



Message from the Chair

I am writing this as 2016 comes to a close, and asking myself questions. Has Food Plant Solutions made a difference to the lives of families in the world? Yes, we have changed the lives of children and families in Vietnam, Fiji, Indonesia, Philippines and many other countries.

Can we do more? Of course we can. But we need your help and the help of your friends in Rotary, your clubs and your Rotary districts around the world. How can you help? By raising money so that we can prepare educational publications that NGO's, community leaders, teachers and students need. These publications help to empower the hungry and malnourished and create a sustainable solution to malnutrition.

Bioversity International have one of our projects as a case study in their Biodiversity for Food and Nutrition project. We are also working with the Priscila Hall Foundation, AOG World Relief Vietnam, Boart Longyear and others, all who are committed to ending malnutrition. We cannot continue without the help of Rotarians and their friends around the world as well.

As I review 2016 I remind myself, that when we wake tomorrow morning, a new year will have begun for us, but not for approx. 30,000 children who died during the night of malnutrition and who will continue to die each day. We all must redouble our efforts to reduce that statistic.

I want to thank Karalyn and the committee for all for the work they have done this year and to wish you and your families a healthy 2017. I look forward to working with you during our New Year, 2017. Working together we CAN make a difference.

Yours in Rotary Service.

PDG Una Hobday, Chair Food Plant Solutions

Boart Longyear partners with FPS



Boart Longyear is the world's leading provider of drilling services, drilling equipment and performance tooling for mining and drilling companies globally. It also has a substantial presence in aftermarket parts and service, energy, mine de-watering, oil sands exploration and production drilling.



The Global Drilling Services division operates in over 30 countries for a diverse mining customer base spanning a wide range of commodities, including copper, gold, nickel, zinc, uranium, and other metals and minerals. The Global Products division designs, manufactures and sells drilling equipment, performance tooling, and aftermarket parts and

services to customers in over 100 countries.

A partnership with Food Plant Solutions provides a great opportunity for Boart Longyear to demonstrate its commitment to duty of care and to give something back to the communities it works in. This partnership will help to address malnutrition in Asia, specifically Cambodia, one of their operating countries. Boart Longyear, utilising Food Plant Solutions publications will provide education resources to mothers with the aim of creating awareness and enabling a better understanding of the nutritional value of their local food plants.

More information about Boart Longyear can be found at www.boartlongyear.com. For further information about this partnership please contact Food Plant Solutions at info@foodplantsolutions.org



Speaking Engagements:

FPS has the following engagements scheduled:

- South Launceston Probus – 23rd January, 2017.
- D9790 Conference- 16th – 19th March, 2017
- D9830 Conference - 31st March – 2nd April, 2017.

Program Countries

FPS has either developed or is in the process of developing educational publications for the following countries:

- Solomon Islands
- Papua New Guinea
- Timor Leste
- Haiti
- Sierra Leone
- Guinea
- Nigeria
- Uganda
- Tanzania
- Mozambique
- Swaziland
- Sri Lanka
- Cambodia
- Vietnam
- Philippines
- Western Pacific Islands
- North Korea
- China
- N.E. India
- Kenya
- Lesotho
- Indonesia
- Nepal
- South Africa
- Northern Thailand
- Ecuador
- Angola
- Pakistan
- Ethiopia
- Madagascar
- Bangladesh
- Rwanda

**Food Plant Solutions –
A self-sustainable solution that
empowers local people to make
informed choices about what
plants to grow that will
nutritiously feed their family.**

Donate Now! - every \$1 donated will help 1 child in a developing country –

<http://foodplantsolutions.org/donate-to-food-plant-solutions/>

Rotary's Great Opportunity

In 1998, when the Global Polio Eradication Initiative began, polio paralysed approximately **350,000** children per year. Due to the dedicated efforts of Rotary and its partners there has been a decrease of 99% in polio cases.

In 2015, approximately **2,600,000** children under the age of 5 died from malnutrition linked causes.

Like polio, hunger and malnutrition is preventable.

Like polio, Food Plant Solutions needs extensive partnerships.

Like polio, a long-term commitment is needed.

We are calling on all Rotarians to follow 'End Polio Now' with '**End Malnutrition NOW**'

Please contact us at info@foodplantsolutions.org to become part of '**End Malnutrition NOW**'

Reconciliation Crops in Rwanda



When Rwandan, Jean Nepo looks over his plot of land he sees much more than just pineapple and maize crops. He sees the potential for breaking the cycle of hatred, violence and ethnic division that has plagued his community for decades.

Jean Nepo is a Genocide Survivor; he was eleven years old when his entire family was brutally killed by machete wielding militias and government soldiers. He explains; "The Genocide against Tutsis in 1994 was well planned and coordinated, over one million people were killed in one hundred days, neighbours killed neighbours, and the people who killed my family still live in this community." It took him several years to return to his family land of 5 hectares, which by then was completely overgrown. His plan was to employ both survivors and perpetrators of the Genocide to work together to clear the land and start growing crops. The plan worked and the land was cleared and crops planted in a few short weeks of intense labour.

The Golden Zebra Enterprise

was born from this vision to nurture practical reconciliation and peace in the community by bringing local people together to build an agricultural enterprise that provides training, job and business opportunities to the desperately poor community.

Jean Nepo explains; "We cannot just talk about reconciliation and peace, we must have practical programs to actively combat extreme poverty and the spread of Genocide ideology, the generators of conflict". In 2017 Jean Nepo and his Australian wife, Sabrina, will construct an Agricultural Training Centre on the land, providing courses, introducing animals and crops, and begin the production of value added products. Jean Nepo explains; "We have a daughter, children are innocent and our goal is to break the cycle of hatred so that the children of perpetrators and survivors can live together in peace and all prosper by working together." Jean Nepo concludes; "Recently we formed a partnership with Food Plant Solutions, who will provide us with information on what plants to grow that are suited to our environment, require minimal inputs and most importantly are very high in nutrients. This will assist us in achieving food security and reducing



malnutrition. Our partnership with FPS will help to enable us to achieve our vision." For more information please contact us at: info@foodplantsolutions.org

Paypay District School Update

In our November 2015 newsletter there was an article about Paypay District School in the Philippines, which was being rebuilt after a devastating typhoon. An FPS committee member (who was there to advise on the rebuilding of the school) noticed a derelict kitchen, which presented an opportunity to introduce FPS. The challenge of creating a garden on a building site was overcome by growing the plants in movable containers.



Recently we were advised "We now have several container gardens run by various teachers. And there is some competition amongst the teachers for the best produce. Here are pictures as proof." The children continue to move the garden around as the builders need space.

This innovative approach on educating how to grow nutritious food, demonstrates that there is no one way and no right way. What is critical, is ensuring people are given the opportunity to understand the nutritional value of their local food plants.



FPS in Fiji

A project in Fiji started by District 9830, with a focus on providing housing has grown significantly to include an FPS component. Using FPS publications, training is provided for residents so that they can start their own vegetable gardens. Part of the program involves children being taught about growing healthy vegetables and fruit and income generation projects. The children assist in the plant nurseries, planting out around public areas to beautify the town and assisting in the vegetable gardens of elderly or infirm residents.



Tasmanian Rotary Clubs (through a District Grant) funded a covered bus shelter, which doubles as a market where once the children have caught the bus to school, residents can then sell their vegetables. This project demonstrates the benefits of adding an FPS component to an existing project. Not only is the community able to feed themselves and their family's nutritious food, sustainably, but the 'excess' enables income generation.

Case Study for Bioversity International

Following a Letter of Support from Ann Tutwiler, the Director General of Bioversity International. FPS and Vietnamese program partner – AOG World Relief Vietnam, were invited to participate as a case study in Bioversity International's project - Biodiversity for Food and Nutrition ([B4FN](http://www.b4fn.org/case-studies/case-studies/food-plant-solutions-school-gardens-in-vietnam/)). The case study can be found at <http://www.b4fn.org/case-studies/case-studies/food-plant-solutions-school-gardens-in-vietnam/>. This provides both a tangible result, and important recognition by a world leading organisation, of FPS's significant role to play in achieving food security and ending hunger and malnutrition.