

AZLera's Projecto Oceano: Monthly Report – January 2014



After a month adjusting to my new surroundings and life on Ilha do Moçambique, I now feel quite comfortable and content here. I have finally started to grow accustomed to the intense heat and am able to fully enjoy the tranquillity of island life. That is not to say we haven't been busy at Projecto Oceano! January has been a very eventful month as we prepare for the new school year starting early February.

We have selected our new scholarship student for 2014 and are happy to announce that, after a rigorous selection process, [Naiza Germano Langa](#) was the chosen candidate. She will soon be departing the island and the project to begin a new and exciting stage in her life, pursuing a career in medicine. We will be working closely with her over the coming years and are confident that she has a great future ahead of her.

Our two other scholars, Mingos and Firoza, will be embarking on their second year. Mingos came to visit us on his return to Ilha



during the holidays, during which he took part in different activities and gave a presentation to members on his experience studying in Maputo. Unfortunately, due to the insecurity in parts of the country, Firoza has not been able to return during the summer holidays. We hope that she will be able to join us in July to share her experiences with us.

We have also been busy this month working with a primary school in Jembesse, on the mainland. We have been going there on weekends and have organised different activities such as art, reading, football and theatre classes for the children living in the community. These visits always attract a large number of kids. Unfortunately once our regular schedule starts again we will not be able to continue going every weekend but we hope to be able to go every two weeks.

Our community film screening programme has been very popular this month. We go to different locations on the island and screen a film for children in the street using a projector and small speakers. This always attracts lots of children, as well as adults, and provides entertainment to the community. We hope in the next couple of months to expand this programme to communities on the mainland who have even less access to this form of entertainment.

Unfortunately we will be losing four of our members this month, some of who will be pursuing further studies outside the island. The good news however is that we will be adding some fresh faces, and minds, to our team. We will soon be starting the recruitment process for new members and hope to be able to add four new members to our team by the end of February.