Organized by:

Rotaract District 3292
Rotary International District 3292

In partnership with

Date: 26-29 January, 2012
Venue: Nepal Academy Hall, Kathmandu

www.rotasianepal.com
Introduction to ROTASIA

ROTASIA is an international conference of Rotaractors and Rotaract Clubs in South Asia. It is an international gathering of Rotaractors in the region to exchange information, enhance fellowship, build networks and concentrate ideas and efforts to work together for a common agenda of youths in general. ROTASIA is generally understood as a 3-4 day conference for youths with invitees from Rotary. The 4-day (3 full days, 1 half day) program is planned from 26 - 29 January, 2012. The venue for the program was the Nepal Academy Hall in Kamaladi. A total of 600 youths from the region and across the globe participated in the event. ROTASIA in Nepal was also organized to promote Nepal as a tourist destination and celebrate Nepal Tourism Year.

Objectives of ROTASIA

- To exchange information and ideas on youths for effective functioning
- To enhance fellowship and friendship among youths creating opportunities for collaborative action.
- To create a common forum for youths in the region to work closely in professional development and leadership skills of youths.
- To consolidate issues and discussions of youths for a common purpose.
- To work together with the youths on a community service project
- To promote Nepal as a tourist destination and celebrate Nepal Tourism Year

ROTASIA Design

The 4-day (3 full days, 1 half day) program was organized from 26 - 29 January, 2012. The venue for the program was the Nepal Academy Hall in Kamaladi. A total of 600 Rotaractors from the region and across the globe participated in the event. The first day of the event was designated as the opening day. The second day was the Business Day primarily focusing on key issues of youth and Rotaractors in the region. The third day was sightseeing followed by programs on youth promotion with fellowship and cultural programs. The final half-day was the closing day and synthesis of agendas and discussion.

ROTASIA Methodology

The program incorporated various methods and systems of organization to maximize the involvement of Rotaractors, Rotarians and all concerned in the event. With simultaneous ongoing programs at various locations, the participants were able to benefit and gain a lot. The program also envisions a consortium for Rotaractors and youths to share experiences, exchange ideas and expand networks within and across the region. The sessions were very much interactive and practical with elements of fun and fellowship.
Day 1
Inaugural Day
On January 26, 2012 hundreds of delegates from various Rotaract Districts assembled in Nepal Academy Hall, Kathamndu, the venue for the most awaited event of the year, ROTASIA Nepal 2012.

Pre-conference
The participants registered for the event in the registration desks managed in the premises of Nepal Academy Hall. There were about 600 participants from 28 Rotaract Districts from five countries - Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Nepal, and Sri Lanka. Since the dress code for the day was national/cultural most of them were seen beautifully dressed in their own traditional and national attire. There was excitement among the people for the event. They first registered for the event and were given food coupons and kits.

The other highlights of the event were House of Fellowship and club exhibits and stalls. House of Fellowship is an area in the lobby which offered an exciting variety of activities and displays for exchange and networking among Rotaractors. Club Banner exchange, business card exchange were all features of the House of Fellowship. Rotaractors, Rotarians, and the guests greeted each other and had a good time doing this. Similarly, club exhibits and stalls had various segments which included ROTASIA wall hosting district competitions and photo exhibitions, and business card exchange area. There were banners, theme pins, district directories, district newsletter, district letterhead, and district activities displayed in photographs.

Inaugural Session
The inaugural session started by calling the dignitaries on the dais, followed by the national anthems of five participating countries. The chief guest for the event was Honorable Minister for Ministry of Youth and Sports Ms. Kamala Roka. She inaugurated the ceremony by lighting the panas, and then the conference was called to order by ROTASIA Chairman PDRR Anil Shrestha.

PDRR Anil Shrestha in his welcome address stated that this ROTASIA Nepal 2012 is a consortium for Rotractors and youths to expand within and across the South Asian Region. He further believed that this conference will bring out the concrete plan of action and way forward for Rotary and Rotaract movement.

In her address, Honorable Minister Ms. Kamala Roka shared that the event has been declared the official program of the Ministry of Youth and Sports, and stated that this international conference is expected to bring the meaningful change in youths, bridging the various differences that exist in the region.
DRR David Shakya and DG Basu Dev Golyan extended their commitment to make ROTASIA Nepal 2012 a grand success with the efforts from Rotractors and Rotarians. RIPR Sashi Varvandkar addressed the event to extend forward the congratulations for the event on behalf of RI President and expecting the best outcome from this.

Guest of Honor United Nations Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator for Nepal Mr. Robert Piper was impressed to see many young people from South Asia gathered with the same zeal and goal. He stated “We not only have an obligation to think of ways to tap into the resource, which all these young people constitute. We will need it for the future.” He expressed about his expectation about ROTASIA by stating that “The extraordinary thing about valso is that you do not just talk the talk, but you walk the walk. Once this meeting is over and you all head back to Rotaract clubs, some of these ideas I know, will be put into practice.”

Following the address by the dignitaries, the inaugural session came to an end with the vote of thanks from conference Secretary IPDRR Srijan Shrestha.

**Rotaract District Presentations**
DRR or the any other representative from their respective district gave the presentation, highlighting their district’s major activities.

**Cultural Program**
There was the cultural program at the end of the first day. Performances were given by various Rotaract clubs of Nepal. Rotaract Club of Madhyapur played Dhime music, Rotaract Club of Mahaboudha did Bhairab naach, Rotaract Club of Dillibazar performed the Jhyaure dance. Similarly, Rotaract Club of Mount Everest performed the dance in Nepali song Samjhana birsana.
Day 2

Business Day
The second day of the event ROTASIA Nepal 2012 was “Business Day”, mainly focusing on youth employment and entrepreneurship. The dress code for the day was “formal” so most of the participants were seen in their formal attires. There were two plenary sessions and three concurrent sessions planned for the day along with a synthesis session.

First Plenary Session
Rotary and New Generation
The Chairman for the first plenary session was PDG Ratna Man Shakya, and the speakers were RIPR Rtn. Sashi Varvandkar, and Rtn. Rajendra Bahadur Shrestha.

Rtn. Shrestha gave his address on “New Generation: Challenges and Opportunities”. He expressed that Generation “Y” can bring benefits to Rotary since these are the most active population group. Realizing the importance of young people, Rotary International in 2010 added “New Generation” as its 5th avenue. He thus stressed that Rotary should attract young generation by connecting the aspiration gaps.

Another speaker of the session RIPR Rtn. Varvandkar gave the address on “New Generation-Rotary’s Commitment”. He stated that the new generation is important not only for Rotary but also for the other communities and the world as a whole. In his address, he explained what Rotary has been offering to new generation and how this can be enhanced further to make it effective and result-based. Interact, Rotaract, RYLA, and youth exchange are the major programs of Rotary which focuses on youths.

Second Plenary Session
Youth Employment and Entrepreneurship
DRCC Rtn. Vishnu B. Karkee chaired this session with Mr. Matthieu Cognac from ILO as the key note speaker. Mr. Cognac is the Youth Employment Specialist for ILO Asia and the Pacific regional office in Bangkok.

Mr. Matthieu expressed that biggest challenge for South Asian Region is youth employment and stressed the need of future youth employment policies. He explained how different kinds of employment policies are being implemented by South Asian countries like the vision of developing youth skills in India by 2022, skill development training and skill development in Bangladesh. He further stated that ILO has been providing extensive support for the future development activities in the region.

The address of Mr. Matthieu was followed by group discussion session on the same issue. The participants were divided into group of 10-12 according to their country, and they
discussed on youth employment problems in their respective country and the possible solutions to them. Thus each country's youth employment problems and their solutions were presented by the representative from each nation. (See Annex I)

**Concurrent Sessions**

**Session I - Entrepreneurship and Vocational Skills Development for Youths**
This session was lead by Mr. Anil Chitrakar and the speaker for the session was Mr. Vidhan Rana. Mr. Chitrakar who is the social entrepreneur and co-founder of Himalayan Climate Initiative, focused on points like the identification of the difference between desirables and the realities, fulfilling the gap between knowing and doing, identifying the sources for sustainable revenue generation, trust and confidence building and making connection through networks.

Founder and Manager at Bируwa Ventures Mr. Vidhan Rana shared his inspiring success story. He stated how he has been helping the young people to evolve in the field of entrepreneurship.

After the key notes from the session lead and the speaker, there was the interaction session. The key question raised was how the gap between Rotarians and the Rotaractors can be fulfilled. The possible solutions to this might be more interactions, Rotarians to act as parents, Rotaractors attitude should be “What can I give and what can I get”, and creating bonding through networking.

Thus this session was mainly focused on enhancing the entrepreneurial skills.

**Session II - Scope of Tourism & Opportunities for Youth: A regional perspective**
Mr. Sunil Sharma, Manager, Nepal Tourism Board led the session along with Mr. Ram Silwal and Tareq Mahmud as the speakers. Ram Silwal is a professional kayaker, instructor and expedition leader and Tareq is Past DRR and now a Rotarian. He is chief consultant/MD at Heaven Tours & Resort Ltd.

Mr. Sunil Sharma discussed on points like the need of policies for tourism development, emphasizing on exchange programs, promoting the institutes which work in the tourism sector.

PDRR Tareq stated that tourism is the largest industry in the world and how South Asia can benefit from regional tourism and emphasize that we should work together to develop tourism industry.
Similarly Ram Silwal talked about the adventure tourism and insisted that young people should start and get involved in tourism.

The session came up with the agendas like development of proper policies for the development of regional tourism along with the promotion of small tourism entrepreneurship. (Further details see Annex II)

**Session III - The Zero Carbon: Opportunities for Youths**
Mr. Prashanat Singh led the session and Mr. Prakash Acharya and Rtr. Ayushi Agrawal were the speakers. Mr. Singh is the founder and CEO of Himalayan Climate Initiatives, Mr. Acharya is the Chairman and Managing Director at Clean Concept Group Pvt. Ltd, and Ms. Agrawal is the rotaractor from India.

Prashant Singh focused that zero carbon economy is the important concept required for the development of Nepal. He expressed that though the experts believe this to be the perfect path for Nepal’s brighter future, there is the lack of the exact concept of Zero Economy and people dismiss it as fancy talk because Nepal is lagging behind in industrial development and technology.

Prakash Acharya explained how they provide industries with green energy technology and point out its benefits. This is not only praise worthy step towards zero carbon economy, but also an opportunity they created for themselves. It is an example of self employment for youths. He emphasized that where there is a problem, there is an opportunity. People need to see and grab it. Along with this he also shared how good service is important for good business.

Ayushi Agrawal stated that carbon emission is a problem for the world as a whole and we need to go globally to carry out the zero carbon economy. She also stated about the solutions and benefits for this.

Thus the session highlighted on the new concepts like energy audit, along with the discussion in green and clean society and carbon footprints. (Further details see Annex III)

**Synthesis Session**
The synthesis session was chaired by DGN Rtn. Dilendra Raj Shrestha. Presentation was given based on the synthesis of three concurrent sessions which included the key points done and what can be the steps forward.

**Cultural Program**
Rotaract Club of Bhaktapur gave their amazing traditional *Nau baja* Music Performance.
Day 3

Open Day
The third day of ROTASIA Nepal 2012 was Open Day and the dress code for the day was casual.

Sightseeing
Participants were taken to Dhulikhel for sightseeing. They were given warm welcome by Rotary Clubs of Dhulikhel, and Kavre Banepa; and Rotaract Clubs of Dhulikhel, Kavre Banepa, and Budol. They viewed the valley as seen from the sightseeing tower in Dhulikhel and they also visited the Shanti ban and Kali temple. This increased the fellowship among the participants as they exchanged letter heads, club badges and newsletters.

Service Project – Blood Donation
A blood donation program was also organized on the premises as a service project of ROTASIA Nepal. The program was supported by Nepal Red Cross Society and funded by Rotary and Rotaract Clubs of Kathmandu West.

A total of 162 donors registered for the event of which 99 points of blood was collected. There were 15 international delegates of ROTASIA who had also donated blood for the event. There were also participations from Martyr Memorial Institute of Science and Technology, Om Samaj College of Health Sciences, National Institute of Health Sciences, and Norvic Hospital.

Mr and Miss ROTASIA Preliminary Round
The preliminary round of Mr and Miss Rotasia was conducted and there were 10 male participants and 9 female participants. This round had various rounds which included introduction round, talent round, and question and answer round about Rotary and Rotaract movement. The judges for the Preliminary round were Rtn. Jaya Shah, Rtn. Devanand Mahadevan, and PDRR Rajan Plya.

Cultural Performances
There were various cultural performances on day 3 which were - dance performance by Rotaract Club of Lamjung, Kal bhairab Naach by Rotaract Club of New Road City, dance performance on Kali pari dai by Rotaract Club of Dillibazar, Tamang selo dance by Rotaract Club of Mahaboudha, B-boyin by Rotaract club of Mount Everest. Besides this there were musical performances by Rotaract Clubs of Butwal, Chitwan, Dillibazar, Pashupati, Mount Everest, New Road City, and Mahaboudha.
Day 4
Closing Day

Mr and Miss ROTASIA Finale
The judges for this session were Former Miss Nepal Sugarika KC, Rtn. Jaya Shah and Rtn. Devanand Mahadevan. The candidates who went through the preliminary round were shortlisted. Those shortlisted were asked three questions each by the judges. Based on the overall performance in preliminary and final session Mr and Miss ROTASIA 2012 were declared. Rtr. Tharaka De Alwis from RID 3220 Sri Lanka was declared Mr. ROTASIA 2012, and Rtr. Gurpreet Johal from RID 3080 was declared Miss ROTASIA 2012.

The Way forward of ROTASIA 2012
DRR David Shakya read out the Way Forward prepared on the basis of recommendations and discussions from several sessions held in ROTASIA Nepal 2012. (See Annex IV for details of the Way Forward)

ROTASIA 2013 Bid
RID 3280 Bangladesh will be hosting ROTASIA 2013. PDRR Tareq Mahmud gave the details about the ROTASIA 2013 and formally announced the opening of registration for ROTASIA 2013.

Awards and Recognitions
Awards were presented to all the sponsors, supporters and contributors of ROTASIA 2012. Chairman Anil Shrestha handed away these awards. The awards and certificates were given to the winners of Club Exhibits, Best District Theme, Best District Theme Pin, Best District Display, Best Directory, Best District Letterhead. DRCC Rtn. Vishnu B. Karkee gave away the awards. Certificates and Token of Love was presented to all the participating District of ROTASIA 2012. PDG Rtn. Tirtha Man Shakya gave away the awards. Awards were also presented to all winners of Twin Dating, Highest Participation, First Participation, and Man Mileage. DGN Rtn. Dilendra Raj Shrestha handed away token of love to the winners.

Closing Remarks
Then the closing remarks were given by IPDG Rtn. Tritha Man Shakya, Chief Guest Mr. Gerard McCarthy (Officer-in-Charge from ILO). The impressions of the conference were given by RIPR Rtn. Shashi Varvandkar. The official Vote of Thanks was given by Conference Secretary IPDRR Srijan Shrestha.

ROTASIA Nepal 2012 was officially adjourned by the Conference Chairman PDRR Anil Shrestha.
Annexure I
Extract from the group discussion on youth and employment

Sri Lanka

Constraints
- Basic education
- Problems in the job market
- Unlimited skill sets in demand, very difficult to find the jobs in their own place
- Lack of accessibility

Strategies
- Negotiation
- There should opportunities for better education
- Due to lack of inspiration people facing problems due to unemployment is in the rise. There isn’t proper guidance for success.

Priorities
- Proper Guidelines needs to be in place
- Inspiration to young people
- Control and power should be handed to the youth

India

Constraints
- Dignity of labour is low
- Some people do not have motivation to work
- Industry involvement is not suitable
- Lack of opportunity for new-comers
- Corruption

Strategies
- Dignity of labour should be increased
- Government must focus on rural areas
- Education must have components on career guidance

Priorities
- Dignity of labour for agriculture should be given a more priorities
- Industry should be involve in some practical guides
- Focus in the career guidance rather than on just degrees
Nepal

Constraints
- Lack of good governance
- Lack of skilled man power
- Minimum pay for labour
- Difficult to find interest based job
- Attitude problem
- Lack of transportation
- Poverty

Strategies
- Good governance, national interest, transparency
- Decentralized opportunity around the different part of the country
- Practical education
- Hobby based job
- Equality
- Proper legal policies
- Good priorities

Priorities
- Civilized leader
- Decentralized activity
- Interest based jobs
- Priorities to nationality

Indonesia

Constraints
- Lack of the good education
- Transportation System
- Information

Strategies
- Government needs to provide better education
- Transportation system should be made better
- Good education
Priorities
- Good transportation facility
- Increase in Job opportunities
- Road should be make better

Bangladesh
Constraints
- Lack of education
- Lack of qualification (just give a degree but no experience)
- No scheme for new-comers in the market

Strategies
- Over population
- Educate them properly
- Lack of opportunities
- Certificates are useless

Priorities
- Long term planning
- More scope of jobs
- Work based education
Annexure II
Notes from Concurrent Session I

A session on entrepreneurship by Anil Chitrakar

**Key Points**
- Identification between the desirable (wish list) and realities (possibilities)
- Fulfill the gap between knowing and doing
- Identify sources of sustainable revenue generation
- Get prepared for future beforehand
- Trust and Confident building
- Make connection through network

An inspiring success story by Vidhan Rana
- Help young entrepreneur evolve
- Idea is of prime importance
- Biggest risk taker is the profit maker

**Interaction**
A key question: how to fulfill the gap between Rotarian and Rotaractors?

**Solutions**
- More interactions
- Rotarians act as parents
- Rotaractors attitude "What can I give and what can I get"
- Create a bonding through networking

**Learnings**
- Walk towards your goal to get it
- Take positive criticisms
- Don’t hesitate to start in the fear of failure
- Be your own boss
- Keep up with the trend
- Continuous learning process
- No over generalization
- Good plan is good enough
- Replicate and scale up the initiative
- Documentation
Notes from Concurrent Session II

Tourism is one of the important sectors for developing countries like Nepal where numbers of tourists often visit to see the natural beauties and for relaxation. It is the business in which there must be a good co-ordination among both the government and the private sector. With equal involvement of both the government and the private sector there is a great scope for successful tourism business in Nepal. Many people have the mentality that the tourism industry refers to tourist guides but it is regarded as one of the good and beneficial job opportunities for the youths of Nepal.

Solutions for good Tourism Business
1. Design for a special toilet (in which water is not needed to flush).
2. Plantation of more trees to improve the tourism business.
3. Discount in the airlines to book tickets.
4. Tourism business to be done by credit card.

Benefits for the Youths
1. Natural beauty
2. Similar culture
3. Comfortable weather
4. Hospitality
5. Challenging profession

Youth Involvement
1. Motivation
2. Communication
3. Training
4. Minimum investment
5. Team work
6. Small entrepreneurship

Natural Beauties of South Asia
1. Mount Everest - Nepal
2. Ktm Durbar Square - Nepal
3. Mountains - Bhutan
4. Apkasms - Maldives
5. Resort Ela - Maldives
6. Badshai Mosque - Pakistan
7. Monument - Pakistan
Zero Carbon Economy by Mr. Prashant Singh

Zero carbon Economy refers to low greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions into the environment biosphere; specifically carbon dioxide. Nepal’s global greenhouse emission is only 0.025% which is very low. Thus Zero Carbon economy was established officially in Nepal in 2009. Mr. Singh stated this is the very concept required for the development of Nepal.

Resistance

Though the experts believe this to be the perfect path for Nepal’s brighter future, there is lacking on the understanding of the exact concept of Zero Economy; and people dismiss it as fancy talk. This is because Nepal is lagging in industrial development and technology. For the poor and underdeveloped country as Nepal, such ideas may seem farfetched. On the contrary nothing could be more perfect as Nepal is rich in natural resources. Its lush green forest reduces carbon gas immensely. The water resources can be used for alternative energy. Nepal is one country where development and zero carbon economy can go hand in hand. In fact this is the best way to move forward.

Benefits

- Nepali products can be launched as Zero Carbon products. This may increase its preference despite being expensive and not of the best quality.
- Tourism can be promoted as low carbon environment zone. A good example of this is 100% pure New Zealand which is attracting large crowd of tourists.
- The effects Himalayan region is facing due to the GHG emission will be lessened. (Effects: Vertical tsunami, decreasing amount of snow, glaciers)
- And the most obvious: Nepalese will be breathing clean air, living a healthier life. Not only Nepal, it is a big contribution to the whole world.

Problems and Solutions

- Leaders are missing followers. There are people with ideas but no one to implement them. The reason is they do not understand how zero carbon economy and development can happen together. So awareness is necessary and so is motivation.
- People are not using green energy technology. Many do not know about them and many do not know its benefits.
**A Movement by Mr. Prakash Acharya**

Prakah Acharya and his partners have opened Clean Concept Group Pvt. Ltd with the mission of conserving 5 MW of energy in 3 years. They provide industries with green energy technology and point out its benefits. This is not only praise worthy step towards zero carbon economy but also an opportunity they created for themselves. It is an example of self employment for youths. Where there is a problem there is an opportunity. People need to see and grab it. Along with this he also shared how good service is important for good business.

**Think Globally by Rtr. Ayushi Aagrawal**

Even if Nepal does try hard for zero carbon emission it can still be affected by the emission of its neighboring countries. Australia can produce green energy technology for export all they want but what if no one is interested in importing them? Carbon emission is a problem for the world as a whole. So there should be communication between nations and zero carbon economy should be carried out in planned way. Everyone should think what they can contribute to the world and not only their country. Let’s go green globally.

**Solutions and Benefits**

- Fuel can be replaced with battery or other environment friendly substitute.
- Companies should use zero carbon concepts as more people are becoming aware of the environment. This earns them preference. Thus they can profit while conserving environment.
- When the whole world goes green lots of job opportunities will be created. This is great news for youth. So they should be motivated to actively participate in such movement.
Recognizing youths as the present and the future of any human civilization, society and world as well as key actors in the quest for peace, prosperity, democracy, justice, and sustainable development;

Emphasizing the role of Youths in bridging the gap created by political, social, economic and cultural differences and inequalities and the power of youths in combating various social evils and problems, *inter alia*, poverty, illiteracy, unemployment, environment pollution, conflict, global warming and climate change;

Reaffirming the importance of greater unity among youths of geographical, political, socioeconomic, cultural, ethnic, and religious diversities through the bond of humanity, service and fellowship; and

Taking a note that Youth should be a leader, change maker, whistle blower, partner in service and new generation in every aspect of social and public life including the new generation avenue of Rotary International, the governmental and nongovernmental bodies, and developmental activities;

We, the youth delegates and participants of Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Sri Lanka and Nepal participating in ROTASIA 2012 (*Unite, Serve and Celebrate*), having met in Kathmandu, Nepal from 26th to 29th January 2012, have agreed as follows:

**Our Common Understanding:**

1. **Role of Youth**
   - Youths should unite and play a meaningful, substantial, proactive, constructive and visionary role in ensuring peace and sustainable development of the nation and society as well as the world as a whole.

2. **Present Scenario:**
   - Youths are the assets of the nation and the world. But in majority of the cases, youths are considered as the liabilities by the governments and other developmental actors. They are found to be reluctant to invest on youths.
   - Youths have not being able to play their utmost role due to a wide range of problems and constraints associated therewith, both external and internal such as an outdated
and impractical education system, rampant corruption, overpopulation, less opportunities in the market, generation gap, and the problem between and within youths.

- Youths lack adequate skills and capacity including leadership, academic qualification, linguistic skills, and interpersonal communication.

3. **Youths' Need**

- Youths need to enhance, foster and develop their skills and capacity in order to make a visible impact on and significant contribution to the course that the society, nation and international community take.
- There should be a youth friendly environment that allows Youths to participate and involve as well as be benefitted from various opportunities including Business, employment, entrepreneurship and tourism.

4. **Youths' Expectation:**

- Youths will be able to enjoy all the rights entitled thereto, including the right to safety, food and water; the right to education; the right to health, the right to decent work, the right to freedom of assembly, expression and movement; the right to participation; and the right to equal opportunity, without any discrimination on grounds of religion, race, gender, caste, tribe, origin, language, ideological conviction or any of these.
- Youths will bring collective efforts to reform the policies and programmes, especially the governmental policies and programmes that do not allow a favorable and friendly environment for youth involvement, youth participation and youth stake.
- It is expected that the Governments, civil society, developmental actors and donors as well as other stake holders will play a positive role as well as strengthen local, national, regional and international cooperation for the development of young people through various measures like enhancing youth involvement and providing financial assistance.

**Common Goals:**

**Preparing the Youth for today and tomorrow**

- Leadership Development of Youth
- Youth and Employment
- Vocational and Entrepreneurship Development
- Human Resource Development for New Generation
The Way Forward:

Bearing into the mind common understanding and common goals, a way forward for organizing, reorganizing and strengthening Youth in Action and Youth Movement is agreed as follows:

- Idea sharing and Information Exchange
- Optimal Use of Information and technology
- Creation of forum and platform to improve trust within and among youths
- Cooperation and support to Youth Initiatives, Involvement and Activities
- Enhancing partnership among various youths groups/actors, and outside youths groups including the Governments, key actors of Development and Rotary World
- Building a strong youth network(s)
- Promote Volunteerism, spirit of service above self and service through fellowship
- Proper Documentation of youth activities, programmes and policies for future reference
Annexure VI
Media Coverage

POST REPORT

The Rotrac District Committee, Nepal, held a press meet on Jan 24 at the Nepal Tourism Board (NTB), Bhirikuti Mandap, to elaborate on the upcoming Rotasia 2012. Rotasia is an annual conference held by Rotracers (members of the Rotary-affiliated Rotrac Club) in South Asia to promote networking and fellowship among members of the Rotrac clubs within any given nation and across borders. The program has been held annually since 1990, although this is the first time it's come to Nepal.

Speaking at the program, Rotasia Nepal chairman Anil Shrestha said, "Rotasia 2011 was held in Goa where more than 100 Rotracers and Rotarians from Nepal represented the clubs here. We won the bid to hold the event in Nepal and will have approximately 450 international delegates coming here this week". The representatives come from nations like Sri Lanka, Indonesia and Bangladesh from over 28 Rotrac districts. An estimated 700 members of the Interact Club, Rotrac Club, and Rotary Club are expected to be part of the four-day conference. Seventy-six Rotrac clubs with more than 2300 members currently exist in Nepal. The Rotrac is a wing of the international humanitarian service, the Rotary Club, which sponsors youths between the ages of 18-30 associated with Rotrac.

The inaugural session will be held on Jan 26 with esteemed guests including the guest of honor, United Nations Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator for Nepal, Robert Piper, and the chief guest, Minister for Youth and Sports, Kamala Rokka. Rotasia 2012 also aims to provide a common platform where discussions can take place on issues related to entrepreneurship, youth employment, and empowerment. Speakers will comprise of the International Labor Organization's Youth Employment Specialist for Asia, Matthie Cognac, Former CEO of NTR, Prachanda Man Shrestha, entrepreneur Anil Chitrakar among other esteemed contributors. Rotasia 2012 is collaborating with the ILO with the objective of formulating development and leadership skills for the youth of today.

The event will also have multiple cultural programs, a Mr and Ms Rotasia pageant, plenary sessions, sight-seeing sessions, an award ceremony for the noted works of participating Rotracers, workshops, stalls and exhibitions and other interaction programs. Organisers hope the conference augments the tourism sector as they are planning a post-Rotasia package for the international guests comprising of a travel package outside the capital.

The event will be held from Jan 26-29 at the National Academy Hall, Kamaladi, Kathmandu. Although the program is a close-conference open to registered Rotracers and Rotarians only, the third day—Jan 28—will be an "open day", where interested individuals can come participate in the sessions. The third day ticket prices for non-members will be Rs 100.
THE KATHMANDU POST
Organized by:

South Asian Regional Rotaract Conference

ROTASIA NEPAL 2012
UNITE. SERVE. CELEBRATE

Date: January 26-29, 2012
Venue: Nepal Academy Hall, Kamladi, Kathmandu

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Rotaract District Committee Nepal is set to host the 3rd ROTASIA from Thursday, January 26 to Sunday, January 29 at Nepal Academy in Kathmandu.

The conference will include around 750 Rotaractors from Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Indonesia, India, and Nepal.

ROTASIA is an international conference of Rotaractors and Rotaract Clubs in South Asia that provides platforms for the participants to exchange information, enhance fellowship, build networks, and share ideas, and efforts to work together towards a common agenda of the youths as a whole.

Rotaract Clubs includes volunteers from the age group of 18 to 30.

This year's highlight is the workshop titled “Business Day,” which is divided into three major categories. Those themes are “Entrepreneurship and Vocational Skill Development for Youths,” “Scope of Tourism and Opportunities for Youth – Regional Perspectives” and “Zero Carbon – Opportunities for Youths.”

The Chairman of Rotaract District Committee Nepal, Anil Shrestha, informed, “ROTASIA will be different this year since we have an additional workshop other than just a social gathering of Rotaractors. The participants will also be contributing to our tourism since we have a sightseeing program.”

The three-day programs include inauguration, business workshop, and international fellowship and exchange, followed by an award ceremony.
The Kathmandu Post

Four days of Rotasia

This is Nepal’s first time hosting the international event, which is held annually across South Asia since 1990.

The annual conference for the Rotact Clubs of South Asia—Rotasia 2012—will be coming to an end today, after a four-day symposium. The programme, which began on January 25, saw the participation of Rotact members from countries from most of the 70 Rotact clubs present in Nepal as well as clubs from nations like Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, India and Indonesia. A total of 250 Rotarians from Nepal and overseas gathered at the Nepal Academy Hall, Kirtipur, for the programme, which has been held annually since 1990. This year saw the conference in Nepal.

The inaugural session was attended by Gauri Bhattacharya, Robert Upadhyay—the UN Seiko and Honorary Coordinator for Nepal. The second day ended in the Kathmandu Sky with a visit to a fast-food chain for youth entrepreneurship and employment. The Asia Youth Employment Specialist Marius Schinger addressed the audience on the benefits of youth-based employment, while the talk on Chinese economics was presented.

Representatives from the participating nations discussed and presented conclusions on employment, issues present in each of their nations through discussion forums and workshops. The discussion also concluded that high levels of unemployment in South Asia reduce the number of opportunities for youth in the region. Representatives from the Chinese, Nepali and Singaporean delegations presented the themes of entrepreneurship and vocational training for youth in the field of green economy. The Chinese delegation, the western world was rather successful. The opportunities present for youth without hampering the environment were explained. As a co-host, the city of Kathmandu ended with a cultural programme, music and dance.

Saturday featured sightseeing programmes for the international guests. The foreign delegates visited Bhaktapur. The city also hosted entrepreneurship programmes like the presentation of the Rotary Club in Nepal.

In a bid to create a common forum for youths in South Asian Region for their professional and leadership skill development, an international conference of Rotarians and Rotaract Club’s in South Asia called Rotasia, is going to be held in the capital from January 26-29.

Organising a press conference on Tuesday, Rotaract District Committee—Kathmandu informed that Nepal is hosting such an international conference for the first time.

The organisers said that it is an international gathering of the club members to exchange information, enhance fellowship and build networks.

Talking about the objectives of the Rotasia meet, Chairperson of Rotasia Aarti Sherpa said that the second conference will focus on ideas and efforts to work together for a common agenda of youth. The conference also aims to consolidate the issues and discussions of youth for a common purpose, he added.

He said that the youth participants will exchange information and ideas on Rotaract for effective functioning and promote the outstanding works of the Rotaract clubs in the region.

Sherpa said that the conference activities include interaction programmes, discussions, exhibitions, talent shows, cultural shows and sightseeing.
भारतलाई मिस र श्रीलंकालाई मिस्टर रोटाशिया २०१२

मिस र मिस रोटाशिया

काठमाडौंमा रोटाशिया उपाधि जितेपछि भारतली गुरुकृती र श्रीलंकाको अल्लिबिचल।

काठमाडौं, माघ १६ (नागरिक)- रोटाशिया उपाधि जितेकालयको न्याय भर्ग श्रीलंकाका रोटाशिया उपाधि जितेकालयको कार्यकालमा काठमाडौंमा गरी रोटाशिया उपाधि जितेकालयको न्याय भर्ग श्रीलंकाका रोटाशिया उपाधि जितेकालयको कार्यकालमा काठमाडौंमा गरी मिस र मिस रोटाशिया उपाधि जितेकाल।

प्रकाश प्रतिवेदनमा, आकाशवार, सम्पन्न रोटाशिया सम्मेलन रोटाशिया न्याय अन्तिम ब्युटे पेजेट भएको हो। सम्मेलनमा, काठमाडौं नेपाल, भारत, बंगलादेश, श्रीलंका र इंडोनेसिया ५ ५० युवा युवतीको सहभागिता दिइयो।

रोटाशिया १८ देखि ३० वर्षका युवाहक सदस्य हुनुन।

सुगरिका कैसी, रेनाक आनंद र जय शाह निर्णायक रहेको ब्युटे पेजेट भएको भरात, श्रीलंका र भारतको ५० युवा र ३० युवतीले भाग जितेकाल। सम्मेलनमा भाग लिन आएकामाने कार्य २ ५ ५० युवा युवतीको सहभागिता दिइयो।
A celebration of culture and diversity

ORISHA RIMAL

With a melancholic feeling brought about by the idea of departing and yet with an inner sense of contentment at being a part of a prolific and joyous event, Rotaractors bid adieu to Rotasia 2012 on January 28. The annual conference of Rotaract members from South Asian nations which came to Nepal for the first time ended after a four-day series of travel, inter-nation interactions, entertainment and amicability.

As more than seven-hundred delegates, volunteers, guests and visitors came together from India, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Indonesia and host nation Nepal, Rotaractors saw themselves blending together in and out of discussion forums and interaction programmes with fellow members from abroad and across their own nations. The lone representative from Indonesia, Ms Eka described her experience as a fun and memorable one. "The chance to meet so many new people from different places has been monumental. Nepal is beautiful and I am proud to have been a part of Rotasia 2012," she says. She also mentioned how Rotasians have been able to keep par with the Rotaract seminar of South Asian Nations called the Asia Pacific Regional Rotaract Conference.

Organisers and volunteers as well have been proud of the standard and achievements at Rotasia 2012. Conference chair Anil Shrestha was pleased by their efforts to partner with vital organisations while being able to promote Rotaract’s name through the media. Shrestha said, “We have partnered with the ILO, Nepal Tourism Board and Ministry of Youth and Sports. Our focus on promoting tourism and the prospects of youth employment have made these collaborations possible. We have been able to make the most out of our partnerships.” His reference here was towards the second day’s interactive sessions that discussed youth entrepreneurship and employment at length. Representatives from all participating nations came forward to discuss problems and formulate solutions on the mentioned quandaries. The day’s conclusions and resolutions are now pledged to be presented at International Labour Organization’s (ILO) annual conference in Geneva by ILO’s Asia region Youth Employment Specialist Mathieu Congar. Congar had graced the inaugural event as well as addressed and headed the second day’s interactive sessions which discussed crucial issues of tourism, environment and employment.

Rotasia was of course not all about solemn matters but had its own light moments filled with much entertainment and laughter. The Mr and Ms Rotaract pageant fell under such previous aspects. As 19 international guests came together to share their talents andRotaract and Rotary knowledge, they amused the audience with their inimitable charm and personas. From Chaumukh Chhau dances to soulful singing, the guests delighted their peers in more ways than one. Delegates from the Rotaract Clubs of India and Sri Lanka came out as the female and male winners respectively. The entertainment also included traditional Katha dances, classical Marujhree dances, hip-hop and modern dances and musical performances by the Rotaractors.

Kashif Piyas, a Rotaract member from Chitwan, was only one of the few hundreds who felt as exhausted as proud at having organised a success like Rotasia 2012. He said, “Mobilisation has been difficult and the pressure immense but our combined effort has made things successful. We are extremely delighted that our resolutions will be presented at ILO’s conference in Geneva.” Rotaract Aabhishek Thapa added, “There is room for improvement but it has nonetheless been a grand success.” Sajan Manandhar, who was one of the 101 Nepali delegates representing Nepal in Rotasia 2011 that was held in Goa, told The Post of the higher benchmark that the Nepal Rotaractors have been successful in setting. “Compared to Goa where we had problems in accommodation, food and hospitality, our management has been splendid. We have left no stone unturned so that our guests may have top-class service,” Manandhar proclaimed. The four-day event also held a blood donation campaign for the Red Cross on Saturday which gleaned a good number of donors. Post Rotasia, organisers are also taking certain delegates to major tourist attractions like Bandipur, Pokhara, Bhote Koshi and Chitwan.

Rotasia kept by its theme ‘Unite Serve Celebrate’ as we saw national and international delegates intermingling to weave threads of collaboration and friendship. Hosts sincerely welcomed their guests and clubs remained forefront at creating associative relations with international districts through the much followed idea of ‘Twin Club’ in Rotaract. Rotasia 2013 has been decided to be held in Bangladesh next February.
Annexure VII
Events Photo