

INTERNATIONAL PROJECT OF SUPPORT AND DEVELOPMENT OF
FEMALE RUGBY
ARGENTINA

ANNUAL REPORT
2022 – 2023

STRATEGIC PARTNERS

FuturED AND PRINCESS CHARLENE OF MONACO FOUNDATION

INTRODUCTION:

In November 2022, FuturED and the Princess Charlene of Monaco Foundation signed an agreement a three-years project for the promotion and development of female rugby in Argentina. The project also has the double nature to support the education and career development of the players.

The project supports the development of three female rugby teams, plus volunteer coaches and technical support. Directly the project impact in eighty girls and young women, while indirectly impact over more than 300 girls from children and juvenile categories and their families.

The project was designed in alignment for the fulfilment of the following United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals listed on the Agenda 2030, with special attention to SDG 3 "Good Health and Well-Being", SDG 4 "Quality Education", SDG 5 "Gender Equality", and SDG 17 "Partnership for the Goals".

The name in how the project is know in Spanish language is "**Programa Internacional de Apoyo y Desarrollo del Rugby Femenino**" ("International Project of Support and Development of Female Rugby," in English)

METHODOLOGY:

FuturED and the Princess Charlene of Monaco Foundation has agreed that the best methodologic path to ensure the implementation and development of the project was through that series of **seven (7) phases, starting in March 2023 until March 2026.**

PHASE 0 | NOVEMBER 2022 TO MARCH 2023 | After the signature project agreement, FuturED, during the southern hemisphere summer, initiated all the internal preparations to align the resources and contacts needed for the deployment of this project.

PHASE 1 | MARCH TO JULY 2023 | Identification of the Clubs in each province and settling of the agreements.

PHASE 2 | JULY TO DECEMBER 2023 | Recruitment of the Players. Introductory Training. Academic profiling of the players.

PHASE 3 | JANUARY TO JUNE 2024 | Consolidation of the Teams. Training. Academic support of the players in various areas including mental health, personal development and first aid. Career development coaching.

PHASE 4 | JULY TO DECEMBER 2024 | Consolidation of the Teams - Part 2. Training and the first matches. Academic support of the players in various areas including team building methodologies, strategic thinking, and conflict resolutions. Career development coaching.

PHASE 5 | JANUARY TO JUNE 2025 | Recruitment of Players. Training and matches. Incorporating the teams to local leagues and tournaments. Development of a five-years development strategic plan for each one of the teams.

PHASE 6 | JULY TO DECEMBER 2025 | Training and matches. Second round of local leagues and tournaments. During this period, we also aim to develop the necessary strategic partnerships and agreements that could

make sustainable the further development of the teams as a part of their next five-years strategic plan. Each team needs to become institutionally sustainable.

PHASE 7 | JANUARY TO MARCH 2026 | Celebration preparations. At this stage we could consider the organisation of a mini-tournament between the three teams. Final evaluations of the project.

For the purpose of this first Annual Report 2022-2023 we will evaluating the PHASE 1 and PHASE 2.

ACHIEVED MILESTONES:

PHASE 1 | MARCH TO JULY 2023 | Identification of the Clubs in each province and settling of the agreements.

Originally FuturED considered the implementation and development of in three key regions: Province of Buenos Aires, Province of Santa Fe, and Provinces of Córdoba/Mendoza. However, during the identification of the clubs for the development of this project, we found in some institutions a clear resistance in allowing the development of female rugby teams. Far from discouraging our intentions, these initial responses confirmed the need to work even harder towards to achieve our mission.

THE THREE TEAMS RECRUITED:

Finally, we succeeded, and signed MOUs with the following three institutions:

SANTA FE PROVINCE: **CHA ROGA RUGBY CLUB**
(Memorandum of Understanding Signed on 3 March 2023)

CORDOBA PROVINCE: **TABORIN RUBY CLUB**
(Memorandum of Understanding Signed on 15 March 2023)

MENDOZA PROVINCE: **PUMAI RUGBY CLUB**
(Memorandum of Understanding Signed on 20 April 2023)

COMMUNICATION AND VISUAL IDENTITY:

The enthusiasm and good predisposition of the three recruited clubs it was, since the first institutional contacts, remarkable. This allowed us to move a step forward, and to develop the identity of the project, defining a logo and setting up a website to promote the development of the project.



To read more about the clubs, their activities, and participation on the project, please visit:

<https://rugbyfemenino.org/>

Prior launch of the website, we have submitted all the draft information to the Princess Charlene Foundation for approval.

EVALUATION PHASE 1: Our evaluation of this phase it was positive. We managed to achieve the targets and develop a very solid communication with all the teams participating in the project.

PHASE 2 | JULY TO DECEMBER 2023 | Recruitment of the Players. Introductory Training. Academic profiling of the players.

RECRUITMENT OF THE PLAYERS:

During this phase, the clubs informed us about the recruitment of sixty-two (62) female players participating in the project: thirteen players from Cha Roga (Santa Fe), 22 from Pumai (Mendoza), and 27 from Taborin (Taborin).

In terms of social representation, the recruitment was easier around the clubs with network with better socio economical situations. Nevertheless, the project has generated interest in the local communities, which gave visibility to female rugby and will eventually be beneficial for the long-term development of the clubs.

Taking a reference, the impact of the World Rugby Cup in France, in 2023, the local press has positively covered the project. On the following link, it is possible to access to the articles published on the Argentine media: <https://rugbyfemenino.org/index.php/prensa/>

ACADEMIC PROFILING OF THE PLAYERS:

According to our statistics, approximately 43,6% of the female players participating in the project are currently students finishing secondary education, 40% are students or tertiary and professional education (including 14.5 % recent graduates), and 16,1 % are house views or unemployed with temporary work.

It is remarkable to observe that 22,6 % of the players currently studying are focus on medicine or physical education.

We attach to this report a detailed comprehensive report about the profiling of the players.

INTRODUCTORY TRAINING:

As a part of the support academic program included on the project, FuturED has provided one hundred annual scholarships – equivalent to 30,000 USD - for all the players to receive professional trainings. Among the subjects that the players could learn, are the following subjects:

- Conflict Resolution
- Strategic Planning
- Nutrition
- Mental Health

Also, with the institutional endorsement of the Foundation Princess Charlene of Monaco, FuturED produced a series of specific Masterclasses aligned with the UN SDG 3 “Good Health and Well-Being” and SDG 5 “Quality Education” on the following subjects:

- Gender Inequalities in Sport
- History of Gender in Sports
- Women's Rugby
- Gender and Sports. Theoretical Precisions.

The academic design of these academic Masterclasses was in charge of two FuturED instructors, Prof. Mailén Regaldo, and Dr Sandra Bembo, both specialists in gender and sports from Rosario, Argentina.

Also, in agreement with the Foundation, FuturED also issued a free access code for the general public to access to these Masterclasses and training material through the FuturED's platform: www.futured.org.uk

CUP FUTURED AND PRINCESS CHARLENE OF MONACO FOUNDATION:

During December 2023, the first FuturED and Foundation Princess Charlene of Monaco women's rugby tournament was held at Taborin Rugby Club, in the centre of Argentina, more precisely in the Province of Córdoba.

The games took place at Taborín Rugby Club, at km 18 of the Cordoba capital city.

The event was proposed and organised by the three teams participating in the projects, and invited two more clubs to join them> The Círculo de Tenis de Montevideo Rugby Femenino (Uruguay) and the Rugbyfem Kickoff Red Mundial Kickoff de Rugby Femenino also participated.

The tournament was subdivided into "Juveniles and Pre-Juveniles" and "Plantel Superior". The competition took place in front of a large crowd and on a sunny day, which was ideal for the whole event.

It is worth noting that the three clubs involved in the development programme have completed their first year and the results have been positive, both on the sporting front and in terms of the social impact of the young players who have decided to join the squads during the 2023 season.

Each institution played officially in their respective local tournaments in Santa Fe (Santa Fe Rugby Union), Mendoza (Cuyo Rugby Union) and Córdoba (Córdoba Rugby Union) with the support of FuturED and the Princess Charlene of Monaco Foundation.

From the sporting point of view, the 1st Championship produced the following results:

Juvenile and Pre-Juvenile:

- Taborin 0 vs. Pumai 15
- Taborin 12 vs. Pumai 10
- Taborin 24 vs. Pumai 5

Senior Staff:

- Taborin 15 vs. Pumai 5
- Taborin 12 vs. Circulo de Tenis de Montevideo 22
- Taborin 32 vs. Cha Roga 0
- Taborin 34 vs. Rugbyfem Kickoff 0

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- Cha Roga 17 vs. Rugbyfem Kickoff 7
 - Cha Roga 15 vs. Pumai 5
 - Cha Roga 0 vs. Taborin 29
 - Cha Roga 7 vs. Circulo de Tenis de Montevideo 29

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- Círculo de Tenis de Montevideo 29 vs. Rugbyfem Kickoff 5
 - Círculo de Tenis de Montevideo 22 vs. Taborin 12
 - Círculo de Tenis de Montevideo 28 vs. Pumai 0
 - Círculo de Tenis de Montevideo 29 vs. Cha Roga 7 (FINAL)

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- Pumai 5 vs. Taborin 15
 - Pumai 5 vs. Rugbyfem Kickoff 22
 - Taborin 34 vs. Rugbyfem Kickoff 0

The final positions were:

1. Círculo de Tenis de Montevideo
2. Taborin
3. Cha Roga
4. Rugbyfem Kickoff
5. Pumai

FINANCES OF THE PROJECT:

In 2023, the inflation of the country raised from 80% interannual to 140% interannual by the end of the year with Argentine presidential election taking over for media attention.

As agreed, the Princess Charlene of Monaco Foundation contributed with 2,500 EURO and FuturED contributed with other 2,500 EUR for the development of the project.

Despite the economic situation in the country, and the difficulties to bring funds to Argentina, we managed to cover all the costs which included, but it was not limited to the rugby t-shirts for the season, socks, shorts, and winter jackets. As much as we were able, we tried to accommodate the requests of all the teams.

Also, FuturED has made an extraordinary contribution to provide 100 annual scholarships – equivalent to 30,000 USD - for all the players to receive professional trainings.

FURTHER INICIATIVES RELATED TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE PROJECT:

In September 2023, FuturED announced that organisation of the annual International Charity Gala “Education for Sustainability” (www.globaledgala.org). The event will be held next Friday 5 April 2024 at the Caledonian Club, in Belgravia, London. The event is organised in partnership with the Princess Charlene of Monaco Foundation.

It was agreed that part of the funds collected with the gala will be allocated to the project.

This will certainly contribute to palliate the inflationary consequences of developing a project in Argentina.

As per January 2024, we have received confirmation of the following guests attending to the gala in representation of the following institutions:

- Baroness Hooper, Member of the House of Lords, and Patron of FuturED.
- Lord Mountevans, 4th Baron Mountevans, Member of the House of Lords, Former Mayor of London, and Honorary President of Canning House.
- Ms Kerri Mansfield JC, Master of the Worshipful Company of Information Technologists.
- Mr Javier Alvarez, Chair of the British Argentine Chamber of Commerce.
- Mr Phillippe Sauvage, Director of the Belgium-Luxembourg Chamber of Commerce.
- Ms Susana Ecclestone, CEO of Harrington Blue & Partners.

COORDINATING TEAM:

Co-Financing: Princess Charlene of Monaco Foundation

Secretary General: Mr Gareth Wittstock

General Manager: Mr Pascal Granero

Project Manager: Mr Xavier Aschimbault

Co-Financing and Implementation: FuturED

CEO - Managing Director: Mr Juan F. Dávila y Verdin (contact in Monaco)

Executive Director: Mr Gonzalo Pereyra de Olazabal (contact in Argentina)

Project Manager: Mr Tirso Pereyra de Olazabal

Website Development: Ms Pamela Restituto

Institutional Support and PR: Mr Diego Vergara

Education Instructors: Prof Mailén Regaldo, Dr Sandra Bembo.

Liaison with Cha Roga Rugby Club: Mr Miguel Angel Carughi (President of the Club) / Valeria Devoto (Coach)

Liaison with Taborín Rugby Club: Mr Roberto Viviani (President of the Club)

Liaison with Pumai Rugby Club: Mr Adrián Becerra (President of the Club)