**1.**

**Rotary Grants: Evolving Grants Structure**

The grant structure of the Rotary Foundation has changed, evolved over the years. The Rotary Foundation Trustees make those decisions from time to time according to **changing needs** of the world and **availability of the resources** during those years in different parts of the Rotary world **Little History of Rotary Grants:** The District Designated Fund, ( DDF ) which amounts to 50% of the money given by the district to the Rotary Foundation 3 years prior, has always been a great source of Grant Funding, whether the projects are done in our communities or Internationally. The amount of money allowed to be used for local and International grants changed over years. The name given to local and International grants changed too. **Local Grants:**

**1. CAP Grant:** Year 2003-04 was the last year for CAP grants. It was **C**ommunity **A**ssisted **P**roject Grant: Used Up to $ 10 K of DDF in our own district. That amount was either used for one project or was divided and given to more than one club for the local projects.

**2. DSG:** **D**istrict **S**implified **G**rant: During Centennial Year (2004-05) CAP Grants were replaced by DSGs. The district could use up to **20% of DDF**, divided whichever way the district leadership felt appropriate to do so.

**3. District Grants:** Foundation’s vision changed again in 2012, as Foundation wanted our clubs to undertake larger projects, more projects with **50% of DDF.**

It is important to note that: **A)** More and more DDF is available for the projects in USA through these local grants, even if they are **not matched through the World Fund.**

B) Does that mean that there are fewer of dollars available for International projects? **Not Really!**

**2.**

Foundation trustees have made changes in the funding of International projects, so that larger projects can be undertaken in any part of the world, including USA.

These projects need meaningful partnership of Rotarians in at least two countries, more contribution through World Fund match and added parameters of Community Assessment, Sustainability and Measurability to assure intended outcome.

**How International Grants (Global Grants) have Evolved?**

**1. Matching Grants:** In the past smallest grant project allowed was worth $10K as the minimal amount of match needed from World Fund was $ 5K. With that kind of money we could dig few water wells, supplied limited number of water filters, gave few computers or some teaching materials to the schools. Many of those projects failed to show visible, measurable, sustained benefits which are fair parameters if Rotarian dollars donated in good faith need to be guarded.

For Matching Grants, International partner needed to contribute 50% or more ofthe project cost. Therefore Rotary clubs and the districts in USA had to be International partners and could not do the projects in USA.

**2. Global Grants:** When the Rotary Foundation made significant changes in the grant structure in 2012-13 Rotary year, Matching Grants became Global Grants:

Major changes in my opinion are project financing, showing the need, the sustainability and measurability of the project. International partner can contribute only 30% of the money, (instead of 50% or more), before adding the matching funds to the total project finance. This has allowed us to undertake global grant projects in USA as well. Establishing the Military Family Center is a prime example where India is our International partner contributing 30% of our project cost.

**3.**

**Important parameters of the Global Grant Project :**

**A)** **Minimum match from World Fund has to be $ 15K** so that minimal grant project cost is $ 30K. They could be very large grants. If the expected match is more than $ 50K, the projects are evaluated in further depth before sanctioning the grant.

**B) The project must be in one of the 6 focus areas** of benefit determined by the trustees of the Rotary Foundation. These Focus areas are: Literacy, Health and disease prevention, clean water and sanitation, maternal and child health, community development, conflict resolution and peace building.

**C) Community assessment** to prove the need of the project in a given geographic, economically dependent region. This assessment is important part of the application.

**D) Sustainability:** Many small projects in the past failed to offer sustainable benefits, in plain words, wasted Rotarian dollars. This is important parameter.

**E) Measurability** of the results: Every successful project has to show visible, measurable benefit to the group of people Rotarians are going to serve.

**Important to note:** The global grants cost is increased by 5% for the funding that comes from Rotary clubs, Rotarians and non-Rotarians, in order to administer the grant. DDF contributed towards the grant does not get charged for grant administration.

**\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* United States is still number 1 in Giving to The Rotary Foundation.** Ifwe do not undertake International Projects through these grants we are not going to use 50% of our giving in World Fund and 25% of our DDF. And our world still has astronomical human needs. Meena Patel, Dist. International Service Chair (2018-21)

**Till 2004-05,**