



Congratulations to Everyone for an Outstanding Rotary Year

By Wade Nomura on Tuesday, June 30, 2026

Congratulations to everyone for an outstanding Rotary Year! This was the busiest and most productive year for WASHRAG, thanks to all your efforts in bringing a better life to so many.

Being awarded the first-ever WASH Programs of Scale grant says it all. Congratulations to the Haiti HANWASH team for all you do and will continue doing for the people of Haiti. It is an honor serving as your Project Support Advisor.

This will be my last article as the Chair of the WASHRAG Operations Team, and I wish to thank my Team for going above and beyond the call of duty in helping so many clubs, communities, and Rotarians make a brighter future for our global family. It was an honor to serve as the Chair of the Operations Team, and I plan to continue doing WASH projects through my role as a Cadre leader.

My passion for WASH started in 2006, with my very first project in Mexico, and I plan on continuing my quest to bring water to those in need around the world. I will also continue as a contributing writer for the newsletter as an advisor for Global Grants.

My last word of advice is to give as many as you can the opportunity to experience their Rotary moment, as there is no greater gift in Rotary.





Photo 1. Receiving the National Flag of Haiti for my work in HANWASH

Photo 2. My first ever Rotary Project

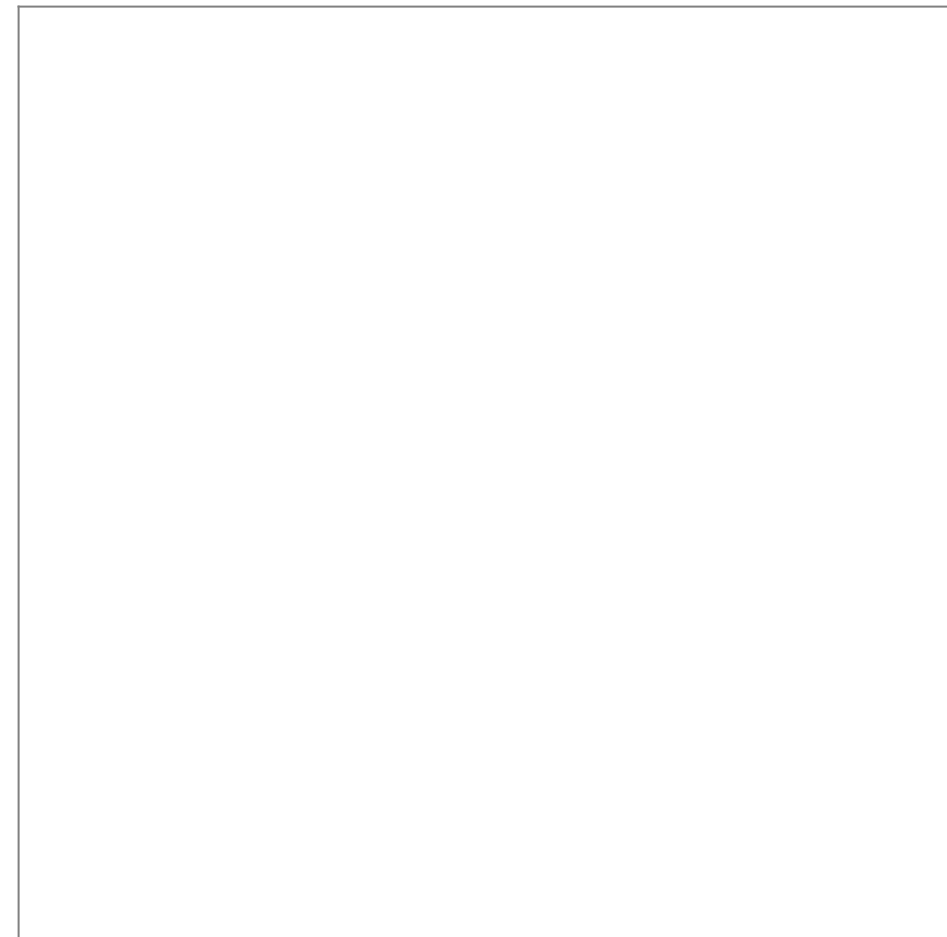
Projects and Programs

By Kumaraswamy Sivakumaran on Tuesday, June 30, 2026

Projects and Programs

Introduction:

The Projects and Programs team has been working hard during the past couple of months on a variety of projects. We are glad to inform the readers that the Rotary Foundation has approved seven WASH Projects. The projects that were approved are from the following countries: Peru, Paraguay, and Costa Rica located in Central and South America, and Kenya, Ghana, and South Sudan located in Africa. Further, three Global Grant Applications are being reviewed, and \$600 was awarded to the RC of Ratna Nagar, Nepal, for preliminary engineering studies. Finally, as part of providing technical advice, the team provided a hydrologic memorandum to the Rotary Club of Mount Shasta, CA, and a note for a water treatment approach to remove iron from groundwater to the Rotary Club of Paducah, KY. Figure 1 shows the locations of the various countries where the projects are ongoing.



We also had our team meeting on May 9th where we discussed the role of reviewers and quality assurance in reviews. Stew Martin, Technical Officer and Cadre, made a presentation entitled “Professional Rotary WASH Grant Review” to the attendees. Further, Projects and Programs Vice Chair, Richard Chinn, presented a draft Flowchart that described the Global Grant Review by the Projects and Programs Team. We hope to upload the flowchart on the website so that the members know WASHRAG’s Global Grant Review Process

In the following pages, we have summarized the various WASH Projects that have been approved by the Rotary Foundation.

Ghana: GG2686335: Mpintsin Ghana Water Project

The Mpintsin community in Ghana’s Western Region will gain reliable access to safe drinking water through a connection to a nearby treatment facility supplied by the Pra River. The project will install HDPE pipelines, standpipes, and smart meters serving two hundred households, a school, and a market. With more than 10,000 residents currently dependent on limited and often unsafe water sources, the project will improve public health, reduce water collection burdens on women and children, enhance safety, and provide lasting social and economic benefits.

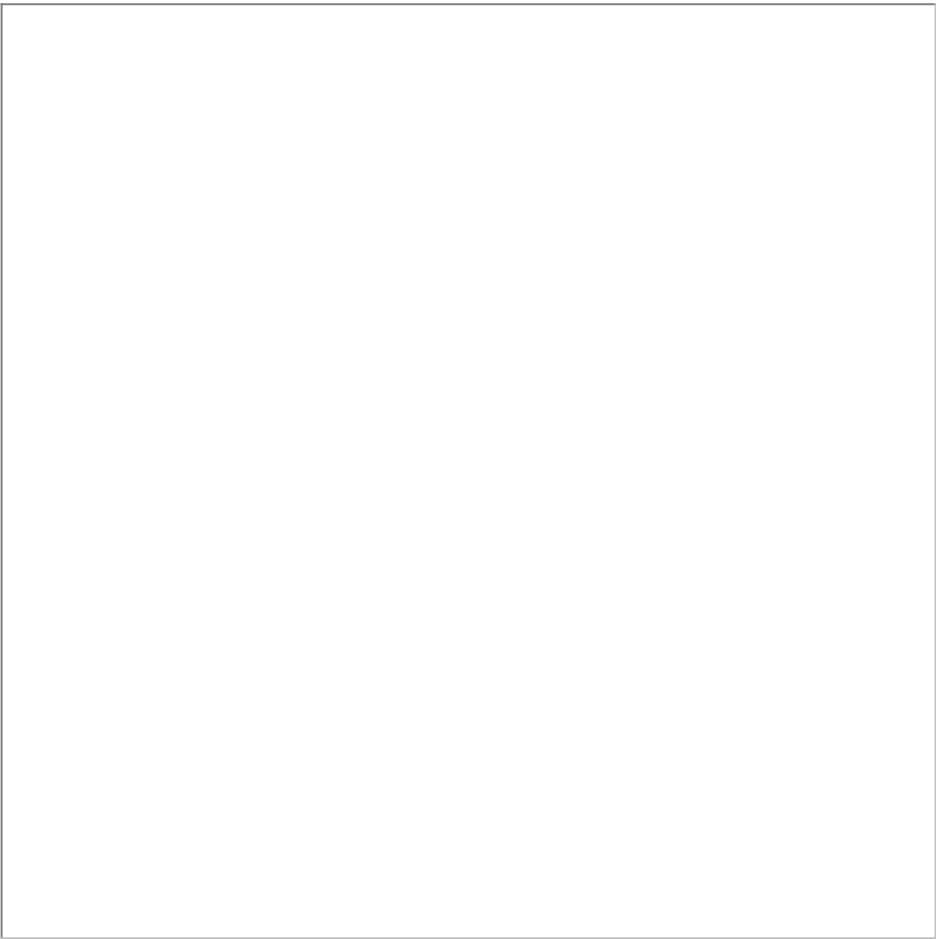
Colombia: GG2575183 – Water Source of Light

This project will improve access to safe drinking water for schools in the rural communities of Laurel, La Cumbre, Pueblo Rico, El Jardín, La Morelia Baja, and La Sagrada Familia in Quimbaya, Colombia. Water treatment plant will be installed to convert untreated agricultural water into potable water, complemented by storage tank

upgrades, civil works, and hygiene education. Benefiting approximately eight hundred people, the project will promote healthier learning environments, sustainable water use, and improved community well-being.

Kenya: GG 2688239 -Kasule Community Health Facility Integrated Solar and Water Project

This project will provide clean, dependable, and affordable water to the Kasule Community Health Clinic and surrounding village, benefiting women and children most affected by water scarcity. The initiative includes upgrading the clinic’s solar power system to support water pumping, maternity services, laboratory operations, vaccine storage, and lighting. Improved sanitation facilities and community hygiene training will also be provided. Together, these improvements will enhance health services and benefit more than 2,500 patients and community members each month. Figure 2 is a schematic of the project.



Peru: GG 2687157 – Tomacaya Peru Water Distribution System Project

The Tomacaya Water Distribution System Project will provide the rural Andean community of Tomacaya, Peru, reliable access to safe drinking water through a sustainable gravity-fed distribution network. The project will replace aging infrastructure, construct new water intake and storage facilities, and improve service to homes and community buildings. Benefiting six hundred–

seven hundred residents, the initiative will enhance public health, reduce the burden of water collection, and support local agriculture, small businesses, and long-term community development.

South Sudan: GG2460746 - Enhancing Water and Agriculture (WAG) Initiatives in Mangalla IDPs Camp, South Sudan.

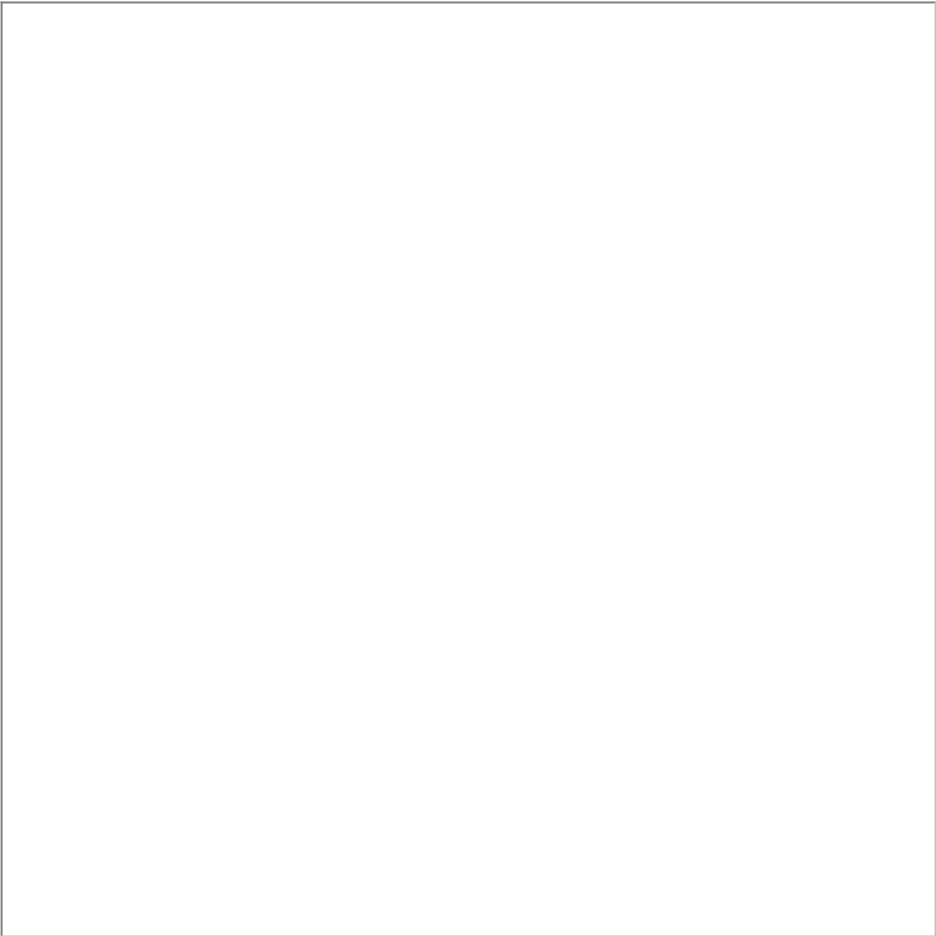
Severe malnutrition continues to threaten children under five and pregnant and breastfeeding women in South Sudan. This project will improve food security, water access, and livelihoods for 50,000 internally displaced people in Mangalla, while benefiting more than 150,000 host community members. The initiative includes upgrading a community well with a new submersible pump, constructing a water storage tank, establishing a greenhouse, and launching a fish-farming program. Together, these efforts will strengthen nutrition, increase food production, and enhance community resilience.

Costa Rica: GG 2684768 - Improving 7 Communal Aqueducts' infrastructure in the Province of Guanacaste Phase 3, USD 64,673

This project will modernize aging water infrastructure in the Guanacaste communities of Nicoya, Carrillo, Hojancha, and Santa Cruz, Costa Rica. Much of the existing system is 35 to 50 years old and no longer meets current water demands. The project will repair, replace, and expand key water facilities to improve reliability and address population growth and changing water availability. Damaged hydrants, affected by repeated earthquakes, will also be replaced, strengthening community resilience and ensuring a more sustainable water supply.

Paraguay: GG 2577162 -Agua Segura, Comunidad Viva, (Safe Water, Long Life)

This project will provide safe drinking water to the rural communities of Fracción Aromita I, María Alejandra, and La Esperanza in Encarnación, Paraguay. The initiative includes drilling a 150- meter-deep groundwater well, installing a submersible pump, constructing a 30,000-liter elevated water tank, and developing a community water distribution network. In addition, residents will receive water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) training to promote proper resource management, improve public health, and ensure the long-term sustainability of the system.

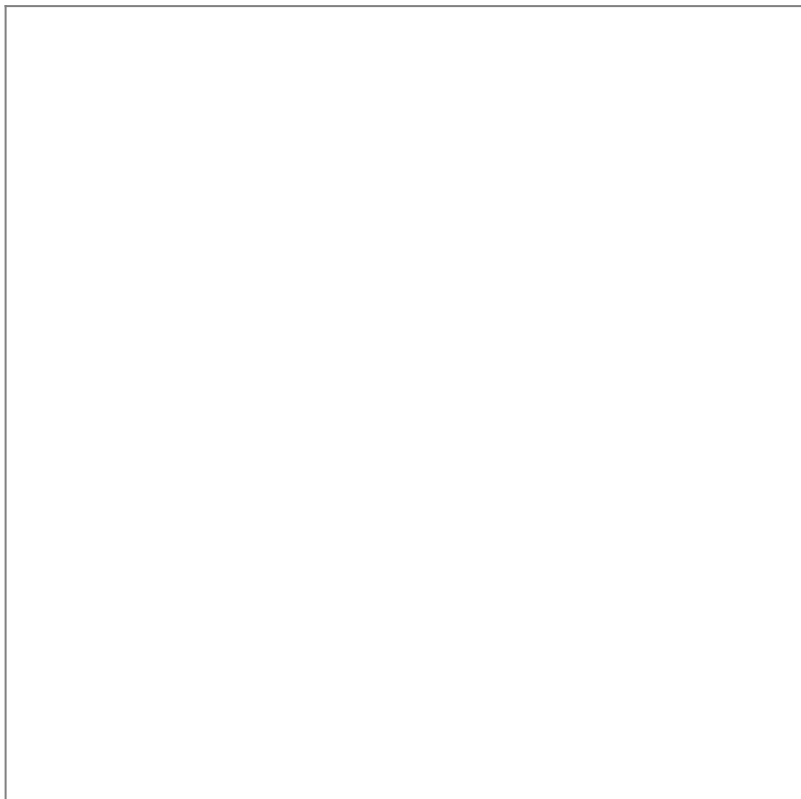


(Note: Illustrations were created with AI assistance; they do not represent any individual or individuals, and no editorial assistance was used but verified by a human reviewer.)

WASH-RAG Booth in the House of Friendship

By Stella Dongo on Tuesday, June 30, 2026

RI Convention Taipei 2026



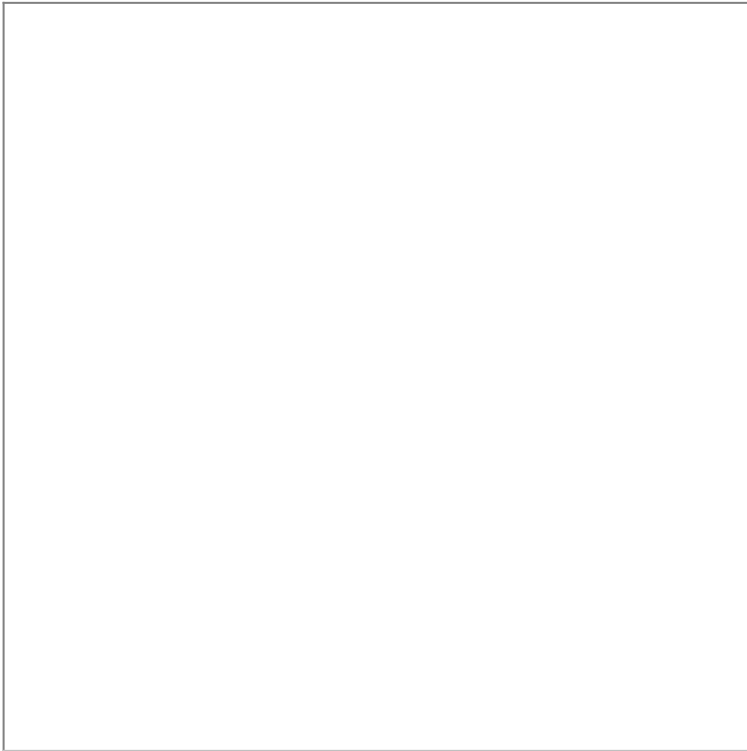
WASHRAG Booth 0219 welcomed Rotary members and visitors throughout the five-day Convention.

The RI Convention took place in Taipei from **13–17 June 2026**.

WASHRAG was allocated **Booth 219**, situated directly opposite the WASH Hub.

The booth was shared with **HANWASH (Haiti National Water, Sanitation and Hygiene)** and was set up on Friday, 12 June, by Sue Golsen from HANWASH with assistance from Steve Werner, WASHRAG Ambassadors (C).

The House of Friendship officially opened on Saturday morning with the traditional pomp and fanfare.



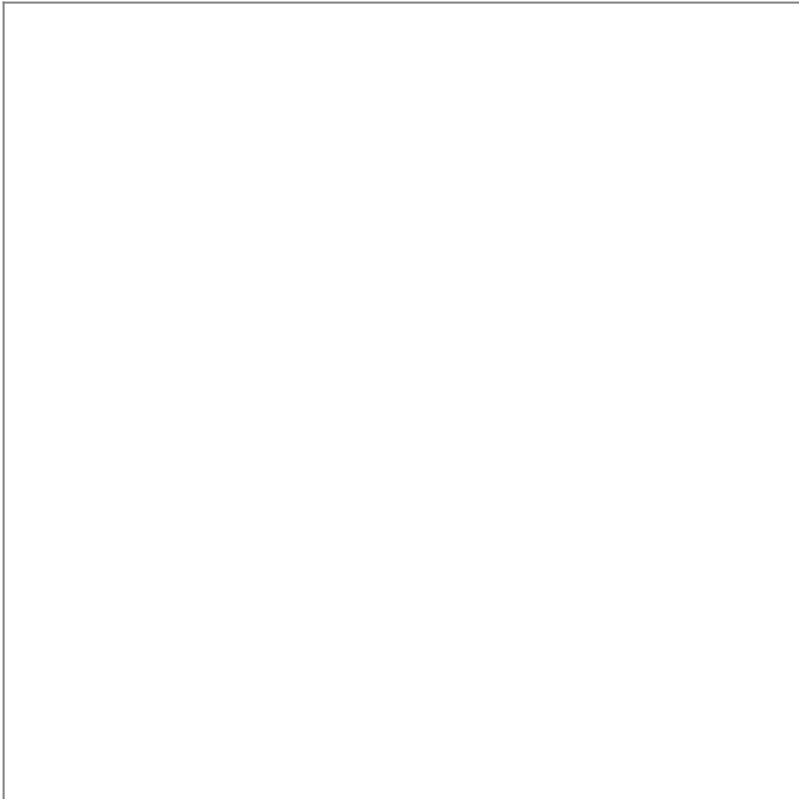
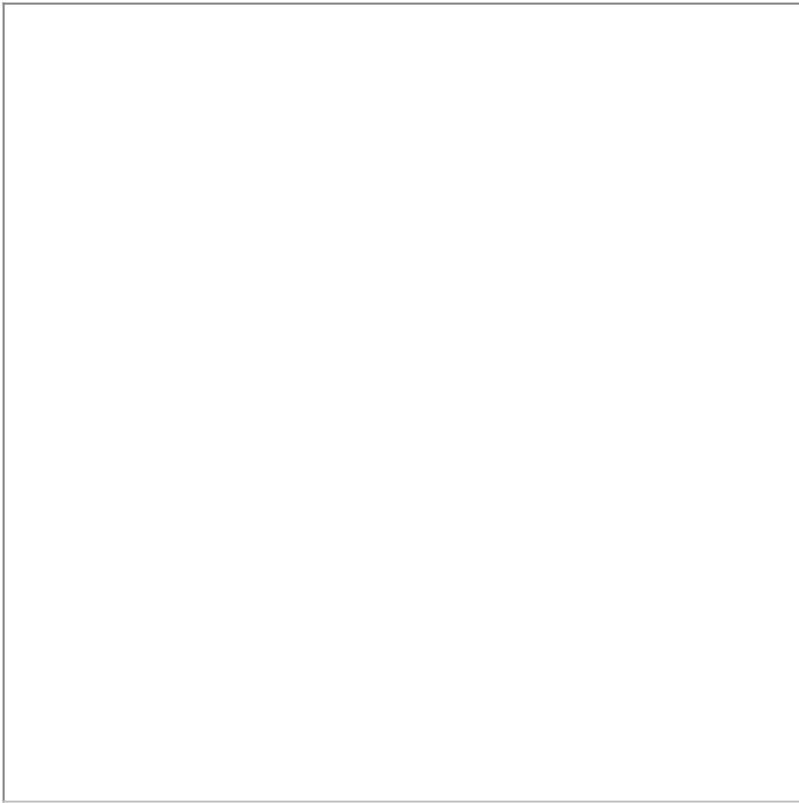
Steve Werner shares information about WASHRAG and Rotary's global WASH initiatives with Convention attendees.

The booth operated throughout the Convention, closing only at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, the final day.

Daily traffic averaged **30–40 visitors**, many seeking information about WASHRAG, membership opportunities and ways to participate in international WASH projects. Others stopped by to share their own projects and explore collaboration opportunities.

We welcomed **12 new members** during the Convention. Visitors also received WASHRAG literature and information on becoming involved.



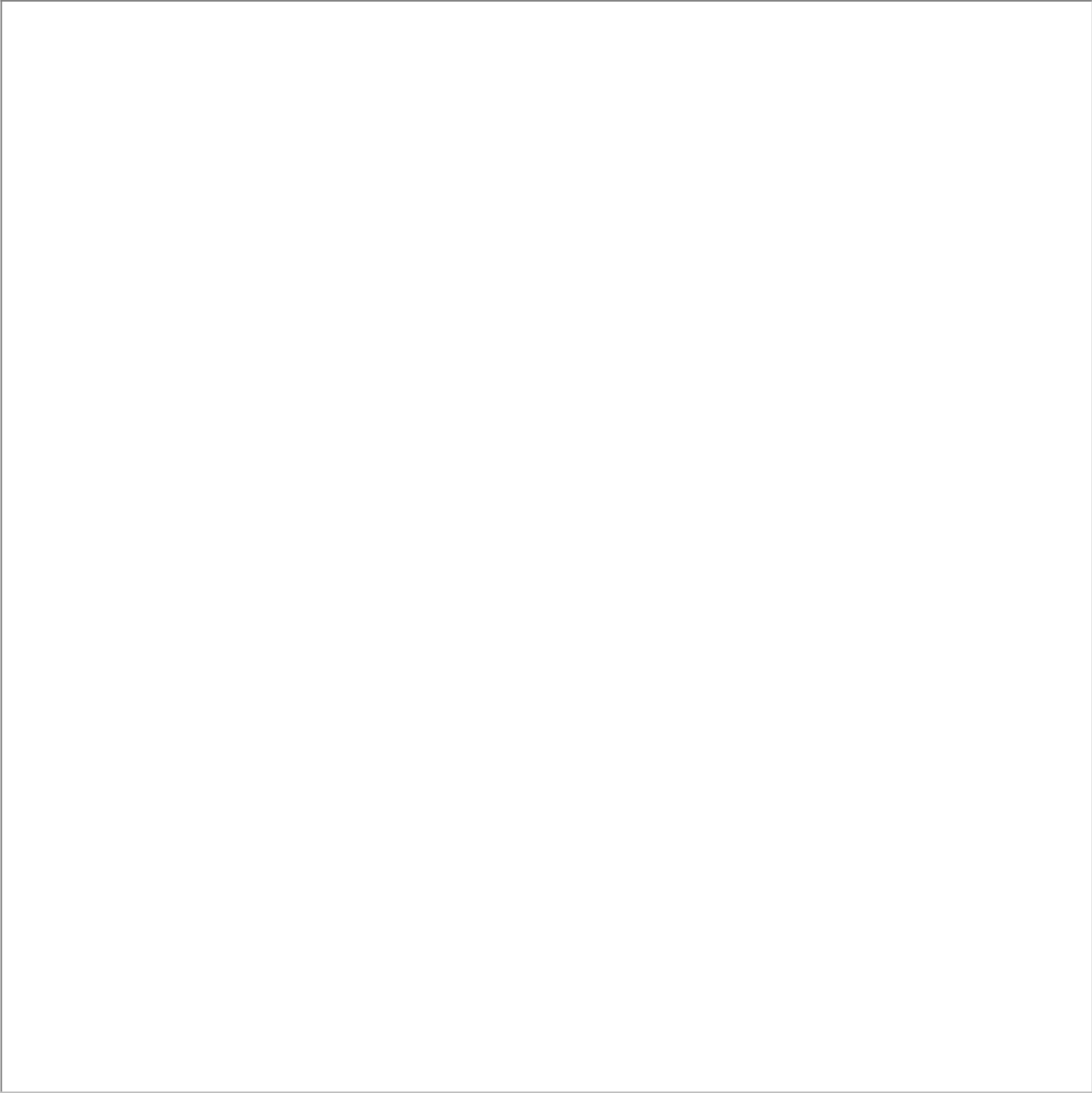


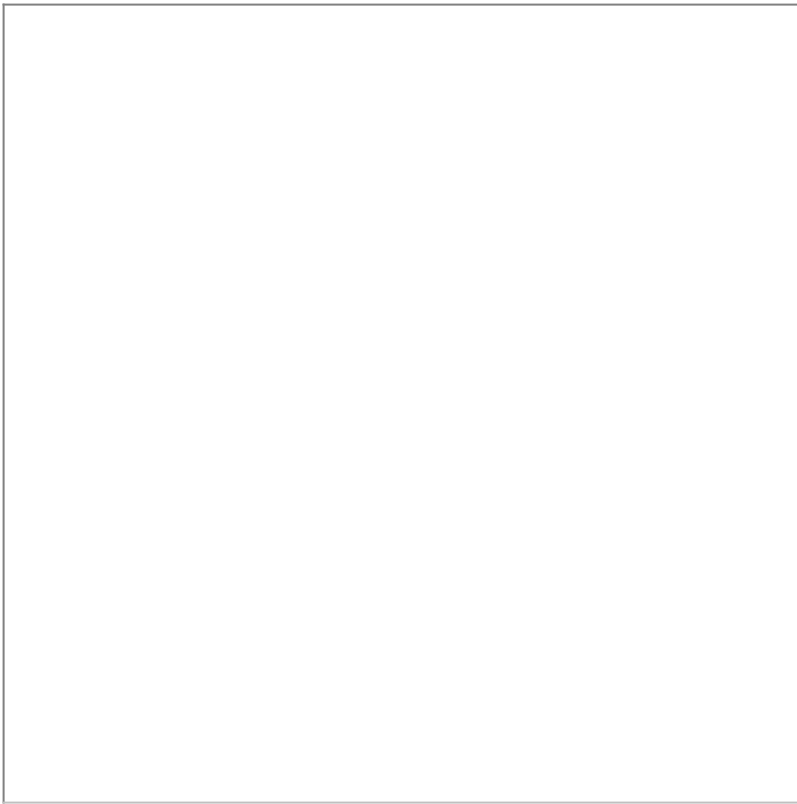
Executive Secretary Stella Dongo welcomed Rotary leaders and visitors throughout the Convention.

More than **20 volunteers** from HANWASH and WASHRAG, including several WASHRAG Ambassadors, took to staffing the booth. Members of the WASHRAG Operations Team also spent time meeting with visitors and supporting booth activities.

Highlights included several visits from incoming WASHRAG Board Chair **Srikanth**, as well as the presentation of a **US\$4,000 donation** from *The Brew* fundraiser.

The HANWASH Leadership Team also spent time at the booth, strengthening the partnership between the two organizations.





Conversations throughout the Convention helped connect Rotarians with WASH resources, projects, and membership opportunities.

The WASH Hub hosted presentations each day, with **seven presentation slots** shared between WASHRAG and HANWASH.

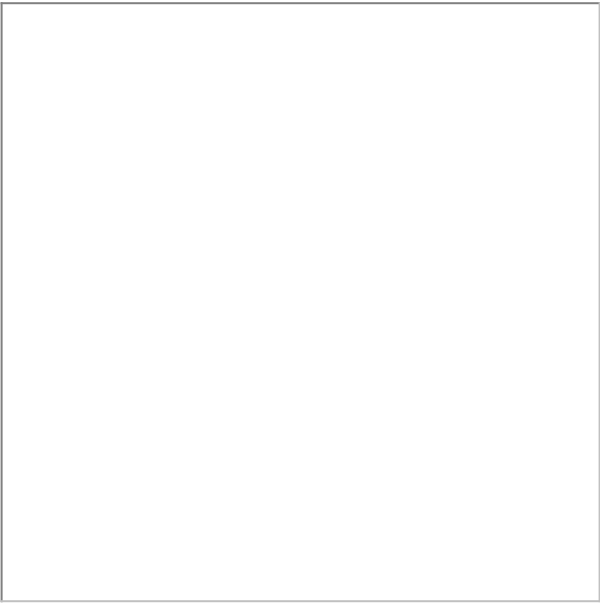
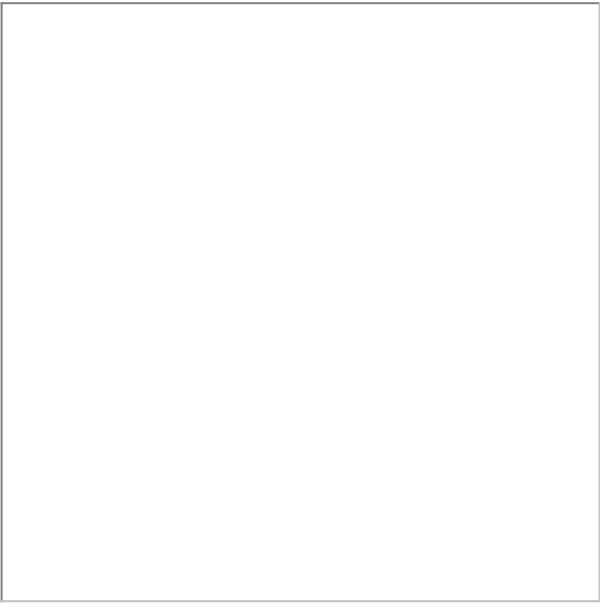
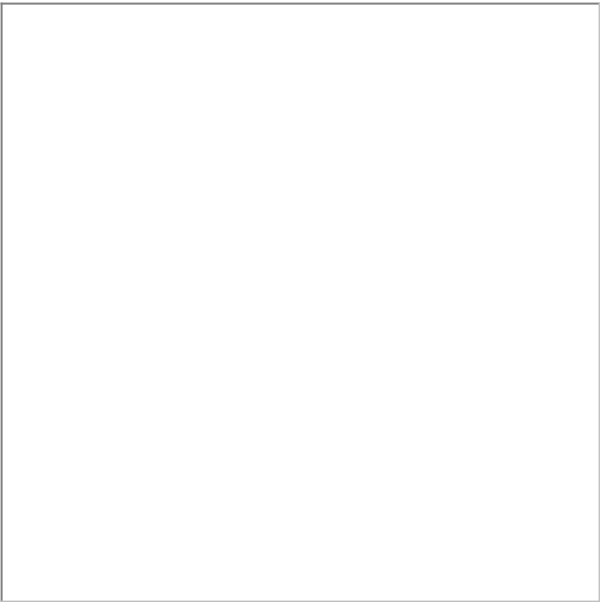
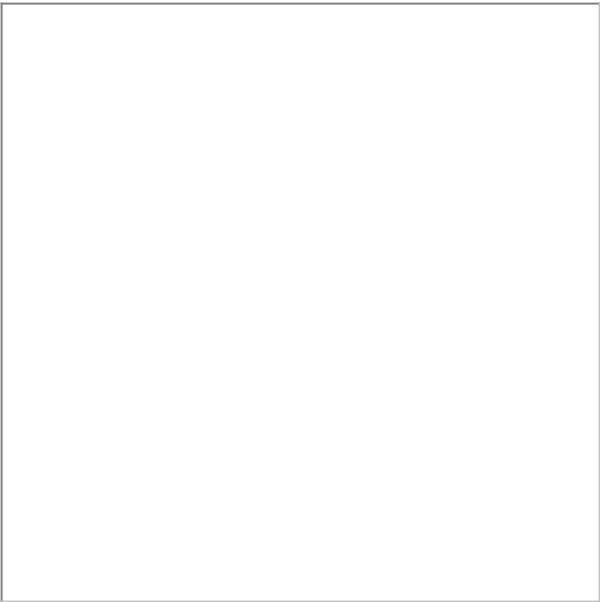
Presentation Topics

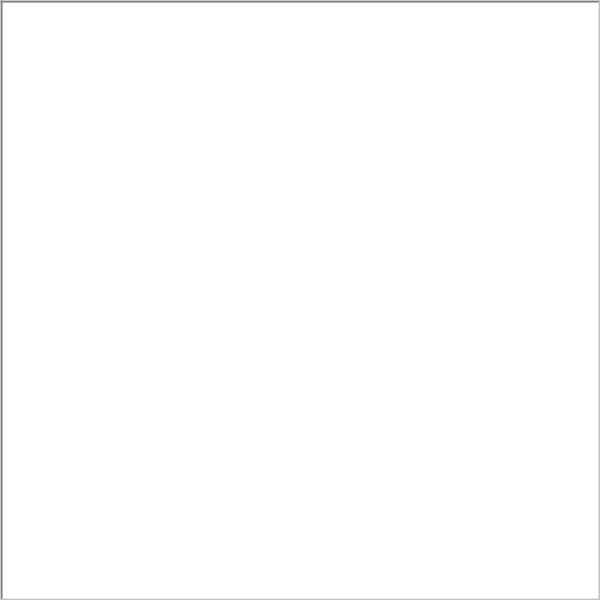
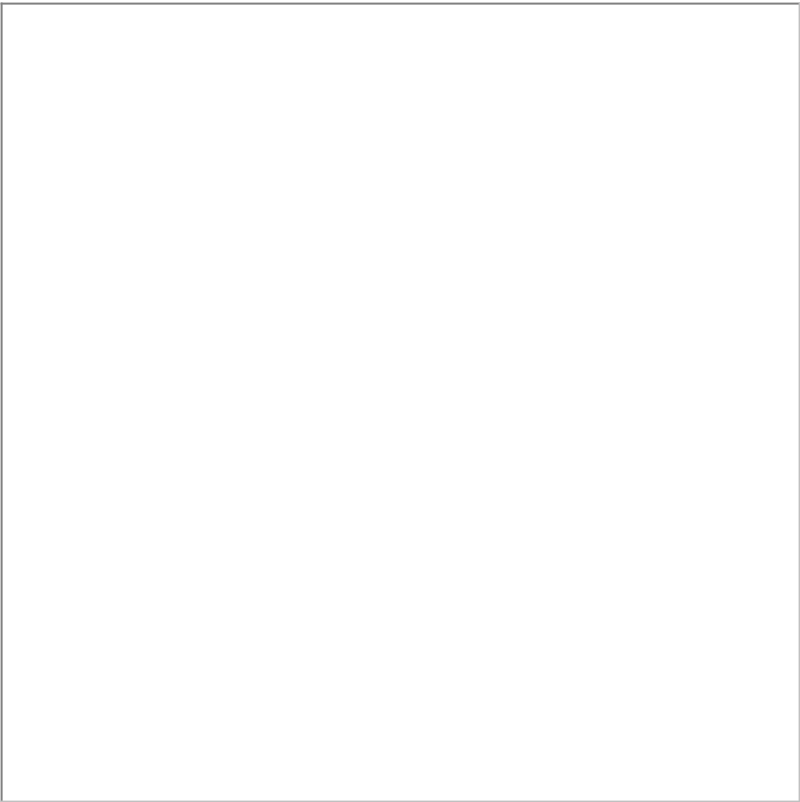
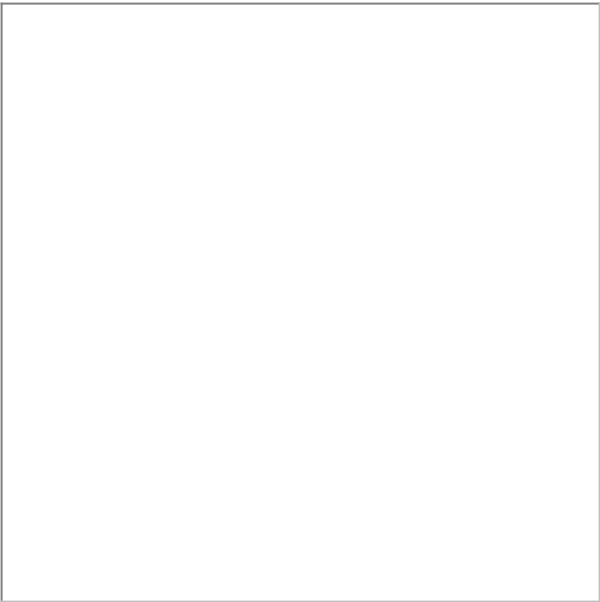
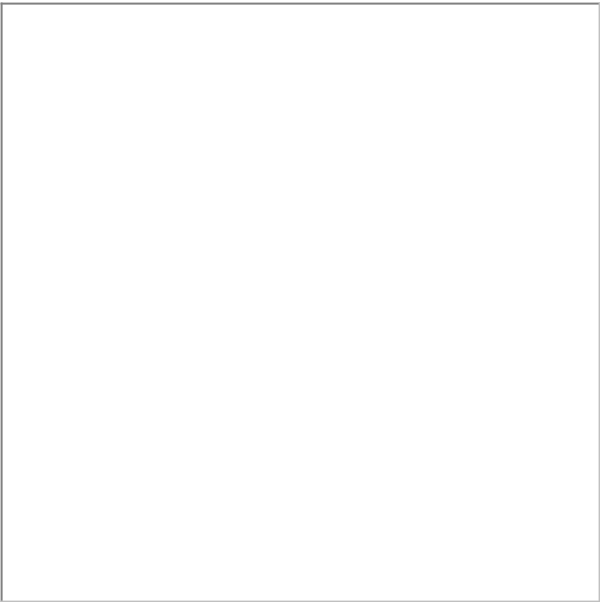
- HANWASH Efforts in Haiti
- Community Health Club
- How to Assess Assets
- Rotary South Pacific WASH Scholarship
- How to Use AI to Power Projects

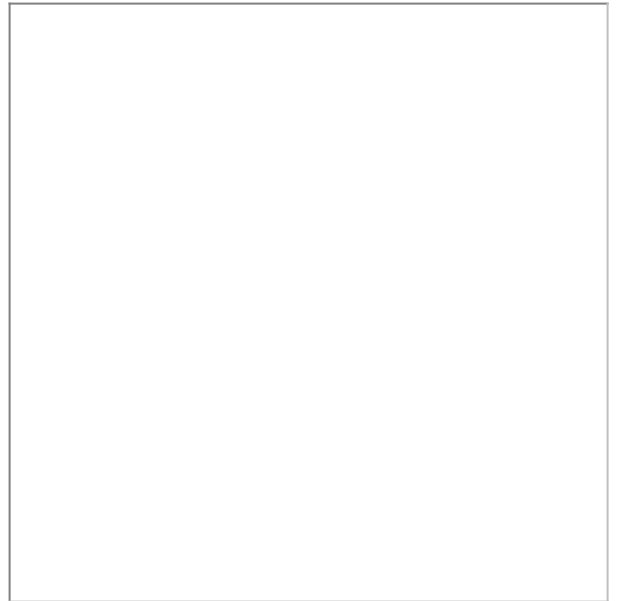
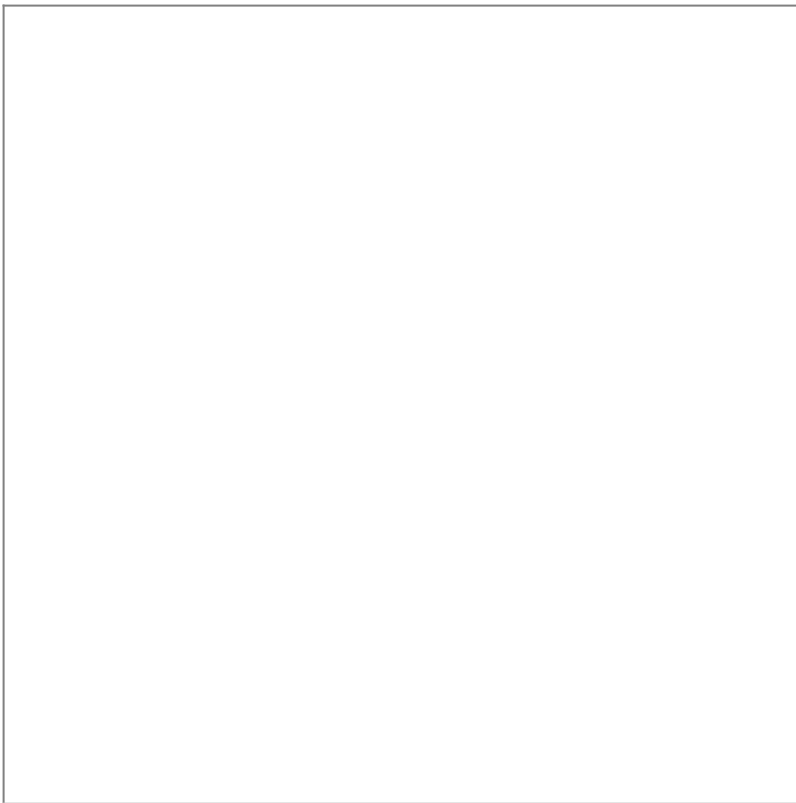
All presentations were well attended, with seats filling well before each session.

WASH Hub Presenters

- Stewart Martin
- Chuck Fisher
- Jeremy Hurst
- Barb Kuesters
- Fritz Pierre-Louis







Overall, the Convention was a successful endeavor, providing valuable opportunities to connect, recruit new members, share projects, and gain lessons for future events.

Grateful thanks to Wade and the WASHRAG Operations Team for their support, and to incoming Chair Srikant for his encouragement and leadership throughout the Convention.

Sue and Bruce Golsen, along with Team HANWASH—you were incredible.

Stella Dongo

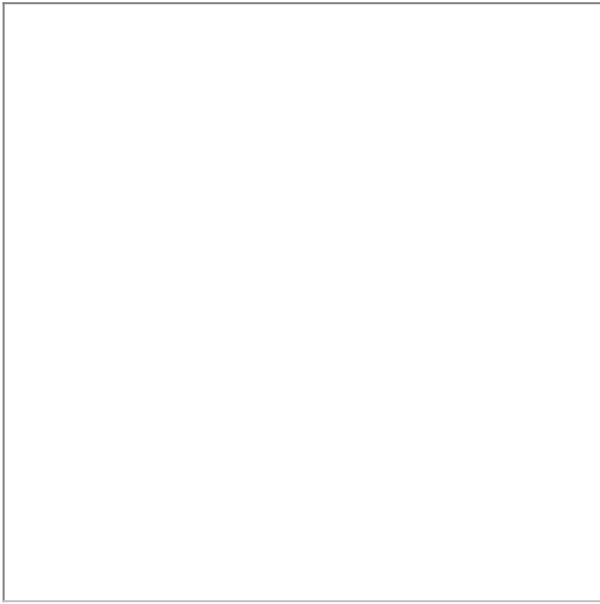
Executive Secretary

WASHRAG 2025–2026

AI Corner with Stew: June 2026 on Indicators

By Stewart Martin on Tuesday, June 30, 2026

AI Corner with Stew:



As you consider whether and how to do a WASH project, or improve a program:

- What tools and indicators actually measure success and impact of a project?
- When do you need to measure them to see if the Outcomes actually happen?
- How long will you need to measure to assure long-term sustainable Impact is achieved?

Here are some "Standard Rotary Indicators" (see WASH Guidelines):

Water and treatment:

- People gaining access to basic drinking water services (and safely managed services)
- Schools or health care facilities gaining access to basic drinking water services (and safely managed services)
- People receiving improved service quality from an existing drinking-water service
- Water quality compared with national standards for microbial and priority chemical contaminants

Sanitation:

- People gaining access to basic sanitation services (and safely managed services)
- Schools or health care facilities gaining access to basic sanitation services (and safely managed services)
- Communities verified as open-defecation-free
- People receiving improved sanitation service quality from an existing limited or basic service

Hygiene and Handwashing:

- Households with soap and water at a commonly used handwashing station

Q: Are these indicators (measures of success) sufficient for your project, or program?
What indicators will you add, so you can determine success?

Take, for instance, a middle school in Madagascar, or Honduras:

- what did your Community Assessment show as important?
- what are the concerns of the teachers, parents? the students? the health officer, education officer?
- how about girls in puberty? disabled students?

To become successful, what behavior change will need to happen:

- in the teachers and headmaster, so they care about WASH, and ensure good clean practices are followed?
- in the health or education officer, so they inspect regularly, insist a school be safe, do WASH well?
- in the county/district school budget, so the school has enough funds for a janitor, plumber, replacement part

What indicators will measure whether your theory of change is accurate, and your Inputs and Outputs actually achieve sustainable long-term Impact?

AI Suggestion: Feed your community assessment, map, goals, risks, list of concerns, standard measures, some custom indicators, everything on this topic - - into your favorite AI platform. Ask AI to determine a) a set of custom indicators, b) how often they should be measured, and for how many years until you can be assured a permanent change has been achieved.

You may be pleasantly surprised!

Then, discuss the indicators and methods of measuring them with a Cadre member in your district or region - them for specific advice based on their experience. If you can't find one, write to Cadre@Rotary.org.

Note: Rotary has issued new AI Guidelines ([link here](#)) and, among other things, asks you to remove PII (personally identifiable information) and sensitive data from your input to AI. You can do it manually, have an programmer help you, or use a Windows program called CamoText.

Footer

[Submit your stories, videos, and pictures for upcoming Newsletters to us at info@wash-rag.org.](mailto:info@wash-rag.org)

WASH-RAG reserves the right to edit stories for length and content. By submitting a story you give us permission to publish and make public your contact information including but not limited to your email or club's website.

The WASH Rotary Action Group is pleased to consider partnerships with any corporate supporter. Due to the unique attributes of water sources and water provision, accepting corporate support does not imply an endorsement of any particular water technology. Rotarians, Rotary Clubs, and Rotary partners must evaluate any technology to determine if it is the best solution for the conditions where the program will be implemented. The WASH Rotary Action Group can provide guidance about where different technologies work best, but Rotarians and Rotary clubs must decide how to implement their programs.

This Rotary Action Group is recognized and operates in accordance with Rotary International policy, but is not agency of, or controlled by, Rotary International. To learn more please contact the WASH Rotary Action Group email at info@wash-rag.org Thank you.

WASH Rotary Action Group | USA