of some sad realities that must be experienced in person to be understood in all their gravity.

We returned home with a host of experiences and ideas to share with the Italian Rotary Clubs, who we are sure will be happy to give their contribution in supporting a fantastic country like Mozambique.

Richard Knowlton, President of the Italian Section thanks the Rotarian friends of Mozambique for their total availability, collaboration and their great sense of friendship.

We owe a special debt of gratitude to our friends of the Mozambican section of the ICC, who coordinated our program in Mozambique and who generously dedicated their time to us during our visit.

Particular thanks to:

PDG Nela Bettencourt, ICC National Coordinator for Mozambique,

DGE Angèlica Salamao (District 9400),

PP Brian Holmes, Chair of the ICC National Section of MOZAMBIQUE / Italy, Malta, San marino

Past Presidents Danilo Catoja and Salvador Cossa Junior (RC Maputo), for acting as our guides and companions during our visit.

Cagliari, July 9, 2024

Richard Knowlton
Rotary Club Cagliari (D-2080)
ICC National Section Chair
ITALY, MALTA, SAN MARINO / Mozambique
E: icc.ita.moz@gmail.com
C: +39 3493820008

Evelina Ravarino Knowlton
Rotary Club Cagliari (D-2080)
ICC National Section Secretary
ITALY, MALTA, SAN MARINO / Mozambique
E: secretary.icc.ita.moz@gmail.com
C: +39 3403492080

Documents:

---> Video of Richard Knowlton's speech on 28/06/2024 at the Rotary Club Maputo

