



Rotarian Action Groups Annual Report Form

Each Rotarian Action Group Chair must fill out this report and submit it to RI World Headquarters no later than **1 October** each year. Groups that do not submit an annual report by this deadline may be subject to suspension and/or termination by the RI Board of Directors.

Rotarian Action Groups are encouraged to fill this form out electronically and e-mail it to the attention of David Plater at david.plater@rotary.org. Alternatively, reports may be faxed or mailed to RI using the contact information found at the end of the form. Please type to ensure accuracy.

I. General Information (required)

Official RAG Name:	Rotarians for Mine Action	
Web site address:	www.rfma.org	
Name of primary contact officer:	President: Sandy Boucher	
E-mail address of primary contact officer:	sandy@intelysis.com	
Cost of individual annual membership dues:	\$10	If there are no dues, please check this box <input type="checkbox"/>
Is the RAG incorporated?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Does the RAG carry liability insurance?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

II. Report on RAG Membership and Performance Standards (required)

Once recognized by the Board, new Rotarian Action Groups are given provisional status for a period of not more than two years, during which time they must undertake an international service project and achieve a membership of at least 100 individuals representing 10 countries and 3 zones. Groups that are able to meet and subsequently maintain these performance requirements to the satisfaction of the Board will be recognized as Rotarian Action Groups. The following information is required for both provisional and non-provisional Rotarian Action Groups.

For Rotarian Action Groups recognized prior to 1 July 2006, these accomplishments must be met and reported no later than 31 December 2008.

<p>Number of active members:</p> <p><i>NOTE: number must be greater than or equal to 100 in order to obtain/retain status as a full, non-provisional Rotarian Action Group</i></p>	<p>272 Rotarians have joined RFMA, 46 are not active</p>
<p>Number of countries represented in membership:</p> <p><i>NOTE: number must be greater than or equal to 10 in order to obtain/retain status as a full, non-provisional Rotarian Action Group</i></p>	<p>The membership includes Rotarians from 23 countries</p>
<p>Number of RI Zones represented in membership:</p> <p><i>NOTE: number must be greater than or equal to 3 in order to obtain/retain status as a full, non-provisional Rotarian Action Group</i></p>	<p>We have clubs from 18 zones</p>
<p>Has your group ratified the Standard Bylaws for Rotarian Action Groups?</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> By checking this box, I confirm that our group has ratified the Standard Bylaws for Rotarian Action Groups.</p> <p><i>* Please attach a copy of the signed bylaws with this report.</i></p>
<p>Has your group undertaken an international service project during the past Rotary year?</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> By checking this box, I confirm that our group has undertaken an international service project during the past Rotary year.</p> <p><i>* Please provide further details in the next section of the report.</i></p>

III. Annual Report of Rotarian Action Group Activities (required)

Please describe any major international service projects or other activities undertaken by your group during the past Rotary year.

RFMA has had another successful year culminated with a breakout session at the RI Convention in Los Angeles in June at which experts from the United Nations Mine Action Service, the Mines Advisory Group (a British Demining NGO) and the Mine Action Information Centre at James Madison University spoke. We also manned an information booth in the House of Friendship including volunteers from the UN, the State Department and the HALO Trust along with Rotarian members of the RAG. Much of the RAG's activities are undertaken through the District Chapters, of which there are now 11 registered, including our newest chapter in District 9780, Australia. A second Australian District (9690) is also awaiting approval from their District Governor for their chapter.

One of the most popular annual activities amongst the membership is a fundraising event known as Night of a Thousand Dinners. This can be held in November or March and is organised in partnership with Adopt a Minefield and the UN MAS. The event was once again a great success and funds were raised around the world. Canadian clubs and Districts have traditionally led the way on this event and this year was no exception. This year there were fundraising dinners held in 17 of 23 Districts in Zone 22, including 7820, 7790, 7090, 7080, 7070, 7040, 7010, 6380, 6330, 5580, 5550, 5360, 5060, 5040, 5020 and 5010. Clubs in District 7070 led by Toronto-EarlsCourt Rotary Club raised \$74,138 through Night of A Thousand Dinners to fund a clearance in Ethiopia and the purchase and training of a mine detection dog. The partners in the mine clearance project are the Canadian Landmine Foundation, the United Nations Development Programme and the Ethiopian Mine Action Office.

With a further \$54,152 raised from Districts across Canada, a total of \$128,290. was raised in Canada alone from this event. 100% of this money will be used to fund the landmine clearance project in Ethiopia and the purchase and training of three mine detection dogs (MDDs). One of the dogs will be deployed in Afghanistan and the other two will work in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH). Our partners in Afghanistan are the Canadian Landmine Foundation and the Mine Detection and Dog Centre. In BiH our partners are the Canadian Landmine Foundation and the Canadian International Demining Corps. The District 7070 Governor has created a series of awards for the event including Most Money Raised, Most Clubs Participating, and Most Improved District. For the 2007-08 year, for the first time, one District, 7080 won all three contests!

Many great projects have been undertaken in this Rotary year, full details can be found in our projects database which is maintained on our website at <http://maic.jmu.edu/rotarians/>. The database is populated based on reports that are received by email or submitted through our website. The database itself was created with funds donated by the US State Department Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement and was constructed and is maintained by staff at the James Madison University Mine Action information Centre. Amongst the exciting projects that have been mounted this year are demining and replanting efforts by clubs and districts in California in conjunction with Roots of Peace, continued demining and mine risk education in Cambodia by clubs in the Seattle area, demining in Afghanistan by the Claremont Sunrise Club in California and many others.

One of the biggest projects of the year has been the continued growth and success of the Basra Prosthetics Project. This project to provide prosthetics to mine victims in Basra, Iraq was started by the Montgomery Village Rotary club in District 7620 in 2003. The project has continued to grow and now boasts 14 partner clubs from District 7620, four Rotaract Clubs including one from Amman, Jordan as well as seven other clubs from other Districts. This year, the project was awarded a grant of US\$1.5 million by the US State Department, not only greatly advancing the goals of the project, but also bringing considerable recognition of the issue and of Rotary. The Basra Project was given full coverage in our newsletter, details of which are on the website at <http://www.rfma.org/newsletter.htm>

The Seattle Club and District 5030 have, since its creation, been stalwarts of RFMA. They have conducted multiple demining and mine risk education projects in Cambodia and have gone on to foster redevelopment through digging wells and rebuilding schools. Each year, the club organises a trip to the area to visit projects and help out. This year's trip will be in November.

RFMA has been focusing on growing our membership and getting the message out to a wider audience, as well as identifying and logging all Rotary activity in this area of endeavour. The focus of these activities has been the internet, and in addition to improving our website, we have also started a discussion forum at Yahoo Groups - RGMAOrg@yahoogroups.com We have also begun exploring other ways to use the internet to spread our message and have included a specially developed RFMA video presentation on You Tube. Other efforts to further these goals are underway.

IV. Annual Report of Rotarian Action Group Finances (required)

Please summarize your group's financial activity during the past Rotary year, indicating revenues, expenditures, and a statement of funds on hand as of the end of the Rotary year.

Additionally, Rotarian Action Groups with annual gross receipts or expenditures of more than US\$25,000 or equivalent are required to provide an annual financial statement and report that has been independently reviewed by a qualified accountant or by an action group audit committee. Refer to section 43.020.5 of the *Rotary Code of Policies* for further information, or contact an RI staff member if you have any questions.

RFMA has since its creation had minimal funding, and has therefore been entirely dependent on membership dues and donations for its operating expenses. For this reason, the groups activities have been almost entirely dependant upon volunteer help for all aspects of its work. The only administrative costs that are incurred are for the maintenance of the website which was created by a volunteer and some costs associated with the booth at each years RI Convention. All projects are undertaken through the auspices of the clubs and Districts to which our members belong and none of the funds that relate to these are routed through or held by the RAG.

The RAG maintains two accounts at the Bank of Montreal in Toronto as well as an online account with PayPal through which much of our membership dues are paid. Our financial statement for the past year is attached to this report.

V. Additional Information (optional)

Rotarian Action Groups are encouraged to share any success stories, promotional materials, and/or high resolution electronic photos with RI Staff. These materials may be considered for use in one of Rotary's publications or on www.rotary.org. Please attach any such materials separately.

VI. Annual Newsletter Reminder

Please remember that Rotarian Action Groups must circulate a newsletter amongst its membership, with a copy to RI, at least once per year. The newsletter may be circulated electronically.

Thank you in advance for your prompt attention to this request. Please return via e-mail, mail, or fax by 1 October using the contact information below.

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