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## Global grant provides clean water for Turkish schools, builds Rotary awareness

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By Dan Nixon  
Rotary News -- 9 January 2013

Turkish Rotarians have provided 2,500 students in four schools in Adana, Turkey, with new toilets and clean water facilities through a water and sanitation project supported by a Rotary Foundation global grant.

The project, sponsored by the Rotary clubs of Adana-Cukurova, Turkey, and Frutal, Minas Gerais, Brazil, demonstrates how Rotary's new grant model can enable Rotarians to reach more people in need and make a larger and more lasting impact by involving the community, having a measurable outcome, and building in sustainability.

The effort also shows how the grant model can be used to increase the public's awareness of Rotary. The Turkish club sponsored concerts by a chorus of Rotarians and Rotaractors in Istanbul and Adana, and arranged newspaper and television coverage, which helped raise funds for the project and publicize Rotary's role.

### Assessing local needs

The Turkish Rotarians began conducting a needs assessment in January 2011 to come up with a project that improved health and hygiene at local schools. The club is in District 2430, part of the Future Vision pilot, which is testing the Rotary Foundation's new grant model in advance of it being applied to all districts in July 2013.

After determining the shape of their project, the Rotarians sought an international sponsor, and discovered through RI's LinkedIn group that District 4770, also in the pilot, was looking for a partner for a global grant project with a focus on health.

The two districts stayed in contact through the Future Vision LinkedIn group, and later submitted a global grant application, with the Frutal club serving as international partner. The project addressed two of Rotary's areas of focus: water and sanitation and disease prevention and treatment.

### Implementing the project

In July 2011, after the grant's approval, members of the Turkish club renovated bathrooms in the four schools, providing new toilets, wash basins, floor and wall tiles, electrical wiring, and other improvements. Project funding included US\$12,500 from the District Designated Funds of the two districts, \$7,100 in cash donations, and a \$16,050 global grant from the Foundation.

Four months later, club members, including two doctors, joined Rotarians from another club in training hygiene of teachers, administrators, and parents at each school how to instruct the students in good hygiene practices to prevent diseases like diarrhea, Guinea worm, and hepatitis. The teams were charged with monitoring the students' progress.

### Ensuring sustainability

To make sure the project continues to have an impact after its May 2012 conclusion, Rotarians posted colorfully illustrated signs on bathroom walls to remind the students about good practices, such as washing their hands, flushing toilets, and turning off the faucets to save water. Rotarians also organized an art and essay contest, with prizes, to keep the students focused on good hygiene and disease prevention. The contest is now part of an annual school event called Hygiene Day.

"We decided that sustainability can be achieved by putting hygiene into [the students' daily lives] and not just by teacher trainers' warnings," said Adana-Cukurova club member Tugrul Yegenaga in the final report for the global grant. The report also notes that when the students eventually become parents, they will pass on what they've learned to their children.

### Measuring outcome

To measure the project's impact, the Rotarians who trained the parent/teacher/administrator teams visited the schools every month to observe how the teams were performing. They visited each school six times to assess student hygiene habits. Rotarians also determined that soap use had increased 300 percent in 2011 compared to the previous year.

- Learn more about the new grant model
- Watch Rotarians talk about the new grant model
- See a Rotarian's guide to the new Foundation grants in the November issue of *Global Outlook* (PDF).

10 Comments:

At 4:12PM on 12 December 2012, **EPNZC, PDG 5440 Bryan Cooke** wrote:

Congratulations Turkish & Brazilian Friendship Exchange Rotary Clubs of Adana-Cukurova, Turkey, and Frutal, Minas Gerais, Brazil! Bryan, Past President, Colorado-Minas Gerais Chapter, Partners of America

At 12:13PM on 12 December 2012, **fehmi çubukçu, adana turkey** wrote:

great! so proud to read about your achievements and imagining their consequences...thank you friends..

At 4:33PM on 21 November 2012, **Jay Deshpande** wrote:

Hello , we are doing this for school children in rural areas near Pune, India. I am from Rotary Club of Poona, Dist 3131 - President Elect 2013-14. Looking for partners to continue this noble project. please get in touch with me for details at deshpande.jay@gmail.com

At 9:23AM on 20 November 2012, **Tugrul Yegenaga** wrote:

Dear Trevor Taylor We have plans to continue same project for 6 schools in 2013-2014 .Will be delighted to discuss further.

At 9:36AM on 19 November 2012, **Md. Mahibbul Karim** wrote:

Recently we have taken a tree plantation project in a local non govt. school. We now think about another programme for student awareness programme on disease prevention, water and sanitation, art competition and hygiene practice.

At 9:35AM on 19 November 2012, **JOHNSON OSOKA AGWU-RC OWERRI D- 9140** wrote:

This Case Study is an indication that our Future Vision Plan will be a success story. This kind of story will also be very helpful especially to Non Pilot Districts of The Future Vision Plan

At 9:35AM on 19 November 2012, **trevor taylor** wrote:

These case studies do help to increase awareness of how a Global Grant should be put together. They are full of good ideas!!! If you would like to partner our District 9600 in similar work in the Countries in the Pacific, please contact us. Trevor Taylor DGE D 9600

At 9:34AM on 19 November 2012, **Frank Ferrante** wrote:

The detail descriptions of the new Future Vision Program and sample application of a Global Grant (Turkey) were very useful in my role as Foundation Advocate for my district 7600. Thanks and please do continue adding more successful projects both Global and DDF types so clubs can learn how easy the processes are to implement and how beneficial the new process will be for our club communities and the world.

At 9:33AM on 19 November 2012, **George Gordon Shurtleff** wrote:

Please include Case Studies as programs in Rotary eClub One. -Secretary, Rotary Club of Spruce Pine District 7670

At 3:48PM on 16 November 2012, **Tom Pyne** wrote:

Thank you for sharing this Case Study. Please continue to share more of them.I think it is a very effective learning tool. Tom Pyne Elmbrook Rotary Club International Service Committee, Brookfield, WI D-6270

### Add a comment

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