G-BIACK helps to build capacities of other NGOs on Agroecology

Rural Initiative Development Programme (RIDEP) Kenya is an organisation based in the Tharaka region in the Eastern slopes of Mount Kenya. RIDEP have been working with traditional communities in Tharaka to revive and promote bio-cultural diversity since 2003. The organization works with rural communities in order to improve their food and livelihood security. RIDEP carries out this work by reviving ecological agricultural practices amongst communities and by encouraging and enabling communities to make the most of indigenous crop varieties available to them. Their main focus includes building the capacity of rural communities in order to improve food production; promoting environment and cultural biodiversity conservation including seed security; promoting the principles and practices of sustainable organic agriculture and promoting natural resource management through environmental protection and conservation and use of renewable energy.

On 2nd and 3rd June 2017, RIDEP visited the GROW BIOINTENSIVE Agriculture Centre of Kenya G-BIACK, with the aim of building the capacities of their board members, staff and a few farmers. Their visit was aimed at learning how G-BIACK’s demonstration and education centre educates and disseminates its technologies to the farmers, and how different organic farming techniques are applied. Visit farmers who have well replicated the organic farming approaches, understand how well the organization is able to implement key organizational and programmatic functions and finally to learn about the general management of the organization.

After this visit, G-BIACK and RIDEP resolved to initiate joint programmes that will help the upper eastern and the lower eastern farmers. G-BIACK will focus on the Lower Eastern region of Machakos and Makueni while RIDEP will focus on the Upper region of Meru and Tharaka.