The Importance of WASH-RAG Membership Recruitment

Membership in the Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Rotary Action Group (WASH-RAG) is considered crucial for Rotarians, Rotaractors, and professionals because it offers specialised technical support, networking opportunities and resources to enhance the sustainability and impact of WASH projects worldwide.

As an officially recognised Action Group, it helps members move beyond just building infrastructure toward creating lasting, community-driven change.

Here is why WASH-RAG membership is so important:

1. Enhanced Project Success and Sustainability

- **Expert Review:** Members can submit their Global Grant applications to the Professional Services Team, which reviews them to improve design, sustainability, and likelihood of approval by The Rotary Foundation.
- **Funding Incentives:** The WASH-RAG Fund can provide a $2,000 donation to a Global Grant if the project receives a successful review, supporting the financial viability of the project.
- **Long-Term Impact:** The group focuses on ensuring projects are not just installed but maintained, using tools like the "Sustainability Index Tool" and focusing on behavior change and training.

2. Expert Network and Resources

- **Technical Expertise:** Members have access to a pool of professionals who provide advice on complex WASH issues, such as water quality, borehole construction, and sanitation, ensuring projects are technically sound.
- **Ambassador Network:** The group provides over 100 ambassadors worldwide to help connect local clubs with international partners and technical resources.
- **Best Practices:** Members have access to a library of best practices and "how-to" guides for various WASH activities.

3. Collaboration and Networking

- **Finding Partners:** WASH-RAG can help clubs connect with other clubs and organisations to build coalitions and find international partners for Global Grants.
- **Partnerships:** The group leverages partnerships with outside organisations, such as WaterAid, Water for People, UNICEF and Engineers Without Borders to support long-term programs.

4. Direct Impact on Global Health

- **Targeting Core Issues:** WASH-RAG helps tackle the critical need for clean water and sanitation, which directly reduces waterborne diseases and improves the lives of millions.

- **Education and Safety:** Projects, such as WASH in Schools (WinS), improve school attendance — particularly for girls — and protect them from violence by providing safe, private sanitation.

5. Education and Advocacy

- **Knowledge Sharing:** Members receive, and can contribute to, newsletters, webinars and social media, staying updated on the latest in WASH.
- **Advocacy:** The group supports, members in advocating for policies that bring about systemic change at local and national levels.

Membership is open to all who want to make a difference, not just Rotarians, making it a diverse, and, knowledgeable community dedicated to solving the water crisis.