

# RESOLUTION 19R-29

To request the Trustees to consider removing the hydrogeological survey requirement for global grants

**Proposer(s):** District 1830, Germany  
District 1980, Switzerland

**Endorsed by:** District 1830 through a ballot-by-mail, 1 March 2019  
District 1980 through an annual district conference, Baden, Switzerland, 14 June 2019

1 WHEREAS, Rotary is an international organization that aims to contribute to the  
2 enhancement of prosperity and to the promotion of peace in the world, and

3  
4 WHEREAS, international Rotary aid projects funded by The Rotary Foundation  
5 through global grant projects are crucial to this goal, and

6  
7 WHEREAS, global grant projects greatly promote national and international  
8 collaboration among Rotary clubs, districts, and with RI, and

9  
10 WHEREAS, it must therefore be the goal to vigorously promote the application  
11 and implementation of global grant projects. This implies that the requirements  
12 for applying for and executing global grant projects must be adapted to actual  
13 needs and dispense with claims that result in unreasonable effort and expense

14  
15 IT IS RESOLVED by Rotary International that the Board of Directors of Rotary  
16 International consider requesting the Trustees of The Rotary Foundation to  
17 consider removing the requirement for a hydrogeological survey on global grants  
18 that will access groundwater, in order to improve the feasibility of global grant  
19 water projects.

(End of Text)

## PURPOSE AND EFFECT

20 In the “Terms and Conditions for Rotary Foundation District Grants and Global  
21 Grants” (updated June 2018), hydrogeological surveys must be completed as part  
22 of the community assessment for global grant projects that will access  
23 groundwater. The results of these investigations must therefore already be  
24 submitted when the application is submitted.

25  
26 Rotarian aid projects dedicated to WASH (water, sanitation and hygiene) are  
27 among most common recipients of grant monies from The Rotary Foundation.  
28 The project areas are usually located in the poorest developing countries of the

1 world. Hydrogeological documents (for example hydrogeological maps) are  
2 generally not available or, if available, not relevant to the upcoming task. In  
3 order to meet the above requirement, therefore, the applicant would need to  
4 carry out its own hydrogeological investigations. For such investigations,  
5 however, several test drillings are required. The costs of these far exceed the  
6 costs of a drinking water well. In addition, further investigations must be added,  
7 which are very time-consuming and can significantly increase the costs.

8  
9 Therefore, this requirement for hydrogeological investigations in real global grant  
10 projects cannot be met as a rule. Experienced local professionals can usually  
11 identify sites that are reasonably likely to provide groundwater through field  
12 observations and their on-site experience. However, the results of such  
13 observations and experiences are not suitable to be presented in a report.  
14 Removing the aforementioned requirement for hydrogeological investigations  
15 would greatly increase the motivation of clubs to plan and implement global  
16 grant water projects and avoid unreasonable costs.

#### **FINANCIAL IMPACT**

17 If implemented, this resolution would have no substantial financial impact on  
18 The Rotary Foundation. The hydrogeological survey is an important tool to  
19 determine if there is a sufficient and suitable water supply for drinking,  
20 furthermore, the expense for the survey can be added to the grant and will be  
21 reimbursed.