

## **Luz Haro Guanga**

### **Executive Secretary - Network of Rural Women of Latin America and the Caribbean (Red LAC)**

She defines herself as an Ecuadorian peasant woman, born in the Sierra Centro province of Chimborazo and living in the rural parish of Fátima Pastaza, the heart of the Amazon.

She began her secondary studies at the age of 35, obtaining a bachelor's degree in Social Sciences at the age of 44. She is the founder of several local and national social organizations, as founding president of the Women's Association of Fátima AMUF (1994), and manager of the "First Training School for Women Leaders of the Amazon", which involved 200 urban and rural beneficiaries, with support from UNIFEM (1996-1997).

Ms Haro Guanga initiated the Decentralized Sectional Governments Rural Parish Boards and was elected by popular vote. She was also President of the Rural Parish Board of Fátima Pastaza (2000-2005), Co-founder of the National Council of Rural Parish Boards of Ecuador, CONAJUPARE, and National President (2004-2005). In 2005, she founded the Association of Women of Rural Parish Boards of Ecuador AMJUPRE. She has been the Manager of various Schools for Rural Women Leaders, from 2007 to 2018. Among the numerous positions she held, she has been Alternate Councilor of the National Electoral Council of Ecuador (2011 – 2017) and Principal Councilor (2017 – 2018). She has been a member of the Latin American and Caribbean Network of Rural Women (Red LAC) since 1996, and Executive Secretary of the Network of Rural Women of Latin America and the Caribbean (Red LAC), as also a Counselor of the UIM Board of Directors and Ecuador Director. She is also a principal member of the Board of Directors of the Network of Municipalities for Gender Equality RIMIG. She promoted some virtual training processes during the Covid-19 pandemic, such as the "School of Political Leaders from Confinement to Empowerment" held in Ecuador (2020 ) and the "School of Rural Leaders of Red LAC from Confinement to Empowerment and Territorial Development" (2020-2021), with 14 countries participating. More recently, she is actively involved as Promoter of the Decade of Rural Women in Latin America, the Caribbean, and the world for the period 2021-2031.