

## Women farmers working together to feed their families



*Wanaruona women group*

Women in Kenya have been coming together to form informal groups known as “chama”, a Kiswahili word for "group". The “chama” phenomenon arose out of the idea of harambee, which means "pooling together". These groups are commonly used to pool and invest savings contributed by the members. The “chama” phenomenon is also referred to as micro-savings or micro-banking. However, this activity has not been easy for many group members. At times, some women lack money to contribute and risk being expelled from their group.

G-BIACK has been helping such groups to initiate projects that can help them to increase their levels of income. Primarily we help them to create gardens where they grow crops, especially vegetables, both for home consumption and surplus for sale and savings. We also encourage and support rearing of chicken and goats. With these, women have been able to increase their incomes to the level that they have been able to save and contribute to a chama, which then functions smoothly and is able to lend to members who later refund back with a small interest

G-BIACK has realized that women who work together are more empowered than those who work in isolation. We shall therefore continue to encourage them to form groups and chamas and work as teams.

Visit our website: [www.g-biack.org](http://www.g-biack.org).

Go to Google maps to see us from above by entering: G-BIACK, Thika, Kenya

Donations of any amount help us to reach out to vulnerable families.

G-BIACK is a registered NGO in Kenya, and donations are tax deductible.

Contributions may be made directly to G-BIACK or through Network for Good on our web site.

Or checks payable to Kilili Self Help Project may be written and sent to

260 Marion Ave., Mill Valley CA 94941 USA—no overhead will be deducted, meaning that 100% of every donation will be sent to G-BIACK for our programmes.

All contributions are tax-deductible