

A photograph of two young boys of African descent playing in a river. The boy in the foreground is smiling and has water on his face and chest. The boy behind him is also smiling and has his arms around the first boy's shoulders. They are both wearing dark shorts. The background shows a riverbank with some greenery.

# International Riverfoundation Twinning Program

International Riverfoundation's Twinning Program is an initiative that supports partnerships to restore rivers. This unique program enables *Riverprize* winners and finalists to transfer valuable expertise with other groups in order to revive the world's rivers.



# The Extraordinary Impact of Twinning

Whether by developing watersheds to deliver effective, sustainable river management; facilitating educational workshops to discuss common river issues and brainstorm feasible solutions; implementing awareness and education programs to enhance community involvement or coordinating cooperative fieldwork for on-ground improvements, twinning partnerships offer an exchange of knowledge and skills to ensure that rivers are restored efficiently, effectively and sustainably.

## Why twinning?

Twinning has proven to be an efficient and effective way to build capacity, transfer skills and drive river restoration efforts.

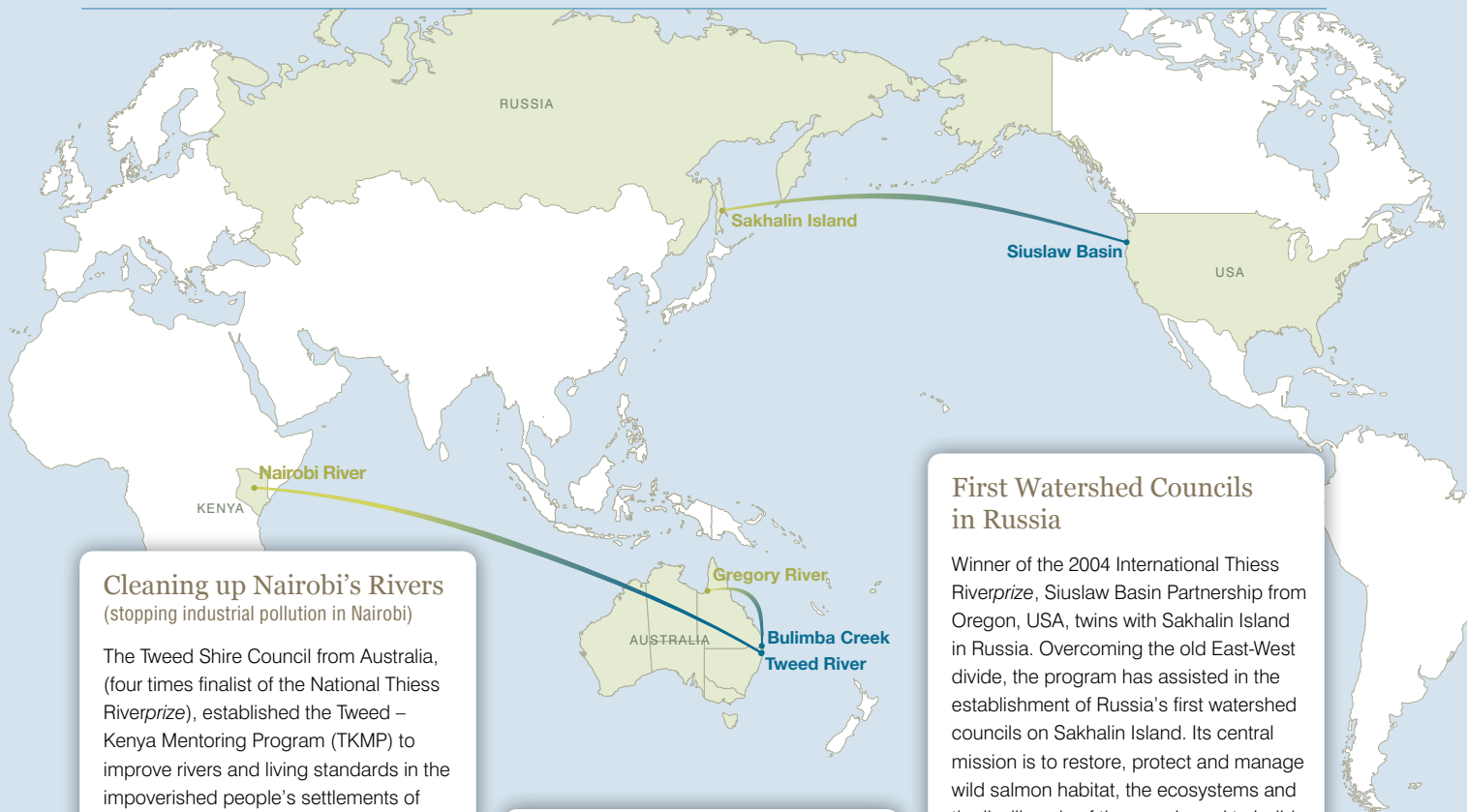
## What sets twinning apart from other partnerships?

Riverprize winners and finalists are judged to be demonstrating sustainable river management by a panel of experts and therefore imparting best practice.

## Mutually beneficial

Recipients learn best practice from experienced Riverprize winners and finalists. Riverprize experts have the opportunity to test if best practice is transferable while developing new professional and personal skills.

## Partnerships reviving the world's rivers



### Cleaning up Nairobi's Rivers (stopping industrial pollution in Nairobi)

The Tweed Shire Council from Australia, (four times finalist of the National Thiess Riverprize), established the Tweed – Kenya Mentoring Program (TKMP) to improve rivers and living standards in the impoverished people's settlements of Nairobi. The success of the campaign lies in the mobilisation of local youth groups from the informal settlements in Nairobi to become informed and empowered.



Images © Marty Hancock

### Cultural exchange and environmental learning in Australia's remote north

Winner of the National Thiess Riverprize 2005, the Bulimba Creek Catchment Coordinating Committee (B4C) has taken a grass-roots approach to twinning with partners in the Gregory River, far north Queensland. B4C has mentored the formation of the Gregory River Landcare Group in order to combat invasive weeds and high erosion rates.

### First Watershed Councils in Russia

Winner of the 2004 International Thiess Riverprize, Siuslaw Basin Partnership from Oregon, USA, twins with Sakhalin Island in Russia. Overcoming the old East-West divide, the program has assisted in the establishment of Russia's first watershed councils on Sakhalin Island. Its central mission is to restore, protect and manage wild salmon habitat, the ecosystems and the livelihoods of the people and to build institutional capacity for conservation on Sakhalin Island.



Image © Alexey Fedosenko

Image © Natalie Baker

# How You Can Help

As a charity, International Riverfoundation relies heavily on the generosity of individuals and companies to continue our vital work.

## Corporate involvement:

International Riverfoundation is committed to developing long term, mutually beneficial and best practice partnerships with companies with an aligned vision of knowledge sharing, environmental, social and economic outcomes.

*“We and the Australian Caterpillar dealers are proud to support Riverfoundation, and together we continue to increase our business focus on sustainable progress.”*

Jeremy Canham, Caterpillar

Through a diverse range of involvements, we focus on building a tailored partnership to meet your corporate social responsibility and community investment objectives to deliver tangible benefits.

Please contact us to discuss supporting a twinning partnership further.

Here is an example of the impact of your Twinning contribution:

**\$1,000**

- International Riversymposium registration for twinning representative
- Purchase of educational materials for school environment clubs
- Starter water testing kits for school students (\$1300)
- Establishing native tree seedlings for ongoing project needs

**\$5,000**

- Capacity building 2 day workshop – e.g. watershed council governance, water monitoring, river restoration basics, school based environmental programs – e.g. WaterWatch, SalmonWatch and others
- Purchase of scientific quality water quality testing equipment (\$6400)
- Complete healthy food garden for school groups
- Building a secure native tree nursery, with rain water tank

**\$10,000**

- Two twinning representatives to attend International Riversymposium
- Pilot study to investigate twinning partnership

**\$50,000**

- One year's twinning expenses – including twinning officer, and seed project funding
- Installation of a SkyJuice filtration system, providing clean water for a village of 2000 people



## About International Riverfoundation

**Vision:** A future in which every river around the world is healthy and managed sustainably.

**Mission:** To reward and drive the restoration, protection and sustainable management of rivers around the world.

International Riverfoundation is a not-for-profit organisation with a vision of a world in which all rivers and waterways are healthy and sustainably managed. Established in 2003 in response to the critical state of many of the world's rivers, International Riverfoundation has grown to become a leading advocate and catalyst for the protection and restoration of the world's rivers.

We are working in partnerships around the world, constantly striving to have a meaningful, measurable and life-changing impact on individuals and communities by helping them restore and sustainably manage their rivers for improved health, ecological, economic, and social outcomes.

## Contact Details

For further information on the Twinning Program and other opportunities for your organisation, please contact:



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## Our current twinning projects include:



## LIFE BENEFACTORS AND SUPPORTERS

