

Afro-descendant Peoples Seek Climate Justice on the Global Stage

Célia Cristina da Silva Pinto

Célia Cristina da Silva Pinto, a representative of Brazil's Coordenação Nacional de Articulação das Comunidades Negras Rurais Quilombolas (CONAQ), explains why Afro-descendant communities having legal titles to their territories is essential for sustaining their live and livelihoods.

[Célia Cristina da Silva Pinto, a Black woman wearing a black blouse, dangly earrings, and glasses]

CÉLIA CRISTINA DA SILVA PINTO: We use itinerant agriculture, also known as small-scale farming. Still very traditional, and what we learned from our ancestors. The economic basis of my Quilombo is the cassava flour that we sell, and the rest of the products that we produce are for self-consumption. We produce rice, raise small animals, grow vegetables and fruit. It is essential to have the territories legally secured and titled to safeguard what we have been doing for centuries, which is the protection of these territories and safeguarding lives, not only our lives as human lives, but the lives that exist in our ecosystems in which we inhabit.

[The Ford Foundation logo is stacked in a bold black serif font, then transforms into a single letter "F" set inside a black circle.]

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