TRF’s ‘Pillars of Sustainability’
The Rotary Foundation defines sustainability as the capacity for maintaining outcomes long-term to serve the ongoing needs of a community after grant funds have been expended. To meet this criteria, Global Grants should incorporate practices from each of the six ‘Pillars of Sustainability.’ If not provided with grant funds, sponsors should demonstrate how these sustainability practices are being met through existing community services.

- Community Needs
  Conduct thorough community needs assessment to ensure project consistent with needs, values, and culture of the beneficiaries. Multiple parties from community should be involved in planning process. Project should be initiated by local sponsors.

- Materials/Technology
  Purchase equipment and new technology from local sources, if possible. Ensure spare parts are readily available. Community members should be involved in selecting any technology or equipment and adequately trained to operate and provide maintenance and repair.

- Funding
  Confirm local funding source to provide long-term operation, maintenance, repair, and project longevity. Project participants should be appropriately compensated for their work to ensure continuity of services.

- Knowledge
  Strengthen capacity of beneficiaries to meet project objectives through training, education and community outreach. Confirm that training recipients have plan to transfer knowledge to new beneficiaries. Collaborate with local agencies/organizations to supply expertise, as needed.

- Motivation
  Insure ongoing support of beneficiaries and project participants. Identify personnel willing to assume leadership roles for sustaining project outcomes. Community should be prepared to assume ownership of project once global grant funds have been fully expended.

- Monitoring/evaluation
  Develop clear and measurable project objectives, and establish method for collecting project data. Evaluations should begin with baseline figures and will ideally demonstrate significant change for a period of longer than 3 years.

Global Grant Timeline

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