

Rotary

Thailand

โรตารีประเทศไทย

No. 215 November - December 2024



After the Floods
restoring communities in
northern Thailand and Pakistan

DG Apisak
in multiple, challenging roles

Khok Nong Na
a blessing from heaven,
a gift from Rotary

Rotary 



Register and pay by
15 December 2024
before prices increase
convention.rotary.org

MAJESTIC
MOUNTAINS

VIBRANT
CITY

MAGIC ALL
AROUND

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

21-25 JUNE 2025 • CALGARY, CANADA



RI PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

November 2024



District grants fund small-scale, short-term activities that address needs in your community and in communities abroad. Each district chooses which activities it will fund with these grants.

Our Foundation can even help you support our wonderful youth programs, including Rotary Youth Exchange, Rotary Youth Leadership Awards, and Interact.

Your gifts to our Foundation also make Programs of Scale possible. These are long-term projects that seek to solve otherwise intractable problems.

To ensure these good works continue beyond our lifetimes, it is up to us to reach our ambitious Rotary Endowment goal of \$2.025 billion by 30 June 2025.

The Magic of Rotary does not appear out of nowhere. We create the magic with every new member inducted, every project completed, and every dollar donated to our Foundation.

Please join me in supporting The Rotary Foundation, and together, we will change the world for the better.

STEPHANIE A. URCHICK
President, Rotary International

Donate to The Rotary Foundation at
rotary.org/donate

Register for the 2025
Rotary Presidential Peace Conference
at rotary.org/istanbul25

A solid Foundation

One of Rotary's greatest strengths is the ability of our members to come together to create lasting change, and The Rotary Foundation helps us transform dreams of change into reality. From eradicating polio to building peace, much of the work we do around the world would not be possible without our continued support of our Foundation.

The cause of peace is especially important to me, and one of the most effective ways we build peace is our Rotary Peace Fellowship — a product of The Rotary Foundation. The program helps current and aspiring peace and development professionals around the world learn how to prevent and how to end conflict.

Thanks to a \$15.5 million gift from the Otto and Fran Walter Foundation, we can continue supporting peacebuilders in more regions with the next Rotary Peace Center, at Bahçeşehir University in Istanbul. Opening yet another peace center is a monumental achievement that we will celebrate at the 2025 Rotary Presidential Peace Conference in Istanbul.

The three-day conference on 20-22 February will highlight the many ways our family of Rotary advocates for peace. Keynote speakers, panel discussions, and breakout sessions will allow us to share ideas about building peace and foster meaningful conversations about promoting peace everywhere.

Registration for the Presidential Peace Conference is open. I hope to see you there, but if you can't make it, our Foundation offers so many ways to change the world for the better. November is Rotary Foundation Month, a great time to get to know your Foundation better and pursue causes that appeal to you.

Global grants support large international activities with sustainable, measurable outcomes in Rotary's areas of focus. By working together to respond to pressing community needs, clubs and districts strengthen their global partnerships.



With heart and mind

To adapt, as laid out in Rotary's Action Plan, we must occasionally step out of our comfort zone and try something new. Here are two examples of clubs that adapted — one with heart and one through critical thinking and strategy.

The Rotary Club of Chandigarh Mid Town, India, led with heart earlier this year. To engage members and grow membership, Club President Nitin Kapur personally called every former member of the club and invited them to a gathering billed as an alumni meetup.

Eight former members attended, and the results were stupendous. The visitors had a chance to connect once more — not only with current members but with the sense of camaraderie and belonging that membership gave them. By the end of the evening, the club welcomed six of the former members back into the Rotary family.

Club President Kapur showed courage when he reached out to the alumni. Not only did he adapt and try something new but he had the strength of character to show the club's alumni how much they still meant to the family of Rotary. That bravery paid off.

People want to feel needed and appreciated. People want to feel that they belong. And they might never feel that way if we don't have the courage to tell them.

Meanwhile, the Rotary Club of Seoul-Hansoo, Korea, has been experimenting with different club models to great effect. Over the past four years, Seoul-Hansoo has created and

maintained four satellite clubs — a service club, an interest-based club for musicians, a cause-based club that mentors professionals, and a club for college students.

These satellite clubs are part of a five-year plan the Seoul-Hansoo club implemented to increase membership through innovation.

What's the secret to founding and maintaining so many satellite clubs? Membership between Seoul-Hansoo and its satellite clubs is fluid and synergistic. Many members of the satellite clubs attend the sponsor club's meetings. And many of the sponsor club's members participate in the satellite clubs.

Additionally, the focus of each satellite club is no accident. Each one appeals to different interests of people in the sponsor club and in the community, attracting existing and potential members. This is an excellent strategy to both retain and attract members because it offers flexibility. If someone is interested in joining but they can't make it to the sponsor club's meetings, they have plenty of options to choose from.

These are just two examples of how we can adapt with our hearts and minds. Every club is different, so I encourage you to reach out to members of your club and of the community around you. Ask them about the club experience and what you can do to improve.

Talk to enough people and you might find ways that you can adapt and spark The Magic of Rotary in your club.

STEPHANIE A. URCHICK

President, Rotary International

Rotary Thailand Magazine

Chairman of the Board

PDG Niwes Khunavisarut
Rotary Centre in Thailand

Editorial Advisors

DG Jakchai Visutthakul, DG Patsri Suwimol,
DG Sangtiwa Tong-U-Chang, DG Apisak Jompong,
PRID Dr. Saowalak Rattanavich, PDG Rathprateep Keeratiurai,
PDG Wichai Maniwatcharakiat, PDG Somphop Thirasan,
PDG Juthatip Thamsiripong, PDG Chalermchat Chun-In,
PP Vanit Yotharvut, Ms. Danucha Bhumithaworn

Editorial Team

Editor in Chief

PDG Anurak Napawan (Doiprabaht - 3360)

Digital Editor

DG Apisak Jompong (Maechan - 3360)

English Editor

PP Brian Anderson (Royal Hua Hin - 3330)

Feature Editor

PP Jantanee Tienvijit (Lanna - 3360)

Senior Editor

PDG Chamnan Chanrung (Chiang Mai North - 3360)

Editors of Four Districts

- 3330 CP Apaladee Lekhakul (Khuanlang-Hatyai)
- 3340 PP Deara Piboolwatthanawong (Magkang)
- 3350 PP Trong Sangswangwatana (Bangkok Suwanabhum)
- 3360 PP Thanijporn Khomson (Doiprabaht)

Translation Team

- PP Phanita Telavanich (Samutsakhon - 3330)
- PP Patchara Phulphokphol (Leung Krabi - 3330)
- PP Ratchada Thepnava (Khuanlang-Hatyai - 3330)
- PDG Oranong Siriphonnas (Plutaluang - 3340)
- DGN Srifa Siriudomseth (Bangkok-Ratchadapisek - 3350)
- PAG Phanu Yoshmetha (E-Club of Bangkok Cyber - 3350)
- PDG Dr. Virachai Jamroendararasame
(Chiang Mai North - 3360)
- PP Dr. Saran Chantalay (Chiang Mai North - 3360)
- PP Naiyana Khomson (Doiprabaht - 3360)

Editorial Coordinator

Ms. Jitraporn Santithamcharoen (Rotary Centre in Thailand)

Opt in to online subscription



Rotary Thailand Magazine and the Rotary Centre in Thailand



The **Rotary Thailand Magazine** is an integral part of the Rotary Centre in Thailand. Our editor serves as a member of the Board of Directors for the Rotary Centre, and our staff handle the packaging of each magazine by placing it in an envelope labeled with each member's address

before sending it to the post office. Members also have the option to read the magazine online at www.rotarythailand.org and may choose to opt out of receiving the printed edition.

Even more exciting, members can access the magazine via the **Rotary Thailand Magazine Application** on their mobile devices. The Rotary Centre staff upload content to the app as promptly as possible, allowing members to read it in both Thai and English. This service is available to members in Thailand, Laos, Myanmar, Cambodia, Vietnam, and beyond, as well as to Rotaractors and Interactors.

But the Rotary Centre's work goes beyond publishing. We produce Thai-language documents, publications, and online files, as well as offer Thai courses through the My Rotary Learning Center. We maintain these resources continuously so members can learn at their own pace.

Whenever you have questions or concerns, such as not receiving your PHF pin, trouble signing in to your My Rotary account, issues adding members, looking for information on Rotary or club management, filing Interact club charter forms, or replacing lost charter certificates, we are here to help. Our long-standing slogan, "If you're not sure, ask the Rotary Centre," reflects our commitment to serving you.

Our office, located on the 32nd floor of Ocean Tower 2 on Asok Montri Road in Bangkok, was purchased through the generous donations of Rotarians and friends. It includes a lounge, a meeting room, and a storage area where we keep important historical documents and books about Rotary in Thailand.

The Rotary Centre is a small but essential part of what makes Rotary activities run smoother for our members, clubs, and districts. We're always ready to support you.

Danucha Bhumthavorn
Director, Rotary Centre in Thailand

Rotary

Thailand โรตารีประเทศไทย

Year 42, No. 215

November - December 2024

www.rotarythailand.org



Download
English and Thai issues



Download Application
for iOS to read online



Download Application
for Android to read online

Rotary Thailand Magazine

Published bimonthly by the

Rotary Centre in Thailand

Tel: 0 2661 6720

Mobile: 08 5822 4442

Email: jitraporn.rotarythailand@gmail.com

To advertise and submit stories to
be featured in our magazine, or to
change mailing addresses,
please contact Ms. Jitraporn Santithamcharoen.

Advertisement Rates

Back cover THB 15,000, inside front cover THB 12,000
inside back cover THB 10,000, inside full page THB 8,000
½ page THB 4,000, ¼ page THB 2,000

Printing

Phetkasem Printing Group Co., Ltd.

Tel: 0 3425 9111



A publication of Rotary
Global Media Network

*More than a year after powerful
earthquakes hit Turkey,
Rotary's relief efforts remain
for many a path out of the
wreckage.*

Photography by FAID ELGZIRY



Contents

- 1 RI President's Message
- 3 Rotary Thailand Magazine and the Rotary Centre in Thailand
- 6 After the floods in Pakistan
- 12 People of action around the globe
- 14 The path to impact
- 16 Trustee Chair's Message
- 21 Northern Flood Crisis 2024: Impact and Community Recovery post-Flood
- 25 RI Fiscal Agent in Thailand
- 30 District 3330: Adult Learning
- 31 District 3330: Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA)
- 34 District 3340: Rotarian Kindness - Never Abandoning One Another
- 35 District 3340: Rotaract provides opportunities
- 38 District 3350: Instructions for Preparing for the District Governor's Official Visit
- 39 District 3350: People of Action campaign to improve Rotary's Public Image with activity photos
- 42 District 3360: Rotarians in Action

DG Apisak, one of the Rotary World's Young District Governors with a challenging role in a year when northern Thailand faced a severe flooding crisis.

18

26



Rotary embraces the philosophy of His Majesty the King to help 88 farming families in Lampang, Phrae, Surin, and Sisaket provinces, to help lift themselves out of poverty permanently.

9



A photographer captures our work and commitment to ending polio through photos for good in the world.



CLIMATE ADAPTATION

After the floods

Climate-smart communities bloom in Pakistan's agricultural heartland

The farmers of Pakistan's Indus River Valley contribute little to climate change, yet they are frighteningly vulnerable to it. In the Summer of 2022, record-breaking monsoon rains supercharged by warming temperatures deluged the fertile plains where many of them cultivated cotton, rice, and wheat for large landowners. The floods submerged a third of the country, killing more than 1,700 people and displacing about 8 million.

"We were very badly affected. We lost so many animals — buffalo, cows, and sheep. We also lost crops," says Sughana Bheel, who was displaced along with her husband, three children, and other surviving residents of the submerged village of Nauabad in the country's south.

For months, the farmers of Sindh province, many of whom fled to nearby towns and cities, took refuge in tents, schools, or out in the open. Mindful of the role climate change played in the disaster, Pakistan's Rotary clubs decided to put climate adaptation at the center of their rebuilding efforts. They worked closely with rural communities to incorporate renewable energy and indigenous building techniques and materials.

Bheel and the other residents of Nauabad learned about the plans and approached a Rotary club in the area. "They came and surveyed the village, and the landlord gave the land to establish a new village," Bheel says through an interpreter.

"Now, in the current rainy season, our cattle and livestock are safe."

Known as the Smart Villages project, this reconstruction effort started with finding locations less susceptible to flooding. In addition to climate-resilient building plans and steps to ease flooding,

the project follows low-emission construction practices and includes a broad array of new amenities such as internet connectivity. The program, supported by about 45 Rotary clubs throughout Pakistan and some in other countries, was the idea of architect and Past Rotary Director Muhammad Faiz Kidwai.

"I had always believed that when tragedies happen, we get very emotionally involved in the first stage — the relief stage. But life actually begins when that stage is over," Kidwai says. "Keeping in view the fact that the flooding was due to climate change, I started thinking, 'Let's do something which is sustainable, and where we can really contribute in terms of climate change as well.' And so, I started developing a model." Since then, 12 Smart Villages have been built, and plans are in place to construct 13 more by the end of 2025. What makes these villages "smart"? They have encircling mud walls, wooded areas, and channel drainage to divert flood-waters. Clean water is supplied by solar-powered wells, rainwater harvesting, and check dams. Every two homes share an eco-toilet. Solar panels provide electricity to common areas and water treatment facilities and allow internet connectivity. Rotary members have negotiated agreements with internet providers and a medical university to set up online health services. And the villages were constructed using climate-friendly materials and methods.

"I joined Rotary in 1984, and in my whole Rotary career, I have never seen the likes of this program," says Rais Ahmed Khan, a past governor of District 3271 and a member of the Rotary Club of Greater Mirpurkhas, who is a district chair for the Smart Villages project. "Rotary provided the

To learn more
and get involved,
visit this site:
[rotarypakistan](https://rotarypakistan.org)
smartvillages.org



Mindful of the role climate change played in the 2022 floods, Pakistan's Rotary clubs put climate adaptation at the center of rebuilding efforts, working with rural communities to incorporate renewable energy and indigenous building techniques.

opportunity, and the Rotarians did the whole thing with the villagers in the affected areas.”

The Smart Villages also give female residents new ways to earn money — an important initiative in a country where women in rural areas participate in the workforce at higher rates than women in urban areas. Each village has a workshop where women can embroider cloth and make other items to sell. Bheel's village got 25 sewing machines and six months' worth of fabric. “With all the other things Rotary did, they did some things to improve the economy also,” Bheel says.

The project cost around \$325,000 and was funded through a mix of direct donations and grants, including disaster response grants from The Rotary Foundation's Pakistan Flood

Response Fund. The Rotary members formed partnerships with several organizations and businesses, including the Saylani Welfare International Trust and the Heritage Foundation of Pakistan. Constructing the homes in the first village took about eight months, but with practice, the builders were soon able to complete this phase in three to four months. Still, there were many problems to solve along the way.

“One of the biggest challenges was securing permission and allocating ownership from the property owners,” says Shakeel Kaim Khani, governor-elect of District 3271 and a member of the Rotary Club of Samaro. Kaim Khani was among several Rotary members who donated land to build on.

“The lack of proper access

roads and damaged infrastructure made it difficult to transport materials and personnel to the locations, hindering our progress,” Kaim Khani adds. “Also, the absence of pure water sources presented significant challenges. We implemented water treatment solutions to address water scarcity and quality issues.”

The program has provided homes to around 1,200 people so far, but its overall impact is much broader. Smart Villages provide a paradigm for addressing two major concerns related to climate change: making building practices more eco-friendly and preventing mass migration from rural areas.

There's a growing movement of builders and city planners around the world calling for more sustainable building practices. Building

construction and operations are responsible for more than a third of global energy-related carbon dioxide emissions each year, and the manufacture of cement and concrete alone generates up to 9 percent of all annual CO2 emissions. In contrast, rural building practices in the developing world are often climate friendly.

“True sustainable knowledge exists in rural areas,” says Ming Hu, an associate professor at the University of Notre Dame’s School of Architecture and author of *Green Building Costs: The Affordability of Sustainable Design*. “Once we start trying to be ‘high tech,’ we tend to put away practices that are actually very good in terms of sustainability.”

Kidwai sought out indigenous materials and practices when designing the Smart Village buildings. They’re constructed from locally available materials like mud, lime, and bamboo. In areas without bamboo, Rotarians planted it for later use.

The program also has a different kind of sustainability in mind: sustaining rural lifestyles. By improving rural people’s standards of living, Kidwai argues, Smart Villages will allow them to remain on their land instead of moving to cities.

“The Smart Villages program will not just bring environmental sustainability in villages, but will also help in deurbanization,”

The program has provided homes to around 1,200 people so far, but its overall impact is much broader. Smart Villages provide a paradigm for addressing two major concerns related to climate change: making building practices more eco-friendly and preventing mass migration.



Kidwai says. “If we can provide a better quality of life in villages, there will be no reason for immigrants to leave their loved ones and come to urban centers in search of livelihood.”

Such migration can put a strain on cities, increase greenhouse gas emissions, and result in worse hardships for those who leave their homes. To try to prevent this, experts around the world are putting their own spins on the idea of Smart Villages. The Smart Villages Research Group, based in the United Kingdom, focuses on rural access to electricity.

“Studies have been carried out to discern whether young people would stay in their villages if better

facilities became available,” says Brian Heap, one of the UK initiative’s originators. “In nearly every case it turns out that they would, because that is their family base.”

In the Rotary clubs’ Smart Villages, even the building process was a family affair. Bheel was particularly happy that she and her relatives were able to construct their new homes themselves.

“No one borrowed any labor. We and our family members established and built these houses,” she says. “Now our children and our families are safe.” — Etelka Lehoczky

BY THE NUMBERS

8
million

Number of people displaced by the 2022 floods in Pakistan

1/3

Portion of Pakistan submerged during the floods

1,200

Number of people housed in Smart Villages to date

Rotarians in Districts 3330, 3340, 3350 and 3360 donated 500,000 baht to help flood victims in Pakistan through the Rotary Centre in Thailand.

+

A photographer documents progress and promise on the road to stop polio for good

By Jean-Marc Giboux



CHASING POLIO



ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA 1997

At the time I took this photo, there weren't too many places for kids who had polio to receive treatment. The Cheshire Home, part of a worldwide network, was giving them reconstructive surgery and a place to live. What I love about this photo is that kids are kids. The child's legs had to be reconstructed, but he's having a blast on the playground like any other kid.



As a freelance photographer, I was looking for a great story for the new millennium

when I read an article in the Chicago Tribune in 1997 about the drive to eradicate polio. I noticed a local connection: Rotary. I called Rotary and the organization gave me a grant to cover the story. The Rotary team picked five places in the world for me to visit. Starting in 1997, I spent a year traveling to Turkey, India, Nepal, Ethiopia, and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta. At the end of my travels, Life magazine picked up the story and published it in the November 1998 issue.



Jean-Marc Giboux speaks more about his experiences as a photographer covering polio eradication on the Rotary Voices podcast. Listen at on.rotary.org/podcast.

I went on to cover the polio eradication effort for 18 years. I kept the subject fresh by trying to link polio eradication with major events happening in the world. For example, I decided to see the polio vaccinations in 2004 during the conflict in the Darfur region in Sudan. There were more than 200,000 refugees in Chad on the border with Sudan. Just getting there was very

difficult. I had a contact with Doctors Without Borders — the group was handling health care on the border. I stayed in tents with doctors and nurses in the camp for a week. I would follow them on their daily routine to do the vaccinations. It was interesting to get to see what was happening in people's private spaces. The polio program allowed me to get into those places.

I was impressed by the way the polio campaign was done from the bottom up. It reminds me of an ant colony working together. It's teachers, nurses, health workers, anybody. It's a pretty simple vaccination to give, and so everybody's involved. Hundreds of thousands of people are contributing.



Freetown, Sierra Leone, 1998

This is one of my favorite photos. I was on my first assignment with the World Health Organization. As in Ethiopia, the Cheshire Home was a place for kids with polio. There were no parents there. The children were in a big estate surrounded by walls, and outside those walls a civil war was raging. What always stayed with me about this is that it was such a haven of peace, of retreat, for them to be there. I had to be evacuated because the war was worsening. I don't know what happened to them afterward.



Delhi, India, 1998

At the Amar Jyoti Research and Rehabilitation Centre there is an integrated school where children with polio study alongside children who don't have polio. This photo was striking because of the condition of their legs. It was such an intense picture when you see how they got reconstructive surgery. Their legs are supported by metal rods; they get shoes, but they still need crutches. They are the lucky ones. They are getting an education.



Herat province, Afghanistan 2002

I was following teams of vaccinators just after the fall of the Taliban, when there were a couple of years where it was easier to travel around Afghanistan. Over 100,000 people lived in the Maslakh settlement, where displaced people from within the country came to stay. There was a food distribution center where they would line up for hours. That's where you'd find the children. You could see who was vaccinated in the camp and who wasn't by looking for the marking on their finger. That little girl in the center of the picture is getting a ticket to be in the food line.



NEW DELHI, INDIA 2004

The Akshya Pratisthan school is another private school that provides education and rehabilitation in an integrated environment. When I go into places like this, I'm taking a lot of pictures. In this one, they're lining up to pray before school. It's a nice environment — it's early morning and there's beautiful light. The photo's composition is more geometric and drives you to the boy's face.



"I kept the subject fresh by trying to link polio eradication with major events happening in the world"

People of action around the globe

By Brad Webber

Rotary members and their partners in service come together each World Polio Day on 24 October to recognize progress in the fight to end the disease. Here is a sample of the ways members are taking action to make history and eradicate polio.

Register your club's participation at endpolio.org/register-your-event.

Colombia

Sonia Uribe and her husband, Alberto Londoño, created a stuffed animal collection called El Zoo del Amor, or the Zoo of Love, to comfort seriously ill children and raise money for polio eradication. Sales of Anna the giraffe, Lucas the tiger, and other animals — each wearing a shirt with Rotary and End Polio Now logos — have raised about \$550,000 since their introduction in 2018. In addition to giving the animals to sick children, Rotarians carry them on their travels and snap photos of them at iconic landmarks. “All these animals have traveled, being ambassadors of the Rotary brand,” says Uribe, a member of the Rotary Club of Nuevo Medellín and, like Londoño, a past governor of District 4271. Londoño is a member of the Rotary Club of Medellín Nutibara. The couple also manage the Fundación Monica Uribe Por Amor, which assists children with spina bifida.

Rotary
District 4271

22,000

Children who've received Zoo of Love toys



United States

The Rotary Club of Scranton, Pennsylvania, is helping a new generation learn about polio. Students from Dunmore High School have created a documentary based on interviews conducted during a polio and health policy symposium that the club and District 7410 organized for World Polio Day 2023. The film features interviews with International PolioPlus Committee Chair Michael McGovern, other Rotarians, and symposium attendees, and is scheduled for broadcast during the club's World Polio Day events this month. “It is hard to get hands-on with history,” says Alan Roche, a Dunmore teacher who enlisted about 40 students to produce the video, which includes interviews with three local polio survivors, one of whom taught at the high school. The project was an eye-opener for the young people, he says. “It’s usually a page or two in the textbook, a blip in a slideshow,” Roche says. “It’s one thing to just learn about this and another to talk to someone who was affected by it and lives in your hometown.”

Rotary
Club of Scranton

1894

First U.S. polio epidemic

Photographs: Courtesy of Rotary Clubs; (Japan) Rotary Italia

France

More than a dozen Rotarians and friends in southeastern France donned inflatable dinosaur costumes and stumbled along a 100-meter course in a playful footrace that raised funds and awareness for Rotary's mission to end polio. Organized by District 1730, the T-Rex Race took place last October during the Fréjus International Air Festival, a kite fair that draws thousands of people. "The idea came to me to create an event to rejuvenate the image of Rotary in the fight against polio," says Dinh Hoan Tran, the district's immediate past governor and member of the Rotary Club of Nice. Spectators could place bets on the contestants. "We made people laugh and we informed people," says Tran. More than 40 of the district's 71 clubs participated in the event, as the district motivated clubs to "support PolioPlus to the tune of about \$45,000," he says.



24+

Years since
Europe was
declared
polio-free



South Africa

To draw attention to the need for vigilance and vaccinations, the Rotary Club of Newlands assembled Rotary members and others for a World Polio Day photo shoot with the landmark Table Mountain in the background. On the day of the shoot, however, a heavy mist enveloped the site. "We made the best of it, chatting and taking selfies, until eventually the sun came out," says Past President Janey Ball. She used RI's polio resources toolkit to create artwork for selfie frames and set up a Facebook event called Make Polio History to record the pictures and raise awareness. To encourage Rotary members, Ball suggested using the slogan "focus on the finish." "The selfie frames have been in continuous use since the event, moving from one club to another," she says.

80 million

Polio vaccine doses
administered in
southern Africa in 2022

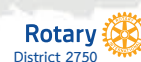


Japan

Yoichiro Miyazaki switched into high gear to raise money for the PolioPlus Society. Miyazaki, a member of the Rotary Club of Tokyo Mitaka, cycled the length of Japan last October, covering 2,500 kilometers (1,553 miles) in 24 days. "If you don't act, there's no point," he tells Rotary Italia magazine, using a slogan developed for his year as governor of District 2750 in 2023-24. Along the way, fellow district governors, other Rotarians, and well-wishers cheered for him as he traversed twisting roads, uphill climbs, and tunnels. RI General Secretary John Hewko, another avid cyclist, offered a video message of support. Prompted by news coverage of his ride, donors contributed \$140,000. Miyazaki continues to pedal strong: In late April, he finished the Osaka-to-Tokyo challenge just three hours shy of the 30-hour goal en route to more fundraising for polio.

7th

Japan's rank
among nations
in per capita
bicycle ownership



The path to impact

Long-term change demands a strategy beyond just supplying books, computers, or vaccines

Your club wants to install a latrine block at a school or provide computers and books for classrooms. Great, but why?

Rotary's "building blocks to impact" approach to project design could help you formulate the answer. It's a way to visualize your project strategy — the path to your goal, also known as your theory of change.

"Sometimes we think about what we do — supplying books, for instance — as the terminal activity, when in fact what we're trying to accomplish is healthier kids who can read so they become happier, healthier adults," says Barb Spangler, a member of The Rotary Foundation Cadre of Technical Advisers and of the Rotary Club of Lakewood Ranch, Florida. "The idea is to help people take their thinking from nuts and bolts to: What do we really want to get done?"

The building blocks to impact can also be used in reverse. Maybe you already know your "why" for an initiative — your club wants every person in a region to have access to clean water, for example. But how will you achieve it? The building blocks planning tool "is a way to take ambitious long-term goals and back them down into building blocks to see how it happens," Spangler explains.

Once you've visualized the building blocks, you can use them to determine what kind of data you'll need to track your project's progress. "How will we know we did what we thought we did?" Spangler says. If your efforts aren't going as planned, use what you've learned to refine your strategy and improve your future projects.

— DIANA SCHOBERG

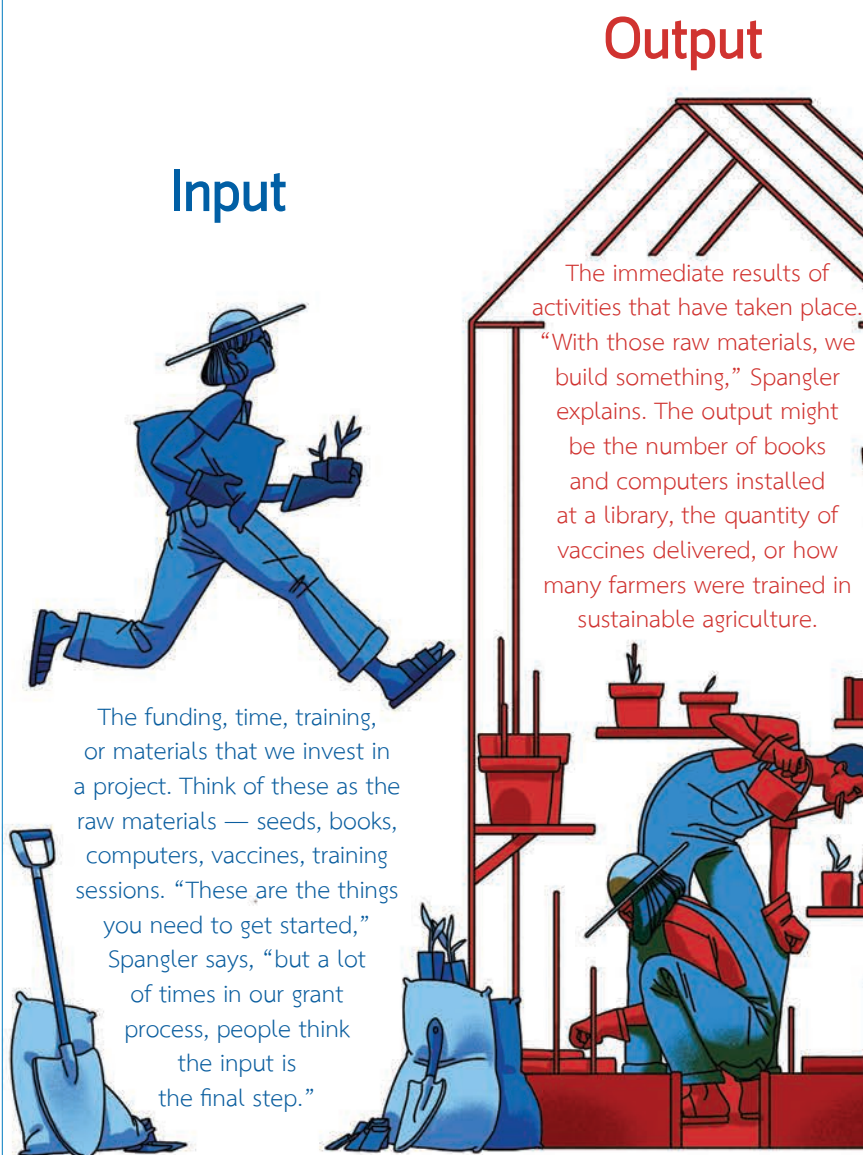


Illustration by Avalon Nuovo

Spangler suggests two series of questions to help you construct your project's building blocks:

If/then questions
“If I have these resources, then what can I do? If I do these things, then in the short term what will happen?” she says. “Ultimately, I’ll achieve our overall game plan.”

Impact

The intermediate results of our actions — things like a change in attitude or behavior. “After we put those things in the ground, do that work, we need to take a little longer view,” Spangler says. That could look like an improvement in students’ reading comprehension, increased vaccination rates, or farmers incorporating new techniques into their growing practices.

SERVICE ABOVE SELF

THE OBJECT OF ROTARY

The Object of Rotary is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise and, in particular, to encourage and foster:

FIRST: The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service;

SECOND: High ethical standards in business and professions; the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations; and the dignifying of each Rotarian's occupation as an opportunity to serve society;

THIRD: The application of the ideal of service in each Rotarian's personal, business and community life;

FOURTH: The advancement of international understanding, goodwill, and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service.

THE FOUR-WAY TEST

Of the things we think, say or do:

- 1) Is it the **TRUTH**?
- 2) Is it **FAIR** to all concerned?
- 3) Will it build **GOODWILL & BETTER FRIENDSHIPS**?
- 4) Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to all concerned?

ROTARIAN CODE OF CONDUCT

As a Rotarian, I will:

- 1) Act with integrity and high ethical standards in my personal and professional life.
- 2) Deal fairly with others and treat them and their occupations with respect.
- 3) Use my professional skills through Rotary to mentor young people, help those with special needs, and improve people's quality of life in my community and in the world.
- 4) Avoid behavior that reflects adversely on Rotary or other Rotarians.
- 5) Help maintain a harassment-free environment in Rotary meetings, events, and activities; report any suspected harassment; and help ensure non-retaliation to those individuals that report harassment.



TRUSTEE CHAIR'S MESSAGE

November 2024

In our hearts and hands

There are as many reasons to join Rotary as there are members. Most join for experiences — new friendships, expanding professional circles, or putting Service Above Self into action to create impact.

Rotary delivers on all of these, often simultaneously. Through our Rotary Foundation, Rotary also has a knack for offering unexpected experiences and new opportunities that open doors and change lives.

I learned this firsthand at age 30 when I served as president of the Rotary Club of Decatur, Alabama. That year, my wife and I sought out the chance to try something new: attending the 1985 Rotary International Convention in Kansas City, Missouri. There, we witnessed the dawn of PolioPlus and met members from different backgrounds, realizing we were part of a global family.

Later that year, I learned that a Rotary Group Study Exchange team from Nigeria was scheduled to visit Alabama, but Decatur was not on the agenda. After making a few calls, we soon welcomed the Nigerian team into our home. It was an incredible and unexpected experience.

Before the group departed, the team leader recommended me to lead the six-member team from Alabama that would visit Nigeria the following year, which I did. There, I met people

whose lives had been impacted by polio, including several family members of our hosts. I learned that polio reaches its victims across borders, economies, and religions.

That Foundation program — Group Study Exchange — opened my eyes to what Rotary is and what it can do. Taking part in the exchange set me on a path for new friendships and opportunities to serve on multiple continents.

Just as The Rotary Foundation has enriched my Rotary life, it can do the same for you. This month, during Rotary Foundation Month, I invite you to explore new Foundation experiences.

Look for ways you and your club can support

Foundation-led efforts like polio eradication, disaster response, or the Rotary Peace Centers. Get involved in global grant or district grant projects. And if you have never had the experience of giving to our Foundation, I invite you to join other Rotary members as a Foundation donor. Your support will mean the world to both Rotary members who want to help and to the individuals and communities who need it.

The Rotary Foundation is not a place or a building. It is an experience, one that lives in our hearts and hands as we do good in the world. The Rotary Foundation is all of us.

December 2024

A season of lasting giving

December is a time for generosity and reflection when we think not only about our loved ones but about how we can make a difference in the world.

This year, consider giving a gift with an enduring impact, one that extends beyond these holidays, lasting for generations. Gifts to The Rotary Foundation Endowment are extraordinary gifts that create extraordinary change.

By supporting Rotary's Endowment, you help ensure that RI will have the resources it needs to develop and implement sustainable projects today and in the years to come. Members who include the Endowment in estate plans or make an outright gift support that mission.

Imagine your gift helping to fund the drop of vaccine that prevents the last case of polio, eradicating this devastating disease once and for all. Picture it supporting other health initiatives in 2034, 2044, and beyond.

If you make an outright gift today, you will have the opportunity to witness your support in action, working through clean water projects, literacy initiatives, and economic development efforts. These Rotary Foundation-funded projects touch lives across the globe, bringing hope to individuals you may never meet, but who will know you through your generosity.

Past President Arch C. Klumph, who first proposed an endowment more than 100 years ago, would be amazed not only at the opportunities Rotary has to help today but also at the future possibilities Rotary's Endowment provides.

However, our Endowment is only strong when we all support it. Because it is essential to our success, we have set an ambitious goal: to build our Endowment to \$2.025 billion in net assets and commitments by 30 June 2025. This goal is not just a number; it is a reaffirmation of our belief in Rotary's enduring ability to do good in the world. A fully funded \$2 billion endowment will provide more than \$100 million year after year for Rotary Foundation activities.

I have asked district governors and club presidents to lead by example before the year's end, but each of us has an opportunity to secure Rotary's legacy of service. Please join Gay and me in planning your estate or outright gift today.

Remember, this is no ordinary gift. Your generosity will provide a legacy for future generations to find solutions in the areas we care about, while creating a ripple of positive change that extends far beyond our lifetimes. What better gift could there be?

MARK DANIEL MALONEY
Foundation Trustee Chair

Learn more and donate at rotary.org/endowment



District Governor Apisak Jompong District 3360

This issue of the Rotary Thailand magazine focuses on District 3360, due to the severe floods that impacted several northern provinces of District 3360 of Rotary International between August and October 2024. Rotarians from all districts in Thailand actively mobilized to provide emergency aid to those flood victims. In this edition, we are privileged to feature an interview with the District Governor Apisak Jompong, succeeding the interview with the District 3330 Governor Jakchai in the previous issue. The story, which highlights the help from fellow Rotarians and various sectors, focuses on the efforts in community service and contributing to the common good.



We interviewed DG Apisak, who is one of the 50 younger district governors under the age of 50 years, during the International Assembly for District Governor-Elects held in Florida, USA. When we met DG Apisak at the end of October 2024, he had already completed his official visits to 62 Rotary clubs in District 3360 and nearly completed his club visitation mission. He shared that he began his official club visits on 1 August 2024, as the period prior was dedicated to the installation ceremonies for new club presidents and executive committees. He realized that during his visits, he had gained more valuable insights into the diverse ways meetings and activities were conducted in each area.

He observed the strengths and weaknesses unique to each club and noted that opportunities for club development varied from one to another. Despite these differences, all clubs shared a common goal of creating friendships to better serve their communities as well as in other districts.

When DG Apisak had his role for only about a month, Rotarians in District 3360 faced severe flooding. His visit to the Rotary clubs in Nan province on 21 August 2024, was followed by a return trip through Phrae province around 10:00 pm. That night, flash floods hit Nan province at midnight. If he had left any later, he would have been trapped in Nan. The floodwaters then spread to Phrae province, and by 22 August, the floodwaters



reached the first area in Chiang Rai known as Thaeng, that was caused by the overflow of the Ing River which flows from Phayao Lake. This led to severe flooding in Thaeng area.

In response, AG Chokchai Chumphakdee from the Rotary Club of Nakorn Thoeng took immediate action to assist flood victims by setting up an emergency relief fund through the club's account. In just one day, Rotarians and various other sectors raised THB 90,000 in donations. As the flooding spread across the provinces of Nan, Phrae, and Chiang Rai, DG Apisak decided to redirect the flood relief donations to an account under his name to facilitate aid coordination. He assigned PP Naruchon Apornrat as an assistant treasurer to oversee the



relief efforts. Donations were received from Rotarians across all four districts in Thailand and abroad, including a grant of THB 100,000 from The Rotary Foundation of Thailand to purchase rice, dried food, and supplies for 300 emergency relief packages. Additionally, the Rotary Club of Thai Town in Los Angeles, USA, raised THB 300,000 to further support the relief efforts. In total, the contributions from Rotarians in Districts 3330, 3340, 3350, 3360, and various other sectors amounted to over THB 1 million.

To manage the flood relief funds, the district established a committee composed of assistant governors and club presidents from the affected areas. The budget was allocated to purchase essential supplies for the flood victims, with each club receiving THB 25,000 to 50,000. The most heavily affected area was the Mae Sai area in Chiang Rai, where mudslides had mixed with floodwaters, leaving behind significant damage. Even after the waters receded, the mud and destruction remained, requiring ongoing assistance.

Rotary was one of the first organizations to provide immediate relief. District 3360 allocated THB 150,000 for assistance to the affected Rotary clubs in Maesai, Maechan, and Chiangsaen. Additional contributions of approximately THB 100,000 were raised from local Rotary clubs and other sectors to hire heavy equipment such as backhoes, excavators, and trucks to clear the area. Later, other agencies took over the operations to continue the relief efforts.

From September to October 2024, Chiang Mai was also hit by flooding, initially affecting the districts of Mae Ai, Fang, Mae Taeng, and Mae Rim. The floodwaters later reached the city center of Chiang Mai in two waves, with the second wave causing significant damage to many local residents. Many Rotarians were also affected, with some of whose homes had been flooded now finding themselves in need of assistance.

During this time, Rotary members in Chiang Mai acted swiftly to provide relief, particularly by distributing food, boxed meals, bread, drinking water, and emergency supplies. Since their own homes were flooded and they couldn't cook, they set up a community kitchen to ensure that those affected could receive meals daily during the crisis.



DG Apisak played a key role by coordinating with all sectors involved in the relief efforts. He worked closely with the Rotary Centre in Thailand, the governors of the other three districts, international Rotary clubs, Rotarians from various clubs within the district, and other aid organizations. In addition to his coordination efforts, DG Apisak personally traveled to deliver food and supplies to flood victims, alongside Rotary clubs from Chiang Mai, Chiang Rai, Lampang, Nan, Phrae, and Sukhothai. From this event, DG Apisak mentioned that he witnessed two key aspects of cooperation and unity:



1. Generosity from various sectors: From the outpouring of support from many sectors, over THB 1 million in donations were collected through District 3360, along with essential supplies such as four water filtration systems (each valued at THB 250,000), more than 1,000 mosquito nets, and countless emergency relief packages in the form of food and supplies.

2. Trustworthiness of the Rotary Organization: From the trust that many non-Rotarians had in the Rotary organization, people believed that by donating money or goods through Rotary, their contributions would be managed efficiently and reach those in real need.

Regarding the goals of District 3360 for this year, DG Apisak mentioned that the Rotary clubs in the district have already been engaged in a wide range of ongoing community service projects. Therefore, the two main goals for this year would be:

1. Membership: The focus is on increasing membership, not by creating new Rotary clubs, but by retaining existing members and establishing Satellite Rotary clubs. A Satellite club can be formed with just eight founding members, and the district has assessed the potential in various areas in collaboration with local Rotary clubs. The goal is to increase the number of Rotary Satellite clubs from four to six clubs. One new Satellite club has already been established, the Rotary Satellite Club of Phitsanulok-Suphankanlaya. Additionally, other Rotary Satellite clubs are in the process of being established, including the Chiang Kham-Jun and Mae Chan-Mae Slong Rotary Satellite Clubs. The district also aims to revitalize areas that previously had clubs but were dissolved, such as Tha Wang Pha, Lap Lae, and even new areas where there have been no Rotary clubs, such as the Phob Phra district in Tak province.

2. The Rotary Foundation: Despite the challenges posed by flooding and economic hardships in the area, the focus has been on encouraging Rotarians to understand that their donations to The Rotary Foundation can have a significant impact on community development. The emphasis was on the participation of all Rotarians, with donations encouraged according to their means. To make it more accessible, donation options were set at various amounts, including USD 25, 50, 100, and 1,000, with some Rotarians choosing to donate USD 30 (equivalent to THB 1,000). DG Apisak also introduced a "PROUD DONOR" coffee mug as a token of appreciation for donors, particularly for new contributors. Initially, the number of coffee mugs ordered was insufficient, so additional mugs were ordered to meet the demand. This initiative highlighted the understanding and commitment of Rotarians to the importance of contributing to The Rotary Foundation.

DG Apisak is from the Mae Chan district of Chiang Rai. He graduated with a bachelor's degree in political science, specializing in public administration, from Chiang Mai University. After graduating, he worked at the Chiang Rai Provincial Office in the Policy and Planning Division before resigning to manage his family's fresh market and rental business. His spouse is Rotary Ann Maliya Wongratanamatcha, and they have no children. His favorite sport is badminton and has served as a team manager, coach, and organizer of badminton competitions on several occasions. He became a Rotarian in 2008, invited by PP Somrit Pantharat, a remarkably close friend on the badminton team.

He then took on various roles in the Rotary Club of Maechan and became a Club President in 2014-2015. He was appointed to various roles in District 3360 such as the chairman of the RYLA Camp (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards), the chairman of District 3360 District Conference, the chairman of My Rotary, Assistant Governor, District Executive Secretary, and a Coordinator of the Multidistrict-PETS seminar, as well as many other tasks for the district.

As a new generation

person with expertise in IT and language, DG Apisak was part of the translation team for the Rotary Thailand magazine and the editor of the Rotary Thailand magazine's application edition, a part of the LINE Open Chat working group for the Rotary Centre, and worked as a team member for Rotary News Thailand. He has received the District Service Award from District 3360 multiple times, and in 2021-22, he was honored with The Rotary Foundation Citation for Meritorious Service from Rotary International.



During his 16 years as a Rotarian, DG Apisak has contributed greatly to the Rotary organization. With his active personality, he has continuously developed himself by enrolling in various interesting courses and applied what he had learned, as well as his passion for English to Thai translation which was his minor study during his time at university. Therefore, he serves as a role model for new generation groups and others as well for learning and self-improvement. He is dedicated to serving his community and others in line with Rotary's ideals.

Article by PP Chanthanee Tienvijit
Rotary Club of Lanna

Northern Flood Crisis 2024:

Impact and Community Recovery Post-Flood

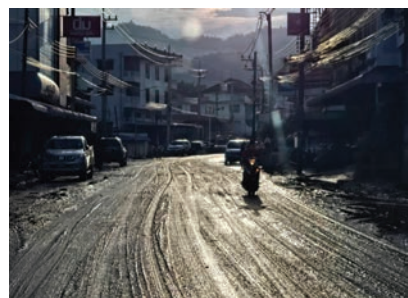
PDG Anurak Napawan, District 3360, PP Thanichaporn Komsan (Doiprabaht Rotary Club), and Ms. Kamonchanok Piromsiripan (Rotary Centre in Thailand)

The major flooding this year affected multiple areas in northern Thailand, including Chiang Rai, Chiang Mai, Lampang, Phrae, Nan, Phayao, and Sukhothai, causing many communities to face impacts on their livelihoods, agriculture, and local economies.

No one ever expected that the area where they had lived for decades would experience such severe flooding.

For instance, in Nan province, the home of PDG Nithi Soongswang was submerged under water up to one meter high. He shared that floods had previously occurred in Nan in 2006 and again in 2011, but none were as severe as this year. A large volume of water from the Nan River overflowed barriers and quickly flooded areas near the river and the city itself, leaving people unprepared. Everyone thought the flood barriers would prevent flooding, but the water inundated Muang Nan district extensively. Fortunately, the water quickly drained into the main water basins, so it only flooded for three days, but these three days significantly disrupted the local economy of Nan City.

In Phrae province, during the same period in mid-August, severe flooding occurred as the Yom River overflowed. Water flowed into economic areas, submerging roads in the city by over a meter, halting transportation, and causing widespread damage. PP Sompong and PP Thanita Sangboonyanithi also experienced flooding in their homes. They noted that in all the years they had lived in Phrae, this was the first time their house had flooded. The damage was not as severe as in the city center, which was shut down for about three to five days. However, after the water receded, a Rotarian who owned a motorcycle shop offered free inspections for flood-damaged motorcycles, a gesture demonstrating Rotary's immediate commitment to helping the community.



Lampang province was no different. In mid-September, several villages and districts experienced heavy flooding, especially in Hang Chat and Ko Kha districts, where water overflowed into farmland and affected over 500 homes. In some areas, the water level reached up to 1.5 meters. Rotarians in Lampang had to use flat-bottom boats to transport food and water to assist affected residents. Additionally, a team from the Rotary Centre in Thailand traveled to distribute relief bags to residents in Ko Kha the following month.

Mae Sai flooded and covered in mud: Chiang Rai City experienced the worst flooding in 100 years

This may be one of the most severe events in decades to a hundred years. Continuous heavy rains caused the Kok and Lao Rivers to overflow, flooding houses,

especially in Thoeng district, Muang Chiang Rai, and Phan districts. Initially, in August, the first floods concentrated in Thoeng, leading everyone to think it was only in one district. But who would have expected forest runoff and mudflows crossing from Myanmar to cause Mae Sai to be completely submerged? The focus quickly shifted to helping Mae Sai. However, two weeks later, another mass of water from different rivers flooded Muang Chiang Rai district. Villagers commented, "Chiang Rai has never flooded this severely in the past 60 years, and even when it did, it was never like this." What happened this year? This question calls for reflection on whether excessive environmental destruction or climate change played a role.

A team from the Rotary Centre in Thailand travels north to assist flood victims in Mae Sai

On 7 October, a team from the Rotary Centre in Thailand, led by PDG Niwes Khunavisarut, Chairman of the Committee, along with members of the Mae Sai Rotary Club and the Kuang Meng Foundation, brought relief bags and essential supplies funded by the Thai Rotary District



Foundation, chaired by PRID Noraseth Patamanand. They entered the area in the morning by truck. That day, the sunny and humid atmosphere made the dried mud on the roads turn to dust. Along the way, we passed through damaged houses still filled with mud and debris. Excavators, trucks, mud vacuums, and numerous volunteers and officials were actively clearing the area. We traveled deep into Ban Pam Kwai, a community that experienced flooding up to three meters this year, where mud still covered the area.

We used the house of Khun Pueng, the daughter of the community leader, as a relief distribution point. Khun Pueng explained that Pam Kwai was once a buffalo pasture. Today, it has 120 households, and the Pam Kwai road serves as a waterway, flooding every year. This year, however, the water was unusually forceful and flooded twice. The first round on 10 September covered the entire first floor, with water marks still visible above the door frame. The second round on 3 October reached waist height. This year, Rotary was the first organization to provide assistance to Pam Kwai. People were very pleased to receive large relief bags, blankets, and hot water bottles. The community leader had distributed vouchers to each household in advance, ensuring that everyone received their supplies.



Mae Sai Rotary Ann Parinee shared that many Rotarians' homes were also severely damaged. Her own store suffered extensive



losses, with kitchen appliances, a warehouse full of goods, and five vehicles all submerged. The front window shattered, mud covered everything, and the store remains closed. The water was so strong that someone retrieved a floating safe containing up to THB 2 million. The flood was devastating, with no electricity or water supply. Residents had to queue for portable toilets

provided by the municipality. Tragically, during the flood, two elderly neighbors with partial paralysis and diabetes lost their lives, their bodies found on a roof after three days and two nights.

Despite this, the Mae Sai Rotary Club demonstrated Rotary’s strength and dedication. PP Vanit Yotharvut of the Mae Sai Rotary Club recounted how support poured in from everywhere, with people sending food and supplies to Mae Sai in overwhelming amounts, even though they could not be delivered. During the first week, Burmese rescue teams were hired to carry food over the water and across barriers. Once the water receded, Rotary aimed to deliver more supplies but encountered mud-blocked roads. This caused



severe traffic congestion, particularly on Muang Daeng Road, a main access route to communities. Although authorities had cleared the main Phaholyothin Road, the club redirected efforts to clear the entire Muang Daeng Road, the main route branching from Phaholyothin. They began with three mud excavators and three trucks, which eventually increased to 10 and then 15 trucks, completing the road clearance. Mud from homes was piled onto the roads continuously from 16-22 September. Rotary banners were placed on vehicles offering free services until one lane, then three lanes, and finally four lanes were cleared, providing much-needed access for the community.

The Mae Chan Rotary Club requested THB 150,000 in Disaster Funds from Rotary International, with the Mae Chan Rotary Club adding another THB 100,000, plus THB 30,000 from District 3360, totaling THB 280,000 by the end of the project. With municipal and military assistance, more Rotarians from Chiang Mai joined, bringing necessities like bedding. PDG Thirayud Watanathirawoot from Khon Kaen donated hundreds of rice cookers, and the Satya Sai Foundation donated 200 bedding sets. Additional



donations came from various sources, totaling about THB 200,000.

Furthermore, the Jomtien-Pattaya Rotary Club from District 3340 assisted by installing a SkyHydrant water filter, a portable device using ultrafiltration and gravity to produce clean, bacteria-free water without electricity or chemicals, yielding up to 10,000 liters per day, ideal for disaster areas.

This year, the flood in Mae Sai caused unprecedented damage. Furniture and household items were piled up as waste, with no place to

dispose of them. A major issue was electrical appliances, all damaged beyond use, and stock meant for export to Myanmar, Laos, and southern China was destroyed. The mud, which reached two meters high in some areas, made the situation incomparable to past years. Volunteers organized a Big Cleaning Day, but the excessive mud meant that even half a day’s work only cleared one corner of a temple hall. Heavy machinery couldn’t access homes, so military aid was needed. This disaster highlighted the density of our community, which will require extensive time, infrastructure, and funding to fully recover. Without action, assets in Mae Sai will depreciate, and residents may relocate. “We must fight, learn, and adapt,” concluded PP Vanit.

Flood relief efforts in Chiang Mai and Sukhothai

After assisting flood victims in Lampang and Mae Sai, the Rotary Centre team traveled from Chiang Rai to join DG Apisak Jompong and the team led by PP Adisorn Seksonwiriya, Chairman of Community Service for District 3360, and members of the Chiang Mai Rotary Club. They coordinated with Ban Waen subdistrict municipality in Hang Dong district, arranging for flood victims to receive relief bags and cleaning equipment at the community hall.

In this village, floodwaters rose to about one meter, damaging many belongings. Most flood victims were elderly residents unable to clean their homes. Villagers expressed a need for additional bedding and blankets.



The next destination was Sukhothai province. While in Chiang Mai, they received a message from Sukhothai Rotary Club President Saowanee Supkamonsanee that Si Samrong district was still heavily flooded. Finally, the water subsided, allowing them to deliver relief bags as planned.

The following morning, they traveled to Si Samrong

district, where 50 households had experienced two rounds of flooding lasting over a month. Some villagers had relocated to temples, while others paddled boats to collect relief bags. In cases where families could not leave their homes, the team delivered relief bags and cleaning equipment by boat. Villagers recounted the constant worry of flooding, especially for young children, prompting some families to send children to relatives' homes outside the flood zone.

In addition to relief bags, the Rotary Centre team also prepared special "Hope Bags", small packages containing two types of snacks and milk. These small bags brought smiles to both children and the elderly, offering a moment of comfort amid difficult times. The residents expressed gratitude for the support from Rotary, which reignited their sense of hope.

This fieldwork allowed us to witness the dedication of clubs in the area, such as the Doiprabaht, Muang Ko Kha, Mae Sai, Chiang



Mai, Sukhothai, Sawankaloke, and Sawankhaloke North Rotary Clubs. Despite facing their own challenges, members demonstrated selflessness and generosity, embodying the true spirit of Rotary's motto, "Service Above Self" and making "the Magic of Rotary" come alive.

Rotary clubs across District 3360 assisted affected communities, providing supplies, cleaning equipment, and drinking water. The partnership between Rotarians in Chiang Rai and Chiang Mai allowed them to set up a mobile kitchen in Chiang Rai to prepare food for flood victims, showcasing Rotary's spirit of friendship and cooperation.



PP Adisorn concluded, "In every crisis, there is an opportunity to build friendships. Let us continue doing good for the community, with compassionate hearts, together." Although the water has receded, efforts in prevention, recovery, and ongoing support must continue.





Rotary Information

RI Fiscal Agent in Thailand

PDG Dr. Chairat Prasertlum
District 3350

In the past, Rotary clubs in Thailand had to send the Rotary International dues to the World Headquarters in Evanston, Chicago, USA by purchasing foreign drafts and sending them to RI themselves or sending them through the District Governor, who then forwarded them to RI. In 1997, the government announced the floating Thai baht currency, resulting in the Thai baht being dramatically devaluated against the dollar when one US dollar was equal to approximately 45 baht. Then Rotary clubs in Thailand faced increasing costs of dues and could not pay within the due date, causing many clubs to be suspended from RI. It was also necessary to receive money from RI and convert those US dollars into Thai baht, which took time with higher extra costs.

At that time, District 3350 discussed the problem in the meeting of the Council of Past District Governors led by the former President of Rotary International Bhichai Rattakul, and it was agreed in the meeting that the four district governors should write a letter to RI to request the appointment of a financial representative in the country. Rotary International was aware of the problems and agreed to have a RI Fiscal Agent in Thailand to receive the dues and other expenses of RI as well as receive donations to The Rotary Foundation of RI. The money of RI was kept in Thailand, so there was no need to exchange money, which was economical, convenient, and quick in transferring receipts and payments. Starting on 4 July 1998, RI appointed PDG Kowit Suwanasingh to be the first RI Fiscal Agent in Thailand. He held the position for two years and applied his skills in finance and bank management to set up the accounting and financial system of RI. As a result, he was accepted and appreciated by RI.

From then, RI has continuously appointed Fiscal Agents as follows:

- PDG Krit Indhewat (2000-05)
- PDG Somphop Sooksingh (2005-07) – PDG Xanxai Visitkul was invited to join as a team member
- PDG Krit Indhewat (2007-13) – PDG Dr. Chairat Prasertlam was invited to join as a team member

- PDG Somphop Sooksingh (2013-16)
- PDG Krit Indhewat (2016-24)
- PDG Dr. Chairat Prasertlam (2024-26)

The main duties of the financial representative are:

- Receive RI dues and contributions to The Rotary Foundation.
- Disburse funds as instructed by Rotary International and The Rotary Foundation.
- Prepare reports for submission to Rotary International and The Rotary Foundation and issue receipts.

Currently, clubs and members can transfer dues and contributions directly into the account in Thailand. Please do not forget to send a copy of the transfer slip to the Fiscal Representative at rotaryfath@gmail.com, otherwise we will not be able to report your transfer. The money will remain in the account without any report of what it is or where it came from. This means that you have not sent the money through the Fiscal Representative. I, therefore, request that you please send us the transfer slip immediately after your transactions.



The RI Fiscal Agent is the same as other positions in the organization, which must be rotated like the Rotary Wheel (in Masterbrand Signature). This year, Rotary International has appointed Dr. Chairat Prasertlam as the 4th RI Fiscal Agent for the years 2024-26. He attended a seminar in Dubai, United Arab Emirates at the end of September 2024 together with RI Fiscal Agents from Pakistan, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, and Thailand.



Blessings from the Sky, the King's Philosophy of "Khok Nong Na" mixed garden farm, water bank, and the Gifts from Rotary

Rotary has implemented the King's science to help 88 farming families in Lampang, Phrae, Surin, and Sisaket provinces escape poverty.

What is the Khok Nong Na model?

Khok Nong Na refers to "New Theory Agriculture – Mixed garden farming" originated by His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej The Great. He had successfully experimented and then encouraged the farmers to follow.

H.M. the King experimented with a new method of farming on about 15 rai of land in Huay Bong subdistrict, Muang district of Saraburi province in 1993. When he accomplished the experiment, he declared a new agricultural theory on the day of his visit to Maejo Agricultural University to grant the diplomas to the graduates on 23 February 1995.

The origin of Khok Nong Na – water bank

Khok Nong Na is the given name by the consensus of the students and the teachers at Pudalay Mahavijalaya School, aka. Mab Ueang Agri-Nature Learning Center, located in the Ban Bueng district of Chonburi province. The name by purpose is easier for anyone to remember and use. In addition, Phra Ajarn Dr. Sangkom Thanapanyo combined a water bank with Khok Nong Na, so the combination is called "Khok Nong Na – water bank".

A groundwater bank is a system of storing water underground until it is needed later. Luang Por Smarn Siripanyo, the ex-vice president of Dhammayut Sangha Committee in the USA, the abbot of Wat Dhamma Bhucha, Texas, USA learned about its method during the religious activity.

The Khok Nong Na area is divided into four portions:

1) Basins and ditches, canals called "Khleng Sai Kai" (30%). 2) Ridges around plant plots or mounds built from Khleng Sai Kai excavation of basins (30%). 3) Farms and plantations for cultivation (30%). 4) Residential areas (10%).

The basin in Khok Nong Na is about five meters deep with two large holes drilled at the bottom called a water naval, about the size of an excavator's bucket of three to five meters in depth. The earth's gravity draws water down and stores it in the sand layer which is so hard that its density almost transforms into rock. The underground aquifer is about eight to 10 meters from the surface, and the water fills spaces in the sand layer. The water in the basin stays in balance with the earth's gravity that draws water down and the resistance in the sand in the aquifer. When the water in the basin is consumed, the air pressure in the sand pushes groundwater up to the surface. This causes the water in the basin to never run dry and enhances the water supply for agriculture all year round.



Phra Ajarn Dr. Sangkom Thanapanyo

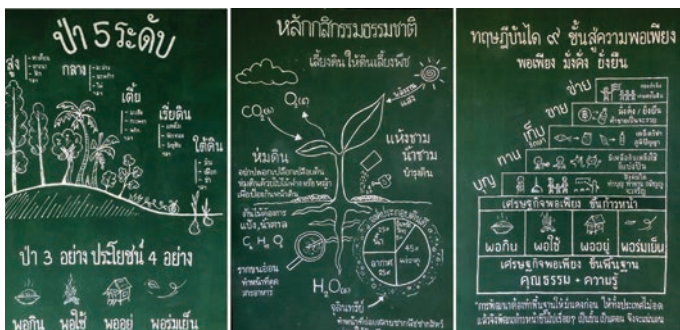


The King's Science refers to 30-30-30-10. There are canals in Klong Sai Kai that cover the natural basin and the naval water bank must have 2 holes.

What is the new agricultural theory? How can it solve the farmers' hardship and problems?

The heart of the new agricultural theory matches the farmer's agricultural production to family consumption, according to the Self-Sufficiency Economy approach. "Grow everything you eat – Eat everything you grow – Leftover and give away – Leftover from giving away is for sales", instead of growing monocultures to earn money and then use the money to buy food and other necessities.

His Majesty the King Rama IX gave us guidelines for planting five levels of crops, three types of forest, and four benefits in mixed garden farming to earn "daily income, yearly income and future income".



Therefore, the new agricultural theory supports the farmers' way of life, from monoculture farming for selling to "earn for living but suffering with debts", to make mixed garden farming to "earn for living and save money by selling excess produce." This is a permanent solution to poverty which affects happiness in their lives because of the King's guidance. Farmers around the world can practice and achieve self-sufficiency, such as the farmers in the Kingdom of Lesotho in Africa.

What are the five levels of plants, and what are they good for?

The five levels are tall canopies, medium trees, low shrubs, ground creepers and underground tuberous plants. All of these can help farmers to earn income in both the short and long term.

Tall canopy – long-living trees such as teak, rubber, iron wood, etc. Lumber from such trees can be a money-making product in the next 20 years.

Medium tree – fruit tree that can make income at different times of the year.

Low shrub, ground creeper and underground tuberous plant – produce edible vegetables that can earn daily income.

What are the 3-forest planting types and 4 benefits?

Edible tree – suitable to eat

Usable tree – suitable to utilize

Economic tree – suitable to make a living and broad enough to provide shade

What does Rotary do to help farmers? How much is the budget? How long does it take until farmers can live free from poverty?



Rotary launched the Global Grant project to develop two rai of land for Khok Nong Na farmers. The basin was excavated to make the water bank and canals of Klong Sai Kai to make self-sufficient water holes. They distributed banana shoots, young plants, hens, fish species, barbed wire fences, water tanks, and solar-powered water pumps. Also provided were charcoal kilns and biomass stoves. Support for farmers in the form of training was provided depending on the needs of the farmers who are located differently in the geo-society of each area or provide them with knowledge and everything necessary for starting a new life. Hence the name, "New Theory Agriculture - Mixed Farming".

What is a self-sufficiency hole, how is it done, and what are its benefits?

The concept of the self-sufficiency hole is to prepare the hole's soil with organic matter and grow plants together. It is an imitation of nature like trees in the forest that are in close proximity to each other in a disorderly and supportive way, causing the trees to grow quickly. Garden vegetables can be planted together with large trees in the same hole.

A self-sufficiency hole can be created by digging a square hole of one meter in width and half a meter in depth. The bottom of the hole is layered with leaf debris and then animal manure and covered with soil. It requires several of these layers until the hole is full and then covered with straw. Water is then applied thoroughly and left for one month. When the leaf debris and manure layers decompose into organic matter, then a banana shoot is planted in the center with grow four young plants at each corner. Use only small young plants because the taproot of larger plants could be curled in bags causing them to grow slowly and not strong enough. Finally, provide water to the top layer of straw regularly. Banana trunks and leaves will help protect the young plants from strong sunlight and also prevent moisture lost due to evaporation.

Benefits of big trees

The area of Khok Nong Na is two rai equal to 800 sq.w. or 3,200 sqm (32 x 100 meters). The total length of the embankment or hump is 264 meters and about five meters wide. If 4-forest trees are planted on both sides of the hump every three meters, there would be 704 forest trees. A 20-year-old rubber tree is worth more than THB 20,000 and the makha tree is more than THB 30,000. If all the trees survived to 20 years, the farmers would could earn more than THB 10 million from economic timber sales.

How much money and time is required?

The budget for the preparation of the Khok Nong Na groundwater bank of two rai was THB 130,500 per plot. It took about two months to design, dig a basin, enclose with fencing, the planting of vetiver grass, etc. After that, the farmers immediately began to have food for families and earn income from the surplus crop. When farmers have water the whole year, they can produce food for their families and earn income all year round.

Which clubs are involved with the Khok Nong Na project?

There are many clubs from many districts helping out, including the Rotary Club of Patumwan, Bangkok Central, Bangkok Pattanakarn, Bangkok Ratchada, Nong Bua of District 3350, the Wiangkosai and Doiprabaht Rotary Clubs of District 3360, and the Sisaket and Roi Et Rotary Clubs of District 3340. All projects are Global Grants supported by Rotary clubs in Korea, Singapore, and Hawaii. Additionally, many Rotarian friends are coordinating the search for project partners from abroad, including Charter President Dr. Jay Chung of the Rotary Club of Bangkok Central, IPDG Joanne Kam, Assistant Regional Rotary Foundation Coordinator, Zone 10C District 3310 from Singapore and P Kim Jinbo, District Global Grant Coordination Chair from the Rotary Club Gaon District 3361 in South Korea.



Grow young banana plants in self-sufficiency holes for three years. The banana dies and the plants grow again.



Officers of The Rotary Foundation visit the Khok Nong Na project.



Support the needed equipment to start new lives.



Thirteen families of the Khok Nong Na project at Long district, Phrae province.

Extension Projects

Currently, there are 42 farmer families of Rotary's Khok Nong Na in Surin and Sisaket who grow organic jasmine rice in the field of Tung Kula Rong Hai but it must be sold at the general price because the mill refuses to buy organic paddy rice. Therefore, Rotary clubs have established the project "Standard Rice Bag Production" in collaboration with the Surin Natural Agriculture Center. This is a local non-profit organization to meet the royal initiative of H.M. King Rama IX that the private sector helps in the field of production, when H.M. the King announced the New Theory of Agriculture in 1995. In this project, Rotary clubs will purchase rice milling machines, a laser-marking machine that sorts out foreign objects in rice, a vacuum-sealing machine for 5 kg-size packaging, and offer to farmers for milling by themselves. Then they take the rice to improve its quality at the center, and package it into 5 kg standard bags. This is an added value for organic jasmine rice in the fields of Tung Kula Rong Hai. Along with finding a market to support the production, the Rotary Club of Sisaket leads the farmers to show their work and sell organic jasmine rice from the Tung Kula Rong Hai field to Rotarian friends at the District 3340 Conference, and also find opportunities to publicize and sell it to Rotarians around the world in the future.

The Rotary Club of Bangkok Pattanakarn is the primary contact in this project, with the Rotary Club of Sisaket as the local partner and operator. It is also supported by the Rotary Club of Patumwan that includes fellow Rotarians from South Korea to participate in the project.



Twenty families of the Khok Nong Na project at Mae Ta district, Lampang province.



Blessings from the Sky, the King's Science and a gift from Rotary for poor farmers across the country

Rotary has lifted 88 families out of poverty with the King's Science and also committed to moving forward with the ideology of Service Above Self. The project helping poor farmers "Mixed garden farm, Khok Nong Na – water bank" was presented as a royal charity to King Rama IX and honored H.M. King Rama X, who inherited, preserves and continues the work of his father.

All Rotary clubs are invited to become project partners by contributing your District Designated Funds, or cash that you can donate. For every USD 1,000 you contribute to the program, you will receive a Paul Harris Fellow medallion.

To invite me to give a lecture for more information or to join the project,
please contact PP Prasat Kiatpaiboonkit, Rotary Club of Patumwan, Former Chairman of
The Rotary Foundation in District 3350, Tel. 062-630-8668



PDG Paikit Hoonpongmanont
District 3330 Learning Facilitator

Adult Learning

The practice of teaching and educating adults, also known as adult learning, is an approach to learning that differs from traditional learning which focuses on teaching to children. Adult learning places a strong emphasis on the requirements and characteristics of adult learners. It is crucial to comprehend these ideas in order to create a seminar program that works for Rotarians.

Key Principles of Adult Learning:

Self-direction

- Adults desire to direct and create their own learning pathways.
- They value setting goals and deciding how to achieve them.

Experiential learning

- The experience of adults is greater than that of children.
- These experiences are useful resources that enable them to relate new information to their existing knowledge.

Relevance focus

- Learning should be relevant to the task or help solve problems.
- Adults are inspired to learn when they perceive the material's applicability.

Problem-solving and practical application focus

- The main goals of adult learning are typically problem-solving and useful results.
- Adults seek knowledge that enable them to deal with real-life challenges.

Intrinsic motivation

- Adults are often motivated by intrinsic factors, such as the desire for self-development and satisfaction.
- Children may be motivated by rewards, but adults value the skills gained through learning.

Methods and Strategies for Effective Adult Learning:

Interactive Learning

- Encourages discussion, group work, and hands-on activities.
- Interactive learning stimulates and increases understanding.



Collaborative Learning

- Learning in social contexts, such as study groups or teamwork.
- Collaboration allows adults to learn from each other's experiences.

Use of Technology

- Use digital tools to facilitate learning.
- Online learning platforms, online resources, and virtual classrooms.

Immediate Application

- Learners can immediately apply what they have learned.
- While children may be motivated by rewards, adults value the skills acquired through learning.

By recognizing and responding to the unique characteristics of adult learners, such as the desire for self-direction, relevance, and practical implementation, facilitators can create more effective and meaningful learning experiences. Applying these principles leads to greater engagement and motivation.



AG Pathomporn Jeasakul
Vice Chair,
Rotary Youth Leadership
Awards 2024-2025

Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA)

Originally launched in Australia in 1960, the Rotary Youth Leadership Awards program aims to develop young people's leadership skills, potential, and camaraderie. Every year, Rotary clubs all over the world host RYLA trainings for young people ages 12 to 18, making it one of the most significant youth initiatives of Rotary International.

In Rotary year 2024-25, the Rotary Club of Ganchan in Area 19 of District 3330 was designated as the RYLA coordinating body by District Governor Jakchai Visutthakul, with PP Samphan Chaiwisetjinda serving as the event chairman. A total of 335 young people attended this training camp, which took place at Queen College in Pak Tho District, Ratchaburi province from 19-22 October 2024.

The eight topics put forth by Rotary International - Leadership Theory and Searching for Leadership Styles,

Communication Skills including Public Speaking Skills, Collaboration and Team Building, Problem Solving, Peace Building, Ethical Leadership, Social Justice, Responding to Community Needs, and Diversity, Equity and Inclusion - were covered in the activities that the organizing team had planned.

The camp's leaders included PDG Somphop Thirasan who spoke on DEI, PDG Paikit Hoonpongmanont who spoke on "The World of Rotary", and the training leaders' team, which was led by AG Pathomporn Jeasakul and PP Manasanan Tokaew the Co-Chair of the District 3330 Rotaract Committee. The youth were able to develop their leadership, teamwork, problem-solving, sacrifice, and community responsibility among other skills through games and recreational activities.

The RYLA CAMP was spread over four days and three nights and full of joy and friendship. The young people who participated in the program learned the concepts and gained new experiences from the camp's training leaders and new friends. Because of this magic, the participants were left with lifetime memories.



With a total value of THB 1,531,800, the initiative to supply medical devices to Phaholpolpayuhasena Hospital is Global Grant project #246547. The international partner is the **Rotary Club of Sae-Goyang** in District 3690, South Korea, and its host partner is the **Rotary Club of Maneekan**. Additionally, the project is a collaboration with five local Rotary clubs, namely, **Kanchanaburi, Tharua-Kanchanaburi, E-Club of D3330, Thamuang, and Photharam**. The medical devices were delivered on 26 September 2024, with Acting Sub Lt. Suphamongkhon Buchathaitet, Deputy Governor of Kanchanaburi province as the event chairman.

The project provided medical devices such as a dual radio-frequency cervical cautery machine with a set of smoke extractors and other equipment, a speculum instrument, and a Mini Townsend cervical tissue cutter. In addition, the training and screening for cervical cancer in women in Kanchanaburi province had been arranged in this Global Grant project.



Rotary Club of Khuanlang-Hatyai collaborated with Ban Po Mo School (Phromthep Rat Bamrung), Ban Phru, Hatyai district, Songkhla province, to organize learning beyond the classroom for the "Road Safety for Elementary School Children" project. In order to educate 200 elementary school students, we had the assistance of the school director, Ms. Duangrat Wongsawangsi and Ms. Kanpitcha Seree-Apiwat, a trainer who is a special expert of the Office of the Insurance Commission Region 9 in Songkhla. The project's goals are to create children's awareness of safety, risks that may occur while traveling on the road, crossing the road, riding a motorcycle, wearing a helmet, taking public transport, as well as crossing the street's crosswalk in the proper way.



Rotary Club of Hat Yai together with the **Rotary Club of Alor Setar**, District 3300, Malaysia, jointly implemented the project "Further Learning with Computers" with Ban Yang Ko School in Prik subdistrict, Sadao district, Songkhla province by donating 12 second-hand computers to enhance the youth's learning beyond schooling to further their educational skills' development and daily life.

Rotary Club of Samutsongkram led by President Sittichok Nilphetra organized "The 1st Skill Training in Prevention and Survival from Drowning". The fact that many young people drown each year as a result of their inability to swim served as the impetus for this initiative. This project was developed to help reduce the death rate. It is an inevitable and significant risk factor because of the large number of rivers, canals, and gardens that surround this area.



Hua Hin School Interact Club, led by President Pinyada Chaisri and members, together with Hua Hin municipality, organized a volunteer activity to develop and clean the Khao Tao Reservoir Project, initiated by the Royal Initiative (the first water resource development project in the reign of King Rama IX), in Hua Hin district, Prachuap Khirikhan province, to offer merit to His Majesty and to commemorate His Majesty's grace.

Rotary Club of Samrong, together with the **Rotary Club of Samutprakan**, the **Interact Club of Klongkratumratutit School** and Samut Prakan Provincial Police Station, private sectors and people, jointly offered condolences and invited people to donate blood in gratitude for the great kindness of King Rama IX at Klongkratumratutit School on 13 October 2024.



Rotary Club of Cha-am led by President Thanatporn Sriba and members organized an activity on World Polio Day by campaigning for polio vaccination in children according to their age groups. Children aged two to four months received polio vaccinations (IPV) and children aged six months to four years received polio vaccinations to help eliminate polio from the world at the health promotion event of Cha-am Hospital Community Center on 24 October 2024.



Rotary Club of Sanamchan, together with the Subdistrict Health Promotion Hospital, Thanon Khad Hospital in Mueang District, Nakhon Pathom province, led by President Dr. Thewin Bupphakham, Rotarian Somboon Faengmak (Polio Plus Chair of the Rotary club) and members, arranged a Polio vaccination day, donated children's toys, wheelchairs, and patient walkers to the hospital for local patients to borrow as needed on 24 October 2024.



DG Sangtiwa Tong-U-Chang

Rotarian Kindness - Never Abandoning One Another

The recent flooding from the overflow of the Mekong River, which rose at an unprecedented rate, has led to the worst flooding in 16 years in Nong Khai province. This disaster has affected residents in six districts along the Mekong River: Sangkhom, Si Chiang Mai, Tha Bo, Mueang Nong Khai, Phon Phisai, and Rattanawapi. Thousands of acres of farmland have been devastated, with total crop losses, particularly in the economic heart of Nong Khai city, where flash floods have inundated three major commercial roads along the riverbank.

As the District Governor of Rotary International District 3340, DG Sangtiwa Tong-U-Chang and a resident of Nong Khai province, I may not personally live or have my business in the flood-affected area, but I am deeply concerned for my friends, fellow citizens, and especially my fellow Rotarians who have been significantly impacted. Thus, we have coordinated with various organizations to reach out and assist those affected by the floods.

I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to Disaster Aid Thailand, under Rotary International, for coordinating in Nong Khai and providing Sky Hydrant water filters, capable of producing up to 1,000 liters of clean water per hour. These filters have greatly helped to alleviate the situation and prevent waterborne diseases, ensuring that affected communities have access to safe, clean water.

I am also deeply moved by the generosity of District 3340 Rotarians, who have contributed donations and essential supplies, especially our eastern friends from Chanthaburi province, who filled a truck with much-needed items to bring happiness and hope to the people of Nong Khai. On behalf of the Nong Khai residents, I would like to extend my sincere thanks.

This flooding along the Mekong River has been one of the worst in 16 years, though fortunately less severe than the situation in northern provinces like Chiang Mai and Chiang Rai, which faced



even more intense flooding with fast-flowing water and large quantities of mud. The damage in these areas is more extensive, making post-flood cleaning extremely challenging. Therefore,

District 3340 has come together once again to send aid to our northern friends who have faced more severe impacts. We hope that this adversity will pass soon. I deeply admire and thank the Rotarians of District 3340 for their spirit of cooperation and kindness, always there to support one another in times of need, reflecting the true spirit of service.

In addition, District 3340 has also extended support to those affected by the historic flooding in the Mae Sai district of Chiang Rai, which was caused by Typhoon Yagi, downgraded from a super typhoon to a depression. This severe storm in September led to heavy flooding in Chiang Rai, Chiang Mai, and some areas along the Mekong River in northeastern Thailand. The flooding situation in the north was more severe than in the northeastern Mekong areas (or some areas of District 3340), due to the heavy rainfall in these regions. Chiang Rai, in particular, has been severely impacted, with lives lost due to drowning, landslides, and raging floodwaters. Survivors face harsh conditions, with houses submerged and properties destroyed beyond recovery, while many areas are cut off from the outside world, and flood victims are left waiting for food and water.

The "Kindness with Love" project under District 3340, could not remain indifferent and shares deep concern for the people of Chiang Rai and Chiang Mai, especially our fellow Rotarians

affected by this disaster. To help alleviate their hardships, the project has provided a THB 50,000 donation, with an additional THB 50,000 contributed by PDG Thirayud Watanathirawoot, which was used to purchase rice cookers for the flood victims.





PAG Anchaneer Wongkalasin
Rotary Club of Sakon Nakhon

Rotaract provides opportunities



How can we ensure that new generations are provided with opportunities to embrace the concept of Service Above Self as Rotarians do? The answer is that we can support young adults by establishing Rotaract clubs that are available at the

university and community levels. They spend most of their time studying or at the beginning of their careers, but they can also share their time to carry out service activities for others.

Rotaract is a type of club membership in Rotary International similar to Rotary clubs. Rotaractors pay annual dues to Rotary International based on the type of club; University-based clubs are USD 5.00 per member and Community-based clubs are USD 8.00 per member. To help them understand what we do as Rotarians, we introduce them to Rotaract clubs and advise and mentor them so they can rise on their own through the Five Avenues of Service.

The Rotary Club of Sakon Nakhon led by Asst. Prof. Dr. Pratchaya Ngamchan and its members discussed the establishment of a Rotaract Club at Kasetsart University, Commemoration Campus in Sakon Nakhon province in 2023. Since the faculty advisor works as a lecturer at the university and knows the students who are interested in community service, he encouraged them to gather friends to receive charter for the club. According to the university's regulations, the application was opened for club members of at least 50 participants with the title of "society" rather than "club". The president and the students discussed the possibility of having Rotaract on campus with the university's board of directors and they were pleased to support the establishment of the students' society. Hence, the Society of Rotaract was put forth.

The Rotary Club of Sakon Nakhon as the sponsor club proposed the establishment of Rotaract at Kasetsart to Rotary International. Shortly after, the group was granted charter on 12 February 2024 with 23 members in the Rotary year when Viroj Pipatchaisiri was the governor of District 3340.

I was the club president three times in 2017-18, 2020-21 and 2021-22, as well as the assistant governor in 2022-23 and 2023-24. In 2024, I became the District 3340 chairperson of Rotaract and my responsibility is to coordinate, monitor and support the clubs. Formerly, our district supported the following Rotaract clubs; RAC Vongchavalitkul University, RAC Ubon Ratchathani Rajabhat University, RAC Roi Et Rajabhat University, RAC Khon Kaen University and RAC Sisaket College of Agriculture and Technology. Unfortunately this year 2024, these RACs have been terminated for various reasons. Despite termination, however, the university students who were Rotaractors continued doing community service projects. We again considered that those Rotaract clubs could be reinstated with additional clubs to be chartered to increase overall Rotaract membership.



Fortunately, I know Assistant Governor Phanu Yoshmetha, the Assistant Rotary Coordinator 2024-25 in Region 12, and Charter President Apisit Chariyasatis of the Rotary Club of Changkol Patumwan. I asked them for advice to bring back the terminated Rotaract clubs and wondered whether they could possibly maintain their status. I got back to those Rotaract clubs and took care of them with good response. Two of the five terminated Rotaract clubs' information could be imported into the system, RAC Khon Kaen University, RAC Roi Et Rajabhat University, and the other three clubs' reinstatement are currently in process.

The Rotaract Clubs in our four districts in Thailand have proposed to host the 22nd Asia Pacific Regional Rotaract Conference (APRRC) in Chiang Mai province, from 31 January to 3 February 2026, and Mongolia is going to host the event this year. It is my sincere hope that our fellow Rotarians will assist and inspire the Rotaractors in District 3340 to develop their service activities for mankind.



The Rotary Club of Amnat Charoen participated in the acceptance inspection of an ambulance with the 50 Pansa Mahavajiralongkorn Hospital in Ubon Ratchathani province. This is part of a Global Grant project jointly initiated by the Rotary Club of Amnat Charoen, District 3340 with the Rotary Club of Prakanong, District 3350 and the Rotary Club of Osaka Hirano, District 2660 in Japan. The project aims to benefit the public by enhancing the hospital's patient transportation services.



The Rotary Club of Khunying Mo-Korat, together with the Friendship E-Club, Rotary Club of Mueang Loei, and Rotary Club of Chardon in Ohio, USA, organized an activity to provide scholarships and educational training to youth as part of the "Empowering Girls" project. The event was held at Ban Non Sao Aue School, Wang Nam Khiew district, Nakhon Ratchasima province. The clubs awarded 10 scholarships with a total project value of THB 50,000. The training included reproductive health education, and they donated sanitary pads, clothing items, personal supplies, snacks, and milk for the students.

The Rotary Club of Chanthanimit, led by President Pakin Hasakhun, along with Mr. Sawat Laiwan, Chairman of the Northern Community Association of Chanthaburi, and club members, delivered



essential goods, snacks, and supplies to the Dhammanurak Foundation in Kanchanaburi province. This foundation provides education and promotes the quality of life for underprivileged children who are marginalized from broken or impoverished families, or homeless. The items were received by Sister Dr. Jutipa Tappasutti, the foundation's manager, and her team. Additionally, the club organized a trip for all members to visit and relax in Ratchaburi and Kanchanaburi on September 7-8, 2024. All proceeds after expenses are reserved for future charitable club activities.



The Rotary Club of Kaen Koon, led by President Suwimon Wongwatnakiet and club members, delivered 16 sets of firefighting gear to the Khon Kaen municipality, with the mayor receiving them in an initial handover. An official delivery ceremony is scheduled on 29 November 2024.



The Rotary Club of Plutaluang in collaboration with the TOMS Club, organized a community service project called “United for a Waste-Free Beach” by working together to clean up the shoreline in Chonburi province to help combat global warming and reduce carbon dioxide emissions.



The Rotary Club of Krasang Buriram, led by President Manop Sammaworakit, along with club members and youth exchange students, organized a project to donate socks, masks, and school supplies, as well as provide scholarships and meals to students at Ban Nong Teng School, Nong Teng subdistrict, Krasang district, Buriram province. Additionally, they planted trees on the school grounds as a commemorative gesture.



PP Trong Sangswangwatana
Rotary Club of Bangkok
Suwanabhum
Editors of Districts 3350

One of the most important responsibilities of the district governor is to visit every club in the district, either individually or in groups, to provide support and present the current district goals. The governor's visit gives the clubs the opportunity to communicate their goals, accomplishments and concerns. It is important to involve the club members as much as possible by announcing the visit in your club communications and asking members to provide input.

The club president, committees and members should prepare as follows:

1. Hold a club assembly to discuss the governor's upcoming visit and gather input from members on club goals and activities, and invite your assistant governor to participate as well. Subsequently, submit a report of your club activities, or Club Plan to the governor at least two weeks in advance.
2. Ensure all 11 club officer positions (President, Vice President, Secretary, Executive Secretary, Treasurer, Membership, The Rotary Foundation, Public Image, Service Projects, Youth Service Chair and Club Learning Facilitator) are accurately recorded and up-to-date in Rotary Club Central. Also, set or update your club's goals within the system.
3. Review, track, and record your club's progress towards achieving the goals in Rotary Club Central to express the members' commitment and motivation, and raise questions, concerns or seek support during the governor's visit.



Instructions for Preparing for the District Governor's Official Visit (2024-2025)



4. Prepare necessary equipment for presentations, such as projectors, computers, and screens.
5. Prepare documents, report on activity plans and achievements of each committee.

Guidelines for document formatting for assistant governors to submit to district governor at least 10 days before the visit date.

- 1) Copy of the club's charter
- 2) Club history and background
- 3) Record or directory of club presidents
- 4) Club committee structure
- 5) List of members' occupational categories
- 6) SWOT analysis
- 7) Club Management Plan, Membership, Image, Foundation, Service Project, District Program
- 8) Annual budget (income and expenses) with copies of 2 separate bank books; accounts for Club Management and Club Activities with at least two of the three authorized signatories
- 9) Goal settings from Rotary Club Central
- 10) Copy of the Club Constitution and Bylaws.

Meeting details:

1. There's no need to arrange a special reception, just consider it a regular meeting.
2. Gifts or souvenirs are not necessary.
3. Example meeting agenda:

Arrival: 10:00 - 10:15 (16.00 - 16.15) Meeting between the governor and president

10:15 - 11:00 (16.15 - 17.00) Meeting with president, secretary, president-elect, assistant governor

11:00 - 12:00 (17.00 - 18.00) Club Assembly with all members, featuring presentations by service chairs using visuals from Rotary Club Central

12:00 - 14:00 (18.00 - 20.00) Club meeting with members, spouses, and prospective members, including a 30-minute special talk by the governor, and a new member pin ceremony (if applicable), and The Rotary Foundation donation (if applicable)

(The agenda may be adjusted as needed and avoid inviting guests from other clubs on the governor's visit.)



CP Ekachai Pipopsophonchai
Multimedia subcommittee chair
District Public Image and
Communication Committee

People of Action campaign to improve Rotary's Public Image with activity photos

In the past, when clubs presented photos and videos to the public online and on social media, we saw members in a row looking at the camera. Such photos are lifeless and present an old fashioned image. This led to the 'People of Action' campaign on how to promote activities to the public media. They need to produce photos or videos that reflect the energy of the activity to tell the story to the public.

Photos that should not be used in a People of Action campaign

Choosing the right photo is key to building a strong image that empowers your Rotary activity. Using an inappropriate photo will reduce the viewer's appreciation, and could lead the viewer to an impression not desired by your organization. Photos that should be avoided are as follows:

1. Posed photo, or photo that looks directly at the camera:

A posed photo looks unnatural and unrealistic. Avoid using photos that look too formal.

2. Photo that looks underexposed: Insufficient light makes the photo look dark and uninteresting, and will not attract viewers.

3. Large group photo: Too large a group makes the viewer lose interest. The photo should focus on an interesting group or a particular person whose activity is of interest.

4. Photo that lacks a point of focus: A photo that looks messy and lacks a point of focus will confuse the viewer, who will not get the point that you want to convey.

5. Photo that shows only the backside of people: This type of photo is not interesting and cannot convey the feelings of people in the activity.

6. Photo of holding hands: Holding hands symbolizes involvement, but frequent use of this image becomes repetitive and lacks creativity.

7. Photo of only one person: A photo of a single person lacks interaction and cannot convey the 'People of Action' concept properly.

8. Photo that lacks depth of field: A photo without proper depth of field is not interesting.

9. Photo taken from a bad angle: Such photos appear uninteresting and show lack of professionalism.



When choosing photos to use in a promotion, emphasize activity, involvement and a natural look so that it can truly reflect the power of Rotary.

Using text across a 'People of Action' photo

Even though we have a good picture, sometimes the Rotary club logo is too small and not prominent. Using a short phrase across the photo that is concise and attracts attention is important. Today's viewers look past the photo quickly, and using the appropriate font and slogan that is unique to Rotary will help create a strong image and imprint in people's minds that this image came from Rotary.

Where to download files for slogans to add text

Apart from the Brand Center in My Rotary on the Rotary website, Rotary District 3350 has slogans for adding text in PNG format with transparent backgrounds, enabling Rotary clubs to apply it easily. It can be downloaded from rotary3350.org

AI can help build slogans

Today, Rotarians can use the help of AI Chat when building short slogans, by filling in activity's details of who, what, when and where. AI can create it in Thai or English.

Adding text by using an application

After downloading the slogan with transparent background, it's easy to apply it on the photo using PowerPoint or Keynote programs on the computer. For those using mobiles there are many choices of apps. We recommend Pic Collage (piccollage.com) because it is easy to use and free. You can paste it and trim the watermark easily.

Send photos to compete in 'People of Action' every month

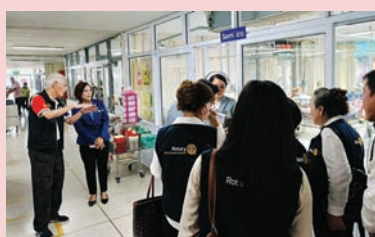
When you have quality photos with a slogan, don't wait. Send it to the competition monthly at Rotary District 3350. Let's present the power of Rotary to the public.



Rotary Club of Bangkok Harmony together with the Rotary Club of Royal Hua Hin and the King Rama Pokklao Institute, donated scholarships, sports equipment, and survival bags to the Ban Khlong Noi Border Patrol Police School, Hua Hin, Prachuap Khirikhan province in the joint service project on 7-8 September 2024.



Rotary Clubs of Nongkhaem, Bangkok Rama III, Dusit, Bangkok International, Bangkok Charity, Saranrom Tha Pra and Samphanthawong jointly delivered the project "The Magic of Rotary" to Wat Udomrangsri School, Nongkhaem district, Bangkok by donating tables, chairs and fans worth THB 180,000 for nine kindergarten rooms and 270 children on Thursday, 19 September 2024.



Rotary Club of Bangkok-Nawamin in collaboration with the Rotary Club of Chakkrathat donated five infusion pump machines to Sikhio Hospital, Nakhon Ratchasima province to assist patients in the Semi ICU and visited the ICU room to see the use of donated medical equipment on 22 September 2024.





TGCS Run 2024 was held in front of the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives

on Sunday, 6 October 2024. The event was organized by CP Prasarn Chirachaisakul together with 10 Rotary clubs; Bangkok Suwanabhum, Yannawa, Saranrom Tha Pra, Bangkok Harmony, Nongkhaem, Siam Erawan, Bang Kruai, Rat Burana, Nonthaburi and Samphanthawong. The Governor of Bangkok, Mr. Chadchart Sittipunt was the opening chairman. The President of the Thai Gynecologic Cancer Society thanked District 3350 Governor Patsri Suvimol and the presidents of various clubs for giving awards to the runners.



Rotary Club of Prakanong donated 13 wheelchairs and one bicycle (used to replace a wheelchair) to the Bangchak community and the South Prakanong community, with the Director of Prakanong district as the representative to receive the donations to the community on 23 October 2024.



Rotary Club of Bangkok South held their annual, high-profile “Coins on Silom” fundraising event along a section of Silom Road on 31 October 2024.

To commemorate Rotary's annual End Polio Day on 24 October 2024, four **Rotary clubs in Phitsanulok province (Phitsanulok, Wangchan, Naresuan, and Buddhachinaraj)** led by the End Polio Project Chairman of District 3360, DGN Paya Tharawut organized a volunteer activity to clean the area of the King Naresuan Shrine at Chan Palace, and clean another tourist attraction in Phitsanulok province, the Street Art area with paintings on the wall at the Gold Ice Factory, which help make Phitsanulok another impressive tourist city. This Polio Day activity included the making of commemorative pins to raise funds and a part of its income for the End Polio Project of Rotary District 3360, aiming to help eradicate Polio.



There were very good activities in the project "Older siblings share warmth with younger siblings" led by the President of the **Rotary Club of Chiangmai Doi Suthep**, Phongphan Hlakyai, along with her family and the executive of Glory Boutique Hotel (Thailand), Mr. Chinkit jirasinsab, where they donated consumer goods to the community of Ban Huai Due School, Tha Li district, Loei province, and joined in painting the school to help make it a lively area.



The **Rotary Club of Chiangkhong**, led by President Kunakorn Intajak, in collaboration with the Rajanagarindra Institute of Child Development, Department of Mental Health, Ministry of Public Health, Rajanagarindra Child Development Foundation under Royal Patronage, Somdej Phra Yupparat Chiang Khong Hospital, ICC International Public Company Limited, and the **Rotary Club of Uttaradit**, organized a ceremony to present medical equipment bestowed by Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn to the disabled in Chiang Khong district, Wiang Kaen district, Khun Tan district, and Bokeo province of Lao PDR, totaling 144 items valued at THB 1,031,783, at Chiang Khong Wittayakhom School, Chiang Khong district, Chiang Rai province.

A recent service project included an areca palm planting activity, environmental conservation, vocational creation, led by President Thittichan Yenjai and President-Elect Kamonnaree Phina, along with members of the **Chiang Mai San Sai Rotary Club** and **Chiang Mai Thin-Thai-Ngam Rotary Club**, and community leaders jointly purchased and planted 100 areca palm trees as a pilot project for the community “Areca palm creates careers, creates a bright green world” at Mae Hak Phatthana Public Park, Nong Yaeng subdistrict, San Sai district, Chiang Mai province on 4 September 2024.



On the occasion of the 65th anniversary of the **Rotary Club of Chiang Mai**, the club organized a charity activity with the **Rotary Club of Phuket**, District 3330, the **Rotary Club of Taoyuan-Fujen**, Taiwan, District 3502, and the **Rotary Club of Weonju Jungang**, Korea, District 3730, as a project that provided educational equipment, rice, clothing, building a greenhouse to grow vegetables at the school, and providing food for students at the Border Patrol Police School, Chaopho Luang Upatham 2, Phrao district, Chiang Mai province. In addition, the project provided wheelchairs for the disabled at the Yatfon Disabled Potential and Career Development Center, Mae Taeng district, Chiang Mai province on 13 October 2024.

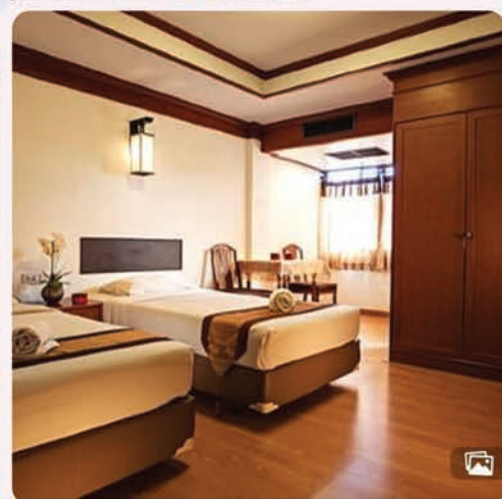
โรงแรมสวนดอกแก้ว

บริการห้องพัก และสปาออนเซ็น

8/1 ซ. 1 ถ.สวนดอก ต.สุเทพ

อ.เมือง จ.เชียงใหม่

โทร 053 808 993 - 5



หจก.พนาพนธ์เชียงใหม่



เจ้าของ : อพก.นพนธ์ โรตารีแอนน์ธัญธารีย์ นิธิรัชพงศ์



ROTARY FOUNDATION MONTH

November is Rotary Foundation Month, a time to celebrate and support the life-changing work of our Foundation. Since The Rotary Foundation began, it has awarded more than US\$6.5 billion to help members transform communities locally and globally. We are deeply grateful to Rotary members like you who make Doing Good in the World possible.

GIVE TODAY: rotary.org/donate

LEARN MORE: rotary.org/foundation

EVERY
ROTARIAN
EVERY
YEAR

บ้านวัสดุ จันทบุรี

ตัวแทนจำหน่ายกระเบื้อง สุขภัณฑ์ อุปกรณ์ในห้องน้ำ อุปกรณ์ในห้องครัว
และออกแบบห้องด้วยระบบ 3D

บริหารงานโดย
อผก.พรรณธิดา โรจน์วรรณสินธุ์ และ คุณนันทชัย โรจน์วรรณสินธุ์

บ้านวัสดุ 26/39 หมู่ 1 ต.พระยาตรัง อ.ท่าช้าง จ.จันทบุรี 22000 โทร. 039 324 135 www.npabaanwatsadu.com

นวัตกรรมใหม่แห่งการกันรั่วกันซึม!

- กันน้ำได้ใน 3 วินาที
- มีความยืดหยุ่นมากกว่า 2000%
- มีคุณสมบัติดับไฟด้วยตัวเอง
- รวดเร็วและประหยัด

สนใจติดต่อ บริษัท นีโอไลท์ จำกัด

☎ 02-744-0102-4, 02-398-2278-9

✉ nakarin@neolight.th.com

🌐 www.neolightthailand.com

