

## Christmas Day Arrived for Chibuto's Children

**Mozambique** - Femmes d'Europe contributed to the pre-season opening of the community schools, as part of the Christmas season in Chibuto district, Gaza province



As part of the project "Educadores em Movimento - Uma Educação Itinerante para a Primeira Infância" (Educators in Motion - An Itinerant Education for Early Childhood), a special "snack-day" was held on the occasion of the pre-opening period of Community Schools and as part of the **Christmas season**. Children of four schools located in the Chibuto district (Gaza province, Mozambique), were able to enjoy a special, happy day between 13-16 December 2021.

The project aims to **promote access to early childhood education services**, based on a community management model that is accessible to children from rural communities.

This initiative was made possible with the **financial support of the Association Femmes d'Europe**, providing the children of these Schools with a very different day that brought smiles to their faces and to the whole educational and local community.



*Children from the Maivene Community School*



*Happy to show her drawing made with the materials offered by AFdE.*

*. Projet du mois – Project of the Month .*

True to the spirit of sharing and gift-giving, we chose to make this event part of the Christmas season. It was a very special occasion for the children of the Escolinhas, their families, the guests of the local authorities, the members of the Community Management Council (CGC) of the Escolinhas and for the educators, who were able **witness the joy of the children**.

This day of celebration started with serving a snack for the children, consisting of **bread, butter, jam and a juice**. Afterwards, each child was given a **set of crayons and sheets of paper to draw** and colour in their drawings. Finally, each child received a **bag with balloons, sweets and a lollipop**, presented by representatives of local and government authorities.

It was a joy to see the **emotion** expressed by the children's families who were able to participate in the initiative as well as by the parents who picked up their happy children from the Escolinha. The children thoroughly enjoyed having the opportunity to have lunch with their classmates, to play with the gifts they received and to take home the drawings they made to show their families. All of that and playing with the colourful balloons made their day special.

**A team by AIDGLOBAL prepared everything to the last detail** so that this event reflected the Christmas spirit and ensured that it would be a very memorable day!

This event contributed significantly to the recognition and appreciation by parents, together with the Community Management Committees of the little schools, of the **importance of continuing to offer the children a daily snack**.

We also believe that the great joy of the children and their parents may have contributed to their **renewing the enrolment of their children in the 2022 school year**, and might have motivated other parents to enrol their children in these schools for the first time.

*AIDGLOBAL* believes that this type of initiative, in which organisations come together (in this case, with the Association Femmes d'Europe) to carry out large or small actions, with some degree of significant financial support, **can make a big difference to the lives of Mozambican children**. These projects should be continued because they have such an impact on experiences that these children are building, **something they will remember well into the future**.

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*Photos by AIDGLOBAL*



Children from the Melahice Community School



Children from the Barrio 25 de Junho Community School