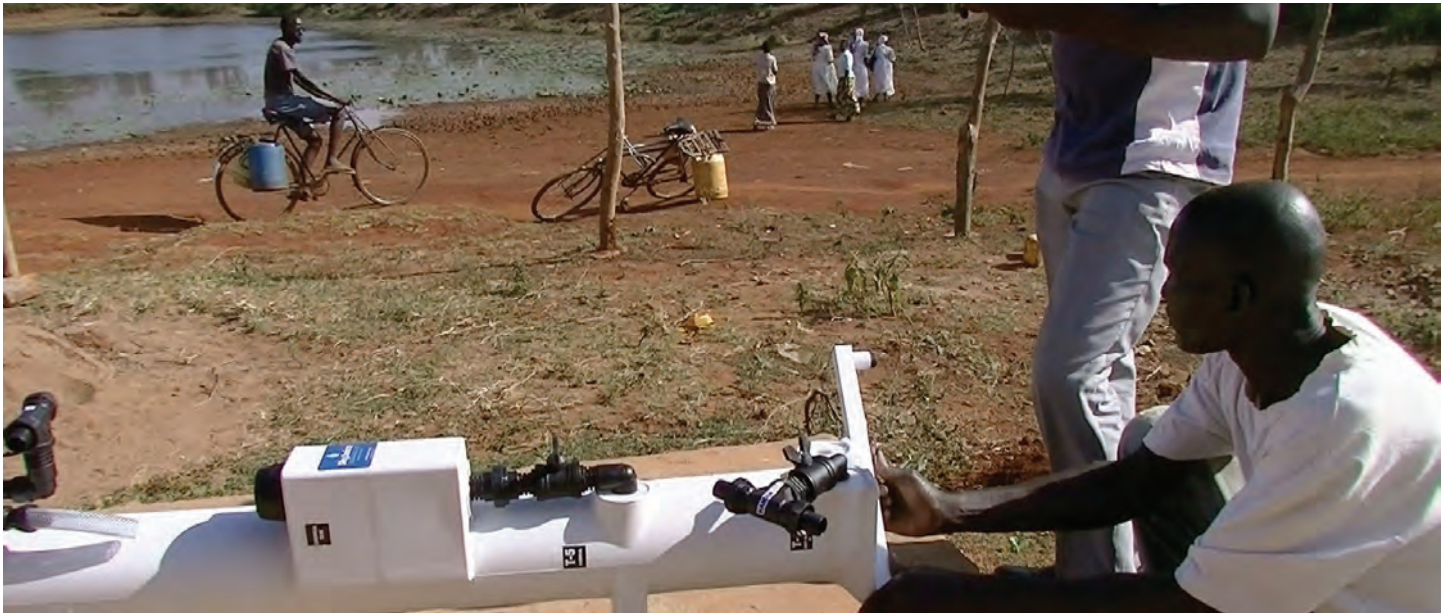




Draft Tweed Kenya Mentoring Program

Operational Plan 2015 to 2017







Tweed Kenya Mentoring Program

Operational Plan 2015 to 2017

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 maintains 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.

For the past seven years TKMP has been working with poor rural communities in the Siaya district of Nyanza province, western Kenya. This work has resulted in the installation of a number of small scale water purification stations, and included significant attention to water supply, community capacity building and environmental health initiatives.

In 2014, due to a reduction in the resources available for program implementation, the focus of the program has been narrowed from the implementation of an integrated program, to a focus on the sustainability of existing water purification assets. This includes supporting the community based committees that run these facilities.

As such, the program goals and objectives outlined in the 2012 - 2015 operational plan have been revised. This operational plan sets out TKMP's goals and objectives for 2015 - 2017 and outlines the management structure and reporting commitments.

Who we work with, and what we do

Siaya is located approximately 10 hours travel west of Kenya's capital city, Nairobi. The district sits almost on the equator, and is the traditional home of the Lu'o people. Subsistence agriculture is the main activity practiced by people living within the area of TKMP operations, and the average family's material wealth is extremely limited compared to Australian standards. Due to poverty and the

problems caused by inadequate access to clean water, safe sanitation, health care and education, disease extracts a heavy toll on people, particularly children.

TKMP works with four villages to maintain water purification stations at the dams which form their water supply. These dams are shallow, turbid and heavily contaminated by cattle manure. Women and children are the water carriers, and often walk several kilometres, several times a day to collect water. These purification stations, and the work surrounding their establishment, have been termed, "Safewater Projects" by TKMP. TKMP volunteers have travelled to Kenya to install these treatment plants, and there is a continuing commitment by TKMP, through our local Kenyan staff, to ensuring that the Safewater projects continue operating. A key activity of the program is training local people to operate and maintain the plants.

Program goals and objectives 2012 - 2015: Key Achievements

While it has been acknowledged by the TKMP team that it has not been possible to successfully deliver all of the objectives set out in the 2012 - 2015 Operational Plan, significant outcomes have been achieved, including:

- Desilting and reconstruction of Gona Dam
- Kubar School toilet block construction
- Registration of Alego Dam Water Users Association with the Ministry of Water
- Ongoing development of relationships with relevant government agencies and politicians
- Manyasi Safewater project installation and commissioning
- Production of a film documentary on the TKMP area of operations
- Delivery of the Jigger treatment and education program
- Development of partnership with Health Organisation of Kenya (HOOK) and facilitation of health clinics in Siaya



- Ongoing maintenance of four Safewater stations
- Improvement of accounting standards through partnership engagement of accountant with HOOK
- Skills development and transfer through cultural exchange
- Ongoing cultural awareness raising and creation of goodwill between participating communities

Challenges

TKMP's 2012 - 2015 Operational Plan set out objectives under four integrated program streams, which included:

- Governance
- Water, sanitation and hygiene
- Environmental education
- Youth engagement and development
- Cultural and technical exchange

It can be seen, based on the achievements noted above, that there has been ongoing progress in the areas of governance, community health and water supply. TKMP has however reluctantly, withdrawn resources from the sanitation, hygiene, environmental education and youth engagement aspects of the program. The primary reason for this withdrawal has been our inability to confidently and effectively coordinate the personnel, resources and reporting required to implement this integrated and multidisciplinary approach.

Additional challenges faced by TKMP include maintaining efficient communications with our program coordinator in Siaya, maintaining community enthusiasm for and commitment to project outcomes and maintaining sufficient funding to deliver the program, particularly as the emphasis changes from building, to maintaining assets.

2015-2017 TKMP Program Goal

TKMP will use the resources and expertise of the Tweed to increase Kenyan partner commitment and capacity in management of Safewater projects, leading to greater self sufficiency and skills development in water and community health management.

Program Objectives

Over the period 2015 - 2017, TKMP will:

Asset management

Work with local water user committees to maintain and operate four water purification stations, and the water supplies that these depend on.

Project implementation

Complete the installation of one additional water purification station.

Community capacity building

Work with local water users committees in a support role, encouraging development of their technical and governance capacity, resulting in better management of Safewater projects.

HOOK partnership

Work with Health Organisation of Kenya (HOOK) to facilitate medical clinics in the Siaya district and strengthen TKMP governance and reporting arrangements.

Governance and reporting

Increase the quality and consistency of quarterly reporting.

Program Structure and Governance

Local water user committees.

Four local committees have been established to own and operate the Safewater installations within their communities. These committees are supported by TKMP to engage an operator, who opens and attends the Safewater stations each day. Committees are strongly encouraged to maintain records of the volume of water distributed, and to build a small revenue stream from water sales which is to be used for project operation and maintenance.

TKMP Operations - Siaya, Kenya

TKMP activities in Siaya are undertaken by the Program Coordinator. The main duties undertaken are maintenance of the Safewater installations, and this requires significant liaison with local water user committees. The Program Coordinator is responsible for preparing and sending quarterly reports, and wherever possible, liaison with government agencies and other non-government organisations that further the objectives of TKMP.

TKMP Tweed

A volunteer group comprised of Tweed Shire Council staff oversee implementation of TKMP activities. This group is primarily responsible for setting program direction, and reviewing the progress of activities implemented in Siaya. The group receives and reviews quarterly reports, and directs allocation of funds in conjunction with the International RiverFoundation. The TKMP volunteers also plan and deliver Safewater Projects, liaise with the International RiverFoundation and HOOK and promote TKMP within the local community.

International RiverFoundation

The International RiverFoundation (IRF) 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.

IRF act as TKMP's financial administrators in Australia. TKMP funds are held in trust by the International Riverfoundation and released quarterly to the Program Desk through HOOK in Kenya, following the receipt and approval of quarterly progress reports and expenditure statements.

Since inception, TKMP has been given immense support by the International RiverFoundation. The IRF is a not for profit organisation with a vision of a world in which all rivers and waterways are healthy and sustainably managed. International RiverFoundation works in partnerships around the world to fund and promote the sustainable restoration and management of river basins. TKMP is classified an IRF Twinning Program.



HOOK

Health Organisation of Kenya (HOOK) is a not-for-profit organisation dedicated to the provision of health care to women and young children in Kenya. Their aim is to help bridge the gap between health care and education so disadvantaged people in Kenya can receive life-changing basic medical care and health education. HOOK provide at least 20 medical clinics annually, which treat between 300 – 400 people a day.

HOOK first partnered with TKMP in 2012 and ran 2 free medical clinics in one of the Safewater Villages. Along with treating hundreds of patients at each clinic, they trained local health workers and provided the materials and insecticide needed to eradicate Jiggers in their village areas.



Budget

New Quarterly Budget from 1st Quarter 2014/2015 (1st July 2014)

Item	Per month	Months	Amount
Internet/phone	KES 5,000	3	KES 15,000
TKMP Project Manager	KES 48,750	3	KES 146,250
Accounts Officer	KES 30,000	3	KES 90,000
Safe Water Operators (until Tinga operable)	KES 7,000	3	KES 21,000
Safe Water Maintenance			KES 30,000
Staff transport support			KES 40,000
Total Budget per quarter			KES 342,250

Total annual Budget

Total projected income

Contact details

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