

YURA SAPI

Protectores de la Tierra

2024 Global Fellow



BIG BOLD IDEA

End food insecurity in Colombia's Black and Indigenous communities by popularizing agricultural methods that bridge ancestral and modern practices providing the next generation with sustainable agricultural livelihoods.

ORGANIZATION OVERVIEW

Protectores de la Tierra's mission is to end food insecurity in Colombia's Black and Indigenous communities. They ensure abundant harvests and reduce dependency on food imports by leveraging communal land rights to regenerate forest farms using sustainable agricultural methods that blend traditional practices with modern strategies. Protectores de la Tierra educates future generations of farmers to secure local food sources and thereby reverse migration trends for long term impact. They envision thriving, self-sufficient communities with access to nutritious food, preserving cultural heritage and fostering economic growth.

PERSONAL BIO

Yura Sapi is the co-founder of Protectores de la Tierra, a transformative initiative restoring food sovereignty and ecological resilience in Colombia's Afro-descendant and Indigenous communities. Through biodiverse forest farms in Nuquá, Chocó, the project blends ancestral farming knowledge with modern agroecology to regenerate ecosystems, preserve cultural heritage, and create sustainable livelihoods.

A queer, non-binary, Kichwa Ecuadorian and Colombian artist and organizer, Yura brings a lifelong passion for healing, justice, and community. Their path began with arts-based activism and cultural equity work across Abya Yala (the Americas), leading to the founding of LiberArte, a nonprofit supporting artists who make the world a better place. Yura's work is rooted in Indigenous, intergenerational wisdom and land-based healing.

Yura has been honored as an Echoing Green Fellow, Global Lab Fellow, Braiding Seeds Fellow, and Intercultural Leadership Institute Fellow. They also founded Bogotá's first diurnal LGBTQ+ arts space and host the Building Our Own Tables podcast. Their leadership bridges continents, traditions, and movements, cultivating a future of abundance, solidarity, and regeneration.

Organization/Fellow Location

Queens, United States

Impact Location

Colombia

Organization Structure

Undecided

