



# INTERNATIONAL ROTARY CENTENNIAL PARK



On occasion of the centennial of Rotary International, a Rotary “Centennial Park” will be created in the middle of Germany, under the motto “100 Trees for Peace”, a project of international scope and with international participation, a project which deals with the essential basic ideas of Rotary, but, above all, wants to establish a symbol of peace.

## Why exactly at this location?

From the geographical and the political-strategic points of view, this location was in the second half of the 20th century a focus of the Cold War and thus a focus of the world affairs. The U.S.A. had ceded this territory for obtaining the West Berlin bridgehead, to the Soviet Union, not knowing that in the following years 1/3 of the world's uranium ore deposits would be exploited here.

It was the only uranium-ore mining of the world taking place in the midst of a populated area. More than 1,000 million tons of uranium-bearing rock were extracted, which resulted in serious interventions into the ecologic and social system and greatly affected the landscape of this region. 2,500 hectares of radioactively and chemically-toxically polluted reclamation landscapes of the Saxonian and Thuringian uranium production are one of the largest contaminated mining sites of Europe. The federal government provided € 6,200 million for the revitalization.

At this focus of German and European history, all Rotarians are offered the opportunity to participate on the occasion of the centennial in a symbol of peace and international understanding. The carriers of the symbol will be trees. On occasion of the Federal Garden Show in Gera-Ronneburg in 2007, this contribution of the Rotarian Community will be made accessible to the international public.

In addition to the German districts, districts and Rotarians from Austria, Switzerland, Russia, America, South Africa, and Israel have already promised or announced their participation. This project is completed by an international youth camp, for which all German inbounds and outbounds have been invited, to learn something about the values of peace, international understanding, friendship and youth, within the framework of a rallye.

For further information, please refer to the displayed project leaflets or to [www.centennialpark.de](http://www.centennialpark.de).