



Founded on 6 June 1930 | Proud of our Heritage, Committed to our Future
Lifetime Achievement Award Winner for 'Best Bulletin in District 3310'



18 September 2024 | Volume 61 | Issue No. 10

Rotary CROSSROADS

by Rotary Club of Singapore



PAGES

01

The 9th Weekly Meeting

05

VSC Chair Rtn Denis Hew

06

Oktoberfest

07

CRFC Column

The 9th Weekly Meeting

ROTARY TOASTS

By PP Tapan Rao

TO

Rotary Club of Delhi South & Rotary International



VISITING ROTARIAN



PP Pradeep Bahri from RC Delhi South



Quebeley Lee from RC Island Green, Hong Kong



PP Pradeep Bahri from RC Delhi South



Hans Sivano from RC Surabaya Jembatan Merah



Kiomeo Somemuya from RC Kojimachi, Japan

WELCOME OF GUEST

By Rtn Pia Bruce



Chairman, Singapore Environment Council

Ms Isabella Huang-Loh

Sustainability and Green Legislations and Incentives

Why sustainability matters and how enterprises can integrate it into their businesses? Ms. Isabella Huang-Loh will talk about the importance of sustainability, its impact on our environment and the measures we have to take to secure a green future.



Director Linda Lin:

Our distinguished guest speaker at the Club's dinner meeting on 11th September was Ms Isabella Huang-Loh, Chairman of the Singapore Environment Council ("SEC").

Ms Isabella is a pioneer in environmental sustainability and has been leading the Singapore Environment Council since 2008. With over 40 years of experience across global industries, Ms Isabella has been a thought leader in waste management and sustainability, implementing green initiatives that are setting new standards.

Ms Isabella spoke about the importance of sustainability, its impact on our environment and the measures we have to take to ensure a green future.

In today's modern world, with production and consumption growing at breakneck speed, industries around the world are producing at top speed to meet the insatiable demands of the world. This has inadvertently resulted in a high degree of wastage, carbon emission and a whole lot of other negative impacts on the environment.

The impact on the environment has been manifested in many ways and countries around the world are trying to institute sustainability measures to rein in the impact on the ecosystem, albeit in a very silo and uncoordinated way. Here at home, the Singapore Environment Council performs this exact role and it sets out to help local companies integrate sustainability measures into their businesses.

The task of converting the mindset of 380,000 companies is an uphill one as such measures do not increase revenue but adds on to the cost of doing business. Notwithstanding this, SEC perseveres on through a plan that incorporates training, legislation, incentives and awards aimed at helping these companies transform successfully.

In Singapore, 7.39 million tonnes of solid waste is generated every year. This works out to 0.91 kg of waste per person every day. The waste is expected to grow by 70% in the next 30 years, doubling that of the population growth. Only 12% of the waste is recyclable and the key contributing factor to such wastage is affluence.

Singapore is frequently referred to as having the highest per capita energy consumption in Asia. This is not truly reflective as the bulk of the energy consumption is concentrated in Jurong Island. The temperature in Jurong Island is 1 degree hotter than the main island. This is attributed to the centralized energy source providing high energy supply to all the chemical plants in the island resulting in a very high carbon footprint for Singapore as a whole. SEC is helping the chemicals industry in Jurong Island to explore different ways of reducing the energy consumption through nature-based solutions, solar systems, etc to reach Net Zero by 2050.



SEC is accredited by the United Nations Environmental Protection (“UNEP”) body. The accreditation was given after SEC went through the highest standards of audit and monitoring in order to qualify. With the accreditation, all activities and products that pass through SEC will be recognized by the United Nations. SEC, being the only accredited organisation in Singapore, sets the framework for companies to follow and this is aligned with the 4 strategies developed by UNEP:

1) GREEN CERTIFICATION

The certification helps companies obtain green labelling in a proper way and avoid pitfalls such as greenwashing (misleading or false information about the environmental impact of a company’s products and operations). SEC is part of the global eco-labelling network representing 60 countries coming together to ensure that products meet the green standards of production, ie produced through sustainable methods. The labelling also gives the products “green passport” or straight-through passage across member countries.

2) GREEN SEEDS OF INNOVATION

This encourages companies to innovate to achieve zero carbon emission. Ms Isabella shared a few case studies and highlighted the case of British Sugar where the company converted waste materials into 12 revenue streams and achieved Zero waste. SEC hopes that local companies can similarly innovate and convert waste into use.

3) THE GREENEST LINK – DIGITALISATION, AI, BLOCKCHAIN

This encourages companies to use digitalization and technology to optimise their production and achieve sustainability.

4) GREEN GOES COLLABORATIVE (3PS)

Public-Private Partnership is the collaborative effort between the public and private sectors to consolidate resources to reach carbon targets and goals. A recent project was carried out in Singapore where SEC collaborated with the North West CDC to help households in the area switch to energy-efficient LED lighting.

Legislation is carried out through Food Waste, E-Waste and Packaging Waste to become a Zero Waste nation.

In addition, SEC also gives out awards to companies who have progressed towards sustainability.

All the effort by SEC and UNEP will become futile and just an checkbox exercise if there is no mindset change. What is critical is for every individual (not just companies and nations) to make a conscious effort to embrace sustainability and work towards achieving a green future.

We are thankful to Ms Isabella for sharing such great insights on the work of SEC and its efforts in helping companies in Singapore achieve a sustainable future. We look forward to a collaboration between SEC and the Rotary Club of Singapore.

VOTE OF THANKS

By Rtn Allard Nooy



VSC Chair Rtn Denis Hew

The Second VSC meeting was held on 12 September 2024 at the Hard Rock Café. VSC Chair Denis Hew provided project updates, including on EYA, Artisan of the Year Award and vocational visits. There was a guest speaker, Mr Charles Tan, Senior Director of The Majority Trust (TMT). Charles talked about TMT's work as a philanthropic organization and discussed possible areas of collaboration. There were also some visitors from RC Sompura, Bangalore, India (RID 3192).

There was no VSC meeting in August. Only a core team meeting on 3 August that discussed implementation of VSC's work plan for RY 2024-2025.





Oktoberfest



On 12th September, our Rotarians gathered at the Swiss Club at 7:00 PM to partake in the vibrant celebrations of Oktoberfest. The evening was filled with camaraderie, as we enjoyed traditional Bavarian beer, authentic German cuisine, and immersed ourselves in the rich cultural traditions of Bavaria. It was a delightful experience, fostering fellowship and creating lasting memories in the true spirit of Oktoberfest.

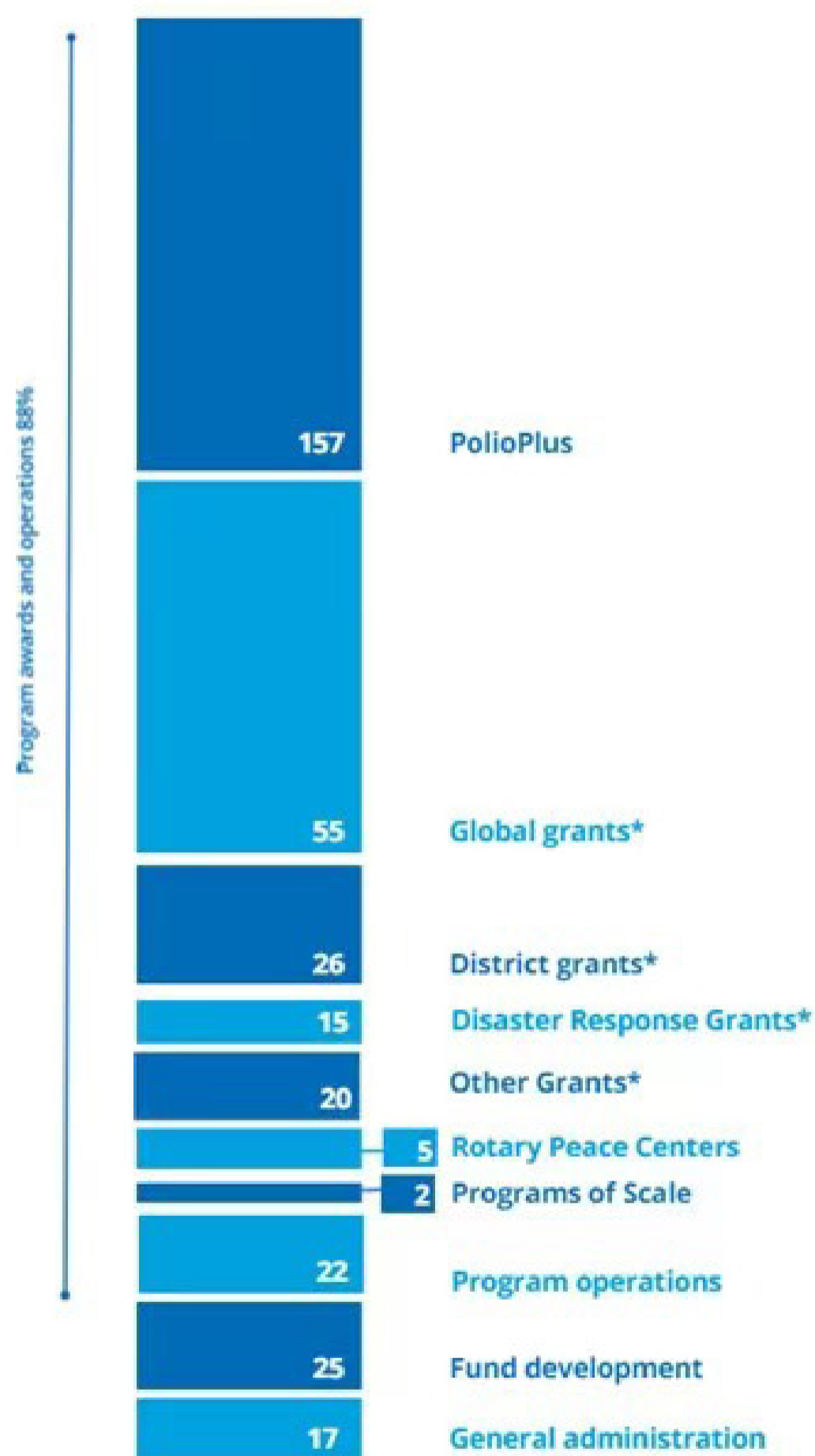


CRFC Column

UNDERSTAND THE SCALE OF THE ROTARY FOUNDATION



The Rotary Foundation Expenditures: \$344 million



The Rotary Foundation (TRF) is structured as a public charity dedicated exclusively to charitable purposes, with governance provided by a Board of Trustees. Rotary International, the member organization associated with TRF, is overseen by its Board of Directors. Both organizations are headquartered in Evanston, Illinois, USA.

TRF operates globally with associate foundations in Australia, Brazil, Canada, Germany, India, Japan, Korea, and the United Kingdom.

As of June 2023, TRF held net assets of \$1.33 billion, with revenue for the year totaling \$427 million, including \$58 million from net investment returns. In the same period, TRF awarded \$278.8 million in program funds, with 88% of its total expenditures dedicated to program awards and operations.

The continued success of Rotary’s global programs relies on generous contributions to TRF, ensuring that vital initiatives can grow and thrive, making a lasting impact worldwide.

Sonali Sinha
President-Elect



The Four-Way Test

Of the things we think, say or do:

01. Is it the **TRUTH**?
02. Is it **FAIR** to all concerned?
03. Will it build **GOODWILL** and **BETTER FRIENDSHIPS**?
04. Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to all concerned?

The Guide to Daily Living

Before doing the things we want to do, consider first, the Precepts of the guide. Ask ourselves these 4 questions and act upon them:

1. Have I spent some time in self-examination?
2. Have I spent quality time with my family?
3. Have I given my best to my work?
4. Have I given some time to someone near and far?

The Guide, in fact, encompasses the 4 parts of the Object of Rotary.

Board of Directors 24/25

President	Tom Wolf
Immediate Past President	Dr Chan Siew Luen
President Elect	Sonali Sinha
Vice President	Jens Rübberth
Vice President	Inderjit Singh Tulsi
Hon. Treasurer (Finance)	Ankit Khandelwal
Hon. Secretary (Administration)	Pauline Teo
Director - International Service	Navaneeth Rajkumar
Director - Community Service	Perumal Rajkumar
Director - Vocational Service	Denis Hew
Director - Youth Service	Chng Weilong
Director - The Rotary Foundation	Keizo Fujitake
Director - Major Project	Subhash Pritmani
Director - Membership	Ronald Wong
Director - Public Image & PR	Linda Lin
Director - Meetings/Events	Ong Ting Yong
Chair of CRFC (Global grants)	Tapan Rao
Chair of EYA (Entrepreneur of the Year Award)	Stanley Low
Chair of Standing Committee - Speaker	Gabriele Rettig
Director - Technology Group Selection	Colin Miles
Director - Environment Group	Suresh Hathiramani
Sergeant-at-Arms	Sarah Tabea
Sergeant-at-Arms	Jeff Lim

CORRESPONDENTS / CONTENT CREATORS

Rotary Crossroad | Volumn 61 | Issue No.06

Rotary Crossroad | Volumn 61 | Issue No.07

Rotary Crossroad | Volumn 61 | Issue No.08

Rotary Crossroad | Volumn 61 | Issue No.09

Rotary Crossroad | Volumn 61 | Issue No.10

Director Colin Miles

PP Stan Low

Prospect Deepu Joseph

Director Suresh Hathiramani

Rtn Yogesh Dodani

Director Linda Lin

SUPPORTED BY

TWO Creative Media Team
(Singapore/Guangzhou) on a Pro-bono basis

CHAIR / INTERIM CHAIR

Director Ong Ting Yong

