RESOLUTION 19R-30

To request the Trustees to consider making global grant funding available for local electricity supply projects

Proposer(s): Rotary Club of Pézenas, District 1700, France
Endorsed by: District 1700 through a district legislation meeting, Perpignan, France, 25 June 2019

WHEREAS, local access to affordable and sustainable electricity is one of the conditions essential for proper sanitation, as well as for educational and economic development, and
WHEREAS, funding is often unavailable for housing family members of underprivileged patients before or after their surgery
IT IS RESOLVED by Rotary International that the Board of Directors of Rotary International consider requesting the Trustees of The Rotary Foundation to consider making global grant funding available for local electricity supply projects.

(End of Text)

PURPOSE AND EFFECT

The modern world cannot function without electricity. Our lighting, information, and air conditioning/heating systems, as well as our manufacturing, transportation, and other industries are all reliant upon this one essential resource.

Access to water, health, and education in rural areas of developing countries can be improved with an affordable and sustainable supply of electricity. This would allow for pumping and sterilization of water, safe storage of vaccines and medicine, distance learning, etc. This would also contribute to the well-being of the local populations and, therefore, encourage them to stay in their communities.

Electricity should be made available without a heavy infrastructure, in an affordable and sustainable manner. It’s production and storage, while challenging, will contribute to the overall movement towards sustainable development, resulting in an efficient, reliable power source with a minimal impact on the local environment.
FINANCIAL IMPACT

If implemented, this resolution would result in an increase in expenses for The Rotary Foundation.

Currently, sponsors may include electrification as part of a global grant, provided it supports the activities the grant addresses in the area of focus. For example, if the grant seeks to outfit an operating theater and a reliable electrical supply is required, the grant may include solar panels.

An additional area of focus would be required in order to have electrification as a stand-alone project type. Annual administrative expenses to support an additional area of focus are estimated at US$300,000, which includes the modification of the existing grant application software.

Although we are focusing on grant processing impact, there are additional administrative impacts in other business areas, such as finance.