



扶輪基金保管委員會主委文告

讓乾淨飲水流遍全世界

在 18 世紀中期，富蘭克林 (Benjamin Franklin) 寫道：「水井乾涸時，我們才會知道水的價值。」

此時，在 21 世紀的今天，我們許多人都把水視為理所當然，因為我們有幸住在有許多乾淨飲水的地方。可是對世界各地數百萬人來說並不是這樣。聯合國估計有 20 億人——大約地球上每 4 人中有 1 人——缺乏有安全管理的飲水。全球有將近一半的人口生活在無法使用有安全管理之廁所及衛生設施的地方，將近有三分之一缺乏附有肥皂及乾淨用水的簡單洗手台。

在即時訊息及太空旅遊的時代，居然還有這麼多人我們無法讓他們取得水資源及用水衛生設備 (WASH) 等必需品？

扶輪正在處理；WASH 計畫是我們焦點領域中資助金額數一數二高的計畫：自 2014 年起，扶輪社已經辦理超過 2,100 項與 WASH 相關的全球獎助金計畫，使用 1 億 5,400 萬美元的基金會資金，影響無數人。

此外，扶輪與美國國際開發署的 WASH 聯盟已持續超過 10 年，乃是扶輪在根除小兒麻痺等疾病計畫之外的最大結盟關係。扶輪及美國國際開發署總計已投入 1,800 萬美元的 WASH 資金在迦納及烏干達等國家推動全國等級的大

插圖：Viktor Miller Gausa

規模策略性行動。這份聯盟關係結合美國國際開發署發展專家的專業知識及扶輪在地方的領導力及倡議，在數百個社區找到可行的、永續的 WASH 解決方案。詳情請參見 riusaidwash.rotary.org。

3 月 22 日「世界水資源日」的主題是「地面水：讓看不見的被看見」。這正是一個適切的時機，讓扶輪社可更深入瞭解 WASH 議題並集體採取行動來建立及維持擴大全世界取得 WASH 服務管道的動能。扶輪社員可以分享我們在全球各地服務對象的故事、經驗，及 WASH 需求，讓大家多多關注影響我們的在地 WASH 問題。

扶輪社及我們基金會持續努力讓社區擁有乾淨水資源及可用的衛生設施，讓我們引以為榮。可是我們不可停下腳步。

這個月，讓我們留意在世界各地的朋友是否水井乾涸或是缺乏廁所或肥皂。扶輪有資源、合作關係，及熱情來改善全球數百萬有需求者的 WASH 服務。最重要的，我們有人力——你和我——可以讓一切成真。

澤恩 JOHN F. GERM

扶輪基金保管委員會主委



TRUSTEE CHAIR'S MESSAGE

Let's get clean water flowing worldwide

In the mid-18th century, Benjamin Franklin wrote: "When the well's dry, we know the worth of water."

Right now, in the 21st century, many of us take water for granted because we have been fortunate to live in places where clean water is plentiful. But that's not the case for millions of others around the world. The United Nations estimates that 2 billion people — about 1 in 4 people on the planet — lack safely managed drinking water. Just under half of the world's population lives without access to safely managed toilets and sanitation systems, and nearly a third lacks basic hand washing stations with soap and clean water.

Isn't it astounding that, in an age of instant information and space tourism, we still haven't managed to guarantee the necessities of water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) to so many?

Rotary is doing something about it; WASH projects are among the most funded within our areas of focus: Since 2014, Rotary clubs have carried out more than 2,100 global grants related to WASH by using \$154 million in Foundation funding, impacting countless people.

In addition, Rotary's WASH alliance with USAID, more than a decade strong, is considered Rotary's largest partnership outside of PolioPlus. Rotary and USAID have committed a combined \$18 million in WASH funding to large-scale strategic

efforts at the national level in countries such as Ghana and Uganda. The partnership unites the technical expertise of USAID's development professionals with the local leadership and advocacy of Rotary members to find workable, sustainable WASH solutions in hundreds of communities. You can learn more at riusaidwash.rotary.org.

The theme of World Water Day, 22 March, is Groundwater: Making the Invisible Visible. This is an opportune time for clubs to learn more about WASH issues and take action collectively to create and sustain momentum for expanding access to universal WASH services. Rotary members can bring attention to the WASH challenges that impact us locally by sharing the stories, experiences, and WASH needs of those we serve globally.

We can be proud of the work that Rotary clubs and our Foundation continue to do to provide communities with clean water and working sanitation and hygiene systems. But let's not stop there.

This month, let's look out for our neighbors around the world whose wells are running dry or who lack toilets or soap. Rotary has the resources, partnerships, and passion to improve WASH services for millions in need worldwide. And most important, we have the people who can make it work — you and me.

JOHN F. GERM

Foundation trustee chair

Illustration by Viktor Miller Gausa