



Rotary Action Group for
Reproductive, Maternal
and Child Health



International Rotary Fellowship
of Healthcare Professionals

Technical Advisory and Networking Group within RMCH Rotary Action Group– A Proposal for strengthening Technical Advisory support through Collaboration with IRFHP

The Opportunities

IRFHP members' (Ob Gyn, Paediatrician, Public Health, Nurses ,Midwives) expertise and experience in MCH can be leveraged to promote opportunities for networking ,professional exchange of expertise and experience through its global membership, to meet the challenges presented in maternal and child health in LMIC , channelled through RMCH Rotary Action Group programmes specially in Sub Saharan Africa and South Asia, to meet SDG Goals 3,5,10,17

Purpose

RMCH Rotary Action Group and IFHRP are poised to enhance their membership experience by attracting professionals with experience and expertise in MCH healthcare and highlight its relevance to Rotarians ,through provision, planning and support of high quality projects and structured training programme of doctors, nurses and related health care providers .

The Technical Advisory Networking Group will assist building the capacity of health providers to ensure quality services, enhancing community health seeking behaviors, through collaboration , in LMIC – solidarity in action

The Need for a paradigm shift

RMCH IFRHP coalition needs to grow and

- a. **gather collective expertise and experience of relevant healthcare professionals**, through its global membership to meet the challenges presented in Sub Saharan Africa and South Asia
- b. **grow its membership through enhanced membership engagement** - volunteering and technical advisory work creating broader membership appeal (recruitment and retention)
- c. **enhance its appeal to the Rotary world in creating a “Rescue Mission”** through Rotary Foundation Grants, for lowering of preventable maternal and newborn deaths in South Asia and Sub Saharan Africa (time is running out) – supported by in country partnership and Rotarian collaboration between zones standing together in solidarity
- d. **grow partnership /collaboration with organisations** within (ICC,Cadre) and beyond Rotary – technical partnership – FIGO, IPA,RCOG,ICM,WHO(STAGE), PMNCH and resource partnership – GLOWM,MAF,Laerdal Global Foundation (please visit <https://www.calmedrotary.org>).
- e. **grow its in country status** through programme partnership , educational initiatives ,webinars .

The Proposal

1. RMCH co-hosts with IRFHP and support development of
 - a. **a global network of experts in Maternal and Child Health** (Health Professionals, Academics, Advocates and Supporters) known as Technical Advisory and Networking Group (T.A.N.G.) – these support b and c

- b. **a resource for training based programme for empowerment and innovation**– Tool Kit (Training Manuals, Films, Good practice guide ,Simulators ,Digital Apps,Tele Medicine Network etc) ,delivering expert advice to Clubs and Districts , hands on programme engagement (as in a VTT) and global educacional input through running webinars and workshops.
 - c. **a network for publicity (social media,newletter) and collaboration** (strategic and programmatic) with FIGO,MAF, GLOWM ,WHO ,RCOG, APA ,ICM and other interested organisations .
2. Membership - a joint 5 year membership of both RMCH and IRFHP to those who
- a. Apply on a prescribed form
 - b. Fulfil minimum criteria for technical expertise
 - c. Supported by a referee
 - d. Pay a fee (\$ 50)-existing members are invited at no cost
 - e. Contributes to the work of TANG (a working member) – 1 a,b and c
3. Leadership of the Group – existing and possibly new Directors liaising between the two Boards

RMCH /IRFHP Technical Advisory and Networking Group – Opportunities and Challenges for Members

The Group members will align, develop and act as resources for

- a. **Technical Advice** –the group will provide technical advice of an international standard to Rotarians planning MCH programmes including VTTs
- b. **Rotary volunteering through Vocational Training Team (VTT)** based programmes (Rotary Global Grant supported)
- c. **Professional and career developemnt** of members
- d. **Technical support** for TRF grant applications including Global Grants , Programme of Scale Grants
- e. **Sharing innovative ideas and educational programmes** (webinars, courses,workshops) for MCH area of focus based programmes specially in LMIC
- f. **Fostering networking and partnership with global groups** (JHPIEGO,WHO,FIGO ,RCOG)
- g. **Leveraging in-country partnership** with Governments,WHO and relevant NGOs

Way Forward

Joint meetings between leaderships of RMCH Rotary Action Groups and IRFHP to coalesce ideas and decide on details including structure , recruitment and appraisal of TANG members, joined up financial support , joint output through regular Webinars ,publicity , leadership support and country/zone membership ,leading to possible MOUs and seamless transition to joined up action.