



PRESS RELEASE

SOL Group continues its sustainability journey in the social area, too: the new training project in Mozambique.

In July 2023, "Schooling for a better world" the training project promoted by the SOL Group for the students of the "Istituto Superiore Don Bosco" (ISDB) in Maputo, Mozambique, was concluded.

SOL Group confirms and renews its commitment to sustainability and, in particular, to social sustainability. In fact, the "Schooling for a better world" initiative stood out among the winners of the "Little Big Innovations" campaign, a project launched in 2021 by SOL among its more than 5,750 employees in 30 countries around the world, with the aim of sharing ideas and initiatives for the integration and/or development of the Group's activities according to the principles of sustainability.

One of the award-winning projects, "Schooling for a better world," saw the Group put its experience gained in the safe use and management of gases in welding at the service of the Don Bosco University Center, directed by **Father Giuseppe Meloni**. The SOL Group's Training Team, made up of experienced employees, held a specialized training course for 10 selected Mozambican students and 5 trainers, covering various topics such as safety procedures in gas management (especially oxygen and acetylene), welding techniques (coated electrode, MIG/MAG and TIG) and materials and gases used in the welding process.

The first training module of the course, which was theory-based, was held remotely thanks to the 5 computers donated by the Group to the facility. This was followed by the practical module, for which the Training Team went to Maputo. Here, the lessons focused on the more technical and concrete aspects of welding, thanks to the work done by the Group's trainers in the virtual practice lab, equipped with "welding practice simulators," and at the 15 real welding stations in the School. In addition to welding tools (masks, gloves, etc.), the Group also donated a MIG MAG inverter welder, precisely to facilitate this learning process in the field.

At the end of the training, the students who participated in the course and successfully passed the final test received a certificate attesting to their participation in the course, a highly coveted qualification in the local labor market, which is increasingly looking for skilled workers.

Lastly, for two deserving students of the School, the SOL Group committed to fully fund two scholarships for a university master's degree in "Environmental Education and Sustainability."

Father Giuseppe Meloni, Director of the Don Bosco University Center, said, "We are excited about this project with SOL Group, which, in addition to expanding and perfecting the skills of 5 trainers, professors of ISDB, has prepared 10 young people, among our best students, to enter the world of work with a better background. The fact that we have trained ISDB trainers produces a "concentric wave" effect: during the theoretical and practical lessons they will be able to transfer the skills gained in this training course to dozens and dozens of students. Some of the students turned out to be particularly proactive during the training, and the ISDB itself, also considering the directions of the SOL Group training team, is planning an ad hoc training course that would lead them to join the senior trainers as assistants and at the beginning of an academic career.

The presence among us of the SOL Group training team has brought great enthusiasm as well as concretely reinforced the equipment of our mechanics workshop. Our hope is to have SOL



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Group alongside us again on this path that sees ISBD next to young people, especially from the most disadvantaged social stratum, to build with them and for them a better future."

Thus, through this initiative, dedicated and concrete training was offered to the students of the Mozambique institute, enabling them to acquire knowledge and skills at the service of the local community, generating a long-term virtuous circle in line with the SOL Group's corporate values.

SOL is an Italian multinational Group, that operates in Europe, in Turkey, in Morocco, in Brazil, in China, India, Ecuador, Peru and China, in two different prevalent sectors: that one of the productions, applied research and sale of technical gases, pure and medicinal (Technical Gases Division) and in that one of the Home Medical Care (Home Care Division), with more than €1,379 million € of sales, and more than 5,750 employees.

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