

**RHAW - IYFR**

**School Twinning**

Sept 2019

## Background

The **Rotary Hands Across Waters** (RHAW) education program, engage youth in safeguarding Oceans & Water by twinning in a STEM education program involving Science, Technology, Environmental and Math.

The program developed and run by Hi-Teach, is hosted by the **Haifa Rotary Club** and supported by District 2490 Water & Sanitation committee is joined by tens of Rotary clubs and four districts around the world as well as many Industries, Government, NGO's & Academia organizations.

The program, led among others by IYFR Regional Commodore PP Gidi Yanai president (2017-18) of the Haifa RC and PDG Fuchs chair of the W&S committee, was recognized as **Noteworthy by the rotary Fund**. It evolved over a period of 10 years across promoting collaboration of the diverse sectors of society in Israel and was recently recognized by President Rotary International (PRI) Barry Rassin as a sustainable program "That should be expanded to the world".

The program will now offer **Global School Twinning** to promote youth and community involvement in protecting the water and oceans from waste contamination. The program will expose the students to the challenge and the potential solutions some of which are developed in Israel and inspire education and corrective action.

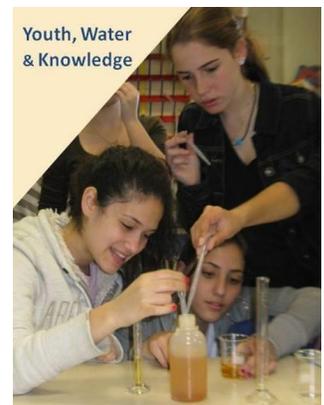
## Program Goals

1. Educate youth on Ocean and **Water & Sanitation science**.
2. Review **current & future solutions** from consumer behavior to recycling & reuse
3. Facilitate global **cross-cultural collaboration** on the common challenge.
4. **Empower science & Sustainability teachers** with practical modern STEM tools.
5. Develop **awareness, involvement, leadership and teamwork**.
6. Provide **corporate stewardship** and **community involvement** opportunities.
7. Leverage Rotary global presence and WASRAG, IYRF, RYE and ICC to collaborate.

## Program Outline

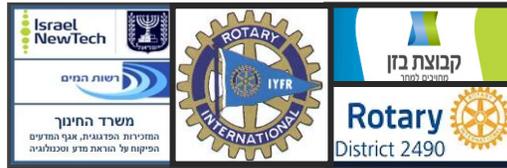
The program is taught by local school faculty, with e-learning content and Hi-Teach and Rotary guidance and support. It enables sciences studies (Physics, Biology, Chemistry, Environment) using the ocean plastic protection and water as examples. The multi-disciplinary program addresses typical middle and high school science and technology curricula including development, history and the associated potential hazards to the environment such as contamination.

The scheme promotes interest and engagement. **The program** builds on the established success with 100 schools and 15,000 students, from diverse communities in Israel working together for over 10 years addressing the water & sanitation challenges now expanded to address the protection of oceans and sea from plastic.



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## Content

The **Hi-Teach** website being developed for the program will provide English content for a 2019-20 twinning pilot, which will include:

1. Sustainable preservation of water: Sources, Supply, Consumption, Treatment and Reuse
2. Plastic: Polymers and plastic waste contamination challenge to ocean and water
3. Sustainability: Economical preservation of Nature, Resources, Energy and Environment
4. Environmental protection: Recycling technology, regulation, policy, law, & public opinion
5. Fast lane of change: Knowledge & Population growth, Globalization, Wealth, Media
6. Active role of young students in preservation of the environment and their future
7. Rotary agenda: WASHRAG, IYFR, ICC goals, involvement and support

Subjects and program outline will be tailored for each of the participating twinning schools, which will eventually share findings to promote awareness and call for action which is the program goal.

## Planned action

Education works best when connected to real life issues and active people through visits, research, interaction, research and project-based activity with both local and joint nature. The program will offer such local collaboration opportunities with water supply and treatment companies, waste, and especially plastic, recycling, environment and Ocean protection, academia, government and NGO's. Making these local connections is where the Rotary can be very effective. Hi-Teach will provide the educational research with teacher's training, guidance and twining opportunities.



Projects will be presented in relevant local and global year-end events where schools present and share their activities and be awarded accordingly. The RHAW supporting network of sixty (60) organizations will expanded and may double with the addition of Plastic and ocean protection industry, many of which already joined.

## Twinning of schools and Rotary Clubs

The international nature of the Rotary along with Club twinning, ROTARACT and Youth Exchange (RYE) and support of the ICC along with WASRAG and IYFR makes the water and ocean Twinning Program ideal for broad global and localized Rotary support.