



Spectrum



RI District 3291

November 23, 2019

PRESIDENT □ DR SUDHA CHAUDHARY

CLUB NO □ 78956

Weekly bulletin of Rotary Club of Salt Lake Metropolitan Kolkata

SECRETARY □ KUSUM CHAMARIA

CHARTERED ON □ APRIL 30, 2008

VOL 12A □ NO 21

EDITOR □ BL AJITSARIA

WEBSITE □ www.rcslmk.org

Creating partnerships in Russia through the Multi-Club Workshop

Posted on November 20, 2019 by Leonardo de Angelis, Member of Rotary Club Ravenna, Italy and Coordinator of the Multi-Club Workshop



Another Multi-Club Workshop (MCW) has just ended! We hosted the 13th MCW in Moscow to encourage Russian clubs to get involved in global grants as international partners. District 2223 hosted the event to help local clubs become more involved in international service. The group of international visitors was composed of twenty people, including Rotary members from Italy and Serbia. The 13th MCW created an atmosphere full of friendships, family, and excitement.



Over the course of the five-day event participants enjoyed sightseeing in Moscow. Attendees visiting Moscow for the first time were enchanted by the various aspects of the city: the Red Square, the Kremlin, the shopping centres, the Cathedral of the Christ St. Saviour in front of the Moscow river from where you can see the various architectural styles of the city. Attendees also visited the Home for Deaf and Blind Children "Detski

Dom". There, 200 children (some orphans) ages 3-18 received excellent care and love, made possible through the support of the Rotary Club of Moscow International in collaboration with the Rotary Clubs of Bari (Italy), Ravenna (Italy) and Moscow Humboldt (Russia) from relationships formed through the Multi-Club Workshop.



An important part of the event was the seminar where participants learned about projects seeking support through international partnerships.



This year's Multi-Club Workshop was attended by representatives from eight international clubs and 11 Russian clubs with the purpose of building international friendships and partnerships for global grants. During the project exchange session of the seminar, club representatives presented their projects which included:

- Constructing a modern toilet in Volgograd, Russia;
- Refurbishing the water system at a hospital in Chiulo, Cuene Province, Angola;
- Addressing infertility for young people in the Lombardy Region, Italy;
- Providing medical equipment and support for young para-athletes in Moscow, Russia;
- Creating a new palliative care system in the Rasina District, Serbia;
- Improving the care of young diabetics in Sudan;
- Sharing a new methodology for developing creative and psychological skills for young people in Kazan, Russia.



The seven projects were seeking a combined total of US \$694,000 in international contributions. Participants then voted which projects would receive financial support from the MCW. The selected projects include providing a new palliative care system in the Rasina District of Serbia, refurbishing the water system at a hospital in Chiulo, Cuene Province, Angola, and providing medical equipment and support for young para-athletes in Moscow, Russia.



The event concluded with the selection of next year's venue for the 2020 Multi-Club Workshop Venice, Italy!



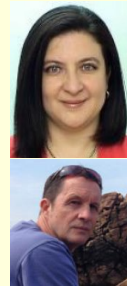
After the traditional closing photos and banner exchanges, the 13th MCW ended. In the evening, we attended a Gala Dinner with the Cossacks who entertained us with their songs and dances during the gala dinner, creating a family atmosphere,

full of joy as they invited us to join them. And it is this atmosphere of fellowship that has characterized the 13th MCW!



You can find more details and pictures of this successful event in the 13^o MCW section of our website. We hope you'll join us for the 14th annual Multi-Club Workshop in Venice next September!

The future of the sanitation economy: Perspectives on World Toilet Day



By Maria Angelica, Practice Manager, World Bank Water Global Practice & Sotomayormartin Gambrill, Lead Water and Sanitation Specialist on November 19, 2019

This is adapted from the opening remarks by Maria Angelica Sotomayor, Practice Manager for the Africa Region with World Bank Water Global Practice, at the Sanitation Economy Summit in Pune, India. She also oversees the global sanitation agenda at the World Bank.



Maria Angelica Sotomayor at the Sanitation Economy Summit
World Toilet Day is a special day that should remind us all of the urgency and importance of the task ahead in our global commitment to achieving the sanitation SDG. It should also serve as a reminder that, although we had 15 years to achieve the sanitation MDG, the world missed that target by almost 700 million people – in fact, sanitation was one of the most off-track MDGs. Of course we are now in the era of the SDGs, which present us with the even greater challenge of providing safely managed

sanitation for all along the whole sanitation service chain. This means that just building latrines will not be sufficient, especially since we have only 11 years left to achieve the SDG goal of universal safely managed sanitation.

This is a huge task. According to the latest JMP figures, in 2017 there were 4.1 billion people in the world without access to safely managed sanitation, 2 billion of whom were living without basic sanitation, and with over 670 million still practicing open defecation.

We know that business as usual in the sanitation sector will not allow us to reach the SDG targets.

So, we need a revolution in thinking and acting in order to tackle these great challenges. The public and private sector must work together if we are to achieve the SDG goals.

I can't think of a better place to spend World Toilet Day than in India, which should serve as an inspiration to all of us working in the sector, given the impressive advances the country has achieved in recent years in reducing open defecation under the national Swachh Bharat Mission. The World Bank is very proud to have partnered with the Government of India in this endeavor through the provision of 1.5 billion dollars of innovative, results-based financing in direct support of the Swachh Bharat program.

The World Bank has been an active partner of governments around the world in the sanitation sector for over 50 years, which has provided us with many important lessons from richer and poorer countries alike.

We realize that there is no silver bullet in our pursuit of providing safely managed sanitation services for all. We see that the provision of such services at scale is costly, it necessitates behavior change among all sector stakeholders, it requires strong political will, commitment and leadership from the very highest level of government down to the local community and the household, and it needs the engagement of both the public and private sectors.

The benefits of tackling the challenges of sanitation are manifold: improved sanitation leads to lower disease burden, improved nutrition, reduced stunting, increased attendance of girls at school, healthier living environments, improved quality of life, increased job opportunities and wages, the improved competitiveness of cities, as well as economic, environmental and social gains to society more broadly.

Recent analysis shows that ending open defecation can improve children's lives by reducing disease transmission, stunting and under-nutrition, which are all important for childhood cognitive development and future economic productivity. Without adequate sanitation facilities, girls are more likely to drop out of school and are vulnerable to attacks while seeking privacy.

Lack of sanitation also hinders economic growth, as it can cost some countries billions. In India, poor sanitation can cost the equivalent of 6.4% of the country's GDP.

In addition, properly managed sanitation is essential for protecting the environment, as it is crucial in our battle to clean up our rivers, lakes and seas.

High levels of both nitrogen and phosphorous are present in wastewater and fecal sludge, and are needed by the agriculture sector for use in fertilizers. However, they are mostly being dumped into water bodies rather than being recycled and kept on the land where farmers need them. For example, 85% of the world's wastewater is currently discharged in untreated form into nature! Closing these resource loops would greatly help in the battle of the planetary boundaries.

So, although the sanitation SDG targets present us with huge challenges, they also provide us with great opportunities – opportunities which we can begin to realize when we start considering sanitation as a service to be delivered, and wastewater and fecal sludge as resources to be reused and not as wastes to be disposed of.

We see such a vision as a key pillar of the Sanitation Economy. And the exciting thing is that this is already happening! There are many great examples of job creation and economic growth associated with the delivery of safely managed sanitation services, and many other examples of closing the resource loop in the sector.

We see public and private service providers of all sizes - from mega utilities such as Sabesp in Brazil and Manila Water in the Philippines, to small formal or informal entrepreneurs at the local level, such as Container Bases Sanitation providers in Haiti and sludge emptiers in Uganda.

We also see impressive examples of reuse, from sophisticated tertiary treatment plants for converting wastewater into industrial-grade water in South Africa and as potable water in Namibia and Singapore, to the conversion of fecal sludge into compost and fuel briquettes in Bolivia and Kenya.

So, we shouldn't focus only on the building of infrastructure, be it centralized or decentralized, sewers or onsite solutions, as this leaves out what I believe is the most important aspect of the sector, namely the sustainable delivery of sanitation services.

It is not just about the technology but also finding the right service delivery models, policies, funding, and regulatory and institutional frameworks, which are tailored to the local reality. This is particularly important in developing country cities, as their urban growth is dominated by disorganized, informal, rapidly growing settlements that challenge our ability to provide traditional services.

This means that we need to be flexible and creative. And we need to work with both the public and private sector, and with small, medium and large operators alike – but we need to do so at scale.

A key part of the response will involve further leveraging of the private sector's professional capacity and investment. By partnering with the private sector, we can tap into its capacity to innovate new affordable and aspirating products, provide service delivery for poorer households, strengthen distribution and supply chains, increase responsiveness to customer demand, and apply the best social and commercial marketing practices to change behavior, which is a particularly crucial consideration for sanitation. Private sector participation can also be tapped into for the efficient collection, conveyance, treatment and proper disposal and reuse of fecal sludge and wastewater.

Today, as we observe World Toilet Day, I invite you to take full advantage of this Summit in Pune to share your experiences and learn from that of others, so that we can leap frog the mistakes of the past and build on and scale-up the successes.

How can clean water help eradicate polio?

Posted on November 22, 2019 by By the Water and Sanitation Rotarian Action Group

World Polio Day was just celebrated on October 24. It was established by Rotary International to commemorate the birth of Jonas Salk, who led the first team to develop a vaccine against poliomyelitis. Use of this inactivated poliovirus vaccine and subsequent widespread use of the oral poliovirus vaccine, developed by Albert Sabin, led to the establishment of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative.

Polio is a disease caused by a virus that affects the nervous system and is mainly spread by person-to-person contact. Polio can also be spread by drinking water or eating raw or undercooked food

that is contaminated with the feces of an infected person which is why projects that focus on water and sanitation are very important in the fight against polio.

How can you take action? Whatever works best for your community, the choice is yours! We encourage you to focus on a project that improves the quality of water and/or level of awareness in your community. You could, for example:

- Clean up debris along a waterway, lake, creek, pond, stream, or other water source.
- Prevent erosion by planting trees and native plants along a water source.
- Build awareness in your community – encourage students to write essays on the importance of water and what they can do to protect it.
- Encourage farmers in your area to use eco-friendly chemicals that will not damage fragile water systems.
- If your community's water source is safe, eliminate plastic water bottles. If they are a necessity, ensure they are collected and recycled appropriately.

The most important aspect is to educate your community on the importance of protecting its water sources. Get local community members involved in your efforts.

Whenever possible, please consult with your local water or conservation authority to ensure that your efforts are compatible with conditions in your area. For example, cleaning a watercourse during spawning season could have a negative impact on fish stocks.



At Bhalswa Lake in Delhi, India, lab technicians from the National Centre for Disease Control take water samples to test for poliovirus at the National Environmental Polio Laboratory. 19 June 2019.

Enter our World Polio Day Competition: Submit a brief description of your project to info@wasrag.org. Include what you are doing, the target audience and the expected impact of the project. Photos and press releases are encouraged. Remember to tell us your club name, district number, and provide a contact name, email address and phone number. Some projects will be showcased on our website.

Members of the Water and Sanitation Rotarian Action Group's Membership Satisfaction Team will review all applications and select the winning projects. A \$500 USD prize will be awarded for the most impactful project and another \$500 USD will be awarded for the most innovative project.

Please submit all entries by 1 December, 2019. Winners will be notified no later than 1 February, 2020.

Share your story! Use your project to raise awareness about polio and the importance of clean water and hygiene. We will share some projects our monthly newsletters, but why not tell your story to the Rotary world yourself? Share your project on Rotary Showcase.

Recent Rotaract policy updates

The 2019 Council on Legislation amended the constitutional documents of Rotary International to include Rotaract clubs as a

membership type. After this landmark decision in April, RI president Mark Maloney appointed the Elevate Rotaract Task Force, composed of Rotaractors and Rotarians, to recommend updates to policies to reflect Rotaract's newly elevated status.



At every stage of the Task Force's discussions, the critical goals were to learn what Rotaractors want from their membership and to give them every opportunity to shape these important policy decisions through surveys and focus groups.

Key decisions about Rotaract from the October 2019 Board meeting

In October 2019, the Board of Directors of RI made several changes to the policies related to Rotaract, which were recommended by the Elevate Rotaract Task Force. To learn more:

- Review policy changes related to Rotaract in detail, which take effect 1 July 2020.
- Review the updated Standard Rotaract Club Constitution, which takes effect 1 July 2020.
- Review the updated Recommended Rotaract Club Bylaws, which takes effect 1 July 2020.

Below are the notable changes to Rotaract and frequently asked questions to help clarify the impact of these changes.

Changes to the Code of Policies effective 1 July 2020:

- Rotaract clubs will be able to establish a new club with or without a sponsor.
- Rotaract clubs will be able to choose other Rotaract clubs as their sponsors.
- Rotaract clubs will be open to all young adults at least 18 years old.
- Rotaract policies will be moved from Chapter V, "Programs," to a revised Chapter II, "Clubs."
- The Standard Rotaract Club Constitution and the Recommended Rotaract Club Bylaws will be amended to reflect these policy changes.
- Rotary districts are encouraged to include Rotaractors in every district committee.

Other key decisions:

- Rotaractors will pay per capita dues in the future, but the amount of dues and when we'll begin collecting them have not been determined.
- The RI president, the RI Board of Directors, and The Rotary Foundation Trustees should consider how Rotaractors might advise them on Rotaract matters.
- Rotary International has set goals for Rotaract to:
 - Increase the number of Rotaractors reported to Rotary by 100 percent by 2022
 - Increase the number of reported Rotaractors who join Rotary clubs by 20 percent by 2022
 - Increase the number of Rotaractors to 1 million by 2029

Anniversary of Rotary members in November

Spouse Sudata & PDG Anjan Kumar on November 17, 2019

Sp Jaya & PDG Angsuman on November 18, 2019

Spouse Sapna & Sanjay Agarwal on November 19, 2019

Archana & Mukesh Goyal on November 21, 2019

Dr Om & Aruna Tantia on November 27, 2019

Spouse Sushila & Indra Kumar Bagri on November 30, 2019

November is Rotary Foundation month

UNWINDS

My father is so old that when he was in school, history was called current affairs

TAILPIECE

Saving is the best thing, especially when your parents did it for you.

We meet 2nd and 4th Saturdays at GPT Group, JC 25, Salt Lake, Kolkata 700098 at 6.00 PM

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