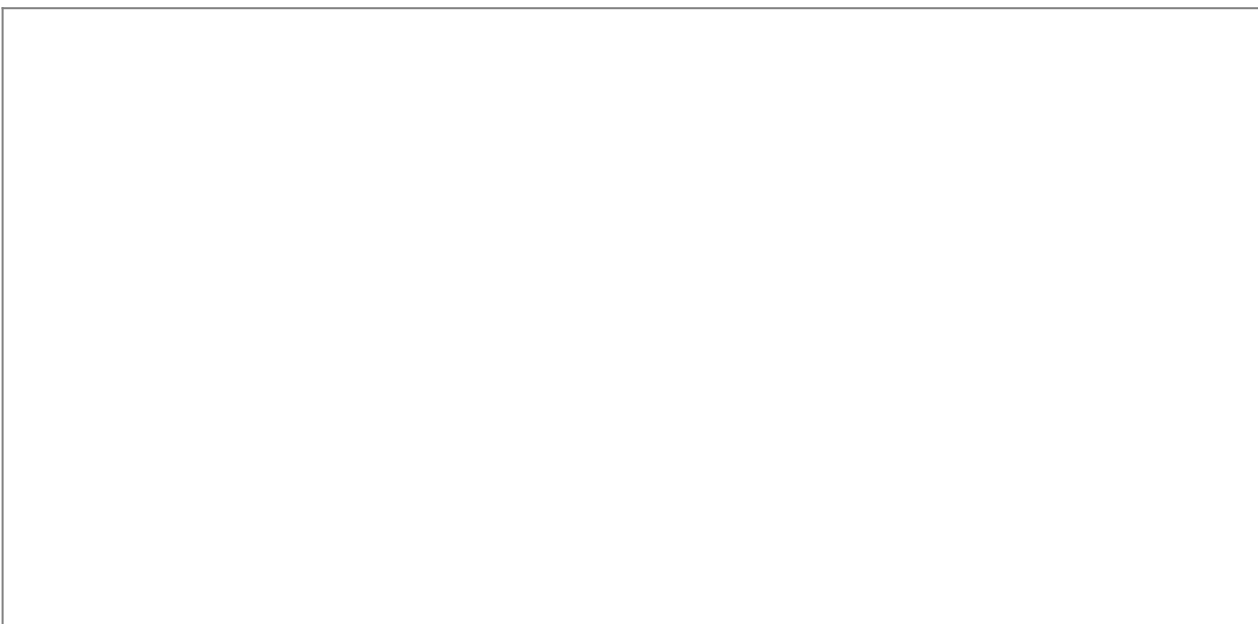




Congratulations to Everyone for an Outstanding Year

By Wade Nomura on Tuesday, July 21, 2026

Congratulations to everyone on an outstanding Rotary year! Thanks to the dedication and hard work of our most busiest and most productive years in WASH-RAG's history. Together, we have helped improve the lives of countless people through sustainable water, sanitation, and hygiene initiatives.

A highlight of the year was the award of Rotary's **first-ever WASH Programs of Scale Grant**. Congratulations to everyone for this remarkable achievement and for your continued commitment to bringing lasting change to the people of the world as your Project Support Advisor.

This will be my final article as Chair of the WASH-RAG Operations Team. I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the Team for consistently going above and beyond in supporting Rotary clubs, communities, and fellow Rotarians. It was a privilege, and I look forward to continuing my involvement in WASH projects as a Cadre leader.

My passion for WASH began in 2006 with my first project in Mexico, and that passion remains as strong as ever. I hope to continue to bring clean water to communities in need, while also contributing to this newsletter and serving as an advisor.

As I close this chapter, I leave you with one piece of advice: give as many people as possible the opportunity to make a difference. There is no greater gift we can offer through Rotary.





Circular Economy of Water by Three Tiers Module

By Rajendrakumar Saraf on Tuesday, July 21, 2026



Circular Economy of Water by Three-Tier Module explores an innovative approach to sustainable urban water into three quality levels—potable, utility, and recycled—the system reduces fresh water consumption, local wastewater reuse. Successfully implemented in more than 50 residential projects, the Three-Tier Module demonstrates how to conserve water while building a more resilient and sustainable future.

rvsarafrotary@gmail.com [Read More](#)

World Water Summit 2026 Report

By Michael Fernando on Tuesday, July 21, 2026

WASH-RAG Summit 2025 – Taipei, Taiwan

The 2025 WASH-RAG Summit was held in Taipei, Taiwan, on the morning of **13 June**, immediately before the 2025 World Water Forum. This year's theme, "**Water and Vulnerable Environments**," brought together Rotary leaders, WASH professionals, and experts from around the world to explore innovative solutions to some of the most pressing global water and sanitation challenges.

The Summit's Guest of Honor was **Past Rotary International President Gary Huang**, representing the host country.

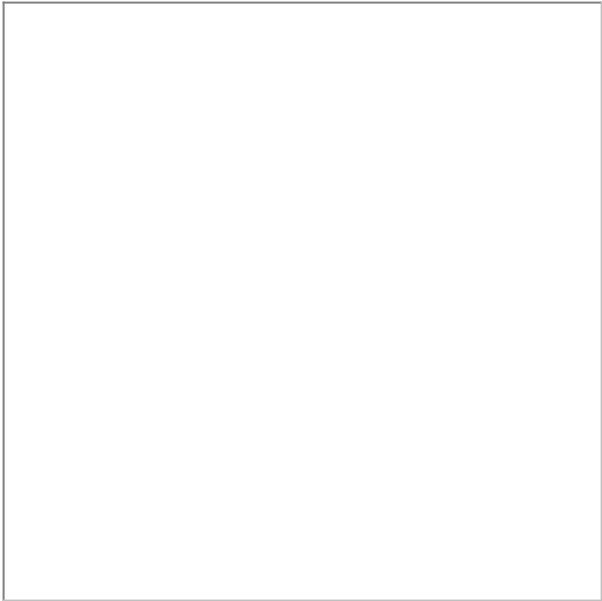
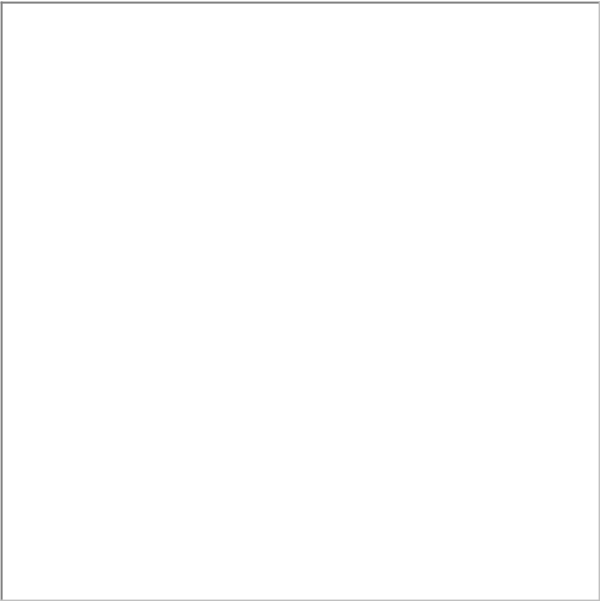
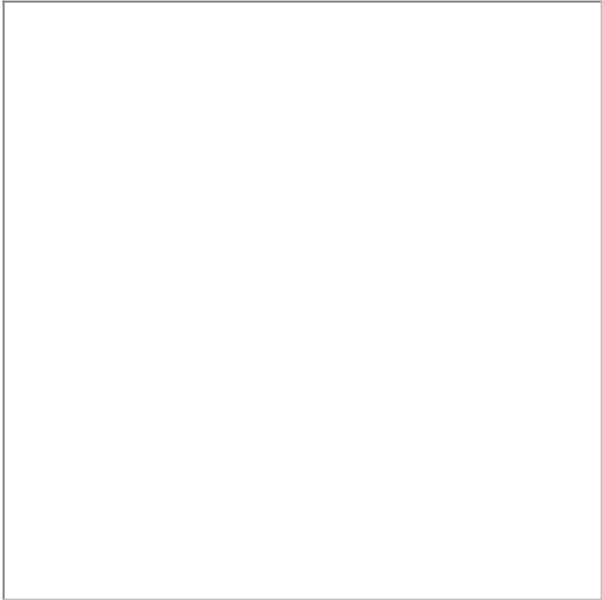
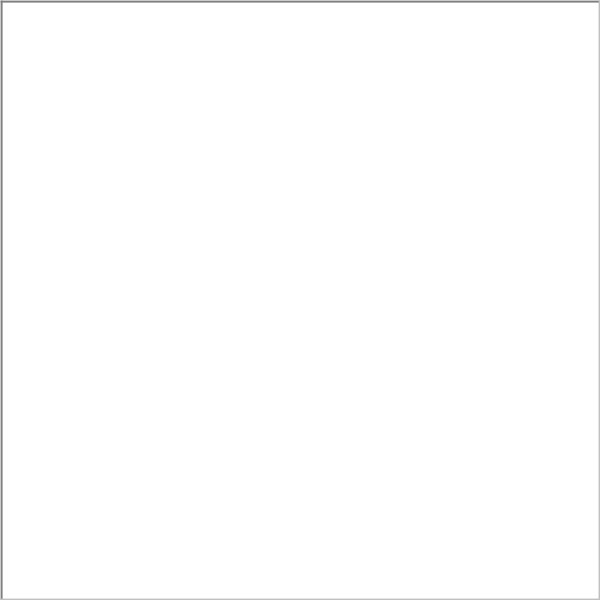
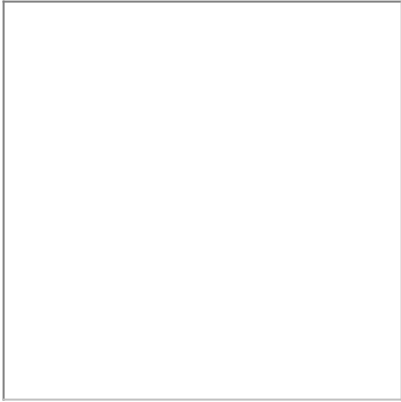
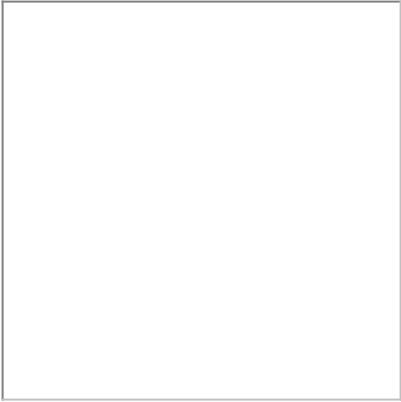
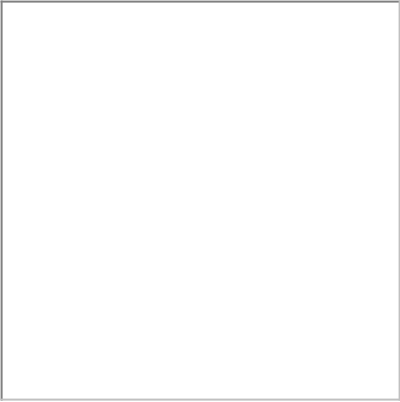
The program featured an outstanding lineup of speakers. **Iryna Odontsova**, from the Rotary Club of Dnipropetrovsk, shared her story of providing safe water in schools during wartime, while **District Governor Olha Paliychuk** provided an update on the humanitarian situation in Ukraine.

Attendees also learned about the growing global threat of **arsenic contamination in groundwater** from **Dan Brown** of Birkenhead, New Zealand. **Steve Bender** introduced *The Million Drop Challenge*, and **Past Rotary International President Steve Werner** provided an update on the *SMART Villages Project* in Pakistan.

Additional presentations included **Kaloy Manlupig**, Volunteer CEO of *Safe Water for Every Child*, who discussed water access in the world's most vulnerable communities, and **Brian Ashworth** of Disaster Aid Australia, who explored how safe water is a key focus of Focus. **Steve Werner** also provided an update on the WASH-RAG Ambassador Program.

The Summit concluded with a Rotary Action Group panel discussion featuring **Ann Marie Kimball** (Rotary Action Group for Reproductive, Maternal and Child Health), **G. Ann Evans** (Blindness Prevention Rotary Action Group), **Ann Marie Kimball** (Rotary Action Group for Girls' Empowerment), and **Aziz Memon** (Chair, Pakistan PolioPlus Committee and Past District Governor).

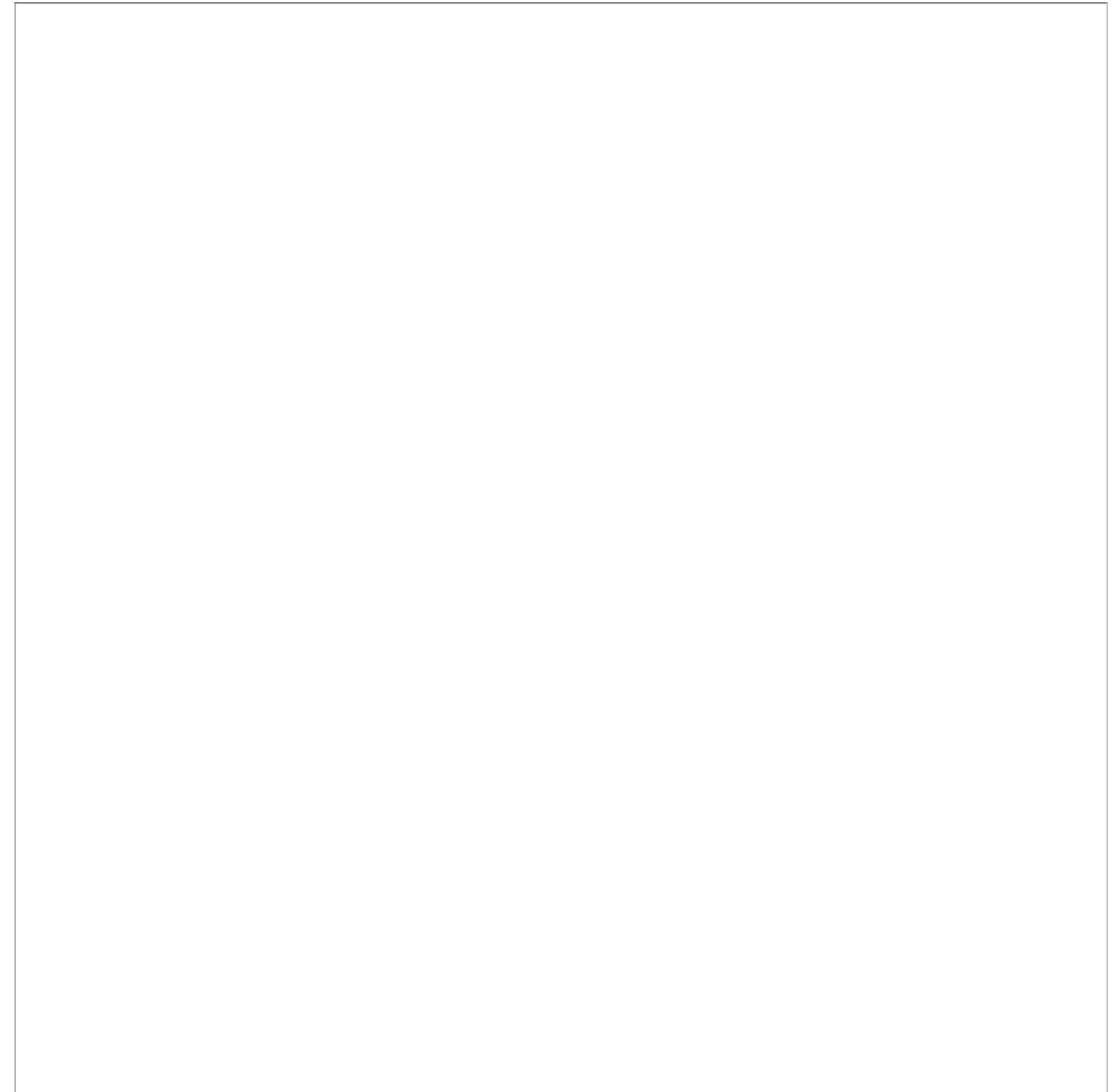
Recordings of the Summit presentations will be available on the WASH-RAG website in the near future.



Michael Fernando
Chair, World Water Summit
WASH Rotary Action Group

Building a Stronger WASH-RAG Through Membership Growth

By Richard Onono on Saturday, July 25, 2026



As I prepare to serve as the incoming Membership Chair of the WASH Rotary Action Group (WASH-RAG), I am proud to lead an organization that has become a global force in advancing sustainable water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) th

Since its chartering, WASH-RAG has brought together Rotarians, Rotaractors and partners who share a common goal of improving the dignity and quality of life by expanding access to safe water, sanitation and hygiene.

What began as a small network of committed volunteers, has grown into an internationally recognised Rotary with technical expertise, project development, advocacy and collaboration across continents.

Our membership has expanded steadily over the years, reflecting the growing recognition that WASH is fundamental to sustainable development. Every new member strengthens our collective capacity to design impactful projects, share knowledge that transforms lives.

Despite this progress, important challenges remain. Member retention continues to require attention, as we strive to keep members engaged and connected to meaningful opportunities for service. We also recognize that some regions of the world are under-represented within our membership. Increasing geographical diversity and ensuring broader participation will enrich our perspective and impact.

As Membership Chair, my vision is to build a vibrant, inclusive and growing WASH-RAG community through engagement and growth. Growth is not only about increasing numbers; it is about creating value for every member. We will work to strengthen networking and learning opportunities, recognise member contributions and encourage active participation in our community.

We will also expand outreach to attract new ordinary members and grow the network of WASH Ambassadors. Through our mission, inspire action and connect Rotary clubs with the expertise and partnerships needed to deliver sustainable impact.

Together, we can build a stronger WASH-RAG that reflects the diversity, passion and service spirit of Rotary. I invite you to be an ambassador for membership by sharing our story, welcoming new colleagues and helping create an organisation that is valued, engaged and empowered to make a lasting difference.

Together, we grow. Together, we serve. Together, we transform lives through Water, Sanitation and Hygiene.

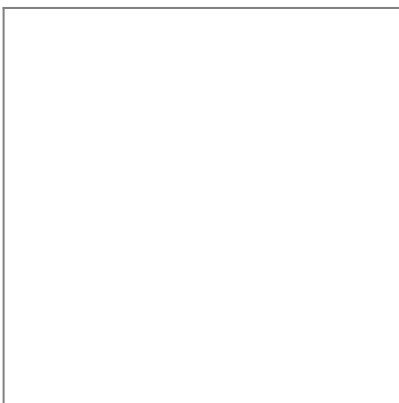
IT ALL STARTS WITH WATER

Richard Onono,

TRF CADRE, PHF.

Membership Chair

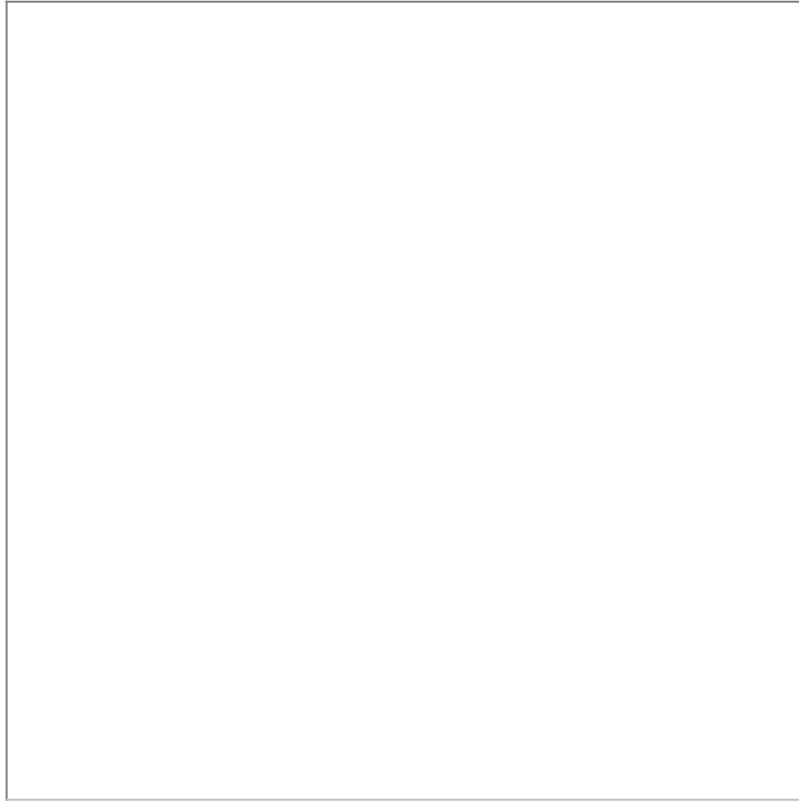
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Service Above Self: A Rotarian's Guide to Net Zero

By Rajendrakumar Saraf on Saturday, July 25, 2026

For more than a century, Rotary has transformed lives by addressing some of the world's greatest humanitarian challenges. Climate change has emerged as a threat that affects every one of Rotary's Areas of Focus, from peace and health to water, environment, and economic growth. Achieving Net Zero is not simply an environmental goal—it is a commitment to protecting communities, reducing emissions, and creating a sustainable future. This journey invites every Rotary club to become a catalyst for change by measuring, reducing, and offsetting their carbon footprint through practical, collective action.



PHF PP PDRR Rtn Rajendrakumar V Saraf

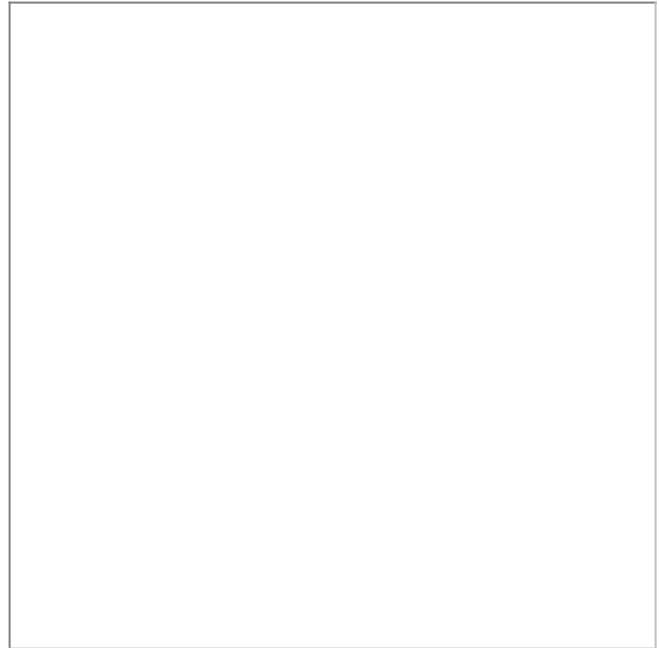
Director WASH RAG

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Become a WASH Ambassador: Help Create Lasting Change

By Stephen Mark Werner on Wednesday, July 22, 2026



Dear Fellow Ambassadors, WASH-RAG Members, and Friends of WASH-RAG:

The WASH Ambassador Program was developed for several purposes:

1. To encourage every club to get involved with WASH in one way or another.

Carry out a project, join an existing program, contribute to another club's project, or support a District or Global project. WASH problems are collectively the biggest health concern in the world. The economic burden from poor health; child mortality, especially girls, because conditions are so bad; the cost to poor families of medical care and medicine when a family member gets sick; and a family loses its main income earner are heartbreaking and traumatic.

2. To help Rotarians and clubs connect with the tremendous resources available through WASH-RAG.

Resources include digital materials on the website, technical support from Rotarian WASH experts, and partnerships with other organizations to work with Rotary clubs.

3. To help Rotarians "use our voice" to advocate for more to be done by all stakeholders to address the global WASH crisis, death and suffering. Rotary has credibility and a track record for getting results, as demonstrated by our PolioPlus campaign.

4. To show how "Starting with Water" can help all the other Areas of Focus become more effective.

Just one small example: when students, especially girls, don't have proper sanitation facilities or safe drinking water, their health is lower, making it more difficult for a country to fully develop economically.

As we start a new Rotary fiscal year, please consider getting involved as an Ambassador or helping to recruit someone to be an Ambassador. Information about the program and the expectations of Ambassadors can be found here: [www.rotary.org/wash](#). There is also a listing of all Ambassadors by region of the world, so please see if your district needs an Ambassador. Many districts have more than one Ambassador, which helps accomplish more, especially considering the number of people in need in many districts cover.

Finally, we have taken many steps this past year to support Ambassadors with orientation, educational programs, marketing materials, and a monthly conversation to help them network and learn from WASH experts and one another. We developed this fiscal year, but the most important reason to become a WASH Ambassador is to be part of a team that can help people around the world who need our service, our skills, and our commitment to a better world.

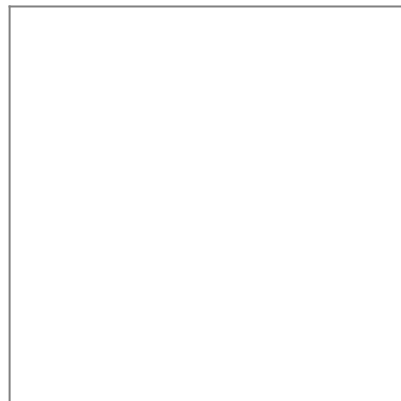
Thank you for your commitment to WASH-RAG, and thank you to all the wonderful WASH Ambassador volunteers who have been so productive.

Steve Werner
WASH Ambassador Chair 2026–2027

Make AI your WASH Mentor

By Stewart Martin on Saturday, July 25, 2026

AI Corner by Stew Martin, WASH-RAG Technical Officer



In today's rapidly changing world, knowledge evolves faster than ever. For Rotary members working in Water, staying informed about the latest research, technologies, and best practices is essential—but often difficult amid other commitments. Fortunately, artificial intelligence is transforming the way we learn, making expert guidance more accessible. In this edition, Stew Martin explains how AI can become your personal WASH mentor, helping you stay current, expand your knowledge, and maximize the impact of your Rotary service.

[Read More](#)

Footer

Submit your stories, videos, and pictures for upcoming Newsletters to us at 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 use 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 nature of water provision, accepting corporate support does not imply an endorsement of any particular water technology. Rotary partners must evaluate any technology to determine if it is the best solution for the conditions where it will be used. The WASH Rotary Action Group can provide guidance about where different technologies work best, but Rotarians must decide how to implement their programs.

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

WASH Rotary Action Group | USA