



# TWEED COMMUNITY KENYA MENTORING PROGRAM

OPERATIONAL PLAN 2007–2010

INTERVENTION, AWARENESS AND ENGAGEMENT





## KENYA AND NEIGHBOURING STATES IN EAST AFRICA

The Tweed Kenya Mentoring program is based in Kibera, and has also undertaken a project in Obambo-Kadenge in the rural west of the country.





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## PROGRAM VISION

The Tweed Community will work with its mentoring partners to achieve sustainable river management and increased access to safe water in Kenyan communities. Participation will increase appreciation of the Tweed's natural assets, and inspire positive social and environmental change in both countries.



## OPERATIONAL PLAN

This operational plan describes the Tweed Community Kenya Mentoring Program as of June 2007. The document contains a brief history of the program, its accomplishments in its first three years of operation, financial arrangements, project streams, management structure, reporting commitments and objectives for the next three years.

## PROGRAM HISTORY

Tweed Shire Council was represented at the 3rd World Water Forum in Kyoto in March 2003. This global conference allows delegates from around the world to meet and share experiences in their quest to provide safe drinking water, and healthy natural waterways for their populations and environment.

During the event, Mike Rayner, General Manager of Tweed Shire Council, met Olita Ongonjo, a community development worker representing Maji na Ufanisi, a non-government organisation from Nairobi. Mike and Olita immediately saw the vast contrast in their organisations work, but also the common themes, and an opportunity to share and learn from each other. In Kyoto, the Tweed highlighted its success in working with a well informed and resourced community to maintain a comparatively healthy environment. Maji na Ufanisi however, presented the plight of a community operating at survival level, struggling to provide basic water supplies and sanitation to village residents.

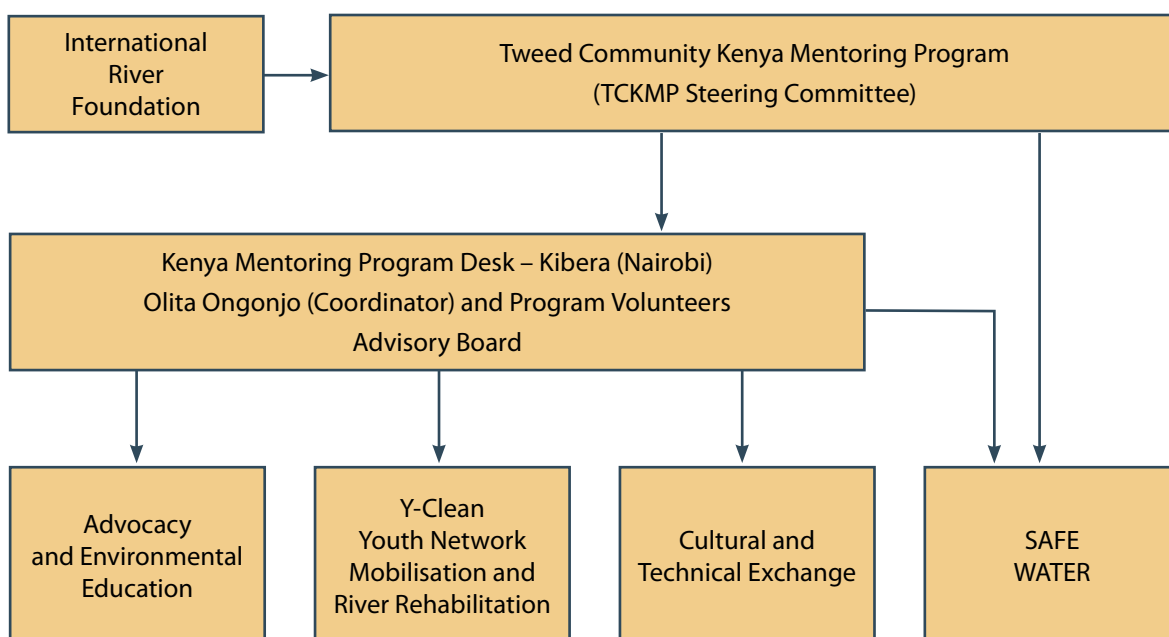
Following the Kyoto exchange, TSC pursued the feasibility of establishing a long-term relationship with its Kenyan contacts, and in February 2004 a mentoring partnership was officially launched, and has since been hosted by Gallamoro Network (GNet). GNet is an HIV/Aids NGO registered under the Kenyan NGO Act 1999, whose aim is to increase community access to information on the care and support of people affected by HIV/Aids. Gnet has mainstreamed water safety, sanitation and environmental resource education into its core activities. Most GNet activities target the low income urban settlements in Nairobi and the rural Nyanza province in western Kenya.



## MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS 2003–2007

- Olita Ongonjo and John Nyachieo from Maji na Ufanisi undertake a three week study tour in Tweed Shire. Strong bonds of friendship and commitment to the mentoring relationship established. High levels of media interest are generated.
- Tweed Shire Council environmental scientist undertakes a three month voluntary visit to Kenya to investigate local conditions and undertake a program needs analysis.
- Tweed Shire Council formalises support for the mentoring program by committing \$10, 000 per year for five years. Commitment matched by International River Foundation.
- A program desk is established in Kibera, Nairobi. Olita Ongonjo employed as Kenyan program coordinator.
- Launch of program in Kenya at the “Great Nairobi River Youth for Environment Soccer Tournament”. Function attended by Australia’s high commissioner to Kenya. Hundreds of pieces of soccer kit donated by Tweed clubs distributed through youth clubs and environment action messages launched to the youth network.
- Tweed Community Kenya Mentoring Program makes links with Sky Juice Foundation to enable the planning of the Safe Water Project, resulting in installation of a water filtration plant in Obambo-Kadenge (rural Western Kenya) by a volunteer Tweed Shire staff member.
- On Q human resources joins program as a partner contributing a further \$10, 000 per year. This secures Kenya desk sustainability and increases capacity to manage the four key program streams.

## PROGRAM STRUCTURE, STREAMS AND ACTIVITIES





Marty Hancock of Tweed Shire Council with Mentoring Desk volunteers.

## The Desk – Hub of the Kenya Mentoring Program

The mentoring program desk is run by Olita Ongonjo from a small rented office attached to the Galamoro Network premises in Kibera, Nairobi. Kibera is one of Africa's largest informal townships and is afflicted by serious environmental hazards resulting from extreme poverty. The key role of the desk is to facilitate the four project streams by, among other tasks, empowering and mobilizing the youth networks of the local area. The Kenya desk is supported by an advisory board and retains the commitment and experience of volunteer staff who receive a small allowance for expenses incurred while working on the project.

## Tweed Management Team – Supporting the Desk and Links with the Local Community

A group of ten Tweed Shire Council staff members and representatives of the two major project partners, International River Foundation and On Q Human Resources work to support the mentoring project from Australia. This group concentrates on communication and fund raising tasks and is responsible for the project's strategic direction and financial management. The Tweed project 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.

## Stream 1 - Education and Advocacy

A primary task is empowering the community to negotiate with the government to provide services, and wherever possible, become self-sufficient in service provision. The mentoring desk works at a grass roots level to provide training in catchment management, and is an advocate for the prevention of pollution, protection of water quality and river restoration.





## Stream 2 - Cultural and Technical Exchange

Tweed is a highly skilled and well resourced community in all its endeavors, from the technical aspects of urban water infrastructure provision, to the organisation of sporting competitions and implementation of community based river and water way conservation projects. There is a strong desire and track record within the program to encourage regular visits of individuals working within the Kenyan arm of the project to Tweed. Experience shows that mentoring relationships form unprompted where ever and whenever our Kenyan partners meet local activists, and it is these multiple contacts that create the programs depth of commitment. Likewise, visits from Australian project volunteers to Kenya are an invaluable source of information, and inspiration, for those involved but who have never experienced the highs and lows of life in Africa.

## Stream 3 - Youth Network Mobilisation for Environmental Rehabilitation

Youth is the future, and nowhere is this more apparent than in Kenya, where a very young demographic reflects the ravages of HIV-AIDS on the adult population. The youth community is beset by a chronic lack of opportunity for paid employment, so projects utilising their inherent capacity for optimism and innovation are being brought to bear on environmental clean ups, recycling and river rehabilitation. The mentoring desk is linking sporting, church and social clubs throughout Nairobi and spreading the message of cash for trash. Proceeds and energy have been used to create a small native plant nursery, with trees being used to revegetate waterways and provide shade.

## Stream 4 - SafeWater Projects

SafeWater is the direct result of a number of TSC staff making a regular contribution from their wage into an account used specifically for the implementation of onground infrastructure projects in Kenya. The first SafeWater project saw a volunteer TSC staff member take a Skyjuice water filtration plant to Kenya and commission it in the village of Obambo-Kadenge. This village has a population of 1000, all of whom used to walk to a heavily contaminated dam to collect water each day. SafeWater has attracted significant support from local businesses and will be an ongoing initiative, using the capacity of the program desk in Kibera to identify priority projects and undertake essential community consultation and pre-commissioning works. It is hoped that a mentoring project volunteer will travel to Kenya each year to oversee the implementation of a SafeWater project, gaining invaluable personal and vocational experience as a result.



November 2006: Mercelin, a 9 year old girl from Obambo-Kadenge shows the water she, her little brother and hundreds of neighbours collect from a contaminated dam.



April 2007: Mercelin showing off the results of the Safewater project.



Above: Tweed volunteer Karen Cranney in Kibera in 2005.

Left: YCLEAN volunteers at a clean up in Kibera.

## OPERATIONAL GOALS AND OBJECTIVES 2007–2010

### Goal

To achieve and maintain financial sustainability within the program, increasing the human and technical capacity of the Kenya Desk, and delivering the four project streams efficiently and simultaneously.

### Objectives

1. To maintain a minimum \$30,000 per year program operating budget, based on the commitment of the three project partners, and ultimately, raising this to \$50,000 per annum.
2. To maintain and increase the Tweed and Kenyan communities personal commitment to the program, maximising cultural exchange by arranging a visit of at least one person from each country to the other, each year.
3. To successfully undertake at least one SafeWater project each year, based on the installation of water treatment or sanitation infrastructure, resulting in direct improvement of living conditions for a target Kenyan population.
4. To resource the Kenya desk to an extent that at least three individual staff receive sufficient recognition and remuneration to remain committed to the project.
5. To maintain accurate and transparent financial records and undertake reporting to the satisfaction of project partners and sponsors and the individuals working to manage the project.
6. To support and promote the network of youth groups working to make positive changes in their environment through recycling schemes and river rehabilitation workshops, by submitting at least one significant application each year to access funds from the international development community, to invest in this project stream.



## BUDGET AND FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

The Tweed Kenya Mentoring Program (Kenya desk and stream 1, 2 and 3 operations) is funded by the three project partners. Program funds are held in trust by the International Riverfoundation and released quarterly to the program desk in Kenya, following the receipt and approval of quarterly progress reports and expenditure statements.

The International Riverfoundation is a not for profit company limited by guarantee, registered as a deductible gift recipient, and therefore all contributions to the program are tax deductible.

SafeWater Project funds are sourced primarily from regular contributions by individual TSC staff members. Additional sponsors include local businesses and community organisations. When tax deductibility is not required for a donor group, funds are held in a Safewater Project account with the Commonwealth bank in Murwillumbah. When tax deductibility is required, funds are held by the International River Foundation.

The operating budget for the 2007 – 2008 financial year is as follows:

### 2007/08 BUDGET (KENYAN SHILLINGS)

Particulars	July-Sept	Oct-Dec	Jan-March	April-June	Total	
<b>1. Office Support</b>						
Rent	30000	30000	30000	30000	120,000	
Stationery	9000	9000	9000	9000	36,000	
Telephone & Email	12000	12000	12000	12000	48,000	
AUD \$3, 909						KSh\$204, 000
<b>2. Personnel Cost</b>						
Desk Coordinator	270000	270000	270000	270000	1,080,000	
Volunteer 1 - Network & Advocacy	45000	45000	45000	45000	180000	
Volunteer 2 - Youth & Club Talent Support	45000	45000	45000	45000	180,000	
Volunteer 3 - Account	45000	45000	45000	45000	180,000	
Workshop & Training	15000	15000	15000	15000	60,000	
IT Support	15000	15000	15000	15000	60,000	
AUD \$33, 342						KSh\$1,740,000
<b>3. Project Cost</b>						
Y-clean exchange, training & seminars	25000	25000	25000	25000	100,000	
Clean up, revegetation & nurseries	50000	50000	50000	50000	200,000	
						KSh\$300,000
AUD \$5, 748						
<b>Income: Australian Dollars</b>					<b>Grand Total (KSh\$)</b>	<b>\$2,244,000</b>
Tweed Shire Council	\$10,000				<b>Grand Total (AUD\$)</b>	<b>\$42, 999</b>
IRF	\$10,000					
Corporate Sponsor	\$16,000*					
Staff Components	\$7,000					
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$43,000</b>					

\* Budget to be reviewed in Dec 07  
subject to confirmation of sponsorship level





## 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, twice per year.

## SPONSORSHIP

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

### Project Partners

The following organisations contribute \$10,000 per year to the Tweed Community Kenya Mentoring Program, funding the ongoing operation of the Kenya desk.

- Tweed Shire Council
- International River Foundation
- On Q Human Resources

### Safewater 2007 Obambo-Kadenge Project Sponsors

The following individuals, organisations and businesses have sponsored the Safewater project for between \$1500 and \$3000.

- Martin Albrecht (IRF)
- Siemens
- Skyjuice
- Tweed Shire Council Staff Contributions
- Murwillumbah Seventh-day Adventist Church
- Hayes Steel – (David North)
- Central Engineering – (Kevin Johnson & Scott Penman)
- Jim, Les, Debbie & Carol Dickinson
- Solo Resource Recovery – (Robert Richards)
- Scandinavian Cone Company – Warren Stratton

### Tweed Community Supporters

A significant number of individuals, businesses and service organisations have provided generous, ongoing support to the program.



## CONTACTS



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