



ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAMME



The Strategic Importance for Rotary District 7030

Environmental sustainability is essential to Rotary District 7030 because our district comprises Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and coastal territories that are among the world's most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. Across our Caribbean region, communities face increasing threats from stronger hurricanes, sea level rise, coastal erosion, flooding, water insecurity, biodiversity loss, and unsustainable waste management practices. These challenges transcend national borders, requiring coordinated, innovative, and evidence-based action. As an organization dedicated to creating lasting change, Rotary has a unique opportunity to lead environmental stewardship by developing solutions that strengthen community resilience while protecting the natural resources upon which future generations depend.

Recognizing these shared challenges, Rotary District 7030 is committed to advancing environmental sustainability through projects that are collaborative, data-driven, and measurable. By fostering strategic partnerships with governments, non-governmental organizations, academia, the private sector, and the entire Rotary family, we aim to deliver scalable solutions that create lasting environmental, social, and economic impact. Through innovation, accountability, and regional collaboration, our clusters will move beyond one-time environmental activities to implement sustainable initiatives that build climate resilience, strengthen water security, promote circular resource management, and inspire communities across the Caribbean to become active stewards of our shared environment.

Environmental Sustainability Needs Assessment for Rotary District 7030

Country/Territory	Key Environmental Sustainability Needs	Credible Source(s)
Antigua and Barbuda	Water security, drought resilience, coastal erosion, coral reef and mangrove conservation, climate adaptation	Antigua and Barbuda National Adaptation Plan (UNFCCC); UNDP Climate Promise
Aruba	Water conservation, coral reef protection, coastal resilience, renewable energy transition	Aruba Climate and Resilience Profile (Stimson Center CORVI); Government of Aruba National Climate Policy
Barbados	Water scarcity, flooding, coral reef conservation, renewable energy, coastal resilience	Barbados Nationally Determined Contribution (UNFCCC); World Bank Climate Knowledge Portal
Bonaire	Coral reef degradation, wastewater management, mangrove protection, marine biodiversity	IUCN Coral Reef Reports; STINAPA Bonaire; Ramsar Convention
Curaçao	Marine pollution, waste management, coral reef restoration, coastal ecosystem protection	UNEP Caribbean Environment Programme; World Bank <i>Marine Pollution in the Caribbean</i>
Dominica	Forest restoration, watershed management, hurricane resilience, landslide mitigation	Dominica National Adaptation Plan (UNFCCC); UNDP
French Guiana	Deforestation, illegal gold mining, mercury contamination, biodiversity conservation	FAO Global Forest Resources Assessment; WWF Guianas Programme
Grenada	Watershed degradation, coastal erosion, coral reef conservation, climate resilience	Grenada National Adaptation Plan (UNFCCC); OECS Commission

Environmental Sustainability Needs Assessment for Rotary District 7030

Country/Territory	Key Environmental Sustainability Needs	Credible Source(s)
Guadeloupe	Coastal flooding, coral reef conservation, waste management, sargassum management	French Office for Biodiversity (OFB); IFRECOR (French Coral Reef Initiative)
Guyana	Forest conservation, mining pollution, flooding, mangrove restoration	Guyana Low Carbon Development Strategy 2030; FAO; World Bank
Martinique	Coastal erosion, coral reef degradation, biodiversity conservation, invasive sargassum	IFRECOR; French Office for Biodiversity (OFB)
Montserrat	Ecosystem restoration, soil erosion, watershed management, disaster resilience	UK Overseas Territories Conservation Forum; UNDP
Saint Kitts and Nevis	Water security, coastal erosion, coral reef protection, plastic pollution	St. Kitts and Nevis National Adaptation Plan (UNFCCC); OECS Commission
Saint Lucia	Watershed degradation, landslides, flooding, coral bleaching, forest conservation	Saint Lucia National Adaptation Plan (UNFCCC); OECS Commission
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	Watershed rehabilitation, volcanic landscape recovery, coastal resilience, resilient agriculture	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines National Adaptation Plan (UNFCCC); UNDP
Suriname	Forest conservation, illegal mining, mercury pollution, biodiversity protection	FAO Global Forest Resources Assessment; Conservation International Suriname
Trinidad and Tobago	Flooding, illegal dumping, industrial pollution, mangrove loss, plastic waste	National Environmental Policy; UNEP Caribbean Environment Programme; World Bank <i>Marine Pollution in the Caribbean</i>

Guidelines

Service that Leaves the Earth Better Than We Found It - Instead of simply earning points for completing activities, clubs earn points by meeting Impact Pillars. Every challenge must include innovation, partnerships, youth engagement, sustainability, and storytelling.

Guidelines for Participation

- **Each cluster may participate in only one challenge category.** Clusters are encouraged to select the challenge that best aligns with their community's greatest environmental need, available expertise, and local partnerships. This allows clubs to focus their resources on delivering one high-impact, measurable, and sustainable project rather than spreading efforts across multiple initiatives.
- **Projects must be implemented in Rotary Clusters** to encourage collaboration, resource sharing, and larger-scale environmental impact across communities.
- **Conduct a needs assessment before implementation.** Every project should be based on identified community needs and supported by baseline data to ensure interventions are relevant and measurable.
- **Be innovative.** Clubs are encouraged to move beyond traditional service projects by incorporating emerging technologies such as GIS mapping, drones, AI, water quality sensors, renewable energy solutions, mobile applications, citizen science, or other innovative approaches that improve environmental outcomes.
- **Be data-driven.** Establish clear Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) before implementation and measure outcomes throughout the project. Success should be demonstrated through evidence and impact, not activities alone.
- **Leverage strategic partnerships.** Engage government ministries, environmental agencies, NGOs, universities, technical experts, and private sector organizations to enhance expertise, resources, funding opportunities, and long-term sustainability.
- **Collaborate across the Rotary Family.** Projects should actively involve Rotary, Rotaract, and Interact Clubs, with each organization playing a meaningful role in planning, implementation, and evaluation.
- **Design for long-term sustainability.** Projects should include a maintenance or continuity plan that ensures benefits continue after the project is completed.
- **Prioritize measurable impact over participation.** Focus on outcomes that demonstrate tangible environmental, social, and economic improvements within the community.

Guidelines

- **Incorporate a strong public image component.** Document and promote your project's impact through professional photography, videos, traditional media, and social media to educate the public and showcase Rotary's commitment to environmental sustainability.
- **Engage the community throughout the project.** Involve community members in planning, implementation, and monitoring to foster ownership and ensure the project addresses local priorities.
- **Promote knowledge sharing and replication.** Document lessons learned, innovative practices, and project outcomes so successful initiatives can be replicated by other clubs throughout District 7030.
- **Align projects with Rotary's Area of Focus: Supporting the Environment and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)** to maximize global relevance and funding opportunities.
- **Ensure projects are inclusive and accessible.** Engage diverse groups, including youth, women, persons with disabilities, Indigenous communities where applicable, and other underrepresented stakeholders to create equitable and community-driven solutions.
- **Think beyond one community.** Whenever possible, design projects with the potential to be scaled or replicated across multiple communities or countries within District 7030, creating a lasting regional impact.

Roots for Resilience 7030

Restoring our Mangroves. Protecting our Caribbean.

Project Concept

Roots for Resilience 7030 is a District-wide mangrove rehabilitation and coastal resilience initiative designed for Rotary Clusters across District 7030.

The project will mobilize clusters, community members, environmental organizations, schools and other partners to rehabilitate degraded mangrove ecosystems while increasing public awareness of the critical role mangroves play in protecting Caribbean communities.

Rather than focusing solely on planting mangrove seedlings, participating clusters will work with environmental professionals and local authorities to identify appropriate rehabilitation activities for their respective territories. Activities may include restoring degraded mangrove areas, removing waste and invasive materials, improving water flow, supporting natural regeneration, planting native mangrove species where scientifically appropriate, and establishing long-term monitoring programmes.

Project Objectives

The project seeks to:

1. Rehabilitate degraded mangrove ecosystems throughout District 7030.
2. Strengthen the resilience of coastal communities to flooding, storm surge, erosion and other climate-related threats.
3. Increase awareness of the environmental and economic importance of mangrove ecosystems.
4. Encourage youth participation in environmental conservation through Rotary, Rotaract and Interact.
5. Establish long-term community stewardship of mangrove areas rather than conducting one-time planting activities.
6. Create measurable environmental impact that can be reported collectively across District 7030.

The District-Wide Challenge

Each participating cluster will adopt a mangrove site or mangrove conservation activity within its territory.

The District will establish a collective annual target such as:
“10,000 mangroves rehabilitated or protected across District 7030.”

Rather than measuring success only by the number of seedlings planted, clubs will report several indicators, including:

- Area of mangrove habitat rehabilitated or protected
- Number of native mangroves planted, where appropriate
- Percentage survival of planted mangroves
- Number of volunteers participating
- Kilograms of waste removed
- Number of young people involved
- Number of educational activities conducted
- Community members reached

These figures can then be combined to demonstrate the collective environmental impact of Rotary throughout District 7030.

The Four Project Components

1. Restore

Clusters partner with environmental agencies, NGOs, universities or mangrove specialists to identify a suitable rehabilitation site.

Depending on the needs of the site, activities may include:

- Mangrove planting
- Mangrove nursery development
- Restoration of natural tidal water flow
- Removal of plastics and other waste
- Removal of debris restricting mangrove growth
- Supporting natural mangrove regeneration
- Rehabilitation of degraded coastal wetland

Planting should only occur where specialists determine that planting is necessary and ecologically appropriate.

2. Educate

Every rehabilitation activity should include an environmental education component.

Clusters can organize:

- Mangrove education sessions in schools
- Guided mangrove tours
- Community environmental workshops
- Social media education campaigns
- Coastal resilience discussions
- Interactive sessions with marine biologists and environmental professionals

Interact Clubs can be especially involved through school-based mangrove awareness activities.

3. Adopt

Each participating cluster will be encouraged to Adopt a Mangrove Site for at least one Rotary year.

Instead of planting and leaving, clusters return periodically to:

- Monitor survival
- Remove waste
- Photograph changes
- Replace damaged seedlings where recommended
- Record environmental observations
- Engage neighbouring communities

Simple signs can be erected at suitable sites stating:

This Mangrove Ecosystem is supported by Rotary District 7030 – Roots for Resilience.

4. Measure

Each site will establish a simple monitoring point.

Cluster can take a photograph from the same location at the start of the project and again at approximately:

Month 0 → Month 3 → Month 6

The photographs create a visual record of the rehabilitation of the ecosystem.

The "Mangrove Guardians" Component

To make the project more sustainable, participating clusters can recruit community members and young people as Mangrove Guardians.

Each Guardian makes a simple commitment to help protect the rehabilitated area. Guardians could include:

- Interactors
- Rotaractors
- Fisherfolk
- Students
- Residents of coastal communities
- Environmental clubs
- Tourism operators

They can assist with monitoring, clean-ups and reporting illegal dumping or damage to the area. Each young Mangrove Guardian could receive a digital certificate following participation in the programme.

Community Innovation Element

Clusters can also establish small Mangrove Learning Stations at selected sites.

Using a weather-resistant sign with a QR code, visitors can scan the code to learn:

- What mangroves are
- Species found at the site
- Wildlife supported by the ecosystem
- How mangroves protect coastal communities
- How the public can help protect the area
- Information about Rotary's involvement

This allows the project to continue educating people long after the rehabilitation activity has ended.

Suggested Partners

Clusters should work with organizations already involved in coastal or environmental conservation, including Government environmental agencies, Forestry departments, Universities, Marine science institutions, Environmental NGOs, Fisherfolk organizations, Coastal community groups, Schools and universities, Corporate environmental programmes etc.

Technical partners are especially important because successful mangrove rehabilitation requires understanding local hydrology, mangrove species and coastal conditions.

Potential Funding

The project can be implemented at relatively low cost through partnerships and volunteerism.

Funding can support:

- Seedlings where required
- Nursery materials
- Gloves and clean-up equipment
- Monitoring equipment
- Educational signage
- Transportation
- Community workshops
- Environmental assessments

Cluster can seek corporate sponsorship while larger rehabilitation projects may be developed into Rotary Foundation-supported environmental initiatives where appropriate.

Long-Term Vision

Roots for Resilience 7030 should not end after one Rotary year.

The aim is to develop a network of Rotary-supported mangrove sites throughout District 7030, creating visible examples of Rotary's commitment to environmental sustainability and climate resilience.

Over several years, District 7030 could be able to say:

“Across 17 countries and territories, Rotary is helping protect the natural barriers that protect our communities.”

The project connects environmental protection with disaster preparedness, youth engagement, community development and Rotary's commitment to protecting the environment.

Clean Currents 7030

Protecting Our Waterways. Preserving Our Future.

Project Concept

Clean Currents 7030 is a District-wide watershed management and clean waterway initiative designed for Rotary Clusters across District 7030.

The project will mobilize clusters, community members, environmental organizations, schools, businesses and government agencies to protect and rehabilitate rivers, streams, canals, wetlands and other freshwater ecosystems while increasing public awareness of the importance of healthy waterways to Caribbean communities.

Rather than focusing solely on one-time river or drain clean-ups, participating clusters will work with environmental professionals and local authorities to identify the major challenges affecting waterways within their respective territories. Activities may include removing solid waste, restoring riverbanks, planting appropriate native vegetation, identifying pollution sources, improving community waste management practices, conducting environmental education and establishing long-term monitoring programmes.

The project supports United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 6 – Clean Water and Sanitation, particularly efforts to improve water quality, protect and restore water-related ecosystems and strengthen community participation in water management. Clusters can also use resources and awareness initiatives promoted through UN-Water, including World Water Day, to connect their local activities to the wider global water agenda.

Project Objectives

The project seeks to:

1. Protect and rehabilitate rivers, streams, wetlands and other freshwater ecosystems throughout District 7030.
2. Reduce waste and pollution entering waterways through clean-up, restoration and pollution prevention activities.
3. Increase awareness of the relationship between healthy watersheds, clean water, biodiversity, public health and resilient communities.

4. Encourage youth participation in freshwater conservation through Rotary, Rotaract and Interact.
5. Promote long-term community stewardship of waterways rather than conducting one-time clean-up activities.
6. Create measurable environmental impact that can be reported collectively across District 7030.

The District-Wide Challenge

Each participating cluster will adopt a river, stream, canal, wetland, watershed or other freshwater ecosystem within its territory.

The District will establish a collective annual target such as:

“30 waterways rehabilitated or protected across District 7030.”

Rather than measuring success only by the number of bags of waste collected, clubs will report several indicators, including:

- Length or area of waterway rehabilitated or protected
- Kilograms of waste removed
- Number of pollution sources identified or addressed
- Number of volunteers participating
- Number of young people involved
- Number of educational activities conducted
- Community members reached

These figures can then be combined to demonstrate the collective environmental impact of Rotary throughout District 7030.

The Four Project Components

1. Restore

Clusters partner with environmental agencies, NGOs, universities, water authorities or watershed specialists to identify an appropriate waterway and determine the interventions required.

Depending on the needs of the site, activities may include:

- River and stream clean-ups/ Removal of plastics and other solid waste
- Rehabilitation of degraded riverbanks
- Planting suitable native vegetation
- Watershed reforestation/ Wetland rehabilitation
- Removal of invasive vegetation where recommended
- Identification and reduction of pollution sources

Activities that may alter natural water flow or ecosystems should only be undertaken with guidance from the relevant environmental or water management authorities.

2. Educate

Every rehabilitation activity should include an environmental education component.

Clusters can organize:

- Water conservation sessions in schools
- Watershed and river education tours
- Community environmental workshops
- Social media education campaigns
- Discussions on pollution and responsible waste disposal
- Interactive sessions with environmental scientists and water professionals
- World Water Day activities linked to the United Nations water agenda

Interact Clubs can be especially involved through school-based water conservation and pollution prevention activities.

3. Adopt

Each participating cluster will be encouraged to Adopt a Waterway for at least one Rotary year.

Instead of cleaning and leaving, clusters return periodically to:

- Monitor waste accumulation
- Remove litter
- Photograph changes
- Monitor vegetation
- Record environmental observations
- Identify recurring pollution problems
- Engage neighbouring residents and businesses

Simple signs can be erected at suitable sites stating:

This Waterway is supported by Rotary District 7030 – Clean Currents 7030.

4. Measure

Each site will establish a simple monitoring point.

Clusters can take a photograph from the same location at the start of the project and again at approximately:

Month 0 → Month 3 → Month 6

The photographs create a visual record of improvements to the waterway and surrounding environment.

Where technical partners are available, clusters can also support simple citizen-science monitoring of indicators such as water clarity, visible pollution, vegetation, erosion and basic water-quality parameters.

The "Waterway Guardians" Component

To make the project more sustainable, participating clusters can recruit community members and young people as Waterway Guardians.

Each Guardian makes a simple commitment to help protect the adopted waterway. Guardians could include:

- Interactors
- Rotaractors
- Students
- Fisherfolk
- Farmers
- Residents of surrounding communities
- Environmental clubs
- Local businesses

They can assist with monitoring, clean-ups, environmental education and reporting illegal dumping or other activities that threaten the waterway.

Each young Waterway Guardian could receive a digital certificate following participation in the programme.

Community Innovation Element

Clusters can also establish small Waterway Learning Stations at selected sites. Using a weather-resistant sign with a QR code, visitors can scan the code to learn:

- The name and importance of the waterway
- Where the waterway begins and where it eventually flows
- Wildlife and ecosystems supported by the waterway
- Major threats affecting the watershed
- How pollution travels from communities to rivers and eventually the ocean
- How the public can help protect freshwater resources
- Information about Rotary's involvement
- Information about Sustainable Development Goal 6 and global water conservation efforts

This allows the project to continue educating people long after the rehabilitation activity has ended.

Suggested Partners

Clusters should work with organizations already involved in water management, environmental conservation and watershed protection, including:

- Government environmental agencies
- Water and sewerage authorities
- Drainage authorities
- Forestry departments
- Universities
- Environmental and freshwater research institutions
- Environmental NGOs
- Waste management agencies
- Community organizations
- Schools and universities
- Corporate environmental programmes

Technical partners are especially important because successful watershed rehabilitation requires an understanding of water flow, pollution sources, biodiversity, erosion and the environmental conditions affecting each waterway.

Potential Funding

The project can be implemented at relatively low cost through partnerships and volunteerism.

Funding can support:

- Gloves and clean-up equipment
- Waste collection and transportation
- Native trees and plants
- Monitoring equipment
- Basic water-quality testing equipment
- Educational signage
- Transportation
- Community workshops
- Environmental assessments

Clusters can seek corporate sponsorship, government or environmental grants and in-kind contributions, while larger watershed rehabilitation projects may be developed into Rotary Foundation-supported environmental initiatives where appropriate.

Long-Term Vision

Clean Currents 7030 should not end after one Rotary year.

The aim is to develop a network of Rotary-supported waterways throughout District 7030, creating visible examples of Rotary's commitment to clean water, environmental sustainability and community resilience.

Over several years, District 7030 could be able to say:

“Across 17 countries and territories, Rotary is helping protect the waterways that connect our communities from source to sea.”

The project connects freshwater conservation with climate resilience, pollution prevention, biodiversity, youth engagement, community development and Rotary's commitment to protecting the environment.

By supporting SDG 6 – Clean Water and Sanitation and connecting cluster activities to the wider UN-Water agenda, Clean Currents 7030 can demonstrate how coordinated local action across the District contributes to a global effort to protect one of the world's most important resources: water.