

2020 Annual Report

Rotary Scholarship Program

IHE Delft Institute for Water Education



2020 Annual Report Rotary Scholarship Program IHE Delft

Executive Summary

The Rotary-scholarship program at IHE Delft Institute for Water Education that was established in 2011 has gone from strength to strength in 2020, despite the COVID-19 pandemic, which has created quite some challenges for the students.

These challenges were both on the academic side (education program went on-line) as well as on the social side (concerns about family and friends back home, travel restrictions and quarantine requirements for the incoming 2020-2022 cohort). The students have all dealt with these challenges in an extremely resilient, determined and positive manner. The results of these efforts speak for itself: all 10 Rotary-sponsored IHE-students from the 2018-2020 cohort successfully graduated this year!

Main highlights of the year were:

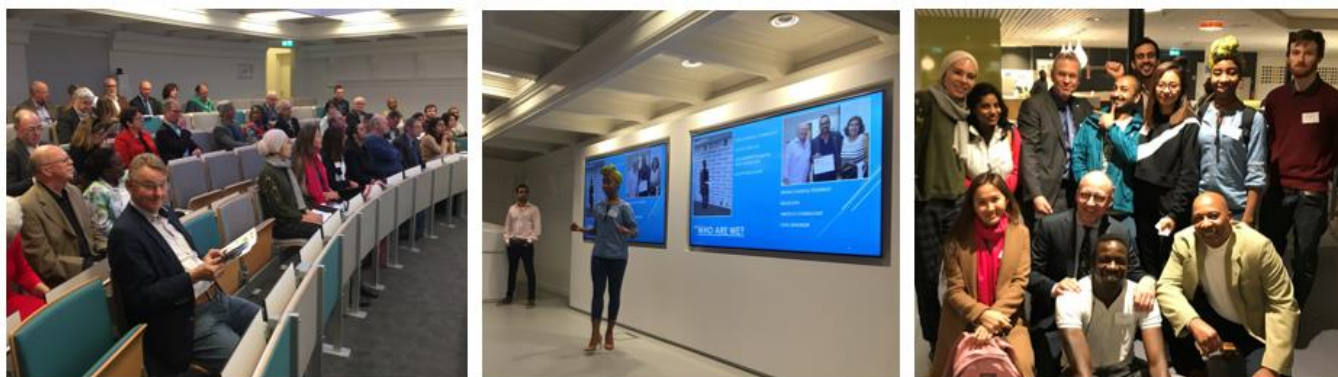
- Feb 2020 Rotary Zone 14 TRF Seminar - workshop at IHE Delft
- March+ 2020 Rotary host-counselor support in COVID-19 pandemic times
- April 2020 IHE Delft Graduation ceremony
- June 2020 Rotary IHE Alumni Survey results
- Oct 2020 Virtual Rotary Institute in Amsterdam – “Providing Clean Water” hosted at IHE Delft
- Nov 2020 12 new Rotary-sponsored MSc students arriving, selected from over 100 applications and all financed with Global Grants
- Dec 2020 Rotary Scholarship application process for 2021 has gone live, aiming for 14 scholarships

Each of the above highlights is described in chronological order in a bit more detail below.



February 2020 – Rotary Zone 14 TRF Seminar - workshop at IHE Delft

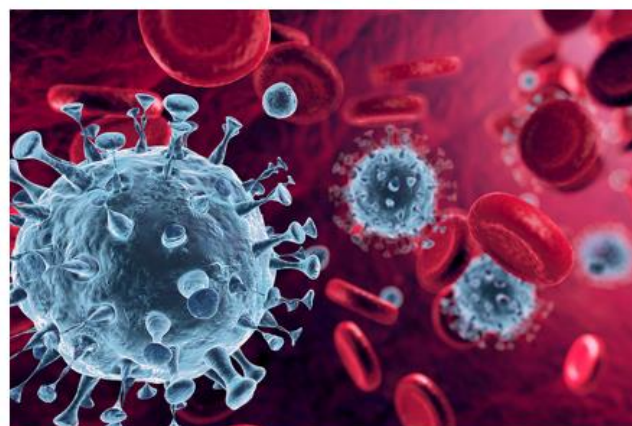
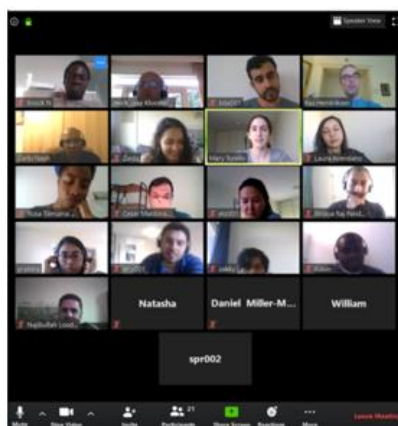
A great event was hosted at IHE Delft Institute for Water Education at the evening before the TRF Zone 14 Seminar in Rotterdam. A group of some 30 Belgian, Swiss and Dutch Rotarians were hosted by IHE Delft and got inspired by the successes of the partnership with Rotary and the personal stories from some of the Rotary-sponsored students. The event triggered interest, particularly from the Belgian and Swiss Rotarians and has resulted in concrete (financial) support for the 2020 cohort of Rotary-sponsored students. Great to see the program reaching to the broader Rotary-community; the power of “Rotary without Borders”!



Rotary Zone 17 TRF Seminar – February 2020

March 2020 onwards – Rotary host-counselor support in COVID-19 pandemic times

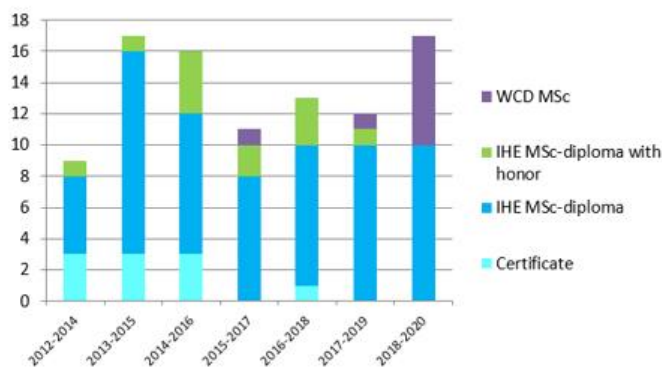
In times of crisis, it is important to take care of each other. The Rotary-IHE committee in the Netherlands and the Dutch Rotary host-counselors checked in regularly on all the Rotary-sponsored students at IHE Delft in virtual Zoom connects to see how they all are doing, how their families are doing back home and whether Rotary can be of any help and support. These are times of unprecedented challenges and together we will get through. We were impressed by the determination and resilience of our students. They are on a mission to obtain their MSc diploma, and they all will succeed!



Rotary Host-Counselor support in Corona times

April 2020 - IHE Delft Graduation Ceremony

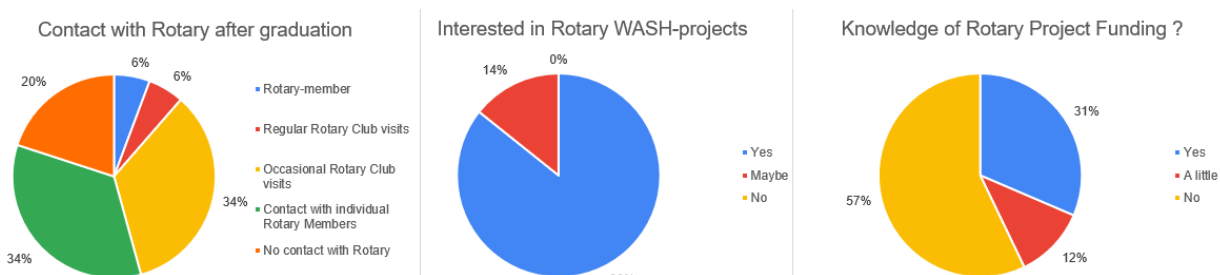
Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the graduation celebration of all 2018-2020 Rotary-sponsored IHE-students could not take place in the usual format (academic cortege from IHE Delft to the "Oude Kerk" in Delft for the formal ceremony, followed by a swinging party). To give credit to all graduating students, IHE Delft turned this into a personalized alternative, in which all COVID-19 measures could be honored and in which the students received their diploma with well-deserved appreciation. This was followed by an online plenary celebration live-stream. An excellent Corona-proof alternative of the yearly Graduation Ceremony, for a first impression have a look at: <https://youtu.be/EEhdMwN6sOA>



IHE Delft Graduation ceremony in Corona times

June 2020 – Rotary IHE Alumni Survey results

A survey was held under all Rotary-sponsored IHE alumni (graduated between 2014-2019) which provided some interesting insights. The response rate was 46%, so the results can be considered fairly representative. Of the respondents, some 80% stayed in contact with their sponsoring Rotary Club and 86% are interested to conducting Rotary WASH-projects. However, only 46% are actively meeting with the Rotary Club or Rotarians and only 37% have knowledge of the Global Grant system to fund future Rotary WASH-projects. This indicates that stronger guidance and support is needed for our alumni and will be the focus of the Rotary-IHE Alumni network for 2021. Furthermore, strengthening the connection with WASRAG will also be beneficial for this and will be followed up as well in 2021.



Key outcomes from the Rotary IHE Alumni Survey

October 2020 – Virtual Rotary Institute in Amsterdam – “Providing Clean Water” hosted at IHE Delft

A break-out session on "Providing Clean Water" as part of the Rotary Institute Amsterdam was hosted from the video conference room of IHE Delft Institute for Water Education. Amongst the panel members were Rosa Domingos (Rotary IHE Delft-student from South Africa) and Prof. Eddy Moors (Rector IHE Delft), who contributed to a lively and interactive session where many new ideas were generated, and new connections were made: Rotary Without Borders. The session was organized and chaired by the Dutch Rotary-IHE Delft committee. A recording of the session can be seen at:

<https://youtu.be/dJk8pT5xEzc>



Virtual Rotary Institute break-out session on “Providing Clean Water”

November 2020 - 12 new Rotary-sponsored MSc students arrived

In late October the 2020-2022 cohort of Rotary-sponsored students arrived in Delft. Due to the COVID-19 measures, they were required to go straight from the airport into a 10 day quarantine in their new accommodation. IHE Delft is to be commended on the preparations for this; all students were escorted by a senior student (in a corona-proof manner) to their new home, where a complete welcome-package (food, utensils, internet, telephone card etc...) was waiting for them to get started and to get through. It was impressive to experience the positive and upbeat atmosphere and attitude of the students. The curriculum has started on-line and IHE Delft is revisiting if, how and when some can go back to in-class, corona volente.



2020 Rotary-sponsored IHE-students

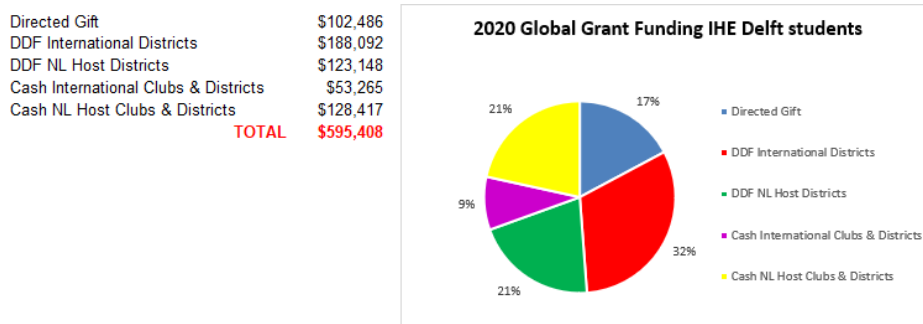
IHE Delft student	Country
Denis Sigei Ruto	Kenya
Santosh Adhikari	Nepal
Michel Robert Frem	Lebanon
Firdaus Achmad Fatian	Indonesia
Qurratul Ain Contractor	India
Camila Figueredo Miranda	Brazil
Gabriela Nicoleti de Freitas	Brazil
Hildah Ayesigye	Uganda
John Tumaini	Kenya
Altin Bektashi	Kosovo
Phoebe Hornsby	UK
Athena Lindsay	USA

2020 Rotary-sponsored IHE-students

Like in previous years, each Rotary-sponsored student has been assigned to a Dutch Rotary host-counselor for non-academic support and to ensure the connect to the broader Rotary organization. To date, some 70 Dutch Rotarians from 20 different clubs in the Netherlands have been host-counselor and many close friendships and connections have been made this way. In this strange year, the first connects had to be virtual, but we are hoping we can make up for that in 2021!

2020 Financial Support & way forward for 2021

A major highlight in 2020 was our ability to fund the 12 scholarships for the students of the 2020-2022 cohort. This is the second year that all students are funded by individual “Global Grants”, receiving financial support from many Rotary Clubs, DDF funds as well as Directed Gifts. A total sum of some \$600,000 of Global Grants were raised as follows:



To organize and carry this out was a major effort. Nevertheless, we are grateful and would like to thank all of you who provided the (financial) support to make this a reality!! We will heavily rely and depend on similar financial support in the years to come. The application process for 2021 Rotary Scholarship application process has gone live, aiming for 14 scholarships:

<https://www.un-ihe.org/rotary-scholarships-water-and-sanitation-professionals>

We strongly advocate as much as possible that Rotary Clubs & Districts fully sponsor their own candidate, that way there is no further selection by us. But at the same time, we are more than happy to facilitate the Global Grant application process to make it easier for all involved.

If it is not possible to provide full funding, we expect the sponsoring Rotary Club and the student together to fund \$ 5,000 and to secure DDF-funds in their district of at least \$ 5,000. In this case we will have to apply our selection process and will arrange for the additional funding. Please note that the total costs of each scholarship are \$55,000. With the help from all of you, we can make this happen again and sustain the future of this very successful partnership. Do not hesitate to contact us!!

Publication of the Rotary IHE Delft Global Grant Scholarship-committee: Wim Goedendorp (chair), Henk Jaap Kloosterman, Carlo Nash and Bas Hendriksen, December 2020

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