Food Sovereignty vs Food Security: Lessons from the Ecuadorian case

Presented by:
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Wednesday, April 1, 2015
12:00—1:00 p.m., Anthropology 206
Light lunch provided

Born and reared on a farm in the highlands of Ecuador, Myriam Paredes Chauca is a rural sociologist with extensive research experience in Central and South America for over 15 years. Her work combines theory and practice in engaging the multiple dimensions and expressions of “food sovereignty,” a concept that is becoming enshrined in the national constitutions of several Latin American countries as well as increasingly central to global scientific debates on food systems and food security. This talk draws on ongoing empirical work to elucidate the differences between food security and food sovereignty, as these concepts are conceived and practiced in contemporary Ecuador and the challenges entailed in transitioning between the two approaches.

With her husband, Stephen Sherwood, Dr. Paredes owns and runs an organic farm near Quito, Ecuador, where they are both involved in supporting rural people’s movements and conservation efforts.

Dr. Paredes is a professor at the Facultad Latinoamericana de Ciencias Sociales (FLACSO) in Ecuador, where she also coordinates a MSc. Program on Rural and Territorial Development. She holds a PhD in Rural Sociology from Wageningen University in The Netherlands, an MSc in Management of Agricultural Knowledge Systems, and a BSc in Agronomy at the Pan-American School of Agriculture (El Zamorano) in Honduras.