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RONDON PROJECT - LOBO GUARÁ OPERATION: EXPERIENCE REPORT IN ALTO DO PARAÍSO CITY IN STATE OF GOIÁS

PROJETO RONDON - OPERAÇÃO LOBO GUARÁ: RELATO DE EXPERIÊNCIA NA CIDADE DE ALTO DO PARAÍSO NO ESTADO DE GOIÁS

PROYECTO RONDÓN - OPERACIÓN LOBO GUARÁ: RELATO DE LA EXPERIENCIA EN LA CIUDAD DEL ALTO DEL PARAÍSO EN EL ESTADO DE GOIÁS

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Abstract: The Rondon Project prioritizes the development of actions that bring benefits to communities, especially those related to improving social well-being and public management training, seeking to consolidate in Brazilian university students a sense of social responsibility, collectivity, in favor of citizenship, contributing to their academic education and providing them knowledge of Brazilian reality. In this way, this work developed in the Rondon Project - Lobo Guará Operation of 2023, in the city of Alto Paraíso from Goias - GO, by Group B of the Federal University of Grande Dourados, aimed to present the main actions developed in the community. UFGD's participation in the Rondon Project happened in four

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phases, according to the three pillars of the University: I) the participant selection process, in which the Group B students assisted with the selection of participants from their common area ; II) teaching development, with planning, structuring and prior meetings for the development of workshops; III) realization of researches to understand the reality and indicators of the regions where the IES operates; and IV) extension, first among students from different selected IES and then the development of actions in communities in the city of Alto Paraíso, Goiás. It was a 14-day operation, with more than 2.300 people served, more than 25 workshops done, and each one more than one time. This exchange of knowledge between Rondoners and local residents was an enriching experience for everyone. It is an opportunity for mutual learning in which the Rondoners can share their knowledge and experiences, and local residents can contribute with their local wisdom and cultural knowledge.
Keywords: Rondon Project. Learning. University Extension. Experience.

Resumo: O Projeto Rondon, prioriza desenvolver ações que tragam benefícios para as comunidades, principalmente as relacionadas com a melhoria do bem-estar social e a capacitação da gestão pública, buscando consolidar no universitário brasileiro o sentido de responsabilidade social, coletiva, em prol da cidadania, contribuindo na sua formação acadêmica e proporcionando-lhe o conhecimento da realidade brasileira. Neste sentido, este trabalho desenvolvido no Projeto Rondon – Operação Lobo Guará de 2023, no município de Alto Paraíso de Goiás – GO, pelo Grupo B da Universidade Federal da Grande Dourados, teve como objetivo apresentar as principais ações desenvolvidas na comunidade. A participação da UFGD no Projeto Rondon se deu em quatro fases, de acordo com os três pilares que formam a Universidade: I) seleção dos participantes, no qual ocorreu o processo de seleção dos participantes de comum área com o conjunto B; II) desenvolvimento do ensino, com o planejamento, estruturação e reuniões prévias para o desenvolvimento das oficinas; III) pesquisa pela busca em conhecer a realidade e os indicadores das regiões de atuação da IES; e IV) a extensão, primeiro entre os acadêmicos das diferentes IES selecionadas e, logo em seguida, o desenvolvimento das ações nas comunidades do município de Alto Paraíso de Goiás. Foram 14 dias de operação, com mais de 2.300 pessoas atendidas, mais de 25 oficinas realizadas e mais de uma vez cada. Essa troca de conhecimentos entre os rondonistas e os moradores locais foi uma experiência enriquecedora para ambas as partes. É uma oportunidade de aprendizado mútuo, onde os rondonistas podem compartilhar seus

conhecimentos e experiências, e os moradores locais podem contribuir com sua sabedoria local e conhecimento cultural.

Palavras-chave: Projeto Rondon. Aprendizagem. Extensão Universitária. Experiência.

Resumen: El Proyecto Rondón, prioriza desarrollar acciones que traigan beneficios para las comunidades, principalmente las relacionadas con la mejoría del bien estar social y la capacitación de la gestión pública, buscando consolidarse en el universitario brasileño el sentido de responsabilidad social, colectiva, en pos de la ciudadanía, contribuyendo en su formación académica y proporcionándoles el conocimiento de la realidad brasileña, En tal sentido, este trabajo desarrollado sobre el Proyecto Rondón – Operación Lobo Guará del 2023, en el municipio del Alto Paraíso de Goiás – GO, por el Grupo B de la Universidad Federal da Grande Dourados, tuvo como objetivo presentar las principales acciones desarrolladas en la comunidad. La participación de la UFGD en el Proyecto Rondón se dio en cuatro etapas, de acuerdo con los tres pilares que fomenta la Universidad: I) selección de los participantes, en el cual se dio el proceso de selección de áreas común con el conjunto B; II) extensión de la enseñanza, con planeamientos, estructuración y reuniones previas para el desarrollo de las oficinas, III) investigación en busca de conocer la realidad y los indicadores de las regiones de actuación de la IES; y IV) la extensión, primero entre los académicos de las diferentes IES seleccionados, y luego el desarrollo de las acciones en las comunidades del municipio de Alto Paraíso de Goiás. Fueron 14 días de operación, con más de 2300 personas atendidas, más de 25 oficinas desarrolladas y más de una vez cada una de ellas, este intercambio de conocimientos entre los rondonistas y los habitantes locales fue una experiencia enriquecedora para ambas partes. Es una oportunidad de aprendizaje mutuo, donde los rondonistas pueden compartir sus conocimientos y experiencias, y sus habitantes locales pueden contribuir con su saber local y conocimiento cultural.

Palabras claves: Proyecto Rondón. Aprendizaje. Extensión Universitaria. Experiencia.

INTRODUCTION

University extension is defined as any activity that aims to integrate the university and the community. This integration prioritizes overcoming existing conditions of inequality

and exclusion, emphasizing its social responsibility and social commitment to improving the quality of life of citizens (DIAS, COSTA, MARTINS, 2021).

According to Saraiva (2007), extension provides students with meaningful experiences that allow them to reflect on the major issues of today and, based on the experience and knowledge produced and accumulated, to develop a formation committed to national, regional, and local needs, considering the Brazilian reality.

The Rondon Project is an interministerial initiative organized by the Federal Government in partnership with universities throughout the country and the municipalities where the project takes place. It is considered the largest extension project in Brazil and is also responsible for contributing to the development of participating university students and partner communities (BRASIL, 2023).

The Projeto Rondon is an interministerial initiative from different Ministries (Education, Social and Agrarian Development, Health, Environment, National Integration, Sports, and the Presidency of the Republic's Government Secretariat, under the coordination of the Ministry of Defense), together with community leaders and the population. University teachers and students from different areas of knowledge contribute voluntarily to improve the living conditions and well-being of the population in local sustainable development, building and promoting citizenship through the joint development of actions that provide permanent benefits for communities, in the quality and efficiency of municipal administration, with a focus on public management training, meeting new social demands.

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Built in a participatory and intersectoral way, it tends to enhance actions by congregating the efforts of various social actors involved with the purpose of promoting changes that institutionalize themselves in municipalities in a sustainable, humanitarian, and

integrative way. The intervention in an interdisciplinary way comprises the performance of competencies from various areas of knowledge that are included in the proposals of the B Set: Communication, Environment, Work, Technology, and Production.

The consolidation of the sense of social and collective responsibility, in favor of citizenship, development, and defense of national interests in Brazilian universities, is made through extension activities, which contribute to their academic training, with knowledge of the Brazilian reality. The "Lobo-Guará" Operation happened between January 19th and February 4th, 2023, and took place in 11 cities in the northern and northeastern regions of Goiás, and one city in the state of Minas Gerais. Although planned in 2019, the operation had to be postponed for two years due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Lobo-Guará was chosen as the symbol of this operation because of the Cerrado biome, where the cities of the operation are located.

This animal is a biodiversity agent of the Cerrado because they help dispers the seeds throughout the entire Central-West region. Similarly, the students would be responsible for cultivating seeds, through volunteer work, germinating good actions in the communities served, based on the principle of sustainability (BRAZIL, 2023).

The experiences and exchanges provided by the extension activities by the Rondoners who represented the Federal University of Grande Dourados (UFGD) in the Lobo-Guará Operation will be reported on what was developed in the workshops implemented in the City of Alto Paraíso in Goiás and in the communities of São Jorge, Cidade da Fraternidade, Quilombola Povoado do Moinho, and do Sertão as multipliers, providing learning to students, teachers, and the community served.





Figuras 1 e 2: UFGD rondon volunteers and UNIFENAS in Alto Paraíso

METHODOLOGY

In 2023, the Federal University of Grande Dourados (UFGD) had the pleasure of participating in the Lobo Guará Operation, promoted by the Rondon Project, held in Alto Paraíso de Goiás, in the state of Goiás. The group from the Higher Education Institution (HEI) UFGD was composed of eight students from different faculties along with 198 other Rondoners (the name given to project volunteers).

Each project team is composed of two teacher-advisors and ten students, with eight participating and two substitutes. The Rondon Project focuses on the action of multiple teams, in order to enable the development of different actions in the established communities and geographic areas. Each selected municipality receives a fixed team composed of two groups, with Set A in the areas of Health, Education, Human Rights and Justice, and Set B in the areas of Communication, Environment, Technology, Production, and Work, with a mobile team formed by Set C in the area of Social Communication. For this operation, UFGD selected students from the areas of Aquaculture Engineering, Biological Sciences, Nutrition, Psychology, Administration, and Accounting, thus constituting Group B.

UFGD's participation in the Rondon Project happened in four phases, according to the three pillars that form the University: I) selection of participants, where the selection process of participants with common areas was carried out with group B; II) teaching development, with planning, structuring, and prior meetings for the development of workshops; III) research to understand the reality and indicators of the regions where the IES operates; and IV) extension, first among the students of different selected IES and then the development of actions in the communities of Alto Paraíso, in Goiás. UFGD was selected, along with the group A team, to act in the city of Alto Paraíso, Goiás, covering urban and rural areas such as settlements, villages, quilombolas communities, the hinterland, and areas with tourism potential.

For the development of the workshops, prior meetings were held for learning and action, and proposals for the development of work were formulated by the UFGD students themselves. Subsequently, pilot-test workshops were held with a similar audience to the one that would receive the workshops on-site, with the realization taking place at the Itamarati Settlement, at the Nova Itamarati State School. These workshops were held with the aim of mitigating problems and refining the application method. Through the workshops, the students and teachers were able to identify possible problems and present new proposals for teaching and learning.

The UFGD group joined forces with the group from the José do Rosário Vellano University (UNIFENAS) in Minas Gerais, made up of medical students. In total, the team was composed of 20 members, from both Sets A and B. They organized actions either independently or integrated, and a Brazilian Army Sub-Lieutenant, who had the mission of accompanying the teams during the workshops.

After the selection of the approved IES was announced, the coordinating professors of the teams made a precursor trip to the municipality of Alto Paraíso de Goiás and, together with local leaders, municipal secretaries, associations and different community leaders, established the actions that would be carried out by the two groups in order to meet the needs of the entire team, with logistical support for food, internal and external transportation, and accommodation. The first contact was also made with the Army Sub-Lieutenant named by the Rondon Project as the "Angel" selected for the team, responsible for the team's physical safety throughout the operation.



Figura 3: UFGD team and “Angel” Sérgio at the Opening Ceremony of Lobo Guará Operation

WORKSHOPS

During 14 days of operation, teams A and B worked on different actions in the areas of environment, education, human rights and justice, health, culture, work, technology and production and communication. To promote the actions during the period of the operation, the rondoners performed every day at 06:30 am in a live program on Rádio Paraíso FM 87.9,

when the activities of the teams in the city of Alto Paraíso, Goiás were publicized, calls about the workshops were also recorded and passed on during the day.

Workshops planned and carried out:

Cinema - with 23 participants, it happened on 01/21/2023 at night. The rondoners developed the cinema workshop at the CRAS in the city of Alto Paraíso - GO, with the exhibition of short films for the neighborhood children, with right to popcorn, presentation of the team and promotion of the workshops that would take place in the city in the next few days.

Tourist Potentialities - Held on 01/22/2023, with the final objective of generating a document containing the tourist potential of the municipality, the Rondonistas visited Cachoeira da Usina, located in the municipality of Alto Paraíso de Goiás - GO, with the aim of exploring potentialities to make the place open for visitation. The community of São Jorge was also visited, where they discovered the trail to Cachoeira do Preguiça accompanied by a local resident, Dona Teia, who told the story of the creation of the community since its foundation and related the need for the creation of the mining museum.

Social Technologies - construction of a web page to use as a blog or to publicize associative life – with 3 participants, it was carried out on 01/23/2023, the Rondonistas carried out the social technology workshop with some Community Health Agents (ACSs), at the Universidade Aberta Brasil (UAB) hub, they talked about associative life, the importance of technology for its dissemination and, in the end, there was a practical part of producing a website.

Protecting children warning signs and handling in situations of violence and sexual abuse – with 43 participants, it happened on 01/23 and 02/01/2023, Rondoners developed training workshops for teachers with the aim of making educators aware of the difference between sexual exploitation and child sexual abuse; the possible signs that a child is suffering a sexual violation; the posture indicated for listening and handling situations in which violence is verified; the local reporting channels, as well as suggestions for materials that could be applied in schools, namely: Traffic Lights of Touch, Pipo and Fifi and the NotiVida application. The adopted dynamic was a round of conversation and discussion with the educators, about reports of situations experienced in the school context.

Sports games and recreation – with 19 participants, it happened on 01/23 and 02/02/2023, the Rondoners carried out recreational activities with the community at the gym

in the city of Alto Paraíso de Goiás - GO and with the São Jorge Community, at the Dona Lindu school, with futsal and volleyball practices.

Toys with recyclable material – with 74 participants, it was held on 01/24; On 01/26 and 02/02/2023, Rondonistas taught children how to produce their own toys with recyclable materials, such as a cart with a milk carton, a puzzle with an egg carton, a shuttle and a bilboquet with PET bottles.

Comics and financial education – with 128 participants, held on 01/24; 01/25 01/30; 01/31; 02/01 and 02/02/2023 Rondonistas held a financial education workshop for children and adolescents. For the children, Monica's Gang comics were used as a resource, which taught the importance of money in everyday life in a playful way through money and drawings.

Fiber Women: practices of self-care and coping with psychological violence – with 27 participants, it was developed on 01/25 and 01/26/2023, Rondonistas held a conversation circle that included the theme of self-care and the appreciation of women in society current situation, in addition to exemplifying situations that configure the various forms of violence (physical, emotional, patrimonial, sexual and moral) against women. The workshop also carried out dynamic activities, such as the distribution of folders with homemade recipes (with natural products) for practicing self-care (masks for skin, hair and lips). The women reproduced the recipes and tested the products during the workshop.

Thinking about the future: possibilities within the university – with 77 participants, it happened on 01/25; On 01/27 and 01/30/2023, Rondoners held a workshop focused on secondary education, which sought, with a brief presentation of what the university is, to encourage discussion about higher education and possibilities within the university, including programs of financial assistance during graduation and areas of activity.

Food safety in food processing – with 5 participants, it was held on 01/25 and 02/01/2023, Rondonistas together with school lunch ladies discussed safety in the kitchen, full appreciation of food, such as the use of cabbage stalks in rice, beans and stem pie. There was also a discussion about the school menu and the students' food.

Domestic worm composting – with 74 participants, it was held on 01/25 and 02/02/2023, the Rondonistas taught how to compost through a slide show at first, then a demonstration of how to assemble a compost, and there was also a game demonstrating what can be used, what cannot be used and what can be used moderately in the compost bin.

Food security for the elderly – with 3 participants, it was held on 01/26/2023, the Rondonistas, through a conversation circle, discussed Non-Transmissible Chronic Diseases (NCDs); feeding tips; the most used foods. In the end, the participating ladies even learned how to make herbal salt as an alternative option for seasoning.

Sustainable soap and financial education - with 15 participants, it was carried out on 01/26 and 02/01/2023, Rondonistas taught the community how to make homemade soap using used oil and also helped with the pricing of the undertaking.

Medicinal plants – with 6 participants, it was held on 01/26/2023, a conversation wheel was held with the presentation of a folder with the main medicinal plants of the Cerrado, mint tea, lemongrass was also distributed.

Yoga and meditation – with 11 participants, held on 01/26/2023, the Yoga and Meditation workshop aimed to make participants aware of the importance of conscious breathing and mindfulness. Some basic yoga and stretching exercises were given. Then, a Rondonista led a guided meditation for relaxation, and, at the end, everyone participated in a closing dynamic with balloons and words of affirmation.

Biodigestor: local possibilities - with 26 participants, it was held on 01/27 and 01/30/2023, the rondoners presented a model with recyclable waste and information about what the biodigester is and how it works. The model used was the Chinese model, and verbally presented the Indian model and covered pond, a conversation wheel and presentation of the model's operation was also carried out.

Technologies: IT and management tools – with 7 participants, it was held on 01/27/2023, the rondoners sought to train and guide municipal employees and teachers who use IT tools in the use of computers and management tools.

Producer's Fair - Held on 01/28/2023, the rondoners visited the producer's fair held in the municipality of Alto Paraíso de Goiás - GO, where they had the opportunity to meet local producers and products, typical foods and craft products. They also had the opportunity to talk to the local population, publicize the project and answer questions.

Food and nutrition education – with 71 participants, held on 01/30; 01/31; 02/01 and 02/02/2023, the rondoners sought to address food processing in the workshop, followed by games for fixation. In some classes, a hopscotch was made to fix and observe if there was learning of the subject. For other classes, in addition to the class, there was a discussion about

the doubts presented, and the children chose to play hangman and guess the drawing, all related to the subject.

Aquaponics – with 46 participants, held on 01/30; 01/02; 02/02/2023 the rondoners together with the students had the opportunity to assemble a system composed of boxes, pipes, pumps and expanded clay. Students also analyzed water quality to identify critical points of change in ammonia, nitrite, hardness, pH and dissolved oxygen parameters.

Photography – with 50 participants, it was held on 01/30 and 02/02/2023, the rondoners shared basic principles of photography, such as lighting, photo composition, editing and techniques. A practical dynamic was also carried out where the students were divided into groups and had the objective of photographing people, landscapes, objects or animals in the surroundings.

Self-directed violence and suffering in adolescence – with 71 participants, it was carried out on 01/25; 01/27; 01/30; 02/01 and 02/02/2023, the rondoners sought to accommodate the demand of students and teachers about suffering in adolescence and self-directed violence, the workshops took place in the form of a conversation circle.



Figura 4: “Toy Workshop with recyclable material”



Figura 5: "Women of Fiber" Workshop - CRAS



Figura 6: Training workshop for teachers "Prevention Workshop and Combating child sexual abuse



Figura 7: "Yoga and Meditation" - CRAS (Alto Paraíso/GO)



Figura 8: Comic financial education workshop - CRAS (Alto Paraíso/GO)

FINAL CONSIDERATIONS

Although the initiative for the project belongs to the Federal Government, it is evident that the university plays a fundamental role, almost a protagonist, as, more than applying its technical knowledge, and putting it at the service of a distant community, acting proactively, creating opportunities, integrating agents, weaving networks, in short, acting as a social entrepreneur through teaching-research-extension.

The Rondon Project, with the political will and determination of a group of public agents linked to the Federal Government, provides public and private HEIs with contact with the problems and deficiencies found in the country.

During their participation in Lobo-Guará Operation, the Rondonistas from UFGD experienced a unique experience, in which, despite having maintained the unity and affection of the team throughout the process, each member reported having gone through their own personal transformations. At the end of the operation, everyone ended up with a new understanding of citizenship, solidarity and companionship.



Figura 09: Rondon Project: UFGD and UNIFENAS team in São Jorge



Figura 10: Closing Ceremony - Rondon Project "Lobo Guará Operation"

To the team, we want to express our gratitude for having had the opportunity to work in the operation in the municipality of Alto Paraíso de Goiás and in the adjacent communities. These places really are rich in natural beauty, and the people we meet there are truly inspiring and admirable.

The valuable lessons we learned about sustainability and generosity with local communities are invaluable. Learning from the sustainable practices of the local people and their generosity in sharing their knowledge and culture with us was an enriching experience.

We believe that these lessons and experiences will positively impact us in our future projects and work. Raising awareness of the importance of sustainability and valuing generosity in our actions is something that we will carry with us forever.

It is wonderful to know that the workshops were successfully held in Alto Paraíso de Goiás and in nearby communities! The participation of local residents and the region is essential for the success of these activities, as they are the true experts of the culture and needs of the region.

The toy workshop with recyclable materials is an incredible initiative, as in addition to promoting creativity and fun, it also contributes to environmental awareness and sustainability. By teaching people how to create toys with recyclable materials, you are encouraging the reuse of resources, reducing your environmental impact and promoting a more sustainable culture.

This exchange of knowledge between Rondonistas and local residents is an enriching experience for both parties. It is a mutual learning opportunity, where Rondoners can share their knowledge and experiences, and local residents can contribute their local wisdom and cultural knowledge.

These actions have a positive impact on the local community and on raising awareness of the importance of sustainability. May UFGD continue with this valuable and inspiring work in future Rondonist operations and in other opportunities to contribute to a more sustainable world.

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