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ABOUT THIS REPORT

This is the sixth M&E Report Delta Cultura Cabo Verde (DCCV) produces in this more or less same format. Concerning the programs and activities there were no major changes in 2019 and which results in similar numbers and outcomes.

As in the years before it is important to mention right in the beginning that DCCV is convinced that the basic requirement for a child to learn is a safe space where the child feels welcome, recognized the way she/he is and likes the people around her/him. These are the necessities for a child keeping her/his natural curiosity and desire to learn. The Education Center is offering these requirements.

The best indicators for being successful in this sense are the quotes from participants that can be found throughout this report.

Creating this safe place where children feel welcome prohibits DCCV to implement certain established measures like doing tests or evaluating children in whatever form. This is the reason why DCCV stopped using some M&E tools like school grades, IT evaluation tests or even questionnaires. These tools proved to be contra productive in DCCV’s struggle to foster the children’s natural curiosity and were unsuitable to evaluate the desired outcomes.
Besides giving the children a safe place, the Center focuses mainly on three more objectives:

- **Develop soft skills:**
  - Creativity
  - Critical thinking
  - Self-confidence
  - Artistic sense
  - Dedication
  - and more

- Offer all participants access to information (free Internet access, workshops, etc.)

- **Provide knowledge of the Portuguese language** (especially in the kindergarten)

The methods used in this report to measure the outcomes and direct and indirect impacts are:

- Number of daily programs and events conducted
- Number of participants at daily programs and events
- Stories worth telling
- Anecdotes about participants
- Quotes from participants
- For a better understanding: most of the participants call the Center “Delta”… So we used this term in the quotes.
- Quotes from stakeholders, educators and volunteers
- Stakeholders (they visited the Center in person in 2019):
  - Carola Schwarzmüller – Member of Delta Cultura Austria
  - Julião Moreira Evangelista Barros – General Inspector from the Ministry of Education

Besides evaluating the daily work, it is this report’s goal to give a general overview of the Center’s activities, the participants, their reality and what the Center means to them.

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**Story told by Gilson**

*(Program Coordinator)*

I was in the art room with a few children when I heard the following conversation between Mariolaine (9 years old) and Sara (10 years old):

Mariolaine: “Pff, I have to go to School today.”

Sara: “Oh I wish Delta was our School.”

Mariolaine: “Oh yes! Imagine that! We could always do what we like. No one to punish us for anything.

Sara: “Yeah that would be really nice.”
STATEMENT FROM THE PROJECT MANAGER

I, Florian Wegenstein, have been running the Education Center since it was founded 16 years ago, but it was only this year that I had the glorious idea of adding my analyzes and wisdom to the annual report. So here is the first project manager report as part of the annual report.

From the perspective of the Education Center, 2019 was an excellent year. No financial bottlenecks, many satisfied, playing, learning children, one more employee and again a few new good ideas implemented that have further improved our work. All of this is described on these pages.

I would first like to say something general about this report. I understand all donors – from the funding organizations to the small donors – that they want to know what happens to their money they give to Delta Cultura. That is of course their right and I would also want to know if it were the other way around.

What I have a little more difficulty with is proofing the positive impact of our work in figures and diagrams. How can a child’s content be expressed in numbers? How much happier is a child when it can go to the Education Center and do the activities they like to do? Is there a content scale? And are there diagrams that show that a happy child develops more creativity, empathy, intrinsic...
motivation and social skills that it will need for its future life?

The 17 years I have been working with children in the field of education, all the books that I have read on educational topics, all the lectures that I have listened to, have given me the belief that education coupled with extrinsic motivation does not produce the results we strive for: happiness, creativity, critical thinking and more. Extrinsic motivation teaches obedience, it seems to me that it destroys intrinsic motivation and obviously prevents the development of creativity.

When I look at the world of the children who visit the Education Center, it becomes obvious that they don’t need another instance, another place, where they are told what to do, how they have to be and where they are constantly being evaluated.

Isn’t it generally obvious that we humans don’t need extrinsic motivation in order to learn? Or does a mother order her child to sit still and say “A” 100 times so that she/he finally learns to speak? Are we humans only able to walk because the parents have asked us to do so and evaluated our walking skills on a monthly basis? Personally, I can say with certainty that everything I know and can do and everything I had and have success with until today I have learned and done out of purely intrinsic motivation. Everything I was forced to learn in school I forgot about 40 years ago. Everything I learned out of interest I know until today … to write for example … but on the other hand for example I can extract roots only from plants, not from numbers. Even though 4 different teachers really tried hard to teach me ...

All of us here at Delta Cultura are convinced that the children who visit the Education Center (or all the children in the world?) first of all need recognition, care, trust in them and a non-violent environment in order to develop into social, creative personalities. The Education Center also offers them activities from sport, art and culture that they enjoy doing.

In this report I would also like to give a brief insight into my very personal, purely intrinsic motivation for this job. Of course I like what I do, even if some things stress me and make me feel drained, but I have a strong drive that has been with me for a long time. I would like to explain this drive with an extract from an Arno Gruen book (Against Cold Rationality), which expresses exactly the way I feel and think about this issue:

“As soon as we can speak, we learn to be obedient and rational. But it is a cold rationality that alienates our life...
and annihilates our world. We gradually take back our feelings, let them perish, lose our self. We are not free in the modern world, although we think we are. We voluntarily move from one dependency to the next. It is the constraints of a rationalized society that is managed and controlled anonymously. More and more people are caught in a vicious circle of obedience, violence, terror and cold rationality. Our inhuman rationality will plunge our world into the abyss if we do not oppose and reverse this development…”

Of course that is my personal motivation and way of looking at the world, but since I am the Project Manager the Education Center is also about opposing, turning back, creating a better world. I am convinced it is possible.

To finish, I would like to sincerely thank all of the sponsors and donors. Without your support, everything described in this report would not exist. Without your support, the hundreds of children would not have a “Delta” that they come to with joy and enthusiasm every day. I cordially invite everyone who has read this report and who have enjoyed it to visit us. No report, no photo, no video, no diagram can even approximately replace the personal impressions of the Education Center. The Center is lively and liveliness cannot be depicted but only experienced. It is also much easier to personally discuss intrinsic and extrinsic motivation, the meaningfulness or senselessness of obedience … This is why we welcome and are happy about every visit.

Romila
(participant, 16 years old)

The Center is a place where I always go to with huge motivation, because it is a place where I laugh a lot and where I am always happy. The Center is a place where there is no inequality, a place where everybody respects everybody … it is one of the best places in Tarrafal. At the Center I study, I play football I spend good times with my friends and also volunteers from abroad.

Sometimes my mother does not let me go to the Center … this makes me really sad and sometimes I even cry … the Center is my second home. Yeah.
GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE CENTER ACTIVITIES

THE DAILY PROGRAMS

As mentioned before the programs have not changed from 2018 to 2019. Only some of them (homework and tutoring) have changed the way they were conducted (described beneath). The different rooms/spaces and its programs:

- “Classroom” where children can go and get help doing their homework or get tutoring if necessary.
- IT room with IT classes twice a week for all participants and free access to internet in the free-class hours.
- Kindergarten. There is this one room we call kindergarten but of course the children can use the whole Center and are also free to go and participate where they want to.
- Educational games on and off the pitch (football3 tournaments, educational games developed by Coaches across Continents and more)
- Art room with specific and free activities for all the children
- Music room with drumming and guitar lessons
- Language room with English, French and Portuguese classes for all interested participants.
- Multi-purpose room with regular film displays and workshops about the topic of the month (each month one of the UN Sustainable Development goals)
- Football training with games on the weekends for U7, U9, U11, U13 (mixed boys and girls), male U15, U17, U19, female U17 and senior male and female teams.
- U17, senior female and male teams participate in the regional leagues.
- Batuco sessions (drumming-singing-dancing tradition performed by women)

In addition to the daily programs and activities, DCCV organizes educational, cultural and sportive events especially in the school holidays at Christmas, Easter and in the first month of the summer holidays. The yearly 3 day camp at the end of July is one of THE highlights for many of the participants.
DCCV AND THE 17 UNITED NATIONS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Each month the team chooses one topic of the month related to one of the 17 UN Sustainable Development Goals, for which the educators prepare activities, videos, computer games, etc.

An example of one of the activities conducted about the UN development goal number 14 – Life Below Water – is shown in the sequence of pictures above.
DCCV AND THE CHILDREN’S RIGHTS

Since the existence of the Education Center, DCCV fights for the rights of children in many different ways. Here are a few examples of what DCCV did in order to defend children’s rights:

- On the 20th of November DCCV (International Day of Children’s Rights) DCCV produced a short video with some participants. It can be watched here: https://www.facebook.com/deltacultura/videos/1081424815526355/
- One wall of the Center is dedicated to the children’s rights.
- One of the main struggles is the fight against corporal punishment in the public schools of Tarrafal, which unfortunately is still very common. It was back in 2012 when DCCV wrote a shadow report to the Human Rights Committee that was examining Cape Verde in that year. Corporal punishment and sexual relationships between teachers and students were the issues DCCV tackled in this report. The final report from the UN mentioned these issues and prompted the Cape Verdean government to take measures to prevent these drawbacks. Unfortunately not much changed since then. The children still suffer from corporal punishment as they often tell DCCV’s educators.

Many were the denunciations of teachers using corporal punishment the local delegation from the Ministry of Education received from DCCV. Since then not much has changed.

It was in November 2019 when DCCV wrote an open letter, signed by all DCCV educators, to the Ministry of Education stating that corporal punishment is still happening in public schools in Tarrafal. Furthermore children who had to repeat a few times in school were all put together in one class (exclusion) and teachers are giving paid tutoring classes to their students, which is illegal according to the education system law in Cape Verde.

The letter had strong repercussions. The Project Manager was interviewed by the National Radio, the Television covered the story and online journals reported.

The letter initialized discussions in the social media, mainly on Facebook. Sad enough there were lots of comments praising violence as an educational tool. Even teachers argued in this way. The local Delegation from the Ministry of Education was not amused and asked DCCV to name the children who told DCCV about cor-
poral punishment. DCCV did not name them since this could have made them suffer in school. Also some teachers got angry at DCCV and started to tell parents not to send their children to the Center. A fact the DCCV knew would happen, but decided to take this measurement anyway.

Very positive was the reaction from the Ministry of Education. A few weeks after the letter was published the General Inspector from the Ministry visited the Center and showed his total understanding for the letter, explaining that corporal punishment by teachers is prohibited by law, that teachers using violence will be suspended and that for denouncing teachers it is enough to have the suspect that they are using violence. No proof is needed, as it is the job of the inspection to find proof. Also the names of the children do not have to be mentioned. He promised that the Ministry will follow up the cases DCCV denounced.

This meeting showed clearly that DCCV was acting correctly by publishing this letter and gives us even more power to fight for the children’s rights.
THE TEAM AND THE VOLUNTEERS

THE TEAM IN 2019

In September 2019 there was one more person employed: Katia Soares. She is working in the public relations, digital marketing, volunteers coordination, and is also working directly with the children.

This year we asked all of the employees:
Why do you think the Education Center Delta Cultura is important for the municipality of Tarrafal?

See the answers below.
Total fulltime employees in 2019: 15 (F: 8 / M: 7)

FLORIAN, Project Manager/Football Coach
The project is important because there is a lot of social inequality, no gender equality, little consciousness of the problems the world faces (climate change, refugee crises, etc.) and in my opinion far too little critical thinking.

MARISA, Administrator / Cultural Director
The Education Center Delta Cultura is the only social project in the Municipality of Tarrafal that helps children and youths to develop their skills in many different areas.

GILSON, Program Coordinator
Delta Cultura is important because it is the engine for the necessary change and for development. Tarrafal is still a community with long time outdated ideologies, it needs people who are able to reflect about the problems and find solutions. It needs people with confidence, respect, critical thinking, freedom of mind, responsibility and determination to be the change Tarrafal needs. Delta Cultura offers these skills to the children of Tarrafal.
MARIANA, Kindergarten Coordinator
Playing is fundamental in the life of children and Delta Cultura allows the children to play and to learn while playing.

CUTCHINHA, Educator / Football Coach
The Center is in many aspects important. It is only at the Center where the children are free to choose what they want to do. Important because at the Center learning and exploring has no price, no awards and no grades. Important because the participants have contact with other cultures. Important because here the participants appreciated the way they are.

JASSICA, Educator / Football Coach
The Center is important for the Community because it is a place where the children can do what they like to do. Like this it prevents them from many negative things like drug abuse, prostitution, child labor and more …

NENE, Educator / Football Coach
The Center changed Tarrafal a lot since it came up in 2004. The Center transmits a lot of knowledge and gives many opportunities.

ZITO, Educator / Football Coach
The Center and Delta Cultura are important because we care about social problems, education and we try to resolve the problems the children from Tarrafal have. The Center is a safe place for many children and youths where they can spend their free time and learn for their future lives.

SUZETE, IT Teacher
The Center is important because it helps hundreds of children and youths in many different areas. The Center gives the participants the possibility to develop their talents.

SAMIR, Educator
The Center is important because it gives children and youths opportunities they do not get anywhere else and it is one of the few places where they are all treated equal no matter from what social background they come from.

MAI, Cook
The Center helps the children to develop. It makes a big difference in Tarrafal because it opens many doors for the participants. Many children learned a lot at the Center.

SUSANNA, Cleaning staff
The Center is the only place that really cares about the children and youths from Tarrafal.

KATIA, Public Relations/ Volunteers Coordinator
The Center is the only place in the Municipality where children can play, study and learn openly and in a safe place … freedom of being …

Besides the people mentioned above there are two watchmen employed.

In a team meeting in the end of 2019 all employees and volunteers were asked to describe the Center in just one word. Here are some results: advocacy, world, friendship, family, freedom, opportunity, social change …
THE VOLUNTEERS IN 2019

The number of volunteers received in 2019 was a little bit (10) more than in 2018 and there were also more men than in 2018. Both facts are due to a group of Portuguese scouts (12 all together – 8 women, 4 men) that visited for 10 days in August 2019.

The average duration of the volunteers staying in 2019 was 38 days. A lower number than in the years before, due to the group of scouts that stayed only for 10 days. Usually volunteers from abroad have to stay for at least 2 months.

From September 2019 onwards there are also two local volunteers working with DCCV. One football coach and one educator in the kindergarten.

Outstanding is the difference between female and male volunteers: more than 70% are female volunteers.

Total volunteers in 2019: 37
Female: 26 / Male: 11

Story told by Helena
(volunteer from Portugal)

I shared my volunteer project with a homosexual volunteer. Most people in the City of Tarrafal do not really accept the differences in one’s sexual orientation. I witnessed various discriminatory attitudes towards my colleague from some children, young people and adults. In one particular situation, a child came to me and told me that the volunteer in question should leave Delta because Delta was not a gay place, he added that she didn’t like him just for that reason, stating that he danced like girls and that boys can’t dance the same way. Together with another volunteer we tried to explain that it is important not to judge someone for their feelings, since liking girls or boys does not change someone’s qualities, and this option does not define whether someone is a good person or a bad person.

We also explained that this situation should be seen as a normal thing because we are all different and we don’t have to like all the same things. The child in question again insisted that being gay was being abnormal and ugly because there are things only girls do. Again, we try to explain that liking boys instead of girls or vice versa is not something we choose, but it can happen to anyone. We said it was something that could happen to her and that she should put herself in someone else’s shoes and think how she would feel if anyone makes these nasty comments about her. At the time, she was thoughtful and left.

Days later, on the last day of the Delta volunteer, the child went to him and apologized for what she said about him, giving him a huge goodbye hug.
Carlitos Varela, better known as Candam, was born in 1986 in Tarrafal. He was one of the first participants when Delta Cultura started its activities in 2002. Back then there was no Education Center built yet. There were only around 100 boys playing football. One of them was Candam. A very talented goalkeeper.

“I knew nothing about life back then”, Candam says, “It was with Delta Cultura that I started to learn how to confront the world. It was Delta Cultura, mainly Flori-an and Marisa, who showed me how important the little things in life are … considering that they only started with 6 balls … and look what they have built up step by step. They always were and are an example for me of how you can reach big goals with very little seed money.”

When the Education Center was built in 2004 Candam was one of the participants who helped wherever he could. Especially at fixing the rooftops that were badly made Candam was a big help. “I helped in mixing cement and many other things. I learned a lot at that time.”

After volunteering at Delta Cultura as a coach for a few years Candam got employed when he finished school in 2005. “At Delta Cultura I was a football player, a volunteer and an employee. I practically spent my whole free time at Delta Cultura. Often we went home only at night. As a worker I had lots of responsibility at Delta Cultura. I sometimes felt as it was even too much, but everybody at Delta Cultura gave me the feeling that I am able to take this responsibility … and they were right.

In 2007 Candam got a scholarship for a professional training in the area of optometry in Portugal. This was when he left Delta Cultura. "It is somehow funny when I think back at the time at Delta Cultura", Candam remembers, “Because I only had good times back then and I actually wanted to live there and stay with Delta Cultura forever. It was only after I left when I learned that life can have very hard times as well. But with everything I learned at Delta Cultura I was able to pass through these hard times."
Candam finished his course in Portugal and worked in this area for a while. But in 2012 he got the chance to play as a goalkeeper in Luxemburg. Besides earning a little bit of money as a goalkeeper the local football team gave him work in a Telecommunication company. This is where Candam lives today with his wife and two children.

To finish this story we cite Candam’s message he sent when we asked him to tell us about his time at Delta Cultura: “At Delta Cultura I learned everything I am today. I always speak with lots of pride about this association, especially about Florian and Marisa who were like a father and a mother for me. Today they are a reference in my life. I believe that Delta Cultura had so much success in the last years because nobody there works only for money. They want to see happy children and youth at the Center … I could speak for a month about Delta Cultura because I remember every detail. They are wonderful memories … for example when we built this oven to burn the tiles we made and then had to burn nearly whole night long … I hope everybody can see that I was very happy at Delta Cultura and that I am a happy person today because I was happy back then. A big hug to everybody who reads these lines and a special hug to Marisa and Florian.”

Tayrine
(participant, 11 years old)

One of the activities in the art room was about forgiveness. Here is what Tayrine, who loves to come to the art room wrote and designed:

“Forgiveness. Yesterday Ana talked bad to me about Soraya. Today Ana reached out for Soraya and asked her to forgive her because she was talking bad about her. Soraya said that she forgives her and Ana was happy.

We have to forgive one another.”
PHOTOVOICE PROJECT “DIFFERENT BUT EQUAL”

Our volunteers Helena and Carolina together with youth from the Center made this wonderful series of fotos about respect, tolerance, solidarity and diversity. The pictures were also put up downtown at different meeting points and restaurants.

Together we will overcome the difference of colours

Toys don’t have gender

In love respecting others is more valuable

For a reality where skin color doesn’t define what someone can achieve
Our colour is different, but our dreams are the same

Colours are for everybody

For world where the dominant gender is equality and respect

Love is love without prejudices

The colour is not important, but love is

Not less, not more. Equal.

Love is no illnessm it is the cure

Education doesn’t have colour

Behind these masks are dreams from somebody who just wants to be happy
M&E STAFF MEETINGS

There are different kinds of staff meetings during the year:

- Every two weeks meetings about participants: their school performance, their presence at the Center, results from visits at their home, etc.
- Once a month a meeting to prepare the upcoming month.
- Two major meetings that take a few days. One before the summer break and one afterwards. In these meetings we do an overall analysis of the past year and try to find solutions for obstacles that occurred. The meeting in September serves to prepare the coming school year.

These are the regular meetings. Besides that, there are meetings whenever needed, sometimes with the whole team, sometimes with few parts, for example when new volunteers arrive it is only the coordinator of the volunteers and the project manager who attend the meeting.

The data base DCCV gave in commission, and that is in use since 2018, proofed to be very helpful. The development of the data base is not at its end yet. DCCV regularly asks the two software engineers for expansions and improvements.

Here are the most important outcomes of the two major meetings in 2019:

- From the school year 2019/2020 onwards every educator is responsible for a certain amount of participants. The number of participants for each educator varies as the participants can choose whom they would like to be their responsible. The main tasks of these responsible:
  - Monitor the school performance of the participant in order to take measurements (tutoring classes) early enough.
  - Get to know the social background of the child (put data in the DCCV data base)
  - Monitor the presence of the child at the Center and take actions (visit at home) if not satisfactory
  - Discuss issues about the child in the team meetings
- The idea of giving only 15 minutes of tutoring at a time – a measurement that was taken in 2018 – could not yet be evaluated as not all of the educators stick to this time frame.
It is since September 2018 that the whole Center team reaches out to the community at night once a month. We call it “Delta in the Districts”. Each month we choose one of the several meeting points of the city. The team – mostly together with the Batuco group – presents the work of Delta Cultura through pictures and videos.

There is also the very popular quiz being done, mostly questions about DCCV or the actual theme of the month (see Center activities). There are small prizes given for right answers. It is this quiz and the Batuco that calls the people to the street. The team takes this opportunity to talk about relevant topics like for example the above mentioned corporal punishment against children in school.

A small anecdote from one of the “Delta in the districts” told by the project manager:

It was during the quiz about DCCV and the question was “what is the vision of DCCV”? There was a nice Adidas jacket to win. A small boy came to me and asked me for the right answer. We usually do not tell anyone the correct answers, but I just saw this hope in the boy’s eyes to win the jacket so I whispered in his ear: “end poverty through education”. I had to repeat it a few times but then the boy excitedly went to the stage took the microphone and said totally convinced: “end poverty through accusation!”
Gilson is 28 years old and he is the Program Coordinator at the Delta Cultura Education Center. But his journey with Delta Cultura started years ago, when he was around 10 years old. Back then, Delta Cultura was not even a founded organization with any proper infrastructure of its own in place. He took part on the football trainings, with the U-11 age group, that were conducted twice a week every early morning in an open dusty space where the Municipality Market has been built now. Gilson's passion has always been football. “Being part of the football trainings was very exciting for me”, he confirms, “and having the opportunity to actually do what I loved was very special and unique for me”.

When the Delta Cultura Education Center opened in 2005, Gilson continued with his football trainings but also did his homework at the Center. “Back then”, Gilson says, “my view on Delta Cultura didn’t go beyond the idea that the Center was a place where children and youth could simply play and develop their football skills. And I loved that feeling that was attached to the opportunity I saw to become a professional player. Back then it was my biggest dream. Every training day I would excitedly rush away from bed early to go to the training.”

Gilson remembers that he had been a very shy and quiet kid. “In football I found a way to express myself with something I love to do. I must admit that back then I did not really know what Delta Cultura was really all about.

By the time Gilson finished high school, he was playing in the U21 team and playing football was all that he wanted to do. Going to University was not his major plan as he knew that he would have to give up on the football trainings at Delta Cultura as the University was located very far away from his community.

“But as many other kids I could not choose to do what I wanted or liked. I had to follow the path my mother expected from me.”

So, Gilson went to the University in the capital to study English, the only other thing he liked besides playing football. In the beginning he even tried to continue with his training, coming from the capital every Friday. But very soon he realized that it was too hard, as the distance was far and the costs high. So he eventually gave up and focused more on his studies.

His passion for this language made him graduate successfully from University after 3 years. “I did not only have success in University, but I also broadened my horizon … my way of looking at the world changed and I developed a very unique and critical thinking in this time.”

After University Gilson came back to Tarrafal. It was at night on the main square of Tarrafal where he first met Florian, Delta Cultura founder and Project Manager, who he never got the chance to properly meet while he was a participant at Delta Cultura. Whenever they met after this first time they spontaneously shared their ideas about the world, about education in general and in Cape Verde.
When Florian got funding for one more employee, Gilson applied and his perfect English made him get the job. Florian is convinced that it was the perfectly right decision, as Gilson's ideas perfectly fit into the vision and mission of Delta Cultura. “I definitely felt like coming home to a place where I was given the recognition, the support, the attention I needed in my childhood and even more important the respect and acknowledgement for what I liked to do."

In the first year Gilson worked as a M&E Coordinator but after one year became Program Coordinator. A role that he performs until today. Also, thanks to his fluency in English, he has successfully represented Delta Cultura in several international events. "The highlights were my participation as a Young Leader at the FIFA Football for Hope Festival 2014 in Brazil and four years later at the 2018 FIFA Foundation Festival in Russia, as a Delegation Leader."

In 2019 Gilson has been appointed by the US Embassy, as one of the Young African Leaders for the Mandela Washington Fellowship (MWF) and he participated, among 700 other selected young African Leaders, in an intensive fellowship on Leadership in Civic Engagement. “I believe it was an accomplishment that translates my commitment and work on the social development sector with my community”

It was at this fellowship where Gilson was asked about the role that Delta Cultura played from his childhood to his adulthood. His answer in short:

“I can’t really put into words on how Delta Cultura contributed to my personal development till here. Actually, to be honest, I don’t think I can point out to one thing specifically as it was a compilation of lots of things around my life. But one thing I can say for sure about my experience at Delta Cultura. I surely was genuinely happy while I was playing football at Delta Cultura. And that’s the feeling I believe should be at the core of everything someone does and that’s what I want to provide to these kids we work with - an opportunity to simply be happy doing what they like and believe in … If you ask me if I knew which direction my life would take, like any other kid at that age, I didn’t know. Uncertainty and lack of belongingness were present in my life. But today looking back, it seems that every step that I took and every decision I made led me to this place. A right place that today, more than workplace, I can call it home."

Story told by Zito, (Educator; Coach)

NHUPRETU is 16 years old. He trains with Delta Cultura since 2009. Nhupretu is a very dedicated young boy. He loves to play football but at the same time he is one of the few youth of his age that also try hard to perform good in school as well. “I had to repeat one year and since then I really try hard not to do so anymore”, he seems to regret.

It was in 2019 when Nhupretu realized one of his biggest dreams: the Capeverdean U16 National Team called him to play at the capital city, Praia.

“It was a great experience”, he tells, “and made me believe even more that I am able to become a professional football player one day … “
DATA ABOUT PARTICIPANTS

Since a few years DCCV registers 250 participants to the daily programs. There has always been the problem of a more or less strong fluctuation during the year (around 50 participants leave and new ones are taken). The reasons are various:

- The children love to come to the Center. When their school grades go down or they do not obey at home some parents don’t allow them to go the Center as a punishment.
- The Center is a little bit outside the city center. In 2018 a few children disappeared in the capital of Praia and some parents were afraid to let their children walk by themselves to the Center. Since then DCCV offers bringing them back home by car.
- Some parents decide to send their children to tutoring classes in school (the teachers offer paid tutoring to their students!)
- Unbelievable enough, there are still parents who think that at the Center the children are just playing and not learning anything.

Measurements DCCV took are described above (Delta in the districts, one responsible for each child).

This report focuses on the direct beneficiaries, the participants of the daily programs and events that can be counted (see graphs beneath). Of course there are many different kind of indirect beneficiaries as well:

- The educational programs of the Center improve the school performance of the participants and therefore the education level in the public schools (4.200 students) in general.
- Offering activities in children’s free time disburden the parents or legal guardians who can focus more on their work or finding a job.
- The Center runs many cleaning and beautification activities (see number and kind of events) in the whole community. The whole population (9.000 inhabitants in the city of Tarrafal) benefits from these activities.
- DCCV brought around 100.000 from international funders to Tarrafal. This money helps the local economy in general to develop.

There are 4 different types of participants:

- Participants of the daily programs (registered in the data base)
- Participants who only participate in the football activities (registered in the data base)
- Participants who only participate in the Batuco (drumming- singing- dancing tradition) activities (registered in the data base)
- Participants of events (if possible counted; at large events estimated)
OVERALL PARTICIPANTS REGISTERED IN 2019

The unsatisfactory higher number of male participants registered is due to the higher number of male football players in the higher age groups.

DIVISION OF OVERALL PARTICIPANTS BY AGE AND GENDER
DIVISION OF PARTICIPANTS BY GENDER AND PROGRAMS THEY PARTICIPATE IN

Please consider that some of the daily participants also appear in the football participants...

DEVELOPMENT OF NUMBER OF REGISTERED PARTICIPANTS

The number of registered participants increased by 156.68% from 2012/2013 to 2019/2020

PARTICIPANTS OF THE FOOTBALL ACTIVITIES BY AGE GROUP AND GENDER

Male
Female
DATA

PARTICIPANTS AT EVENTS

Total participants at events in 2019: 8912

Often the participants of the different events are also participants of the daily programs. But not always and not only.

The unsatisfactory fact of more male participants at events is due to the fact that at football games organised the opponent teams do not show up with girls in the lower age groups. DCCV cannot significantly influence. Only by being an example to other teams.

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS DIVIDED BY KIND OF EVENT

DEVELOPMENT OF EVENT PARTICIPANTS

The number of participants increased by 125.39% from 2014 to 2019
THE PROGRAMS

The figures in this part of the report are the same as in 2018, as the programs did not change.

In total the Center conducted 3962 educational activities in 2019.

This numbers were calculated as followed:
- 38 weeks of activities per year; 5 days a week (=190 days); this is without weekends and July when the Center does only events; in August the Center is closed
- In football there are 10 age groups and each group trains twice a week (also in July)
- In the IT classes there are 4 classes per day with different age groups (each twice a week)
- Homework sessions, artistic activities and educational games happen on a daily basis for the children who come in the mornings and the ones in the afternoon.
- Kindergarten: the graph shows the number of days that the kindergarten was open. Each day happen lots of activities in the kindergarten.
- Music sessions: twice a week for the morning and the afternoon participants
- Batuco: twice a week

PROGRAMMES CONDUCTED

![Chart showing the number of programs conducted in 2019.](image)
**DATA**

**ACTIVITY PER CHILD**

The graph below gives an example of how many activities one child is involved in during one year. We believe this is one of the most important and meaningful figures of this report. It is important to mention that besides the homework and tutoring all the children love these activities and participate because they want to.

A child that participates in football trainings, artistic activities, homework and tutoring groups, IT classes and sportive and educational events is involved in **741 educational activities** per year.

These numbers were calculated as followed:
- 38 weeks of activities per year; 5 days a week (=190 days)
- Homework groups: she does her homework every day at the Center
- Educational games: this number can only be estimated as there are games happening all the time … We estimated that she participates in the games 3 times per week.
- Artistic activities: she goes at least 2 times a week to the art room
- Football trainings: she trains twice a week in 42 weeks per year
- IT, language classes and music sessions: twice a week
- Events: estimated number of participation
- Football games: her age group had 15 games in 2019

**PROGRAMMES CONDUCTED PER CHILD**
**NUMBER OF EVENTS CONDUCTED IN 2019**

DCCV conducted a total of 167 events in 2019.

In the graph below, you can see the number of events divided in sportive, educational and cultural events. Of course, this separation is not a clear and exact one. Many of the sportive events (like football 3 tournaments but also “normal” football games) are educational as well. Same counts for cultural events.

Sportive events are mainly:
- Football games (friendly games, championship games and tournaments – 157 in total):
  - U7 (boys and girls): 11
  - U9 (boys and girls): 10
  - U11 (boys and girls): 14
  - U13 (male): 15
  - U15 (male): 15
  - U17 (male): 15
  - U17 (female): 22
  - U19 (male): 15
  - Senior male: 17
  - Senior female: 18
  - Football 3 tournaments (5)

The difference between total football games organized and number of games of each age group is due to the fact that at many tournaments there are more than one age group participating.

Educational events are mainly:
- Workshops / Discussion groups about certain relevant topics (14)
- Excursions of the kindergarten children (19)
- Debates (8)
- Cleaning campaigns at the beach (5)

Cultural events are mainly:
- Batuco performances (39)

**DEVELOPMENT OF NUMBER OF EVENTS**

The number of events increased by 307.32% from 2014 to 2019.

This high number is due to the fact the DCCV received more funding for transportation.

Especially football games on the weekends give the participants a huge motivation boost, knowing this DCCV focuses on organising these games.
BATUCO FESTIVAL

Once a year DCCV organizes a Batuco Festival together with the Municipality of Tarrafal. Batuco is a singing-drumming-dancing tradition performed only by women. Marisa the founder of the Batuco group Delta Cultura remembers that when she was a child and when there was no electricity, the women met at night and performed Batuco just for them and for the neighborhood. The Batuco Festival has this spirit as well. Many Batuco groups from the whole island meet, have lunch together and perform at night on the main square of Tarrafal. As can be seen on the pictures, the Festival is very popular.
THE CENTER – A SAFE PLACE FOR ENCOUNTERS AND EXCHANGE

The Center is a safe place where encounters and exchange are happening on a daily basis. Everybody (children, youths, educators, volunteers) exchange and learn from one another …
CARINA

Carina was born in 1997. She was 15 years old when she started to come to Delta Cultura Education Center, and it has been 4 years since then.

“I have so many good memories of these 4 years … the best ones have to do with football!”

Carina grew up in the countryside of Tarrafal. She lived with her grandmother and many cousins. The family had very little financial resources and it was always a problem to pay for the school bus. So the family found a stepmother for Carina and she went to live in the city of Tarrafal. “My life got easier”, Carina remembers, “I did not have to pay for school bus anymore and I got to know Delta Cultura. From the beginning everybody treated me nice at the Center. The educators helped me wherever they could. I had to bring my school tests so they would know where I need support. They really care about you. This is why all the children and youth love to come to the Center.”

Carina was one of the participants that showed up every day and always gave her best in whatever program she participated in. This was the reason she was chosen as one of 4 participants to participate in the Streetfootballworld Festival 2016 in Lyon. “Until today this was my very best experience. Thanks to Delta Cultura I fulfilled my dream to get to know France. It was wonderful to get to know people from so many different cultures. But it was not only France that I got to know thanks to playing football. We had lots of games on the weekends, at places of my home island I have not seen before. And when we won the regional championship we got to play on other islands as well.”

Carina finished school in 2017. It was her plan to go study at the capital. She was dreaming of becoming a lawyer. But unfortunately the financial situation of her family would not allow her to fulfil this dream. She stayed a few months in Tarrafal but soon decided to leave. “Tarrafal has no work and besides Delta Cultura there is nothing to do. So I started to demoralize and decided to see my mother who lives on a different island, Boavista.” As this island is a more touristic place there is more work. Carina worked in a few hotels and restaurants and today she has a job at the local gas station.

“I do not plan to stay in Boavista or even Cape Verde for the rest of my life. I would love to go to Europe, live with my father, maybe do my own business and always have my mother on my side. I hope with the help of God, my family and maybe some friends I will be able to do so one day.”

When Carina is asked about the importance of Delta Cultura in her life she starts to rhapsodise: “Delta Cultura made so many things for me. I was so happy when I could go to the Center. I really have only good memories about my time there and I am very thankful. If I could, I would support Delta Cultura, but unfortunately my life situation does not allow. Delta Cultura is always in my heart.”
SUMMARY

THE MOST SIGNIFICANT POSITIVE NUMBERS AND SUCCESSES OF DCCV AND THE CENTER IN 2019

- The quotes, especially from participants, proof that the Center is the safe place where participants can develop their skills and that the Center has a strong positive impact on the participants’ lives.
- Increase of participants:
  - Participants registered for regular programs: 156.68% increase from 2012/2013 (152) to 2019/2020 (390).
  - Participants of events: 125.39% increase from 2014 (3954) to 2019 (8912)
- In total the Center conducted 3962 educational activities in 2019.
- One child participates in 741 educational activities in one year.
- In addition to the regular (daily or weekly) programs, DCCV organized and conducted 167 cultural, sporting and educational events in 2019.
- DCCV, especially through the female football teams participated in women empowerment and gender equality.
- DCCV especially with the mentioned open letter to the Ministry of Education is constantly fighting for the children’s rights.
LESSONS LEARNED

The Education Center continues in his 17th year to be a safe and very popular place for the children and youths from Tarrafal.

Of course there are always obstacles and room for improvement, but DCCV works constantly to resolve problems and improve in every respect.

Some problems from the past years, like parents/legal guardians not letting the children come to the Center anymore because of bad school grades or in order to punish them, persist but improved thanks to measurements DCCV took:
- Closer contact to the parents/legal guardians
- “Delta in the districts”
- DCCV data base, where the children’s history of registering and de-registering can be tracked.

To achieve the objectives even better it would be necessary to work more hours with the children, taking in consideration that the children are only 3 hours per day at the Center. The rest of the day many of the participants spend in violent environments in school (teachers still beating up children) at home (parents beating up their children for misbehavior) and in the streets (bullying, peer-pressure, etc.). A solution would be to become a private school free of charge – the dream of many educators at the Center.

The work with volunteers from abroad showed benefits and brought obstacles as well. But obviously the benefits predominate by far. This is also thanks to better preparation of the volunteers through our partner organization “Para onde”, already in Portugal.

No problems at all occurred with local volunteers.

The above mentioned open letter to the Ministry of Education had its bad impact (teachers and the delegation of the Ministry in Tarrafal being angry at DCCV) but was necessary and improved the relationship with the Ministry of Education. Citing the Inspector from the Ministry: “the public schools and institutions like Delta Cultura HAVE to work together …”

It is the wish of all educators and responsible to continue the fight against corporal punishment in the public schools despite any possible negative consequences. The consequences for the children getting beaten up are far too serious to bust our heads in the sand.
IMPRESSIONS OF THE CENTER
Wilson
(participant, 11 years old)

I live with my
grandmother and
she had lots of
problems with me
because I was always on the streets with my
friends and not listening to her orders. Then
I started to go to the Center and things
changed. Here I learned a lot and I love to
visit the Center. I hate the days when there
are no activities at the Center ... I just stay
at home with nothing to do ...

Mana
(participant, 15 years old)

Before I came to
the Center my
mother was beat-
ing me up every
day, because I was always strolling around
in the streets of Tarrafal doing stupid things.
Now I have a wonderful place where I spend
my free time doing things I like to do. I am
very grateful for all the opportunities Delta
Cultura is giving me.
JANICIO is 13 years old and lives with his mother and father and three siblings. He is one of the children who is always strolling in the streets during the day, looking for tourists to ask them for money and food.

For me it is not totally clear why his mother is not at all looking after him. When I went to talk to her she said that there is nothing she can do, because he always does whatever he wants to … His father is not interested in his son’s life, he drinks a lot and often is involved in street fights.

In the beginning of the school year Janicio went to school but then quit again. He also started to come to the Center in the beginning of the school year but started to come very irregularly. That was when I went to talk to his mother …

Right now the situation is as it was last year: Janicio comes to the Center once in a while, but I also meet him a lot in the coffee shop where I take my after work coffee. I talk to him a lot and try to convince him to come to the Center more often and involve in the programs.

As his mother confirmed Janicios behavior improved since he goes to the Center. Not long ago he was at the police station a lot … steeling from tourists, fighting with other kids. “At least I do not have to go to the police station to pick him up anymore”, his mother resumes.
Due to climate change and all the environmental issues we face today, it is becoming increasingly urgent to teach children empathy for nature and the environment around us. Unfortunately in Tarrafal people still do not recycle a lot, but many people reuse various materials at home. It is also a city where we find a lot of garbage, both in the neighborhoods and on the beaches, awareness about these issues are needed urgently.

In the kindergarten, I love to work with all kinds of trash, make games, toys, crafts, reuse boxes to store games, here we invent everything! Thus, we are not only saving resources sustainably, but also reusing and bringing waste materials to life. It can be said that most kindergarten educational games are made from recycled materials and so we are also imparting good notions of savings, material reuse and creativity to children.

When the children realized that I kept all sorts of “junk”, they began to gather things at home and brought them, stating happily “Mariana is making games out of it!”.

One day we made masks out of egg cartons, since then 3 or 4 kids bring me egg cartons regularly. Yesterday, two children arrived at the kindergarten with a bag full of wooden sticks they use here to make and sell ice cream. They told me proudly that they had been on the football field the day before, and as lots of people ate ice cream and dropped the sticks to the ground, they were picking them all up in order to bring them to me to make games out of them.

A mother of a child said in a meeting that her son spends the day picking up trash to bring and “forcing” her to do the same and not to throw the cartons from her shop away, so he can bring them to Delta Cultura.

Today many children bring all sorts of materials and when they see that we are using the materials they have brought, they feel happy and proud.
Julião Moreira Evangelista Barros
General Inspector from the Ministry of Education

In the fulfilment of my professional duties, I worked at Delta Cultura in Achada Tomás, Tarrafal, with its team, including the Project Manager, Mr. Florian Wegenstein.

I had a warm welcome. For almost two hours, we talked about the Center operation and I realized that there is a diversity of services. The team is multidisciplinary, charging various skills like working with preschool children, supporting children in studies, computer classes, music and other artistic activities and sports activities.

As I could see, the space is very welcoming and the Center children and teenagers, while we were visiting the place, showed the joy and pleasure of being there.

Delta Cultura partners recognize that there are some technical and pedagogical constraints, but express a strong determination to develop more and more the skills to respond to challenges at the Center and, in particular, to education in general in the town (Tarrafal).

Lino de Carvalho
Delegate of the Capeverdean Institute for Children and Adolescents

It was with great pleasure and satisfaction that we visited Delta Cultura Cabo Verde in Tarrafal, as part of a visiting agenda that we made to the public and private institutions that work with children in that municipality.

We were very well received by the Delta Cultura Cabo Verde team. During the conversation with Mr. Florian Wegenstein, it was gratifying to know that, in a particular space like this, there is a Center where those responsible want to end poverty through EDUCATION.

During the lovely conversation and sightseeing, we found that the Center provides incredible opportunities for children to access the educational offerings related to “batuco”, dance, music, art, football and above all, we could also observe that, they have a pleasant and inviting space for school support.

Similarly, it was a very pleasant surprise for us to recognize the high level of organization and willingness that all employees of Delta Cultura Cabo Verde have been showing in making progress and improving the living conditions of children.

We salute the work of Delta Cultura Cabo Verde in Tarrafal. Therefore, continue with motivation and equal commitment!

Thank you so much for the visit.
In May 2019, Michael and myself - both active at Delta Cultura Austria - spent a week in Tarrafal. The reason for our trip was to visit Delta Cultura Education Center. Once again we had the feeling that Delta Cultura contributes in the region to educate young Cape Verdeans to become critical thinkers.

One of the highlights of our staying was our participation in a football tournament, in which everyone from kindergarten children and youths to volunteers and teachers made part of. It was an inclusive game with lots of loud music, dance and a lot of joy.

But it was also obvious that the Education Center is still facing major challenges. Some parents no longer let their children come to the Education Center as they know that they like to go to the Center so they use it as punishment measuring against the children. Other parents are afraid of letting their children travel the long way to the Center on their own. These agitations make you realize that although there have been tremendous successes in educational work in recent years, even decades, there is still a lot to do. A first step towards improvement is “Delta in the Districts”: employees go to the city and the surrounding area to make parents aware of Delta Cultura’s work.

The successes, but also the challenges that Delta Cultura faces, show us again and again that only through an inclusive approach sustainable educational work can succeed and Delta Cultura is doing an essential and indispensable contribution!

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**Story told by Jassica**

(Educator kindergarten)

The importance of friendship, empathy and caring for people are transmitted to the children indirectly every day. When they fight among themselves, I usually foster mutual help and affection. Nowadays, when a child cries because he or she has fallen, been hurt, or has been disturbed by another child, there are immediately several children running to help out, to hug and wipe away tears.

One day *Nediane* was crying heavily inside the Kindergarten because she had stomach ache. After lying down for a while, I advised her to go for a walk and get some air. In the same second, Miriam (5 years old) took her hand and asked me, “Jassica, would you like me to go for a walk with her?”

When they returned, Miriam was notoriously happy to tell me where she went for a walk with Nediane and what they did to stop her crying.
OUR MAIN PARTNERS IN 2019

All the activities shown above were possible thanks to our strong and dedicated partners. Besides Delta Cultura in Austria and Germany our main partners in 2019 were (in alphabetical order):

- FIFA
- 2010 FIFA World Cup Legacy Trust
- Georg Kraus Stiftung
- JOCHNICK FOUNDATION
- Município do Tarrafal
- streetfootballworld
IMPRINT

DELTA CULTURA CABO VERDE

Vila do Tarrafal – Ilha Santiago
Cabo Verde

Content: Florian Wegenstein
Photos: Marisa Cabral Correia

Tel: +238 266 27 01
e-mail: office[at]deltacultura.org

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