

FINAL REPORT – VAVROUŠEK SCHOLARSHIP

NAME: Andrea Pevná

YEAR OF STUDY: 1st year of magister degree programme

TOPIC OF THE INTERNSHIP: Volunteer for Angola

SCHOLARSHIP AMOUNT: 18 000 CZK

COUNTRY OF IMPLEMENTATION: Angola

PERIOD: 19.2.-15.5.2023

Brief description of the internship:

I spent nearly three months in Calulo, which is a city in Angola. I completed my internship within the organization *Initiativ Angola*, which is an Austrian non-governmental organization and its mission is international solidarity and the promotion of sustainable development. In Angola, Ethiopia and Mozambique, it runs a kindergarten for children, a school for children and a school for adults, and a girls' boarding school. It also provides microloans. As a leisure time for children, they offer crafts, painting, games and singing. In school, they provide the children with school materials, snack and uniform. To donors, they offer sponsorship of children, thanks to which daily meals, school uniform and learning materials are provided. To the girls in the girls' boarding school, they offer housing, food, clothing, school materials, professional courses and counseling regarding their lives. And they provide microloans for small entrepreneurs who have a plan and a vision but lack the money to implement their plans. The organization *Initiativ Angola* works closely with Salesian nuns in Angola. The Salesian sisters founded a total of six schools in Angola, one of them is located in Calulo. There are five Salesian nuns living here and they run a primary school and also a girls' boarding school. Their daily activities are running the school, buying the necessary school materials and uniforms, teaching catechism, organizing festivities during Christian holidays, organizing leisure activities for local youth, managing documentation and administrative work, caring for and educating girls from the boarding school. There is also a medical clinic and a bakery in the nuns' campus. In addition, the sisters also run a small school in the village of Quitila, about 30 km from Calulo, to which they commute every morning.

Description of the activities:

During my internship, I was accommodated in the house of the sisters in Calulo, and therefore I had the opportunity to get to know their way of life and participate in daily prayers. Basically, I had a set program for every day of the week. Every Wednesday and Thursday I was teaching at the elementary school in Calulo, which is run by nuns. My subject was art education, so I drew with the students and we made products from paper, cardboard, crepe paper, sticks, string, beads, wire, thread and wool. I was teaching younger students in the morning and older students in the afternoon. The school in Calulo has many classes and I visited a different class each time, so I managed to change all the classes of the school there in three months. Every Monday, Tuesday and Friday morning, together with other teachers and the responsible nurse, I commuted to the village of Quitila, where I was teaching in the local elementary school the whole morning. I also taught art education here. I didn't teach the same class every day, but the classes alternated, so I visited both younger and older students. However,

there are only eight classes in this school, so I visited the same class more than once. In the afternoon, I spent time in Calulo with the girls from the boarding school. A total of 11 girls, ages 11 to 18, currently live in the boarding school. We were playing some games together, we were dancing, or I helped them with their homework and tutored them in English. Every Saturday and Sunday morning I helped in the kitchen with to cook a lunch. In the afternoon, I was teaching English for those interested in learning English. On Saturday I was teaching beginners who can't speak English at all yet, and on Sunday I was teaching older youth who can already speak a little English. In addition to these daily activities, during my internship, I had the task of filming videos for the organization Iniciativ Angola, which will then use these videos to promote the organization on social media. I filmed the daily life of the nuns and girls from the boarding school, the course of teaching at the school in Calulo, and I also took several photographs. Furthermore, I had the task of supervising the progress of the questionnaire survey. The organization Iniciativ Angola was conducting a survey on the topic of sexual education in Angola. My role in this survey was to contact four teachers teaching the sexual education and also six students from different classes, who will be interested in participating in this survey, and to fill with them pre-prepared questionnaires with questions on the topic of sexual education. In addition to these activities, I sometimes helped the nurses with administration and computer work.

Benefit of the internship for student and partner organization:

For me, the biggest benefit was that I had the first opportunity to visit an African country. I am very happy that I was able to visit Angola, because in the future I would like to work in one of the African countries. Thanks to this internship, I had the opportunity to get to know Angola more and to learn something new about the local culture, way of living and way of thinking of the local people. I enjoy getting to know new countries and different cultures of the world, so I really enjoyed visiting Angola. Also, staying with the sisters was very interesting, because I spent every day with them and participated in their daily life. Therefore, I learned a lot about their functioning in Angola and had the opportunity to experience what it is like to live life as a nun. Another benefit for me was the opportunity to try working with children in Angola. I had never taught in any school before and here, thanks to my internship, I got to experience teaching in classes of different age categories. Although I found out that pedagogy is not something I want to pursue in the future, it was a great benefit for me to try it out. I learned that I enjoy working independently more than working in a team. Another benefit was the strengthening of language skills. Only Portuguese is spoken in Angola, so no one speaks English. That's why I started learning Portuguese in preparation for my internship before leaving. And during the internship, my Portuguese skills improved significantly. So, I had the opportunity to learn a new language.

There were also several benefits for the organization. The nuns are used to volunteers, because almost every year a volunteer from different countries of the world comes to visit them. They always assign some work to each volunteer that they cannot do themselves in normal operation, and therefore volunteers are suitable for them. My teaching of art at the school in Calulo and Quitila was beneficial mainly because almost every day one of the teachers was sick and did not show up for class. So, I always took over the sick teacher's class and had the role of alternate or substitute. In addition, for the students, art education was a pleasant diversion that they enjoyed. My English teaching was also helpful because there is a lack of English teachers in Calulo, so the students cannot learn English. The photos and videos I took during my internship will be used by the organization for its promotion on social media and fundraising. And my help with the questionnaire survey was also very useful for the organization, because the religious sisters do not have time to conduct research in their normal operation.

Presentation of the outcomes of the internship:

I really enjoyed my internship in Angola and I am very glad that I had the opportunity to visit this interesting country. It was an unforgettable experience for me. Thanks to the opportunity to interact with the local people, I learned a lot about their way of life. I tried several things. I enjoyed spending time with children, teaching in schools and playing games with them. It was also interesting for me to conduct questionnaire surveys and make promotional videos. Overall, the internship was beneficial for the organization and for me.

In the near future, after returning to the Czech Republic, I am going to present my internship at our university. I suppose I will write an article for the UP Journal and furthermore, I would also like to write an article for a magazine of my previous university which I was studying as part of my bachelor's degree. I can also write an article to my parish.

FINAL BUDGET:

| Budget | Unit | Price per unit | Number of unites | Total | Contribution from Vavroušek Scholarship |
|------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|------------------|----------|---|
| Personal costs | SIM card | 455kč | 2 | 669kč | - |
| | medicaments in Angola | 214kč | | | |
| Transportation costs | plane | 15 718kč | 3 | 20 719kč | 18 000kč |
| | traveling to Germany for visa | 2 380kč | | | |
| | train to airport | 2 621kč | | | |
| Accommodation | in the organization | 0kč | 1 | 0kč | - |
| Food | in the organization | 0kč | 1 | 0kč | - |
| Consumables, equipment | materials for activities | 672kč | 1 | 672kč | - |
| Others | vaccination and repellents | 11 197kč | 3 | 15 720kč | - |
| | visa | 2 250kč | | | |
| | PCR test before the flight | 2 273kč | | | |
| Total | - | 37 780kč | - | - | 18 000kč |