



## *WaMTech - "Water Management and Technologies" training program*

### *Kakuma Refugee Camp, Kenya*

### *6 Month Progress Report*

*June 2015*

#### Executive Summary

IsraAID has been working in Kakuma refugee camp since 2011 focusing on capacity building in different fields. The training programs run by IsraAID are unique in their ability to create a combination between utilizing Israeli expertise in full collaboration and participation of local communities. Refugees living in the camp are in need of educational and vocational training in order to create for themselves a gateway to a future outside the vicious circle of poverty and dependency. Working in collaboration with Israeli universities, IsraAID had an interest of developing a six months " Water management and technologies "WaMTech" training program that will provide camp residents and host community members a chance for a significant learning process, , in the field of water, sanitation and hygiene. The program combines theoretical learning, lab work and practical "hands-on" training experience. The program is implemented in collaboration with WASH Kakuma implementing partners. The program was developed based on a needs assessment conducted by IsraAID on December 2013 and a pilot program that took place in May 2014, the experience of the organization in assimilating training programs in the camp, and the partner's expertise in implementation of WASH programs and trainings in camp.

## Context and Problem Statement

Kakuma refugee camp was established in 1992, as a response to a humanitarian need created by the crisis that emerged in South Sudan. For the past 20 years the camp provided a secured resort for those suffering from prosecution and civil wars. The camp is currently home to over 190,000 refugees originating from over 15 nationalities and continues to swell.

19 primary schools are operated in the camp, 4 secondary schools, and technical training center. 44% of the camp population is of ranging age 18-60, and approximately 20% of the population is of secondary school (standard) ages. The refugees are not allowed to work in or outside camp, and the possibilities of professional development are extremely limited, therefore, ongoing camp residents and the generation growing within camp setting, have difficulties integrating into the job market once repatriated, and have little incentive to do so. A culture of dependency is being promoted through camp mechanisms.

Around the camp lives the Turkana tribe. The Turkana tribe is commonly characterized by a pastoralist form of living. Livelihood is based on cattle and flock herding. The community is often extremely poor. They are offered to use all health and education services provided within the camp. Camp facilities provide the residents with purified safe drinking water, produced by boreholes, and treated with chlorine. Water distribution points are scattered around camp, and water is being provided according to a time schedule to the camp different areas. Host community members on the other hand have little access to safe drinking water. A seasonal river runs within camp. Host community and refugees living on the river bank normally collect water from the upper underground water layer by digging holes in the river sediment. Others are digging shallow boreholes aside the river and are commonly using this water for drinking, cooking, washing, bathing and more. The river-sourced water is not treated and is potentially microbiology contaminated. Lately, large deep aquifers were found in Turkana land, holding huge amounts of underground water. It seems that in the near future field

workers with professional water technician knowledge would be of value in the new drilling sites.

### Ultimate Goal

**Provide refugees and host community members with a significant learning process that will increase their well-being through WASH home-management skills and provide a recognized certificate increasing their livelihood opportunities.**

### Program objectives

- ❖ Certify 30 refugees and host community members, who have qualified for the 6 month WaMTech training program, with an academically recognized WaMTech certification
- ❖ Support the integration of refugees and host community members in the professional work cycle,
- ❖ Provide information and appropriate solutions for water management, hygiene and sanitation at household level.
- ❖ Establish a certified water quality lab providing water services to Turkana district actors.
- ❖ Encourage positive, productive engagement between host community and refugees.

### Target Group

The program targets English speaking refugee and host community members. Targeted population of adults (20 and above) who are secondary school graduates. Preference is given to those who have practical experience in WASH related fields, LWF/NRC incentive staff who work in the area of hygiene promotion inside of the camp, and focal personnel of relevant positions (ex. manual water-pump coordinators, LOWASCO water operators). Program targets both genders, and will not discriminate on basis of sexuality or people living with disabilities.

### Plan of Action

IsraAID collaborates with relevant actors to implement a holistic vocational training program in the field of water sanitation and hygiene. The program provides the participants with knowledge and hands on experience. This experience, coupled with an academic certificate will qualify them to secure significant work opportunities, as well as become innovation thought leaders in water technology, in Kakuma refugee camp, Turkana county, and in their respective countries, should refugee graduates choose to repatriate.

### Program Staff:

The program is managed by IsraAID both in Kenya and in Israel. It is developed, implemented and monitored by a professional team implemented by field team.

### Israel content and program team:

Prof. Eran Friedler- Overall Academic Supervisor  
Mr. Shachar Zahavi- IsraAID Founding Director  
Mr. Ben Gido- WASH Coordinator  
Mr. Navonel Glick- Programs Director  
Ms. Naama Gorodischer- Global Programs Manager

### WaMTech Kenya Field team:

Alex Theran – Country Director  
Lomali Iria Charles- Kakuma Sub-Office Field Coordinator  
Jack Jones -WaMTech Program Manager and Trainer  
James Kuria Njugu- WASH Officer

## Overview of Activities and Trends from January to June 2015- 6 months in Review

- ❖ **January-** One class was held. 41 students (39 refugee, 2 host community, 1 female) participated in “Intro to WaMtech”.
- ❖ **March-** Two “Intro to WaMtech” classes were held, one in the afternoon and one in the morning. 52 students (42 refugee, 10 host community, 8 female) participated in Intro to WaMTEch.
- ❖ **May-** One “Intro to WaMtech” class was held in the afternoon to attract more women into the program. 31 students (26 refugee, 5 host community, 7 female) participated in “intro to WaMTEch”.
- ❖ **June-**Two classes have begun simultaneously. The inaugural Women’s WaMTEch class is held in the afternoons, with 26 students shortlisted. The primary facilitator for this class is IsraAID female facilitator-WaMTEch 2014 Graduate. One mixed gender class with 29 students shortlisted is held in the morning.



*June 29, 2015 inaugural all women’s Intro to WaMTEch course in Kakuma Refugee Camp.*



*IsraAID WaMTEch facilitators teach students how to set up and make a foot operated hand-washing station in May 2015.*

### Field feedback and Modifications of original plan:

- ❖ **Women**-After recognizing that Intro to WaMTech struggled to attract female participants IsraAID staff conducted focus group discussions with women in the refugee camp to learn what kind of accommodations would incentivise a female presence. Hosting a class in the afternoon, after the bulk of the women's house work is completed, as well as providing an all female space for women to feel comfortable and protect their reputations were important topics that came up in discussions. IsraAID has strived to deliver and as of June 29<sup>th</sup>, 2015 is hosting the first Women's Intro to WaMTech course.
- ❖ **Technology**- All Intro to WaMTech students are taught how to sanitize water using various techniques and chemical methods. The students are also taught how to make a foot-triggers hand-washing station for their household latrines through a practical session. Students have reported creating the hand-washing system in their own households after the completion of the course.
- ❖ **Hygiene Promotion**- From January- June, 2015, 17 hygiene promotion activities have been conducted by the students of Intro to WaMTech reaching 536 people in Kakuma refugee camp under the supervision of IsraAID WaMTech facilitators. Additionally, many students have reported holding hygiene promotion sessions in their own households and communities after the close of the program.
- ❖ **Partnerships**- IsraAID's WaMTech program has attracted attention from Tullow Oil Company, Kenya Water Institute, LOWASCO, Turkana Ministry of Water, National Environmental Management Agency (NEMA), Centre for Affordable Water Sanitation and Technology (CAWST), and UNICEF. The WaMTech training program has been consistently described as "one of a kind", and it has been acknowledged that IsraAID is the "only one doing anything like this in the region."



*May 2015 Intro to WaMTech students conduct outreach programs in Kakuma Refugee Camp.*

### Plan for July-September 2015:

- ❖ Launch the second cohort of the 6-month full WaMTech program (chapter 2 and 3) based on “intro to WaMTech” qualified graduates. Students must have scored about 90% in Intro to WaMTech to qualify.
- ❖ Intensive trainings for 6-month WaMTech program to include: 15 weekly sessions (theoretical and practical) a two week (50 hours) biosands filter workshop led by CAWST to train students in the creation and use of biosands filters, a two week (50 hours) workshop on seismological water surveys in arid areas, trainings on specific technologies and equipment used for the search of underground aquifers, conducted by IsraAID specialist Mr. Paul Bauman.
- ❖ Formalize partnership with Lodwar Water and Sanitation Company (LOWASCO), Turkana county water service providers, to train and certify five (5) water operators in WaMTech program, and to attach five (5) WaMTech graduates for internships in LOWASCO respected operation.
- ❖ Secure accreditation for IsraAID water quality laboratory in Kakuma to become first professional laboratory of it’s kind in Turkana county
- ❖ Secure academic accreditation for WaMTech with the Kenya Water Institution.

- ❖ Prepare for a 3-week water technology innovative product development program for WaMTech students
- ❖ Create outreach materials in other languages for graduates to target host communities and non-English speaking communities in the camp.
- ❖ Grow existing partnerships and create new opportunities in the field of WASH for IsraAID.
- ❖ Conduct two (2) “introduction to WaMtech” training courses targeting refugees and host community members.
- ❖ Conduct at least 16 hygiene promotion activities within the refugee camp and host community, reaching 350 community members



*May Intro to WaMTech graduation*