



Rotarian Action Groups Annual Report Form

Each Rotarian Action Group Chair must fill out this report and submit it to RI World Headquarters no later than 1 October each year. Groups that do not submit an annual report by this deadline may be subject to suspension and/or termination by the RI Board of Directors.

Rotarian Action Groups are encouraged to fill this form out electronically and e-mail it to the attention of David Plater at david.plater@rotary.org. Alternatively, reports may be faxed or mailed to RI using the contact information found at the end of the form. Please type to ensure accuracy.

I. General Information (required)

Official RAG Name:	Rotarian Action Group for Population Growth & Sustainable Development (RFPD)	
Web site address:	www.rifpd.org	
Name of primary contact officer:	Salem Mashhour, Chairman or Jennifer Hendrickson, Executive Director	
E-mail address of primary contact officer:	Salem: s.mashhour@tedata.net.eg /Jennifer: rifpd@aol.com	
Cost of individual annual membership dues:	Lifetime: \$100/Annual: \$25	If there are no dues, please check this box <input type="checkbox"/>
Is the RAG incorporated?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Does the RAG carry liability insurance?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

II. Report on RAG Membership and Performance Standards (required)

Once recognized by the Board, new Rotarian Action Groups are given provisional status for a period of not more than two years, during which time they must undertake an international service project and achieve a membership of at least 100 individuals representing 10 countries and 3 zones. Groups that are able to meet and subsequently maintain these performance requirements to the satisfaction of the Board will be recognized as Rotarian Action Groups. The following information is required for both provisional and non-provisional Rotarian Action Groups.

For Rotarian Action Groups recognized prior to 1 July 2006, these accomplishments must be met and reported no later than 31 December 2008.

<p>Number of active members:</p> <p><i>NOTE: number must be greater than or equal to 100 in order to obtain/retain status as a full, non-provisional Rotarian Action Group</i></p>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Region</th> <th>2008</th> <th>(Lifetime Members)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>N. America</td> <td>1,487</td> <td>395</td> </tr> <tr> <td>India</td> <td>1,420</td> <td>40</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SE Asia</td> <td>112</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>S. America</td> <td>157</td> <td>15</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Africa (North & Middle East)</td> <td>208</td> <td>126</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Europe</td> <td>9,208</td> <td>1,242 (Germany 1,214)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Africa (Sub-Sahara)</td> <td>4,600</td> <td>17</td> </tr> <tr> <td>TOTALS</td> <td>17,192</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Region	2008	(Lifetime Members)	N. America	1,487	395	India	1,420	40	SE Asia	112		S. America	157	15	Africa (North & Middle East)	208	126	Europe	9,208	1,242 (Germany 1,214)	Africa (Sub-Sahara)	4,600	17	TOTALS	17,192	
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<p>Number of countries represented in membership:</p> <p><i>NOTE: number must be greater than or equal to 10 in order to obtain/retain status as a full, non-provisional Rotarian Action Group</i></p>	<p>Thereof total life time member: 1,835</p> <p>RFPD has with over 100 Rotary volunteer leaders working in 75 countries. Total countries with RFPD membership=109.</p>																											
<p>Number of RI Zones represented in membership:</p> <p><i>NOTE: number must be greater than or equal to 3 in order to obtain/retain status as a full, non-provisional Rotarian Action Group</i></p>	<p>RFPD has members in all Rotary zones.</p>																											
<p>Has your group ratified the Standard Bylaws for Rotarian Action Groups?</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> By checking this box, I confirm that our group has ratified the Standard Bylaws for Rotarian Action Groups.</p> <p><i>* Please attach a copy of the signed bylaws with this report.</i></p>																											
<p>Has your group undertaken an international service project during the past Rotary year?</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> By checking this box, I confirm that our group has undertaken an international service project during the past Rotary year.</p> <p><i>* Please provide further details in the next section of the report.</i></p>																											

III. Annual Report of Rotarian Action Group Activities (required)

Please describe any major international service projects or other activities undertaken by your group during the past Rotary year.

A. Major international service projects:

1) “Improvement of Maternal Health - Prevention and Treatment of Obstetric Fistula”: – This MG project amounting to a total amount of US\$1.5 million is presently by far the largest project - initiated and supported by RFPD. It is a pilot project and can be replicated, as it shows how to make progress regarding MDG 5 and 4. This is most important as the world is lacking behind schedule especially with these two MDGs.

The project in Kaduna and Kano states, Nigeria, is co-funded by the German government and Aventis Foundation with a project amount of one million Euro. This has been running since 2005 in Northern Nigeria, as a comprehensive approach including six areas of activity:

- Awareness and advocacy to inform the public on how to avoid VVF and establish responsible parenthood.
- Education and training of health personnel in Fistula repair and post-operative care and increase of the number of skilled birth attendants.
- Equipment for hospitals and health care centers to provide adequate obstetric care, VVF operations and Caesarean sections.
- Rehabilitation of patients after clinical recovery with vocational training and microcredit support programs.
- Collaboration with local and international NGOs and Foundations.
- Close cooperation and integration of state officials and administration in order to guarantee the sustainability of the project, i.e. by introducing a regulatory action of quality assurance in obstetrics.

The target group are 5,000 women. Our goal is to identify main risk factors for pregnant women and address them through advocacy and by raising awareness at the grass roots level. The elements of our comprehensive approach include radio serials, training of health personnel, delivery of medical equipment and improvement of quality of structure and process and provide routine HIV/AIDS testing to prevent mother-to-child transmission. Two hospitals have been equipped to serve as Fistula Treatment Centers where patients receive necessary reconstructive surgery and post-operative care. Additional satellite Rotary projects, such as education and microcredit programs for successfully treated fistula patients have been initiated. This will enable them to have their own income. Safe water management for clinics are increasing the project’s lasting effects.

The improvement of the quality of structure and of process in hospitals is a prerequisite to better the health of women and children. Our activities are aimed to establish an Institute of Quality Assurance in Obstetrics to improve the outcome. The steps are: analyze the structure of the hospitals, raise the quality of obstetrical service, e.g. to make the operating and delivery rooms functional, train doctors and midwives to improve the quality of process and outcome, e.g. maternal and child health. Ten selected hospitals in Kaduna and Kano States started to participate in a continuous monthly data collection of maternal and child mortality, maternal disorders during pregnancy and delivery. In quarterly quality circles the doctors and midwives from the hospitals discuss under supervision of a head midwife and representatives from the department of OB/GYN in Kano and Kaduna University hospitals the “blinded” results of each hospital. Maternal death forms will in addition deliver a profound insight in the causes of maternal death. The analysis of the data provides a

continuous awareness of the tragedy and will stimulate discussions among doctors and midwives and generate ways to prevent MM and FM. Once the quality of services of hospitals and staff is ensured, the next step would be raising awareness among the population on available quality maternal health services. With the help of cultural sensible media campaigns, women will get to know about the offer and advantage of the established services. As a result, they will seek reproductive health services before and for delivery.

2) "Safe Motherhood Projects in Nepal": – In this project MG # 51554, initiated and supported by RFPD 26 Miniclinics are in operation (US\$110,000). With the 3-H Project approved May 2007, with US\$ 330,000 ANMs (auxiliary midwives) have been trained. In 2007/2008 additional 8 Projects with US\$ 210,000 were approved including a "Girl-Child-Education-Project."

3) "Saheli Centers": – Family Planning and women's educational institutions in Northern India – total number of centers: 24 (total grant amount: US\$300,000). The Saheli Center concept was developed by a group of creative concerned Rotarians during the tenure of D3250 DG Sandeep Narang in 2002-2003. The concept is based on empowering underprivileged women by offering vocational training so that they can be active participants in the local economies and serve as volunteers-girl friends (Saheli) in their communities. Saheli Centers are planned to be permanent institutions.

Each Saheli Center offers vocational training in 4-5 areas (computer, cosmetology, toy making, accounting/bookkeeping, floral arrangement, painting, embroidery and jewelry making, etc.) depending on local manpower needs and business opportunities. Each training session lasts 3 to 6 months depending on the vocation. Each class has 25-30 students. Upon graduation, each student receives a certificate. Basic informational classes and literature are provided on the following subjects:

- 1) Women's health
- 2) Reproductive health- Family Planning
- 3) Sexually Transmitted Diseases- HIV/AIDS- prevention

Each Saheli Center is operated by the host Rotary Club as a charitable trust under the leadership of a committee. The Center is housed in a building between 1,200-1,300 square feet donated, built or offered rent free by a member of the host Rotary Club. The value of the Center building is approximately US\$30,000. The host club is responsible for the operating cost which runs approximately US\$7,000 per year. This is a substantial amount considering the average club membership is 40.

4) Pilot-project to reduce Child & Maternal Mortality caused by malaria: "Distribution of Mosquito Nets" in Nigeria. 16,000 nets - a donation from the producer BASF - were distributed in the states of Kaduna and Kano (total grant amount: US\$ 80,000). When combating malaria, RFPD keeps close contact with REM RAG. The project is an example for overlapping, but coordinated work of RAGs. In March 2008, Rotary clubs of D9120 distributed 3,000 long lasting insecticide treated mosquito nets to hospitals as well as to mothers and their children in villages of the target area. In August 2008, another 3,000 nets were donated to the Emirate in Zaria, Kaduna state. In August 10,000 nets were transported to Nigeria which are presently distributed by the clubs supported by the project staff to hospitals and villagers as part of the maternal health project. The project goal is to combine the Millennium Goals 4, 5 and 6. This project which was beforehand closely discussed with the Nigerian National Polio Committee Chair, Busuyi Onabolu, contributes at the same time to overcome remaining resistance against polio immunizations in this region. With the nets donated by the producer BASF hospitals can now protect their patients, all mothers were very grateful to Rotary for giving them nets and they showed their readiness to let their children be immunized. We agree with the Nigerian

National Polio Committee Chair that after our pilot project, a large project only meets the needs. We are therefore planning such a large project which we would like to implement with REM RAG.

5) “Zero Adolescent Pregnancy (ZAP) Program”: – Programs to reduce adolescent pregnancies were initiated by Rotarians in Cortland, New York, but are now widely accepted and on-going in Latin America. The goal of these projects is to reduce the number of adolescent pregnancies. Training sessions are held on reproductive health and premarital counseling for adolescents. They are primarily directed at increasing the sense of self worth of the counselees. Training is done by volunteer counselors and free advertisement campaigns are obtained and aimed at educating teenagers about the benefit of abstention and contraception. Local schools and NGOs are involved.

ZAP does not require the use of TRF funds, just the work of individual Rotarians. Our RAG provides the curriculum in English or in Spanish. This project is an example that RAGS like RFPD can motivate the development of so many more low cost, high impact, projects that do not utilize the relatively complicated funding requirements of TRF to be completed. Actually, these non-TRF projects often utilize the work of more Rotarians’ hands on efforts than do the TRF funded efforts. Conclusion: RAGS can have a great impact, frequently with less cost.

6) “Voluntary Counseling and Testing for HIV Program” – This is done in schools in Venezuela and health centers in the Dominican Republic. These projects provide HIV testing for students 12 years of age and to the end of secondary school. A great effort is also made to include the same age group of youngsters that do not attend school by using radio and poster campaigns. Pregnant women are reached by these same means for voluntary counseling, testing and treatment. The goal is to reduce the transmission of HIV by early testing of large groups of sexually active adolescents. If young students can be counseled, tested and treated early in the development of the disease, before the development of clinical signs of infection, these individuals can be treated and thereby allowed to have a more normal life for an extended life expectancy. They will also be less infective to their sex partners due to their reduced virus load. They can be educated through college and/ or vocational schools.

7) "Prevention of Mother-to-Child Transmission (PMTCT) of HIV": – This is part of the Maternal Health Project in Nigeria. There we are preparing a pilot project for participation of Rotarians in a worldwide Rotary program “Prevention of Transmission of Aids from mother to Child (PMTCT)”. Project Action: Provide education, information and awareness with the help of local leaders and the media. Provide HIV testing and counseling to pregnant women. Offer treatment with anti-retroviral drugs to reduce the viral load and to extend the life expectancy of the HIV infected patient. Make use of the International Donation program to make antiretroviral drugs (more) available to women and infants.

The Voluntary Counseling and Testing (VCT) of pregnant mothers dramatically reduces the transmission of HIV from the infected mother to her unborn child. If the mother can be treated for the HIV infection before she shows clinical signs of AIDS the mother can then care for her child until the baby reaches adolescence or early adulthood. Without the above mentioned donation program the reduction of Infant and Maternal Mortality (IMM) by PMTCT will cost the Rotary club no more than \$1-2 (US) per test (ELISA) and can be accomplished by working with the local government health departments. In some countries the governments will provide the ELISA tests to identify those individuals infected with HIV. It merely takes Rotarians urging the government officials to do what they should be doing on their own initiative. Many of these projects are done club to club or club to district and do not receive TRF funding. However, we feel it is important to mention these projects because they directly affect the reduction of IMM. They can also essentially eliminate AIDS orphans.

Conclusion: This indicates the range in which our RAGS organization spans the globe to deliver projects in a creative manner.

B. Other activities:

- 1) This year, we have made a name change to The Rotarian Action Group for Population Growth & Sustainable Development (RFPD), which in the past in countries like Germany is the translation of 'population and development'. We did this to make RFPD more palatable to RI leaders and help explain our goals.
 - 2) RFPD's key strategies are to: 1) Put population in balance with its resources; 2) Create healthy families; 3) Advocate on population issues, including alleviating poverty, educating women and reducing child and maternal mortality; 4) Initiate, support and co-fund Matching Grant projects through The Rotary Foundation. Projects initiated and supported by RFPD include reproductive and maternal health, family planning, literacy, micro-credit and vocational skills; 5) Aim for large projects co-funded by other sources.
 - 3) RFPD established a new partnership with "The Partnership for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health," Geneva. Robert Zinser has led the way to establish this partnership with Dr. Songane and his staff. Since the middle of 2007, RFPD has been a member of The Partnership who distributed our flyer at the 'Women deliver' conference in London and participated in RFPD events at the RI convention 2008. The Partnership advises on child mortality projects. Other partnerships are Population Media Center, USA, and BASF, Germany.
 - 4) We started to increase our activities to include Rotaract (Rotarian Youth) and Inner Wheel (Spouses of Rotarians). We provided increased support of our Country Chairs (CC's) and Zone Coordinators (ZC's). We have increased membership efforts and submission of Matching Grant (MG) projects to The Rotary Foundation (TRF).
 - 5) RFPD was successful at raising the remaining funds to establish the RFPD Donor Advised Fund, now a special fund for grants within The Rotary Foundation. The fund so far is at \$22,000. Plans to expand giving opportunities to foundations, individuals and corporations are underway. Appointed committee members (4 official members are allowed to sit on the committee, per RI rulings) – Salem Mashhour, RFPD Chair (the current chair will always sit on the committee), Barbara Maves (AZC), Raju Paul (ZC), Robert Zinser, RFPD Vice-Chair and Buck Lindsay as General Secretary/ex-officio member.
 - 6) RFPD activities at the Rotary International (RI) Convention in Los Angeles, June 2008. included:
 - * Workshops – At the invitation of RI, RFPD presented two workshops – "Skillful Implementation of World Community Service Projects" and "Reduction of Child & Maternal Mortality." Panelists included Dr. Songane, Director of The Partnership for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health, Dr. Ekkehart Pandel, Country Chair for Germany and Pediatrician, Dr. Robert Zinser, Dr. Dolapo Lufadeju and Rotaractor from Alexandria Egypt, Mona Arslan. Both workshops were successful with over 200 attendees, including several RI leaders.
 - * Rotary Action Group Committee – Robert Zinser reported on RFPD. Other Action Groups (now as before) learn from RFPD as we are the oldest and largest action group.
 - * Rotaract Presentation – Robert Zinser, Bill Cadwallader and the above mentioned Egyptian Rotaractor gave presentations at the international Rotaract conference which is part of the convention.
- Annual General Meeting – Eighty people attended the RFPD Annual General Meeting. Featured speaker Marilyn Hempel (Editor, Population Press/Blue Planet United) delivered an important message including population pressures and environmental degradation. Dr. Songane addressed our fellow members, as well as

RFPD leaders. Past RI President, Raja Saboo, was awarded the RFPD Nafis Sadik Award for Courage and delivered an inspiring speech.

* Membership Breakfast – A special event was held during the convention that included RFPD & RI leaders, RFPD members and potential members. Sixty people were in attendance, and the featured speaker Bob Gillespie (President, Population Communication) delivered a compelling population speech.

* Zone Coordinator Meeting – Bill Cadwallader led the North American Zone Coordinators and Assistant Zone Coordinators in a special training session. Twenty-five people attended and leaders were encouraged to strengthen membership efforts, increased speaking engagements and projects.

* Board Meetings – Two board meetings were held for RFPD board members. Our board meetings have been opened to include two representatives from each area. We are grooming younger leaders to take on future leadership roles for RFPD and bring new ideas to the table.

7) In Nigeria our good contact to the traditional rulers/religious leaders has been strengthened. Robert Zinser was appointed by the Emir of Zazzau (Zaria) as "Shahon Zazzau" which allows him direct contact to the Emir. In Nigeria, this will generally contribute to the enhancement of Rotary's reputation as a grassroots organization.

8) RFPD's Country Chair for Germany, Ekkehart Pandel, was elected as incoming RI Director for 2009-11. He became RFPD Country chair in Germany succeeding Robert Zinser in 2005 and was vice chair of RFPD Germany for several years.

C. Publications and Promotional Materials*:

a. Permanent/Consecutive publications:

- 1) Quarterly newsletter "Fragile Earth" translated in Spanish and French (distributed and posted on website).
- 2) RFPD's Website: www.rifpd.org
- 3) RFPD's website www.maternalhealthcare.eu.

b. Brochures:

- 1) RFPD brochure in English, also translated into Spanish and German .
- 2) Reducing Child & Maternal Mortality Project Brochure (produced in tandem with The Partnership) – in English, German and Spanish (distributed and posted on website).
- 3) RFPD brochure "Save the mothers and the children" on the maternal health project in Nigeria.
- 4) Zero Adolescent Pregnancy guide translated in Spanish and English (distributed and posted on website).

c. Films/Video:

- 1) Film "Rotary Maternal and Child Health project in Nigeria" first shown at "Women Deliver" conference at the 2007 London conference.
- 2) RFPD's radio serial Gugar Goge published by PMC many times.
- 3) Film of Success Story: "Rotaract Project – Basic Literacy, Family Planning and Micro-credit" in Alexandria, Egypt (including an interview of Nobel Peace Prize Winner Prof. Muhammad Yunus by RFPD Vice-Chairman, Robert Zinser).

d. Articles:

- 1) Article in WHO/Partnership website on our RI break session in LA.
- 2) Articles contributed to the Rotary International "Resource Group for Health and Hunger" newsletter.
- 3) Articles contributed to the RI "Foundation Newsletter".
- 4) Article of Success Story in BASF magazine newsletter on Mosquito net pilot project, demonstrating our utilization of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR). As many Rotarians are or were employed by companies or

have contacts with them utilizing the increasing Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) will enlarge Rotary's world community service.

5) Article of Success Story on RI website, translated into Spanish, Portuguese and German "Royal recognition of Rotary Maternal Health Project". This demonstrates the excellent contact of Rotary with Traditional Rulers and Religious Leaders in Northern Nigeria (which is crucial for the implementation of projects).

D. PHOTOS:

- RFPD has hundreds of digital photos. We are ready to submit them if RI staff would let us know which scenes or subjects are of interest.

*All items are available upon request of Rotary International representative.

R e m a r k s:

- > Could these reports be distributed amongst all RAGs?
- > Unavoidably activities of RAGs are overlapping, see i.e. PMTCT, distribution of mosquito nets and improvement of the water situation in hospitals which all are part of maternal health projects supported by RFPD (see page 3). It would be helpful if RAG reports sent to RI are accessible to other RAGs.
- > To inform each other by such reports - beyond information on the websites of RAGs - would also assist individual RAGs in their development, by learning from each other.
- > Contrary to RI Resource Groups, RAGs, their structure and activities are still not adequately published by RI and announced to Incoming Governors, i.e. at the RI assembly which leaves expertise and experience unused.

IV. Annual Report of Rotarian Action Group Finances (required)

Please summarize your group's financial activity during the past Rotary year, indicating revenues, expenditures, and a statement of funds on hand as of the end of the Rotary year.

Additionally, Rotarian Action Groups with annual gross receipts or expenditures of more than US\$25,000 or equivalent are required to provide an annual financial statement and report that has been independently reviewed by a qualified accountant or by an action group audit committee. Refer to section 43.020.5 of the *Rotary Code of Policies* for further information, or contact an RI staff member if you have any questions.

Financial Statement attached - see addendum 1.

V. Additional Information (optional)

Rotarian Action Groups are encouraged to share any success stories, promotional materials, and/or high resolution electronic photos with RI Staff. These materials may be considered for use in one of Rotary's publications or on www.rotary.org. Please attach any such materials separately.

VI. Annual Newsletter Reminder

Please remember that Rotarian Action Groups must circulate a newsletter amongst its membership, with a copy to RI, at least once per year. The newsletter may be circulated electronically.

Thank you in advance for your prompt attention to this request. Please return via e-mail, mail, or fax by 1 October using the contact information below.

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