Mariana Gómez Soto

Anthropologist, Environmentalist and Activist.

Mariana studied Anthropology with minors in Biology and Geography, did a master in Social Anthropology in Colombia and recently completed her second masters in Holistic Sciences at Schumacher College, UK. She has worked with indigenous and peasant communities in environment and territory issues with rich experience in field-work and the governmental sector. She lived in the Amazon and admires the holistic approach of its inhabitants, who understand the integrity of the natural world. Her sense of belonging to the land awoke her activist spirit and has participated in grassroot movements in defense of territory, inspired in the resistance process she led against an open-pit gold mine that threatened her hometown in Tolima, Colombia. She is currently the regional coordinator for Latin America of the Global Solidarity Network www.yestolifenotomining.org and coordinating a macro-regional initiative, the Andes-Amazon-Atlantic Ecocultural Mosaic with Gaia Amazonas Foundation.

Publications and videos:

- 1. "Living in Cash: the economy of the Tikuna from Macedonia". Find the link here: http://www.libreriadelau.com/bw-viviendo-en-efectivo-economia.html.
- 2. Articles on the pacific resistance of Piedras against mining: The Ecologist: http://www.theecologist.org/Interviews/2585566/gold_is_joy_for_one_day_mariana_gomz_soto.html

The Guardian: http://www.theguardian.com/global-development-professionals-network/2014/dec/03/mining-for-smartphone-minerals-is-eating-up-farmland.

- 3. Yes to Life, No to Mining Global Solidarity Network launching video: https://vimeo.com/113713748
- 4. Yaigojé-Apaporis case video: https://vimeo.com/116700866.
- 5. Masters in Holistic Science, Schumacher College, Devon UK, Dissertation paper:
- Unfolding voice of Gaia MGS Final.pdf
- 6. The Path of the Anacondas Andes-Amazon-Atlantic Eco-cultural Mosaic informative video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gH1zveUlcl4