

# **Tweed Kenya Mentoring Program (TKMP)**

**Operational Plan 2022 - 2025**

March 2022

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## Introduction

The Tweed Kenya Mentoring Program (TKMP) is an initiative run voluntarily by Tweed Shire Council staff, and supported by Tweed Shire Council and the International River Foundation. 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 and Central Alego wards 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 storage, treatment and access, and community sanitation and hygiene. 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), several projects improving sanitation and hygiene in schools, and the restoration of two drinking water supply dams in the program area. The Tweed has in return benefited from numerous visits by Kenyan partners, leading to an increased understating of global water and geopolitical issues within Tweed Shire Council and the community.

The Tweed Kenya Mentoring Program (TKMP) Operational Plan 2022 to 2025 explains the objectives and resources required to implement program activities in this period.

## Operational Focus 2022 - 2025

TKMP works with local people in the villages of Obambo-Kadenge, Luaala 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.

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 issues such as politics, rainfall and health.

The following factors have been considered in the development of the 2022-2025 Operational Plan:

- Impacts of the global pandemic on local people and economies.
- Continued cholera and disease outbreaks and high child mortality rates in Siaya County, resulting from inadequate access to sanitation.
- Effects of climate change – irregular rainfall and dry spell patterns being experienced in the area have impacted on people’s livelihood and access to water and sanitation. Sustainable development goal no 6 on water and sanitation - according to UN the number of people facing water and sanitation scarcity and/or hardships globally are

projected to rise with increase of temperatures due to changing climate. The recent changes in rainfall and seasonality within the Safewater areas have continued to inhibit homesteads access to safe clean water, improved sanitation, and farming to meet food demands.

- The 2010 Kenya constitution that emphasised devolved governance and provision of services such as water and sanitation.
- The initiation of a reticulated water scheme by the Siaya Bondo (SIBO) water company and Siaya County government. TKMP will need to explore areas for partnership with both Siaya County Government and SIBO water company.
- Increased development within the Manyasi valley, Yalla and Lake Kanyaboli wetland areas where Safewater dams are located. Silt loads have put pressure on the filters.
- The need for improved local governance through the building and support of local community groups and network organisations.
- The possibility of reduced ease of travel between Kenya and Australia.

The domestic sanitation side of the program remains unexploited, along with more effective engagement of women, youth and schools in WASH and catchment management.

## **Project Objectives 2022 - 2025**

1. Continue operating and maintaining the four existing Safewater Projects. There will be a focus on assessing the condition of, and replacing the Skyjuice Sky Hydrant filters.
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 and undertaking construction of best practice home and school toilets.
4. Continually include the county government of Siaya and national government within TKMP activities, and lobby for the government-community partnership to improve unserved areas access to safe water, sanitation and advice on sustainable farming.
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, sharing information on the program with financial supporters, the broader Tweed community and Tweed Shire Councillors, as well as providing an annual report to a Tweed Shire Council meeting.

## **Emerging Issues and Program Resilience**

In preparing an Operational Plan for the forthcoming period, TKMP has reflected on past program implementation 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.

The issues identified above have been considered in developing the TKMP objectives 2022 – 2025.

## **Activities to Deliver TKMP Objectives 2022 - 2025**

### **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.

#### **Operation and maintenance of 4 Safewater Projects:**

- 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.

### **Community Capacity Building**

TKMP will support ongoing community capacity building for SWP committees and a dam water user association (DWUA) comprising of homesteads (mostly women and children), farmers, herders, schools and businesses who depend on local open dams as source of water for domestic use and livelihood. 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:

**SWP committee capacity support:**

- SWP committee review of group by laws and representation.
- SWP committee election and formalisation.
- Training and exchange.
- Document and report.

**Dam Water Users association:**

- Select local 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.

**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 also 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 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

## Collaborate with the Siaya County government and NGOs

TKMP will actively liaise and seek collaboration opportunities with the county government of Siaya, Sibo water company, Water Resources Management Authority (WRMA) 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
- SIBO water company
- Local chief/sub-chiefs – Obambo-Kadenge, Luala Kaor and Ting Wangi
- NGOs/CBOs active in the areas that TKMP operate

## 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.

## Program structure and governance

### 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.

### TKMP Siaya - Operational Arrangements

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 WASH projects. The TO provides technical support and training to operators and safe water committees enabling effective

operation of the projects. The TO will also lead the development of new WASH infrastructure.

**Safe Water Records Officer (SWRO)**

The RO works closely with Safe water 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.



### Trainee Technical Assistance (TTA)

The program shall identify recruit and provide training to TTA. The TTA will report to the program TO who will be provided training on basic plumbing, filter, pump and water tank operation and maintenance for communities.

### 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.

## 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.

## Budget and Financial Management

Draft Quarterly Budget 2022 - 2025

<u>Budget Mar to May22</u>			
Item	Unit	Cost	Total
<b>PMP Fee:</b>			
Program Management fee	1	535,362.00	535,362.00
<b>Sub total</b>			<b>535,362.00</b>
<b>SWP O&amp;M:</b>			
SWP Operator allowance	3	26,000	78,000
Filter Maintenance/cleaning	3	6,500	19,500
Gona repairs/parts replacements - various	1	10,000	10,000
Ochilo repairs/parts replacements - various	1	10,000	10,000
Tinga repairs/parts replacements - various	1	10,000	10,000
Manyasi repairs/parts replacements - various	1	10,000	10,000
water pump service maintenance	4	1,500	6,000
Incidental repairs	2	5,000	10,000
Communication/stationery	1	5,000	5,000
Bank fee	1	5,000	5,000
<b>Sub total</b>			<b>163,500</b>
<b>Total</b>			<b>698,862.00</b>
<b>Add WHT (X-X/1.16 or 10% of invoice values whichever is greater)</b>			

**NOTE:** With Holding Tax (WHT) Formula 10% of total value of the invoice or X-X/1.16 where X is the total invoice value

## **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.

## **Project Partners**

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





# TWEED

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