

## **Afro-descendant Peoples Seek Climate Justice on the Global Stage**

### **Leidy Tatiana Ramos Angola**

Leidy Tatiana Ramos Angola, a representative of Colombia's Proceso de Comunidades Negras (PCN), discusses her community's African heritage, the role women play in sustaining life in their territories, and their collective relationship with nature.

[Leidy Tatiana Ramos Angola, a Black Afro-Colombian woman with long black hair, wearing a bright orange top and a gold necklace in the shape of Africa]

**LEIDY TATIANA RAMOS ANGOLA:** My Afro-Colombian territory has deep roots in African heritage, deep cultural roots. Well, the importance of women is huge—it's fundamental.

In addition to giving life, we protect life, we extend life in all its forms. And in the territory, we take care of the land and the protection and strengthening of life itself. We also have a deep relationship with the territory. We grow the food, and we are an integral part of the land. The trees and everything else that makes up our territories are part of us.

We are not just what is seen—the individual—instead, the collective among people and what surrounds us are what is fundamental to our lives. We are the ones who know how to take care of the territory, we are the ones who know what should or should not be done to mitigate climate change, in order to lessen the impacts of climate change.

[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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