



October 2007

**A Summary of Rotary Water and Sanitation Initiatives
July – September 2007**

I am pleased to submit the following report on the activities and initiatives of Rotarians and Rotary clubs during the first quarter of this Rotary year.

Executive Summary

With the beginning of a new Rotary year many clubs and districts are re-emphasizing their commitment to water and sanitation. Water and sanitation are featured in most district conferences. Rotarians and Rotary clubs are organizing conferences and seminars to raise awareness and stimulate interest, not only among members but also within the community. Individual Rotarians see water/sanitation as the means of leaving their personal mark on humanity. As this momentum builds, many see Rotary as the vehicle to bring profound change to millions lacking the basic necessities of life.

A number of noteworthy events have occurred recently which support this vision.

Global Water Challenge

The mission of this organization is

“To generate a global movement to meet the urgent need for safe water and sanitation by spurring collective awareness and investment by corporate, public and non-governmental actors”.

Founding partners include Coca Cola Co., CARE, Dow Chemical, Emory Center for Global Safe Water, United Nations Foundation, U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Water Advocates, Water Partners International. Rotary International is not a member but we have been invited to participate in discussions. GWC intends to challenge funding from corporations and foundations to sustainable projects. Rotary clubs/districts could well qualify for substantial grants (i.e. several million dollars).

Sustainable Sanitation Alliance (SuSanA)

In anticipation of the International Year of Sanitation (IYS) a number of entities have come together to focus attention on the needs and opportunities to get back on track to meet the sanitation MDGs. Of especial interest to Rotarians is the appointment of a task force on sustainable sanitation and another on capacity development. WASRAG was



represented at a recent meeting. As a result we will participate in future discussions and, more importantly, receive documentation from these task forces for distribution to Rotary clubs worldwide

Linkages between WASRAG and the Water Resource Group

It is highly desirable that there be close liaison between the Water Resource Group and WASRAG. A major step in this direction occurred with the election of all the Water Resource Group Area Coordinators to the Board of WASRAG. In future it is hoped that this linkage will continue. Another means of achieving this goal is for future Presidents of Rotary International to choose Water Resource Group coordinators from among the membership of WASRAG.

Novel Fund-Raising concept

D-7390 has launched a new program "A Drop in the Bucket". They "brand" ½ litre bottles of water and sell them at various events. Each club has been asked to buy one case per member. The bottles are branded with the district logo and water facts. It is estimated that the program will raise about \$100,000.

Gift for contributions to Rotary's water events

A number of books of photographs "Water is the Key-A Better Future for Africa" have been supplied to us for use in fund raising for Rotary's water programs. A copy of this masterpiece of black & white photography will be given to everyone who gives \$1000 to WASRAG.

Water Events posted on Water Website

The Water & Sanitation Rotarian Action Group website is accessible at www.wasrag.org Among other things it lists water/sanitation projects from clubs seeking partners. It also lists future events of interest to the water/sanitation community.

Against this general background we summarise below reports of activities in each Rotary zone.



Zone 1-Z.C. Hitoshi Morita

Six districts (D2510, D2530, D2790, D2820, D2830, and D2840) report that over 70 clubs are engaged in water projects—both at home and abroad. Details of this activity were reported in the final report for the Rotary year 2006-07.

Zone 2-Z.C. Takashi Uyeno

D-2570 has been party to drilling over 550 wells with D-3790 (Philippines).

Zone 3-Z.C. Morihiko Narukawa

As reported previously, some 10 clubs in the Osaka area of D-2660 are implementing a variety of water projects in Myanmar, Thailand, Cambodia, Taiwan, Malaysia, Philippines and Mongolia.

Zone 6A-Z.C. Rehka Shetty

All clubs in Zone 6A have been informed about the importance of safe water through a pamphlet which was sent to 6000 Rotarians.

A series of District seminars have been held:

- On August 25, 2007, a workshop: “Life Giving Water” creating clear action plans was held in Chennai RID 3230. The Mayor and Commissioner of Chennai will ensure full government support.
- A workshop on water was held in Tirupur, South India, RID 2980 on September 23, 2007.
- A district workshop at Bangalore on clean water.
- A speaker’s forum to address a meeting on “Water – the Source of Life” has been organised and the first of the club programs started on August 21, 2007. Speaker forums will be arranged in each of the Districts in Zone 6.

A major event in D-3150 was the inauguration of an overhead water storage reservoir and distribution system in the tsunami affected area of Nizampatnam.

Solar water filters were installed at Annai Illam, an Orphanage in Chennai, D-3230.

A de-salination plant has been set up at a tsunami affected village in Tamilnadu.

The Water for Life bulletin is being released and circulated to over 2000 Rotarians in Zone 6.



Zone 7A-Z.C. Peter D. Rostron

A notable initiative in this zone is “Safe Water Saves Lives” (SWSL). This is an umbrella program which facilitates water projects in many districts in the zone.

D-9450 reports two water projects - one in Indonesia, the other in Africa. We expect more details in time for the next report.

D-9500 is working on safe water projects in Pakistan (SWSL), Rwanda, Peru, Kenya and Sudan and is in the preliminary stages of implementing a comprehensive rainwater harvesting and distribution system in Ethiopia in partnership with the Catholic Church. This district is partnering with Rotary clubs in Cusco (Peru) and an American NGO to rehabilitate four lakes and prevent effluent from running into the lake. This project will benefit hundreds of people living around the lake as well as their livestock.

D-9520 is participating in the SWSL projects in Tanzania and Kenya. Another interesting project in the Sunraysia region of Victoria is a “Health of the River” forum. It addresses river and wetland ecology, water quality, pollution, and efficient use of water.

D-9570 (R.C. Bundaberg East) is working with the R.C. of Noosa (D-9600) to bring safe water to a village in Kenya.

D-9600 is bringing safe water and toilets to a women’s shelter in Papua New Guinea. Rainwater harvesting projects are underway in Gizo (Solomon Islands).

Zone 10-N.E. Africa Z.C. Shifarrow Bizuneh

The need for water is especially critical in east Africa prompting some major initiatives that were discussed during the recent Peace Conference and Zone Institute in Nairobi. They included:

- Grouping many projects under an umbrella club which would work with TRF to obtain funding, distribute the funds, monitor and report on progress.
- A partnership between Rotary clubs and the National Water Conservation & Pipeline Corporation to provide water to the semi-arid regions of southern Somalia. NWCPC would drill wells and arrange some of the financing. Rotary clubs will build the distribution system and water treatment facilities.

An interesting opportunity to “Share Rotary” is seen in a village of 40,000 people with nine primary schools and one secondary school. The solitary borehole is totally inadequate to meet the village’s needs. The R.C. of Muyenga plans to set up a solar-



powered borehole with large storage tanks on a hill that will supply the entire village with piped water.

Zone 10-North Africa Z.C. Naima Smires Kettani

Most of the clubs in D-9010 are engaged in water projects. They include:

- Restoring “greenery” to the community
- Bringing water to two communities and thus liberating young girls from spending many hours of carrying water
- Digging wells at a school to provide water for the toilets.

Zone 11-Z.C. Pierre A. Espinasse

All but three districts in this zone report significant water projects.

D-1510 is working with D-9010 to bring potable water to 150 families in a remote village in Morocco.

Rotarians from D-1800 and D-2090 have banded together to build wells in Mali.

D-1520 jointly with D-9150 is building wells for a Centre for street-children in Cameroun.

D-1640, D-9150 and D-1640 are building an irrigation and filtration system for the handicapped in Sfax. Another project in this district is bringing safe water to a village in Mali.

D-1660 has several projects in Francophone Africa, including wells and reservoirs for farmers in Morocco and Niger, buying water for several villages in Mali and facilities for the women planting fruit trees in Senegal.

D-1670 is helping with roof rainwater harvesting in Madagascar, a water tower in Cote D'Ivoire and planting fruit trees in Senegal.

D-1680 is working on water systems in Benin and planting fruit trees in Senegal.

D-1700 is building water wells in an oasis in the Chad desert and planting fruit trees in Senegal.

D-1690 has a very active water program. Of the 72 clubs, 32 are committed to water projects. Without naming all of the clubs individually in this excellent district, the



following summary of countries benefiting from these Rotary clubs' efforts indicates their commitment:

- Building a dam to hold rainwater in Kenya
- Cleaning up the littoral in Charente
- Holding an auction to raise money for potable water systems in Morocco
- Supporting students at a school in Burkina Faso to study ways of preventing desertification
- Rehabilitating wells in Benin, Guinea-Bissau, Senegal
- Planting trees in the Sahel using a special technique to reduce water needs
- Organizing a number of community conferences to discuss water issues and educate the public

In D-1730 the R.C. of Grasse-Amiral is supporting the construction of wells and water protection facilities in Burkina Faso. The club recently held a cabaret "Water-Source of Life" to generate funding and got good coverage in one of the major regional newspapers.

D-1720 is building an irrigation system for an education centre in Benin.

D-1730 is supplying equipment for an orphanage and working on several water projects in Burkina Faso.

D-1750 is working on wells and a medical centre for a village in Mali.

Four clubs in D-1760 are helping to develop a range of water sources in The Congo.

D-1770 is building two wells to ensure safe water to a village in Mali.

D-1780 is providing a water purification system, planting trees and building wells in Niger, Mali and Senegal.

D-1790 is building reservoirs in a remote village in Madagascar.

Zone 12-Z.C. Roberto Ivaldi

D-2090 (49 clubs) D-2100 (6 clubs) have combined with D-7070's R.C of Etobicoke (Canada) to construct a water supply system in Durazzo City (Albania).

D-2120 is involved in a 4 year project in Benin which aims to improve the hygiene / sanitary conditions in Lokpo village. The project includes building a drinking water plant for 2550 people, a distribution system, 28 public latrines with running water, seven wastewater treatment plants and a sewer network.



Zone 13-Z.C. Robert Gekiere

D-1620 is working on a rainwater harvesting project in Sri Lanka with the R.C. of Vavuniya to benefit 300 families.

D-1980, together with clubs from D-1990, is implementing drinking water projects to benefit 50,000 people in Kenya.

Zone 16-Z.C. Nils Ove Jensen

D-2260 has initiated three water well projects in India (35 wells in total) to provide safe water following the tsunami. In addition they are supporting a water and sanitation project in Malaysia, a safe water project in Ecuador and several wells in Zimbabwe. The R.C of Lorenskog has formed an alliance with The Norwegian Missionary Alliance in Bolivia, with funding from the Norwegian Government aid organization (NORAD) to bring safe well water to thousands of Indians on the Altiplano.

Zone 17-Z.C. Iain R. Young, Zone 18-Z.C. Himansu K. Basu

These two zones have traditionally raised and/or donated money through other humanitarian organizations such as WaterAid. The current zone coordinators are trying to shift the focus towards helping third world communities through direct support of the local Rotary club.

Zone 19-Z.C. Silvio Paulo Prodohl

D-4350 plans to provide safe water to a rural community near Puerto Varas (pop. 25,000) in the lake area some six hundred miles south of Santiago. This town has three Rotary Clubs which are seeking a matching grant with clubs in Canada or the United States. The cost of the project will be \$60-70,000.

Unfortunately the balance of the reports for Zone 19 were submitted in Spanish and they arrived too late to do a full translation. In summary, a variety of water programs are being carried out in D-4790, D-4840 and D-4920 (Argentina) and D-4890 (Paraguay).

Zone 21 – Z.C. Manuel Martinez Arteaga

In D-4250, two projects are underway, including “Water Introduction to the Community by the Club Rotario Guatemala Sur (estimated cost \$40,000) and a project to install safe water from a well in 240 homes built last year by the Rotary clubs from Guatemala with Eolic Electricity,



Zone 22 East-Z.C. Elizabeth M. (Bette) Miller

Clubs in D-7070 have committed to rebuilding a village in Thailand destroyed by the Indian Ocean tsunami. The first project is to provide a safe water supply, followed by the provision of drinking water taps, latrines and hand-washing stations.

D-7090 is part of the Haiti “Water for Life” project designed to bring water to 128 villages. The work comprises drilled wells, pipelines, cisterns, filters and spring cappings. More than 100,000 people have already benefited from this project.

Zone 22 West-Z.C. Del W. Paterson

D-5010, R.C of Fairbanks is working with the R.C. of Mombasa (D-9200) to drill eight boreholes bringing water to 800 villagers.

D-5020 -16 clubs are involved in a variety of water projects: wells and personal hygiene in Uganda, piping water to a village in Malawi, upgrading a municipal water system in Peru, five wells in Zambia, piping water to a village in Guatemala, and implementing a gravity water system in Honduras.

In D-5040 twenty clubs are helping a community development project embracing water, sanitation and education in Lago Tafo, Ethiopia. The first phase will benefit over 3500 people. The same district is supporting a similar community health program in Kenya.

D-5060 is involved in eight projects which, together will benefit some 400,000 people. The major project is the construction of a dam with the R.C. of Amreli. Others include supplying a pumping station in Guatemala and a check dam and storage facility in India. A novel project is planned to tap the water in fog banks and pipe it to villages in Chile.

D-5360 under the leadership of Bob Wiens reports 13 projects - wells, slow sand filters, and latrines in Tanzania, Indonesia, Uganda, Dominican Republic, India, Peru and Ghana benefiting some 26,000 people.

D-5550 clubs from Saskatoon and Winnipeg are supporting water treatment plants, a potable water system and storage in Kenya, Venezuela and Guatemala.

Zone 23-Z.C. Arvind Phukan

The major activity reported in this zone is the “Ethiopia Water Project, Phase III”. D-5020 and 5030 will be working with Rotary clubs of Addis Ababa and D-9200 to bring safe water to many communities in the country. Other projects reported by D-5020 include wells in Uganda, piping water to villages in Malawi and Guatemala, wells in Zambia and a gravity water system in Honduras.



Zone 24-Z.C. Fred A. Ford

“Water for Sudan” is major initiative of D-5340 led by the R.C. of La Jolla. It is focused on the thousands of “Internally Displaced People” (refugees) fleeing hostilities in the region.

Zone 25-Z.C. Ronald A. Goodsite

D-5440 R.C. Teton Valley joined with a local humanitarian group and the R.C. of Pursat (D-3350, Cambodia) to build wells and sanitary toilets at a school. Subsequently the project expanded to include pump wells, slow-sand filters and ring pit wells. The overall impact of this project will be to enable the village to become self-sustaining for water, food and economic activity.

D-5500 (R.C. Sierra Vista and Sierra Vista Sunrise) is undertaking a major water and sanitation project in West Africa in conjunction with D-9100 (R.C. Dapaong, Lome-Zenith, Niamey Croix-du-Sud, Agadez). One project, in northern Togo, will support eight communities, another, in central Niger, four communities, and a third, in southern Niger, 18 communities. Together these projects are bringing community water wells, sanitation facilities, gardening supplies and food production to the region. Nine districts in the USA, Canada and Australia are providing DDF and 22 clubs in D-5500, 19 in D-9640 (Australia) and 19 in other districts are contributing. This is an excellent example of how Rotary clubs and districts can combine to have a major impact on a region.

Zone 26-Z.C. Kim A. Holland

D-6200 reports three water/sanitation projects:

Drilling boreholes and hand pumps with D-9210 Zimbabwe.

improving the water supply at an orphanage in Harare (D-9210).

Supplying a water tower and tank for five rural communities in Mexico (D-4160).

Zone 27-Z.C. Holly Callen

Many districts are continuing with projects started last year or before. But, two new projects have been announced:

D-6440 is cooperating with the Peace Corps on a project in El Salvador. It is also working on a well project in Kisumu, Kenya.

D-5950 is waiting for matching grants for two large well and sanitation projects in the Mathare slum, Nairobi, Kenya.



Zone 29-Z.C. Jane A. Molloy

A number of districts report water/sanitation initiatives:

D-5710 - local water programs-building a rain garden at an elementary school, cleaning the banks of the Missouri river, creating a program on water conservation for use in schools and community groups. This district is also supporting the Panama Water Project.

D-6040 is developing six wells in the Congo to provide safe water to 15,000 people.

D-6110-seven clubs are supporting a well drilling program in Nicaragua, two clubs are helping to improve a well in Bolivia. One club takes samples and tests the water from the local river.

D-6440 is carrying out a wide range of projects - drilling a tube well, installing a pump and storage tank to bring water to a village in Haryana. Other projects focus on drilling wells and supplying slow-sand filters to communities in El Salvador, Kenya and Haiti.

D-6510-Swansea R.C. is working with the R.C. of Mzuzu (D-9100) to bring safe water to about 100,000 people in the community.

Zone 30-Z.C. Jerry W. Fox

Three districts in this zone report water related projects during the first quarter:

D-6560 – a well in Malawi, pumps, piping, water tanks and irrigation in Mexico and El Salvador.

D-6780 - wells in Ghana, Haiti, filters in Guatemala and Thailand.

D-6800 - wells, hand pumps and water systems in Honduras.

Zone 31-Z.C. Carolyn Crowley-Meub.

D-7190 under the leadership of PDG Anna Cargile set a good example to the zone in its pursuit of water/sanitation projects. Eight clubs supported a program in Honduras. The R.C. of Glens Falls raised \$15,000 for a Haiti water project through a “Water Walk”. Another initiative of this club was a three-hour telethon to promote Rotary’s “Humanity in Motion”. These events led to the club being recognized by RI as a leader in raising the image of Rotary. It received one of only 15 such awards in the Rotary world.

Other districts in this zone report:



D-7150 is focusing on Haiti.

D-7780 is implementing a Bio-sand filter program in Honduras.

D-7850 is working with several NGOs in Ghana to eradicate the guinea worm.

D-7859 is working on a pilot project in La Croix, Haiti.

D-7870 is active on water projects in Honduras and Haiti.

Clubs in four other districts are exploring possible water projects in Honduras.

D-7950 produced a TV ad on the district's water projects in Cambodia and Honduras.

Zone 32-Z.C. Dennis J. Miskewicz

Since the beginning of this Rotary year a number of new initiatives have been reported:

D-7210 is supporting the R.C. of Pune (D-3130) to install water treatment facilities in over 40 schools in the region. In some cases the filter system will provide safe drinking water to the villages.

D-7250 has launched a clean water project with D-7020 in Port-au-Prince Haiti.

D-7390 has launched a new program "A Drop in the Bucket". They "brand" ½ litre bottles of water and sell them at various events. Each club has been asked to buy one case per member. The bottles are branded with the district logo and water facts. It is estimated that the program will raise about \$100,000.

This district is also providing a well-drilling service in south-east Ghana and other projects in Honduras, Peru and Nicaragua.

D-7490 is encouraging clubs to concentrate their efforts on four water projects—Honduras, Sakarra, Egypt and Philippines or India, and Namibia.

Zone 34-Z.C. Robert Shelley III

D-6960 is planning to work with the Florida Water Association and Wisconsin Water for the World for a water pumping system in Guatemala.

D-6970 has partnered with Water for People to bring clean water from a mountain village, through a 14km pipeline to two villages in Honduras.



Water & Sanitation

ROTARIAN ACTION GROUP

D-6990 is helping the Fulnio Indians of Brazil buy tanks to store water delivered weekly by truck. On Grand Bahama, they are supplying a hurricane RO plant to supply water/ice after a hurricane hit. They are working with R.C. of Tulsa to build water wells in Nicaragua. And, on a different note, offering the community replacement water efficient showerheads under their “Showerhead Exchange Program”.

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In summary, Rotarians are responding to your call and that of your predecessors to focus on water, and “Share Rotary”. Much still remains to be done however. Many clubs still are unable to identify and implement a water project—even with the assistance of other Rotary clubs in the district or after hearing requests from Rotarians in Africa, Asia and Latin America. We believe that the formation of the Water and Sanitation Rotarian Action Group will provide the leverage and knowledge needed to address this humanitarian challenge more effectively.

Respectfully submitted,
Ron Denham, General Coordinator,
Water Resource Group, 2006-07