

## **LEADER PROFILES TATR TIERRA GRATA (VALLEDUPAR)**

### **Abelardo Caicedo (Solís Almeida)**



Abelardo Caicedo ('Solís Almeida') was born on March 3, 1960, in the municipality of Mercaderes, in the department of Cauca, Colombia and is the current leader of ex-combatants living in AETCR Tierra Grata. He joined the Communist Youth in 1973 and the FARC-EP in 1977. He helped establish the 19<sup>th</sup> Front of the FARC-EP in 1982 and led the 41<sup>st</sup> Front of the FARC-EP, following its establishment in 1986, in the Serranía del Perijá (a mountain chain in the Colombian departments of Cesar and La Guajira, and Venezuelan department of Zulia). He was a member of the FARC Caribbean Bloc, helped create the FARC-EP radio station '*La voz de la resistencia*', and was later in charge of the 19<sup>th</sup> Front of the FARC-EP which operated in the department of Cesar and in the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta (a mountain range in the departments of Magdalena, Cesar, and La Guajira). Caicedo is a signatory of the 2016 Peace Agreement and has received a GED through the "Arando la Educación" public education program. He is currently enrolled in an undergraduate program in Public Administration and was recently appointed as the ex-combatants' representative in the National Committee for Reintegration (Consejo Nacional de Reincorporación). Caicedo is also a member of the local, regional and national Political Council (Consejo Político Local) of AETCR SJO.

### **Gilberto de Jesús Giraldo (Aldemar Altamiranda)**



Gilberto de Jesús Giraldo ('Aldemar Altamiranda') was born on December 20, 1960, and joined the FARC-EP in June 1979. Giraldo commanded the 41st Front of the FARC-EP in the department of Cesar in 1994, and in 2011, assumed command of the 19th Front of the FARC-EP. He is a signatory of the Peace Agreement and the current representative of the "Small Cattlemen's Association" (ASOPEGAN), which runs a cattle farming project in Finca Borja, in the municipality of Manaure (Cesar). Aldemar is a member of the Local Political Council of AETCR SJO.

### **Carolina Vargas (Adriana Cabarrús Alvarez)**



Carolina Vargas Cabrera ('Adriana Cabarrús Alvarez') was born on March 12, 1978, and served the FARC-EP for 20 years before joining the peace process. Vargas first joined the Miler Chacón Unit of FARC-EP, under the command of her uncle, Bertulfo Álvarez (a member of the FARC's seven-member secretariat and FARC's Higher Command who passed away in 2021). Within the FARC-EP, Vargas worked as a radio operator, promoting FARC-EP propaganda and providing computer and literacy training to other FARC-EP members. She is a signatory of the Peace Agreement and has since helped establish the Gender Table in AETCR SJO. Vargas is currently studying Public Administration and was very active in local politics, having worked for the Mayor's Office in the municipality of Manaure in 2020 and 2021 on public gender policies.

Currently, she is a member of the Legal Work Unit of Imelda Daza, a Colombian-Swedish economist and Senator for the Comunes political party, being responsible for the Caribbean region. Furthermore, Vargas is an active member of the National Council of Women (CONAMU), a collection of women’s organizations promoting peace building in Colombia, and the Local Political Council in AETCR SJO.

### **Alminda Mindiola Arias (Kelly Martínez)**



Alminda Esther Mindiola Arias (‘Kelly Martínez’) is a member of the Kankuama ethnic group and a signatory of the 2016 Peace Accord. She was born on December 25, 1974, and served as a nurse in the 19<sup>th</sup> Front of the FARC-EP. While an active guerrilla, she received training in first aid, nursing, and dentistry. Mindiola is the president of the Community Action Board (Junta Accion Communal), head representative of the health table, and a member of the ethnic table, ASOPEGAN, and Local Political Council in AETCR SJO. Mindiola played a key role in organizing the XB “Strengthening and promoting

health capacities in Tierra Grata”, comprised of numerous activities and training sessions that took place between December 2020 and October of 2021, which improved the healthcare facilities in AETCR SJO and provided medical equipment and healthcare services for 410 people living in AETCR SJO and neighboring communities.

### **Yarledys Olaya Lemus (‘Jacqueline Yajure’ or ‘Yakana’)**



Yarledys Olaya Lemus (‘Jacqueline Yajure’ or ‘Yakana’) is member of the Bari ethnic group and a signatory of the 2016 Peace Accord. Olaya was born on July 14, 1984 and served as a member of the 19<sup>th</sup> Front of the FARC-EP as a treasurer and radio operator. Olaya learned to read and write while in the FARC-EP. Olaya is the legal representative of the cooperative ‘COOPERPAZCE’, former president of the Community Action Board, and a member of the Local Political Council and ethnic table of AETCR SJO. She served as ex combatants’ security guarantees liaison person with the UNVMC and currently serves as a

security focal point in AETCR SJO.

### **Oscar Pineda**

Oscar Pineda is a FARC-EP ex-combatant and signatory of the 2016 Peace Accord who works on the productive project Ecotours in AETCR SJO. He has organized ecotourism activities in AETCR SJO that include bird watching, hiking, and biking. He also serves as the National Council for Reincorporation (Consejo Nacional de Reincorporación -CNR) representative on economic sustainability in AETCR SJO.

### **Oscar Guerrero**

Oscar Guerrero is a 48-year-old FARC-EP ex-combatant and signatory of the 2016 Peace Accord who served in the FARC-EP for 29 years. Guerrero currently works as an administrator for the clothing production and minimarket projects in AETCR SJO.