GROW BIOINTENSIVE SPREADS TO GHANA WEST AFRICA

Mr. Fredrick Onyango, of G-BLACK, went to Kobina Ansa, Ghana, to establish a GROW BIOINTENSIVE Demonstration Centre

Through Unity Ecovillage Ghana, the GROW BIOINTENSIVE Agriculture Centre of Kenya (G-BLACK) was able to send one of our staff, Mr. Fredrick Onyango, to Kobina Ansa, Ghana, for eight months to set up a GROW BIOINTENSIVE demonstration farm and help farmers and schools to learn the GROW BIOINTENSIVE techniques and establish gardens.

Unity Ecovillage works with community leaders to design and implement sustainable development projects intended to improve the quality of life in Ghana’s Central Region, including environmental sustainability, education, poverty alleviation, and public health. Unity's director, Isaac Hirt-Manheimer, applies his two decades of ethnographic research experience in Africa to the design of projects uniquely suited to the culture of the intended beneficiaries.

Ghana has one of the fastest growing economies in the world, but many rural farming communities are not seeing the benefits. Due to changing rainfall patterns and the degradation of soil from deforestation and unsustainable slash-and-burn farming practices, growing food has become increasingly challenging. This is a cause of great concern to the people of Kobina Ansa, where subsistence farming is the primary means of livelihood.

During his 8 months stay in Ghana, Mr. Fredrick established and developed a demonstration farm that includes:
- A 40 bed unit with a 60.30.10 system.
- 181 growing beds of 100 square feet each.
- A mandala garden.
- Soil erosion control structures.
- A seed saving programme for sorghum, corn, lettuce, beans, cowpeas, squash, pawpaw, pepper, chilies, tomatoes, marigold, Moringa and others.