

**Tweed-Kenya Mentoring Program
Report to International Riverfoundation Board, September 2006**

TWEED SHIRE COUNCIL	
FILE No.	MENTORING KENYA
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The program was launched in September 2005, built around an annual budget of \$50,000.

In the financial year to 30 June 2006 \$27,000 was provided to the program. The target sponsorship level of \$50,000 per annum has not been reached. Identified funding sources for 2006/07 are limited to \$10,000 from Tweed Shire Council, \$10,000 from the International Riverfoundation and (as yet) an undetermined amount from Tweed Shire Council staff payroll deduction scheme. (F)

March-June 2006 Activities

1. Samuel Mwangi Macharia is a youth who was identified during the Great Nairobi River Sports for the Environment Day arranged to launch the mentoring program in Kenya. The Tweed community has sponsored Mwangi to spend 6 months in the Tweed. While not directly connected to the program, the initiative has attracted wide publicity and enhanced the standing of Council's program.
2. The program desk has continued with awareness and education of youth and community about the value of a clean environment, water and sanitation. Community forums were held in Dagoretti and at Mwangi's school.
3. World Environment Day. Through the program, youth in Dagoretti undertook clean up, clearing of drains, burning of litter and transportation of refuse to a dump site on 5 June 2006.
4. Kavuthe River Stream Rehabilitation. The program's efforts have focused on the rehabilitation of 4 kilometres of the Kavuthe River. The Kavuthe River is at the headwaters of the Nairobi River within the pilot Dagoretti area. The project aims to improve waste and sanitation services to reduce river pollution and alleviate poverty in Nairobi slums via youth social and cultural activities.
5. Natalie Baker. Natalie worked on the program for 2 months as a volunteer spending much of her time developing the Kavuthe River Rehabilitation Project. Aid agencies in Nairobi including AusAID, the Ford Foundation, UNDP and Veolia Foundation were approached.

Tweed-Kenya Mentoring Program – SkyStation Project

Sky Juice Foundation is a not-for-profit foundation providing membrane filtration water treatment facilities to third world communities.

Tweed Shire Council staff that commenced a payroll deduction scheme to support the program has resolved to deliver, commission and handover a skystation to a rural community 100 kilometres from Nairobi. The community is currently drinking untreated water. A staff member will travel to Kenya to oversee the construction and commissioning, the likely timeframe being October/November 2006.

A project plan will be submitted as a late item to the IRF Board meeting requesting assistance from the IRF to "bankroll" the project, with payroll deductions recouping funds back to the IRF over time.

Summary

Given the likely funding shortfall for 2006/2007, the challenge for the program desk will be to maintain the current youth enthusiasm without creating unmet expectation.

Planned activities are:

- Identification of youth community groups and business living along the Kavuthe River.
- Undertake planning workshops for rehabilitation along the Kavuthe River.

- In collaboration with Forestry Department, identify indigenous trees and plants and establish a local nursery.
- Undertake clean ups and re-vegetation.
- Launch the "business adopt a river" project to encourage private sector involvement in the targeted Kavuthe River area.

CUSTOMERS: INTERNATIONAL RIVER FOUNDATION
+
OLITA OGONJO

2006 Progress Report _____

No. _____

Project Name: TWEED KENYA MENTORING PROGRAMME(TKMP)

Submitted by : Desk coordinator, KMP, Nairobi, Kenya

Date of submission: 4TH DECEMBER 2006.

Note: This report forms part of the IRF Board papers and needs to be brief. Thank you.

1. Project outputs/achievements over the last 3 months

The efforts by TKMP towards improved Nairobi urban water and environmental sanitation situation have resulted into the Youth-Community Led Environmental Action Network (YCLEAN) model of community engagement & awareness, and Kavuthi River Rehabilitation pilot project. These two main components have given the Kenya Mentoring Desk at Dagoretti an identity and goal and in fact the community refers to the desks as "WATU WA VIJANA NA MAZINGIRA"¹.

The following are the most significant achievement in the last three months.

1. MOBILIZATION/EDUCATION:

- KMP co-facilitated hygiene and sanitation training using Participatory Hygiene and Sanitation for Transformation (PHAST) tools for 2-two youth groups and informal primary schools in the Kibera' peoples settlement. This was a 3-day for each of the group from the 26th August, 21st oct & 11th nov 06 to early august 06, which gave the KMP opportunity to include environmental aspects to sanitation tools like F-Diagram i.e. linking faeces/poor waste management to physical environment to human health. More often trainings for improved sanitation in the people's settlement has not taken into account physical environment such as trees/vegetation, and water resources such as polluted Nairobi Dam. The sessions were meant to open the eyes of the youth and residents of Kibera to pay attention to environmental impact.²
- KMP co-facilitated with Kiambiu Youth Group (KYG) the mobilization and training of children that led to the formation of the children's club for child rights, environment and sports in the village. The club is supported by volunteer youth from KYG and has 48 children aged 6yrs to 14 yrs and engage games, soccer, environmental discussions and rights sensitization during weekends and is expected to be active in the coming school holidays.
- Attendance of routine meetings in kibera, mutoine, waithaka, redcross kikuyu, riruta kiambiu where action to stop waste has been the message to the community.

2. YCLEAN:

- The network managed to have six meetings especially in October and November where they explored the possibility of holding a tournament. Proposal was that they would host street soccer and games.
- The network also made arrangements for documentary by Vikki Ulmann and her son Nick) on efforts being made by YCLEAN members to clean their environment for November & December. the group meetings, leadership training,
- More clubs have now joined the network and now have 57 youth groups. The most recent are Gideon's Boot soccer club of Kikuyu, Dagoretti Hawkers Groups and Waithaka Youth Association (WAYA).

3. YOUTH MENTORING:

- Sam Mwangis who was support by the Tweed Community to travel and live with Zietlows family in the Tweed shire got a sponsor(s) for his education and one of the activity/task was to look for a boarding school in Kenya that would take him. Sam has transformation while in Tweed from a boy who had little motivation for education and could not speak English well then, to one who wants to study and can now hold a conversation in English.
- The impact of Sam going to Australia is that young boys are now motivated to play soccer and engage in community service in hope that they would also be noticed and also get to travel like Sam. The challenge for the desk is how to utilize this energy and also not to build hope that can likely be disappointed.

4. ADVOCACY:

- The KMP/YCLEAN met with NEMA's Dagoretti Environmental officer over the pollution of the Kavuthi River where the proposal by KMP/YCLEAN was for a meeting to be held where NEMA engage the Slaughter houses, peoples settlement and leaders on how to best address the problem at this polluted river section. The youth network made commitment to NEMA of their readiness to lead the cleanups, re vegetation and river policing. Discussions are ongoing

¹ Swahili translated in English " people for youth and environment"

² Kibera PHAST workshop report can be availed.

though NEMA has already taken the Abattoirs to court, who in turn have filed an injunction on the grounds that the Water Resource Management Authority (WRMA) is the only body with legal mandate over the river and can take them to court. This is being done in situation where WRMA is yet to define and gazette its mandate.

- forums – represented at IRS (2006), link with Cleanup World member groups to enhance networking
- NEMA environmental workshop at Tumaini House KMP/YCLEAN made presentation on youth and environment. Workshop attended by NGOs like Green Belt, Practical Action, Cradle and leaders, youths, residential association. KMP/YCLEAN presentation by two youth volunteers and Desk coordinator emphasized on need groups to network and also direct more action to physical environment.

5. FUNDRAISING:

- Proposal developed in partnership with TSC and send to O-QHR. The concept seeks to support children living with disabilities and orphans with water and sanitation.
- Conceptualization/design of the safe water project done and implementation plan on going.

6. SAFE WATER:

The rural safe water project was launched in September 2006 and is supported by the TSC staff, Tweed community, IRF, Skyjuice foundation. The month of October and November 2006 was spent in the project area of Obambo – Kadenge, doing a rapid assessment of the area's water situation and sensitizing the community. Upto 3000 resident in this area use dirty water from the Gona Dam source³. The area is one of the poorest parts of Kenya with has high infant mortality rate, HIV/aids to include orphans. The following have been achieved;

- Project site identified and secured. The site is a community contribution to this project.
- Committee representing the women, youth and men in the 8-sub areas(Kathai, usenge, yenga, ugayi, Kadenge, kamlag, mlor/ngulo, Kanyaboli/ndai) of Obambo-Kadenge that use the Gona Dam has been formed. Their responsibility is to oversee the community led implementation are. The community has greatly informed the design and planning.
- The project is also involving the Siaya Town council through the area council
- The project has also elicited the support of the Dominion Farm- a multinational company doing horticulture around Lake Kanyaboli. The community has approached the company to support the desilting of the Gona Dam.

7. INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT:

Given the workload the Desk has engaged the services of 2-volunteers – Christopher to YCLEAN convener & Steve⁴ as Youth mentoring support.

- The youth mentoring support will support in talent identification and development. He is at the moment assisting with Sam's school and arrangement for come back on the 18th December 06. He will with YCLEAN convener will get Sam to visit the YCLEAN members, school and community to feedback on his experience in Tweed. He comes in twice a week, and gets an opportunity to train and Kshs. 7000/- allowance per month for transport and meals.
- YCLEAN convener promotes YCLEAN and recruits clubs in the environment activities. Comes also twice a week and gets kshs. 7000/- .
- The agreement with GNet for hosting the TKMP was for one year to end in December 2006. The desk has obtained NGO registration papers and has done name search in endeavor to have the program registered as an independent organization. What remains is to develop the constitution and appoint a board or Advisory committee, then apply for registration.

2. Project issues over the last 3 months

1. Project is operating on tight budget and hence limited resources. There is need to raise additional funds to engage and train volunteers and scale up activities and cover more ground. This will also help improve on systems like have a volunteer handling accounts. The fact that it has been only one person has meant delays in reports
2. YCLEAN is growing and lot of training and exposure of the youth leaders, clubs on environmental issues, to include resources are needed.

³ ref Obambo Kadenge visit reports

⁴ Sam's Kenyan coach

3. What are the next steps & or upcoming events?

1. facilitate NEMA community dialogue around rehab of Kavuthi river
2. host Vikki and film maker son and support making of documentary
3. step up fundraising- meeting with world bank WSP, UNEP, NCC, WRMA, Forest Depart...to sell YCLEAN model and Kavuthi River pilot

4. What are the next challenges?

The need to now get the real action of river rehabilitation re : Kavuthi river and go for the International River Prize with TSC.

5. Any additional comments, Issues and/or ideas you would like to raise about your project or Twinning in general:

We want to thank the TSC and IRF for the support and direction they have given our program. In particular we won't have reached where we were if it were not for the efforts of the TSC staff and Tweed community. But a lot needs to be done and there is great opportunity to deepen learning. When I look at the Twinning program and in my experience of it in one, I find it relatively simple, direct, practical and humane as it brings the problems where the both communities in the opposite sides of the world can both help address them through direct exchange and intervention. Twinning recognizes that we live in the same world and its problems affect us, so we have to work together.

- I would like to see IRF use more its good position to develop the Twinning program in terms basic of resources and training. There is need for IRF to develop a relation with the programs beyond just funding and probably have a twinning program officer for this.
- There is need, in my view for IRF to support the Twinning programs with more information, training and exchange which will enhance capacity in the areas where there are gaps and weaknesses



2007 Progress Report _____

No. _____

Project Name: TWEED KENYA MENTORING PROGRAMME(TKMP)

Submitted by : Desk coordinator, KMP, Nairobi, Kenya

Date of submission: 20th February 2007.

Note: This report forms part of the IRF Board papers and needs to be brief. Thank you.

1. Project outputs/achievements over the last 3 months

TKMP now operate two-2 program streams, namely the Nairobi river upper catchment restoration and the rural safe water project. The last two months of January and February 2007 more efforts by TKMP was directed at the construction works for Obambo-Kadenge rural safe water. The following are the highlights of most significant achievement in the last three months for the two programs.

A. Obambo-Kadenge safe water project

The months of January and February 2007 saw most of the effort go towards supporting the Obambo-Kadenge rehabilitate Gona dam and undertake construction of water facility source.

The plans were:

- To continue with raising awareness to the community on factors leading to improved dam water sources management.
- To sought financial and material support from government and local business for the dam rehabilitation works.
- To undertake construction of water kiosk/water point, complete with two-2 water storage tank, a water pump powered by wind mill and
- To install four-4 sky hydrant filter.
- To support community put into place systems that will ensure sustainable management of the project
- To commission the project.

Highlights of achievements:

1. Meetings continued to take place in the 8-sub areas(Kathai, usenge, yenga, ugayi, Kadenge, kamlag, mlor/ngulo, Kanyaboli/ndai) of Obambo-Kadenge. The community openly discussed the usage of dam and particularly the issue livestock's that are driven inside the dam to drink and in so doing make the water dirty (urinating and waste). The livestock have also eroded the dam banks causing siltation. There was consensus on the need to separate the livestock from human water source by constructing watering troughs for the animals, and for the community to engage in wide scale desiltation and bank stabilization. The committee is working on rules and regulations.
2. Dominion farms, a multinational farming business operating around Lake Kanyaboli agreed to help the community undertake a technical assessment of the dam and also with machinery to help in desiltation. The water community is making follow-up.
3. Constituency Development Fund set by the government to support community project has also been approached and has agreed to support the dam rehabilitation. The water committee is preparing a proposal to support desiltation, revegetation, more water storage tanks and fencing.
4. Construction works has begun in February with *Fundi* contracted, material supplied, site setting and excavation done. As I do this report the water kiosk -10ft x 10ft and tank stand base and support columns have been erected. The kiosk is two weeks away from completion. Also near completion is 46 ft wind mill complete with pump and battery to store power.
5. Contracted local *jua kali* to fabricate wind mill that would power pump.
6. There has been government support as evidenced by letter from the Kenyan High Commission in Australia requesting duty waiver for the filters. However we have not been successful in getting the Kenya Revenue Authority to give us waiver
7. Arrangements have been made for the TSC staff Mr. Hancock's to travel to the project and install the filtering units and train the community in early march.

Please email this progress report to: manager@riverfoundation.org.au by 29 Nov 2006!

Thanks for your support!

B. Nairobi River catchment restoration:

Month of January and feb focused on planning for TKMP and YCLEAN. YCLEAN has become a significant community engagement tool for TKMP...

- activities YCLEAN -meeting & recruitment
- Volunteers -
- Abstract submitted – adopt river section
- Plan to have three volunteers travel to Aussi
- Visit by young Green peace
- Sam Mwangi – visa reapplication and school

1. MOBILIZATION/EDUCATION:

- on going and after Vikki and Nick there has been more increased awareness and interest in the program
- more youth clubs are coming i.e. Gideon Boots

2. YCLEAN:

- The network is increasingly becoming a significant community engagement tool and in the month we sat with volunteer to reflect and draw plans. Report on this is available
- TKMP was also managed to take a snap shot at it position in light of developments taking place and a report available

3. Sam Mwangi:

- Sam Mwangi is back and arrangements are being made to have him go back to Aussi. The embassy requirement is for his guardians to sought from courts legal authority to sign for his travel.
- In the meantime arrangements have been made for him to go to a school.

4. Networking & Advocacy:

- Hosted Vikki and Nick who filmed activities of TKMP and youths.
- Hosted Global Green from Australia, Sri Lanka and New Zealand in Kibera who had come for meeting in Nairobi.
- World social forum – TKMP was represented by two youth volunteers at the forum in Nairobi.
- Abstract to 2007 river symposium titled Adopt a River Section: efforts to mobilize locally available resources.

5. FUNDRAISING:

- Information received from TSC that on-QHR has accepted to support TKMP with a further 10000 AD a year.
- Proposals have been developed to CDTF, FF and Cord aid to support YCLEAN.

2. Project issues over the last 3 months

The Project issue remains same as last report namely tight budget and hence limited resources and need to raise additional funds.

3. What are the next steps & or upcoming events?

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Thanks for your support!

1. Complete the on-going construction works Obambo – Kadenge safe water project and has it commissioned. This is also the task of getting duty waiver from government on the donated water filters.
2. enhance NEMA community dialogue around rehab of Kavuthi river
3. step up fundraising- meeting with world bank WSP, UNEP, NCC, WRMA, Forest Depart... to sell YCLEAN model and Kavuthi River pilot

4. What are the next challenges?

1. The need to now get the real action of river rehabilitation re : Kavuthi river and go for the International River Prize with TSC
2. to get government of Kenya waive duty for the donated water filters.

5. Any additional comments. Issues and/or ideas you would like to raise about your project or Twinning in general:

Insight:

The safe water project has given us the privilege to also look at rural side of poverty through water. Looking at Obambo-Kadenge safe water project one can see similar water challenges as faced in the urban area. The rural Kenya is rapidly urbanizing and again suffers from lack of proper planning that put peoples lives at risk in that the river and dam water sources and other natural resources are in danger.

Years after the water act 2002 was enacted, and new systems and institutions put into place to ensure that majority Kenyans living in the rural access clean portable water, still many cannot access the commodity. There is need for small and simple initiatives that would help translate the policy into practical program/projects to improve lives of the rural folks. There is great opportunity of replicating the Obambo-Kadenge project.



2007 Progress Report

Tweed Community Kenya Mentoring Program

Submitted by : Tom Alletson – Tweed Shire Council

Date of submission: Monday 6th August 2007

Note: This report forms part of the IRF Board papers. Use bullet points and be brief. Thank you.

1. Project outputs/achievements over the last 3 months

- Operation and maintenance of the Safewater project in Obambo-Kadenge.
- Planning and organisation of River symposium attendance by three volunteer workers from the mentoring program desk in Nairobi. This has included the facilitation of visas, development of training program in Tweed Shire during the week pre and post symposium and arranging billets within the local community during this time.
- YCLEAN meetings have been ongoing during this period though have been hampered by security issues in Nairobi. The YCLEAN network now includes 102 clubs with 52 active in rubbish removal and environmental education activities.
- The Great Nairobi River Soccer Tournament was held for the second time in Dagoretti. 30 clubs participated and this event was organized directly by the youth. The day was held in conjunction with World Water Day with the theme of being responsible for and conserving rivers.
- Three meetings were held in the past quarter with UNEP, NEMA (the stage environmental agency) and other community groups to discuss the concept of an 'adopt a mile' program to help restore the Nairobi River.

2. Project issues over the last 3 months

- The project and life in general has been disrupted in Nairobi and the informal settlements due to increased gang violence and retaliatory police action. This has constrained the ability for youth network meetings.
- The activities of the office and some planned activities were constrained and postponed towards the end of the financial year (this quarter) as funding was unavailable.
- The Obambo-Kadenge Safewater project was out of service for several weeks early in the reporting period. A number of technical and operational problems combined with the source dam drying out made the system temporarily inoperable. As of June 2007 however, rain has topped up the dam and other issues have been addressed. Additional training has been provided to local stewards of the system, and a village based fee collection scheme is being considered to increase capacity to maintain the Skyjuice filters.

3. What are the next steps & or upcoming events?

- The next important occasion for the project is the visit by three volunteers from the mentoring program office in Nairobi to Riversymposium in August and September 2007.
- The key challenge for the long term sustainability of the program desk in Nairobi is securing additional funds to allow partial remuneration of program volunteers and more efficient implementation of projects in Kenya. To this end, several leads are being pursued by the Tweed program participants.

4. What are the next challenges?

- Long term funding continues to be the primary challenge for the desk operation in Nairobi.
- It is anticipated that following the visit to Australia, the three program volunteers will return and strive to increase on ground aspects of river rehabilitation within their communities. The extreme poverty, environmental degradation and lack of services in these areas make rehabilitation projects

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Thanks for your support!

difficult, however the ethic being promoted can flourish within the youth community.

5. Any additional comments, Issues and/or ideas you would like to raise about your project or Twinning in general:

- The concept of individual service clubs (for example Rotary) sponsoring each of the three Kenyan Mentoring Desk volunteers is being explored. If successful, this will create greater human resource capacity and sustainability within the operation in Kenya.
- The Tweed Kenya mentoring program submitted a project proposal to the Skyjuice Foundation in an annual grant it supplies to organisations undertaking water security related projects. The submission has been short listed from a total of 183 applicants. Should it be successful, there is a strong likelihood that the success of the 2007 Safewater project will be backed up with a 2008 initiative.

Please email this progress report to: manager@riverfoundation.org.au by 29 Nov 2006!
Thanks for your support!