攝影
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合適的工具在合適的人手中

水是生命的本質。當一個社區獲得可靠的乾淨水源時，改變便會如漣漪般向外擴散。孩童不再因為水傳播疾病而缺課。婦女及女童得以節省過去花費在跋涉至遙遠水源的寶貴數小時。診所醫護人員能夠消毒醫療器具，並在看診不同患者之間確實洗手。而那些曾經爭奪稀缺水資源的鄰里，如今能夠攜手共同管理這份水源。

這就是為什麼我將潔淨水、健康及和平視為同一項使命。在水源匱乏或不安全的地方，疾病蔓延，生計受損，緊張局勢升溫。當水源獲得保障，健康便能改善，而伴隨良好健康而來的，正是和平所不可或缺的穩定。

12 月是扶輪的「疾病預防與治療月」。正因為本期《國際扶輪英文月刊》的重點在於科技與創新，我特別想指出，科技的進步也正在改變水資源、環境衛生及公共衛生領域的各種可能。



太陽能抽水機將水源輸送至遠離電網的社區。低成本的感應器能在水井停止運作時即時提醒當地的水資源委員會，讓維修時間從數月縮短至數天。行動電話讓各個家庭能夠支付維持供水系統運作的小額費用，並使衛生工作人員能在疫情擴散之前及早追蹤爆發情況。

今年 6 月，奈及利亞的牛軛湖 (Ox-Bow Lake) 社移交了一座容量達 1 萬公升的太陽能供水系統，給位於耶納戈瓦市 (Yenagoa)、專門負責培訓下一代醫療專業人才的巴耶爾薩醫學大學 (Bayelsa Medical University)。在 9141 地區的支持下，該社為這所機構提供了一個由太陽能驅動、可靠的乾淨水源。

然而，我親愛的朋友，單靠科技並不能改變生命。唯有在有人接受過培訓並懂得如何應對時，感應器才真正具有價值。唯有在社區主動承擔起維護責任時，太陽能抽水機才能長久運轉。高科技需要人性的溫度。

這正是扶輪出類拔萃之處。我們兩者兼備。我們的社員生活在我們所服務的社區之中。在動手建造之前，我們傾聽需求。我們培訓在地領袖、組成水資源委員會，並與政府部門及專家合作，確保我們今天所安裝的設備在 10 年後依然正常運作。科技賦予我們更優異的工具。而我們的在地性則確保這些工具得以長久延續。

因此，我敦促各位以嶄新的眼光審視貴社的下一項計畫。探詢一項水資源計畫如何能夠同時促進健康。探詢一項衛生倡議如何能夠緩解造成社區分裂的緊張局勢。探詢合適的科技結合在地自主管理，如何使你們的服務成果得以持恆永續。然後，向貴社提出挑戰，超越最好，做到更好。

當我們以這種方式設計服務計畫時，我們便能*創造持恆的影響*。我們衡量的標準不僅僅是開鑿多少口水井或提供多少間診所設備，更在於社區是否變得更健康、更有韌性、且更加祥和。那些和平的漣漪，完全可以從一滴潔淨的水開始。

英卡 YINKA
國際扶輪社長

The right tools in the right hands

Photograph by **Monika Lozinska**



WATER IS THE ESSENCE OF LIFE. When a community gains a reliable source of clean water, change ripples outward. Children stop missing school because of waterborne illness. Women and girls reclaim hours once spent walking to distant sources. Clinic workers can sterilize instruments and wash hands between patients. And neighbors who once competed for a scarce resource manage it together.

That is why I see clean water, health, and peace as one cause. Where water is scarce or unsafe, disease spreads, livelihoods suffer, and tensions rise. Where water is secure, health improves, and with good health comes the stability that peace requires.

December is Rotary's Disease Prevention and Treatment Month. And because this issue of *Rotary* magazine is all about technology and innovation, I want to note that advancements in technology are changing what is possible here, too, in the realm of water, sanitation, and public health.

Solar-powered pumps bring water to communities far from a power grid. Low-cost sensors can alert a local water committee when a well stops working, so repairs take days instead of months. Mobile phones let families pay the small fees that keep water systems running, and they let health workers track disease outbreaks before they spread.

In June, the Rotary Club of Ox-Bow Lake in Nigeria handed over a 10,000-liter solar-powered water system to Bayelsa Medical University in the city of Yenagoa, where the next generation of health professionals receives training. With support from District 9141, the club gave this institution a reliable source of clean water, powered by the sun.

But, my dear friends, technology alone does not change lives. A sensor is useful only if someone is trained to respond to it. A solar pump lasts only if the community takes ownership of its upkeep. High tech needs the human touch.

This is where Rotary excels. We bring both. Our members live in the communities we serve. We listen before we build. We train local leaders, form water committees, and partner with governments and experts so that what we install today is still working a decade from now. Technology gives us better tools. Our local presence ensures those tools last.

So, I urge you to look at your club's next project with fresh eyes. Ask how a water project might also advance health. Ask how a health initiative might ease tension in a divided community. Ask how the right technology, paired with local ownership, might help your work endure. Then challenge your club to do better than its best.

When we design our service projects this way, we *Create Lasting Impact*. We measure it not only in wells drilled or in clinics equipped but in communities that are healthier, more resilient, and more at peace. Those ripples of peace can begin with clean water.

YINKA
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