## **Developing Sustainable Projects**

Sustainability means different things to different organizations. For The Rotary Foundation, sustainability means providing long-term solutions to community needs that the benefiting community can maintain after grant funding ends.

Global grant projects must be sustainable and display the following characteristics:

Community Needs/ Strengths

Have local sponsors conduct a thorough assessment of the community's needs to identify a need that sponsors are able to support and that meets beneficiaries needs and fits their values and culture. Involve multiple community partners in the planning process.

Materials/ Technology

Purchase equipment and new technology from local sources, when possible. Ensure spare parts are readily available. Involve community members when selecting technology or equipment, and train them to operate, maintain, and repair it on their own.

Funding

Confirm local funding source to provide long-term operation, maintenance, repair, and project longevity. Compensate project participants appropriately for their work to ensure continuity of services.

Knowledge

Provide training, education, and community outreach to strenathen beneficiaries' capacity to meet project objectives. Confirm that recipients have a plan to transfer knowledge to new beneficiaries. Collaborate with local agencies/ organizations to supply expertise, as needed.

Motivation

Provide incentives for beneficiaries and project participants to continue ongoing support. Identify personnel willing to lead beneficiaries to sustain project outcomes. Prepare the community to assume ownership of the project once global grant funds are fully expended.

Monitoring/ Evaluation

Develop clear and measurable project objectives, and identify methods for collecting project data. Establish baseline data for evaluation capable of demonstrating significant change for at least three years.

**Planning** 

**Implementation** 

Reporting