

## UPF-Portugal Trains Character Education Teachers

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**Lisbon, Portugal**—UPF-Portugal concluded a three-month training program for prospective character education teachers in Lusophone countries.

Participants joined the online program, "Educating Character for Peace," not only from Portugal but also from Portuguese-speaking countries such as Angola, Mozambique, São Tomé and Príncipe, and Guinea-Bissau (being also in cooperation with Brazil).

The training program was held from February 4 to April 29, 2023, with an online session held every Saturday.

The program's 12 sessions were divided into three modules:

**TEMA: A FAMÍLIA COMO SUPORTE PARA O SUCESSO ESCOLAR**

**Formanda: Marcia Muchanga Posso**

**OBJECTIVO:**

- Trazer para a sociedade uma reflexão sobre a relação família escola comunidade que é de extrema importância para que o desenvolvimento da criança ocorra e o seu desempenho seja satisfatório.

**PUBLICO ALVO:** Pais, Encarregados de educação e Jovens.

**TECNICAS PEDAGOGICAS:** Método expositivo, com interactividade.

A Zoom meeting grid showing participants: Jerónimo Vieira, Portugal; Ana Paula BRITO; Marcia Posso, Moçambique; and a logo with the letter 'C' on a red background.

### Module I: Foundations of Character Education

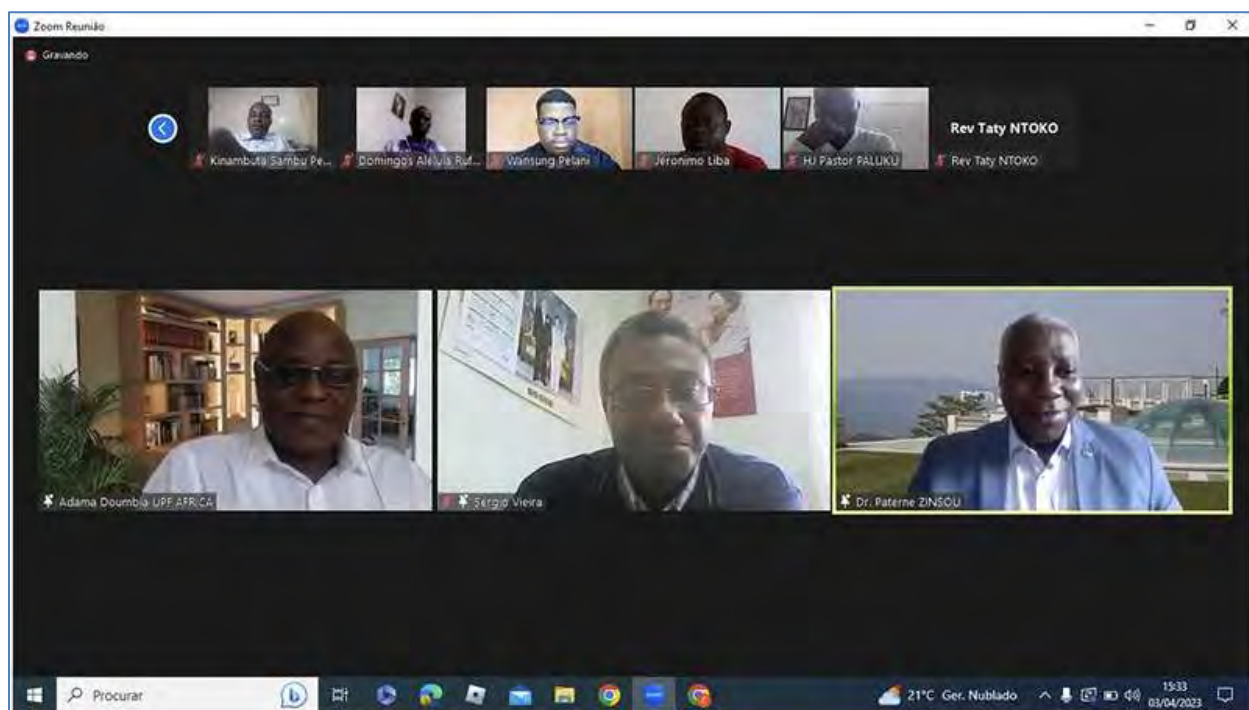
The Need to Educate for Character  
Cultivating a Culture of Peace through Service  
Life Goals and the Partnership between Home, School, and Community  
Causes and Resolution of Conflicts

## Module II: The Family as a School of Love

Family, the School of Love  
The Universal Dimension of Family  
Healthy Marriages  
Preparing Youth for Marriage

## Module III: Challenges of Youth

Ethics of Love and Sexuality  
Consequences of the Sexual Revolution  
Drug and Addiction Prevention  
Understanding HIV/AIDS



The four trainers from UPF-Portugal—**Sérgio Vieira**, **Paula Berto**, **Carla Vieira**, and **Paulo Nunes**—meticulously prepared each presentation, including session plans with goals and objectives.

On average, 40 to 50 participants attended the weekly sessions. The trainees from Portugal included Ambassadors for Peace and partners from associations and educational institutions.

Trainees from Angola, Mozambique, São Tomé and Príncipe, and Guinea-Bissau included leaders and members of UPF and affiliated organizations—Youth and Students for Peace, Family Federation for World Peace and Unification, and Women’s Federation for World Peace.

On April 3, 2023, UPF-Portugal organized an online meeting between the key UPF leaders from Lusophone countries and **Dr. Adama Doumbia** and **Dr. Paterne Zinzou**, the UPF-Africa regional president and vice president, respectively. The purpose of the meeting was to report on achievements, convey opinions about international cooperation, and discuss possibilities for broader collaboration of Portugal with African nations, such as joint events and International Leadership Conferences.

Following the completion of the training program in April, a new phase began in May. Active and dedicated trainees utilized the topics covered to deliver mini-sessions of 15 minutes, maintaining the essence of the content while showcasing their creativity in applying the character education within their societies. Trainees from Portugal, Mozambique, and São Tomé and Príncipe already have given five very good presentations, and some others from Angola and Brazil also are scheduled.

Several months of dedicated work in this area have led to the creation of sufficient educational and curricular materials to start in the field. The current focus is on incorporating dynamic and practical activities, appropriate to the target audience that can awaken greater enthusiasm in students.

By the end of 2023, we intend to have substantial material ready to present in any school, association, or institution—some of which already have expressed interest in these topics.