

# RESOLUTION 21R-06

To request the Trustees to consider creating management groups to support club and district service projects

**Proposer(s):** District 1780, France

1 WHEREAS, Rotary is an organization of professional, qualified individuals, and

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3 WHEREAS, Vocational Service is listed as the second Avenue of Service in Article  
4 6 of the Standard Rotary Club Constitution, and

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6 WHEREAS, sub-subsection 8.040.1.(6)(f) of the Rotary Code of Policies, Basic  
7 Principles of Community Service, provides that “a Rotary club acts best and is  
8 most successful as a propagandist,” and

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10 WHEREAS, the seven areas of focus require the implementation of projects over  
11 several years, and

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13 WHEREAS, Rotary is not designed to oversee the implementation of business  
14 ventures

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16 IT IS RESOLVED by Rotary International that the Board of Directors of Rotary  
17 International consider requesting the Trustees of The Rotary Foundation to  
18 consider creating corporate and startup management groups whose role would be  
19 to support the implementation of club and district service projects over a three-  
20 year mentoring period.

(End of Text)

## **PURPOSE AND EFFECT**

21 RI has seven areas of focus. Projects carried out within those seven areas of focus  
22 represent considerable amounts of money. Recent RI guidelines have emphasized  
23 the need to ensure that projects are sustainable.

24

25 We note that a donor recently rated one of our service projects lower than might  
26 have been expected considering its high quality, saying he “wished he could come  
27 back in ten years and see that the project was still operational.”

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29 As an example, we could mention the efforts taken to involve local communities  
30 in the construction and management of a water supply system, thereby rendering  
31 it sustainable and also giving them ownership of the project. But despite our best  
32 efforts, however, we found that the installation had been poorly maintained and  
33 was rapidly deteriorating, thus necessitating a further infusion of funds.

1 In a separate instance, during the celebration for installing medical equipment  
2 that required regular maintenance, local health officials suggested the use of an  
3 'approved business plan' as an additional means of managing its upkeep. In  
4 addition to sustainable funding through renewable grants and a commitment  
5 from the funding partners, such a plan requires some form of social insurance in  
6 order to subsidize its sustained operation.

7  
8 Within the seventh area of focus, some districts are committed to encouraging  
9 the creation of 'green' startups.

10  
11 The goal of Rotary's sustainability model is ultimately to create sustainable  
12 service projects, not 'humanitarian efforts' with no future. We can best support  
13 the extension and development of such projects through the creation of  
14 management groups, which will generate a greater degree of commitment from  
15 local authorities, as well as a deeper level of community involvement in the  
16 projects themselves.

### **FINANCIAL IMPACT**

17 If implemented, this enactment could have a financial impact on RI which cannot  
18 be determined at this time. Cost would be dependent on the scope and extent of  
19 support provided by the RI Board to accomplish this task.