

TWEED COMMUNITY – KENYA PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

APRIL TO JUNE 2006 MONTHLY REPORT

1 INTRODUCTION

The first year of the Tweed-Kenya Mentoring Partnership Program came to an end in March 2006, with the next program cycle starting in July 2006. This initially had meant that the period April to June would have no funding, and that activities at KMP would have to be scaled down. But in the period the TSC/IRF were able to raise money to enable the KMP continue with its activities

This report highlights the activities undertaken by the KMP in the period April to June 2006. Key aspect in the period being the sponsorship of Samuel Mwangi to travel to Australia. Also in the period too the KMP Desk took time to evaluation/reflection on the 1st year ended where the key strengths, opportunity and lessons were identified and a way forward suggested in the draft plan of operation for the year beginning July 2006 to June 2007.

2 Plans for the month of December 2005

- facilitate Mwangi's travel to Tweed Shire, Australia - organize birth certificate, passport, medical tests, X-rays and vaccination, as and follow-up with family and school
- follow up on individual youth groups
- follow up on youth network - YCLEAN
- follow up on the networks and linkages- CSO, GOK
- follow-ups on fundraising
- Take photo images for schools project in Tweed.
- undertake the quarterly reporting

3. Significant socio-economic

Uchumi supermarket closure

The oldest and one of the giant chains of super market in Kenya called Uchumi Supermarket was finally was declared bankrupt and closed in late May 2006. The government had large shares and interest in the supper market. Uchumi was popular with Kenyans because of the relatively low foodstuff and household product prices and that it sold Kenyan own farm and industrial products hence called super market of the

poor. It was also the only indigenous supermarket employing thousands of Kenyans. With its troubles leading to its final closure, the other privately owned supermarket hiked retail prices and cashed on low priced imported products. By end of the June 2006 the pressure to reopen the super market saw the government a decision to put in money into Uchumi and the appointment of new board of directors. Plans were made to negotiate with creditor with aim of working out a new operational plan for the supper market. The revival of the supermarket was celebrated by residents in the low income areas to include Dagoretti area

Armenian brothers' airport saga

The month saw an airport saga involving the Artur Brothers from Armenian. The two brothers who had come to the country as investors, and who were said to have been involved in the Standard Newspaper raid in the previous months and enjoyed government protection. There were speculations that they were assassins out to eliminate any opposition to the president. Their continued stay and operation in the country was a subject of politics. In June the brothers were said to have attacked the airport of the Kenya Revenue Authority officials who had demanded that they declare the contents in their travel luggage as well as pay required duty. The brothers refused and drew guns, walking off with the luggage. This prompted public outcry and their subsequent deportation. The president soon ordered an inquiry into their conduct through a commission, and also at the same time the parliament appointed another commission of inquiry. By end of June, there were two commissions of inquiry into the conduct of the two brothers (one appointed by the president and the other appointed by parliament), adding more confusion and politics into the matter

June 2006 budget

The minister of finance in the 2006/7 budget read in mid June 2006, raised fuel, cigarette and alcohol prices. Also he made proposal to expand taxation net to include jua-kali¹ or the informal sector, most of who come from the rural and slums. All these were an attempt by the government to raise money to fill in the national budget deficit. The rise in fuel prices had far reaching implication in the coming days, in that the matatu² fares went up as well as cost of foodstuff. The socio-economic impact of the rise in fuel prices on households especially in the low income areas are likely to be far

¹ Means 'hot sun' referring to all business operating in the open - exposed to the sun and rain. these include mechanics, carpenters, food vendors

² matatu refers to the cheap and common mode of public transport mini-buses, carrying between 14 and 25 passengers, found in major cities of Kenya like Nairobi

reaching. There was a general feeling that the budget should have cushioned the poor more by cost cutting measures. The budget also raised Constituency Development Funds - CDF to 50 million from 20 million. The CDF is a special fund for constituency development and is controlled by local Member of Parliament. The other development was the creation of special youth development funds, for youth enterprise development. The operational modalities of these funds have yet to be worked out.

4. PROGRESS IN THE PLANNED ACTIVITIES.

4.1. Mwangi Australia visit

The main activity in period was that of organizing the travel of Samuel Mwangi to Australia, boy identified during the Great Nairobi River Tournament, and supported by the TSC and Tweed community to go to Australia for a 4 months stay. The news that Mwangi would be traveling to Australia was met with a lot of excitement - especially by Mwangi himself, his family and friends who would not believe, until the day he got his visa and traveled to the airport the same day. The tasks were to get support from /and preparing his family, school and community, applying and following up his birth certificate and passport, undertaking required medical tests, X-rays and sending the same to TSC. All these were done with no problem. The coordination between the KMP Desk and the TSC was amazing, and got things happening

Mwangi, orphaned, and was raised by grandmother, and later come to the city to stay with aunt and uncle, did not ever think that one day he will 'in his words ... get in an aero plane and travel to far land...cant believe this...don't have words for now...but I pray to God...' these were Mwangi's words at the farewell party. Later on at the airport, he held my hands and asked '...Olita, I will be okay...' I looked at him, tear of happiness and worry in my eyes. Since Mwangi left, young boys and girls have come wanting to be 'good' and participate in environment and sports, so that they can be like Mwangi. They remember that Mwangi had gone to Australia on 15 June 2006³.

Press coverage - News coverage of Mwangi Australian visit and KMP was finally on the Nation TV 9pm news on Sunday 18th June 2006. Inquiries and youths wanting to volunteer in the program have not stopped since.

³ Extract from the dairy of olita

4.2 Youth support - The programme has been given advice and information support to the individual youth clubs, particularly in the area of organization, project proposals and organization of events and activities. There were two main support events in the period

1. In May 2nd - 4th 2006 the KMP supported the Kibera Youth Self Help Group with training in leadership and development facilitation,

2. Assisted ISSA, Kibera youth group in the organization of Miss Kibera (Miss Kibich) beauty pageant on 17th June 2006. Miss Kibich event sought to raise awareness amongst youth and community on Hiv/aids. The desk is also working with ISSA in the development of a model youth resources center for youths in Kibera, where PC for Africa (an Irish NGO) has already pledged to donate 25 used computers for the project.

4.3. Youth-community outreach

- The KMP has continued with awareness and education of youth and community, not only about the TKM partnership, but also about value of clean environment and youth community service, water and sanitation. This was done in community forums in Dagoretti and talks at Mwangi's school with teachers and student to explain about Tweed shire where Mwangi would be visiting, about the importance of river catchment and clean environment, trees/vegetation, community service.

- The KMP made follow-ups made of with individual youth groups/clubs of the youth – community network and clubs to help them finalize the proposals to Ausaid African small for groups. On 2nd - 4th may the KMP assisted a youth group in Kibera by the name Kibera Self Help Group to undertake group formation and management training as part of youth mentoring. A report of this training is available.

4.4. Networking with CSO

KMP in the period continued to network and collaborate with NGOs in the sector key being Maji na Ufanisi, Green Belt Movement, ITDG/Practical Action, Plan-International, Carolina for Kibera, Kenyatta University and Nature Africa/Friend of Arboretum & Friends of City Park. In the period the KMP was copted in the committee in the Friends of City Park community project under the Nature Kenya. KMP also attended the waste recycler's cooperative meeting organized by ITDG/Practical Action at YMCA Shauri Moyo Hall in April. The main agenda was on the plans to start project on recycling of the flimsy plastic that has become great bother in Kenya.

World Environment Day - The KMP supported in the organization of World Environmental Day and clean up on 5th June 2006 in Dagoretti. This was done alongside local leaders, NEMA and Nairobi City Council. We undertook cleanup clearing drains, burning of litter and transportation of refuse to the dumpsite - with youth in Githembe and Kawangware in Dagoretti.

4.5 Fundraising

1. UNDP acknowledged the projects proposal for the Kavuthe River Pilot and forwarded the proposal to the vetting committee for review.

2. As part of fundraising strategy, KMP in collaboration with Maji Na Ufanisi and African Network for the Protection and Prevention against Child Abuse and Neglect (ANPPCAN) started on discussion with a view to develop a joint partnership around youth community HIV/Aids, Water and Sanitation in the slums. By end of the quarter, a draft proposal had been developed and ready for ratification and adoption.

3. Sue Cavanna director SOS SAHEL, a funding organization based in UK, visited the program office and held discussion about potential for long term collaboration with programme. Areas of emphasis were in Kavuthe river project and youth support. SOS SAHEL has since been given write up on the KMP and concept on the Kavuthe river project.

4.6. Collaboration with government

In the period there was continued collaboration with National Environmental Management Authority (NEMA) and Nairobi City Council's department of environment especially in the organization of the world environmental day. Two meetings were held in April and may at the NEMA offices in Dagoretti.

A discussion with Forest department to explore the possibility of setting up indigenous tree and plant species nurseries in Dagoretti was undertaken in the period. The initial proposal was to do this within the collaboration agreement between Nature Kenya and Forest Department, so as to avoid bureaucracy. Plans to continue with this discussion in the coming months were made. These contacts and discussion were started with the Friends of City Park meeting where KMP was copted.

The Desk was able to hold consultative meeting with Dagoretti Constituency Development Fund (CDF) offices on 8th June. CDF is a special fund from the central government to the constituencies of up to Kshs. 50 million, to undertake local projects. Our consultation was around prioritization of youth and environmental projects

4.7. International Networking/advocacy

The KMP prepared an abstract paper to this years International River Symposium (IRS) titled “youth rehabilitation of the polluted Nairobi river” that has been accepted and IRS is organizing to support youth volunteer Anastasia Njeri who will be representing the Desk. Anastasia is a lady footballer/referee, and a member of the youth group of Kibera called ISSA, will also be traveling for the first time.

4.8. Photos – various

KMP managed to take photos images from the slum settlement for the Tweed School Project. The images taken mainly from Kibera cover Mwangi School and neighborhood, the slums (housing, people, clothing business, and families). Arrangement has been made to send them separate to this report.

5. CHALLENGES

Two main challenges have been identified, namely the

- Need to secure long-term funding and commence action.
- Need to engage more staff - even on short term- especially in area of financial accounting and working with youth to make program more effective. this can be done within the current arrangement and budget i.e. using some of the allowance of desk coordinators

6. EVALUATION OF 1ST YEAR - WHAT HAS SO FAR EMERGED AND POINTERS TO NEW AREAS OF PROGRAMME DEVELOPEMENT

The following are extracts from the evaluation/reflection exercise done in the period. This has been documented in the draft plan of operation for July 2006 to June 2008 and circulated to both the TSC and the IRF comment and input. The following are the highlights of the identified areas now emerging out of the one year of KMP and which point to new areas for the programme.

6.1. Youth Mentoring “UJANA” Initiative

The KMP was able to establish that the youth in Nairobi and in particular the Dagoretti area faces a lot of hardship that include HIV/Aids, Drug abuse, school dropout, lack of

employment to name a few, that prevent them from being active participant in community service and youth affairs. The youth have a huge potential because of they are young, have the energy and their large number. They lack information, training and support.

6.2. River Catchment Management

The state of the Nairobi River, right from its heads waters in Dagoretti is in deplorable state. The settlements, businesses and farming activities dispose untreated liquid and solid waste directly into the river stream. The pollution of Nairobi River starts with headwater streams of Kavuthe and Nyongare River in Dagoretti.

6.3. Improved Water and Sanitation infrastructure design and development.

Raw human waste and solid waste from settlement and businesses are emptied into the river stream. Dagoretti catchment is a wetland with high water table, and there is no council sewerage grid. The resident, instead use shallow pit-latrines for human waste (that include domestic waste) disposal, which then fill up very quickly, and are then emptied into the river streams. Solid waste is also disposed via the river streams due to lack of proper solid waste disposal facility and system. The Dagoretti abattoirs have for a long time emptied effluents from the slaughter of animals directly into Kavuthe River stream. There are also the activities of “Jua-Kali” garages, car wash that dispose grease and oil directly into the stream. The resident living along the Kavuthe river stream rely on water from wells for drinking, where the underground water is already polluted and compromised. There is huge potential for wastes recycling and management along business lines, in ways that the profits accruing could be used to support youth development such as in sports, HIV/aids (especially access to medicine, testing, counseling and information) and training.

6.4. Trade waste regulation policy advocacy

The regime of trade waste regulation in Kenya is still weak particularly because of absence of strong trade waste policy and institutional capacity to enforce anti pollution law. There is also limited information and public awareness, and therefore lack of community responsiveness to pollution and abuse of the rivers. NEMA which was created by act of parliament to coordinate all environmental and enforce anti-pollution, is overwhelmed by the problem. There is however willingness on the part of community and government to see the situation improve.

6.5. Kavuthe River Stream Rehabilitation (Krsr).

The need to undertake KRSR has articulated under the project document titled “improved waste and sanitation services to reduce river pollution and alleviate poverty in Nairobi slums via youth social and cultural activities”. The project has been formulated by the Kenya Mentoring Program in consultation with youth community of Dagoretti, with the support of M/s Natalie Baker Environmental Scientist from Australia, the TSC and the IRF. The project seeks to bring together expertise from TSC, NEMA, NCC, Forestry Department and youth community to improve waste and sanitation services to 30000 residents of Dagoretti Centre, Mutoine-Kirigu and Waithaka to rehabilitate a 4km of Kabuthi River at headwaters of Nairobi River, between the Dagoretti Market and Waithaka shopping centre. The Kabuthi River is heavily polluted by waste from the Dagoretti market, as well as toilet and solid waste from the above settlements. The houses are in a poor state, built out of timber and iron sheet. Most of the structures do however have piped water and electricity supply. There are a few pit latrines available most of which are emptied by manually into the Kabuthi River. Solid waste is disposed of onto the open pathways within the settlement, and is washed into the river by the rains. The pilot project will demonstrate the ability of simple environmental, waste and sanitation interventions to reduce liquid and solid waste pollution that is severely degrading water quality in the Nairobi River. It is envisaged that this project can be used as a model and implemented in other regions of the Nairobi River Catchment, other rivers in Kenya, Africa and around the world, where poor waste management and sanitation pollute water threatening human health. The estimate cost of the project is US Dollars 521594.9 and already UNDP, Ford Foundation and Veolia Foundation have been approached for funding. AusiAid is yet to be approached.

Project Focus: The project will be aimed at the youth of Nairobi to ensure community ownership and participation to guarantee the goal is met by home grown solutions to improving river health, waste management and sanitation services. Youth outreach will be facilitated via cultural and social events such as sporting and arts activities. Further information and details of the project can be obtained in the project document titled “improved waste and sanitation services to reduce river pollution and alleviate poverty in Nairobi slums via youth social and cultural activities”

6.6. Youth-Community Led Environmental Action Network (Y-Clean) Model.

Y-CLEAN is youth-community model for action on environmental, and youth sports and cultural development that is emerging out of the KMP programme activities still at formative stage. The model is driven by youth and will also involve also collaboration with government, NGOs, business, schools and universities. Already a youth network has emerged covering the entire Dagoretti catchment including Kibera and Kiambiu slums; and youth leaders are being identified and mentored, and Y-CLEAN Dagoretti is being discussed and agreed upon. The youths have identified that they want to engage in information exchange, organization development, training and youth action through sports/culture and community service of cleanups, revegetation & water and sanitation infrastructure development. It is expected that the Kavuthe River Stream Project will be implemented via the Y-CLEAN model. The year beginning July will see more emphasis put into the formalization of this network.

6.7. Local Fund Raising “Businesses- Adopt-A-River Section” Model

The involvement of businesses and private sector in development, both as contributor and service provider has not been fully exploited. There is huge opportunity for the KMP desk engaging the big corporation in Nairobi under the emerging initiative for local resources mobilization we are calling “*Private Sector- Adopt-a-River Section*”. Particularly targeting Kavuthe River Stream, identified companies will adopt sections of the river and support the Y-CLEAN initiative to undertake community service of clean up, revegetation, river bank rehabilitation and water quality monitoring. Already initial consultation with some of the companies has indicated the willingness to participate in the project and advertise their products as they do so. This model is inspired by Nature Kenya’s Friends of Nairobi Arboretum (FONA) and Friends of City Park (FOCP) initiatives that have successfully mobilized the companies, individuals and the public to support rehabilitation and conservation of these two nature parks in Nairobi. AMREF too previously undertook a campaign for improved sanitation called “Flying Toilet Project” that saw companies supporting the development of toilet blocks in Kibera slums. KMP intends to develop further this concept as one of its fundraising strategy.

7 SUMMARY OF PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR JULY 06 - JUNE 2007

- identify youth community groups, key stake holder - gok, business living along kavuthe river

- undertake planning w/shop for rehab of kavuthe river
- in collaboration with forest department identify indigenous tree and plants and setu nursery
- undertake cleanups and vegetation
- Y-clean planning w/shop

8. STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENSE APRIL TO JUNE 2006

<u>Date</u>	<u>Cash in</u>	<u>Amt</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Cash out</u>	<u>Amt</u>
28-Mar-06	balance B/F	48,002.75	9-May-06	computer repair	34,000.00
23-May-06	cash disbursed by IRF GNet	446,242.25	30-Jun-06	personnel	225,000.00
			30-Jun-06	rent April - July 06	60,000.00
			30-Jun-06	email/phone	13,025.10
				Kibera youth w/shop	<u>23,210.65</u>
					355,235.75
				Mwangi expenses;	
			18-Apr-06	birth cert/passport	8,740.00
			9-May-06	medical tests	4,851.00
			9-May-06	vaccination	9,050.00
			23-May-06	postage and courier	3,480.00
			15-Jun-06	clothing/shopping	5,000.00
			15-Jun-06	transport	6,768.00
			15-Jun-06	farewell	<u>4,810.00</u>
				total Mwangi expense	42,699.00
	total amount in	494,245.00		total expenses	397,934.75
				balance as at 15th July 06	96,310.25

9 BUDGET - JULY 2006 TO SEPT 2006

ITEM	UNIT COST	NO.	
office support;			
rent aug to sept 06	20000	3	60000
tele/email	8000	3	24000
office printer	30000	1	30000
			114000
personnel;			
account assist volunteer	10000	3	30000
Youth community volunteer	10000	3	30000
desk coordinator	65000	3	195000

			255000
project cost;			
kavuthe river environ workshop	20000	2	40000
indigenous vegetation nursery	45000	1	45000
clean up / tree planting	40000	1	40000
wall mural-environs campaign	12000	1	12000
Y-CLEAN seminar	15000	3	45000
			182000
total budget			551000
less balance			96,310.25
total budget requested for July to sept 06			454,689.75
Exchange Kshs. 52/- to 1 AUSDOLLAR =			AUSD 8744.0337

Notes :

1. The two personnel to assist the desk are proposed to work as volunteers and on part time basis. Their proposed allowance will be paid from part of the desk coordinators allowance.
2. The amount thus being requested for the period july to sept 2006 is kshs. 454, 689 or Aus Dollars 8744.