

TITLE: [GC] Tweed Community Kenya Mentoring Program - Stage 3

ORIGIN:

General Manager

SUMMARY OF REPORT:

At its meeting of the 21 September 2005 Council endorsed the Tweed Community - Kenya Mentoring Program Stage 3 Operational Plan 2005 - 2010. This is the first report since initiation of Stage 3 of the Program. The report has been prepared both from the Kenyan Desk and by Council.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council:-

- 1. Notes the contents of this report.**
- 2. Forwards the report to the International Riverfoundation for its information.**

REPORT:

At its meeting of the 21 September 2005 Council endorsed the Tweed Community - Kenya Mentoring Program Stage 3 Operational Plan 2005 - 2010. At that meeting Council also resolved to accept the offer from the International Riverfoundation to administer the program funds, to transfer \$10,000 to the International Riverfoundation "Tweed Mentoring Account" from Council's Catchment Water Quality Program and to endorse the Memorandum of Understanding.

The Operational Plan requires the Mentoring Program desk in Kenya, and Tweed Shire Council to provide progress reports on a quarterly basis.

REPORT FROM TWEED COMMUNITY KENYA MENTORING PROGRAM DESK AT GNet:

The following report has been submitted from the Kenyan desk covering the period for October and November 2005.

1. Introduction

The stage three of the TSC-Kenya mentoring partnership program that was launched in September 2005 officially begun in October 2005 with a partnership desk at GNet (a local NGO) in Kenya. The overall aim of the partnership in this stage is to improve water and environmental sanitation through awareness, engagement and intervention, using the TSC model, targeting Nairobi river catchment's in the Dagoretti Division of Nairobi District and kikuyu area of Kiambu District.

In the month of October 2005 the program was able to get into Dagoretti division and make contacts with key Governmental and Non Governmental agencies, community groups and individuals. In the month of November the program mainly undertook follow-up meetings that sought to raise awareness on factors that would lead to successful environmental conservation, water and sanitation. The month of November also saw meetings being held with some of the youth groups in Dagoretti, Kibera and Kiambiu with the view to hold a "soccer for environment awareness" tournament early December.

Over view of Dagoretti and Nairobi river catchment's

Nairobi has its source in the Ngong and Thogoto forests (partly within Kiambu District and the other part in Nairobi District) – the various streams that include the Ondiri swamp and the Kikuyu springs - that today is a scene of severe human activities in the form of agriculture and settlement activities. The Nairobi River Basin and catchments stretches from the Ngong forest and the Karen area to Kibera, Westlands and the city of Nairobi. Thus Dagoretti area which is 15 km west of the city of Nairobi includes areas such as Riruta-satellite, Gachui, Waithaka, Mutuine, Rithimitu, Kawangware and parts. Dagoretti area is poor and densely populated with an estimated population of almost 800, 000/- some of the issues one would notice besides heavy settlement in the area are indiscriminate waste disposal, problems of human waste (lack of sewerage, few pit latrine), poor drainage, the many slum settlements, over cultivation of the catchments area of Kikuyu and the cutting down of trees. There are also small scale industrial and business activities affecting the area – the Dagoretti abattoir and various market centers of the area have poor waste management facilities. In all the Nairobi river experiences pollution from its source that becomes more severe as it crosses the city of Nairobi.

Other than the Nairobi River Initiative, which is a network and consortium of various organizations such as UNEP and NGOs, there isn't any serious initiative towards rehabilitation of this important river.

Water and environment sector

The government is in the process of implementing changes through water and environmental sector Acts with the view of achieving improved standards. These changes have seen the creation of bodies such as National Environmental Management Authority (NEMA) to coordinate and implement Environmental Management and Coordination Act (EMCA). Also the Water Act 2002 has introduced changes in the sector by creating new institutions to cater separately for Water Services Board (WSB) and Water Resources Management Board (WRMB). The water act has divided the country into seven-7 regions, with water services boards and water resources management in each of the region. Nairobi and its catchments falls within the Nairobi region and has both WSB and WRMB. The WSB undertakes the licensing of water services and has accordingly provided the license to the Nairobi Water and Sewerage Company (NWSC) to provide water services to the city.

2. Plans for the Month of October and November 2005

The following were some of the planned activities for the period:-

- set desk
- make contact and raise awareness on the TSC model
- undertake rapid socio-economic and physical investigation of the area.
- organize soccer for environment awareness
- organize meeting and training
- formation of committee and initiative environmental activities
- undertake fundraising
- undertake to report to partners

3. Significant Socio-Economic and Political Occurrence in the Period

The main socio-economic and political event in the period and which had an impact on this partnership program was the Kenya constitutional debate.

Kenya constitutional debate - The debate for a new constitution to replace the current one that was made in 1960 and then Kenya's independence three years has been raging in the country for past 15 years. This culminated in Constitution of Kenya Review Commission (CKRC) going around the country to collect views of Kenya on proposed constitution. This was followed by stormy meetings of delegate representing different interests, ethnic, political and also religion from all over the country who met constitution assembly at Bomas in Nairobi to discuss the views and the result was a Bomas Draft proposal for Constitution. This draft drew sharp opposition from the government. There were many contentious issues and significant ones included the excessive powers the Presidents of Kenya have enjoyed under the current constitution that many saw as the source of corruption and abuse of power; the entrenchment of Muslim Kadhi's court in the proposed Bomas draft did not go well with many Christians; the proposal to create the post of powerful prime minister as head of government and thus rendering the President ceremonial invited opposition. It was at this point that Bomas proposals were taken over by the government who through the Attorney General Mr. Wako came up with a constitutional draft that is called the Wako Draft Constitution that many view as a diversion from the views of Kenya and the Bomas Draft. A referendum date to vote Yes

or No to the Wako was set for 21st October 2005 where the government side – the YES camp lost to the NO. The president responded by sacking his entire cabinet and proroguing parliament. As we speak, there is a possibility that the president may call for a snap election, if not able to appoint a satisfactory cabinet soon.

Thus the months of October and November saw a heated campaign and the violence between the supporters of the proposed new constitution (the Yes Banana camp) and the opposition (the NO orange camp). In the country and especially the urban areas like in Nairobi, every other activity and meetings were made secondary to the constitutional debate that had taken a political direction. Since this had been the initial engagement with community and key actions significant to the start for the partnership program, we had to exercise a lot of caution, and not to be drawn into the either side of the political divide. Already some of the development programs were being accused of funding or supporting either side to the detriment of those programs. This is not to say that the proposals and debate were not important frame of reference to the program. The debate around environment and access to what was unanimous as everyone was in agreement that there is a dire need to improve on the water and environmental resources management.

Famine - There were also reports of impending famine especially in the Arid areas due to delayed rainfall. In the South western, Eastern and North Eastern parts of Kenya where the communities such as the Maasai, Boranas, Gabra, Somalis, Samburus, Turkana – predominantly pastoralist- are faced with severe drought. In some areas such as Kitui in Eastern Kenya already small children were reported to be dying and government and agencies in the month had started soliciting for help and mobilizing resources to aid the affected.

4. Progress in the Planned Activities

4.1 Set Desk

Open Bank Account & Money Transfer

GNet agreed to the partnership program usage of their Barclays Bank account at Queensway to facilitate funds transfer. The same was communicated to partners TSC and IRF who obliged by sending the first disbursement of AUD 11 964 or Kshs. 636 805/55 on 31st October 2005. Upon receiving this start up funding, the desk was able to setup on its planned activities.

Signing Of Mou 5 October 2005 At The Stanley

The partnership agreement was officially signed on 5th October 2005 at The Stanley hotel in Nairobi. This event was witnessed by a group of holiday makers and rotaritarians from Australia (led by John and Janice of the Murwillumbah Central Rotary), staff at GNet, representative from Thika Rotary in Kenya, and the two partnership desk officers. Also at the signing occasion more soccer boots and shirts donated by the Tweed community were handed over.



Olita, John, Janice & Mr. Ogola - signing MOU

Accounting System

The program is in the process of developing simple accounting and finance systems for the program. This will be documented in a simple manual to guide financial, accounting and procurement processes within the program. The proposed document will be sent to both partners for comment and feedback.

Procure Additional Equipment

The program due to budget limitation only acquired two additional tables and chairs for the two desk officers.

Roles of the Two Desk Officers

The main role of the two program desk officers is to see to it that the program is implemented as agreed with TSC and IRF partners. John will oversee the technical implementation and Olita will oversee the community engagement component. John has been, in addition, given the responsibility of managing the accounts and Olita will manage information and communication for the program. Both the officers will be involved in fundraising for the program.

It was observed earlier that there may be a need to have an additional field worker in light of the huge coverage and work that need to be done, and if this is to happen, given the money circumstances than it would have to be done by taking off some amount of money from the allowances of the two desk officers. A proposal for a pay of Kshs 20, 000/ for one additional trainee field worker. But this will have to be further explored and discussed with TSC and IRF.

4.2. Contact and Awareness

The actual contact with community and other key stakeholders to this partnership program started in September and was stepped up in October with the signing of agreement. This initial contact has been mainly to identify water & environmental issues and raise awareness about the program. This so far has been taking place at two levels, first directed at government agencies and Non governmental agencies and individuals

who are significant to this program. The second level has been directly with individuals and community groups at Dagoretti/Kikuyu areas and the other with government agencies and organization that are important to the program. The contacts that so far have been made are as follows.

Contact with Government Agencies and NGOs, Individuals

National Environmental Management Authority (NEMA) - A body created by law to coordinate and manage all the environmental conservation activities. It is an equivalent of EPA in Australia. Representatives from this agency participated in the discussion in Karen's meeting November 2004. We made contacts once more with Mr. Mbegeria, Director enforcement and compliance and are to schedule a meeting to agree the way forward after 21st November 2005. NEMA will be key since it is the authority, in facilitating linkages and support. The program has a chance to access funds from the environmental trust fund to implement some of the projects to be identified later.

Water Boards – The water act 2002 created various water boards to oversee the water resources service deliver and management. The Act has adopted a catchment approach to water resources management and service delivery and Nairobi now falls within the jurisdiction of the Athi river region water boards. Nairobi River is a key tributary of the Athi river that feeds into the Indian ocean. We have made contacts and introduced the program to Professor Gichaga of the Water Resources Regulation Board. An appointment is being sought with the Water Services Board and the Water Trust Fund in last week of November.

Universities – contacts were made with Dr. Waweru Gathumbi - environment scientist, a lecturer at Kenyatta university and who participated at our November 2004 (ref report stage 2) forum. Also contacts with Dr. Muma environmental lawyer, lecturer at University of Nairobi and who participated at our November 2004 forum. Dr. Muma has been very instrumental in the writing of water and environmental legislation for the country, while Dr. Waweru has done extensive research on waste in the Nairobi city.

United Nations – Both the UN-Habitat and United Nation Environment Program(UNEP) have been instrumental in human settlement, water and environmental sanitation initiatives in the region. Program made contact with Mr. Dede of the UNEP who coordinating the Nairobi River Basin Initiative. A follow-up meeting is being sought to explore the possibilities of linkages

Council and government contacts – appointment with Ministry of environment, Ministry of Water, Nairobi water & sewerage company, Nairobi city council – departments of environment and public health are being followed up. This should happen in the last week of November 2005.

Way forward – All the contact and initial discussion are planned to have happened by end of November. This is to be followed by a meeting of above contacts that would critically look at the proposed stage three of the partnership program - formulate an action plan and to mobilize needed resources for the activities planned

Contact with Community and Individual at Dagoretti

Mutuinie - Mutuinie is one of the sub-location of Dagoretti Division in Nairobi Province. Mutuinie borders Kiambu District, at the edge of Ngong/Thogoto forest and has five villages namely Saigon, Muoroto, Kamwanya, Kirigu and Gitiba. According to an assessment carried out by the St Nicholas Community Development Center (SNDC) in

2004 the population of the area is estimated at 350,000 and is mainly composed of children/ youth and the elderly. SNDC is a homeless children's center that provides a home and support to homeless/orphaned children. The number of children at the center has been on a steady increase with a majority of them coming from Mutuini settlement of Dagoretti Division. There was debate as to whether Mutuini is urban or rural with some people holding the view that the settlement is urban because it is within the influence of Nairobi from a regulatory point of view. Many feel it is rural because of the distinctive way life and issues that made it similar to many rural areas in Kenya. There is small holding farming and a lot of human settlement that has been conducted up to the river and stream bank. The infrastructure is poor and lacking in some of the area to include water and toilet facilities. The most common mode of human waste disposal is through pit latrine. Mutuini is important as the streams that ultimately feed into the Nairobi Dam in Kibera traverse through this settlement from Ngong/Thogoto forest.

The contact were made with Dagoretti for Kid (children rehabilitation center managed by youths), St Nicholas Community Development Center (SNDC), Gitiba women Group, Dagoretti Market Artisans and the Dagoretti market Abattoir. There is already possibility for settlement meeting and workshop. The Dagoretti for Kids have expressed interest in participating in the football tournament.

Riruta-satellite – settlement sandwiched between Ngong road and Kawagware that is densely populated, and for which the Mutuini stream feeding into Kibera's Nairobi Dam pass through. The area has slum settlements along this stream. The area suffers from poor drainage, waste disposal problem and lack of planning. There are two significant youth environmental initiatives: Vijana kwa Mazingira a youth Community Based Organization of 30 active members for sports and environment conservation involved in garbage collection from households as a business in the city. They own a truck and the Riruta Environmental Group (REG) CBO of 100 youth members for sports and environment conservation involved in garbage collection from households as a business in the city. They are also involved in recycling and own a truck. These two groups are important in reaching out to the wider community and other youth groups in the neighboring settlements. Already the committee to organize soccer for environment will be meeting at REG on 1st December 2005.

Image 3



Aderi, Ouma and members of Riruta Environment Youth Group

Kawangware- a slum settlement in Dagoretti that is surrounded by the affluent Lavington area on one side, Kangemi, Riruta-Satellite and Waithaka area. At the border of Kangemi

and Kawangware flows the Nairobi River as it heads towards the city from its source. Along the river in this part there is heavy cultivation in some parts and settlement. Both household and human waste from Kawangware and Kangemi are readily disposed into the river at various points. Contacts made here include Kawangware Youth Network, Kangemi Health Center, Kangemi Women Empowerment, Redcross Youth Initiative and Amref Youth Initiative. The youths have shown great willingness to be involved in sports for environment

Waithaka, Rithimitu and Gachui- we are yet to visit and make contact in the areas and this will happen by end of November. We are in the process of following up with Waithaka Youth and Women Environment Network (WAYWEN) group

Kikuyu- a settlement on the high slopy areas near the Thogoto forest. Here the various streams that include the kikuyu spring and the Ondiri springs collect as a source of The Nairobi River. The areas is heavily cultivated with small scale farming in maize and beans. There are also livestock rearing. We are in the process of making contacts in the area, which should happen by end of November.

Kibera - Kibera is significantly largest slum settlement in Africa, with an area size of 2200 ha and a population of 700, 000. The settlement borders the Nairobi Dam, which up to 1960s was sources of clean drinking water to the city. Nairobi Dam has its sources from the Ngong Forest in Dagoretti and Karen areas, and this transects into Kibera and other settlements from where it receives waste from human settlement. The dam today is choking from waste and water hyacinth. Initiatives are being made by the UN Habitat, the government, UNEP and NGOs to rehabilitate the dam through improved waste management. The TSC- Kenya program has a potential of making a positive contribution. Given our previous work in the settlement, it was not a problem making contacts in the area. Some of the contacts made include:-

Christ the king youth – a catholic in Iaini saba village of Kibera, youths members who particularly campaign against abuses in the village. Have been involved in sports, music and cultural activities. Will be effective in sports for improved environment.

Initiative for sports and culture – youth organization of Kibera for sports but willing to adopt environment conservation as activity. Will be effective in sports for improved environment.

Ushirika wa usafi Iaini saba – a water and environmental sanitation CBO of 300 members in Kibera. There has been previous contact with this group and TSC staff had even donated 200 dollars for the benches for their community hall. This CBO is involved in environmental cleans, supply of water, provision of toilet facilities and has constructed drainages in Iaini saba.

Soweto usafi group – a CBO of 200 members in Soweto village that overlooks the Nairobi dam in Kibera. This CBO is involved in the supply of water and toilet facilities in the village. It is also involved in environmental clean ups.

Image 4



Waste Dump Outside Donyo Market Of Dagoretti

4.3. Soccer

Three boxes of soccer has so far been received with one still yet to arrive. Tweed Shire Council gave a donation of 700 AUD or Kshs. 37, 100/- to support in clearance of the boxes at customs and in soccer tournament. So far only Kshs. 14, 500/- has been spent at the customs leaving a balance of Kshs. 22, 600/- to be used in supporting the soccer tournament.

As part of community engagement, various youth groups in Dagoretti and Kibera have been engaged and there is a consensus on holding a football tournament for both boys and girls in the targeted area. The theme of tournament will be around environment. A committee comprising of youth representative from the target area is being constituted and will have its first meeting 1st of December to set date and plan days activities. Already from consultation with the youth suggestions have been made for a three day event – one day for soccer, 2nd day for environmental lectures and sessions and third final day for finals and prize giving. Among the important dignitaries being proposed to grace the occasion include the Australian Ambassador, Wangari Mathai (legislator, environmentalist and peace laureate winner), Director NEMA and representative from UN bodies in Kenya and representative from the water boards. We are discussing with NEMA on co-hosting possibilities. Groups who have indicated interest include

Kibera – ISA & Christ the king

Kiambiu youth

Mutuine – Dagoretti 4 kids, Mutuine youth network

Kawangware – Kawangware youth network

Kangemi – Kangemi youth network

Riruta- satellite – REG, Vijana kwa Mazingira na Taka

Waithaka, Gachui, Rithmitu and Kikuyu– Waithaka Youth Environment Network (WAYEN)

Other important contacts – shalom (Jeff), St. Nicholas (Livingstone).

4.4. Rotary links

This was initiated by the visit of John and Janice early October. We have made follow up with Martin and Valery of Thika Rotary club and have discussed possibility of establishing a long-term relationships. They are making arrangements for us to go and make presentation to the club in December. The only problem is that Thika is outside of Nairobi- 30 km, and we have suggested if also they can help link us with clubs closer to the program area.

4.5. Farmer Links

Two small scale sugar farmer groups have been contacted at the sugar growing areas of Nyanza province near Lake Victoria in western parts of Kenya. These are in Sony and Muhoroni areas. We have organized visits in December 2005 .

4.6. Fundraising

The program desk was able to put out the following proposals.

National Civic Education Program (NCEP-2) – titled “*STRENGTHEN DEMOCRATIC AND POLITICAL CULTURE AND PRACTICE OF CBO AND GROUPS WITHIN THE INFORMAL (SLUM) SETTLEMENTS AROUND NAIROBI* – ref. attached copy

Global market place – in the process of being developed deadline is 30th November .

More funding opportunities are being explored and follow-ups are being made with potentials partners that include Cord Aid, SIDA(Sweden), CIDA(Canada), UNDPs Community Water Initiative, Ford Foundation and Rockefeller Foundation.

4.7. Plans for the Month of December 2005

The following are plans for the coming month:-

- Collect more background information about Dagoretti and Nairobi catchments
- Conduct follow up meeting with identified government and non-governmental agencies with aim of conducting at least one workshop in January organize youth “soccer for environment” in Dagoretti early December 2005
- Using TSC model raise awareness through lectures and meeting on factors that would lead to successful management of environment
- Prepare ground for youth, wider community and government and non government agencies to participate in networking meetings, environment task committee formation with view to conduct environmental cleans, tree planting
- Participate in local forums namely the Nairobi River Basin Initiative and the Waste Net
- Step up fund raising

4.8. Financial report.

TSC-KENYA PROGRAM PRELIMINARY STATEMENT OF INCOME & EXPENSES FOR OCT/NOV MONTH AS AT 21/11/05

cash in			cash out		
date	particulars	amount Kshs	date	particulars	amount Kshs
31/10/05	IRF funds to GNet a/c no. 8567458 at Barclays Bank Nairobi.	637,555.55	31/10/05	bank charges	750.00
			2/11/05	registration- bank account	2,000.00
			2/11/05	October allowance	150,000.00
			2/11/05	nov, dec 05 & Jan 06 rent	45,000.00
			15/11/05	2pcs desk and 2pcs chairs	18,000.00
			21/11/05	oct email & telephone	3,500.00
			21/11/05	photocopy & stationery	1,500.00
				total of expense	<u>220,750.00</u>
				<i>b/f</i>	<u>416,805.55</u>
		<u>637,555.55</u>			<u>637,555.55</u>

REPORT FROM ACTIONS TAKEN AT TWEED:

Webpage

A program webpage has been developed.

The website will be set-up in a dedicated area within the existing Tweed Shire Council website using the URL <http://www.tweed.nsw.gov.au/kenya>. The website will provide information related to the Tweed Community - Kenya, Mentoring Program including:-

- History of the program
- Program status
- Media releases and newspaper articles
- Latest news
- Newsletters
- Reports
- Photo gallery
- Sponsorship information
- General information on the project

Natalie Baker

Natalie Baker is a scientist currently employed with the Department of Primary Industries in Queensland. Natalie became aware of the Mentoring Program during the International Riversymposium in Brisbane in September 2005. Natalie attended the "twinning" session at the *Symposium* and subsequently made contact with Council. Natalie has offered her services to the program and intends to work as a volunteer at the Program Desk in Nariboi for 2 months commencing February 2006. Natalie is meeting her own travel cost. Arrangements are currently being finalised to have Natalie hosted by a Rotary Club in Kenya located near Dagoretti which is one of the 2 pilot areas.

Options for providing some allowance to Natalie during her time in Nairobi through community sponsorship are being pursued. Natalie Baker's CV is a confidential attachment to this report.

Prior to going to Kenya Natalie has volunteered ½ day per week to work on identifying funding sources for the International Riverfoundation Twinning Projects, including Tweed's. Natalie will be working out of the IRF offices in Brisbane.

Murwillumbah Central Rotary Club "Twinning"

The Murwillumbah Central Rotary Club have resolved to "twin" with a Nairobi Club. A member of Murwillumbah Central Rotary Club's executive met with the executive of the Kenyan Club during a recent visit to Nairobi. It is through this connection that Natalie's accommodation arrangements are being made.

There has been interest from other individuals offering to volunteer for the program as well. If implemented the model could prove effective in hosting further visits to Kenya and similarly for appropriate Kenyan people involved in the program to be hosted in the Tweed.

Tweed Kenya Sports Day

Council might recall that Stage 3 involves 2 parallel streams being intervention (the technical stream) and education and awareness (the community based stream). As noted in Olita and John's report the youth have been identified as the key group to link the program to the broader community.

"The Great Nairobi River Soccer Tournament" for under 18 years boys and girls has been programmed to take place between the 14, 15 and 16 December 2005. The tournament will be 7 aside and will coincide with environmental sessions, poems and plays themed on the environment. The event will be used to launch the TSC Kenya Program and for the formation of a youth network to link with the community. 40 teams from the 6 villages of Waithaka, Mutoine (Rithimitu and Kikuyu), Riruta-satellite, Kawangware (& Kangemi), Kibera and Kiambiu will compete using the soccer shirts, shoes and socks provided from the Tweed community. The National Environment Management Authority (NEMA) of Kenya has agreed to provide environmental personnel during the tournament. Arrangements are being made through the local member to have an Australian Embassy representative attend the event to represent the Tweed.

Invitations to the Australian Ambassador issued from the Program's Kenyan Desk and the Draft Program of Events for the Tournament is an attachment to this report.

LEGAL/RESOURCE/FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

Nil.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

Nil.

UNDER SEPARATE COVER/FURTHER INFORMATION:

1. Natalie Baker's CV (Confidential Attachment) (DW 1309520).
 2. Letter of Invitation (DW No. 1310641)
 3. Draft Program of Events (DW No. 1310642).
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