

Tweed Kenya Mentoring Program (TKMP)  
**DRAFT Operational Plan 2018 - 2020**

December 2017

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## 1 Introduction

The Tweed Kenya Mentoring Program (TKMP) is an initiative run voluntarily by Tweed Shire Council staff, and supported by Tweed Shire Council. The program has existed since 2005 and has a vision of:

*“Increasing access to Safe water and Sanitation, improving community and environmental health for Kenyan families, and strengthening bonds of friendship with the Tweed Community”*

TKMP exists to improve access to water and sanitation within the South-Central Alego District of Siaya County in Western Kenya. The program is founded on local issues and personal contact, but delivers on the Global Sustainable Development Goal 6 – Water and Sanitation. TKMP has grown from a simple idea in 2005 to an established model of community-led safe water provision.

TKMP works with local communities to create awareness of factors leading to, and to deliver improved water hygiene and environmental sanitation management. The program focuses on good governance, high-quality technology and ongoing collaboration between Australia and Kenya. An important outcome of ongoing collaboration has been numerous visits from Tweed based TKMP volunteers to Kenya. These visits have resulted in the establishment of four Safewater Projects (water purification kiosks) and the restoration of two drinking water supply dams in the programs focus area. The Tweed has in return benefited from numerous visits by Kenyan partners, leading to increased understating of global water and geopolitical issues within Tweed Shire Council and community.

The Tweed Kenya Mentoring Program (TKMP) Operational Plan 2018 to 2020 explains the objectives and resources required to implement program activities in this period.

## 2 Operational Focus 2018 - 2020

TKMP works with local people in the villages of Obambo-Kadenge, LuaLa Kaor and Ting Wangi, where Safewater projects are situated. TKMP’s strengths are community organisation building, the operation of four drinking water kiosks, and liaison with Kenyan County Government leaders and other non-government organisations operating in the area.

TKMP operates within Kenya’s vibrant and dynamic, socio-cultural, economic and political milieu. Local factors strongly influence the programs activities, with key drivers changing rapidly in response to factors such as politics, rainfall and health.

The following factors have been considered in the development of the 2018-2020 Operational Plan:

- Continued cholera and disease outbreaks and high child mortality rates in Siaya County, resulting from inadequate access to sanitation.
- The 2010 Kenya constitution that emphasised devolved governance and provision of services such as water and sanitation.
- The need for appropriate technologies and models that will show case how to reach and provide WASH services in un-served rural communities.

- The need for improved local governance through the building and support of local community groups and network organisations.

### 3 Project Objectives

1. Continue operating and maintaining the four existing Safewater Projects (SWP). There will be a focus on assessing the condition of and replacing the Skyjuice Sky Hydrant filters. TKMP will also investigate a new technology called Skyjuice Squirt filters, which are smaller and can be set up at individual homes, potentially allowing decentralisation of the existing water supply and treatment model.
2. Ongoing community capacity building for dam water user associations, with a continuing emphasis on operator training, water fee collection and community banking of revenue raised.
3. Sanitation education and promotion, including investigating/trailing undertaking construction of best practice home and school toilets.
4. Continually include the Kenyan government within TKMP activities, showing how the community uses the safe water projects.
5. Youth, sport and catchment management. In the origins of TKMP sport was used as a way of bringing youth in. Getting kids involved in growing and planting trees would be an achievement and needs to become a long term strategy to achieve catchment restoration, so that the problems at a water cycle level can be addressed.
6. Undertake good quality governance and reporting, including the publishing of four quarterly reports per year, as well as an annual report provided to Tweed Shire Council.

### 4 Project Activities Summary 2015 - 2017

Activities undertaken in Siaya to deliver the project objectives during the period of the last operational plan include:

#### **Supporting project operators**

Trained operators recruited from the community manage the SWPs. The operators received a monthly allowance from TKMP, and participated in regular monthly feedback, planning and committee meetings.

#### **Water records and banking**

The SWPs maintain up to date records of water volume production, sales and monies collected. This is banked in community operated accounts, with activity presented in TKMP quarterly reports. 60% of the amount collected and banked has been set-aside for SWP operation and maintenance, with the remaining 40% put into community savings funds to be used for projects and activities chosen by the community.

#### **Dam water source**

TKMP has provided both funding and project management for rehabilitation of Gona and Tinga dams, resulting in improved water quality and storage capacity. Ongoing land cultivation, road development, construction, and use of the dams by livestock have led to acute levels of catchment erosion and deposition of silt loads into the dams. TKMP has

initiated a dam and catchment managed agenda in the SWP areas, working with community and local leaders to develop bylaws to protect the water sources.

### **Water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) projects**

TKMP supported the construction of a toilet at Kubar Primary School that has been serving 300 pupils and 10 teachers. The facility has helped to partially alleviate the sanitation problem at the school; however water needed by pupils for drinking and cleaning remains a major problem, as it has to be fetched from Tinga dam which is a one kilometre walk away. The teachers and pupils have taken responsibility for daily toilet cleaning taking up a significant amount of class attendance and learning time. The toilet has also shown early signs that it may soon be filled up, and will require to be emptied. The quick filling is due to high water table, improper use and/or disposal of solid waste into the pits.

In 2012 TKMP in partnership with Kenya Health supported the training of 20 local community health workers (CHW's) to treat and manage jigger infestation within the SWP areas. The Obambo Kadenge CHW's are locally referred to as 'nyamrerwa' and have become instrumental health education, birth attendance, disease outbreaks, case identification and case referrals to hospitals. TKMP has stepped up engagements with the group.

### **Community water planning and participation**

This is a hallmark of TKMP work – encouraging community support of and participation in the SWP's at all stages. The SWP committees conducted meetings and worked with local leaders and County Government officials to ensure effective operation and management of SWPs, including advocating for increased protection of dam water sources. All the SWPs have obtained formal group registration from the government, and have opened bank accounts where SWP revenues are banked.

TKMP has also been working with the SWP committees to develop a Dam Water Users Association in the area. There are no active community networks tackling the broad issues of water, sanitation and catchment management, and thus a Dam Water Users Association provides the opportunity for the community to organise around and address these issues.

### **TKMP has been actively liaising with the following key institutions**

- Ministry of Water.
- Water Resources Management Authority, Siaya.
- Governor Siaya County.
- County Departments of Water and Environment.
- Member of county assembly (Ting Wangi, Obambo-Kadenge and Luaala Kaori).
- Local chief/sub-chief Obambo, Luaala Kaor and Ting Wangi.
- NGOs/CBOs working in the area.

## **5 Project Methodology/Sections/Chapters**

In preparing an Operational Plan for the forthcoming period, TKMP has reflected on the past two years of work and the conditions and issues affecting the communities. The following emerging issues are considered to be relevant and impacting on program delivery in the immediate future:

- There is a need to mainstream safe sanitation awareness and actions into SWP activities. A significant number of people in the area still practice open defecation, with consequent direct impacts on person to person disease transmission, as well as

contamination of drinking water supplies. The TKMP focus will be on development of model toilets for school and homesteads.

- There is a need to explore simple, decentralised and cost effective homestead and school scale integrated WASH approaches, incorporating comprehensive uptake of safe water, sanitation and hygiene behaviours.
- There is a need to sustain the improved committee and community participation in, leadership and ownership of SWPs.
- There is a need to continually improve revenue collection and use in the operation and maintenance of SWPs.
- There is a need to continually engage with County Government water and environment departments.
- There is a need to support and encourage community networks to participate in water, sanitation and catchment restoration projects, and to identify and invest in livelihood projects linked to WASH program activities.

## 6 Activities to Deliver TKMP Objectives 2018 - 2020

### 6.1 Safewater Project Technical Operation and Maintenance

TKMP will continue operating and maintaining Gona, Tinga, Ochilo and Manyasi Safewater Projects, and there will be a focus on assessing the condition of and as required, replacing the filters in each.

We will also investigate and set up trails for the new Skyjuice Squirt filters, which are smaller and can be set up at individual homesteads, potentially allowing decentralisation of the existing water treatment model. In selecting the homesteads preference will be for ones most in need of Safewater that are furthest from SWP stations. For this component the activities will be:

- a) Operation and maintenance of 4 SWPs:
  - Assess condition of filters and other SWP assets at Gona, Tinga, Ochilo and Manyasi.
  - Replace damaged filters, and other assets as required.
  - Support operators and Safewater committees to continue with operation and maintenance of SWPs.
  - Monitor and regularly report on SWPs operation performance.
  - Document and report.
- b) Pilot Squirt filters:
  - Identify 18 homesteads (5-6 for each Gona, Tinga and Ochilo) to pilot Squirt filters.
  - Undertake training in safe water hygiene and sanitation.
  - Set up homestead operation and maintenance plan.
  - Sign MoU with homes committing them to 25% contribution for the Squirt Filters.
  - Procure and distribute Squirt filters to homes.
  - Monitor and regularly report on Squirt filter operation performance.
  - Document and report.

### 6.2 Community Capacity Building

TKMP will support ongoing community capacity building for SWP committees and a dam water user association (DWUA). The DWUA will provide an advocacy platform for the SWPs and dam users to organise and lobby for improved water resource management



within the Manyasi Valley, Lake Kanyaboli and River Yala catchment areas. Issues such as local governance, water and sanitation, catchment management and sustainable livelihood activities will be addressed at a grass roots level. The activities for this component will be:

- a) SWP committee capacity support:
  - SWP committee review of group by laws and representation.
  - SWP committee election and formalisation.
  - Training and exchange.
  - Document and report.
- b) Dam Water Users association (DWUA):
  - Select DWUA representatives and committee.
  - Plan/undertake DWUA training and agenda setting.
  - Conduct DWUA meetings at least once every 3months.
  - Support DWUA engagement with County Governments Departments of water and environment, and any other relevant government or NGOs/CBOs in the area.
  - Document and report.

### 6.3 Sanitation Education and Promotion

TKMP seeks to increase the strategic emphasis on the sanitation side of its operations, but remains constrained by resource availability. It is however important to include this in the program strategy. There must be a programmatic shift to sanitation and hygiene (as opposed to just delivery of safe water) to align TKMP strategic objectives to global best practices as well as Sustainable Development Goals. A significant number of people within the TKMP operational areas still lack access to clean safe water, and basic sanitation and/or practice open defecation. The use and wilful disposal of plastic waste is slowly becoming an environmental menace in the areas.

The four schools within SWP areas (Obambo Kadenge, Kubar, Ochilo, and Luala Kaor Primary schools) have a combined total of approximately 1200 students who face acute problems in accessing water, sanitation and hygiene. These schools provide the best opportunities to pilot School Led Total Sanitation (SLTS) programs to the communities and County Government. TKMP will work closely with the school parent/teacher associations and pupils to develop and implement a WASH plan for the schools.

For this component and subject to funding availability TKMP will:

- Conduct WASH awareness and education focused on factors leading to and benefits of improved water hygiene and sanitation in schools and homesteads
- Undertake investigations into appropriate low cost safe sanitation and waste management options for schools and homesteads
- Design, construct and pilot test the technologies including operation and maintenance plans
- Undertaking construction of best practice home and school toilets in the project period
- Undertake training of skilled and semi-skilled community 'fundis' to carry out construction
- Carry out operation and maintenance at homesteads and schools
- Document and report

## **6.4 Collaborate with the Siaya County government and NGOs**

TKMP will actively liaise and seek collaboration opportunities with the Siaya county government and other NGOs to improve WASH outcomes within the project areas.

For this component TKMP will target the following key institutions:

- Water Resources Management Authority (WRMA) Siaya
- Siaya County Water and Environment Department
- Local chief/sub-chiefs – Obambo-Kadenge, Luaala Kaor and Ting Wangi
- NGOs/CBOs active in the areas that TKMP operate

## **6.5 Youth, sport and catchment management**

In the origins of TKMP sport was used as a way of bringing youth into the program. Getting kids involved in growing and planting trees during school holidays would be an achievement and needs to become a long term strategy to achieve catchment restoration, so that the problems at a water cycle level can be addressed. Activities for this component:

- Identify clubs, coaches and teams in the SWP area
- Conduct soccer clinics and meetings whilst raising awareness on factors leading to improved catchment management, particularly the benefits of revegetating the River Yala, Manyasi Valley and Lake Kanyaboli catchments
- Support clubs to set up indigenous tree seedling nurseries
- Support youth to conduct annual soccer tournament for boys and girls to promote awareness on the need to conserve the environment and catchment.

## **6.6 Ongoing good quality governance and reporting**

TKMP Siaya operations shall provide regular ongoing timely reports (both quarterly and monthly project updates) to TKMP committee in Australia. The quarterly reports shall consist of a written project narrative, financial report and photo images from the project activities. TKMP Siaya shall also provide report on SW project operations and plans to individual SW project committees.

- Submit regular monthly project updates including photos.
- Submit quarterly reports – containing narrative, expense, budget/plans photos and receipts.
- Conduct regular TKMP Siaya team meeting involving TKMP team and SWP operators.
- Conduct regular monthly/quarterly SWP committee/community meetings.

# **7 Program structure and governance**

## **7.1 Tweed Management Team - The Roots of the Program**

TKMP in Australia is coordinated by volunteer Tweed Shire Council staff. This team is responsible for the program's strategic direction and management, and provide technical support and oversight of funding. The Tweed TKMP team is also responsible for the planning, design and implementation of Safewater Projects. The team are the roots of the mentoring project and secure it within the community through their interaction with friends, colleagues, family, local businesses and sporting clubs.

## 7.2 TKMP Siaya Operation Arrangement

The Project Management Partner, Olita Ogonjo, is responsible for the field delivery of the TKMP activities in Siaya. The program implementation arrangements, with roles and duties of participants are as follows:

### Project Management Partner (PMP)

Program management and coordination of all activities including operation and maintenance of the projects, effective liaison with project stakeholder and timely reporting. The PMP is the principal program contact and reports to the Tweed TKMP committee.

### Technical Officer (TO)

The TO is responsible for repairs and maintenance of the projects. The TO provides technical support and training to operators and safe water committees enabling effective operation of the projects.

### Safe Water Records Officer (SWRO)

The RO works closely with Safewater operators and committees to ensure that water distribution volumes are recorded are maintained. This enables collection and banking of water revenues, and reporting back to the committees and communities and the PMP on financial performance of the projects.

### Sanitation Officer (SO - proposed)

A proposed role of Sanitation Officer would be responsible for community awareness, promotion and implementation safe water and sanitation projects. The proposed SO would work closely with SWPs and sanitation committees to facilitate a community led total sanitation initiative, by creating sanitation demand and constructing model sanitation blocks at selected sites. TKMP will seek to recruit an individual with community public health background. Priority will be given to qualified local youths and/or women.

## 8 Reporting

Tweed Shire Council receives written reports from the Kenya desk quarterly. These contain detailed records of activities and expenditure. Reports are provided to the International River Foundation and reviewed by the program steering committee. The quarterly report is received on or before 25<sup>th</sup> day of the 3<sup>rd</sup> month in a quarter. This allows time for review prior to funds transfer on or before the 10<sup>th</sup> day of the 1<sup>st</sup> month in the quarter.

## 9 Budget and Financial Management

Draft Quarterly Budget 2018 - 2020

Item	Unit	Cost	Total
<b>PMP Fee:</b>			
Program Management fee	3	174,894.67	524,684.00
<b>Sub total</b>			<b>524,684.00</b>
<b>SWP Operations:</b>			
Operator allowance	3	26,000	78,000
Filter Maintenance/cleaning	3	3,500	10,500
Pump service maintenance	3	3,500	10,500
General repairs/maintenance	3	5,000	15,000
Specific repairs	1	35,000	35,000

Operator meeting/ training f/up	3	3,000	9,000
Dam Water Users - meeting/workshop	1	30,000	30,000
Meetings/liason/Reporting	2	5,000	10,000
Bank fee	3	1,100	3,300
<b>Sub total</b>			<b>201,300</b>
<b>Total</b>			<b>725,984.00</b>

## 10 Sponsorship

The Tweed Kenya Mentoring Program needs additional sponsorship. Community members and businesses interested in sponsoring this initiative should contact the project steering committee. Sponsors are recognised on the TKMP website, media and promotional events undertaken by the program.

## 11 Project Partners

- The Tweed Shire Council
- Tweed Shire Council Staff
- International Riverfoundation
- Peden/Theiss





# TWEED

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