

# A PROFESSIONAL PERSPECTIVE ON GSE

## PERSONAL GAINS

- “My vocational experiences brought me into a world of accountants operating as big, profitable businesses in less than ideal circumstances. I was able to see how they operate and how they manage. I learned management techniques that I will be able to apply to my practice, making us more efficient and better able to serve our clients.”  
— *Accountant/financial advisor and GSE team member, USA to South Africa*

- “The young curate is now chaplain to a bishop, the police inspector is assistant chief constable, the solicitor is a full partner in his law firm, the bank manager is a regional manager, and the architect’s practice is thriving. Without exception, they say that GSE had a deep influence on their lives.”  
— *Probate officer and GSE team leader, England to India*

- “[The exposure to medical practices in South America] improved my skills, determination and professional competence in the areas of general and gyno-obstetrical surgeries. There is no measure of the experiences, knowledge and other gains that The Rotary Foundation has provided me through the Group Study Exchange program.”  
— *Physician and GSE team member, Nigeria to Brazil*



*A GSE team member from Brazil tries his hand at traditional papermaking in Japan.*

## TEAM MEMBERS COME FROM

CORPORATIONS

SMALL BUSINESSES

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

MEDICAL FACILITIES

EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

UNIVERSITIES & SCHOOLS

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

The Rotary Foundation is a not-for-profit corporation providing Ambassadorial Scholarships, humanitarian grants to needy peoples, and educational awards for international exchanges of university scholars, teachers, and business and professional people.

# Group Study Exchange

AN INTERNATIONAL  
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT  
PROGRAM

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**“GSE has helped me to see humanity from the perspective of a different culture, lifestyle, socioeconomic context, and attitude toward life.”**

*Insurance marketing executive and GSE team member, Sri Lanka to USA*

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# THE ROTARY FOUNDATION'S GSE PROGRAM

The Group Study Exchange (GSE) program is a unique cultural and vocational exchange opportunity for young business and professional men and women in the early stages of their careers. The program is designed to develop professional and leadership skills among young adults to better prepare them to address the needs of their communities and an increasingly global workplace.

## EXPANDING YOUR ORGANIZATION'S GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE

The GSE program is an excellent opportunity for your organization to develop and recognize your top-performing young staff members for the global environment in which they will be working. Consider GSE the pinnacle of professional development and recognition programs for your organization.

## GSE Vocational Distribution

# WHY GSE WILL WORK FOR YOU

## INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE IS A VALUABLE ASSET TO YOUNG EMPLOYEES.

- It enhances a global perspective for multinational organizations.
- It promotes open-minded thinking through contact with business and professional people of other cultures.
- It fosters creative approaches to problem-solving by broadening the employee's outlook.
- It improves an employee's professional skills through exposure to alternative methodologies.

In addition, GSE provides a great **public relations opportunity** to expand community awareness of your organization. Inform the local news media that one of your employees will be traveling to another country to learn extensively about its institutions, culture and business practices. Also arrange a media interview with the employee upon return, or provide an article with photos reporting on his or her experiences while abroad. The employee may be invited by your community's Rotary club to speak at one of its meetings as well.

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**"My generation is the last that  
will reach top management  
positions without international  
experience."**

*David Fagiano, President & CFO  
The American Management Association*

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## FEATURES OF THE GSE PROGRAM

- Host country is determined prior to a team member's application and selection.
- Teams are composed of 4-6 non-Rotarian team members, usually of various business and professional backgrounds, and one Rotarian team leader.
- The GSE experience spans 4-6 weeks.
- Team members receive extensive orientation and preparation prior to their departure. This may include language training, if knowledge of the host country's language is essential to the team's visit.

# GETTING YOUR EMPLOYEES INVOLVED

## PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

- Candidates must be between 25 and 40 years of age.
- Candidates must be selected by a qualified committee of Rotarian leaders.
- Candidates must be willing to participate in all orientation and preparation.

## THE BEST CANDIDATES

- Young and rising leaders in your organization
- Employees with no or limited international experience
- Employees deserving special recognition or reward
- Bright and broad-minded employees with an interest in people of other cultures

## CONTACTING ROTARY

To get your employees involved in the GSE program or for further information, contact the Rotary club in your area. Or visit Rotary International's site on the World Wide Web at [www.rotary.org/foundation/educational\\_programs](http://www.rotary.org/foundation/educational_programs).