G-BIACK FARMERS INVITED AT THE TUDOR TRUST WORKSHOP TO SHARE THEIR EXPERIENCE ON AGRO ECOLOGICAL AGRICULTURE

We are currently in the midst of a conference sponsored by Tudor Trust Foundation of the U.K., one of the partners that support our work in Kenya. The workshop has drawn directors of different NGOs from Kenya, Uganda, and Zimbabwe that are supported by the Tudor Trust.

The theme of the conference is "The role of small holder farmers and NGO's in strengthening the practice and spread of agro ecology." Four of our farmers were selected as "case studies" and they were invited to the conference for one day to share their experiences from the farmer's point of view and to give their perspective on Agro Ecological agriculture practices.

It came out very clearly that farmers have a lot of agricultural knowledge. What they require from the NGOs is empowerment and direction on how to utilize their knowledge fully. However, the farmers reiterated that there are a lot of confusing voices that destruct their farming activities. Some voices say chemicals and chemical fertilizers increase agricultural productivity, some say GMOs is the way to go and others say Agro ecology is the best way of farming. However the farmers have chosen to adopt the Agro Ecological methods because they are the best and they produce healthy and sufficient food.

James Marigi from Muruka community

Chirles Waweru from Kamwangi community

Ruth Njeri from Magana community

Gladys Wandia Gatuanyaga community