



ACTIVITIES REPORT • 2023



I. OPENING

In celebration of Brazil's bicentennial in 2022, the World Bank Group proposed that we, as a society, reconsider what we would like to celebrate when the country reached 220 years in 2042.

The invitation for this reflection came from the observation that a range of opportunities for reforms had been opened following the last presidential elections of 2022, with the potential to shape the country's development in the coming decades, focusing on education, sustainability, and inclusion for the next 20 years.

In this context, the study “The Future Brazil: Towards Productivity, Inclusion, and Sustainability” presents an overview of the implementation of actions that can boost national development measures, by stimulating an inclusive public debate, drawing a panorama of future alternative scenarios from the process of re-democratization at the end of the 1980s; through the processes of economic liberalism experienced in the 1990s – with the privatization of a series of public concessions and the establishment of the Real Plan –; from the economic cycles marked by commodity prices in the 2000s; in the social progress achieved between 2001 and 2013, with the promotion of a more dynamic economy based on formal employment, a decrease in wage inequality, programs to protect social rights and environmental preservation; and in the two recessions that recently hit the country, the first linked to the end of the commodity boom and another related to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Considering the political polarization that permeates the country's social scenario since 2013, at levels never observed since re-democratization, the report also addresses that public confidence indicators are at very low levels compared to global standards, and that the terms of the social contract governing Brazilian society would be under pressure, that is, at a time when it is not known what and how much citizens are willing to contribute, and what exactly they expect in return from their rulers and the individuals with whom they share social spaces, which automatically leaves little room for reforms, given the discredit of institutions.

Understanding that addressing these issues involves facing the challenges of the future while consolidating past achievements, the report points out that Brazil should focus on tackling key issues for its development, such as inefficient taxation, poor governance of resources, and serious educational failures, with a focus on improvements to be made for the poorest, in order to promote both economic growth and access to more dignified jobs.

In recent years, the reliability of electronic voting machines and the institutions of the Judiciary and Legislature have been permanent targets of discredit campaigns, with the peak of this movement being reached with the invasion and depredation of the Palácio do Planalto, the National Congress, and the Supreme Federal Court on January 8, 2023, by thousands of radical supporters of former President Jair Bolsonaro (PL), signaling dissatisfaction with the outcome of the 2022 presidential elections.

Moments like this are paramount for us to ask ourselves about the Brazil we seek to build, with the strengthening of civic education, political awareness, institutions, increased popular participation, and society's trust levels towards the State.

To this end, the Escola Comum has worked to politically educate young people from the interiors and peripheries of Brazil, based on the pillars of democratization of knowledge; strengthening of democratic culture, and political empowerment.

Given these considerations, the Escola Comum presents its Activity Report for the year 2023, demonstrating its contributions to Brazilian society, its results, and its ambitions.





II. WHAT HAVE WE ACCOMPLISHED?

Through our methodology, we aim to convey values that stimulate a sense of community, social responsibility, and leadership, so that every young person attending the course, both in-person and remotely, is capable of thinking collectively with a global perspective on local, national, and international problems.

We want to contribute to the strengthening of a democratic Brazil, where Brazilians take pride in their potential, understanding the challenges for sustainable development and overcoming our deeply rooted injustices.

With 5 (five) years of operation and a dedicated and committed team of volunteers and mobilizers, the institution has been achieving significant results, always guided by our mission, vision, and values.

THE INNOVATIVE PARTNERSHIP WITH AVENUES SÃO PAULO IN 2023

In 2023, Escola Comum reached a significant milestone by being selected to participate in the prestigious Avenues São Paulo fellowship program. This initiative, known for its excellence in promoting the integration and development of NGO and association leaderships in our region, opened pathways for us to expand our impact and operational capacity. We engaged in activities that facilitated the formation of strategic partnerships and promoted enriching learning based on shared experiences. As a result of this partnership, we are now designing an innovative project focused on the education of high-income young people. This program has a dual objective: first, to promote democratic culture among young people who will, in the future, take on significant responsibilities in family businesses and will have a crucial influence in addressing inequalities in Brazil; second, this initiative represents an opportunity for Escola Comum to become a self-sustainable organization. This step represents not just progress in our educational mission but also reinforces the value of collaboration and knowledge exchange for social development.



RENEWAL OF THE PARTNERSHIP WITH THE MUNICIPAL SECRETARIAT OF HUMAN RIGHTS OF THE CITY OF SÃO PAULO.

For the second time, we have successfully renewed our partnership with the Municipal Secretariat of Human Rights of the São Paulo City Hall, reaffirming our commitment to the education of young people from São Paulo. This collaboration has been essential to expand and enrich our traditional training program, which is dedicated to developing critical skills and promoting social awareness among the youth. This renewal is a testament to the positive impact of our union, allowing us to continue offering meaningful educational opportunities that prepare young people to actively contribute to a fairer and more democratic society.

THE SCHOOL WAS CHOSEN BY THE CMDCA (MUNICIPAL COUNCIL FOR CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS) TO RECEIVE FUNDS FROM THE FUMCAD (MUNICIPAL FUND FOR CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS) FOR A HUMAN RIGHTS PROJECT

A significant milestone for Escola Comum in 2023 was our selection by the Municipal Fund for the Rights of Children and Adolescents (FUMCAD) of the São Paulo City Hall, an achievement that reflects the recognition of the value of our work and confidence in our potential for social impact. We were granted financial support of R\$587,082.40 for the implementation of an ambitious human rights education project in public schools in the city of São Paulo over two years, which will allow the execution of the strategic axis of raising awareness about the importance of the democratic state of law along with young people who may potentially go through our 8-month training program.

In addition to this direct contribution, the project is strengthened by an additional fundraising letter in the amount of R\$459,245.78, intended to be raised from companies. This initiative not only directly benefits the young people served but also offers companies a valuable opportunity to contribute to social transformation, taking advantage of tax benefits.

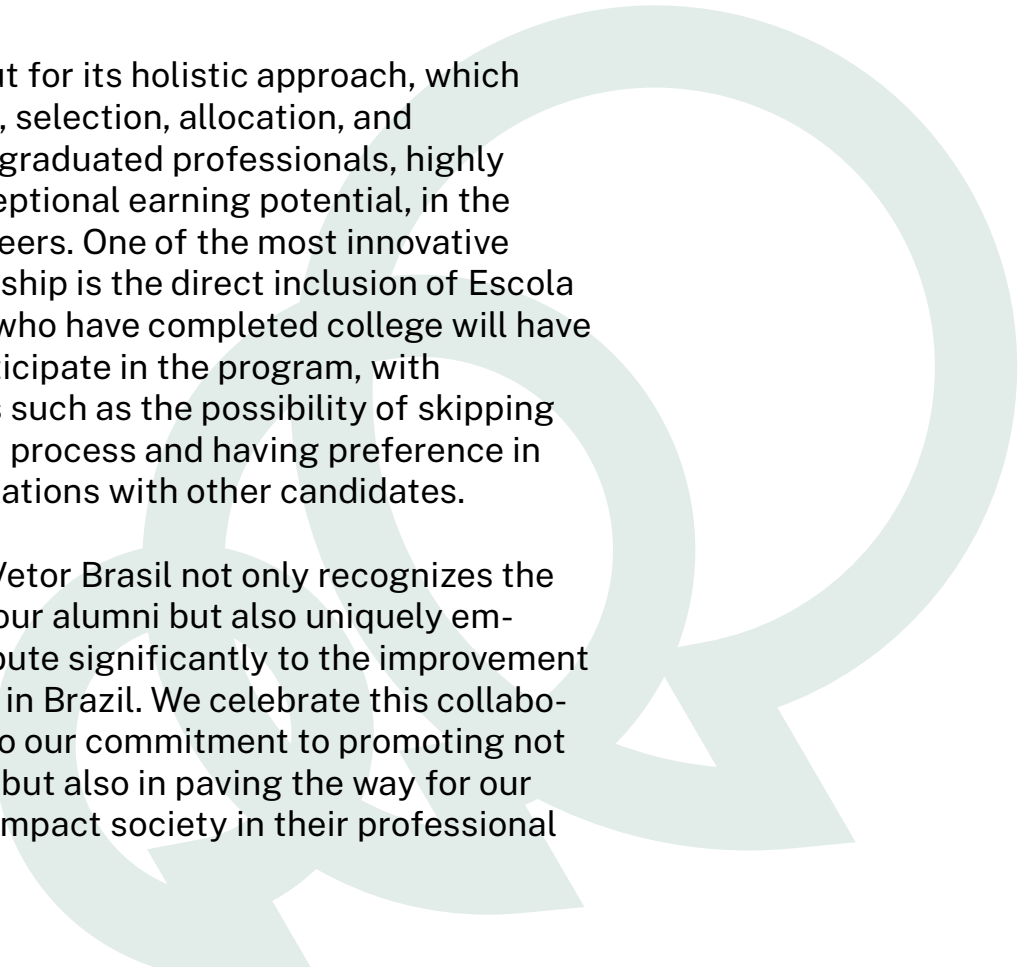
This achievement is not just a testament to the quality and importance of our work; it also opens new doors to expand our reach and deepen our impact in the communities we serve. We are excited about the possibilities that this funding brings to Escola Comum and the promotion of human rights among the youth of São Paulo, marking a significant step in our journey towards a fairer and more inclusive society.

STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP WITH VETOR BRASIL

In 2023, Escola Comum took a significant step through a strategic partnership with Vetor Brasil. This collaboration with the Public Management Trainee Program, an initiative designed to enhance the effectiveness of government projects by injecting innovative and competent talents into work teams.

The program stands out for its holistic approach, which includes the attraction, selection, allocation, and development of newly graduated professionals, highly qualified and with exceptional earning potential, in the early years of their careers. One of the most innovative aspects of this partnership is the direct inclusion of Escola Comum alumni: those who have completed college will have the opportunity to participate in the program, with significant advantages such as the possibility of skipping stages of the selection process and having preference in the selection in tie situations with other candidates.

This partnership with Vetor Brasil not only recognizes the value and potential of our alumni but also uniquely empowers them to contribute significantly to the improvement of public management in Brazil. We celebrate this collaboration as a testament to our commitment to promoting not only quality education but also in paving the way for our students to positively impact society in their professional careers.



PARTNERSHIP WITH TIDE SETUBAL FOUNDATION

2023 was a landmark year for Escola Comum, especially due to our new partnership with the Tide Setubal Foundation. With a generous contribution of R\$50,000.00, this collaboration enabled the payment of part of our pedagogical coordinator's salary, significantly strengthening our operational structure and our ability to offer quality education.

In return, we committed to making four slots available in our program at the Galpão, located in the São Miguel Paulista neighborhood, East Zone, for young people served by the foundation's programs. This initiative aligns perfectly with our mission of inclusion and social impact, allowing us to reach a segment of the young population that greatly benefits from educational and professional development opportunities.

The results exceeded expectations: the four young people nominated by the Tide Setubal Foundation not only completed the training but did so with distinction, demonstrating the transformative potential of well-structured partnerships between organizations committed to social advancement. Motivated by the success of this initial collaboration, we are pleased to announce that for 2024, the partnership was not only renewed but also expanded, reflecting the mutual trust and shared desire to continue making a significant difference in the lives of young people in São Paulo.

ALUMNUS BRINGS TO LIFE THE DEMOCRACY INITIATION PROGRAM (PROID).

In 2023, Felipe Brigunte, a visionary student from Escola Comum originally from Rosário da Limeira – MG, brought to life the Democracy Initiation Program (PROID). This pioneering initiative, conceived during his educational journey with us, aims to enrich fifth-grade elementary students with a practical and engaging understanding of democratic principles. PROID emerged from Felipe's perceptive analysis of the challenges faced by educators in effectively integrating democratic education into the school curriculum.



From an early age, Felipe's political restlessness drove him to question the absence of structured political education for young students. Inspired by his experience at Escola Comum, which nurtured his curiosity and understanding of the value of democracy, Felipe envisioned PROID as an essential tool to fill this educational gap, ensuring that elementary students receive a solid foundation in political knowledge and a deep respect for democracy before advancing in their academic journey.

The project was meticulously designed to meet children's intrinsic curiosity about political issues, offering an educational program that dynamically combines theory and practice. PROID participants are encouraged to explore the political universe through interactive activities, such as forming fictitious parties and simulating elections, promoting immersive learning about some aspects of how democracy works.

Felipe Brigunte and PROID symbolize Escola Comum's aspiration to inspire its students to become transformative agents. The primary goal of the program is to shape a generation of democracy advocates, ready to contribute to a more informed, participatory, and fair society.

Starting in 2024, PROID will be officially incorporated into our project portfolio, reflecting our ambitions to expand it and achieve an even greater impact. This step represents our ongoing commitment to offering education that transcends the traditional curriculum, preparing our students for future challenges and opportunities in a democratic society.



WE HOSTED MINISTERS MARINA SILVA AND SIMONE TEBET IN OUR COURSE IN 2023

In one of the most emblematic moments of 2023, Escola Comum had the honor of hosting Marina Silva and Simone Tebet, two of the most influential political figures in Brazil, in our course. This event not only enriched our students' educational experience but also served as a testament to the recognition and importance of our work in citizen education and democracy education.

The presence of the ministers at our institution provided a unique opportunity for our students and faculty to directly interact with leaders who have extensive experience in public management and a deep commitment to environmental issues and governance. The discussions covered crucial themes such as sustainability, public policies, democracy, and the role of youth in social transformation, offering valuable insights and inspiring our students to become more actively involved in building a fairer and more sustainable future.



The involvement of Marina Silva and Simone Tebet in our course reinforces the relevance of open dialogue and political engagement as essential tools for education. This experience highlighted the importance of bringing real perspectives and contemporary challenges into the educational environment, encouraging a deeper understanding of democratic processes and civic responsibilities.

We celebrate the participation of these distinguished leaders as one of the highlights of the year, reaffirming our commitment to providing an education that prepares our students not just academically, but also as conscious and active citizens, capable of making a significant contribution to society.



WE WERE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE GLOBAL SOLUTIONS SUMMIT IN BERLIN

One of the highlights of 2023 for Escola Comum was the invitation to participate in the prestigious Global Solutions Summit in Berlin, a notable recognition of our innovative contribution to education and social development. This international forum brings together thought leaders, policymakers, academics, and civil society representatives from around the world to discuss and propose solutions to the most pressing global challenges.

Escola Comum's presence at this significant event not only elevated our status on the international education stage but also provided an extraordinary platform to share our experiences, learnings, and successes with a global audience. It was a unique opportunity to exchange ideas with experts from various fields, absorbing new perspectives that will enrich our curriculum and pedagogical approaches.

Furthermore, our participation in the Global Solutions Summit allowed us to establish valuable connections with organizations and individuals aligned with our goals, opening doors to future collaborations and international partnerships. This engagement with the global community reaffirms our commitment to not only educate young people to be conscious and responsible citizens but also to actively contribute to the construction of sustainable and inclusive solutions for the world's challenges.

Representing Escola Comum and, by extension, Brazilian education at the Global Solutions Summit was an honor and a milestone in our journey. We are excited about the possibilities this experience opens for the future, inspired to continue our work with even more determination and hope of positively impacting society on a global scale.



WE WERE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE FORUM 2000 IN PRAGUE

In an unprecedented recognition of our dedication to education and civic engagement, Escola Comum was honored with an invitation to participate in the renowned Forum 2000 in Prague. This event, founded by the former Czech president Václav Havel, is dedicated to fostering dialogue on issues of peace, democracy, and human rights, bringing together global leaders, intellectuals, activists, and policymakers to discuss and seek solutions to the most pressing contemporary challenges.

NATIONAL NETWORK FOR POLITICAL EDUCATION

In 2023, we participated in the second meeting of the National Network for Political Education, founded by one of our former collaborators, João Tavares. The event gathered more than 250 organizations and social entities from all over Brazil that have been dedicated to strengthening this agenda for years. We had the opportunity to share our classroom experience and plan strategic actions with other organizations to reinforce a discussion environment about the importance of civic education for democracies around the world.



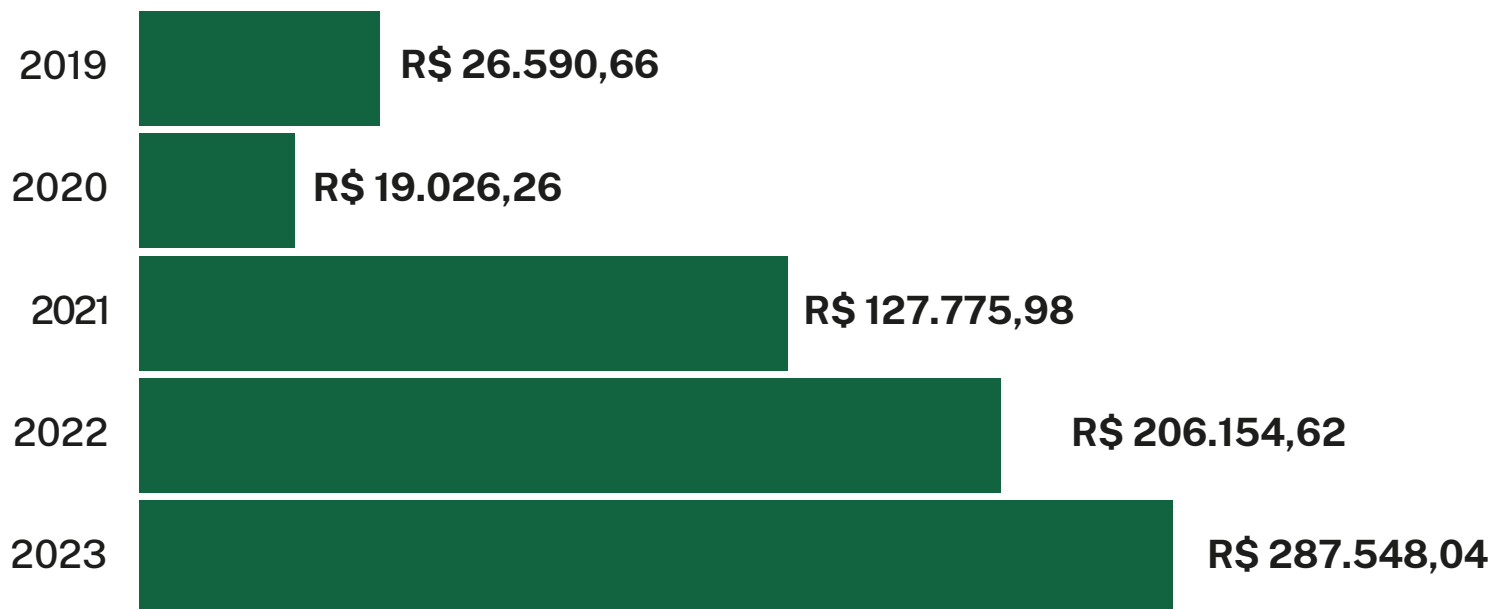
WE CONCLUDED THE COURSE WITH A LOW DROPOUT RATE AMONG THE CLASSES.

We started the course with 61 students and finished with 49. Out of the eleven people who dropped out, ten belonged to the online class. This discrepancy in the dropout rate is attributed to structural issues, such as limited access to quality internet, or urgent financial needs that led them to seek employment to help support their families. It is important to highlight that students in the in-person class enjoy a more suitable structure, which generally contributes to their staying in the course.

Our goal is to increase the resources raised to offer more equitable conditions to students in the online modality. We understand that providing better internet access conditions and financial support can help mitigate dropout rates and allow these students to also succeed in their studies. We strongly believe in equal educational opportunities and are committed to working to ensure that all our students have the best possible conditions to learn and thrive.



INCREASE IN AMOUNTS RAISED FOR THE PROJECT



TOTAL RAISED: R\$ 667.095,56

The graph above illustrates the fundraising for the project's maintenance over the years from 2019 to 2023. There is a trend of gradual growth throughout the period, with some years showing a more pronounced increase than others.

Since 2018, we have dedicated significant efforts to build and strengthen the credibility of the project. This investment in trust and transparency has played a key role in the steady increase of financial resources raised over the years.

In 2019, the fundraising was approximately 26,590.66 monetary units, followed by a drop in 2020, when it reached about 19,026.26 units. However, from 2021 there was a significant change, with fundraising surpassing 100,000 units for the first time, reaching approximately 127,775.98 units. This remarkable growth continued in the following years, with fundraising amounts increasing to approximately 206,154.62 units in 2022 and peaking at about 287,548.04 units in 2023.

This growth pattern reflects not just the success of the fundraising strategies adopted over the years but also the ongoing trust and support of the community towards the project. This increasing fundraising is crucial for ensuring the continuity and development of the project, allowing us to expand our programs and achieve a greater impact in the community.

GRADUATION OF STUDENTS WITH THE PRESENCE OF PARENTS.

2023 marked a historic moment for Escola Comum with the holding of our first graduation. This significant event not only celebrated the completion of our students' educational journey but also represented a milestone in the institution's trajectory, as we had not held a graduation ceremony in previous years.

The presence of the graduates' parents and family members added a deep emotional layer to the celebration, highlighting the support and love that have been fundamental to our students' success. The ceremony was a moment of joy, pride, and reflection, allowing the school community to come together to recognize the students' achievements and thank everyone who contributed to their education.

This milestone in the history of Escola Comum not only honors the efforts and accomplishments of our students but also reaffirms our commitment to quality education and the positive impact we seek to generate in society. The first graduation symbolizes the beginning of many more to come, each celebrating the unlimited potential of our students to shape the future.



III. CONCLUSION

As an institution, we work to ensure an education that encourages our young people to take responsibility and leadership in building a fairer and more democratic country, regardless of the professional careers they choose.

The intention is for students to leave the School aware of the importance and role they can and should assume for this desired future, not only on an individual level but also collectively, with an impact on their community and the country.

Indeed, Escola Comum utilizes robust content applied with excellence in methodologies, also seeking to create personal and professional connections among students, encouraging them to undertake joint tasks during the training process.

The mission of Escola Comum is to empower young people to think collectively, guided by civic education and the values that drive the search for a fairer and more humane Brazil, such as plural thinking, anti-racism, inclusivity, and decoloniality, with democratization of access to knowledge, resulting in the formation of a generation of new leaders aware of Brazil's potentials, and always sensitive to the social issues affecting the daily life of our society.

