

## **Second Quarterly Report Water Resource Group 2008-09**

### **1.0 Overview**

The second quarter of 2008-09 has been productive in achieving the goals of the Water Resource Group to inform, motivate, record, and report the activities of Rotary Clubs and Districts and related Rotarian sponsored water and sanitation activities. We have made substantial progress identifying District Water Resource Chairs. Our Zone Coordinators have been able to get water and sanitation issues before most of our Zone Institutes. While “outside” funding for water programs has been delayed, many water and sanitation projects continue to be the focus of a significant number of Rotarians. Consequently, the goal of improving child mortality is advanced with each safe water source provided.

### **2.0 Administration**

Our primary organizational challenge this year has been to determine our functioning team members. It became obvious that some of our zone coordinators had accepted the position for the honor of the appointment. Motivation became our focus. Some took their duties seriously from the beginning. Some understood better after receiving President Lee’s messages. One found that they could not perform the required tasks and had the integrity to step down but we still have several non-performing or underperforming Zone Coordinators.

However, working with the performing zone coordinators has yielded some increases in District Water Resource Coordinator assignments. The first list we received from the staff listed about 36% of the districts reporting assignments. At the end of the first quarter, we were at 56%. We are now at 69% with a goal of 75%. We have the highest participation this year that we have had in the last five years. We should have 100% if the District Governors heed the requests of our President. We hope that the International Assembly will stress this point in January.

Our next challenge after identifying the District Water Coordinators is to get them talking and working together. To this end, we will be contacting each district coordinator to encourage them to reach out to another district coordinator in another part of the world. By such a strategy, we will verify the data supplied and establish lines of communication.

The RI Information Services Department has been working on a secure website for the exclusive use of the Water Resource Group. While we were unaware of this effort before January 19, 2009, we are now working with the staff to determine how to use this product for the good of Rotary International. We believe the site should be available to the General, Assistant General, Area, Zone, and District Water Resource Coordinators.

### **3.0 Zone Institutes and Water Symposiums**

We believe that all the zone institutes addressed child mortality but most also addressed water and sanitation issues as they affect child mortality. Unfortunately, some institute program chairs did not understand the factors in reducing child mortality and placed too little emphasis in their program schedule. We recommend that the guidelines for 2009-10 institutes be modified to include specific sections on water and sanitation issues.

We will succeed in motivating several water symposiums this year. An all India symposium was conducted in Mumbai in October. Approximately 600 attended the sessions. Another water conference was held in France with 500 attending. Water is on the agenda for the Cairo Presidential and Singapore Intercity conferences also. It is also on the agenda for the Borneo in March. The “Thirsting to Serve” conference will be held in Michigan also in March. The “Thirsting to Serve” conference is a bio-sand filter conference. Eleven districts are exhibiting their projects at the Michigan conference.

### **4.0 Activities in Africa**

This report does not focus on Africa as the previous quarterly did. We will focus on a different parts of the world in each of the quarterly reports.

#### **4.1 Madagascar**

The Madagascar Water Team with the support of the President of the country is forming a country wide plan for safe water and sanitation. Their work is being critiqued by the qualified members of WASRAG and reported through that channel. This is a significant step to start Rotarian involvement in sustainable programs instead of club to club projects which are producing “feel good” results for short term benefits.

#### **4.2 Ghana**

The RI/USAID effort is starting in Ghana. Plans are being made to address the safe water and sanitation needs in this country. The effort is in the planning and early funds request stage now. USAID intends to invest about \$9,000,000 US in RI water and sanitation projects in specific countries of the world. Ghana is the first to be tackled.

#### **4.3 Kenya**

Efforts in Kenya are ongoing. In the First Quarterly Report we highlighted the evaluation of Lifestraws in the islands of Lake Victoria. The final report of the evaluation should be available soon. The rain water harvesting effort in western Kenya was interrupted by the violence in 2008. However, the rain water harvesting effort is continuing as are the sanitation efforts in Nairobi’s slums.

#### 4.4 Nigeria

Several Districts from the USA and Europe are engaged in providing safe water in Nigeria. The efforts previously reported are ongoing. Reporting from West Africa is minimal because of our resource group's limited representation there.

#### 4.5 Zambia/Malawi

Progress in these two countries is continuing but the support for the California Rotarian's plan has been less than hoped for. Work continues as funds are available. Perhaps the slowing economy is the reason behind the slowing of funding.

#### 4.6 South Africa

The South African country wide plan is not in full swing yet. The PepsiCo Foundation decision has been delayed pending more positive economic news. Club to club projects are proceeding but caution appears to be the word for the day when it comes to spending humanitarian project funds. May the first quarter of 2009 bring better economic news.

### **5.0 Activities in India**

The status of the India water projects is summarized below. Reports from all areas of India are not in as of this writing but significant activities are happening all over the subcontinent.

#### **5.1 Asia Area/Indian Water Conference – Mumbai**

A visit to an area by the general coordinator helps focus the efforts of the area Rotarians on water and sanitation. Our scheduled visit to projects in western India was cancelled when Lufthansa cancelled our flight from Houston. We arrived just in time for the Aqua 2008 conference. The following is the report of the Asia Area Coordinator on the conference.

The ROTARY AQUA-2008 was the first ever International District event, on such a grand scale, in the 80 year history of RI District 3140. This international event was the brain child of PDG Kumar Kewalramani, Area Coordinator-Asia and the Water Resource Group District 3140. It was organized to bring about awareness of the serious problems faced by our society, due to this scarce and invaluable resource of water. The motive behind this event was also to educate Rotarians from various districts in the Indian sub-continent, and the citizens of this part of the world, about the variety of initiatives taken by the Rotary International to ensure that our children, and their future generations do not have to suffer because of this basic human need of adequate and safe drinking water.

The success of the event could be gauged by the attendance of almost 600 Rotarians and other delegates, who had assembled at 10 AM, on a Sunday morning, eagerly awaiting to hear the eminent speakers unfold their rich experience and to know and see the work done by them in various quarters, for the conservation and management of water in various parts of the world.

The program started with the traditional lamp lighting ceremony by the distinguished guests with an invocation song in the background which set the perfectly blessed atmosphere for an impressive start of this grand event. PDG Kumar Kewalramani, convener of the event, introduced the guests and welcomed all the delegates in the customary Rotary manner. The inaugural session had stalwarts like RID Ashok Mahajan, PRID Sushil Gupta, and PDG Charles Clemmons – General Coordinator, who enlightened the delegates with their inspiring presentations on the phenomenal role played by the Rotary International worldwide, with its initiatives for the cause of water. The significance of this event can be gauged by the fact that PDG Charles Clemmons came all the way from Houston, Texas exclusively to address this seminar, for the benefit of Rotarians of this part of the world and highlighted the good work done by RI in other critically affected regions of the world, and provided precious guidelines for what can be done for the benefit of our fellow citizens here. DG Bansi Dhurandhar gripped the audience with his vision of RI District 3140 for the year 2020. His impressive presentation highlighted several facts, which revealed impressive statistics and data of the amount of work done in District 3140 for the cause of water and the astounding number of people already benefited and planned to be helped by the District 3140. The main sponsor of the event Eureka Forbes was represented by Mr. AV Suresh, Head-Direct Sales, who impressed upon the delegates the Importance of Pure and Safe Water for well being, and the role his company played over the last several years in India and neighboring countries.

The plenary sessions that followed started with the felicitation of Dr. Madhav Chitale, who is considered as one of the greatest personalities who championed for the cause of water for the last several decades in India. He held prestigious positions in various departments in the Ministry of Water Resources & the UN etc. He is also the recipient of the Stockholm Water Prize, which is regarded as the Nobel Prize in water. He aptly covered in intricate detail, the role of NGO's in water management. The other speakers and guest faculty who made an impact with their convincing presentations were, Mr. Marzin Shroff, Mr. Mukund Vasudevan Rtn. Hemant Jagtap, Dr. Laxmikant Kasat, Dr. Raju Sethya, Mr. V Ramachandran, Mr. Sunil Uplap, Mr. Rudolph D'Souza, Dr. Ajit Gokhale, Mr. Chandrashekharan and Rtn Arrow Sinha Roy. At the end of all the four plenary sessions the delegates had absorbed almost any and every aspect of the water management which is required to be known by any responsible citizen, particularly Rotarians. The rich expanse of wisdom and priceless experience of speakers, who were instrumental in making this program a mind boggling success, disseminated such invaluable treasures of knowledge and information in this seven hour journey that all the delegates were left absolutely awed, and committed to rededicate themselves for the cause of providing safe and adequate water for our fellow beings. Regular Water Quiz's and Lucky Draw's by Dr. Laxmikant Kasat kept the moods and minds of the delegates alert all through the seven hour session. The children of the Rotarians also participated wholeheartedly,

which was evident from the fact that almost 68 highly creative posters and greetings and also some models on various aspects of water management were submitted and which were prominently displayed in the entrance foyer.

The elegant five star venue at The Grand Hyatt, and sumptuous food provided the required energy and ambience to effectively digest the food-for-thought showered by all these eminent speakers. The highlight of the participation was highly motivating address by RID Ashok Mahajan on a topic "WATER IS EVERY ONE BUSINESS".

The program concluded with a befitting Vaedictory Function, where all those who contributed for the success of the program were generously felicitated at the hands of PDG Charles Clemmons, PDG Kumar Kewalramani and DG Bansi Dhurandhar. The main sponsors, in line with their commitment, also distributed Water Purifiers worth Rs. 22,000 to all the 11 Lead Host Clubs.

The success of the ROTARY AQUA – 2008 was evident immediately from the open-hearted positive feedback that was received from the delegates and the sponsors alike, where several of them even asked the organizers when the next Rotary Aqua would be held.

## **5.2 Central India**

Following the Aqua 2008 event in Mumbai, the general coordinator flew to Delhi to visit some central India projects. We were hosted by PRID Sushil Gupta.

### **5.2.1 Churu Water Harvesting Project in the Rajasthan State of India**

Rotary India Water Conservation Trust (RIWCT) has completed a water harvesting project in Churu District of Rajasthan. For this project 10 villages were selected. The following assets were created in these 10 villages:

- 17 Community Tankas (Tanks)
- 181 Family Tankas (Tanks)
- 10 Community Talais (Ponds)
- 1 Rotary Sagar in Baleras (Lake)

This project is benefiting 14,400 persons directly. The total expenditure on creating these assets was approximately Rs 4,000,000. All funds were raised by RIWCT through direct donations.

### **5.2.2 Mehsana Dam Project in the Gujarat State of India**

A major dam was constructed in Mehsana District in Gujarat State of India. This project cost approximately Rs 10,000,000. This dam is benefiting 300,000 persons in that area. 10 % cost (Rs 1,000,000) was paid by RIWCT and balance from State Government and local contributions.

### 5.2.3 Sikar and Alwar Districts Check Dam Projects in Rajasthan

RIWCT has commenced a series of Projects in the Sikar and Alwar Districts of Rajasthan.

In the First Project, RIWCT completed the construction of 4 check dams. Details of these four dams are as follows:

- Kaladeh Wala Dam. Located in Village Kishanpura Avinashi, District Sikar. Project has been primarily financed by Rotary Club of Ingwiller-Bronxwiller-Le Petite Pierre (France). This check dam will benefit 8 villages – Kishanpura, Avinashi, Neem-ka-Thana, Bhagwanpura, Maujmed, Sodhala, Math-ki-Dhani and Sanwalpura with a total population of approximately 6,500 people.
- Buja Wala Dam. Located in Brahmanon ki Dhani, Panchayat – Mokalvaas, Block – Neem ka Thana, Dist – Sikar. Project primarily financed by Rotary Club of Strasbourg Kleber (France). Villages benefited – Brahmanon ki Dhani and Telia ki Dhani. Block – Neem ka Thana. Dist – Sikar. Approximately 2000 persons will benefit from this project.
- Girati Wala Dam. Located in Village Girati ki Dhani, Panchayat – Mokalwas, Block Neem ka Thana. Dist – Sikar. Project primarily financed by M/s Polyglotte (France). Will benefit Girati ki Dhani and Loharwas villages. Block – Neem ka Thana. Dist – Sikar. Approximately 2000 persons will benefit from this project.
- Kemra Wala Dam. Located in Mishrala ki Dhani, Panchayat – Sanvalpura. Block – Neem ka Thana, Dist – Sikar. Project financed jointly by RC Strasbourg Kleber (France) and RIWCT. Villages benefited – Mishrala ki Dhani, Advanya ki Dhani, Teeba Bassi ki Dhani, Lohia ki Dhani, Block – Rajgarh. District – Sikar. Approximately 4000 persons will benefit from this project.

The total cost of construction of these dams was US \$ 80,000. US \$ 20,000 came from beneficiaries and the balance of US \$ 60,000 was put in by RIWCT. Of this amount US \$ 40,000 came from Rotary Clubs and Rotarians from France (RI District 1680). This 4 check dam project will benefit 14,500 people and 20,000 heads of livestock.

In the Second Project of one check dam - Tapkeshwar Wala Dam - was constructed at a total cost of Rs 11,200,000. Of this amount the beneficiaries contributed Rs 2,800,000 and the balance Rs 8,400,000 was contributed by RIWCT. This check dam will benefit 20,000 people and 6,300 heads of livestock in 5 Panchayats of that area.

The Foundation Stone for this check dam was laid by RI President DK Lee in Nov 2007. The check dam has been named as – **The Lee Dam**. Construction of this

check dam was completed in 2008 and inaugurated by PDG Charles Clemmons in Oct 2008.

In the Third Project, construction of 20 check dams has been taken up. Funds for these dams have been contributed by Latter-day Saint Charities (US \$ 409,850). On completion this Project would benefit 70,000 persons and about 25,000 livestock.

For the Third Project work had commenced in 2008 and is expected to be completed by mid 2009.

#### 5.2.4 Clean Water Supply in Maa Vaishno Devi Shrine

RIWCT has completed the survey for a project to revive the Banganga River that flows past the Maa Vaishno Devi Shrine in the State of Jammu & Kashmir. Project will benefit 35,000 to 50,000 pilgrims daily.

#### 5.2.5 Drinking Water Project for Schools in Ghaziabad District of Uttar Pradesh State of India

Coca-Cola has joined hands with RIWCT to provide drinking water facilities in 31 schools in the area of Ghaziabad. These are schools with an average student population of 600 each. All are from the weaker sections of society. Coca-Cola will provide 80% of the funds for this project. The balance amount will be contributed by RIWCT and local Rotary Clubs, which are part of District 3010. Project to be completed in 2009.

### 5.3 Southern India

In Southern India, the following reports were submitted. While reporting the first quarter was minimal, the General Coordinator's visit to the region in October has spurred greater reporting of activities. The following is the report of the zone coordinator.

Water conservation should be part of the job profile of every human being on earth. During the second quarter of 2008, extraordinary work has been done by the 14 districts in Zone 6B.

Over 2,000 water brochures with clean water technologies and a 2009 planner with a 52 point program to save water, were individually mailed to all Presidents and Secretaries of Clubs. Many DGs have agreed to promote the 52 week plan to save water, through their meetings. We plan to bring brochures to Birmingham.

All Districts have appointed District Water Coordinators.

All Districts have provided special focus on water at PETS and District seminars. Many Districts are working on seminars, and appointing water warriors in every club to coordinate activities. Water warriors in every club could be a great resource.

A number of Districts have a clear focus on clean drinking water in schools. The Coca-Cola Company has supported a few of the projects. Here are some of the key projects carried out by each District:

#### 5.3.1 District 2980

On September 28, 2008 in Pondicherry 150 delegates engaged in conserving, rain water harvesting, and artificial recharging of ground water. Steps were taken to recharge abandoned bore wells. Thousands of abandoned bore wells were made operational. The key features were the plans made by the water department engineers to save natural water bodies like tanks, streams and rivers. Plans are underway to apply these principles to build check dams and clear water ways in Mayiladuthurai and Chidambaram in the Cauvery Delta Run. Prathap Chandran, the water coordinator is keenly involved in promoting water programs in all the clubs through zonal meetings. He is encouraging every club to appoint a water warrior. They plan to get involved in a clean up of the Cauvery, one of the major rivers of South India. Tree planting has been taken up as a water retention measure. Over 10,000 trees have been planted.

#### 5.3.2 District 3000

Rtn. Shanmugasundaram, the District Water Resource Coordinator, has been involved in conservation for the last 4 years. The Rotary Club of Madurai Metro has been involved in sinking bore wells for under privileged communities. They plan a District seminar on water conservation in April 2009. They are working on providing water filters in schools.

#### 5.3.3 District 3020

Purification plants costing as much as Rs 22,000 have been installed in 15 villages to provide pure drinking water for disadvantaged populations. Bore wells and overhead tanks have been provided in villages. 69 municipal, underprivileged schools have been adopted and facilities are being provided for clean drinking water and sanitation.

#### 5.3.4 District 3230

After experimenting with various systems for providing safe drinking water to schools, the Water Resources Committee "Elixir of Life," has zeroed in on Filtration + UV Plant costing Rs 30,000 for water quality below TDS 500 and a RO plant costing Rs 175,000 for water quality of 500 TDS and above. They have installed a Bio-Filter Plant and a Filtration plant at a village School in Cheyyar and a RO Plant at Meppur School. All the Presidents of the District will complete a minimum of 105 schools in the current year. Many clubs have appointed water warriors.

### 5.3.5 District 3150

This district has carried out amazing work in installing 1,000 bore wells and water pumps in the arid areas of Andhra Pradesh. During this quarter, a safe drinking water project for 4,000 families has been initiated and completed.

### 5.3.6 District 3160

This is a rural district where implementation has started for providing clean water in schools. They plan to create awareness of water pollution through industrial waste.

### 5.3.7 District 3170

Safe drinking water projects have been undertaken in 50 schools and several communities. Over a 100,000 people would be helped by this project.

### 5.3.8 District 3180

Work has started on pure water for 300 schools. This massive project will cover 300,000 children.

### 5.3.9 District 3190

Over 500 bio-sand water filters at a cost of US \$ 25,000 have been provided in 3 villages in Kolar. Many clubs have provided bio-sand filters to schools. This district has been an invaluable consultant in promoting bio-sand filters.

### 5.3.10 District 3201

A grand Multi-District Water Seminar, "Jalam" (water) was held at Coimbatore. Over 150 delegates attended. One of the inspiring talks was on cleaning up river Noyyal, where Rotarians are closely involved. Over 53 kms of the river have been cleaned up. This river was polluted by the industrial pollutants of a textile town called Tirupur; where there are more millionaires per sq. kilometer than anywhere in India.

### 5.3.11 District 3202

A District Seminar was organized at Calicut (Calicut South). Rotarian Dr.Achyuthan spoke about conservation of rain water. The Mayor of Calicut was present. Safe drinking water projects have been carried out. Over 600 water filters were distributed at Anganwadies (Crèches for pre-school children.) Safe water and sanitation projects were carried out in schools in Tirupur. Toilet blocks were built in the government hospital at Kabini Valley. Water purifiers were provided at the Leukemia ward of the Calicut Medical College. A water purifier was provided at a taxi stand in Darapuram. Water purifiers were provided in 25 schools.

### 5.3.12 District 3211

The US \$ 70,000 project is underway in Alleppey, Kuttanad, where brackish sea water has polluted the soil. 2 villages will receive clean drinking water with a US \$ 20,000 matching grant. These areas have a lot of water, all of it brackish. Water, water everywhere but not a drop to drink! (Coleridge) Ultra-violet rays are used to purify the water. A number of projects have been carried out in schools. Quilon East has collaborated with UK Clubs to bring safe drinking water to a village. Padmashree Balachandra Menon's documentary on 'Safe, Clean, Green, Kerala', is being shared at the Conference.

### 5.3.13 District 3212

This District is involved in cleaning water ways. They plan to hold a water seminar in April 2009. The District governor is from a place famous for its medicinal waterfalls – Cuttralam

### 5.3.13 District 3220

Two massive irrigation tanks were cleaned and rehabilitated at Ambatota and Nikaweratiya. Clean drinking water was provided in 17 schools. Bore wells were dug to provide water in the Northern and central provinces of Sri Lanka. The work done here is commendable, in spite of the disturbed, war situation on the beautiful Island. The zone coordinator has been invited to speak at their conference – February, 2009.

## **6.0 Activities in the Americas**

We are still having trouble getting the USA and Canadian Clubs reporting their activities. Part of the problem may be the confusion resulting from the separation of the RI Water Resource Group from the RI Board approved Water and Sanitation Rotarian Action Group (WASRAG). While the Resource Group acts as an information conduit and WASRAG as the action arm of our joint efforts, the tendency of the zone coordinators is to report to WASRAG. We are trying to overcome this tendency by the Chair of WASRAG and the General Coordinator of the Water Resource Group staying in close touch.

### 6.1 Belize

While Disasters are the prevue of other Rotary groups, floods contaminate water supplies and flow latrines into every part of inhabited area. Often sewage treatment systems are breached thus increasing the opportunity for water borne diseases

In the Orange Walk District, Blue Creek, Trial Farm, San Roman, San Antonio, Santa Cruz, and Douglas Villages as well as the Louisiana, Santa Familia, and Smithsonian communities within the town have been declared disaster areas. The declarations are part of the initial damage assessment report of tropical depression number 16 and the devastating floods that followed. Though we haven't had rain for

almost a week, in some areas like San Roman, San Victor and Douglas Villages, the water is still rising according to the Met Office. In fact, this weekend, the water covered a portion of the Belize-Santa Elena Road near the northern border. And where the water is not rising, it is standing. Those waters still have much of the River Valley and parts of the Orange Walk District submerged. According to the report 16,455 persons are in need of relief assistance. It notes that while only 297 persons are in shelters – it is likely that a far greater number have been displaced. 336 households for a total of 1,256 persons have been directly impacted by the flooding. The government estimates that in one way or another 36,880 persons were directly affected whether with transportation challenges, getting around their communities or attending school.

## 6.2 Dominican Republic

The Rotary Community Corps (RCC) of Gurabo was formed 13 years ago by our club, Santiago Gurabito. The RCC of Gurabo is one of the most successful micro-credit activities that the club has. Water has been one of the most important initiatives of this RCC, which have included aqueducts, hygiene, and latrines.

We have been installing bio-sand water filters through six of our seven RCCs. The RCC of Gurabo is the last one because the quality of the water in that location suggests that we try a different technology, a ceramic water filter made with impregnated colloidal silver. This filter is extremely effective at removing pathogens and bacteria, and it is easy to use and maintain.

This type of filter is used the world over. It is been the subject of many lab and field tests as well as a major health impact study. The filters we will use are manufactured in a small factory about a 45-minute drive from Santiago. The cost of this ceramic water filter is US\$20. The community has more than 1,000 families. Our goal is to install 200 filters in the first stage.

The Rotary Community Corps (RCC) of Los Higos finished the first 12 latrines. Our goal is 50 latrines more. Los Higos is located in the mountains at the north of the Dominican Republic. Here is the youngest RCC of the seven that we have. In the last 5 years, we have been working in Handcraft of the women, helping to keep the road accessible and water projects that include water filters, aqueducts and the first latrines. The cost of one latrine is US\$ 250.00.

## 6.3 Guatemala

Australian Rotarians are supporting the work of Amigos de Australianos y Zelandeses Inc. which is the non-government organization (NGO) connected to Mahiya Norton. She lives in San Pedro across the lake (Lake Atitlan in the heart of Guatemala's volcanic highlands) from her work in San Pablo.

San Pablo has a strong Mayan culture and staggering poverty. The village of 8000 people of San Pablo is located on a hillside and there is plenty of water from rivers which pass through the village.

At present only 40% have running water in their homes this usually just consisting of a tap somewhere outside of the mudbrick house. There are some Onil filtration buckets going in around the village but this is a temporary measure. Dysentery is the biggest killer in this village and they have already started on programs built around teaching the local community about sanitation and other basic information about how to live a healthy lifestyle. Mahiya has purchased a Sky Hydrant which is now operational, and would like to install 4-5 further units.

They have rented a piece of land next to the office for the filter. Total cost is A\$2700.00. The quote includes transport for the tank across the lake, the total construction including a concrete floor for the women to stand on and a roof to cover everything. Land has 4 walls so don't have to construct a fence otherwise that would be Q4000 more. Mahiya says she will try and find places with an enclosed area so to avoid this cost for the further 4 units.

A prerequisite to getting a card to be able to get water daily is that 2 women from each household have to attend 4 classes of 2 hours each on hygiene etc. This will mean 2000 women pass through the school (half of the women in the village) and this is an opportunity which is almost impossible to do (the filter is the catalyst). The first two classes have started. Major focus in the hygiene classes is handwashing; they get four small bars of soap free at the first class; the second class a toothbrush and toothpaste and then the pump.

They are charging 1Q (15c) per 20 liters, usual cost is 14Q a bottle and initially they will be entitled to one bottle per day for every 6 people. This will cover all the running costs of having someone supervise the distribution, the cleaning and the change of the filter every two years.

Phase Two of the project will include the installation of the additional Sky Hydrants and Sanitation Education Centers.

#### 6.4 Haiti

The installation of bio-sand filters continues from a number of sources. While these efforts are productive, the primary need appears to be education and a cultural change that embraces a hopeful future. A number of Rotary Clubs are involved with various NGOs in this effort. We will devote more of the Third Quarterly Report to the islands of the Americas and to sustainability of projects there.

#### 6.5 Other Countries

We know that activities are continuing in Latin America but with the lack of reporting from USA and Canada and the linguistics challenges of having translation unavailable to the Resource Groups from RI and our Assistant General Coordinator out of action for this quarter due to a medical condition, we do not have as detailed reports as we had in the First Quarter's Report. The rezoning for 2009-10 will

realign many of our current coordinators. We all serve at the pleasure of the President and Board.

## **7.0 Activities in Europe**

The major event in Europe this quarter was the conference at the Peace Memorial in Caen, France on water. The conference had a good attendance of approximately 320 people. The speakers were excellent. We had Mr. Michel Camdessus, past president of the International Monetary Fund, and Gerard Payen who was the past President of Suez and actual President of Aquafed. There were articles in the press before and after the event. Ron Denham stressed Rotary commitments and achievements and of course he was a wonderful ambassador for Rotary.

The European report came in French and Swedish. Since I'm linguistically challenged and the RI staff interpreters can not support the resource groups, I have no choice but to report on European efforts in the Third Quarterly Report. I'm aware that there have been conferences in France and the Nordic states. However, I have yet to receive a report on their efforts. Part of the problem lays with the confusion over the roles of the Resource Groups versus the Rotarian Action Groups.

## **8.0 Activities in the South Pacific**

This area of the world was short on reporting in the first quarter. We thank them for the inputs for this quarterly report.

### **8.1 General Remarks**

In response to requests from General Coordinator recently in relation to appointment of District Coordinators, I (Zone 7) can report that eleven of the twelve District Governors have appointees, and even though I have made several suggestions to the one remaining Governor (D9670), of possible candidates, he has still been unable to fill the position, which is unfortunate.

The level of replies from the District Coordinators during this Rotary year to date has been most disappointing, with only four of the twelve regularly responding to any requests for information. Three others have replied at least once (including the Governor referred to above), whilst, the remaining five have not responded at all.

At the time of sending my last email seeking information so that we could complete this report, we also sent a letter to the DG's asking them to make contact with their Coordinator, requesting them to supply the information, however, only four DG's copied me on their letter, and the response rate from Coordinators has not improved.

## 8.2 District Reports

Following are remarks or project summaries relating to the different Districts that form Zone 7.

8.2.1 District 9450 – No contact whatsoever from their Coordinator, which I find difficult to understand as he holds a responsible position with the Western Australian Water Board.

8.2.2 District 9460- Has responded once but has been unable to supply any information on projects in his District due to personal problems.

8.2.3 District 9470 – PDG Allan Lewins is one of the four Coordinators who has kept in constant touch with me, and has reported on two projects, one completed the other a proposal

The completed project took place in the remote village of Lautem in Timor L'Este, and involved various 4 specific sub projects, namely,

- The first at the Secondary School where a bore was sunk, two rainwater tanks were supplied and installed, which caters for 720 students.
- The second, a bore and pump was installed in the village for general use by the village families.
- The third, was where a storage tank together with new roof guttering was installed at the local church.
- The fourth, where an existing but unused rainwater storage tank at the Primary school was refurbished and a new tap fitted.

The purpose of the proposed project (will be supported by the RC of Pursat, which is located in the poorest part of the country), involves feeding pre-school children with a morning porridge that consists of fish, greens, carrots and peanut butter. It sounds awful – but the kids love it and it is their only daily protein.

It is envisaged by the RC of Gainseville (D9470) that success with this proposed project would lead to self help projects to build up village utilities such as water supplies, bores, dams and power.

### 8.2.4 District 9520

This district is undertaking major projects in two villages, namely, Lebuae and Glai, which are located some 70 kms from Dili, the capital of Timor L'Este.

The projects are to bring water to the villages as well as sanitation facilities, and introduce hygiene programs. Prior to the commencement of the project, the villagers

had to walk up to 3 kms to collect water from the river. There were no toilets in the village which meant people defecated near their home or in the fields. In addition no one in the village washed their hands after going to their toilet or before preparing or eating meals.

At this stage, the following components have been completed:

### Lebaue Village

Water:

- Two intake structures have been completed
- Three reservoir tanks have been completed
- 1,500 meters of water pipeline has been laid
- Five tap stands have been constructed

Sanitation:

- Twenty eight household latrines have been constructed and are being used.
- A graph supplied after a recent monitoring program shows that 100% of Men, Women and Children are using the latrines and outside defecating has ceased.

Hygiene:

- House to house promotion is ongoing
- Hygiene promotion by role play by children has been organized
- Video on hygiene promotion shown

### Glai Village

Water:

- Survey, design and cost estimate of water supply has been completed
- Materials such as pipes and fittings for water supply system have been ordered from hardware shop.

Sanitation:

- All thirty nine households in the community have had latrines built
- A recent monitoring survey shows that most people, but not all are using their latrines

Hygiene:

- House to house promotion is ongoing
- Hygiene promotion by role play by children has been organized

- Video on hygiene promotion shown

### Funding for the project

Clubs in D9520 have contributed over \$30,000 and \$25,000 has been matched by an anonymous donor in the US – D5950

The actual installation work is being conducted by Water Aid, an NGO involved in many parts of the world.

8.2.5 District 9550 – No report and one of the non responding coordinators.

8.2.6 District 9570 – No response at all from Coordinator, but District Governor advised that he is not aware of any projects currently underway.

8.2.7 District 9600

This district is currently completing projects previously reported on, however, as a result of a District Project Fair held in the September 08, they are in the early planning stages of a proposal to supply and install eight (8) to ten (10) roof harvesting systems in the Solomon Islands. This is an area where they carry out a considerable amount of project work.

The Coordinator (Rtn. Jan Lawton) is in her second year and has worked tirelessly to achieve results, and is in constant contact with me. Jan is stepping down at the end of this Rotary year, but has already found her replacement (with DGE's approval) for 2009/10, and is currently working with and assisting him to understand the role and what is expected of him.

8.2.8 District 9630

Whilst Coordinator Geoff Wilson had no current water projects to report on, he advised the zone coordinator, that he is meeting with Professor Daryl Joyce, from the Gatton Campus, of the University of Queensland (who is a keynote speaker at the forthcoming D9630 District Conference), who along with his plant scientists at Gatton are seeking funding for a project to breed cultivars of local Australian native species of plants best suited to green roofs and green walls of Brisbane(Qld) , as climate change gathers pace.

The wider water issues involved in green roofs, green walls and urban agriculture are complex, the environment technologies emerging will see many of us harvesting and storing rainwater, renovating grey water and harvesting air moisture using inexpensive solar powered equipment.

Geoffs own Club RC of Carindale, will be involved in one of the first projects where the new plant cultivars will be seen.

### 8.2.9 District 9670

This District is the only one in Zone 7 without a District Water Coordinator, however, DG. Alex McHarg has successfully obtained and submitted a report from President Wendy Stein from the RC of Salamander Bay which follows:

The Rotary Club of Salamander Bay 9670 in conjunction with the Rotary Club of Kenthurst 9680 is currently working on safe water and sanitation for the communities in the Eastern Highlands Province (EHP) of Papua New Guinea. In the EHP, typhoid is endemic and the mortality rate of adults and children is the second highest in the world. The maternal mortality continues to rise. On a recent visit with our medical team in September, they were overwhelmed by the dying babies, suffering from dysentery because their mothers were feeding them powdered milk mixed with river water.

Our medical team became so distraught by the suffering of so many due to a simple thing such as water that they had to leave in the short term but returned. Many lives were saved. See "Safe Water Saves Lives" in Humanity in Motion. At Fomu, we constructed 5 classrooms, their first school and are harvesting water from the roof of the buildings into tanks. This will help the situation in a small way until funds can be raised to pipe two kilometers of polypipe from a safe water supply through the villages for domestic use.

In the last two years 7 villages have been supplied with safe water in the Mando area, where prior to their average life expectancy was just 42 years. 7000 people benefited. When a supply is available for the people of Fomu 6000 will benefit.

Toilets have been constructed in both locations for the 530 students at Mando and 400 at Fomu. These have been equipped with Tuffa plastic toilet pans and teachers are carrying out hygiene lessons in hand washing. These two RAWCS (Rotary Australia World Community Service) Projects are ongoing projects of Safe Water, Literacy Education and Health.

Five containers have also been shipped to the EHP in the last year containing life saving equipment for Health Centers and Aid Posts. Many villagers are screaming out for Rotary's help for safe water, which we see as a basic human right.

### 8.3 Global Hand Washing Day in Zone 7

The introduction of this important event, with such a short time span for its planning and implementation left a lot to be desired, and I feel that we were unable to capitalize on this as a result.

There were only three of the twelve Districts in Zone 7 that have reported on their involvement, and interestingly those three are amongst the 4 Districts who reported on projects, which are covered in a separate report.

D9470 – PDG Allan Lewins the Coordinator did everything in his power to make it a success, and in his report covers all aspects of his approach, together with his thoughts on the way future Handwashing Days should be carried out, therefore, I have copied his report directly into this document.

Report from District 9470.

Prior to the event all of the following contacts were supplied with the RI Water resource group Global Handwashing Day Manual/Guide.

ALL Public Relations managers of private enterprises and all State Government Ministers and Departments and shown below, were contacted by phone followed up by email confirmation.

All Rotary Clubs in the District were provided with the Global Handwashing Day Manual/Guide Rotary International World Presidents' message on child mortality.

Western Australia had a State election, and a change in government only a few days before the event, nevertheless the following Government Contacts were made in Western Australia:

- The Western Australia Minister for Health (both outgoing and incoming)
- The Minister for Education and Training (both)
- The Department of Water Department of Health Department of Education Services
  
- Media
- The West Australian
- Sunday Times
- Community Newspapers
- ABC Perth

Major retail outlets Head Office Public Relations managers for:

- Woolworths
- Coles
- IGA

All District 9470 Rotary Clubs (33)

Following the event, all Rotary clubs were again contacted and requested to print off and supply to the libraries of all Primary and Secondary schools, in their sphere of influence, a copy of the Global Handwashing Day manual as a gift from the Club.

It is difficult to know which results came from whom. I feel sure that there are still some Clubs who are processing the request to place the manual in their local schools.

On the day, Australian Broadcasting Company - Perth had some coverage on Global Handwashing Day in their news segment although it seemed to me that UNICEF was the prominent partners. The following day it was announced that 'The Wiggles' were to write a song and make a DVD about the importance of kids washing their hands with soap. I cannot be sure how this came about.

At our 9470 District Conference on 10th October in Fremantle, the DVD which concerned the plight of third world children, mortality through lack of basic water supply, was played in the booth area during recess and meal times and I am led to believe that it was well received.

The purposes of contacting the three major retailing organizations was to request that they use their influence with soap and toilet manufacturers/ suppliers to use the day as a promotions day to enthruse kids to use soap and to wash their hands before eating and after going to the toilet. All agreed this was a good idea but suggested that the contact should be made about one year before the Global Handwashing Day event, preferably by Rotary International Head Office. This would give them time to organize.

Requesting the placement of the manual in all our schools by the Clubs during this, the UN Year of Sanitation, I feel was an important ongoing Community message. It has a multi-pronged PR effect. Not only does it carry the hand washing message but it also establishes/strengthens contact between the Rotary Club and the local School community and at the same time it publicizes the local Rotary Club and its endeavors, and brings it to the attention of teachers parents and of course the children.

Past President Margaret White of the RC of Tea Tree Gully organized a "Handwashing Activity" at a local Community Centre, for parents and Children of "The African Women's Group" which has run in Tea Tree Gully District for 5 years. This group comprises mainly refugees from the Sudan and Burundi regions of Africa which have arrived in Australia with very little in bare essentials and lots of hope for the future.

On Friday 17<sup>th</sup> October (Two days after the GHD date) the State Government of South Australia, working through the Department of Education and Children's Services and SA Health Department, arranged their own major hygiene awareness program event in the centre of the Rundle Mall (Adelaide's Main Shopping thoroughfare) and released their own Resource Kit on the topic of hand and respiratory hygiene titled:

### **Wash – Wipe – Cover – Don't infect another**

This event received excellent Television and print coverage as you can well imagine. Unfortunately, at no stage through the numerous discussions I held with the Authorities was this even mentioned which was most disappointing because, if we had been able to participate in that event and support the Departments it would have been a win/win situation.

I made contact with the Department on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> October and spoke to the person responsible for the event. He was most upset when he heard what we had been doing and stated "He was not aware of our involvement and no one from either Department had raised the matter". He kindly couriered out a copy of the new kit that same day.

Feed back from the Clubs I must admit has been minimal, but that is not new.

Please note that the RI staff turned down the general coordinator's request for materials to be developed by RI citing the restriction that the staff graphic artists were only available to the staff requirements. The material developed by UNICEF was late getting out thus putting undue strain on our Rotary volunteers.

### **9.0 District 2640 (Zone 3)**

Clean water project-----Installing water purifier with cooling system in schools in Thailand. We keep the theme "Conserving water" same as last year and continue to perform projects to expand the number of beneficiaries.

Install water sterilizing system for drinking water-----Installing water sterilizing system which uses ultraviolet rays from the sun to provide safe drinking water to residence in Lubang Island, Philippines.

Pit well popularize project-----It is estimated that 25% of 400 wells are contaminated with arsenic in Bangladesh. Fujiidera Shura RC helped Habikino RC to donate deep wells in Bangladesh through the Asia Association and the Asia Friendship Association. But this time Fujiidera Shura RC and Habikino RC joined with District 2670 Tokushima South RC and planed to donate pit wells which are four to five times more reasonable than deep wells. Habikino RC planed to donate 5 pit wells and total cost will be 115,000 yen. Fujiidera Shura RC planed to donate 10 pit wells and total cost will be 230,000 yen (23,000 yen per well).

### **10.0 Summary and Recommendations**

The focus of this report has been on India and the South Pacific just as the focus of the first quarterly report was on administration and Africa. We have spent some time in sorting out the presentations on water and sanitation at the Birmingham convention. It is a compliment to Rotary that the head of Water and Sanitation for UNICEF has accepted a plenary speaking engagement for the convention. The Water Resource Group, WASRAG, and UNICEF have worked together this year for the good of children around the world.

There are a vast number of safe water and sanitation projects being done by Rotarians all over the world. In time we will be able to catalog those which do not have TRF funds involved. We can now get reports of those which have TRF funds involved. As we continue to reach out to other foundations and partner with other NGOs, the percentage of TRF funded projects will continue to fall. The Future

Visioning Plan (FVP) pilot will present further challenges on tracking Rotarian involvement in Water and Sanitation projects and programs. It is recommended that the Resource Groups be integrated into the FVP pilot to assist in providing guidance on RI-wide information transfers. It is further recommended that the staff support for graphics development and for language translation be extended to the humanitarian resource groups.

Respectfully Submitted:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Charles E. Clemmons". The signature is written in black ink on a white background.

Charles E. Clemmons  
General Coordinator  
Water Resource Group 2008-09  
Rotary International  
January 27, 2009