



社區主導的發展

10月是國際扶輪的「社區經濟發展月」(Community Economic Development Month)，聚焦在扶輪協助社區打造永續、繁榮未來的行動。本月的宗旨與扶輪的核心價值「領導力」不謀而合。

所謂的領導力，就是賦予人們引導自己進步的力量，這正是扶輪經濟發展計畫的目標。

舉例來說，最近在印度南部的一項倡議中，扶輪社員透過縫紉培訓，讓阿迪瓦西 (Adivasi) 部落的婦女們學得謀生技能，並重新融入社會。傳統上這地區的寡婦及遭遺棄的婦女過去總是失去社會地位，被排斥或因不幸而被責怪。她們很難找到機會養活自己或接受培訓。

今年，加拿大安大略省的溫莎羅斯蘭 (Windsor Roseland) 扶輪社與印度 3203 和 3234 地區的扶輪社，以及印度的「聖殿信託基金會」(Sevalaya Trust) 攜手合作，提供縫紉機並訓練 80 名阿迪瓦西婦女。她們學習縫製紗麗、庫塔長袍，及薩爾瓦套裝，讓她們得以自食其力，養活家人。每位婦女都獲得結業證書，縫紉機供應商也為這些機器提供長期的免費維修服務。這個計畫為這些因喪偶而遭社會排斥的婦女提供了重要的收入來源及尊嚴。

這個故事是扶輪領導力付諸實踐的絕佳例證：由當地民眾主導滿足他們社區需求的解決方

案。我們的職責並非提供施捨或強行推行外來的模式，而是藉由投資於領導力、技能，及永續經營，來促進自力更生。

今年 10 月，我邀請全世界的扶輪社員一同反思各自社區中的經濟領導力。誰正在挺身而出，引導當地的經濟倡議？哪裡有尚未被發掘的人才可以透過培訓或輔導給予支持？你們的社如何透過與當地企業、職業學校，或儲蓄互助會的合作，來促進機會的誕生？

領導力並非都顯而易見。有時它意味著傾聽、協同合作，並擴大他人的聲量。這種做法正是扶輪核心理念的精髓，也是我們對經濟發展產生持恆影響的關鍵。

藉由培養能力——無論是透過小額信貸團體、職業培訓工作坊，還是創業計畫——我們都賦予社區主導自身轉型的力量。當人們對自己的進步有了主導權，改變才能永續長存。

讓我們懷抱善意去領導，用心去支持。透過培養在地領導力，我們得以創造機會，讓其影響力如漣漪般地擴散至整個社區，賦予個人、家庭，及社會力量。

攜手同心，我們便能支持嘉惠所有人的經濟，並實現永續的社區發展計畫。

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國際扶輪社長



What community-led development looks like

October is Rotary's Community Economic Development Month, a time to spotlight our efforts to help communities build thriving, sustainable futures. This month's observance aligns perfectly with the Rotary core value of leadership.

Leadership means empowering people to guide their own progress. That is precisely what Rotary's economic development projects aim to achieve.

Take, for example, a recent initiative in southern India in which Rotary members unlocked the power of women of the Adivasi tribal groups through sewing training to earn a living and regain social inclusion. Historically, widows and abandoned women in this region lose social standing and are shunned by society or blamed for their misfortunes. Opportunities to support themselves or obtain training are minimal.

This year, the Rotary Club of Windsor-Roseland, Ontario, partnered with clubs in Districts 3203 and 3234 in India — and with the Indian organization Sevalaya Trust — to provide sewing machines and training to 80 Adivasi women. They learned to stitch saree blouses, kurta tunics, and salwar suits, enabling them to support themselves and their families. Each woman received a certificate for completing the program, and the sewing-machine provider offered free long-term maintenance for the machines. The project offered vital income and dignity to women ostracized by society after widowhood.

This story is one example of Rotary leadership in action: local people guiding solutions that address

their community needs. Our role is not to deliver charity or to impose outside models, but to foster self-reliance by investing in leadership, skills, and sustainable enterprise.

This October, I invite Rotary members worldwide to reflect on economic leadership in their communities. Who is stepping forward to lead local economic initiatives? Where is there untapped talent that could be supported with training or mentorship? How can your club catalyze opportunity through partnerships with local businesses, vocational schools, or savings groups?

Leadership is not always about being visible. Sometimes it means listening, working collaboratively, and amplifying the voices of others. That approach lies at the heart of Rotary's philosophy and our lasting impact on economic development.

By building capacity — whether through microcredit groups, vocational training workshops, or entrepreneurship programs — we enable communities to lead their own transformation. When people take ownership of their progress, change becomes sustainable.

Let us lead with good intention and provide support with heart. By nurturing local leadership, we can create opportunities that ripple through communities, empowering individuals, families, and societies.

Together, we can support economies that work for everyone and enact community development projects that last.

FRANCESCO AREZZO

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