

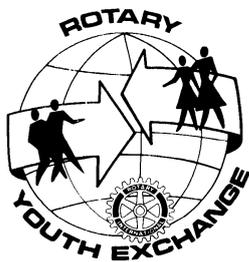
"New Generations Exchange"

A Guideline

(Approved by EEMA Conference 2004 Bruxelles)

Walter Wyser, Honorary Chairman
Multidistrict Youth Exchange Program Switzerland
D. 1980/1990/2000
Huebackerstr. 3, CH 8265 Mammern
Tel. ++41-52-741 6116, Fax ++41-52-741 6117
e-mail: mbs.wyser@bluewin.ch

Rotary International information leaflet



New Generations Exchange

A new
short-term
exchange
opportunity
for clubs and
districts...

Rotary International



CP230/Intercultural Programs
Rotary International
One Rotary Center
1560 Sherman Avenue
Evanston, IL 60201 USA

Fax: ++1-847-866-6116
Telephone: ++1-847-866-3422

■ The RI Board recently agreed to offer an additional exchange option under the auspices of the current Youth Exchange Program. People who are 18 to 25 years old are now eligible to participate in a special New Generations Exchange. The New Generations Exchange Program is a short-term exchange, from three to six weeks in duration. Exchanges may be for individuals or groups.

■ The purpose of this exchange, as with the current Youth Exchange Program, is to foster goodwill and understanding through better cultural education and exposure.

■ This is a club-to-club or district-to-district arrangement as approved by the incumbent District Governor. The District Governors of a proposed exchange must mutually agree to conduct the exchange. Arrangements for the exchange should be made through the District Youth Exchange Chairman. It is recommended that transportation costs for the participants be borne by the sending club or district, and that the host club or district shall provide meals, lodging and local transportation.

■ Districts wishing to participate in this type of exchange should administer it as part of the existing Youth Exchange structure. Please refer to Chapter 8 of the Youth Exchange Handbook for guidelines on developing a short-term exchange. The short-term exchange application form may need to be adapted to accommodate older participants.

Introduction:

End of 1996 the RI Board of Directors approved the New Generations Exchange Program as a new exchange type within Short Term in Youth Exchange. This program was proposed by RI director Rafael G. Hechanova (D. 3810, Philippines) and became part of RI President Luis Vicente Giay's Rotary program for New Generations.

There have always been exchanges of young people both individual and groups within Short Term, but the age limits were 15 – 19. The newly named program should close the age gap between classical Youth Exchange and the Rotary Group Study Exchange (GSE) for over 25 olds and under the control of the Foundation, open only to none-Rotarians. New Generations Exchange (NGE) therefore ranges from 18 – 25. As any other program in Youth Exchange it is open for children of Rotarians as well as none Rotarians.

New Generations Exchange can include individual family to family exchanges as well as group exchanges. For the individual program the difference to the current Short Term Exchange Program is primarily the age-limits and of course the content of the participants activities within the program. This guideline refers in two parts to the "New Generations Individual Exchange" and "New Generations Group Exchange".

On several occasions, it has been pointed out that we in Rotary Youth Exchange have to be aware of the dramatic changes in the society, the circumstances in which young people grow up and we have to ask ourselves what the demands and expectations of today's youth are.

"New Generations Exchange" is an answer to the new challenge and an alternative to the classical Youth Exchange activities without competing them. It is the chance for Rotary to serve the youth by supporting them in their personal development and cultural education. This in the true spirit of Rotary and the aims of our program of Youth Exchange to develop relationship between people of different culture, create a better understanding and contribute to peace in this world!

Part A: New Generations Individual Exchange

The Basics of the Program

- **New Generations Individual Exchange is positioned within the “Short Term Exchange Program”; it is a reciprocal program but on agreement it may be organised as a so-called “one way exchange”**
- **It is a District to District or Multidistrict to Multidistrict or Club to Club program and administered as part of the existing Youth Exchange structure**
- **Target Group: Students, young professionals**
- **Age limits: 18 – 25 years**
- **Participation by children of Rotarians and none-Rotarians**
- **Duration: according agreement of exchange partners, several weeks , max. 3 months**
- **Activities of participants: Language schooling, professional practice, vocational activities (without pay), social work etc.**
- **Accommodation/Hosting: Rotary approved host families**
- **Travel-Costs, Equipment and Insurance-fee (according RI code of policies): Carried by the participants**
- **Program-Costs: Covered by the receiving district or club (there is no financial support by the Foundation)**

Organization and administration, promotion, orientation and evaluation of the program according to Rotary International “Youth Exchange Handbook” (Pt. 8)

The STEP-application form may be used, whereas the Supplemental Information sheet may only be filled in as far as it refers to the age group e.g. diabetes/dietary restrictions, smoking/non-smoking, professional occupation etc. For participants at age no signature by the parents is required

Part B: New Generations Group Exchange

The Basics of the Program

- New Generations Group Exchange is positioned within the “Short Term Exchange Program”; it is a reciprocal program. Due to its similarity to Group Study Exchange some call it “Junior GSE”
- It is a District to District or Multidistrict to Multidistrict or Club to Club program and administered as part of the existing Youth Exchange structure.
- Target Group: Students, young professionals
- Age limit: 18 – 25 years
- Participation by children/relatives of Rotarians and none-Rotarians
- Groups range from 6 – 10 participants; the group may be mixed or of the same branch of study/profession
- Group leadership by a single Rotarian or a Rotarian couple
- Duration: 3 – 6 weeks
- Counter visit: Usually within the same Rotary year
- Possible contents of program/itinerary: History, culture, economy, specific professions, community concerns, tourist attractions, sport and other activities and fun! (Less vocational oriented than GSE) The Program responsibility can be shared by various Rotary Clubs within a district e.g. one week in each area of a district. Contacts/activities in common with young people of the host country are important part of the program
- Accommodation/Hosting: Rotary approved host families or Youth Hostels/low price hotels
- Travel-Costs, equipment (e.g. unique blazer) and insurance-fee (according to RI code of policies): Carried by the participants
- Program-Costs: Covered by the receiving district or club (there is no financial support by the Foundation)

Organization and administration, promotion, orientation and evaluation of the program according Rotary International “Youth Exchange Handbook” (Pt. 8).

The STEP-application form may be used, whereas the Supplemental Information sheet may only be filled in as far as it refers to the age group e.g. diabetes/dietary restrictions, smoking/non-smoking, professional occupation etc. For participants at age no signature by the parents is required

Checklist for the organizer

- Contact with other districts or clubs to evaluate interest
- Basic-decision by the Youth Exchange district committee and approval by the District Governor/District Governor elect
- Appointment of a responsible project-leader and a project-committee and perhaps regional co-ordinators
- Fixing exchange dates and duration
- Who is visiting first and who goes on counter-visit
- What financial sponsorship and program-support can be expected from Districts and Clubs (program-costs and transportation etc.)
- Editing of the invitation for the participants (attachment to monthly DG-letter, magazines, etc.) – members of the hosting-clubs have priority – and organising the selection
- Two to three briefing-meetings should prepare the participants thoroughly
- Hosting by Rotarian families or families of the participants
- Setting up a draft of the program and to be discussed with your NGE-partners
- Preparation of a documentation that can be handed over to receiving clubs, host-families etc. (DG's message, YEO's message, presentation of team-leader and participants)
- Preparation of the team to give cultural- and/or folklore-performances of their home country to the receiving clubs (Videos, slides commented by the participants, national anthem etc.)
- Dressing the team in a matching Blazer, T-shirts etc.
- Personal-cards have to be printed (at least 50 per member!)
- Inquiries about necessary measures for health-care (e.g. Malaria) and making a team-member responsible for emergency-medication. Information of the team about behaviour-rules
- Preparing presents/give aways and banners for host-families/clubs
- Early flight-booking to get the best possible rate
- Making sure that visa regulations are followed and expiring-dates of passports are kept in mind
- Risk-management kept in mind and making sure that all participants have insurance-coverage according to RI-recommendations/receiving district's request
- Preparation of an address-list for the families in the home-country and indicating an emergency-contact address/telephone

Possible problems and recommendations

- The team-mix of male and female should be balanced and also regarding students and professionals if a mixed team is selected
- Heavy smokers can cause problems as well as consumption of alcohol
- Keep in mind and prepare the team-leader that the team will go through a group-process regarding attitude and behaviour
- The program should not be overloaded so that there is enough time for contacts and personal activities
- Placing two team-members in the same host-family can contribute to better understanding in organisational respects and also avoid home-sickness
- Early and thorough information to all concerned assures the necessary support
- The participants are well prepared and motivated when they have to prepare and give short lectures about certain aspects of the host-country during their briefing-sessions. Let the participants share responsibility for the success of the project.



The Swiss NGE team on a special occasion, hosted by D. 3290, India

**Go for this powerful program of New Generations exchange.
Celebrate Rotary by support of today's youth, tomorrow's
leadership people!**