

Rotary District 9685 International Seminar 21 September 2014

As Rotarians in Australia there has never been a better time to undertake International Service.

The following summary notes are provided in support of the seminar topics presented by G Davies on "The Rotary Foundation" and "RAWCS and TRF".

The Rotary Foundation

Available Funds for projects

Can you name your Club's Foundation Mentor (Coordinator)?

When it comes to International Service s/he will be your very best friend.

In 1917, Rotary International President Arch C. Klumph proposed an endowment "for the purpose of doing good in the world." His vision became The Rotary Foundation. When you give to The Rotary Foundation, you support Rotary's work across the world and help ensure our future. The Rotary Foundation is helping Rotary members take action to improve lives locally and globally. 2013-14 marked the global implementation of a new grants model of funding projects (previously known as Future Vision). Under District Foundation Chairman, District 9685 achieved record levels of giving as well as record levels of club involvement and grant approvals. TRF is Rotary's Charity and each Rotarian across the District is encouraged to make a donation to the Foundation every year (EREY).

Clubs can make application for either a District Grant or a Global Grant in support of their project(s).

[District grants](#) fund smaller, short-term activities that address needs in your community and communities worldwide. Each Rotary district gets to choose which projects it will fund with these grants. You can use district grants to fund a variety of district and club [projects and activities](#), including:

- Humanitarian projects, including service travel and disaster recovery efforts
- Scholarships for any level, length of time, location, or area of study
- Vocational training teams, which are groups of professionals who travel abroad either to teach local professionals about a particular field or to learn more about their own

[Global grants](#) support large international activities that have sustainable, measurable outcomes in one or more of our areas of focus. Rotarians create their own projects and carry them out. We accept and review applications as they arrive. Grant sponsors form international partnerships that respond to real community needs. Global grants can fund these [activities](#):

- Humanitarian projects that address one or more of the six areas of focus
- Scholarships for graduate-level academic studies
- Vocational training teams, which are groups of professionals who travel abroad either to teach local professionals about a particular field or to learn more about their own

A key feature of global grants is **partnership**, between the district or club where the activity is carried out and a district or club in another country. Both sponsors must be [qualified](#) before they can submit an application. To be successful, your application must:

- Be sustainable and include plans for long-term success after the global grant funds have been spent
- Include measurable goals
- Align with one of our areas of focus
- Respond to real community needs
- Actively involve Rotarians and community members
- Meet the eligibility requirements in the grants [terms and conditions](#)

[Applications](#) are accepted throughout the year and reviewed as they are received. The minimum budget for a global grant activity is \$30,000. The Foundation's World Fund provides a minimum of \$15,000 and maximum of \$200,000. Clubs and districts contribute District Designated Funds (DDF) and/or cash contributions that the World Fund matches. DDF is matched at 100% and cash is matched at 50%.

Excellent resources can be obtained from the Rotary International District 9685 websites, the District 9685 Club Foundation Chair Manual 2014/15 and the Club's Foundation Mentor.

Apart from funding aspects, TRF should be regarded as **ensuring quality and accountability** in undertaking International projects

RAWCS and Rotary Foundation

Does RAWCS compete for funds with the Foundation?

How can the Foundation and RAWCS work together?

It is not helpful to regard Rotary Australia World Community Service (RAWCS) and The Rotary Foundation (TRF) as competing entities. They should be regarded as two **fundamental, potential partners in any International Service Project** a club may wish to undertake. Remember as stated above your TRF District Zone Coordinator (Mentor) is your *very best friend* who can offer guidance and support for **your** project.

Both entities have implemented significant change in recent years to enable them to respond to Club needs whilst requiring best practice principles are embedded in all projects they support. TRF and RAWCS have differences in requirements and certain restrictions in eligibility of projects. Club International Committees need to fully conversant with these differences. On the other hand both entities either allow and/or require partnership with other clubs, Districts and non-Rotary organisations and individuals to enhance projects.

But a successful International Service project is built on a number of partnerships appropriate to the project. The wonderful thing is both **fundamental partners** (TRF and RAWCS) welcome and accommodate all project partners. If, for example, one of your partners contributes funds, TRF will recognise this amount in the total club contribution to a Global Grant project thus earning an additional 50% of the amount towards the project.

The notes that follow are the outcome of input by participants in exploring **project partnerships** at the D9685 International Service Seminar held on 21 September 2014.

An easy example of how TRF and RAWCS can work together.

PDG Keith Roffey has responsibility for a wonderful RAWCS project, Donations in Kind (DIK). This project is undergoing change to strengthen its operation and effectiveness. Whilst it can provide much needed resources to developing countries and provides a wealth of knowledge and expertise in delivery of goods, one aspect often overlooked by Rotarians is the cost of transporting goods in shipping containers. A TRF District Grant could be used to maximise club funds for this purpose.

Ensure your Club is fully engaged.

Very often an International Service project is the outcome of the passion of an individual Rotarian. A key theme of the 2014 D9685 International Service Seminar is the need to share and engage others. A simple way to do this is to have a project committee or at the very least regularly report to the club and Board.

Partnering with other Clubs and Districts

Applications for Global Grants require this anyway. Not only does it help with financing the project but can draw upon Rotarians' expertise especially in vocational education. Contact PP Angelo Raveane (Crows Nest) for details how this worked in China and Timor Leste.

It doesn't always have to be a Rotary Club. Lane Cove reported an situation in Indonesia where another service club was able to provide the assistance that was needed.

Partnerships to enhance project quality

TRF and RAWCS ensure all projects will incorporate fundamentals of sustainability, social inclusion practices, local community consultation and involvement, accountability, training, monitoring, ongoing maintenance, review and evaluation. There are a number of Rotary Action Groups and Rotary Fellowships that can also assist. WASRAG (Water and Sanitation Rotary Action Group) is an excellent example that should be consulted in every project involving the provision of clean water, sanitation and hygiene.

If your project involves community development and self-sustaining solutions to hunger, malnutrition and food security, contact with “Food Plant Solutions Rotarian Action Group” should be mandatory.

Providing Tax Deductibility

Both Rotarian and non-Rotarian benefactors appreciate any tax benefit they may receive. Your TRF Zone Coordinator or in the case of RAWCS, PP Theo Glockemann can advise what each of the entities they represent can do. But some clubs that have DGR Trust Status can also provide tax deductibility. The Rotary Club of Chatswood used their own Trust Fund to maximise fundraising for their Thai Education Project. Contact PP Peter Kindred (Chatswood) for details. There are two types of Trust Fund status and not all can provide the funds directly to a project. Again check with the contacts above to find a suitable pathway. What can you do if your club does not have a DGR Trust Fund? Simply partner with one that does.

Partners to expand the scope of the project and the volunteer base

The Rotary Club of Winston Hills Vanuatu Schools project is an excellent example of how this can work. The Club partners with the Catholic University, TAFE and other Clubs to provide a project that refurbishes and build schools, provide training and development for teacher and installs solar powered computers in schools. Contact Joan and John van den Burg (Winston Hills) for more information.

Open Heart International cover the cost of accommodation and meals for doctors participating in the Rotary Club of Norwest Sunrise’s medical project in Bolivia. The Sydney Bolivian community gives financial support. Contact PP Daisy Montano for details.

The Hills-Kellyville Jaffna Eye Hospital Global Grant project was greatly enhanced by partnering with the Australian Medical Aid Foundation. Contact Harran Ramachandran (Vinegar Hill) for details.

Providing expertise by partnering with government agencies and other non-Rotary Foundations

Lucy Hobgood-Brown (Hunters Hill) described support from the diplomatic community for a project in Congo. She urged all to BE BRAVE TO REACH OUT TO OTHERS FOR HELP not matter what level of government may be involved.

Various Embassies in many countries often have grants available to support targeted projects. Contact Theo Glockemann for details.

Getting goods and materials to the right place, on time, within budget

John Leslie (Mosman) stressed the importance of using Rotary networks and other NGO contacts to assist with taking delivery of goods as well as monitor project. Indeed where ever possible materials should be sourced within the country (good for local business) rather than take goods.

Danni Foggaty (Rotaract) described how for a project in Laos they were able to seek assistance from an ex-Rotarian living in the country.

Partnering with culturally based communities in Sydney

We live in multi-cultural Sydney which means there is potentially strong partnership with the local community in Sydney. For example the Sydney based Sri Lankan community has been a strong supporter of the Jaffna Eye

Hospital project. These contacts are vital not only for the work we do internationally but also in engaging with our local communities, increasing diversity, providing contacts in the project country and perhaps increasing membership across clubs in D9685.

Graeme Davies