



## Rotary Clubs of Lebanon

Rotary International is a global network of business and professional leaders who provide humanitarian service, and help to build goodwill and peace around the world. There are approximately 1.2 million Rotary club members belonging to more than 34,000 Rotary clubs in more than 200 countries and geographical areas.

Rotary clubs exist to improve communities both locally and globally. Rotary also encourages high ethical standards in business and the professions. Rotary clubs work to provide humanitarian aid and advance international understanding by partnering with clubs in other countries.

Rotary's flagship program, **PolioPlus**, aims to immunize all the world's children against polio. To date, the PolioPlus program has contributed more than US\$1 billion to the protection of more than two billion children in 122 countries. These funds are providing much needed polio vaccine, operational support, medical personnel, laboratory equipment and educational materials for health workers and parents. Rotary is the volunteer arm of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative. Rotary volunteers assist in vaccine delivery, social mobilization and logistical support.

### **Rotary and the United Nations**

Rotary has long maintained ties with the United Nations, and currently holds the highest consultative status offered to a nongovernmental organization by the UN's Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). Rotary maintains and furthers its relationship with a number of UN bodies, programs, commissions, and agencies through its representative network, which consists of Rotary International representatives to the United Nations and other organizations, including ESCWA since 2004.

The **UN's Millennium Development Goals** (MDGs) to reduce poverty and improve the quality of life for people worldwide parallel Rotary's recommendations for service projects, and many Rotary clubs consider them when selecting projects in their communities. The 8 MDGs crossed with Rotary's six Areas of Focus (AOF):

- Peace and conflict prevention/resolution
- Disease prevention and treatment
- Water and sanitation
- Maternal and child health
- Basic education and literacy
- Economic and community development

Twenty four Rotary Clubs across Lebanon embarked on an ambitious project working in partnership with the UN Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia –ESCWA and the Minister of Higher Education in Lebanon. The Project's objectives are:

1. To enable high-school teachers to use the Arab MDG Report 2011 as a key reference document in public and private schools in Lebanon.
2. To provide all high schools in Lebanon with both hard and soft copies of the Arab MDG Report 2011 for their use.
3. To make MDG Report 2011 available for practitioners and CSOs and development studies students in Lebanese Universities.

To learn more about Rotary, please visit [www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org) and [www.rotarylebanon.org](http://www.rotarylebanon.org)