



South Pacific and Philippines Office



Quarterly Regional Bulletin February 2024

Rotary International celebrates its 119th anniversary on 23 February. It is amazing how the vision of our founder, Paul Harris lives on today.

In the February 1945 issue of *The Rotarian*, Paul Harris penned an article titled: *The Best is Yet to Be*.

An excerpt of that article rings true now as it did on its 40th anniversary when Rotary was in the midst of World War 2, with 5,284 clubs and 235,550 members.

"I like to think the pioneering days of Rotary have only just begun. What's 40 years in the life of a great movement? There are just as many new things to be done as ever there were. Kaleidoscopic changes are taking place, many of them without our will. Even to hang to the fringe of this fast-changing world is about all most of us can do. Rotary simply must continue to pioneer or be left in the rear of progress."

Even for an organisation that he founded himself, he remained open to ways that Rotary can change for the better. He reveled in the thought that not everything in Rotary is all right – "There probably is no part or parcel of Rotary which can't stand improvement." He considered this to be a "divine discontent".

We are in the midst of turmoil and change but also of great opportunity as Rotary in Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific Islands undergoes a pilot for a new governance structure. There will be tripping on each other and stepping on toes as we transition and traverse between the current and new structures. We all come to the table with good intentions and that premise should underpin all our actions (and reactions).

Staff Announcements:

After close to 6 years of working with us here at RI's Regional Office in Sydney, Bernadette Horrell has decided to move to Queensland to be with family. Her last day with us will be on 3 April. While we are recruiting for her replacement as Grants Officer and the ever-reliable trainer for the Admin Coordinator that we also have a vacancy for, it will be so hard to replace her as a great friend and work-family that she has come to be for all staff. Through the pandemic, periods of work and personal challenges, she has looked out for each one of us in every turn. She will be sorely missed.

Best Regards,

Grace

Grace Ramirez
Manager, International Office and Financial Services

FINANCE

CLUB INVOICES FOR JANUARY TO JUNE 2024

Club invoices were emailed to Rotary club officers on 18 January 2024 and to Rotaract club officers on the 31st.

Following these, please note the following important dates:

Date	Rotary Clubs	Rotaract Clubs
30-Day Reminder Letter	20 February 2024	1 March 2024
60-Day Reminder Letter	21 March 2024	1 April 2024
90-Day Reminder Letter	22 April 2024	1 May 2024
Termination Date	22 May 2024	31 May 2024

Invoices are due upon receipt of the invoice. Please do not leave payments to the last minute, particularly those who would like to qualify for citations.

For clubs terminated for non-payment of the July 2023 invoice, the last day to reinstate is 16 April 2024.

Please see the following guidelines for paying [RI Dues](#).

[Australia, New Zealand, Pacific Island clubs](#)
[Philippine clubs](#)

THE ROTARY MAGAZINE

To cope with high inflation and unprecedented rising magazine production cost, the Rotary magazine will be increasing its subscription price from USD24 to USD36 per year. The cost of the digital subscription is USD18. These prices will be effective 1 January 2024.

Please see below:

➤ **International magazine, *Rotary Magazine* pricing from 1 January 2024:**

	FOR AUSTRALIAN CLUBS ONLY		
	Price US\$	GST US\$	Total with GST US\$
Paper (per subscription for six months)	18.00	1.80	19.60
Digital (per subscription for six months)	9.00	0.90	9.90

PAYMENT INFORMATION FOR DONATIONS TO THE ROTARY FOUNDATION

We strongly encourage you to cut and paste the appropriate information provided on the text box below into communications and publications going out to your clubs and members. Widely circulating this information allows greater efficiency in accounting for and reporting your donations on our database.

DONATIONS TO THE ROTARY FOUNDATION

Below are some helpful links on the various ways to support The Rotary Foundation:

Australian Clubs & Rotarians:

[Australian Bank Transfer Instructions \(also posted on Rotary Foundation Australia's My Foundation Page\)](#)

If the donor is a Member, Individual or Business (or Clubs that need a tax-deductible receipt including Clubs donating on behalf of their club members so they get their own tax deductible receipts), transfers need to be made to the following account:

Acct Name: The Australian Rotary Foundation Trust
BSB No: 342-011 (HSBC Bank)
Acct No: 663499001

If the donor is the Club or District, transfer to:

Acct Name: The Rotary Foundation
BSB No: 342-011 (HSBC Bank)
Acct No: 523370001

IMPORTANT: Please always email risppo.finance@rotary.org the contribution form or donation instructions including the bank receipt/OSKO receipt BEFORE or ON THE DAY of the bank transfer.

NZ Clubs & Rotarians:

Please deposit funds to ANZ Bank Account Number: 06-0193-0905286-30. Please provide a reference of either Surname or Member ID for individuals or Club Name or Rotary Club ID for clubs. Kindly email nzrcct@rotaryoceania.zone the details of the remittance.

Philippine Clubs & Rotarians:

Please provide your clubs with the following link: [BPI Payment Guidelines for The Rotary Foundation](#). This will enable us to process your contributions promptly. There is a huge amount of emails coming through to Catherine Bedona, Financial Accountant for the Philippines. Please DO NOT send duplicate emails or follow ups. This causes more delays in getting through tasks at hand. Rest assured that these will be processed in due course.

For Rotary and Rotaract clubs, your multiple donor contributions are best deposited in one transaction. Once deposited, kindly email the deposit slips and use our [excel template](#) to allocate the breakdown of contributions appropriately.

RI EXCHANGE RATES

February 2024	USD
AUD	1.51
NZD	1.63
PHP	56.00

Communication on the monthly RI Exchange Rates now being directed to District Finance Chairs and District Rotary Foundation Chairs. Please ensure that this information is circulated through your normal communication channels.

FOUNDATION

LEARNING & DEVELOPMENT TAKE CENTRE STAGE AT THE DRFC & DGN WORKSHOP WEEKEND IN AUCKLAND, NEW ZEALAND

Current and incoming District Rotary Foundation Chairs and District Governor Nominees congregate with Regional Leaders to advance their knowledge across Giving towards and Grants from The Rotary Foundation (TRF).



Auckland: Attendees at the Learning & Development Workshop weekend, 9-11 February 2024

The excitement of the 45 attendees was palpable, as everyone started arriving at Waipuna Hotel and Conference Centre in Auckland, New Zealand, on Friday afternoon for their annual Learning & Development event, with an all-time record of 17 DGN's in the group. One and a half days were dedicated to The Rotary Foundation and to being inspired by their peers for the year of collaboration ahead.

In preparation for the Rotary Foundation Workshops, current RRFC Peter Garnett and incoming RRFC David Anderson recommended completing valuable activities to all attendees that would ensure they got the most out of the limited time the group had together.

Reviewing the individual District's current and past year's foundation and polio giving trends, available DDF and major donors using the reports available in Rotary Club Central, as well as completing Foundation courses on Rotary's Learning platform (learn.rotary.org) were amongst these preparatory tasks.



The audience at the Auckland workshop listening to incoming RRFC David Anderson

16 plenary and breakout sessions filled the program, with ample time for questions and discussions. The careful preparation of relevant topics paid off: a better understanding of their role and how it fits into the District Leadership team, of how their individual goals will support TRF and their District's Goals, and which learning events and communication strategies to develop and prioritise, were amongst the positive outcomes noted by the audience.

With the aim of creating momentum for Giving to the Foundation in the coming year, Trustee Dennis Shore joined the group in Auckland to update attendees on the activities of the Rotary Foundation Board of Trustees and specifically to share incoming Trustee Chair Mark Maloney's aspirational goals based on Rotary's 2024-25 presidential theme "The Magic of Rotary".



RRFC Peter Garnett introducing Regional Grants Manager Steven Sundstrom on zoom from Evanston

Regional Grants Manager Steven Sundstrom joined the group via Zoom from Evanston for a refresher on identifying Global Grant opportunities in local communities. The focus for the session was on small group work, to discuss who the beneficiaries of the prospective project and who the cooperating organisations in the community would be, and what would be the major budget items. Steven provided direct feedback following each micro-presentation, to offer guidance on developing ideas further and to define and increase the potential impact created by the project.

Sharing case studies that are challenging, discussing the issues and brainstorming solutions together in break out groups opened up rare opportunities for in-person knowledge sharing and peer learning. As attendees dispersed and travelled back to their home districts on Sunday afternoon, a renewed sense of collegiality and fellowship, and many invitations to pay visits across districts dominated the farewells.



The highly motivated audience after the grants' ideation session

A warm THANK YOU to all our committed District and Regional leaders for making time to join the weekend of workshops and share and advance their knowledge about The Rotary Foundation!



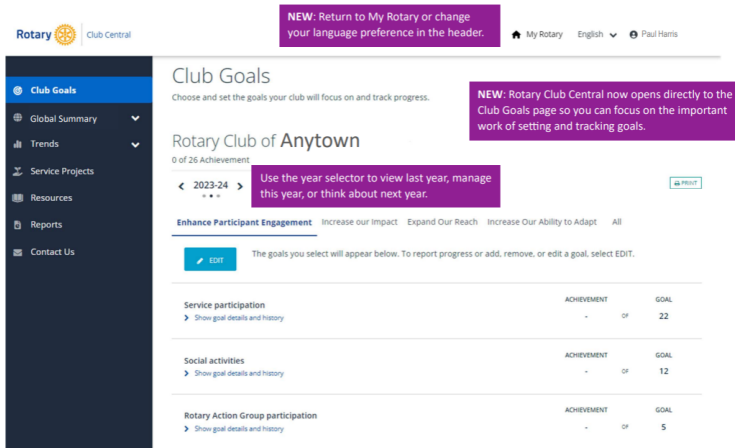
By Anke Timm, Philanthropy Supervisor, The Rotary Foundation - South Pacific and Philippines

CLUB AND DISTRICT SUPPORT

ROTARY CLUB CENTRAL

We're updating Rotary Club Central with a streamlined user interface that'll improve your user experience, including:

- Updating the homepage to take you to the Club Goals page since goal setting is the tool's primary purpose.
- Reorganizing the navigation so it's easier to use.
- Clarifying terminology to improve readability and alignment with our Action Plan.



[Rotary Club Central - What's new.pdf](#)

Please work with your comms teams about sharing this directly with clubs

AVAILABLE TO TRAVEL - PRESIDENT-ELECT LEARNING SEMINAR & DISTRICT TRAINING

Our team is starting to confirm learning events within each district and the best way to support and attend them. Please reach out to discuss how our team can support your learning events. In the past, our team has had the opportunity to share information and best practices on items such as;

- MyRotary and club admin
- Rotary Action Plan
- Club goals on Rotary Club Central
- Learning Centre topics
- DEI
- Branding and use of Marks
- Grants
- Membership tools and assets

DISTRICT CONFERENCE MATERIALS

We are pleased to share with you a recording from President Gordon McNally for use at your upcoming District Conference. [Click here to download the recording.](#) [Click here to download a photo](#) and further information about President Gordon.

COMMUNICATIONS

STORY IDEAS NEEDED

A friendly reminder to please send me information on any upcoming club projects (local and global). The global PR team collects your stories for potential photo, website articles and media opportunities. You might see images of your service project in the next Rotary Magazine or the Rotary Facebook page.

I also am on the look out for impactful projects we can let the general public know about through media channels...think local newspapers, 2GB, ABC and more! I can help pitch stories or help you pitch your own.

Let's chat! You can reach me at angela.stavro@rotary.org

SPEECHWRITING TIPS

Now that we've entered the new year, many of you will be planning events, promotional activities, fundraisers and more. These events may also be a good opportunity for you to speak to an external audience and let them know a little more about Rotary.

I came across this [article](#) in PR Daily US that may be of interest. The author outlines some tips and tricks on how to write a compelling and engaging speech that may help you (if you need it).

FUNDRAISING NOW EXEMPT FROM NEW FOOD SAFETY REQUIREMENTS IN NSW

Rotary Clubs in NSW that sell food for fundraising are now exempt from new food safety requirements under Standard 3.2.2A of the Food Standards Code.

The exemption follows an amendment to the NSW Food Regulation, gazetted 29 November 2023, to clarify how the national Standard applies in NSW.

More detail about food safety requirements for charities and non-profit organisations is on the NSW Food Authority's [charities, groups and volunteers webpage](#).

ROTARY'S 2022-23 ANNUAL REPORT IS NOW AVAILABLE

In this year's annual report, we look back at some of our most memorable moments, share inspirational stories of clubs making a difference, and learn from donors about why they contribute to The Rotary Foundation.

<https://www.rotary.org/en/annual-report-2023>

MY WORK SCHEDULE

Please note that I work a four-day week. I'm in the office on a Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.

MEMBERSHIP

DISTRICT MEMBERSHIP CHAIRS IDEA SHARE: *RECORDING AVAILABLE*

Join us to ask questions, share ideas, and learn about some of the activities that district membership chairs are hosting around the world.

IDEA

Friday 9 February 2024
9 am Sydney/Melbourne
11am New Zealand
6am Philippines



SHARE

Register at: <https://bit.ly/DMCIdeaShare24>

The Regional Membership Officer team hosted an 'idea share' for district membership chairs (DMCs) around the world to learn more about practical activities to boost membership in your district.

DMC's connected with one another, asking questions and traded ideas about ways to use the USD500.00 that Rotary International provides as DMC funding.

A pre-requisite for receiving reimbursement of expenses is completion of the [District Membership Committee Intermediate course](#) in the Learning Centre.

They also reviewed the expense guidelines to make sure DMC's know which expenses are eligible and touch on how to submit an expense report in My Rotary.

A recording of this event has been made available [here](#) for all. [Here](#) are the resources mentioned during the event.

DESIGNING YOUR ROTARY EXPERIENCE: NEW RESOURCE

[Designing your Rotary experience](#) is a new guide that describes the many options members have to personalise their Rotary involvement and participate in ways that matter to them.

Rotary offers members lots of opportunities to make connections, participate in meaningful service, become a leader, and expand their perspectives. But not all members are aware of these opportunities. The personal growth that members experience through their Rotary journey depends on their own choices. Each member has a unique combination of interests, skills and talents, so each of them will be attracted to different activities.

This new guide is great not only for new members who are learning about Rotary and deciding how to get involved but also for existing Rotary and Rotaract members as a reminder of all the options available to them to make the most of their Rotary membership.

It's a useful resource to use when working with club leaders who struggle with member engagement. We encourage you to use the guide to help members and prospective members take an active role in shaping their experience.

Available in English in My Rotary. Translated version to be available at the end of February.

DESIGNING YOUR ROTARY EXPERIENCE



ZONE 8 MEMBERSHIP AND NEW CLUB DEVELOPMENT SNAPSHOT: NEW RESOURCE

Would you like a better understanding of the state of membership and new club development in Zone 8 (Australia, New Zealand and Pacific Islands)?

This presentation uses data and research findings to paint a picture of Rotary and Rotaract membership in Zone 8. It provides insights into strengths, challenges and opportunities, which will underpin any membership strategies moving forward.

It covers trends over the last ten years, demographics, average club size, gains and losses, terminations by years of service, reasons for joining and leaving, club growth, number and type of new clubs chartered, and new club membership profile.

The presentation lasts for 20 minutes so it could be delivered at a club meeting. You can download the PowerPoint presentation with speaker script to deliver yourself or customise. Alternatively, there is a recorded version available.



[Download the PowerPoint presentation.](#)

[Download the recording.](#)

DISTRICT MEMBERSHIP PROGRESS TO GOAL REPORT

Here are a few highlights from the 31 January 2024 District Membership Progress to Goal report.

Click here to view the full reports for [Zone 8](#) and [Zone 10A](#).

ZONE 8

Highest % net growth: D9920 (3.35%)
 Highest % of female members: D9640 (37.79%)
 Highest % of members under 40: D9910 (7.27%)
 Highest % for retention: D9820 (95.14%)

ZONE 10A

Highest % net growth: D3870 (13.28%)
 Highest % of female members: D3870 (47.55%)
 Highest % of members under 40: 3820 (22.89%)
 Highest % for retention: D3800 (96.07%)

NEW CLUB DEVELOPMENT PROGRESS

Sustainable membership growth is the sweet spot between attracting new members, retaining current members, and developing new clubs. So far this Rotary year we have chartered or officially recognised the following number of clubs:

	ZONE 8	ZONE 10A
Rotary	3	13
Rotaract	2	24
Satellite	4	0

Access the 1 July 2023 to 4 February 2024 new club development progress report for [Zone 8](#) and [Zone 10A](#).

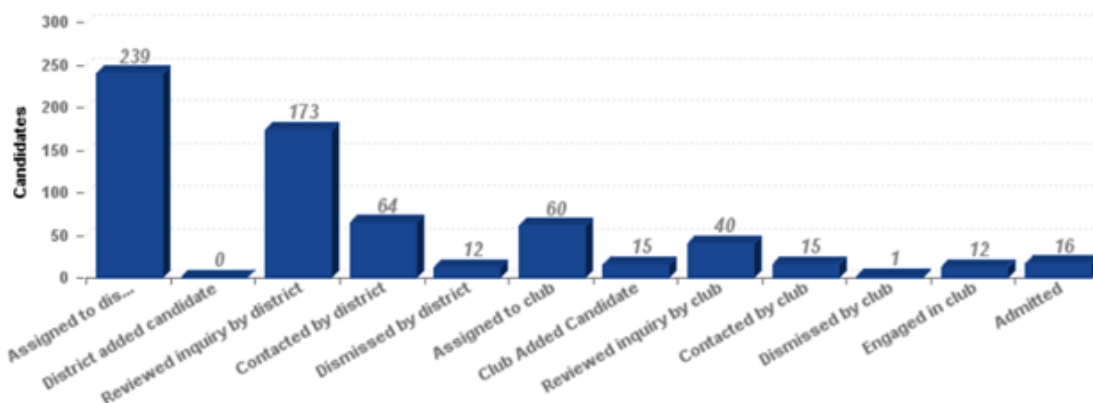
MEMBERSHIP LEADS

Every year more than 25,000 people express an interest in Rotary at rotary.org/get-involved and rotary.org/join. This is a convenient, secure way for them to take the first step toward membership and building a lasting connection with Rotary

In the Prospective Member Progress Analysis report for [Zone 8](#) and [Zone 10A](#), you can view data on how your district is managing membership leads. You can view up to date information on what percentage of prospective members have or have not been followed up on, what percentage of leads are no longer interested in membership and the number of members that have been admitted to a club. Here are a few notable highlights from 1 July 2023 to 4 February 2024:

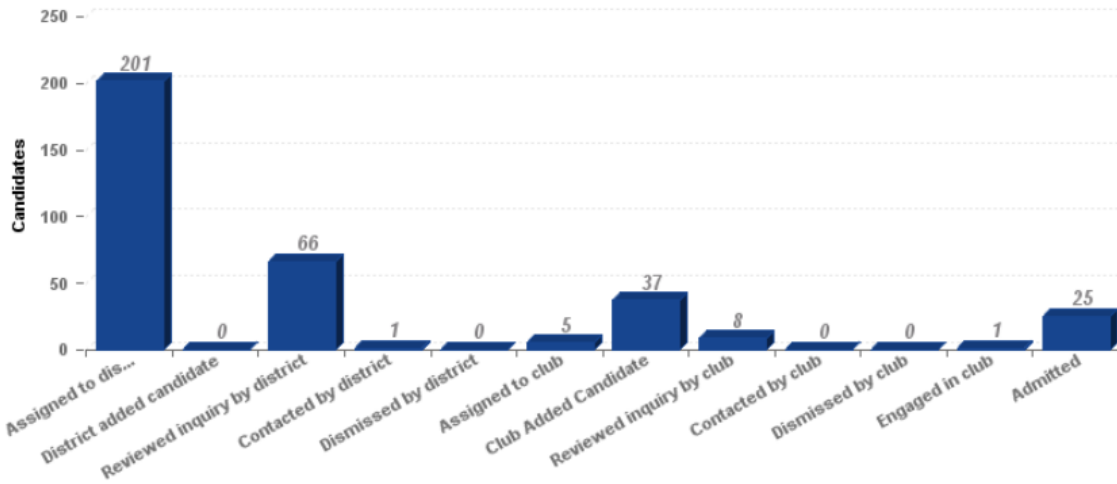
ZONE 8 – 1 July 2023 to 5 February 2024

Zone 8



ZONE 10A – 1 July 2023 to 5 February 2024

Philippines



ZONE 8

Leads assigned to districts: 239
 Leads reviewed by districts: 173 (72.4%)
 Leads assigned to clubs: 60 (16.9%)
 Leads review by clubs: 40 (25.1%)
 Leads admitted to Rotary: 16 (6.7%)
 Highest leads admitted: D9910 (5)

ZONE 10A

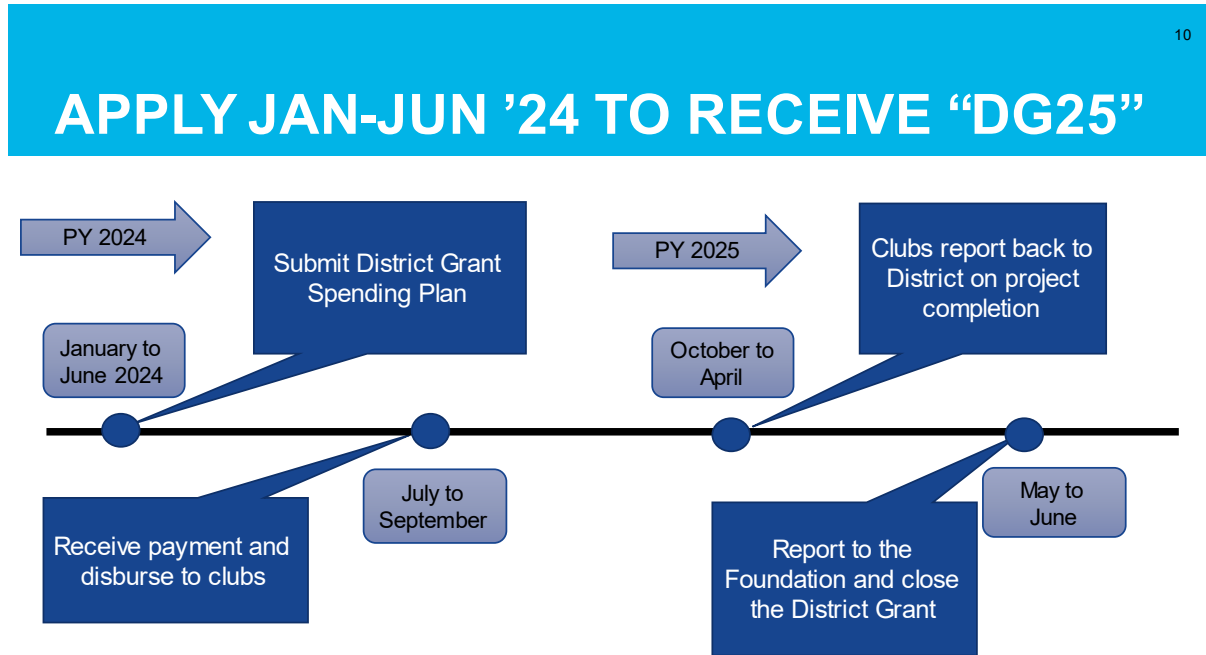
Leads assigned to districts: 201
 Leads reviewed by districts: 66 (32.8%)
 Leads assigned to clubs: 5 (2.5%)
 Leads reviewed by clubs: 8 (4.0%)
 Leads admitted to Rotary: 25 (12.4%)
 Highest leads admitted: D3780, D3810, D3860 (5) each

GRANTS

2025 PLANNING

Now is the time to start planning for your district grants covering the 24-25 Rotary year.

Attached is the district grant management flow chart to assist you in planning. Utilising these timelines will assist you in receiving your funds early in the Rotary year.



Ask presidents-elect to be involved in selecting the projects being funded in their year. Receiving your funds early means your clubs will have more time to complete their projects and reallocate funds should a project not proceed. If you have not yet applied for your DG 23 -24 you may consider waiting and applying for your grant in the new year.

[Attached](#) are instructions on how to apply for and how to report on a District Grant.

There are now more types of grants available to you. This chart shows you all the grants your district and clubs are eligible to apply for.

	Disaster Grant	District Grant	CSR Grant	Global Grant
Area of Focus	Not required	Encouraged	Encouraged	Must align with one or more
Align with TRF Mission	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Purpose	Disaster Relief and Recovery	Small, immediate projects	-	Humanitarian, Vocational Training, Scholarships.
Grant Value	Max: USD25,000	Max: 50% of annual DDF	USD21,000 + Admin fee	USD30,000 – 400,000
Approval process	Evanston	Sydney (SPPO)	Sydney (SPPO)	Evanston
Requires active Rotarian Participation	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Host and International sponsor	Not required	Reputable Cooperating organization	Not required	Requires Host & International Sponsors
Community needs assessment	Committee identify community needs	Encouraged	Encouraged	Required
Sustainability	No	No	Preferred	Measurable and long-term Sustainability by community
Funding From	Donations to Rotary Disaster Response Fund	District Designated Fund (DDF)	Corporate donation	DDF, Cash Contributions, World Fund (TRF)
Tax Deductibility of Donations	Yes, if on AusAid list of developing countries.	Not applicable	Yes if Grant is located in a developing country; or an Australia project fitting PBI criteria	Yes if Grant is located in a developing country; or an Australia project fitting PBI criteria
Recognition from Donations	Applicable	Not applicable	Not for cash contributions sent directly to the project account. Corporation receives Major Donor recognition but not points.	Not for cash contributions sent directly to the project account.
Implementation	Immediate	Immediate needs	Within 12 months of approval	Planned long term implementation
Reporting	Reports submitted within 6 months of receiving funds	Reports submitted within 12 months of receiving funds	Progress report at 12 months then no more than 2 months after completion.	Every 12 months. Final report 2 months after completion.
Completion of Project	6 Month	within 24 months	within 24 months	Varies

If you have any questions regarding your Grants, please contact our office. We are here to help.