

Rotary International 2013 Convention

MEDIA GUIDE

Lisbon, Portugal



**Atlântico Pavilion and The Feira Internacional de Lisboa
Presse (between Pavilion 3 and Pavilion 4)**

Rotary International Convention Highlights

Pavilhão Atlântico and Feira Internacional de Lisboa (FIL)
23–26 June 2013

Saturday, 22 June

- 11:00 a.m.–11:30 a.m. **House of Friendship Grand Opening**
FIL, Pavilion 1 & 2
A special ceremony will mark the grand opening of the House of Friendship. Hundreds of successful projects undertaken by Rotary members worldwide to address such issues as polio eradication, malaria, poverty, hunger, illiteracy, pollution and the global water shortage will be on display from 22 to 26 June.
- 11:00 a.m.–6:00 p.m. **House of Friendship exhibits**
FIL, Pavilion 1 & 2

Sunday, 23 June

- 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. **House of Friendship exhibits**
FIL, Pavilion 1 & 2
Hundreds of successful projects undertaken by Rotary members worldwide to address such issues as polio eradication, malaria, poverty, hunger, illiteracy, pollution and the global water shortage will be on display from 22 to 26 June.
- 10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. **Rotary International Convention Grand Opening Ceremony**
Pavilhão Atlântico
Dramatic ceremony features a flag presentation of the 200 countries and regions where Rotary clubs serve their communities, followed by a keynote address by Rotary International President Sakuji Tanaka. [Il Divo](#), an English multinational operatic pop vocal group, will perform with Strings of the Orquestra Metropolitana de Lisboa.
- Welcome Address (10:50 a.m.)**
Rotary International President [Sakuji Tanaka](#) (2012-2013) welcomes Rotary members and their guests to the 104th International Convention. President Tanaka, who has been a member of Rotary since 1975, is committed to world peace and understanding through humanitarian service. The theme during his one-year term as president was “Peace through Service,” during which he convened three Global Peace Forums in Berlin, Germany; Honolulu, USA; and Hiroshima, Japan.

Monday, 24 June

- 9:00 a.m.–6:00 p.m. **House of Friendship exhibits**
FIL, Pavilion 1 & 2
Hundreds of successful projects undertaken by Rotary members worldwide to address such issues as polio eradication, malaria, poverty, hunger, illiteracy, pollution and the global water shortage will be on display from 22 to 26 June.
- 10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. **Plenary Session**
Pavilhão Atlântico
[Leymah Gbowee](#) (10:20 a.m.)
Ms. Gbowee is a Liberian peace activist responsible for leading a women's peace movement that brought an end to the Second Liberian Civil War in 2003. She is the founder and President of the [Gbowee Peace Foundation Africa](#) and the 2011 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate.
- [Emmanuel Jal](#) (10:55 a.m.)
Mr. Jal is a former Sudanese child soldier who has become a social justice advocate and international entertainer. He is also the founder of the [Gua Africa Foundation](#).

2:30 p.m.–3:30 p.m. **Rotarians Fight Against Hunger and Malnutrition**

Conference Center, Meeting Room S2

Hunger affects the ability to learn, reason, work, and break the cycle of poverty. The [Rotarian Action Group for the Alleviation of Hunger](#) and its partners discuss strategies to create effective and sustainable feeding programs and nutritional education. Panelists include representatives from [Stop Hunger Now](#), [Project Peanut Butter](#), [Rotary First Harvest](#), [Global FoodBanking Network](#), and the [Food Plant Solutions Rotarian Action Group](#).

4:00 p.m.–5:30 p.m. **PolioPlus Advocacy Workshop**

Pavilion 3, Room 3001

Rotary leaders will discuss strategies to help engage others, create awareness and build partnerships to continue to raise funds for Rotary's top philanthropic goal to eradicate polio worldwide. An intensive workshop will include a discussion with panelists Fahad Qadir and Rizwan Ullah Khan of Coca Cola Pakistan and Afghanistan, who will discuss their collaboration with Rotary's National PolioPlus Committee to support polio eradication efforts in both countries.

Other guest speakers will include Ramesh Ferris, a Canadian polio survivor, and Sir Emeka Ofor, a prominent Nigerian business leader and philanthropist who has donated more than EUR 763,114 (US \$1 million) to Rotary's global humanitarian programs, including polio eradication. The panel will be moderated by Dr. Robert S. Scott, chair of Rotary's International PolioPlus Committee.

Tuesday, 25 June

9:00 a.m.–6:00 p.m. **House of Friendship exhibits**

FIL, Pavilion 1 & 2

Hundreds of successful projects undertaken by Rotary members worldwide to address such issues as polio eradication, malaria, poverty, hunger, illiteracy, pollution and the global water shortage will be on display from 22 to 26 June.

10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. **Plenary Session**

Pavilhão Atlântico

Dr. Harminder Singh Dua (10:30 a.m.)

2012-13 Global Alumni Service to Humanity Award Recipient

Dr. Dua is Chair and Professor of Ophthalmology, University of Nottingham, Queen's Medical Centre, Nottingham, England. While living in India, Dr. Dua conducted numerous free diagnostic eye clinics through Rotary and other nongovernmental organizations, performing thousands of free operations on poor patients who had cataracts and glaucoma.

Dr. Bruce Aylward (TBD)

Assistant Director-General for Polio, Emergencies and Country Collaboration for the World Health Organization

Dr. Aylward will give an update on the status of polio eradication – Rotary's top philanthropic goal. Rotary launched its polio eradication program in 1985, and in 1988 helped launch the [Global Polio Eradication Initiative](#). Since then, the incidence of polio has plummeted by more than 99 percent, from more than 350,000 cases a year to 223 reported cases in 2012.

Archie Panjabi (TBD)

Archie Panjabi is best known to millions of TV viewers as the sultry, enigmatic investigator Kalinda Sharma on the hit series, "The Good Wife." The Emmy-award winning actress is also one of Rotary's "This Close" celebrity polio ambassadors and recently joined Rotary volunteers to immunize children against polio in India.

4:00 p.m.–5:30 p.m. **Rotary Family Health Day: A Disease Prevention Partnership Program**

Conference Center, Room S1

By partnering with government agencies, corporations, and non-governmental organizations, [Rotarians for Family Health & Aids Prevention](#) (RFHA) once a year offer comprehensive, holistic free healthcare for parents, children, grandparents and friends in Nigeria, South Africa and Uganda. Approximately 365 Rotary Clubs from those

countries managed the clinics and assisted the medical staff to deliver the services during the last three-day event in May 2013. Representatives from South Africa, Uganda and Nigeria will share information and their experiences. The panel will be moderated by Marion Bunch, who founded RFHA after losing her son to AIDs. Dr. Nancy Knight, Country Director, US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention - South Africa, will be the guest speaker.

Wednesday, 26 June

9:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m. **House of Friendship exhibits**

FIL, Pavilion 1 & 2

Hundreds of successful projects undertaken by Rotary members worldwide to address such issues as polio eradication, malaria, poverty, hunger, illiteracy, pollution and the global water shortage will be on display from 22 to 26 June.

10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. **Plenary Session**

Pavilhão Atlântico

Céline Cousteau (10:50 a.m.)

Ms. Cousteau is the founder and executive director of [CauseCentric Productions](#). A member of the Council on Oceans for the World Economic Forum, she has also been an ambassador to the [Clean Up the World](#) campaign since 2009.

Jane Goodall (11:10 a.m.)

Dr. Goodall is the founder of [The Jane Goodall Institute](#), which is widely recognized for innovative, community-centered conservation and development programs in Africa, and [Roots & Shoots](#), a global environmental and humanitarian youth program. She is also a UN Messenger of Peace.

Craig Kielburger (11:30 a.m.)

Mr. Kielburger is the co-founder of [Free the Children](#) and co-founder of [Me to We](#). He is a social entrepreneur, New York Times best-selling author, and syndicated columnist.

4:30 p.m.–6:30 p.m. **Closing Plenary Session**

Closing ceremony includes “A Concert for Peace” featuring one of the world’s most promising young tenors, [Fernando Varela](#); New Zealand soprano and UNICEF ambassador [Hayley Westenra](#); Croatian cello duo [2Cellos](#); St. Dominic’s Gospel Choir; and Orquestra Metropolitana de Lisboa.

Keynote Speaker Profiles

Dr. JANE GOODALL

Founder, the Jane Goodall Institute; UN Messenger of Peace



[Dr. Jane Goodall](#) is the founder of the Jane Goodall Institute, which is widely recognized for innovative, community-centered conservation and development programs in Africa, and Roots & Shoots, a global environmental and humanitarian youth program.

In July 1960, Jane Goodall began her landmark study of chimpanzee behavior in what is now Tanzania. Her work at Gombe Stream would become the foundation of future primatological research and redefine the relationship between humans and animals. In 1977, Dr. Goodall established the Jane Goodall Institute, which continues the Gombe research and is a global leader in the effort to protect chimpanzees and their habitats.

In 1991, Dr. Goodall founded Roots & Shoots with a group of Tanzanian students. Today, the organization connects hundreds of thousands of youth in more than 120 countries who take action to make the world a better place for people, animals and the environment.

Dr. Goodall's honors include the French Legion of Honor, the Medal of Tanzania, and Japan's prestigious Kyoto Prize. In 2002, Dr. Goodall was appointed to serve as a United Nations Messenger of Peace and in 2003, she was named a Dame of the British Empire. Dr. Goodall is also a Rotary "This Close" polio ambassador, helping raise awareness and support for the effort to eradicate the disabling disease.

ARCHIE PANJABI

Actress, global philanthropist

[Archie Panjabi](#) is best known to millions of TV viewers as the sultry, enigmatic investigator Kalinda Sharma on the hit series, "The Good Wife." The Emmy-award winning actress has appeared in several films, including "Bend It Like Beckham," "The Constant Gardener," "A Mighty Heart," and "A Good Year."

Panjabi is dedicated to philanthropic endeavors globally. She is the head of Amnesty International's Stop Violence Against Women campaign and one of Rotary International's celebrity polio ambassadors for the award-winning "This Close" campaign to help eradicate polio. Although born in London, Panjabi spent part of her childhood in Mumbai and has seen the effects of polio first hand. In March, Panjabi took to the streets of New Delhi, India, with a team of Rotary volunteers to immunize children with the oral polio vaccine and visit with young polio patients at a local hospital. She also served as emcee for The [Global Vaccine Summit](#) in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates in April, and in September 2012, Panjabi emceed the polio segment of the [Global Citizen Festival](#) concert in New York City's Central Park.



CRAIG KIELBURGER

Co-Founder, Free The Children; Co-Founder, Me to We



Craig Kielburger is a social entrepreneur, New York Times best-selling author, and syndicated columnist.

He co-founded Free The Children in 1995 when he was 12-years-old. Today, more than 1.7 million young people are involved in its programs. In North America, the organization provides comprehensive service-learning programs, including its We Day celebrations attended annually by more than 100,000 students from 3,000 participating schools. Internationally, the organization works in eight developing countries providing a holistic and

sustainable development model, including education, health care, food security, clean water, and alternative income programs. Its programs have empowered more than one million beneficiaries.

Alongside his brother Marc, Craig is also the co-founder of Me to We, an innovative social enterprise that seeks to support the work of Free The Children by providing socially conscious products and experiences. Craig is the author of ten books. He holds 13 honorary doctorates and degrees, and has received The Order of Canada, The Roosevelt Freedom Medal, and the World Children's Prize for the Rights of the Child. His work has been featured with multiple appearances on The Oprah Winfrey Show and 60 Minutes, as well as in National Geographic, TIME, and The Economist.

CELINE S. COUSTEAU

Founder and executive director, CauseCentric

Céline Cousteau is founder and executive director of the non-profit organization CauseCentric Productions. CauseCentric produces and distributes multi-media content with an emphasis on short films to amplify the voices and communicate the stories of solution-focused grassroots organizations and individuals working on environmental and socio-cultural issues.

With a masters in International and Intercultural Management and fluent in three languages Céline also creates independent documentaries including shorts such as "Sirenia - The Mystique of the Manatees" and "Scars of Freedom."

Daughter of ocean explorer and filmmaker Jean-Michel Cousteau and granddaughter of the legendary Jacques Yves Cousteau, Céline created "Ocean Inspiration" in 2011 in tribute to her grandfather's 100th anniversary as a platform to celebrate and recognize ocean advocacy in all forms, from science to art, dance to filmmaking.

A member of the Council on Oceans for the World Economic Forum, Céline has also been an ambassador to the Clean Up the World Campaign since 2009. As a board member of both Plant a Fish and Adventurers and Scientists for Conservation, Céline strongly upholds the notion that through collaboration we become more effective advocates for any number of causes.



EMMANUEL JAL

Former Sudanese child soldier, social justice advocate, entertainer



A former child soldier on the front lines of combat in war-torn Sudan, [Emmanuel Jal](#) has turned his life around and is now hailed as the “rising star of African hip hop.” “WARchild,” his third album and international solo debut, launched Jal into the spotlight for its profound, empowering messages of peace and reconciliation. As the central figure of the internationally acclaimed [WarChild](#) documentary, Jal has quickly become an international icon representing social justice and human rights.

In October 2012, Jal released his fourth album “See Me Mama” and embarked upon his [Lose to Win](#) challenge, in which he toured schools, colleges and universities worldwide to tell his story and raise funds for various charities. He also stars alongside Reese Witherspoon in the upcoming major motion picture *The Good Lie*, which follows the journey of the 'Lost Boys' from South Sudan to the US.

Jal has performed many times, including at The Concert to End Slavery and Nelson Mandela’s 90th Birthday Celebration. Jal’s first book, “War Child: A Child Soldier’s Story,” was released in 2009 to rave reviews. He is a spokesperson for Amnesty International and Oxfam and has done work for Save the Children, UNICEF, World Food Programme, and Christian Aid. Jal is also the founder of [Gua Africa](#), a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting and ensuring sustainable development of local communities in Sub Saharan Africa.

LEYMAH GBOWEE

Nobel Peace Prize Laureate, peace activist

[Leymah Gbowee](#) is a Liberian peace activist responsible for leading a women's peace movement that brought an end to the Second Liberian Civil War in 2003. This led to the election of Ellen Johnson Sirleaf as Liberia’s president, female elected head-of-state in Africa president. She, Sirleaf, and Tawakkul Karman, received the [2011 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate](#) "for their non-violent struggle for the safety of women and for women's rights to full participation in peace-building work."



BRUCE AYLWARD

Assistant Director-General - Polio, Emergencies and Country Collaboration, WHO



[Dr. Bruce Aylward](#) is the Assistant Director-General for Polio, Emergencies and Country Collaboration which brings together [WHO](#)'s work in polio eradication, humanitarian response and country cooperation. Dr. Aylward, a Canadian physician and epidemiologist, joined WHO in 1992. Since 1998, he has been responsible for the oversight and coordination of all polio eradication activities across WHO's Regional Offices and the [Global Polio Eradication Initiative](#) (GPEI) partnership, of which Rotary is a spearheading partner. Since the GPEI was launched in 1988, the incidence of polio has plummeted by more than 99 percent, from more than 350,000 cases a year to 223 reported cases in 2012 and the number of polio-endemic countries has been reduced to three.

Rotary Leaders

SAKUJI TANAKA

Rotary International President (1 July 2012–30 June 2013)



[Sakuji Tanaka](#), a member of Rotary since 1975, is committed to world peace and understanding through humanitarian service. During his one-year term as Rotary International President, Tanaka convened three [Rotary Global Peace Forums](#) in Berlin, Germany; Honolulu, USA; and Hiroshima, Japan to inspire members of Rotary and youth to find peace through humanitarian service and in their daily lives.

Tanaka also established the Endowed World Peace Fellowship for Rotary and traveled to Bangladesh to help build a school. He has received recognition for his humanitarian service from Rotary and other organizations. In March 2013, he was conferred an honorary doctorate by IIS University in Jaipur, India.

Former chair of the Daika Company and president of the National Household Papers Distribution Association of Japan, Tanaka is a member of the Rotary

Club of Yashio, Saitama, Japan, where he also served as the vice president of Yashio City Chamber of Commerce.

RON D. BURTON

Rotary International President-elect (1 July 2013–30 June 2014)



[Ron D. Burton](#), a member of Rotary since 1979, has helped guide Rotary's polio eradication efforts and the service organization's new grant structure to fund sustainable humanitarian projects.

Burton has received recognition for his humanitarian service from Rotary and community organizations including the Boy Scouts of America and United Way.

Former president of the University of Oklahoma Foundation Inc. and current member of the U.S. Supreme Court Bar, the Oklahoma Bar Association, the Cleveland County Bar Association, and the American Bar Association; Burton belongs to the Rotary Club of Norman, Oklahoma and will begin his one-year term as Rotary International President on 1 July 2013.

WILFRID J. WILKINSON

Trustee Chair, The Rotary Foundation (2012–2013)



[Wilfrid J. Wilkinson](#), a member of Rotary since 1962, continues to shape Rotary's top humanitarian goal of eradicating polio worldwide. He has immunized children against polio in Kenya, Tanzania, India, and Pakistan; volunteered to help families in South Africa and Namibia; and advocated on behalf of communities in need to the governments of the United Kingdom, Australia, New Zealand, the United States and Canada.

Wilkinson has received recognition for his humanitarian service from Rotary and other organizations including the Knights of Columbus, the Province of Ontario, and the government of Canada, and received the Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice medal from Pope John Paul II in 2001. In 2007, the Governor General of Canada appointed him to the Order of Canada – Canada's highest

civilian honor.

A retired chartered accountant and founding partner of Wilkinson & Company, a public accounting firm, Wilkinson is a member of the Rotary Club of Trenton, Ontario.

Rotary brings the world to Lisbon

With thousands of members from around the globe, humanitarian organization's convention will inject EUR 80 million into the local economy

LISBON (3 June 2013) – The “oldest city in Western Europe” will host Rotary’s annual international convention featuring the theme, “Lisbon - A Harbor for Peace,” on 23-26 June, attracting more than 20,000 member registrants from more than 150 countries and geographical areas.

Often described as a “mini-United Nations” because of its global scope and cultural diversity, the always-colorful Rotary International convention is expected to inject about EUR 80 million into the local economy. The area around Pavilhão Atlântico and Feira Internacional de Lisboa will be transformed into a kaleidoscope of energy, color, and excitement as Rotary members participate in a broad agenda of plenary sessions, workshops, and other activities.

Each year, Rotary strives to make the convention relevant to its host city. The theme, “Lisbon – A Harbor for peace,” focuses on the significance and history of the Lisbon harbor. "In Rotary's 108 years of humanitarian service, Portugal will host a Rotary Convention for the first time. This will be the biggest convention ever held in Portugal where Rotary members from all over the world will join to embrace the Portuguese universal spirit of understanding and goodwill," said Luis Miguel Duarte, chair of Rotary’s Host Organizing Committee. The annual convention will feature success stories, idea exchanges and strategies to promote peace through volunteer service.

Participating in international humanitarian projects also allows Rotary members to connect with people from around the world and promote cross-cultural understanding. During his one-year term which ends 29 June, Rotary International President Sakuji Tanka held a series of international gatherings to advance peace and understanding in Berlin, Honolulu, and Hiroshima, cities heavily impacted by the events of World War II. The peace summits focused on youth and the healing power of sustainable peace between nations.

“As a member of the first generation to grow up in Japan after World War II, I understand the importance of peace and its connection to our well-being,” Tanaka said. “Peace is not something that can only be achieved through agreements, by governments, or through heroic struggles. It is something that we can find and that we can achieve, every day and in many simple ways.”

Rotary clubs have long embraced the call for peace at the grassroots level by addressing the underlying causes of conflict and violence, such as hunger, poverty, disease, and illiteracy. Today, Rotary builds peace and international understanding through education, humanitarian service, and by connecting with youth. Since 2002, Rotary clubs, each year sponsor up to 60 scholars who embark on one to two years of study to earn master’s-level degrees in peace and conflict resolution at [Rotary Peace Centers for International Studies](#) at leading universities in England, Japan, Australia, Sweden, and the United States. Established in 2004, the Rotary Peace Center at Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok, Thailand offers a three-month professional development certificate in peace and conflict studies each year for up to 50 mid-level professionals from related fields, such as public health, education, international law, economic development, journalism, and social justice.

Rotary has two robust adjunct organizations that cater to youth while promoting volunteer service, leadership and professional development. Interact is a service organization sponsored by Rotary clubs for youth ages 12-18. There are more than 14,963 clubs in 133 countries – with 32 clubs in Portugal. Rotaract is organized by Rotary clubs to promote leadership, professional development, and service among young adults ages 18-30. There are more than 9,539 clubs, of which 58 are in Portugal. Rotary’s Youth Exchange program fosters international goodwill by enabling 8,500 high school students to live and study abroad each year in 115 countries.

Rotary’s top philanthropic goal is the global eradication of polio, a crippling and potentially fatal disease that still threatens children in Nigeria, Afghanistan and Pakistan. Europe was declared polio free in June 2002, but remains at risk as long as the disease has not been eradicated worldwide.

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Rotary launched its polio eradication program in 1985, and in 1988 helped launch the [Global Polio Eradication Initiative](#) (GPEI). Since then, Rotary has contributed more than EUR 913,861,000 (US\$1.2 billion) and countless volunteer hours. Portugal's 157 Rotary clubs have contributed EUR 590,400 (US\$773,670) to polio eradication, and the Portuguese government has contributed EUR 763,114 (US\$ 1 million).

Rotary's convention in Lisbon will feature keynote speeches by several individuals whose humanitarian work is closely aligned with that of Rotary's mission, including peace-building and polio eradication:

- [Dr. Jane Goodall](#) is founder of the Jane Goodall Institute and a UN Messenger of Peace. She is also one of Rotary's "This Close" polio ambassadors, helping raise awareness and support for the effort to eradicate the disabling disease.
- [Craig Kielburger](#) is co-founder of Free The Children as well as co-founder of Me to We. He is a social entrepreneur, New York Times best-selling author, and syndicated columnist.
- [Céline S. Cousteau](#) is founder and executive director of the non-profit organization CauseCentric Productions. She is the daughter of ocean explorer and filmmaker Jean-Michel Cousteau and granddaughter of the legendary Jacques Yves Cousteau.
- [Emmanuel Jal](#) is a former Sudanese child soldier, social justice advocate, and entertainer. As the central figure of the internationally acclaimed [WarChild](#) documentary, Jal has quickly become an international icon representing social justice and human rights.
- [Leymah Gbowee](#) is a Liberian peace activist and Nobel Peace Prize Laureate responsible for leading a women's peace movement that brought an end to the Second Liberian Civil War in 2003.
- [Dr. Bruce Aylward](#) is the Assistant Director-General for Polio, Emergencies and Country Collaboration for the World Health Organization (WHO). Dr. Aylward, a Canadian physician and epidemiologist, joined WHO in 1992. Since 1998, he has been responsible for the oversight and coordination of all polio eradication activities across WHO's Regional Offices and the GPEI partnership, of which Rotary is a spearheading partner.

[Rotary](#) is a worldwide organization of business and professional leaders who provide humanitarian service and help to build goodwill and peace in the world. Rotary's global membership is approximately 1.2 million men and women who belong to more than 34,000 Rotary clubs in more than 200 countries and geographical areas. For images and broadcast quality video visit Rotary's [Media Center](#).

Portuguese Celebrities Join Rotary International in the Fight to End Polio

Jorge Gabriel and Prof. Fernando de Pádua join list of international public figures explaining the world is 'This Close' to ending polio

LISBON (3 June 2013) – Television host Jorge Gabriel and National Health Award winner Professor Fernando de Pádua have joined the growing roster of public figures and celebrities participating in Rotary's "This Close" public awareness campaign for polio eradication.

The Praça da Alegria host and the renowned cardiologist will help Rotary raise awareness about the global effort to eradicate this crippling disease by participating in advertisements carrying the tagline, "we're this close to ending polio." Both will be featured in outdoor advertisements in Lisbon the week of 20 June - just ahead of Rotary's annual international convention on 23-26 June 2013.

Other public figures and celebrities in the campaign include Bill Gates, co-chair of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation; Nobel Peace Prize laureate Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu; action movie star Jackie Chan; golf legend Jack Nicklaus; conservationist Jane Goodall; premier violinist Itzhak Perlman; South Korean pop star Psy; peace advocate Queen Noor of Jordan; and Grammy Award winners A.R. Rahman, Angelique Kidjo, and Ziggy Marley.

"A few million of us are able to enjoy having a house, an education, professional training, dignity and access to health services – little things we don't even think about anymore," said Gabriel. "These are acquired rights. There are other millions, greater in number, that dream about one day being able to say the same. Any gesture, as insignificant as it may seem, represents the beginning of a loving revolution that gains ground every day. The end of polio is proof that when humanity comes together, our strength can overcome our weaknesses."

In addition to becoming part of the "This Close" campaign, Gabriel and Prof. Pádua have joined more than 2,700 Portuguese polio eradication supporters in Rotary's innovative promotional campaign to create the [World's Biggest Commercial](#) to raise public awareness about polio eradication. Participants simply upload photos of themselves making the signature "this close" gesture to the ever-expanding commercial at Rotary's [End Polio Now website](#).

Rotary began its polio eradication program in 1985, and in 1988 helped launch the [Global Polio Eradication Initiative](#). Since then, Rotary has contributed more than EUR 915,737 (US\$1.2 billion) and countless volunteer hours. Portugal's 157 Rotary clubs have contributed EUR 590,400 (US \$773,670), and the Portuguese government has contributed EUR 763,114 (US\$ 1 million).

Polio cases have plunged by more than 99 percent worldwide from 350,000 cases each year to just 223 reported cases in 2012. Only three countries remain polio-endemic: Afghanistan, Nigeria, and Pakistan. However, other nations remain at risk for infections "imported" from the endemic countries. Europe has been polio-free since 2002.

The theme for Rotary's annual international convention is, "Lisbon - A Harbor for Peace." The convention is expected to draw more than 20,000 registrants from over 150 countries.

"This will be the biggest convention ever held in Portugal, giving Rotary members from all over the world the opportunity to embrace the Portuguese universal spirit of understanding and goodwill," said Luis Miguel Duarte, chair of Rotary's Host Organizing Committee. The annual convention will feature success stories, idea exchanges and strategies to promote peace through volunteer service.

The Rotary convention will focus specifically on polio eradication on Monday, 24 June and Tuesday, 25 June:

- On 24 June, an intensive polio workshop will include speakers from Coca-Cola Pakistan, which partners with Rotary clubs in Pakistan on polio eradication efforts; and Rotarian and philanthropist Sir Emeka Ofor, Group Executive Vice-Chairman of The Chrome Group in Nigeria.

- On 25 June, Jeff Raikes, CEO of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, will discuss the Gates Foundation's partnership with Rotary in support of the polio eradication initiative.
- Also on 25 June, Dr. Bruce Aylward, Assistant Director-General for Polio, Emergencies and Country Collaboration at the World Health Organization, will give an update on the status of global polio eradication.

[Rotary](#) is a worldwide organization of business and professional leaders who provide humanitarian service and help to build goodwill and peace in the world. Rotary's global membership is approximately 1.2 million men and women who belong to more than 34,000 Rotary clubs in more than 200 countries and geographical areas. For images and broadcast quality video visit Rotary's [Media Center](#).

Rotary clubs in Portugal improve communities at home and abroad

From supporting seniors to eradicating a disabling disease, Portugal's Rotary clubs are addressing major humanitarian challenges facing the world today

LISBON (20 May 2013) – The nearly 20,000 Rotary members from around the world who will meet in Lisbon 23-26 June to share success stories and exchange ideas during the international humanitarian service organization's annual convention will enjoy the hospitality of a host country where Rotary has been a strong and positive presence for nearly 90 years.

Portugal's first Rotary club was founded in Lisbon in 1926. Today the country is home to 157 Rotary clubs totaling 3,282 members who support an array of local and international service initiatives, including the global eradication of the crippling disease polio, Rotary's top philanthropic goal.

- The Portuguese Rotary Foundation, founded in 1959 by the Rotary Club of Lisbon with support from clubs nationwide, has provided funds for scholarships and humanitarian service projects totaling EUR 6,022,485 (US\$7,767,500).
- Over the last three years, the Plastic Caps/Wheelchairs Project has provided 1,108 wheelchairs to the Portuguese community. This project is led by the Rotary Club of Sintra, which has donated more than 750 wheelchairs. For each ton of recyclable plastic bottle caps collected, participating Rotary clubs earn enough money for one wheelchair.
- Rotary clubs in Portugal also gather and recycle used eye glasses for the Glasses for Children project. Old glasses are repaired as needed then shipped to communities in Africa for distribution to children in need. This project, led by the Rotary Club of Amadora, is a partnership with Lions Club International and the Institut et Centre de Optométrie of the International College of Optometrie. Since the program's inception in 2010, Portuguese Rotary clubs have gathered more than 1,555 pairs of glasses.
- Since 2001, the Senior Universities of Rotary project of the Rotary Club of Chaves has provided much needed support to elderly citizens. Participating students receive lifelong training in skills to help elderly people deal with an array of physical and emotional challenges. Fields of study in this non-academic program include physical fitness, health, linguistics, photography, art and the performing arts. There are currently 29 Senior Universities with about 3,200 students the last academic year and 750 volunteers.

Rotary clubs in Portugal are also supporters of the organization's top philanthropic goal of eradicating polio. Europe was declared polio free in June 2002, but all unvaccinated children remain at risk as long as the disease exists anywhere in the world. Rotary began its polio eradication program in 1985, and in 1988 helped launch the Global Polio Eradication Initiative. Since then, Rotary has contributed more than EUR 913,861,000 (US\$1.2 billion) and countless volunteer hours. Portugal's Rotary clubs have contributed EUR 590,400 (US \$773,670) to polio eradication, and the Portuguese government has given EUR 763,114 (US\$ 1 million).

The theme for Rotary's 2013 annual international convention is, "Lisbon - A Harbor for Peace." More than 20,000 registrants from more than 150 countries and geographical areas are expected. Often described as a "mini-United Nations" because of its global scope and cultural diversity, the always-colorful Rotary International convention is expected to inject about EUR 80 million into the local economy. The area around Pavilhão Atlântico and Feira Internacional de Lisboa will be transformed into a kaleidoscope of energy, color and excitement as Rotary members participate in a broad agenda of plenary sessions, workshops and other activities.

[Rotary](#) is a worldwide organization of business and professional leaders who provide humanitarian service and help to build goodwill and peace in the world. Rotary's global membership is approximately 1.2 million men and women who belong to more than 34,000 Rotary clubs in more than 200 countries and geographical areas. For images and broadcast quality video visit Rotary's [Media Center](#).

2013 Project Exhibition Highlights

On display at Rotary's "House of Friendship" at the *Atlântico Pavilion and The Feira Internacional de Lisboa (Pavilion 1 and 2)* will be hundreds of successful humanitarian service projects undertaken by Rotary members worldwide to address such issues as polio eradication, malaria, poverty, hunger, illiteracy, pollution and the global water shortage. Exhibit highlights include:

PolioPlus — Eradicating the crippling disease poliomyelitis

Do you know what an iron lung is? See one in person at the Rotary convention. Many people today have never heard of the artificial breathing machine that thousands of polio victims once relied on for their very lives. That's because Rotary and its partners — the [World Health Organization](#), the [U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#), the [Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation](#) and [UNICEF](#) — have almost succeeded in their nearly 30-year effort to eradicate this crippling childhood disease. We are on the verge of making history —

just 1 percent away from eradicating only the second human disease in history. But polio remains endemic to Nigeria, Afghanistan, and Pakistan and threatens to spread internationally if the disease is not stopped now. Learn about the [final push](#) to achieve a polio-free world and join the [World's Biggest Commercial](#) through an interactive photo kiosk.



Emmy award-winning actress and Rotary Polio Ambassador Archie Panjabi immunizes a child against polio during a trip to India in March 2013.

Rotary Peace Centers

In an effort to educate tomorrow's peacemakers and diplomats, up to 110 [Rotary Peace Center](#) fellows are sponsored each year to study in areas related to peace and conflict resolution at one of seven partner universities around the world. Since 2002, nearly 650 fellows from over 97 countries have participated in the program. Alumni are currently working in grassroots and local nongovernmental organizations, national governments, the military, law enforcement, and bilateral and international organizations such as the United Nations, World Bank, International Organization for Migration, and Organization of American States. Come meet some of the alumni in the Peace Centers booth.

Rotarians Against Malaria

Every 30 seconds a child dies from malaria, a disease spread through mosquito bites that kill up to three million children in Africa annually. According to the World Health Organization, insecticide-treated bed nets are the most cost effective way to prevent malaria. The Rotary Club of Cataraqui Kingston, Canada, [Buy-A-Net](#) has partnered with the Kololo Rotary Club in Kampala, Uganda, to provide 10,500 bed nets for an estimated 42,000 people in the District of Kawempe, Uganda. Along with helping to prevent malaria, the provision of bed nets serves as a catalyst for better health and community wellness practices.

Adopt a Village

Founded in 2006 by volunteers Frank and Kathie Mayhew of the Rotary club of Sebastopol, Calif., USA, the Adopt a Village project is now supported by over 50 clubs in the western United States and

Canada. An additional 25 clubs also contribute funds. A Rotary club adopts a village in a developing country, initially providing necessities such as clean water, mosquito nets, agricultural assistance and educational support. As the village improves, more advanced economic development and quality-of-life projects follow. Adopt a Village projects are currently underway in Uganda, Kenya, and Tanzania.

[Project Peanut Butter](#)

Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) kills more than 3.5 million children worldwide each year—more than HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria combined. Founded in 2004 by Dr. Mark Manary, [Project Peanut Butter](#) works with local farmers in Africa to produce a high-calorie, fortified peanut butter-like paste, called Chiponde. Project Peanut Butter annually manufactures between 1,000 and 1,250 tons of Chiponde in its own facilities in Malawi, Sierra Leone, Mali and most recently, the Philippines. In the last seven years many Rotary members have contributed to the project, helping to alleviate hunger in Haiti, Somalia, and the other countries in the Horn of Africa.

[Thetis Hygiene Training Project](#)

Through the [Thetis](#) Hygiene Training Project, Turkish Rotarians have provided 2,500 students in four schools in Adana, Turkey, with new toilets and clean water facilities through a water and sanitation project supported by a Rotary Foundation global grant. [This project](#), sponsored by the Rotary clubs of Adana-Cukurova, Turkey, and Frutal, Minas Gerais, Brazil, demonstrates how Rotary's new grant model can enable Rotarians to reach more people in need and make a larger and more lasting impact by involving the community, having a measurable outcome, and building in sustainability.

[Nakateete Sustainable Water and Food Project](#)

[Nakateete Sustainable Water and Food Project](#) is a combined venture with the Rotary Club of Palm Beach WA, Australia and the Rotary Club of Kabale, Uganda. This project, which began with the installation of a deep bore at the House of Hope Orphanage and school in Nakateete in 2010, helps villagers repair corroded and non-functioning bores. The recent installation of a solar pump has allowed villagers to pump and pipe water to several different points on the orphanage and school site enabling the kitchen to have water, the gardens to have irrigation and the girls and boys wash blocks to have running water and showers. The project also assists the

House of Hope orphanage, Globalize Action Junior School and the surrounding community to use their new water supply to provide a

sustainable food supply. The students are learning to cultivate the land and grow food to help feed the 270 students from the nearby villages, the 50 orphans, 11 teachers and 7 other staff members.

This not only will supplement the food for these children, it also enhances their skills training and demonstrates some aspects of their science curriculum.



This drilling of a bore is part of the Nakateete Sustainable Water and Food Project in Uganda that helps provide clean water to the community.

[Incubators for Africa Initiative](#)

Premature birth is a health problem that stretches across the globe however developing countries, especially those in Africa and southern Asia, incur the highest rate. In 2005 the World Health Organization (WHO) estimated 12.9 million births worldwide were preterm and approximately 11 million (85 percent) of these preterm births were concentrated in Africa and Asia. Premature births are on the rise and in Africa, the problem is compounded by the lack of facilities or equipment to give pre-term babies a fighting chance. The Incubators for Africa Initiative aims to reduce neonatal

mortality in Africa by promoting the supply of baby incubators to health institutions. The goal is to assist Rotary clubs and districts secure international partners and funding in order to procure baby incubators for health institutions in Africa. In addition to saving infant lives, this will also build upon the country's ability to care for premature babies in the future.

Rotary Jaipur Limb Project

The [Rotary Jaipur Limb Project](#) (RJLP) was started in 1984 by United Kingdom Rotary clubs to give financial support to the Mahaveer Society for the Physically Handicapped, which provides artificial limbs, calipers and other aids to the poor in India. Over the years the project has grown immensely – there are now Limb Camps across India, for which as many as 3,000 patients turning up for help. In Africa and other countries outside India, RJLP has established permanent Limb Centers that provide on-going support by way of technician training, materials and equipment. Technicians, many of whom are amputees with Jaipur limbs, are Rotary volunteers. Jaipur limbs are a more durable, longer wearing prosthesis that is vastly less expensive to manufacture and fit than the typical prosthesis used in developed countries.

Integrated Solar Cooking and Water Pasteurization

The goal of the [Integrated Solar Cooking Project](#) is to improve quality of life and conserve natural resources. In 1994, the country of Kenya was experiencing deforestation at a rapid rate. The lives of the people were tied to the need for obtaining wood for cooking and water for drinking. To address the issue, Dr. Wilfred Pimentel, a member of the Rotary Club of Fresno, California (USA), started the first Solar Cooker Project with the Rotary Club of Nairobi East, Kenya. Solar cooker technology was taught to a group of Kenyans using their pots and food and this integrated solar cooker program that has since spread to 16 different sites on five continents. Other countries with active projects include Turkey, Mexico, Africa, and Bolivia.

The Kenya Project: Supporting ICT in Kenyan schools

The [Kenya Project](#) was created in 2006 by the Forssa Rotary Club (Finland) to support Kenyan schools in using of ICT (information and communications technology) in their teaching and to teach community development skills. Children in rural areas of developing countries have limited opportunities when it comes to receiving an equal education as children in the developed world. The Forssa Rotary Club introduced computers and connected participating Kenyan schools to the internet and the Finnish education system. The computers and internet connectivity have proved to be a very powerful tool in the schools with limited resources, as students are able to access interactive educational CDs and books that they would not otherwise have. The Kenya Project has improved student performance in schools and has also led to the development of local communities.

Happy Village

[Happy Village](#) is a project dedicated to improving the villages of India. Many villages in India lack basic needs of health, water, sanitation and basic literacy. Approximately 114 Rotary clubs in India focus on conducting community development projects for needy villages. Service projects include training the village's women in a vocation that will give them a living and perhaps an additional source of income; setting up health camps that address needs; clean drinking water projects; adult literacy classes; and providing toilets and smokeless stoves to the villagers.

Rotary

Rotary is a global service organization tackling the world's major humanitarian challenges, including poor sanitation, disease, and lack of access to clean water. Rotary's 1.2 million members are business and professional leaders who volunteer their expertise and time to improve communities at home and in nearly every country in the world. Rotary's 34,000 clubs offer resources and local knowledge to develop and implement effective, sustainable projects that address critical issues such as hunger, poverty, illness, and illiteracy.

Polio Eradication

Rotary's top priority is to eradicate polio worldwide. Since launching its [PolioPlus](#) program in 1985 and helping to establish the [Global Polio Eradication Initiative](#) in 1988 with its partners, Rotary has made tremendous progress toward this goal. The incidence of polio has plummeted more than 99 percent, from more than 350,000 cases in 1988 to fewer than 700 in 2011. To date, Rotary has contributed more than US\$1.2 billion and countless volunteer hours to protect more than 2 billion children in 122 countries. In 2012, Rotary reached its milestone of raising more than \$200 million for polio eradication in response to a \$355 million challenge grant from the [Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation](#). In addition, Rotary has played a major role in decisions by donor governments to contribute over \$9 billion to the effort.

Areas of Focus

Building on its successful collaborations for polio eradication, Rotary is forging partnerships with other established organizations to achieve common humanitarian goals in the following six areas:

- **Peace and conflict prevention/resolution.** Rotary strives to promote peace through education. Each year, Rotary sponsors the studies of up to 110 scholars pursuing master's degrees or professional development certificates in peace and conflict resolution at the six [Rotary Peace Centers](#) at leading universities in England, Japan, Australia, Sweden, Thailand, and the United States. Since the program's inception in 2002, nearly 650 Rotary Peace Center alumni from 97 countries have found key decision-making positions in governments and organizations around the world.
- **Disease prevention and treatment.** Rotary reduces the causes and effects of disease by combatting the spread of HIV/AIDS, malaria, and other major diseases. Rotary partners with [Mercy Ships](#) to improve the delivery of vital health care services in West Africa. Through the partnership, Rotary clubs and districts assemble vocational training teams of medical professionals to work with Mercy Ships medical staff to perform or assist in life-changing surgeries. The Rotary volunteers also share their expertise through training programs aimed at enhancing the skills of local health care professionals.
- **Water and sanitation.** A centerpiece of Rotary's emphasis on water and sanitation issues is the [International H2O Collaboration](#), an alliance between Rotary International and U.S. Agency for International Development. Launched in 2009, it undertakes long-term, sustainable water, sanitation, and hygiene projects in the developing world. In 2011, Rotary established a partnership with [UNESCO-IHE](#), a United Nations institute in the Netherlands that is the world's largest postgraduate water education facility. Each year, Rotary clubs grant eight scholarships for studies leading to master's degrees in specified program areas.
- **Maternal and child health.** Rotary is committed to the well-being of mothers and children worldwide. Rotary works with [Aga Khan University](#) to improve maternal and child health in East Africa by enhancing the training of nurses and midwives. Rotary also supports studies related to maternal and child health.

- **Basic education and literacy.** Rotary is the world's largest privately funded source of international [scholarships](#), with thousands of young men and women studying abroad each year. Since 1947, more than 40,000 scholars from over 130 countries have received scholarships totaling more than \$541 million. Rotary clubs also coordinate a student exchange program that sends approximately 8,500 high-school-age students abroad each year.
- **Economic and community development.** Rotary invests in people to generate sustainable economic growth. Rotary supports grassroots entrepreneurs in disadvantaged communities and helps prepare women and young people for meaningful work. Rotary has forged a partnership with [Oikocredit International](#) to support successful entrepreneurs in developing countries through microcredit loans.

Rotary's Commitment to Youth

Young people today are enthused about volunteerism. Rotary has two robust adjunct organizations that cater to youth while promoting volunteer service, leadership, and professional development. [Interact](#) is a service organization sponsored by Rotary clubs for youth ages 12-18. It has more than 12,300 clubs in 133 countries. [Rotaract](#) is organized by Rotary clubs to promote leadership, professional development, and service among young adults ages 18-30. There are more than 8,000 Rotaract clubs in 167 countries.

For additional information and visual resources, visit Rotary's [Media Center](#).

Rotary and Polio

Polio

Poliomyelitis (polio) is a crippling and potentially fatal disease that still threatens children in some parts of the world. The poliovirus invades the nervous system and can cause total paralysis in a matter of hours. It can strike at any age but mainly affects children under five.

Polio Today

Today, endemic wild poliovirus has been eliminated from all but three countries (Afghanistan, Nigeria, and Pakistan), and fewer than 250 cases were reported worldwide in 2012. Although no polio cases have been reported in India since January 2011, the country must go three years with no cases in order to be considered polio-free.

Though great progress has been made, challenges remain. Overall, the quality of immunization campaigns must be improved, and more funding is critically needed. Governments, donors, and international agencies have endorsed a plan with clear milestones to tackle these and other challenges to a polio-free world.

PolioPlus

In 1985, [Rotary International](#) created [PolioPlus](#), a program to immunize all the world's children against polio. To date, Rotary has contributed US\$1 billion and countless volunteer hours to the protection of more than 2 billion children in 122 countries. In January 2012, Rotary exceeded its fundraising milestone of \$200 million toward a \$355 million challenge grant from the [Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation](#). These funds help to provide much-needed operational support, medical personnel, laboratory equipment, and educational materials for health workers and parents. In addition, Rotary's advocacy efforts have played a role in decisions by donor governments to contribute over \$9 billion to the effort.

Global Polio Eradication Initiative

With its community-based worldwide network, Rotary is the volunteer arm of a global partnership dedicated to eradicating polio. Since its launch in 1988, the [Global Polio Eradication Initiative](#) — spearheaded by the [World Health Organization](#), Rotary International, the [U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#), and [UNICEF](#), along with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and governments of the world — has reduced the incidence of polio by more than 99 percent. When the initiative was launched, more than 125 countries were polio-endemic, and more than 350,000 children were paralyzed by the disease each year.

In response to the crisis, in 2012 Rotary announced a funding commitment of \$75 million for polio eradication over the next three years.

Rotarians in Action

Besides raising funds, over 1 million men and women of Rotary have donated their time and personal resources to help protect nearly 2 billion children against polio. Rotarians work with partners including UNICEF to prepare and distribute mass communication tools to share the message with those isolated by conflict, geography, or poverty. Rotary members also recruit fellow volunteers, work alongside health workers to administer the vaccine, assist with transporting the vaccine, and provide other logistical support.

Celebrity Ambassadors

Rotary has a growing roster of public figures and celebrities participating in the “This Close” public awareness campaign for polio eradication, including Bill Gates, Archbishop Desmond Tutu, Jackie Chan, Jack Nicklaus, and most recently, Psy.

World’s Biggest Commercial

In October 2012, Rotary launched the “[World’s Biggest Commercial](#)”, which gives people around the world the chance to join Rotary’s celebrity ambassadors and express their support to [End Polio Now](#).

Lasting Legacy

The savings of polio eradication are estimated at \$40 billion to \$50 billion — funds that could be used to address other public health priorities. The savings in human suffering is immeasurable.

Rotary At-a-Glance

Rotary is a global service organization tackling the world's major humanitarian challenges. Rotary's 1.2 million members are business and professional leaders who volunteer their expertise and time to improve communities at home and in nearly every country in the world.

Top Priority: Polio Eradication

- Launched [PolioPlus](#) program in 1985 to eradicate polio worldwide.
- Spearheaded the [Global Polio Eradication Initiative](#), along with [World Health Organization](#), [UNICEF](#), and the [U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) in 1988.
- Contributed more than US\$1.2 billion and countless volunteer hours to immunize more than 2 billion children in 122 countries against polio.
- Rotary has a growing roster of public figures and celebrities participating in the "This Close" public awareness campaign for polio eradication, including Bill Gates, Archbishop Desmond Tutu, Jackie Chan, Jack Nicklaus, and most recently, Psy.
- In October 2012, Rotary launched the "[World's Biggest Commercial](#)", which gives people around the world the chance to join Rotary's celebrity ambassadors and express their support to [End Polio Now](#).

Areas of Focus

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

Partners

Rotary is forging strategic partnerships with established organizations that share Rotary's humanitarian goals.

- [Mercy Ships](#) to improve the delivery of vital health care services in West Africa
- [Aga Khan University](#) to improve maternal and child health in East Africa
- [RI/USAID International H2O Collaboration](#) to implement sustainable water and hygiene projects
- [UNESCO-IHE](#) to tackle the world's water and sanitation crisis
- [Oikocredit International](#) to support successful entrepreneurs in developing countries
- [ShelterBox](#) to aid survivors of natural disasters worldwide
- [Global Foodbanking Network](#) to alleviate global hunger
- [Dolly Parton's Imagination Library](#) to improve early childhood literacy

Peace

Rotary sponsors up to 110 scholars annually to work toward a master's degree or professional development certificate at one of six [Rotary Peace Centers](#):

- Chulalongkorn University (Bangkok, Thailand)
- Duke University and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (United States)
- International Christian University (Tokyo, Japan)
- University of Bradford (England)
- University of Queensland (Brisbane, Queensland, Australia)
- Uppsala Universitet (Uppsala, Sweden)

Rotary Entities

- [Interact](#) is a service organization organized and sponsored by Rotary clubs for youth ages 12-18. There are more than 12,300 Interact clubs in 133 countries.
- [Rotaract](#) is organized by Rotary clubs to promote leadership, professional development, and service among young adults ages 18-30. There are more than 8,000 Rotaract clubs in 167 countries.
- [Rotary Community Corps](#) (RCCs) are groups of non-Rotarians who work to improve their communities. There are more than 6,800 RCCs in 78 countries, all organized and sponsored by Rotary clubs.

Rotary's Global Presence Founded in Chicago in 1905, Rotary is recognized as the world's first volunteer service organization. By 1921, Rotary clubs had been formed on six continents. Today, more than two-thirds of Rotary's 1.2 million members live outside of the United States.	Regions Europe : 8,586 clubs; 320,044 members Latin America : 4,611 clubs; 99,448 members Africa : 959 clubs; 22,766 members Asia and West Pacific : 7,778 clubs; 259,798 members Middle East & North Africa : 521 clubs; 12,657 members North America : 8,801 clubs; 373,083 members India : 3,173 clubs; 120,456 members
Largest Rotary Countries United States : 7,797 clubs; 340,484 members India : 3,120 clubs; 120,456 members Japan : 2,285 clubs; 88,174 members Brazil : 2,354 clubs; 55,991 members	

Rotary's Humanitarian and Educational Spending

Since 1947	\$2.8 billion (all programs including polio)
Since 1985	\$1.2 billion for polio eradication
FY2011-12	\$204 million (all programs including polio)

[Charity Navigator](#) calculates Rotary's operational costs at 6 cents per \$1 raised — worthy of its four-star rating.

Officers

- Sakuji Tanaka, President, Rotary International (2012-13)
- Ron D. Burton, President-elect, Rotary International (2012-13)
- Wilfrid J. Wilkinson, Chair, Rotary Foundation Trustees (2012-13)
- John Hewko, General Secretary and Chief Executive Officer

For additional information and visual resources, visit Rotary's [Media Center](#).

At-a-Glance

The Rotary International Convention

- The 104th annual Rotary International Convention will be held in Lisbon 23-26 June. Rotary was founded in 1905 and held its first annual convention in 1910.
- This will be the first Rotary International Conventional held in Portugal, and the largest convention ever held in the country.
- More than 20,000 Rotary members from around the world are expected to attend, injecting an estimated EUR 80 million into the local economy.
- The Rotary International Convention is often described as a “mini-United Nations” because of its internationality. Rotary has about 34,000 Rotary clubs in over 200 countries and geographic regions.
- Many convention-goers wear traditional attire from their homelands and enjoy sharing their cultures with fellow Rotary members from around the world, as well as the people of the host city.
- The Rotary Club of Lisbon was chartered by a founding group of 23 members in January 1926. Today, Portugal has 157 Rotary clubs with 3,282 members.
- The 2014 convention will be in Sydney, Australia.

Rotary in Portugal

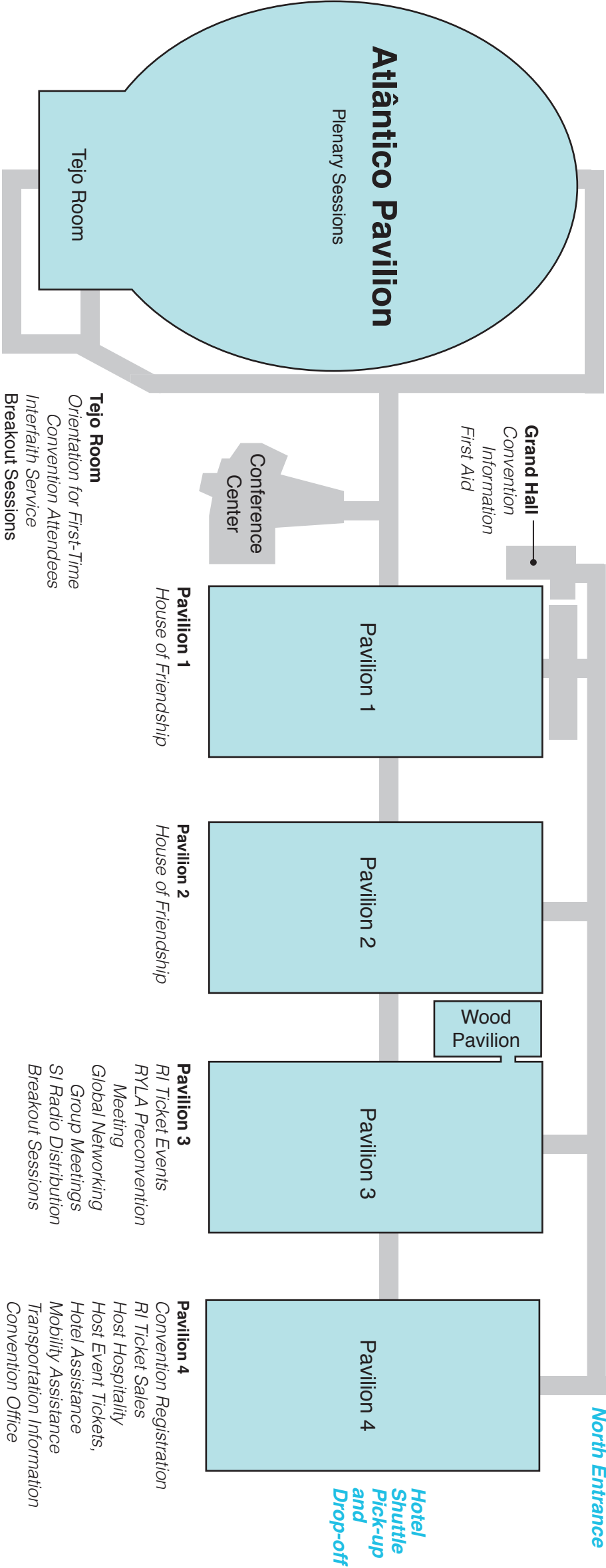
The [Rotary Club of Lisbon](#) was the first club in Portugal, chartered by a founding group of 23 members in January 1926.

Rotary's presence in Portugal quickly grew with several other clubs taking root throughout the country. Portugal currently has 157 Rotary clubs with 3,282 members. One of their premier projects is the [Portuguese Rotary Foundation](#), which was founded in 1959 by the Rotary Club of Lisbon with support from the country's Rotary clubs. Since its inception, the Foundation has provided those living in Portugal with scholarships, grants and other forms of aid in educational, scientific, cultural, humanitarian and social areas.

The Rotary Club of Lisbon also sponsors 32 Interact clubs and 58 Rotaract clubs – Rotary's two adjunct organizations for youth ages 12-18 and 18-30, respectively, that promote leadership, professional development, and service.

Rotary clubs in Portugal also support the organization's top philanthropic goal of eradicating polio. Europe was declared polio free in June 2002, but remains at risk to all unvaccinated children everywhere as long as the disease has not been eradicated worldwide. Rotary launched its polio eradication program in 1985, and in 1988 helped launch the [Global Polio Eradication Initiative](#). Since then, Rotary has contributed more than EUR 913,861,000 (US\$1.2 billion) and countless volunteer hours, with EUR 590,400 (US \$773,670) from Portugal's 157 Rotary clubs and EUR 763,114 (US\$ 1 million) from the Portuguese government.

Feira Internacional de Lisboa (FIL)



Lisboa
23-26 June
PORTUGAL 2013
104th
Rotary
INTERNATIONAL
CONVENTION