

ROTARY DISTRICT 5470

International Service News

D-5470 International Service Newsletter #15

March 2019



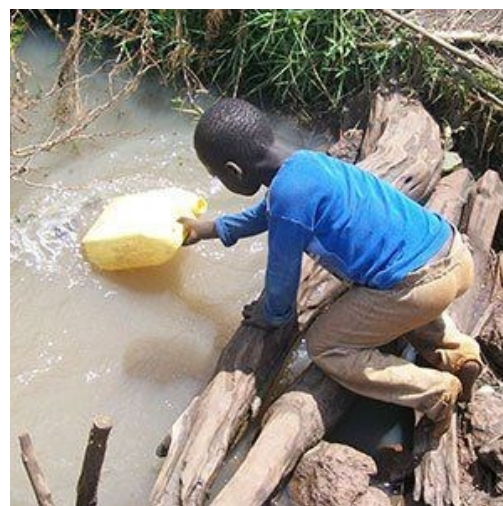
The Rotary District 5470 International Service Committee educates and nurtures Rotarians and clubs working in the six Areas of Focus.

- ◊ It connects clubs
- ◊ It builds relationships
- ◊ It educates, assists, and may help finance clubs' international project development and fulfillment efforts.

It also inspires Rotarians like you who chose to visit international projects and see first-hand how to *Be the Inspiration*

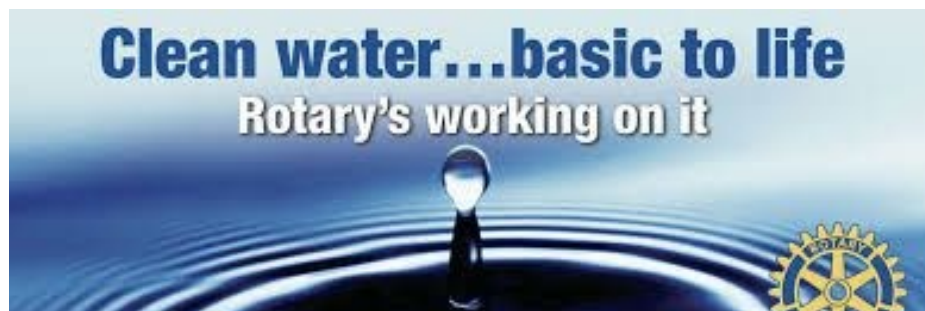
In the previous newsletter we primarily provided information about global grants involving clubs in our district. In this newsletter, we'll show some more of our many global grants as well as upcoming projects

Share your club's international projects and interest with District International Service Chair [Peter Jeschofnig](#) who will share with District clubs.



"It always seems impossible until it's done."

— Nelson Mandela



In This Issue

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Ecuador Drinking Water Projects Update - GG #1875083

By Heather Drissel, P.E. & Scott Perry - RC of North Colorado Springs

Background

The Rotary Club of North Colorado Springs has teamed with the Rotary Club of Riobamba, Ecuador District 4400 on a project to provide safe drinking water to two indigenous communities in Ecuador. The communities of Shilpala and Pumayacu are drinking untreated surface water that may contain pathogens and viruses. Laboratory results indicated the presence of bacteria in the water. The project will provide upgrades to water sources and the addition of treatment plants to remove pathogens and disinfect the water.



Safe Drinking Water

Providing clean water is one of the six areas of focus of Rotary to build international relationships, improve lives and to create a better world to support our peace efforts. Contaminated water and poor sanitation are linked to transmission of diseases such as cholera, diarrhea, dysentery, hepatitis A, typhoid and polio. Children are particularly at risk from water borne diseases and access to safe drinking water can result in better health and more positive outcomes.

Water Sanitation and Hygiene

WASH projects are where Rotary clubs can make long term sustainable impact in a community. The water project in Shilpala will continuously provide 700 people with safe drinking water and the project in Pumayacu will serve 425 people.

Current Status: The Global Grant submittal is under review by The Rotary Foundation. The Rotary Club of Colorado Springs is closely coordinating with the project manager at the Rotary Club of Riobamba to provide additional information to address TRF grant application questions. Additional site visits by the Rotary Club of Riobamba are scheduled for March 2019 to finalize responses to TRF.

Ecuador Drinking Water Projects Update - GG #1875083 (cont)

By Heather Drissel, P.E. & Scott Perry - RC of North Colorado Springs



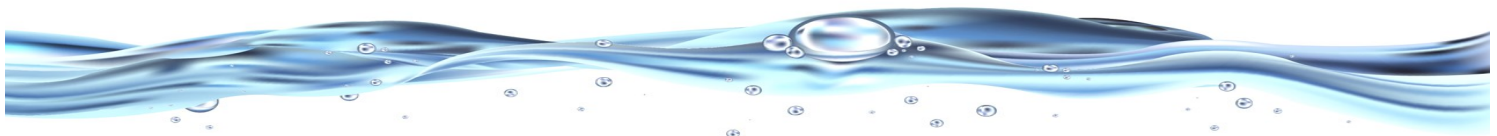
Community Outreach

Local participation and support is critical to a projects long-term success after the global grant is completed. The Rotary Club of Riobamba is working with the communities of Shilpala and Pumayacu to make sure the project meets the community's needs and builds on their existing infrastructure and strengths.

Measurable Outcomes

During site visits in 2017, baseline data for the community water quality was collected. A key part of the projects are measurable water quality indicators, such as the absence of bacteria in the water, to clearly measure the project benefit.

For additional information contact Heather Drissel
<drisselh@msn.com>



ASPEN ROTARY CLUB NEEDS PARTNERS ELIMINATE MALARIA IN THE COPPERBELT, ZAMBIA

By Bob Porter, Aspen RC

Aspen Rotary Club has teamed up with Rotarian Malaria Partners (RMP) to end malaria in the Copperbelt Province of Zambia, Africa.

Through the partnership with RMP, Aspen RC is applying for a malaria elimination global grant focusing on the Copperbelt where malaria prevalence is high and deaths occur frequently. Aspen RC is a lead international club as part of RMP's largest Global Grant program to date - eliminating malaria for 2.5 million people in the Copperbelt by 2021.

Why Fight Malaria? Each year malaria effects 3.5 billion people worldwide, causes 425,000 deaths, risks 24 million pregnancies and kills a child every two minutes.

Clubs in District 5470, we need your help! Malaria elimination isn't something one or two clubs can handle alone. Rotary International indicates "our clubs have a shared responsibility to take action on the world's most persistent issues."

Please partner with Aspen RC to eliminate malaria by:

- training Community Health Workers
- providing rapid diagnostic screening for malaria
- treating infected individuals with anti-malaria medications



Because they feel so strongly about malaria elimination and Rotary's leadership of this project, we have already received incredible support from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to match Rotary Club funds. Let's work together to change lives by ending the cycle of poverty caused by the chronic illness of malaria. And let's save the lives of children and pregnant women who have highest death rates from malaria.

Your Club's support will be matched by the Gates Foundation and multiplied by Rotary Grant funds so your generosity will be multiplied over and over. Your Club will receive regular updates on changed lives and your Club members are invited on the Copperbelt trip to experience Rotary International and your Club's support in action: Oct. 15- 23, 2019, Copperbelt, Luangwa.

Please watch our video: <https://vimeo.com/322978408>

Let's get started today!

Contact Bob Porter at: M: (779)-770-7770; Email: Robert.porter@telecareanywhere.com

World Peace and Understanding Luncheon

February 22, 2019

Hosted by Rotary Club of Colorado Springs

"There's nothing more powerful than a girl with a wish." Our slogan at Trampled Rose, Inc also, my own. My wish was to have my friends from all around the world get a chance to know and love each other. One night in an Ethiopian restaurant in Addis Ababa, my friend, Nicola Demme from Germany, decided to join our club's new International Special Task Force! As I turned the good news over in my mind as I got ready to sleep, my mind skipped to my next Rotary focus. Who would be the speaker for the World Peace and Understanding luncheon? Penny Kelly, Rotary Club of East Colorado Springs President, would be arriving in Ethiopia to visit me the very next day. As I drifted off to dreamland, I decided to put my mind to rest and ask for Penny's input when she arrived. **(written by Becky Kiser/Membership Chair Rotary Club of East Colorado Springs.)**

Arrived in Addis Ababa ready to join Becky Kiser in encouraging, loving and mentoring of Ethiopian school girls. Our schedule was full, but we left some quality time with Nicola, our German friend, now working and living in Ethiopia. As the conversation continued with Nicola talking about her interest in World Peace and Understanding, Becky and I looked at each other at the same time, wondering if Nicola could possibly be our speaker. Once again, our hearts leapt with another wish, could we possibly share this remarkable, accomplished woman with our world? **(written by Penny Kelly/President Rotary Club of East Colorado Springs)**



Nicola Demme and Alan Gregory, Pres. Colo Springs RC

"World peace starts with inner peace." (Dalai Lama). Penny, Becky, and Melanie all felt at inner peace as they smoothly drove to the Denver Airport to pick up our speaker, Nicola Demme. We peacefully parked the car and easily found Nicola waiting for us at the baggage claim. A dream that began in Ethiopia was becoming a reality in Colorado. We all couldn't believe the magic of being together. **(written by Melanie Estrada Rotary Member of East Colorado Springs International Special Task Force).**

"Together" was the byword given to me in coordinating all our efforts for the World Peace and Understanding Luncheon itself. Even as Becky, Penny, and Melanie were welcoming Nicola to Colorado Springs, I was reaching out to all of our area Rotary Clubs to make sure all Rotarians and guests felt welcomed and included at the luncheon. I knew that Nicola would wow the Rotarians with the work we can do in the world *together*. I knew that Becky would introduce her to all our brothers and sisters in Rotary and enfold them (and me) in her embrace as Rotarians *together*. It was my job to set the stage: By reaching out to Kathy Skiles with the Pikes Peak Rotary for the *In Memorium*, to Tom Tudor with the Rampart Range Rotary for the pledge and four-way test, and to Sally Sparhawk of the North Rotary Club for a slideshow celebrating all our collective efforts for our community and world over the last year, and to so many others. I remembered the words given at the last Rotary conference I attended: To go fast, go alone, but to go *far*, go *together*. All that was left was for Nicola to take center stage. **(written by Caryn Adams, President Elect of the Rotary Club of Colorado Springs)**

Center stage? Me? Not sure what I could contribute to World Peace and Understanding. That was my first reaction to being asked to speak. As I reflected on what had driven me the last fifteen years, I realized it was indeed contributing to a better world by working for development and equal opportunities for all. Wasn't that one aspect of World Peace and Understanding? I did indeed speak about how cobblestones have brought hope and practical, country changing help to Ethiopia. What I gained was encouragement and open welcoming arms from my new Rotary family. Thank you for the inspiration and mutual support. See you soon! **(written by Nicola Demme/International Member (Germany) of Rotary Club of East Colorado Springs International Task Force)**

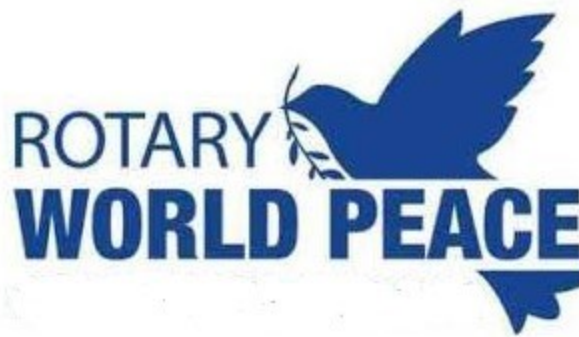
World Peace and Understanding Luncheon (cont.)

February 22, 2019

Hosted by Rotary Club of Colorado Springs

Note: Rotary club of East Colorado Springs is excited about the formation of our International Special Task Force that debuted in honor of the celebration in our city on February 22, 2019. Elena Gonzales wrote about her experience continuing the format of our club's International Writing Circle .

Soon after Becky arrived in Madrid, I started helping others instead of talking about it or thinking it should be somebody else's responsibility. Although I am usually shy, only one day after our meeting I was able to speak in front of hundreds of students. I stood up on stage without hesitation. I had always dreamed of doing something, but never acted. Rotary brought me a reason, a mission that moved me to go beyond my comfort zone and walk an extra mile. Discovering Rotary was like accessing a higher level. It's true, by helping others I became a much better version of myself. **(written by Elena Gonzalez/International Member (Spain) of the Rotary Club of East Colorado Springs Special Task Force)**



THE LEYENDO PROJECT IN PLAYA DEL CARMEN, MX

By Janet Lowe, Rotary Playa del Carmen Seaside

I have worked with public schools in Playa del Carmen, Mexico, which I have called home for 12 years, and heard that the school directors really desired a library for their students. The government gives each school a room for a library but no shelves and very few books so the rooms are often used for storage. Our project transforms these rooms with bright paint, shelving and books in both Spanish and English.



So far we have opened five libraries in primary and junior high schools – there are only 34 more that need them. I am currently recruiting university students who are studying to become teachers to act as librarians and plan activities for the children to get them interested in reading. These students have never experienced a library before and will fall on the floor with a book in front of them. My favorite photo is a Mayan boy absorbed in a book about polar bears. We aim to broaden the horizons of these young people through reading and so far we have been very successful.



Assistance has come from Rotary Playa del Carmen Seaside, as well as local private schools from which students have donated lightly used books. Also fundraising events such as art sales and music concerts have helped us purchase books.

My appeal to any D-5470 Rotary Club is for a grant to enable Leyendo to buy new books for future libraries. The cost is about \$2,000 USD to equip a single library.

For additional information contact: Janet Lowe
<jlowepots@gmail.com>

ELEPHANT ENERGY NEEDS PARTNERS

Solving energy problems in Namibia, SW Africa

By Zane Wagener, Elephant Energy



Imagine a life without electricity: no computer, or television, no way to charge your phone; no refrigerator to keep your food fresh, or stove to cook it on; not even lights for you to switch on after the sun sets. This is **Energy Poverty**. Globally, more than 1.2 billion people are living in energy poverty, and 200 million of these people live in southern Africa.

Elephant Energy was founded in 2008 by Doug Vilsack. While working in Namibia for the World Wildlife Fund, Doug noticed a severe gap in the energy access in Katima Mulilo, a small region in the North of the country. **Farmers needed lights to protect their fields from elephants who would destroy their crop at night.** He reached out to friends and family to raise funds for the first round of solar lights to be distributed in Namibia.

Over the last decade, Elephant Energy has worked tirelessly to make energy accessible to the most rural and impoverished communities. By participating in the development of paygo light systems and adapting the most up-to-date technologies, Elephant Energy is ensuring that customers are able to access bright, clean, reliable, affordable solar technology.

Elephant Energy is a non-profit organization whose mission it is to use the power of entrepreneurship to solve energy problems in rural Africa. Elephant Energy identifies, recruits, trains and supports individuals living in off grid communities to become energy entrepreneurs. These entrepreneurs are then able to sell affordable, small-scale solar lights throughout their community. This not only allows the entrepreneurs added income for household expenses, but allows our work to reach into communities that would not otherwise be accessible.

Elephant Energy also distributes safe, solar lights to schools throughout rural northern Namibia through the Light Library program. These lights provide learners with the light they need to perform their studies while sensitizing learners and their families to the benefits of alternative energy. In addition to the lights each school is provided lessons as part of an optional curriculum on energy, focused in particular on renewable energy. After schools have established their Light Library programs, they are eligible to become retail locations for lights, selling this vital resource to their community members and utilizing the profit to improve their school.

ELEPHANT ENERGY NEEDS PARTNERS (cont.)

Solving energy problems in Namibia, SW Africa

By Zane Wagener, Elephant Energy

Elephant Energy has worked with partners including the Peace Corps and World Teach to identify schools in the north eastern and central regions of Namibia that are in need of lighting resources and can act as reliable stewards of the libraries for years to come. Thus far, EE has distributed more than 800 lights allowing 6,500 learners access to light.

Today, the organization has spread to eight regions of Namibia and has adopted a **social enterprise model**, selling lights and generating income throughout the rural and low income communities in the North of the country. With this model, Elephant Energy is supporting small businesses that will ultimately get these lights into the hands of those that need them most.

Elephant Energy is in the process of establishing relationships with Rotary clubs in Namibia and Zambia with the hope to form a Rotary partnership for future global grants to expand the rural energy supply at a faster rate. When host country Rotary relationships have been formalized, Rotary clubs in D-5450 and 5470 will be needed as international project partners.



For additional information contact Zane Wagener
<zanewagener@elephantenergy.org>

Rotary Club of Grand Junction International Student Scholarship

By Rick Adleman, Rotary Club of Grand Junction

The Rotary Club of Grand Junction, Colorado (Club 1167, District 5470) is offering scholarships to students from outside the United States attending Colorado Mesa University (CMU) or Western Colorado Community College (WCCC).

Amount of Award:

- \$7,000 USD per year
- Please note: this scholarship can be combined with the international student merit scholarship, valued at \$8,000 USD per year, for high-achieving international students with a 3.0 U.S.-equivalent grade point average (GPA)
- Both scholarships are renewable for up to four years if eligibility is maintained.

Criteria:

- Student must be officially accepted and enroll in an Associate or Bachelor's degree program at CMU or WCCC located in Grand Junction, Colorado, USA;
- Student's first language cannot be English;
- Student must submit and meet the TOEFL or IELTS language proficiency exam;
- Student must be from a country other than the United States and acquire the appropriate student VISA to study in the US;
- Student must be personally sponsored;
- Student must be recommended by a Rotary Club in their country;
- Student must demonstrate past service to their community and explain how they will use their degree to serve their community.

About Colorado Mesa University:

Founded in 1925, Colorado Mesa University offers more than 70 baccalaureate and associate programs with numerous areas of concentration and emphasis, three master's degree programs and a doctoral program.

All programs include practical application of knowledge and skills as a key component of students' learning. These hands-on experiences may come through internships, fieldwork, student teaching or clinical practice.

In 2018 the estimated cost of tuition/fees, room/board, and personal/living expense range from \$39,000 to \$24,000.

How to Apply:

Applications must be requested by the Rotary Club who is recommending a student. The deadline for applications to be received by the Rotary Club is

March 1, 2019 for students wishing to attend the 2019-20 academic year. Contact Rick Adleman radleman@coloradomesa.edu with the Rotary Club of Grand Junction



D-5790 (N. Central Texas) Needs Volunteers

For Global Service Project in and around Antigua, Guatemala

June 23-26, 2019

We will be working on a number of different projects centered around strengthening schools, providing clean water and improved hygiene. We are looking for both skilled and unskilled volunteers. Skills need include: • Plumbing, electrical, tile, and/or carpentry • Painting – including murals and artwork • IT skills for computer lab • Medical / nursing needs • Spanish language (help w/ translation)



Projects will be focused on strengthening schools and improving the health of students and their families. Some of the projects we will be working on: • Replacing the roof on a school in an earthquake prone region • Repairing bathrooms in several schools • Installing new stoves with chimneys and other appliances in school kitchens • Assisting with hygiene health initiatives to improve hand washing and sanitary habits • Installing computer labs in schools for elementary kids, special needs children, and college age young adults

We will be staying in beautiful Antigua. The resort hotel has numerous amenities including spa services and great dining opportunities. After the projects are completed, you will have the opportunity to visit Mayan ruins in Tikal, hike local volcanos, or explore Guatemala on your own.

Est. cost: Approx. \$ 1,000/person + airfare



For Project Details: <http://bit.ly/gua-svc-2>

gua-svc-2

For more info, contact: guatemala5790@gmail.com

Botswana Vocational Training Team - Update

By Amy McBride - Botswana

Lauren Palumbo was Nonprofit Sustainability Specialist at the Nurse-Family Partnership National Service Office. In her current role at the Colorado Coalition for the Homeless, she led a shift in how the organization mobilizes resources, leading to intentional growth and higher quality programming.

Patricia Yeager has more than 40 years of experience with nongovernmental organizations. As CEO of The Independence Center in Colorado Springs, she has helped grow funding from \$7 million to \$13 million since 2011.

April Montgomery is the lone West Sloper (the others are from Denver and Colorado Springs). She is Vice President of Programs at the Telluride Foundation, where she manages nonprofit capacity building efforts, grant programs, and initiatives. I've known her for many years, but just recently learned that she was a recent Chairperson of the Colorado Water Conservation Board.

The Advisory Committee's next task is selecting the eighteen organizations that will participate in the trainings, which will take place in Francistown and Gaborone. The trainings are three days, and each organisation is expected to send the staff person in charge of resource mobilization, the board president, and their Peace Corps Volunteer. The CSOs also will receive two days of one-on-one consultation from one of the Team members. Thirty-one organizations are invited to apply (chosen because they currently have Peace Corps Volunteers), and the Committee will review the applications at its next meeting on 6 March. The chosen organizations' applications to Rich Male and he will assign three organizations to each Team member, with instructions to make contact with them and begin to understand their resource mobilization needs so that they can maximize their consultation time in Botswana. We also expect Team members to maintain contact with their organizations for at least three months after they return to the US, to help with plan implementation.

We are drafting a public relations strategy to bring attention to the Team and our objective of “ensuring sustainable and adequate funding for HIV-focused civil society organization (CSOs) in Botswana by increasing their capacity to mobilize human, financial, and material resources domestically.” Our slogan is, “**Giving** Starts Here” and we’re developing a logo and talking points to seize any opportunity to speak to people about stepping up and supporting Botswana’s civil society.

Our objective took on new importance a few weeks ago when PEPFAR Botswana (the President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief, started nearly 30 years ago by George W. Bush) announced at a quarterly stakeholders meeting that it is reducing its budget by 40 percent in the next operating year. PEPFAR provided more than \$70 million to Botswana in 2018.



Botswana Vocational Training Team - Update (cont)

By Amy McBride - Botswana

Dumelang, Rotarians! (Greetings!)

The Vocational Training Team to Botswana is moving closer to reality! On Valentine's Day, we received word that the National AIDS Coordinating Agency, which facilitates coordination of sectors implementing the Government of Botswana's Third National Multisectoral HIV and AIDS Response Strategic Framework, will provide 300,000 BWP (Botswana pula, or roughly \$30,000) to fund the two trainings that the Team will lead (in Gaborone and Francistown).

In confirming NACA's support, Rre Moagi Kenosi wrote, "NACA attaches great importance to this training, as it will potentially help our CSOs overcome the problem of resource constraints."

With NACA's pledge in hand, we submitted our Global Grant request for \$30,002 to The Rotary Foundation (TRF) on 16 February. Of this amount, District 5470 generously pledged \$15,001 to be matched by TRF's Global Fund. I am grateful for the guidance and support of David Smith from the District Global Grant Subcommittee, Ann Harris from the District Foundation Committee, and the Vocational Training Team Subcommittee, (Dick Dangler, Mary Oswald, and Roger Ptolemy), and for the quick authorizations from Ann and Christopher Peterson. After getting authorization from the District 9400 Foundation Chair (which covers Botswana, South Africa, Mozambique, and eSwatini (former Swaziland)), the proposal was officially submitted on 20 February, and now we are awaiting word from TRF.



I had the pleasure of Skyping with the Vocational Training Team last week. The six members had gathered at the Denver office of Team Leader Rich Male for an all-day meeting to get to know each other, and discuss trip logistics and the training agenda. I am thrilled to have Rich at the helm. Two weeks ago, he was honored by the Colorado Nonprofit Association with the Steve Graham Award for Building Nonprofit Capacity. Here's the write-up for his award: "Rich Male knew at a young age he wanted to make a difference. For more than 40 years, he has done just that, providing mentorship and inspiring leadership to every community he's been a part of. He is the co-founder of several pivotal organizations, including Community Resource Center, the Colorado Nonprofit Association and Community Shares of Colorado. He is recognized both locally and nationally as a leading expert in growing and developing nonprofit organizations. When Rich looks back on his career, he says the biggest impact he's made is through the mentoring and coaching he's given to nonprofit professionals." For the past ten years, he has mentored organizations in Africa.

The rest of the Team also has impressive credentials:

Scott DuPree has spent the past eight years as a consultant, facilitating fundraising trainings throughout the world, including Kenya and Zimbabwe. Before that, he worked for nearly 20 years for international human rights organizations. And, to my delight, he was a Peace Corps Volunteer in Botswana from 1985-1988!

Melissa Theesen has launched and sustained social enterprises in Tanzania, Kenya, and the US, and designed and executed fund development plans on three continents. She also is the founder and COO of Colorado's only women-owned solar company.

Global Grants Projects Involving Our clubs

Many of our clubs are the International Partners of Global Grants (GG) Projects around the world.

Our clubs also contribute to projects conducted by other districts.

Whether your club is the international partner in a project or is simply contributing to a project, remember that D-5470 is usually prepared to match your club's contributions from District Designated Funds (DDF).

To request D-5470 DDF, you need to complete a simple request form and send it to the D-5470 Global Grants Chair, David Smith < dsmith7@unl.edu >

Contact Us

Do you want to have your International Service project displayed in a future newsletter? Send the story and a few photos to pjeschofnig@gmail.com



Water & Sanitation Projects Around the World

Global Grants Basics:

- Large, long-term projects
- Sustainable, measureable outcomes
- Alignment with Areas of Focus
- Real community needs (via needs assessment)
- International partnerships (frequent communication)
- Implementation plan
- Proper Stewardship of funds
- Involve Rotary clubs in two districts
- Minimum budget of US\$30,000
- Minimum TRF match \$ 15,000

For detailed instructions on Global Grants applications check out David Smith's **GUIDE TO GLOBAL GRANTS:**
<http://www.rotary5470.org/SitePage/global-grants>

If you would like to be the international partner of a Global Grant or simply contribute to an existing D-5470 Global Grant contact the Global Grants Committee chair, David Smith dsmith7@unl.edu or Peter Jeschofnig pjeschofnig@gmail.com