

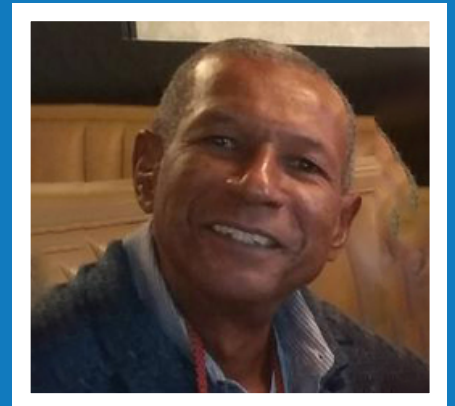
ENVIRONMENT MATTERS

MESSAGE FROM ESRAG CHAIR, MICHAEL TERRELONGE



Welcome to this March edition of the ESRAG Newsletter. As Chair of the Board of Directors, it is a pleasure to connect with you. The challenge of the climate crisis has been much in the news over the last month, with the US repealing emissions legislation and, at the same time, China recording lower carbon emissions. China's carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions fell by 1% in the final quarter of 2025, likely securing a decline of 0.3% for the full year as a whole. This extends a flat or falling trend in China's CO₂ emissions that began in March 2024 and has now lasted for nearly two years. This was achieved thanks to electricity generation from solar power growing by 46% and from wind power by 11% year-on-year in the third quarter of 2025.

In the diverse area of climate change adaptation, the importance of listening to local communities resonates loudly. From the collaboration between Germany and Colombia to transform agricultural resilience and similar UNDP efforts in Egypt, to listening to youth in Bangladesh tell their own climate stories, we grow in awareness of the strategic tools for achieving sustainable development. Listening tells us that adaptation is not only about innovation; it is about confidence, trust, and the response of people to their perceptions of the risks to their communities.



ESRAG's The Million Solar Panels initiative is gathering momentum. Their latest annual report highlights the campaign to encourage Rotarians to purchase solar panels to help address climate change and, at the same time, reduce their power bills. The rapid transition to Renewable Energy is needed to stop the climate crisis. We can't wait for our governments to take action. Rotarians are leading the way. From small-scale solar installations powering schools in rural regions to large-scale solar projects providing clean energy to hospitals and community centers, the challenge has demonstrated how grassroots efforts can lead to global impact.

Congratulations to East Chapel Hill Rotary, the Solar Prize winner featured in this newsletter.

Michael Terrelonge
Chair ESRAG

GLOBAL NEWS

THE EARTHSHOT PRIZE SUMMIT AND AWARDS 2026 WILL BE IN MUMBAI

It has been announced that The Earthshot Prize Summit and Awards 2026, the globally renowned environmental award, will be held in Mumbai, India, this November! Home to more finalists than any other country, India is a place where climate solutions are not just imagined but proven at scale in everyday life. It is exactly this spirit that brings Earthshot to Mumbai for their sixth Awards, where five new Winners will each receive £1 million to help amplify their impact. From clean energy and new technologies to expansive nature restoration, India is proof that economic progress and sustainability can go hand in hand. The nomination window for 2027 is now open. The announcement was made at a special event held during the Indian city's first -ever Climate Action Week.

THE BEZOS FUND AND THE EARTHSHOT PRIZE ANNOUNCE PARTNERSHIP

The [Bezos Earth Fund](#) and The Earthshot Prize announced a landmark partnership to fund 48 pioneering solutions over the next three years. The Bezos Earth Fund will provide \$4.8 million over three years to back 16 solutions each year. Drawing from past Earthshot Prize Nominees, the initiative will tap into a global network of high-impact environmental innovators.

This collaboration will accelerate the growth of breakthrough projects that deliver real progress in tackling climate change, empowering local communities and protecting nature.

Read more about the partnership in [edie](https://lnkd.in/eAnY8H-3): <https://lnkd.in/eAnY8H-3>

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL NEWS

ESRAG AT RICON, TAIPEI

ESRAG has been successful in securing a booth in the House of Friendship at RICON in Taipei and to share the Environment Hub with other Rotary Action Groups.

If you are planning to attend the Rotary International Convention 2026, to be held between 13th–17th June, please inform your participation to Board Director Caroline Dewitt using the Contact Form. We need ESRAG members to help man the booth and presentations for the Environment Hub.

THIS MONTH'S FOCUS: FOOD SYSTEMS

SUSTAINING CHANGE IS EASIER IN COMMUNITY WITH OTHERS

By Dawn A. Byford and Kris Cameron, ESRAG Plant-Rich Diet Task Force Co-chairs

Sustainability is a key concept in today's world, encompassing practices that preserve the environment for future generations of all species. Our current food production systems have played a major role in transgressing [seven of the nine planetary boundaries](#) that are critical to regulation of the stability and resilience of life on earth. We can all help reverse this dangerous trend by transitioning to a more [plant-rich diet](#). [Project Drawdown](#), an official ESRAG partner, has identified the food sector as the most impactful opportunity we have to reverse climate change. But some big questions arise: Where do we start? More importantly, how do we sustain this lifestyle shift? How do we ensure it strengthens our relationships and keeps us motivated and engaged? Also, how do we find a supportive community if our loved ones or fellow club members are not as enthusiastic about this journey as we are? This is a challenge that can arise with any lifestyle shift.

Lifestyle changes are much more achievable and FUN with others, so we invite you to watch this 4-minute video: [P.L.A.T.E – 5 Tips to Guarantee Enjoyment and Success on Your Plant-Rich Journey](#). Don't worry about jotting down notes – we've [done it for you!](#)

Food must be delicious to satisfy us, but it also plays a crucial role in connecting with others in fellowship. We see how important that is for Rotarians as we gather at club meetings all over the world. Here are some great tips on [Organizing a Plant-based Rotary Event: The Beginning of a New Tradition](#).

Here are some other ways you can promote healthier and lower carbon food choices in your club and community.

Provide plant-based meal options at meetings and events ([Green Events Handbook](#)). This could be

having a meatless or totally plant-based meal once a month, or offering a plant-based option at each meeting.

- Promote fellowship and friendly competition with other clubs by challenging one another to take [The 15-Day Plant-Rich Challenge](#) together, and chart your personal health outcomes. (You can also take the Challenge individually and at your own pace.)
- Initiate and maintain a [monthly plant-based potluck event](#), or book club.
- Host [lower carbon fundraisers](#) that involve food (rib fest/crab feed alternatives).
- Provide funding to enable community members and/or low income residents to participate in a [jumpstart program](#) to improve their health.
- Hosting an event to kick off [The 15 Day Plant-Rich Challenge](#) for your community - film screening, potluck, etc. ([PRD Action Guide](#)). Connecting to special days/times are helpful - Earth Day, New Year's resolutions, etc.
- Host a [Vegan Chef Challenge](#) in your community.

Small consistent behaviours add up to big positive changes over time, especially regarding plant-rich eating. The goal is patience and persistence, not perfection. Be kind with yourself on this journey, and soon you will look back and see how truly impactful these actions can be, both for your health, and the health of our precious planet. The power is on your plate — one meal at a time.

Have questions or feedback? Need some recipes? Want to join us? We're here to help. Visit our webpage esrag.org/plant-rich-diet/, or contact us at plantrich@esrag.org, and find us on [PRD LinkedIn](#) - [Facebook](#) - [Instagram](#), and [YouTube](#).

Dawn Byford is a member of the Rotary Club of Canmore, Canada. Kris is a member of the Wenatchee Rotary Club, WA/USA.

The monthly plant-based potluck gathering originally sponsored by the Wenatchee (WA) Confluence Rotary Club, has been active for over three years and has been featured in [Rotary Magazine](#).



CHAPTERS & TASK FORCES

SOLAR FOR REFRIGERATION: BOB OSTRUM EAST CHAPEL HILL ROTARY DISTRICT 7710

East Chapel Hill Rotary is helping install a 9.4 kW solar array on the roof of a nonprofit that provides healthy food and nutrition education to children in need. This project will do far more than generate clean energy. It will help put healthy food on the plates of children who need it most. East Chapel Hill Rotary has partnered with two other nonprofits, TABLE and the UNC-based Solar Equity, to support food-insecure children in our community. Since 2008, TABLE has delivered more than 3.4 million meals and currently serves almost 1200



children each week, with 250 more on the waiting list. With the recent addition of a commercial walk-in refrigerator, TABLE can now store and distribute more fresh, locally sourced food, including fruits and vegetables, which will dramatically improve nutrition for the children they serve.

However, this expanded capacity also brings higher electricity costs. The new solar installation will offset those expenses for the next 25-30 years, ensuring that more of TABLE's limited funds can go directly toward feeding additional children rather than paying utility bills. In addition to food delivery, TABLE provides nutrition education kits and sources 30% of its food from local farms. Notably, 90% of the children served are children of color, and TABLE holds a 4-star rating from Charity Navigator, reflecting its strong accountability and impact. The solar system includes donated panels from Solar Equity and will be installed by Southern Energy Management. It is expected to generate more than \$1,500 in electricity annually, with a 25-year warranty. ESRAG prize funding will be used to further increase the system's capacity, maximizing long-term benefits.

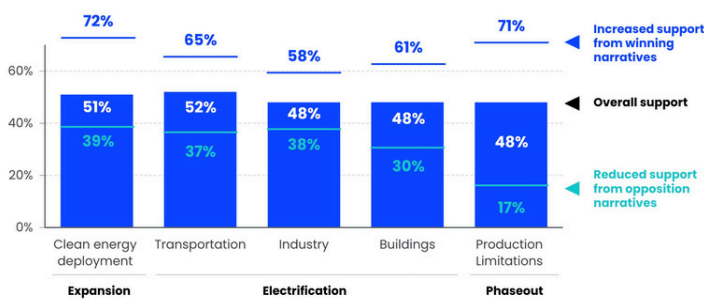
For East Chapel Hill Rotary, this project builds on a beloved hands-on service initiative in which members volunteer weekly to bag and distribute food to at-risk schoolchildren. By adding solar, Rotarians are strengthening this effort, making it more sustainable, more resilient, and more impactful for decades to come. This is clean energy in action: protecting the planet, reducing costs, and ensuring that more children have access to healthy food and a brighter future.

MESSAGES TO GALVANIZE CLIMATE ACTION

Ariel Miller, Member of the Cincinnati Rotary Club, Ohio, USA, Former ESRAG Newsletter Editor



Support for key policies, % support



If you are disheartened by the past year's retrenchments on climate commitments, read the Potential Energy Coalition's "Five Simple Shifts for Climate Communication in 2026." You can use this market research to present climate solutions as opportunities rather than sacrifices. Rotarians are perfectly positioned for this advocacy because of our deep local roots,

the trust we have earned, and our track record of designing practical solutions that bring people together despite political and ideological differences.

Founded by John Marshall, who brings over 30 years of experience advising Fortune 500 companies on marketing and branding, Potential Energy conducts worldwide tests of messages about the climate crisis and what we can do about it. "Across 1,250 tests, hundreds of focus groups, and 25 in-market campaigns, including our most recent 6-country study in partnership with The Rockefeller Foundation, we've observed the same thing: narrative is our biggest obstacle," Marshall and co-author Jessica Lu explain. "The messages used by the climate movement have been narrow, complex, and, increasingly, politically coded. But if you replace these messages with broader, simpler language, then support for solutions leaps by double-digit percentage points."

Potential Energy's market research across 23 countries shows "three in five people agree with one simple statement: 'It's essential that our government does whatever it takes to limit the effects of climate change.'" But that support varies greatly depending on the specific policy solution. "The policies the climate movement has pushed hardest, like a fossil phaseout or Net Zero, are among the least individually popular. "

Drawing on the data on response to various messages, the guide offers five changes in framing, with specific examples illustrating each re-frame. In this overview, I'm citing a few under each.

1. From morality to materiality: "Instead of functioning as a moral crusade...we have to connect climate concerns to what people worry about every day, and connect climate solutions to benefits they can touch and see," write the research team. Huge majorities of respondents worry about extreme weather, the fear of losing insurance, air pollution, and skyrocketing electric costs. For example, "a message on health, toxins, and chemicals lifted support for reducing fossil fuel pollution by 13 percentage points."

2. From luxury to affordability: These findings offer a solution to the perception that "green" solutions are too expensive. Attributes of renewable energy such as "unlimited," "local," and "proven" lift the perception that clean energy is cheaper than fossil fuels by 25 percentage points, to over 65% of respondents.
3. From banning to building: "All else being equal, we lose 10-20 points on almost any climate policy featuring the word 'ban' or 'mandate,'" report the researchers. Support for climate policies increases dramatically when you present what you audience is transitioning toward, rather than away from. For example, a market test in the US state of Illinois showed "5 times the lift in support when we framed the policy as encouraging a shift 'toward cleaner, safer sources of heat' rather than a shift 'away from natural gas.'"
4. From global to national and local: A case that would appeal to many Rotarians - "helping vulnerable people around the globe" was ranked as the single least-motivating factor for climate action - and not just among ideological conservatives," the data show. "A sense of responsibility towards family, community, and the natural world all ranked meaningfully higher."

"Our testing indicates that there are opportunities to tap into pride, progress and patriotism to sell climate and clean energy action," add the researchers. 71% of respondents agree that "my country should lead the world" on clean energy, rather than "waiting until other countries act." Effective reframes "emphasize local autonomy, pride, and protection of community self-interest."

From massive to manageable: In Potential Energy's 2023 survey of 23 countries, over 70% of respondents supported "immediate government action on climate change...Globally, supporters outnumber opponents 8-1." But in Potential Energy's more recent survey of the US, UK, Canada, Germany, Italy and France, even though over 60% of people in all six nations think global warming "will pose a serious threat to me or my way of life in my lifetime," only 55% thought climate change is "definitely or probably solvable." By contrast, 73% thought high energy costs are definitely or probably solvable, and 65% thought the same about pollution. "Anchoring on abstract goals like temperature thresholds or gigaton reduction feels unattainable, compared to concrete actions like reducing pollution or building clean energy," the researchers report.

Potential Energy is embarking on a study across the G20 nations, and its local and multi-national studies are available free on the website. [Sign up here](#) for a free subscription to their "That's Interesting" e-newsletter to get news of their latest research on people's perceptions about climate change and "what messaging strategies actually move the needle in building support for climate solutions across various audiences," as well as communication best practices and surprising findings. Here's a [link to the bios of the Potential Energy team](#).

Write to us at newsletter@esrag.org if you put any of these strategies into action: let us how it goes and your advice!

TURNING E-WASTE INTO IMPACT: A GENGREEN INITIATIVE

By Jeetmanyu Agrawal, Interact Club of Ahmedabad Asmita GenGreen
| RID 3055

Electronic waste often goes unnoticed until it becomes an environmental and social burden. This month, the Interact Club of Ahmedabad Asmita GenGreen addressed this challenge through a focused e-waste collection drive, gathering 108 kilograms of discarded electronics and converting waste into real impact.

Through responsible collection and scientific segregation, every item was diverted from landfills and processed through certified



recycling channels. The drive achieved zero-landfill, 100 percent responsible recycling, with transparent, app-tracked processing that ensured safe material handling, compliant documentation, and the creation of circular-economy products.

Beyond environmental responsibility, the initiative carried a humanitarian purpose. The value generated from recycling supported polio eradication efforts, with the contribution multiplied threefold through a matching donation, extending help to children and families affected by polio.

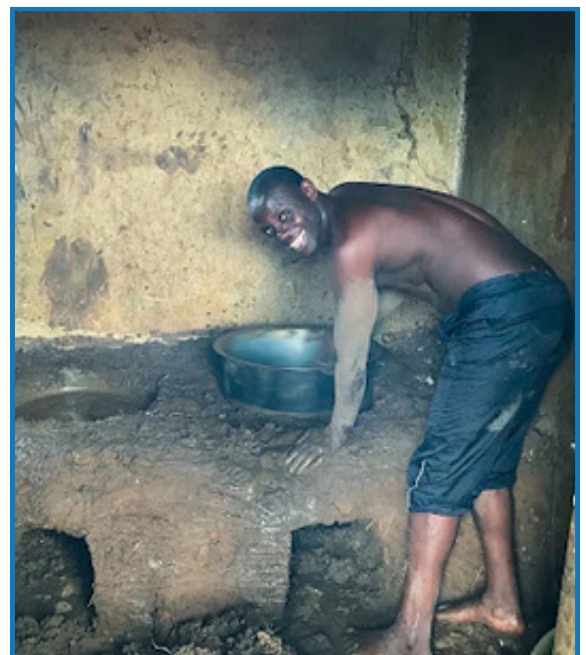
This drive reflected what service can look like when sustainability and compassion work together. Not a one-day activity, but a mindset GenGreen continues to build across schools, homes, and communities.



MUD STOVES FOR CLEAN COOKING IN MUBENDE DISTRICT , UGANDA

By Maya Smeulders, ESRAG Clean Cooking Co-Chair and Mubende Projects Coordinator Rotary Club of Abingdon.

The Rotary Club of Abingdon Vesper started a project many years ago in Mubende District, Uganda, to teach people how to build fuel saving mud-stoves from free local materials that save 2/3 of firewood and take the cooking smoke out of the kitchen. It also saves women and children a lot of time and effort in collecting firewood and by the ease of cooking. We started by linking the project to our existing agricultural Microcredit Project and have since expanded it to include schools and to training Trainers in Rotary Clubs, Rotaract and environmental groups in other parts of Uganda to spread the know-how more widely. We also raise people's awareness of the need to plant (agro forestry) trees to replace the residual use of firewood. We have set up tree nurseries to provide the appropriate seedlings that do not deplete the soil or damage the crops.





The project has multiple benefits: environmental, financial, health and women's quality of life. It allows people in poor rural areas to help themselves and it does not produce a waste problem when the stove needs repair or renewal. A mud-stove in a family home will save 5.3 tonnes of CO₂ per family per year. Planting just 1-2 trees per year will replace the firewood still used. In places where firewood has to be bought, the saving will be ~ £200 a year, which is a lot of money for a subsistence farmer.

A school mudstove, which can accommodate big pans for cooking school meals, will save 2 lorryloads of firewood per term, representing 6 trees or 10.2 tonnes of CO₂ per year. The money saved on firewood is ~£400 per year, which can better be used for education. Many Rotary Clubs in Great Britain & Ireland have sponsored these school-stoves.

To date, thousands of families have built their own mud-stoves. We estimate that there are ~4000 of them, saving 12,000 trees and 21,200 tonnes of CO₂ annually. Mud-stoves have been fitted in 125 schools saving 750 trees or 1,122 tonnes of CO₂ per year.

The programme is still ongoing. The women love the stoves as they fit very well with their lifestyle and economic circumstances. In all our programs we aim to give people the skills to help themselves.

No CO₂ is produced during the production of the stoves, no money needed for materials, just some effort and know-how, no need for spare parts or technical expertise, no waste. Combined with tree planting a mud-stove is carbon neutral. No need to wait for outside donations.

We have tested also a simple (affordable) solar cooker, but we were unable to bring a litre of water to the boil as there were always clouds around which stopped the heating process. This was not even during the rainy season of which there are two per year. A solar stove might work on some sunny days, but we believe that the first priority has to be a basic all-weather stove that can be used at all times. People's homes are very small, and storage space is very limited. Leaving a solar stove outside unattended would also run the risk of theft. Most women have to leave their home to tend to their fields away from the village.

For more information see: [Rotary GBI Magazine](#)

The website on all our Mubende projects: www.learning4lifeafrica.org

I have visited the project every year, since 2011.

Maya Smeulders

DISTRICT ENVIRONMENT CHAIRS: TURNING COMMITMENT INTO CLIMATE ACTION

By Ludwig Kalthoff, PDG 1900 – Co-Lead Climate Solutions Taskforce, ESRAG

District Environment Chairs (DECs) help Rotary move from environmental awareness to coordinated, measurable action. Rather than adding another administrative layer, the DEC provides orientation, continuity, and connection — enabling clubs to translate Rotary’s seventh Area of Focus into practical service.

A guiding concept guiding this work is the **shift from footprint to handprint**. The footprint measures how we reduce our own environmental impact. The **handprint measures the positive change we create in others**: mobilizing communities, supporting municipalities, educating youth, and scaling solutions. Rotary’s strength lies in this multiplier effect. DECs help clubs expand that handprint — turning individual initiatives into collective impact.

ANCHORED IN ROTARY’S THREE-YEAR ROLLING ACTION PLAN

Rotary’s Action Plan provides a rolling three-year framework that ensures continuity beyond annual leadership changes. DECs operationalize this structure at district level by aligning environmental activities with Rotary’s four strategic priorities — increasing impact, expanding reach, enhancing engagement, and strengthening adaptability. Environmental goals thus become embedded in district strategy rather than remaining stand-alone projects.

WORKING HAND IN HAND WITH CLUB ENVIRONMENT LEADERS

The effectiveness of a DEC depends on close collaboration with Club Environment, Sustainability, or Community Service Chairs (CEC/CSC/CEO).

While clubs implement projects locally, the DEC connects leaders with expertise, partners, and ESRAG resources, facilitates exchange of proven practices, supports continuity when club leadership changes, and helps scale successful initiatives across the district.

This partnership transforms isolated activities into a coordinated district-wide movement.

A GROWING GLOBAL NETWORK

The model is gaining momentum worldwide. At least **46 District Environment or Sustainability Chairs are currently active**: 24 in Europe, 17 in North America, and 5 across Asia, Africa, and South America. These figures show both a strong foundation and significant potential for further growth.

FROM VISION TO PRACTICE: THE 7 STEPS TO A CLIMATE-FRIENDLY ROTARY CLUB

DECs can guide clubs through a practical pathway:

- **Create awareness** by embedding environmental stewardship into Rotary service.
- **Build a small action team** (club contact, committee).
- **Assess opportunities** to reduce impact and influence others.
- **Set realistic goals** aligned with local needs, club expertise.
- **Implement a visible signature** project with community benefit.
- **Measure the handprint** by documenting impact.
- **Share results** to inspire replication.



LEADERSHIP THAT CONNECTS LOCAL AND GLOBAL ACTION

PDG Marja Ritterfeld (D1850, RC Uelsen/Koeverden), DEC since 2021 and board member of Rotary EndPlasticSoup, emphasizes the potential of global collaboration: “Through lectures, educational materials, and cross-border initiatives, Rotary’s network can drive meaningful environmental change. On 12 September 2026, Rotary EndPlasticSoup and RhineCleanUp will organize a major cross-border action open to every Rotary, Rotaract, and Interact club - an example of how district leadership can connect global agendas with local action.”

A STRATEGIC ROLE FOR ROTARY’S FUTURE — AND AN INVITATION TO LEAD

Cleaner environments mean healthier communities and better opportunities for future generations. DECs ensure that Rotary’s environmental commitment becomes structured, visible, and sustainable.

More districts are encouraged to appoint a District Environment Chair and integrate the role into their leadership teams.

DEC do not add complexity. They connect people. And connection turns service into lasting impact.

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN ALGAE BLOOM – WHAT HAS THAT GOT TO DO WITH CLIMATE CHANGE

By Colin Scobie Chair ESRAG Oceania Chapter

ESRAG Oceania was privileged to host a compelling online presentation by ecologist Faith Coleman from [Delta Environmental Consulting](#), who joined participants from across the region via Zoom to discuss the unfolding marine crisis along South Australia’s coastline.

Since mid-March 2025, [thousands of dead fish have washed ashore](#) on beaches along the South

Australian coast, alarming local communities. Thick sea foam and the sheer volume of marine life lost have heightened public concern, particularly as families look forward to returning to the coast during the southern hemisphere's summer school holidays in December.

Detailed water sampling and microscopic analysis by authorities identified the presence of harmful algal species *Karenia mikimotoi*, but further diagnostic work confirmed the dominant species [as *Karenia cristata*, a neurotoxic dinoflagellate](#) harmful to marine life. This harmful algal bloom (HAB) explains the widespread fish deaths now visible along beaches near Adelaide.

Globally, harmful algal blooms are increasing in frequency and intensity. NASA has previously monitored marine algal [blooms via satellite, tracking ocean colour changes associated with Chlorophyll\(a\)](#), which is the chemical that all photosynthesising plants, algae and most photosynthesising bacteria use. Historic satellite data nonetheless confirms a troubling upward trend in HAB events worldwide.

Coleman also noted that earlier in [January 2025, separate fish kills along the Western Australia](#) coast resulted in an estimated 30,000 fish deaths. That event was linked to a marine heatwave — a phenomenon increasing in frequency under climate change. Marine heatwaves not only stress fish populations but also threaten vulnerable species such as dugongs and degrade critical seagrass habitats.

Ocean circulation patterns play a crucial role in these events. Research highlighted by the [Ocean Geographic Society indicates that warming waters in South Australia are influenced by changes in the Antarctic Circumpolar Current \(ACC\)](#). The ACC, which flows eastward around Antarctica, is being altered by accelerating polar ice melt. Increased volumes of cold, fresh meltwater — associated with destabilising glaciers such as the [Thwaites Glacier — form a less saline surface layer that can slow and disrupt ocean circulation](#). These changes influence nutrient distribution and water temperature, creating favourable conditions for harmful algal blooms such as the one now affecting South Australia.



While the ecological impacts are sobering, Coleman emphasised a hopeful development: the growing role of citizen science. [Local volunteers are learning to identify and count diatoms and other microorganisms using compound microscopes](#). Rotary clubs are applying for local council community grants to establish baseline marine data collection programs, strengthening regional monitoring capacity.

This collaborative approach represents both a practical response to environmental change and a powerful tool for climate education. By building local scientific literacy and generating long-term data, communities are better equipped to understand, document, and advocate for action on the escalating impacts of climate change on Australia's marine ecosystems.

EARTH2026 - UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY TO SHOWCASE YOUR ROTARY PROJECTS!

EarthX2026 <https://earthx.org/earthx2026/>, the world's largest environmental expo, will take place April 20-22 at the Hilton Anatole in Dallas.

Thanks to the efforts of Rotarian Steve Bender, the conference will feature a special section called "The RotaryXperience" <https://rotaryxperience.org/>, a 30,000 square foot area where clubs/organizations can showcase their environmental activities and projects and potentially speak about these projects to a live streamed international audience on a dedicated stage. Up to 10,000 visitors a day will pass through the exhibition area. We'd like to feature projects that would attract and be of interest to domestic and international audiences in attendance for the EarthX Conference. 2018-19 RI President Barry Raskin will be speaking at the conference. What an ideal opportunity to increase ESRAG's membership and visibility.

Our Rotary district 5790 will be awarded premier space in the exhibition area and our district governor, Jon Bullock is all in. ESRAG would be a most welcome addition and we'll be featuring such exhibits as Lunch Out Of Landfills, Lithium-ion battery recycling/Redwood Materials, pollinator gardening, wheelchairs for polio, clean water solutions for India, Sri Lanka and Kenya, and solar power. There will also be an electric vehicle demonstration in an outside area at the conference so we could entertain a coordinated display in our dedicated area. Ideally, our exhibits would feature some "hands on" experiences as well.

We'd love to have ESRAG participation at this important international event. For more information please contact Mike Weaver mikboy327@gmail.com

The image contains two promotional posters for EarthX2026. The left poster is titled "The Rotary Xperience Environmental Sustainability Conference in the World" and is held at the Hilton Anatole in Dallas, TX, from April 20-22, 2026. It features a QR code and a photo of Barry Raskin, 2018-19 RI President. The right poster is titled "Environmental Xperience At EarthX" and highlights "100 Projects, 100 Countries." It features a QR code and a photo of a man with children in front of a globe. Both posters include information about the Rotary Xperience membership growth opportunity and a \$50 off the full EarthX Pass.

RECOMMENDED READING

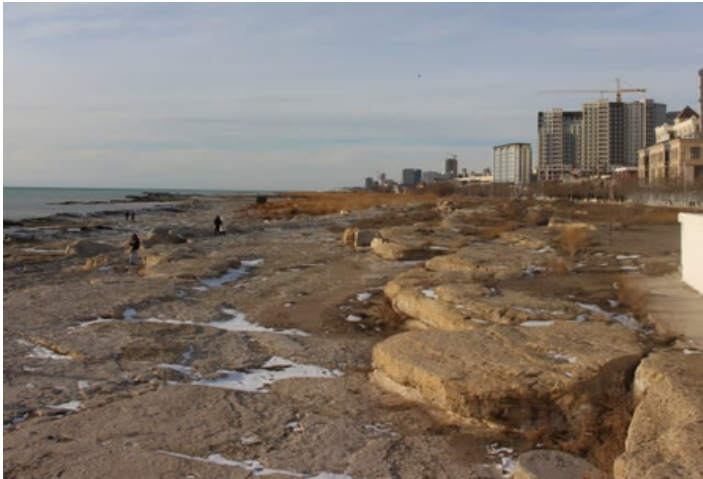
[40 FACTS AND STATISTICS ABOUT TOURISM & OCEAN SUSTAINABILITY](#)

It provides an in-depth look at the impact of marine and coastal tourism on the environment, and includes actionable advice to becoming a sustainable tourist.



[CASPIAN SEA SHRINKING](#)

Shares a glimpse of the implications of global warming, a harsh warning to get back on track to avoid losing more of our water bodies in the coming years.



[State of Finance for Nature 2026: Nature in the Red - Powering the Trillion Dollar Nature Transition Economy UNEP](#)

This report sets out the latest numbers and offers a new approach to accelerate the urgent transition to phase out nature negative finance and to scale up investment in Nature-based Solutions (NbS) and nature – the Nature Transition X-curve.



ESRAG NEWS

[JOIN ESRAG!](#)



MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

The Environmental Sustainability Rotary Action Group assists Rotary clubs, districts and multi-districts in:

- Planning and implementing impactful and environmentally sustainable service projects
- Educating and building awareness
- Building global and local networks
- Inspiring sustainable living/action
- Supporting Rotary International's environmental initiatives.

ESRAG inspires and empowers the Rotary family with extensive expertise, networks, education, and best practices to help implement sustainable and impactful environmental projects, informed by our six themes: Biodiversity, Climate Change, Food Systems, Pollution, Circular Economy, and Sustainable Living.

MARCH WEBINARS AND EVENTS

ESRAG is planning four webinars in March, designed to inform, empower, and energise ESRAG members and Rotarians committed to protecting our planet.

- **Hope and Optimism - Creating Sustainable Peace on March 4th** at 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. EST/2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. UTC
- **Bamboo Sustainability on March 11th** at 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. EST/2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. UTC
- **Three prize winners of ESRAG 2025 Prizes - Nepal on March 18th** at 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. EST/2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. UTC
- **Prize winner ESRAG 2025 Prize Rotary Club if Istanbul - Bee the Change on March 25th** at 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. EST/2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. UTC

Your participation strengthens our collective impact.

All ESRAG members, Rotarians, and Rotaractors are warmly invited.
Check this All ESRAG members, Rotarians, and Rotaractors are warmly invited.

FOLLOW US & JOIN THE CONVERSATION.



Copyright (C) 2026 ESRAG. All rights reserved.

EMAIL US AT:

newsletter@esrag.org