

ROTARY AUSTRALIA
WORLD COMMUNITY SERVICE LTD

Rotary Donations In Kind

Rear Shed 39, 400 Somerville Road West Footscray VIC 3012

Donations In Kind Activity Report May 2021

Containers Shipped 2020 -21

20' container units

District	Club Container	Units	Store	Units
9800	Timor Leste	2	Timor Leste	12
	Sri Lanka	6	Congo	2
	Cambodia	2		
	Somaliland	8		
Interstate	Sri Lanka	6		
9820	Timor Leste	2		
9790	Solomon's	2		
Total YTD		28		14

Shipping goods has become more challenging. Shipping is slowing down and ports are being bi-passed. Our standard booking time was 1-2 weeks to get space on a ship, it's now 1-2 months. This has also affected the availability of containers. There is a world shortage of available containers and the purchase cost has risen considerably.

We have seven containers ready to be shipped when we can get a booking, plus five planned which can only be actioned when we clear some space. We also shipped ten pallets of Covid19 medical supplies to Brisbane DIK for PNG.

There has been a significant change in destinations in the last few years. Local African supporter groups have discovered our Store and the opportunities we provide to help their countries. They fund the shipping cost and often have a partnership with Rotary Clubs. Many Rotary Clubs are becoming focused on local projects. Most notably there has been a major reduction in support for countries in our Zone.

Fundraising opportunities for our Clubs have been significantly affected by Covid19 and we will be feeling the effects of this for some time yet.

There are two other significant changes. **The seventh Area of Focus "Supporting the Environment"** will become active next year with grants available for activities in this area. DIK is a recycling operation and we will be increasing the promotion of this aspect of our operation. It will not affect how we operate, only how we tell our story and we need your help to get the message out.

The Environmental Sustainability Rotary Action Group is becoming active in our Zone www.esraganzpi.org It's a new group with a lot of enthusiasm and lots of raw edges. Any increase in awareness and support for the Store has to be a positive.

Promotion we have a new video which you will see has not been scripted, but it provides a good understanding of the size of our Store. Ref www.rotarydik.org top of the page.

A version was shown at the Multi District Conference, which was well received. We also had a stand. The following day ESRAAG will be featured and this also features our Store.

Our standard handouts have been updated and we continue to promote on our Facebook page.

Major Issue – Repurposing Surplus Australia Covid19 Medical Items

Australia equipped for a major Covid19 epidemic that fortunately did not eventuate. The risk has reduced significantly and will continue to do so as immunization continues. Many Hospitals and Aged Care Homes have surplus items that are needed in many countries, including PNG and Timor Leste. Many of the Covid19 personal items are nearing their use by date.

We have a wonderful opportunity and possibly an obligation to help our neighbors, but the magnitude of the material that is needed and could be available, is beyond the scope of DIK. Example we have been offered 70 container loads of face masks from one company.

Rotary can be most effective as a catalyst by highlighting the opportunity to help our neighbors and to avoid this extremely valuable material becoming landfill. If the Government funds the shipping we can help.

David Dippie