

Water and Sanitation Service Resource Committee
District 5450
Strategic Plan
ISSUE-DRIVEN, BEST PRACTICES-ORIENTED

The plan's six sections:

I. Identifiable Resources

For skill development of "insiders"

For tracking all 5450 wat/san and WASH projects

For including "outsiders" (i.e., NGO specialists whose expertise we can use)

II. Outreach/Education*

To "Rotarian communities"

To students, including those potentially marginalized (e.g., at the Marvin Foote Center)

To indigenous communities

III. Partnership Development*

With service organizations

With NGOs

With universities

With gov't agencies (e.g., USAID)

With selected businesses

With individual specialists

IV. Meetings and Events*

Monthly meetings, regularly bringing in "speakers that teach"

Annual conference, with all of WASH to be included

Special events, with "ShowTime" to be featured

V. Model Projects*

Lessons learned, best practices emphasized

Both domestic and overseas projects

VI. Grants Development

Sharing expertise

Partnering for maximal gain, both for clubs and intended beneficiaries

*featuring identifiable outcomes, aiming toward sustainability, accountability, and specific applications. We will cross-reference other documents as needed (e.g., *USAID Water and Development Strategy, 2013-2018*).

Background Considerations for the Strategic Plan

The following summarizes certain points made by committee members and colleagues regarding ongoing development of the strategic plan:

- * Resource sharing involves individual skills and organizational expertise. Club-to-club partnering is essential, but work with other, non-Rotary organizations often is as important. The new grants model complements this, as does the VTT process. An annual WASH conference will remain key.
- * Offering certification is a way to enhance resources, while also enhancing an individual's skill set. Examples are the Red Rocks Community College approach; the DeVry University approach; the Engineers Without Borders educational approach.
- * Club "water and sanitation champions" should be identified. Water and sanitation specialists, not necessarily associated with particular clubs, should also be identified. These types of person start with those of us on this district committee.
- * Selected sub-committees should be established, to deal (for example) with certification possibilities. One planning sub-committee will be needed for each annual WASH conference. However, one will not be needed, representing WASH interests, for the District Conference each spring. Another might cover domestic projects, still another international projects. "Sunset dates" should be established for each sub-committee's work.
- * "Lessons learned/best practices" talks should be developed by certain members. These can be delivered, upon request, to clubs, religious organizations, public and private schools, universities, and NGOs, as well as to monthly meetings of this committee. This kind of outreach is essential.
- * A general data base, listing all key district projects (club-by-club), is being developed by the Service Resource Committee. Our committee should submit ideas as to how this can be maximally utilized. The data base needs to be streamlined, with categories and identifiers/indicators that readily can be searched on-line. It needs to be expansive enough so that newcomers and veterans alike can access opportunities to engage and partner cross-sectorally (e.g., water and education).
- * We stress the importance of building upon existing proposals. We envision our committee's work as complementing a "wellness perspective," which effectively cross-references the work of other district committees. There are six RI areas of focus.
- * The minutes of each month's committee meeting should serve as a resource. "Lessons learned" and "best practices" from presentations made should be highlighted.