

Newspaper article

RC Friesoythe-Artland-Cloppenburg

Press office: **Web page of the Rotary Club F-A-C**

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The RC FAC campaigns for Egypt

Matching Grants are Rotarian programs for helping communities worldwide. The German RC FAC and the Egyptian RC Heliopolis-East in Cairo work together to support social projects in North Africa.

The RC Heliopolis-East was chartered in June, 1996. As of now the club has 40 members (men and women) and is situated in the Rotary-District 2450.

These two clubs have completed two projects in the past; a third one is being prepared.

In 2007 the two partner clubs in cooperation with the Egyptian Association for Common Crafts organized a Vocational School for the Illiterate.

Together they invested a total of 18.000 € in this project which perfectly combines the three main elements of the global Rotarian assistance:

- Fight against illiteracy
- Fight against discrimination of women
- Unemployment

In January, 2008, members of our club (Klaus Mecking and Gerd-Dieter Sieverding) plus other members of a delegation from the District 1850 insured that the funds were properly and well spent. They observed that the Rotarian friends in Egypt were strongly committed to the project; they also noted that further Matching Grants will have to be requested.

In 2009 another Matching Grant Project was completed. It is part of a crusade against diabetes. A foot clinic was supported with 20.000,00 € for the purchase of an X-ray machine and an ultrasonic scanner. A number of information leaflets were printed and the medical staff was duly trained.

The present (2011) project is also part of the fight against diabetes. This time the Rotary Clubs support an ophthalmic clinic by helping in the purchase of a photocoagulation facility (to destroy pathological vasculatures in the eyes). A total sum of 20.000,- € is planned to be invested.