

Mapping the Ecuadorian diaspora in Germany

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List of Abbreviations

AZR	<i>Ausländerzentralregister</i> Central Register of Foreign Nationals
BAMF	<i>Bundesamt für Migration und Flüchtlinge</i> Federal Office for Migration and Refugees
BMBF	<i>Bundesministerium für Bildung und Forschung</i> Federal Ministry of Education and Research
BMU	<i>Bundesministerium für Umwelt, Naturschutz und nukleare Sicherheit</i> Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, and Nuclear Safety
BMZ	<i>Bundesministerium für wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit und Entwicklung</i> Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development
BVA	<i>Bundesverwaltungsamt</i> Federal Office of Administration
CIM	<i>Centrum für Internationale Migration und Entwicklung</i> Centre for International Migration and Development
CLCD	<i>Centro Latinoamericano y Caribeño de Demografía</i> Latin American and Caribbean Demographic Centre
CNE	<i>Consejo Nacional Electoral</i> National Electoral Council
DAAD	<i>Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst</i> German Academic Exchange Service
DZHW	<i>Deutsches Zentrum für Hochschul- und Wissenschaftsforschung</i> German Centre for Research on Higher Education
EMIX	Emigrant Policies Index
EU	European Union
EU-CELAC	European Union-Community of Latin American and Caribbean States
FLACSO	<i>Facultad Latinoamericana de Ciencias Sociales</i> Latin American Faculty of Social Sciences
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GIZ	<i>Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH</i>
GNI	Gross National Income
INGO	International non-governmental organisation
KfW	<i>Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau</i> Reconstruction Credit Institute
MGSOG	Maastricht Graduate School of Governance
MPI	Migration Policy Institute
NGO	Non-governmental organisation
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
OIM/IOM	<i>Organización Internacional para las Migraciones</i> International Organisation for Migration
PME	<i>Programm Migration für Entwicklung</i> Programme Migration for Development

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PNDHM	<i>Plan Nacional de Desarrollo Humano para las Migraciones</i> National Plan of Human Development for Migration
SENAMI	<i>Secretaría Nacional del Migrante</i> Migration Secretary
SENPLADES	<i>Secretaría Nacional de Planificación y Desarrollo</i> National Secretary for Planning and Development
SVR	<i>Sachverständigenrat deutscher Stiftungen für Integration und Migration</i> Expert Council of German Foundations on Integration and Migration
UN DESA	United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
US	United States
USD	United States Dollar
ZAV	<i>Zentrale Auslands- und Fachvermittlung</i> International Placement Services Division

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Executive Summary

This study has been commissioned by the *Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit* (GIZ) GmbH, on behalf of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (*Bundesministerium für wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit und Entwicklung*; BMZ) to inform GIZ's *Programm Migration für Entwicklung* (*Programme Migration for Development*; PME). The aims of the study are: (1) to gain an overview of the characteristics of the Ecuadorian diaspora in Germany, (2) to map contacts of Ecuadorian migrant organisations, associations, and initiatives (as well as any loosely organised networks) based in Germany and examine their potential to contribute to development (especially in their country of origin), and (3) to develop recommendations regarding context-specific and context-appropriate strategies to engage with members of the diaspora.

In line with newer analyses within diaspora literature that see **diasporas as a practice** and often use the social movement approach for analysis (Koinova, 2014; Adamson, 2012; Sökefeld 2006; Brubaker 2005), this study interprets diasporas as **fluid, complex, and dynamic**. This project recognises that diasporas, being heterogeneous, consist of various groups with different interests, agendas, and degrees of organisation. Whether formal or informal, diaspora organisations and networks channel collective action to promote engagement and mobilisation by the diaspora. The working definition of diaspora organisations employed in this study defines diaspora organisations as complex, formal, informal, or semi-formal organisations that may articulate and pursue goals asserted to be representative of the interests and aspirations of 'the diaspora' as a whole or may pursue highly individual projects in the country of origin. This research was carried out in the form of an **exploratory mapping study** which employed a **mix of methods for data collection and analysis**: a literature review of Ecuador's migration history and characteristics of the Ecuadorian diaspora in Germany, the analysis of secondary data to provide an overview of the demographic and socio-economic composition of the Ecuadorian immigrant population in Germany, a mapping of Ecuadorian diaspora organisations in Germany using the Common Register Portal of the German Federal States, and 13 in-depth interviews with members of diaspora organisations and individuals.

Ecuadorian emigration has primarily been motivated by **economic factors** and can be divided into **two waves**: (1) migration to the US between 1960 and 1990, and (2) migration to Spain between 1990 and 2003. Germany has never been a preferred destination country for Ecuadorian emigrants; in 2017, only 0.75 per cent of Ecuadorians living abroad were situated in Germany (UN DESA, 2017). A key characteristic of the Ecuadorian diaspora in Germany is its low level of formalisation and organisation. The Ecuadorian diaspora is heterogeneous, predominantly apolitical and can be divided into four groups: (1) (mostly) female Ecuadorians who came to or stayed in Germany due to a German partner; (2) professionals who obtained their education in Germany and stayed for employment; (3) Ecuadorian students; and (4) Ecuadorians of German descent. Despite isolation and heterogeneity, Ecuadorians in Germany are connected through the Ecuadorian culture (particularly food but also music or dances), creating some degree of collective identity. The final mapping includes a total of

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six organisations in Germany. Engagement by the diaspora organisations can be categorised into engagement primarily for organising **emergency contributions** as well as **cultural reunions and integration** efforts; two organisations operate projects in Ecuador. Cooperation of the Ecuadorian diaspora organisations by means of umbrella organisations as well as through cooperation with other organisations in Germany and in Ecuador has also been identified.

Since 2007, the Ecuadorian government has **implemented a number of policies to engage its emigrant population and encourage return**, including the establishment of the Migration Secretary (SENAMI) in 2007 (Boccagni, 2014), the development of a new consular policy in 2009 (Ramírez Gallegos, 2014), and the integration of migrant's rights and involvement in the 2007-2010 National Development Plan (Gobierno Nacional de la República del Ecuador & SENPLADES - *Secretaría Nacional de Planificación y Desarrollo* / National Secretary for Planning and Development, 2007), the creation of the Fund for Dignified Return in 2008 (Boccagni, 2014; Cortés Maisonave & Sanmartín Ortí, 2010; SENAMI, 2007) and the establishment of a Migrant's Bank (Cortés Maisonave & Sanmartín Ortí, 2010). Governmental coordination between Germany and Ecuador has been focused on the maintenance of long-standing political relations, economic relations, development cooperation, as well as cultural and academic cooperation (GIZ, n.d.; Auswärtiges Amt, 2018; BMZ, 2018a; BMZ, 2018b). The main fields of action for GIZ's PME in Ecuador include the *Returning Experts* and *Diaspora Cooperation* fields of action.

This study finds that the existing Ecuadorian organisations often **lack the capacity and resources** needed for engaging in the origin country and destination country contexts. A voluntary nature of engagement is clearly visible, and a number of respondents also reported facing fluctuations in numbers of active members or limited number of active members altogether. Additionally, **turnover** in the executive positions of associations seemed to restrict the long-term objectives of some organisations to a more short-term planning horizon. Despite these challenges, a **willingness to contribute to development** in Ecuador is articulated by the interviewees. To support the engagement of the Ecuadorian diaspora in Germany as well as in Ecuador, PME's efforts should focus on supporting the diaspora with **information sessions on funding barriers and on potentials for cooperation**, providing general capacity building, targeting involvement of Ecuadorian youth in Germany, as well as **facilitating knowledge exchange** amongst Ecuador-related and Latin American actors. The engagement of individual members of the Ecuadorian diaspora as well as the creation of new initiatives amongst individuals should also be encouraged and may be promoted through **temporary return** among members of the diaspora.

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1. Introduction

It has been widely acknowledged that diaspora populations can positively influence development and make important economic, social, and intellectual contributions in both origin and destination countries (Castles & Miller, 2009; Kuschminder, 2011; Levitt, 1998; Siar, 2014). Diaspora members are often regarded as ideal actors for development due to their in-between advantage and altruism (Brinkerhoff, 2016). Currently, **about one million Ecuadorians live outside of their country of origin** (UN DESA, 2017). The diaspora emerged from two main waves of emigration. The Ecuadorian immigrant population in Europe mainly stems from the second wave of emigration which was the result of a severe economic crisis and consequent dollarisation¹ in the late 1990s to 2000, which turned Ecuadorian emigration into a national phenomenon (Gratton, 2005; OIM, 2011). Ecuador has experienced more economic and political stability since the mid-2000s. Rafael Correa, elected in 2007, was the first president to remain in office for ten consecutive years (El Universo, 2017). His government achieved remarkable progress with regards to **poverty reduction**, where poverty declined from 36.7 per cent in 2007 to 21.5 per cent in 2017 (The World Bank Group, 2018e). Additionally, high oil prices and substantial external financing resulted in an annual GDP (Gross Domestic Product) growth of 3.3 per cent, on average, between 2007 and 2017 (The World Bank Group, 2018b). This made **increased social spending and large-scale investments** in the energy and infrastructure sectors possible. Yet, declining oil prices, the appreciation of the US Dollar (USD) and the damages caused by the 2016 earthquake have impeded economic growth more recently (The World Bank Group, 2017).

Starting in the early 2000s, **remittances** from the diaspora started to play an important role in sustaining the dollarized economy and, for some years, exceeded the amounts gained from certain exports (Acosta et al., 2004). The Ecuadorian government under former president Rafael Correa also initiated significant efforts to mobilize the country's diaspora. Starting in 2007, his administration established a number of **measures to encourage engagement** with Ecuador but also to facilitate return (Boccagni, 2014; Jokisch, 2014, OIM, 2011). The majority of Ecuadorian emigrants resides in the US and Spain (UN DESA, 2017). Germany has never been a preferred destination country for Ecuadorian emigrants. In 2017, **only 0.75 per cent (8,514) of the total Ecuadorian stock was situated in Germany (UN DESA, 2017)**. As a result, there is a lack of research on the Ecuadorian diaspora in Germany and its potential for development. While the size of the immigrant population is an important factor, rather small diaspora populations may also be very active. This, together with the high interest of the Ecuadorian government in mobilising its diaspora for development since 2007, show the need for

¹ On January 9th, 2000, Ecuador adopted the US Dollar as its official currency, replacing the Sucre (Beckerman & Solimano, 2003).

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a comprehensive study of the Ecuadorian diaspora and its potential for development (especially in the country of origin).

This study has been commissioned by the *Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit*; (GIZ) GmbH, on behalf of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (*Bundesministerium für wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit und Entwicklung*; BMZ). The study **informs GIZ's Programme Migration for Development** (*Programm Migration für Entwicklung*; PME), which focuses on promoting the capacity of migrants in Germany to engage in knowledge exchange within development-oriented sectors in their origin countries. The aims of the study are: (1) to provide an overview of **the characteristics of the Ecuadorian diaspora in Germany**, (2) to map Ecuadorian migrant organisations, associations, and initiatives (as well as any loosely organised networks) based in Germany diaspora **in a range of areas (e.g. politics, business, academia, culture)** and examine their degree of organisation, structure and activities and their potential for development, and (3) to develop recommendations regarding **context-specific and context-appropriate strategies** to engage with members of the diaspora. Acknowledging that diasporas consist of various groups with different interests, agendas, and degrees of organisation, the study seeks to provide a comprehensive overview of Ecuadorian migrant organisations, associations, and initiatives based in Germany. The study focuses on the following main research questions and sub-questions, elaborated in Table 1:

Table 1: Set of research questions

Topic	Research questions
Characteristics of the Ecuadorian diaspora	How is the Ecuadorian diaspora characterised? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How is the diaspora comprised (i.e. what is the demographic profile of individuals considered part of the Ecuadorian diaspora)? How has that diaspora been created (through, for instance, factors in country of origin and country of destination)?
Structure	What Ecuadorian diaspora organisations exist in Germany, and what are their aims and activities? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What are the networks, organisations, umbrella associations, professional associations etc. of the Ecuadorian diaspora in Germany, and how are they pursuing/will they pursue involvement with their origin country? What forms of cooperation as well as potential lines of division exist among different groups within the Ecuadorian diaspora?
Transnational practices	In what ways does the diaspora contribute to the development of Ecuador? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What forms of engagement with Ecuador do different types of diaspora organisations pursue? What factors influence the type of initiatives different organisations pursue (e.g. differences between first – and second-generation diaspora members, between those who migrated during the first or the second wave)?
Potentials for cooperation	What are the potentials for constructive cooperation between the Ecuadorian diaspora and the GIZ and CIM through PME? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What are the needs and goals of the Ecuadorian diaspora? How can these objectives be connected with those of GIZ for constructive involvement and cooperation?

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Considering the structure of the remainder of this report, the *Programm Migration für Entwicklung* (*Programme Migration for Development*; PME) is introduced in Section 2. The study's concept of diaspora and the role of organisations in diaspora engagement is explored in Section 3. Section 4 covers the study's methodology. Migration patterns, the history of the Ecuadorian diaspora, and the characteristics of the Ecuadorian population in Germany are examined in Section 5. Section 6 analyses the Ecuadorian diaspora organisations based in Germany as well as their characteristics and engagement practices, and Section 7 considers the existing Ecuadorian and German policies toward the diaspora and its potential to contribute to development (especially in the country of origin). Finally, key challenges and avenues for cooperation are outlined in Section 8. Conclusions are made in the last section.

2. Programme Migration for Development (PME)

CIM (*Centrum für Internationale Migration und Entwicklung*; Centre for International Migration and Development) – which is a **joint operation between GIZ and the German Federal Employment Agency** – implements the BMZ-funded programme called *Programm Migration für Entwicklung* (*Programme Migration for Development*; PME). PME is a global programme active in twenty-five countries, including Ecuador, and has five focus areas: migration policy advisory services, migration counselling, development-oriented return, business ideas for development, and diaspora cooperation (including support to small-scale projects of diaspora organisations and diaspora experts). Having experienced a range of structural changes during 2017, the programme currently consists of two modules. The first module – “**Development-oriented migration**” – includes the fields of action that have been relevant since the beginning of the programme (e.g. knowledge transfer of return migrants, cooperation with diaspora organisations, migrants as entrepreneurs, migration advice and policy consulting). The second module – “**Informed return and reintegration**” – added at the beginning of 2017 to expand BMZ's returnee programme *Returning to New Opportunities*, supports the return and reintegration of migrants and refugees who return to their origin countries from Germany. This module also involves the establishment of information centres to support returnees with reintegration as well as to advise the local population about opportunities in the partner countries. The main fields of action of PME in Ecuador are the *Returning Experts* and *Diaspora Cooperation* components:²

- *Returning Experts*: This field of action aims to support qualified migrants in their return from Germany to their region (primarily to their home country) to **work in development-related fields and engage in knowledge transfer** with the local community and institutions. The target groups for this part of PME include students and young professionals, who are often accessed through information events at institutions such as universities. The programme specifically

² A similar description of PME's fields of actions can be found in Koch & Ragab (2018) and Nimeh et al. (2018).

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provides assistance to the returning experts with job placements, networking opportunities, as well as financial support (i.e. a salary “top-up”) connected to a local employment contract. In this regard, the programme also works to match the returning experts directly with employers. Returning experts can also apply for additional funds to host workshops, trainings, or networking trips as well as to purchase workplace equipment. To engage in the programme, the migrants returning from Germany to Ecuador must have lived in Germany for at least a year, during which they either earned a degree or worked at the professional level.

- *Migrant Cooperation*: PME supports both **cooperation with migrant organisations as well as with diaspora experts**. On the one hand, the programme aims to support Ecuadorian migrant organisations in Germany to apply for a grant (up to 40,000 EUR) to collaborate in a non-profit project with a local organisation based in Ecuador. Collaboration should be based on a joint project, programme, or activity that preferably also engages in knowledge transfer. In this regard, the programme also provides trainings to support participating organisations. To participate, organisations should be able to indicate that **at least half of their members, board members, or individuals involved in the project have a migration background** (Bonfiglio, McGregor & Siegel, 2015). Through this programme, the PME aims to support the foundations of collaboration for sustainable improvement. In addition to this, PME developed the new field of action *Diaspora Cooperation*, which supports experts from the diaspora (e.g. professionals) who **temporarily return to Ecuador in a short-term timeframe between three weeks to six months**. Though this part of the programme is still in its beginning, interested experts from the diaspora can apply for **logistic and monetary support** to cover the expenses for their voluntary/unsalaried commitment. At the current time, a programme for scientists and academics is also being piloted, in which the goal is to promote academic-related exchange, labour mobility, and networking between Germany and Ecuador.

3. Concept of diasporas and diaspora organisations

Defining the concept of diasporas

Research on diasporas has significantly proliferated in recent decades, especially starting in the 1980s and 1990s. It was not until the 1990s and 2000s, however, that the concept of diaspora was taken up by the policy world, that states began engaging with their diasporas, and that diasporas called themselves as such. Since then, the term ‘diaspora’ has grown to describe immigrant populations, displaced communities, ethnic minorities, and transnational social formations (Brubaker, 2005). Well-known definitions and conceptualisations of the term ‘diaspora’ come from Hall (1990), Safran (1991), Gilroy (1993), Van Hear (2014; 1998), Sökefeld (2006), and Cohen (2008), among others. Common elements of these conceptualisations are a collective memory, a dispersal of the original homeland to two or more other places, myth or idealisation of the homeland as well as a commitment to the

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maintenance or restoration of it, the eventual development of return movement or back and forth movements, a social, political, and/or cultural exchange between those who are spatially separated, the development of an ethnic group consciousness and the mobilisation of this diasporic identity in sustained solidarity with co-ethnics, as well as troubled relationship or tension with host society. To this, Brubaker (2005) adds that there must be a maintenance of boundaries, namely “the preservation of a distinctive identity [of a diasporic group] vis-à-vis a host society or societies” (p. 6).

Drawing from these conceptualisations of diaspora, however, Brubaker (2005) illustrates that the **application of the concept has grown rapidly in past years through its use in academic, cultural, and political spaces**, resulting in “a dispersion of the meanings of the term in semantic, conceptual and disciplinary space” (p. 1). Brubaker (2005) further critiques the concept of diaspora, suggesting it should be treated as “an idiom, stance, and claim” that can be deployed by its members (p. 1). Particularly, this allows diaspora to be conceptualised in ways beyond cultural essentialism.³ Moreover, this line of thinking draws from the **social movement approach** to analyse diasporas and allows for seeing **diasporas as practices**. In this regard, Sökefeld (2006) suggests that, based on the social movement approach, there must be opportunities, structures, and practices that enable the mobilisation of diasporas, particularly when seeing diasporas as “contingent on the imagination of a transnational community and upon the self-identification of actors as members of this community” (p. 271). As such, he argues that diaspora formation relies on the “mobilising practices” of its networks for the proliferation of collective action (Sökefeld, 2006, p. 272). Adamson (2012) similarly understands diasporas using a framework of social movements, suggesting that diasporas are formed by “political entrepreneurs acting rationally and strategically through the strategic deployment of identity frames and categories” (p. 32). In addition, Koinova (2011; 2014) relies on the literature of transnational social movements when considering the mobilisation of diasporas. Koinova (2014) suggests that, similarly to transnational social movements, “diaspora entrepreneurs can act on global and local opportunity structures, [...] reframe issues during foreign policy lobbying, [...] and use ‘transnational brokerage’ to connect smaller networks into larger ones” (p. 4).

In line with such newer analyses within diaspora literature, this study sees diasporas as **fluid, complex, and dynamic**. Keeping these considerations in mind, this study focuses on the Ecuadorian diaspora in Germany, its organisational framework, its transnational practices and linkages, and its role in the development of Ecuador. This project recognises that diasporas, being **heterogeneous and multi-layered**, consist of various groups with different interests, agendas, and degrees of organisation. In this regard, the findings of this study should not be considered representative of the Ecuadorian immigrant population as a whole. Rather, this study’s findings should serve to highlight characteristics

³ Cultural essentialism may be defined as attributing a static identity to individuals or a group of individuals, rather than allowing for dynamic and adaptable characterisations (see Rossade, 2017; Dervin & Machart, 2015).

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of the Ecuadorian migrant organisations, and initiatives based in Germany, aiming to improve the current understandings of the Ecuadorian diaspora in Germany.

Organisations & the role of diaspora engagement

Whether formal or informal, diaspora organisations and networks – as explored in this study for the case of Ecuador – **channel collective action to promote engagement and mobilisation by the diaspora**. Bush (2008) defines diaspora organisations as “complex, formal, informal or semi-formal organisations that articulate and pursue goals that are asserted to be representative of the interests and aspirations of ‘the diaspora’ as a whole” (p. 195). Considering diasporas, Sökefeld (2006) maintains that “[m]obilising structures can be networks of people that are bound to the same issue or formal organisations that are established for the purpose of making particular claims” (p. 269). According to Van Hear (2014), such organisations can, among others, include schools, religious entities, as well as community organisations. It is especially important, however, to critically reflect on the role of diaspora organisations as they often state to represent the diasporic group as a whole, without necessarily having the legitimation to do so. In this regard, it often tends to be a rather small elite that mobilises in the name of the diaspora (Marinova, 2017; Baser, 2014; Portes, Escobar, & Arana, 2008; Guarnizo, Portes, & Haller, 2003).

Considering the role of individuals and organisations, **diaspora engagement** is a concept central to this study. Van Hear and Cohen (2016), suggest that there are **three spheres of diaspora engagement, namely the household and extended family, the known community, and the imagined community**.⁴ The household and extended sphere is private and engages in strong, sustained constant engagement through the sending of remittances and participation in life events, for example. The known community sphere includes those individuals known in spaces where diaspora members have lived; it is characterised by intermittent engagement in schools, neighbourhoods, workplaces, and other spaces. The imagined community sphere is a public sphere that includes, for example, membership in political parties and involvement in demonstrations. This sphere requires great social mobilisation in order to be sustained (Van Hear & Cohen, 2016; Van Hear, 2014). These three analytical categories, suggest Van Hear and Cohen (2016), also overlap and are intertwined for many individuals. Individuals connected in some spheres, however, may not always be connected in others (Van Hear & Cohen, 2016). Importantly, **diaspora engagement is extensively heterogeneous and reflects the diversity of diasporas themselves**. Because diaspora members may face different social, economic, and political conditions in their destination countries, diaspora engagement is highly dependent on individual diaspora communities. The size, composition, and distribution of diasporic groups also differentially drives diaspora engagement. Despite sharing a country of birth or origin, diaspora communities can also differ from one another in terms of interests, values, aims and objectives, aspirations, activities, and institutions (Shain & Barth, 2003; Al-Ali, Black, & Koser, 2001).

⁴ These spheres are also discussed in earlier work by Van Hear (2014).

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In this regard, it is also important to distinguish between the capacity and desire to participate in diasporic forms of engagement. Particularly, the ability to engage in the diaspora is driven by factors such as distance, security, wealth, resources, social capital, and class (Van Hear & Cohen, 2016). Considering these complexities, Section 5 of this report provides an overview of the characteristics of Ecuadorian emigration and the diaspora in Germany, both historically and currently. Moreover, Section 6 of this report is devoted to furthering the understanding of the diaspora- and country-specific factors that influence the engagement of the Ecuadorian diaspora and its potentials for development.

4. Methodology

This research was carried out in the form of an **exploratory mapping study**, which employed **a mix of methods** for data collection and analysis. First, the authors conducted a desk research of Ecuador's migration history and characteristics of the Ecuadorian diaspora in Germany. Secondary data and statistics have also been reviewed and included to provide an overview of the demographic and socio-economic composition of the Ecuadorian immigrant population in Germany.

To gain an overview of the organisational landscape, **a mapping of Ecuadorian diaspora organisations in Germany** was conducted using different channels for gathering the information. The aim was to identify **diaspora organisations in the fields of politics, business, the media, science, research and academic communities, and culture** that explicitly target Ecuador or the Ecuadorian community in Germany. As a first step, a search was conducted in the Common Register Portal of the German federal states (*Handelsregister*), which maintains a database of all registered associations in Germany. Using different keywords such as "Ecuador", "Ecuadorian", "ecuadorianisch", "ecuadorianische", "ecuadorianischer", "ecuatoriano", "ecuatoriana", **a total of 42 organisations were identified**. Seventeen of these organisations were immediately excluded from the mapping as no contact details (i.e. email address, phone number) or further information (i.e. website) could be identified through desk research and/or if the organisation was identified as inactive or not being a diaspora organisation. All remaining 25 organisations were contacted, initially via email with an interview request in both German and Spanish and later via phone.

Organisations were asked to indicate whether they are a diaspora organisation and if they are interested in participating in an interview. Twelve organisations answered that they are not diaspora organisations and/or have no Ecuadorian members in the organisation; these associations were, therefore, excluded from the mapping. The authors repeatedly contacted the remaining organisations. Yet, for five associations, no contact could be established via phone or email (i.e. phone numbers were invalid and/or emails returned as undeliverable) and no comprehensive information on their activities was available. After the identification of key contacts through the initial mapping, snowball sampling and extended desk research were conducted resulting in further contacts within the Ecuadorian community. GIZ also provided additional contacts of diaspora organisations and

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individuals. The final mapping includes a total of six organisations. This includes four Ecuadorian diaspora organisations in Germany, in addition to another two organisations that may not directly be defined as diaspora organisations as they were founded by a German but which are now being led by an Ecuadorian. The findings presented in this study relate to these six organisations.

Data on the structures of the Ecuadorian diaspora in Germany, as well as on their existing and potential contributions to development, have been collected in the form of **semi-structured, in-depth interviews**. Given the study's **focus on organisations**, data were collected from groups of individuals who display some degree of organisation and continuity and engage in activities or specific forms of involvement in Ecuador's development or in Germany. The working definition of diaspora organisations employed in this study is based on Bush's and Sökefeld's definitions of diaspora organisations as discussed in Section 3. We, therefore, define diaspora organisations as complex, formal, informal, or semi-formal organisations that may articulate and pursue goals asserted to be representative of the interests and aspirations of 'the diaspora' as a whole or may pursue highly individual projects in the country of origin. Additional insights have been generated through interviews with further Ecuadorian individuals living in Germany and through interviews with other relevant stakeholders, as well as through information obtained from social media pages and websites of the organisations.

In total, **thirteen interviews with eleven members of the Ecuadorian diaspora** (six individuals and five representatives of organisations) as well as two stakeholder interviews (with a representative of the German office of the *Ecuadorian Institute for Promotion of Exports and Investments, Proecuador* and with a representative of a support organisation for Latin American migrant women in Germany) were conducted between March and June 2018. The majority of the Ecuadorian respondents interviewed were women and arrived in Germany between 1986 and 2015. Education, work, and family reasons were primary motivations for migration among the interviewees. An overview table of characteristics of interview respondents can be found in Appendix C.

The interviews were semi-structured based on an interview guide (see Appendix D) that was divided into five main sections: ⁵

- 1) **Migration history** (life before leaving Ecuador, reasons for migration, decision to migrate to Germany, respondent's relationship to Ecuador more in general)
- 2) **Subjective view on the Ecuadorian diaspora** (composition of the Ecuadorian diaspora in terms of socio-economic factors, ethnicity, political aspirations, and religion; the degree of organisation; their networks; as well as potential lines of conflict and fragmentation)

⁵ The interview guide was based on the interview guides used for previous diaspora mapping studies conducted by the MGSoG and commissioned by the GIZ (see: Koch & Ragab, 2018; Nimeh et al., 2017; Ragab et al., 2017; Bonfiglio et al., 2015; Marchand et al., 2015; Ragab et al., 2013). The interview guide was translated from German to Spanish prior to the first interview.

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- 3) **Basic organisational information** (motivation structure, and the goals of the associations as well as their sources of funding)
- 4) **Current organisational activities** (transnational activities and potential contributions to development in Ecuador)
- 5) **Cooperation** (forms of cooperation and networks that exist among diaspora organisations and with regard to other actors, such as policy makers, Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs), and International Non-Governmental Organisations (INGOs), in Germany and Ecuador, and potentials for cooperation with the German Development Cooperation)
- 6) **Main challenges and future plans** (specific activities planned in the (near) future and further aspirations in particular with regard to contributions to development; potential challenges and barriers the organisations face in their engagement)

Each respondent chose the language spoken during the interview prior to or at the beginning of the interview. Six interviews were conducted in German and seven in Spanish. In general, the sequence of the questions was applied in a flexible manner, allowing for fluid discussions and adjustments with regards to the individual situation during each interview. Based on the permission of each interview partner, all interviews except for one were recorded. In order to ensure an in-depth analysis of the data, all recorded interviews were transcribed.⁶ The transcripts were thematically analysed using an inductive coding scheme to identify both common and unique narratives of diasporic experiences. In addition to the above-mentioned interviews, an **informal and unstructured interview with GIZ staff** members was conducted in order to get an overview of the work of GIZ in the Ecuadorian context and in the field of migration and development more in general. The information obtained in this interview serves as background knowledge for the authors and is directly reflected in Section 7.2 on development and diaspora engagement policies in Germany.

5. Ecuadorian diaspora: migration patterns and history

Given that the dimension and nature of diaspora involvement depends on the size, composition, and distribution of diaspora groups as well as on individual capabilities and aspirations, it is essential to understand the broader migration patterns as well as the social, economic, and political circumstances and conditions Ecuadorian migrants encounter in the destination country. This section provides a short overview of emigration trends from Ecuador more generally, before turning to a description of the characteristics of the Ecuadorian immigrant population in Germany.⁷

⁶ All interviews conducted in Spanish were transcribed and translated into English by an external translator, while all interviews conducted in German were directly transcribed in German.

⁷ Summary statistics on Ecuador can be found in Appendix E.

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5.1. Ecuadorian emigration profile

The first Ecuadorians settled in the US in the 1930s, but more significant migration flows have only been observed since the 1960s (UNFPA - Ecuador & FLACSO - Ecuador, 2008). The country's emigration history is characterised by two major waves of migration since the 1960s and one more recent trend. While emigration was economically motivated during all waves, the waves differ with regard to population group and countries of destination.

(1) First wave: 1960 – 1995

The first wave of emigration from Ecuador started in the 1960s, with **predominantly young and male Ecuadorians from southern Ecuador** migrating irregularly to the US. When the demand for toquilla straw hats declined in the 1950s and 1960s, Ecuadorians from the **rural populations** in the provinces Azuay and Cañar in Southern Ecuador where the hats were produced used the trade connection to migrate to the US, primarily to New York, in search of employment (Gratton, 2005; Jokisch, 2007, 2014). Migration to the US continued slowly but persistently during the 1970s and 1980s using clandestine migration networks through Mexico and Central America (Jokisch, 2014). When Ecuador experienced a first major economic crisis in the early 1980s, many Ecuadorians used the already existing networks to migrate to the US (Jokisch & Pribilsky, 2002).

(2) Second wave: 1998 - 2003

Emigration patterns changed significantly in the late 1990s. Starting in 1998, Ecuador experienced a severe economic crisis which resulted in a dollarisation in 2000⁸ and caused a sudden increase in **inequality and poverty**,⁹ **massive unemployment**, and underemployment combined with a loss of savings as well as a reduction of social investments and a deterioration of public services for the Ecuadorian population (Boccagni, 2014). Additionally, the country suffered political instability, insecurity, and the loss of confidence in the country by the Ecuadorian population (Acosta, 2005; Acosta, López, & Villamar, 2004). As a result, Ecuadorian emigration dramatically increased and radically changed its character: the crisis turned emigration into a **national phenomenon** for people from urban areas and people from all social classes (Gratton, 2005). Between 1998 and 2004, more than half a million Ecuadorians left the country (Jokisch, 2007). The second wave, also referred to as the “new emigration” (Jokisch & Pribilsky, 2002), was also characterised by increased female

⁸ Ecuador's GDP growth was 3.267% (1998) -4.739% (1999), 1.092% (2000), 4.016% (2001) (The World Bank Group, 2018b).

⁹ Poverty increased from 15.7% in 1998 to 28.2% in 2000 [Poverty headcount ratio at \$1.90 a day (2011 PPP) (% of population)]. This rate decreased to 8.1% in 2006 (The World Bank Group, 2018d). According to Acosta et al. (2004), the impoverishment in Ecuador between 1995-2000 was the fastest in the history of Latin America.

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emigration and by the shift in destination country from the US towards countries in Europe (mostly to Spain, but also some other European countries, for example, Italy) (Gratton, 2005; OIM, 2011).¹⁰

(4) Emigration since 2004

Ecuadorian emigration reached a peak in 2000. Despite the dollarisation, the country still experienced economic difficulties, including a high interest rate and high level of unemployment (Acosta, 2005). Remittances started to play an important role to sustain the dollarized economy and, for some years, exceeded the amounts gained from certain exports (e.g. banana, cacao, café, shrimps, tuna and fish) (Acosta et al., 2004).¹¹ In 2003, all Schengen area countries introduced a **visa requirement for Ecuadorians** which ended the possibility to enter without a visa and overstay the time period for which a visa was not required (Boccagni & Lagomarsino, 2011; Jokisch, 2014; OECD, 2003).¹² Spain's repeal of the visa waiver for Ecuadorians in August 2003 had an immediate effect on the inflow of Ecuadorians (Bertoli et al., 2011); the same effect can be observed for Germany (see Figure 1 in Section 5.2.1). On the other hand, family reunification has taken an important role in the migration patterns of Ecuadorians. A total of 157,000 Ecuadorians joined their family members in Spain between 2008 and 2013 (Jokisch, 2014).

Additionally, **return migration** has increased since 2007 as a response to the Spanish economic crisis in 2012 and 2013, leading to mass emigration by immigrants and natives and incentives for return introduced by the Ecuadorian government (outlined in more detail in Section 7.1 of this report). A total of 56,466 Ecuadorians left the country (including Ecuadorians who had obtained Spanish nationality) during these years (Jokisch, 2014). Estimates by the Ecuadorian Migration Secretary (SENAMI) from 2013 suggest that the government had assisted more than 40,000 Ecuadorians to return since 2008 (Jokisch, 2014). In 2009, Spain also introduced three voluntary return programs, though without major success (Jokisch, 2014).

As the above described emigration patterns show, **Germany has never been a preferred destination country for Ecuadorian emigrants**. According to United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA, 2017), the stock of Ecuadorian emigrants in Germany was 8,514 as of December 31st, 2017. As shown in Table 2, Ecuadorians in Germany, therefore, only constitute 0.75 per cent of the total Ecuadorian emigrant stock. The vast majority of Ecuadorian emigrants live in the United

¹⁰ This change in destination country was a result of increased border enforcement in the US, Mexico and Central America, easy entry conditions, no language barriers and a high demand for low-wage, semi-skilled, and gendered labour for agricultural and domestic service jobs in Spain (Bertoli, Fernández-Huerta Moraga, & Ortega, 2011; Gratton, 2005; Jokisch, 2014; Jokisch & Pribilsky, 2002).

¹¹ Remittances constituted 7.2 per cent of the country's GDP (Gross Domestic Product) in 2000, while the average for Latin America and the Caribbean was 0.9 per cent in the same year (The World Bank Group, 2018c).

¹² The measure was justified by the Schengen area countries due to a high number of Ecuadorians staying in Europe irregularly.

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States and in Spain, which were top destination countries during the first and second emigration wave, respectively. Apart from Germany, other “Top 10” destination countries include Italy, Venezuela, Chile, Canada, Colombia, the United Kingdom, and Switzerland (UN DESA, 2017).¹³

Table 2: Top 10 destination countries for Ecuadorian emigrants, 2017

Country	Stock number	% of total stock
United States	470,319	41.6%
Spain	420,344	37.2%
Italy	89,882	7.94%
Venezuela	37,549	3.31%
Chile	24,427	2.16%
Canada	15,852	1.40%
Colombia	15,212	1.34%
Germany	8,514	0.75%
United Kingdom	7,725	0.68%
Switzerland	5,241	0.46%
Total in top 10 destination countries	1,095,065	97.0%
Total emigrant stock	1,131,427	100%

Source: UN DESA, 2017

5.2. Characteristics of Ecuadorian immigrant population in Germany

Providing an overview of the Ecuadorian immigrant population in Germany, this section relies primarily on data from the German Federal Statistical Office (*Statistisches Bundesamt*). The *Statistisches Bundesamt*’s **GENESIS database** was used as the primary source of information on, for example, the size of the Ecuadorian population in Germany (over time), size of the second generation, age groups, naturalisation rates, marital status, types of residence permits, and geographical distribution by federal state (Statistisches Bundesamt, 2018b, 2018c, 2018d, 2018e, 2018f, 2018g). Information about Ecuadorian students is taken from data published by the German Federal Statistical Office (Statistisches Bundesamt, 2017a; 2017b). This was complemented by data and information from a variety of German institutions.¹⁴

¹³ For an explanation of data sources and data discrepancies, see pages 13-14.

¹⁴ This included the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees (*Bundesamt für Migration und Flüchtlinge*, BAMF); the Federal Employment Agency (*Bundesagentur für Arbeit*); the Federal Employment Agency’s International Placement

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Two main data limitations were encountered, namely **data availability and data discrepancies**. The *Statistisches Bundesamt* (2018a) collects annual data on the immigrant population in Germany and provides, where available, information on the gender, age, and average length of stay of migrants disaggregated by nationality. However, this report does not provide information on the residence statuses of Ecuadorian migrants in Germany, as nationalities within the categorisation of South America are not disaggregated. It is also important to note that this annual publication does not include information for migrants that have naturalised to gain German citizenship, nor does it provide information on key demographic and socioeconomic indications (e.g. education, labour market performance) (Statistisches Bundesamt, 2018a). Rather, such information is typically collected as part of the annual microcensus, which provides valuable data on the education status and income situation of migrants living in Germany. The microcensus, however, **does not provide disaggregated data on Ecuadorian migrants in Germany** (Statistisches Bundesamt, 2017c) which makes it challenging, if not impossible, to report on their demographic and socioeconomic characteristics. Little is known, for example, about the family sizes, occupations, income levels, and educational backgrounds of Ecuadorians in Germany.

Second, there are often **discrepancies between figures from different sources**. Figures provided by the German government on the size of the Ecuadorian immigrant population in Germany are significantly lower than numbers provided by international sources, such as UN DESA. In many cases, this is the result of differences in definitions and measurement. The *Statistisches Bundesamt* does not include dual Ecuadorian-German citizens or those who have naturalised to become German in its statistics, since Ecuador is not included in the microcensus (Statistisches Bundesamt, 2017c). In contrast to this, UN DESA (2017) relies on a broader definition and includes foreign-born Ecuadorians in Germany (also those who have naturalised to become German), rather than just Ecuadorian citizens, in its statistics. Finally, there are also discrepancies between German statistics from different sources, as illustrated in Table 3. The *Statistisches Bundesamt* (2018a), for example, provides a comparison of the numbers of Ecuadorians in Germany between the most recent German census of May 2011 with the AZR figures from the same date.

Services Division (*Zentrale Auslands- und Fachvermittlung, ZAV*); the German Centre for Research on Higher Education (*Deutsches Zentrum für Hochschul- und Wissenschaftsforschung, DZHW*); the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (*Bundesministerium für Bildung und Forschung, BMBF*); the Central Register of Foreign Nationals (*Ausländerzentralregister, AZR*); the Federal Office of Administration (*Bundesverwaltungsamt, BVA*); the Expert Council of German Foundations on Integration and Migration (*Sachverständigenrat deutscher Stiftungen für Integration und Migration, SVR*); the German Academic Exchange Service (*Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst, DAAD*). When limited data was found during desk research, staff at these institutions were contacted via email to gain a more statistically informed overview of the Ecuadorian immigrant population in Germany.

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Table 3: Ecuadorian population in Germany - Census versus AZR, 9 May 2011

Gender	Census	AZR	Difference	Difference (in %)
Male	1,408	1,664	256	18.2
Female	2,499	2,646	147	5.9
Total	3,907	4,310	403	10.3

Source: Statistisches Bundesamt, 2018a, p. 531

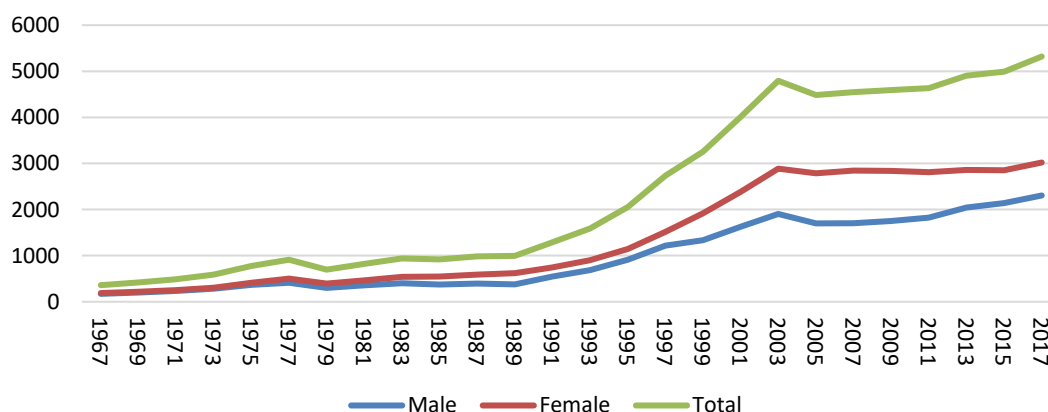
Moreover, different data sources often provide **information on the different categories of Ecuadorian immigrants** (general population, students, etc.) across different time periods. Such caveats limit detailed comparisons and analyses of the Ecuadorian immigrant population in Germany. As such, it is especially recommended that disaggregated data about the understudied characteristics of the Ecuadorian population in Germany be further collected and analysed. Despite the above-mentioned data limitations, the characteristics of Ecuadorian immigrants in Germany are presented here to the greatest extent possible.

5.2.1. Size and geographical distribution

Figure 1 shows the growth of the Ecuadorian population in Germany between December 31st, 1967 and December 31st, 2017 (Statistisches Bundesamt, 2018c). It can be seen that there have been **steady increases in the size of the Ecuadorian population in Germany since approximately 1989**. The size of the Ecuadorian population in Germany peaked in 2003 just before decreasing, likely as a result of the visa waiver cancellation for Ecuadorians by all Schengen area countries in the same year (Boccagni & Lagomarsino, 2011; Jokisch, 2014; OECD, 2003). Since then, the size of the Ecuadorian population has again grown. By the end of 2017, there were 5,320 Ecuadorians living in Germany, with 3,020 (56.7%) being female and the remaining 2,305 (43.3%) being male (Statistisches Bundesamt, 2018a). Only 2.2 per cent of these Ecuadorian women, and 3.3 per cent of these men, reported being born in Germany (Statistisches Bundesamt, 2018a). More specifically, a reported 130 second generation Ecuadorians (75 male, 55 female) were living in Germany as of December 31st, 2017 (Statistisches Bundesamt, 2018d).

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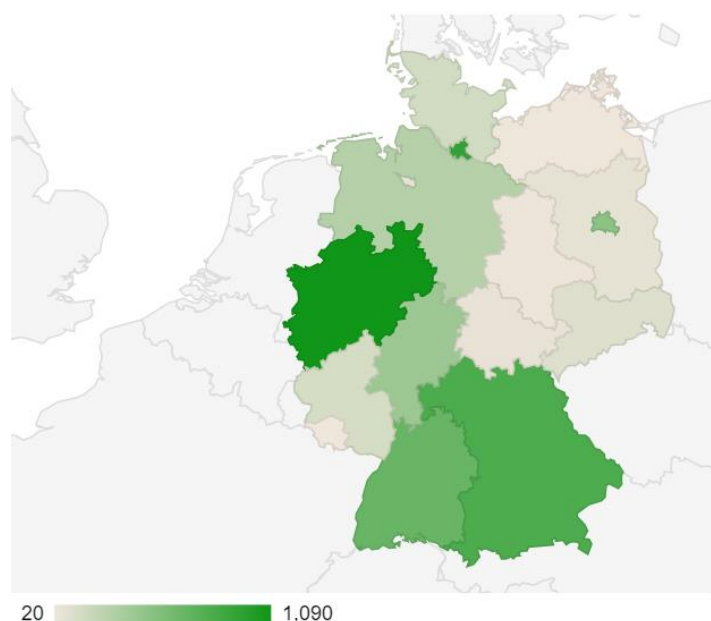
Figure 1: Growth of the Ecuadorian population in Germany, 1967-2017



Source: Statistisches Bundesamt, 2018c

As shown in Figure 2, the majority of the Ecuadorian population lived in the federal states of North Rhine-Westphalia (1,090; 20.5%), Hamburg (920; 17.3%), Bavaria (795, 14.9%) and Baden-Württemberg (670, 12.6%), as of December 31st, 2017 (Statistisches Bundesamt, 2018f) (see also Appendix F, Table F.1).¹⁵

Figure 2: Geographical distribution of Ecuadorian citizens in Germany, 31 December 2017



Source: Statistisches Bundesamt, 2018f // Note: This figure was created by the authors using Google Geocharts

As of 31 December 2017, 2,365 individuals had a temporary residence permit, while **1,430 individuals had a permanent residence permit**. As of December 2017, Ecuadorians in Germany had limited

¹⁵ The geographic distribution of Ecuadorians in Germany does not line up exactly with distribution of the identified organisations.

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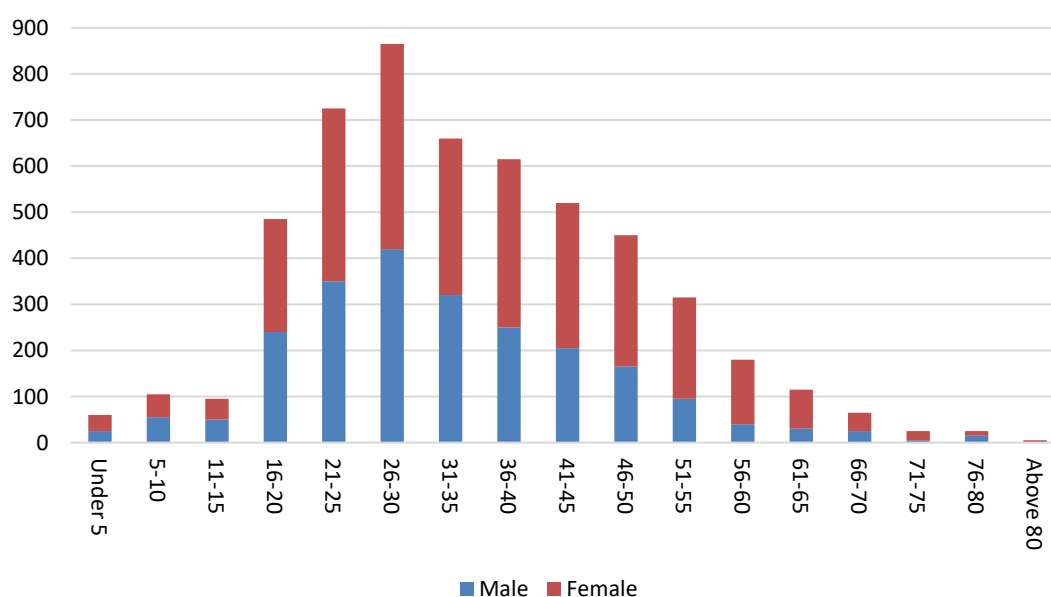
residence permits primarily for purposes of education (1,010) and family reasons (900). Limited residence permits for work reasons (255) and humanitarian grounds (70) were less common. It is also observed that slightly more women than men held residence permits, whether temporary or permanent (Statistisches Bundesamt, 2018e).

Another 620 Ecuadorian citizens in Germany had EU mobility from being nationals of an EU member state. Moreover, 510 Ecuadorian citizens were residing in Germany in December 2016 without status, namely without residence title, temporary suspension of deportation, or permission to reside (Statistisches Bundesamt, 2018e; see Appendix F, Table F.2). As of December 31st, 2017, the average length of stay in Germany amongst current Ecuadorians living in Germany is reported by the *Statistisches Bundesamt* (2018a) to be 9.9 years (9.3 years for men, 10.4 years for women). The *Statistisches Bundesamt* (2018b) also reports that – of the 110,383 naturalisations of foreigners in 2016 – a total of 216 Ecuadorians (87 males, 129 females) naturalised to become German citizens. It is further reported by the *Bundesamt für Migration und Flüchtlinge* (BAMF, 2017) that, while there were no new asylum claims made by Ecuadorians in Germany between January 1st and December 31st of 2017, one previously made asylum claim was rejected.

5.2.2. Demographic and socio-economic characteristics

As of December 31st, 2017, the **average age among Ecuadorians in Germany was 35.3 years**, with the average age for males being (33.1 years). Females are slightly older and have an average age of 36.9 years (Statistisches Bundesamt, 2018a). As shown in Figure 3, most Ecuadorian citizens in Germany are between the ages of 26 and 30 years (Statistisches Bundesamt, 2018c, 2018g).

Figure 3: Age groups among the Ecuadorian population in Germany, 31 December 2017



Source: Statistisches Bundesamt, 2018c, 2018g

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As of December 31st, 2017, 2,405 (45.2%) Ecuadorians in Germany were single, 1,985 (37.3%) were married, and 405 were divorced (7.61%) (Statistisches Bundesamt, 2018c). The share of married individuals was higher among Ecuadorian women than among Ecuadorian men (women: single 38.9%, married 43.9%; men: 53.4% single, 30.4% married, Statistisches Bundesamt, 2018a). According to the *Bundesagentur für Arbeit* (2017), there were **1,938 employed Ecuadorian citizens in Germany** and 521 who held a 450-EUR job as of 30 September 2017. As of March 2018, there were also 249 unemployed Ecuadorian citizens in Germany. Of the unemployed individuals, 100 (40.2%) were male and 149 were female (59.8%). Another 535 Ecuadorian citizens in Germany were classified as “job seeking” in March 2018 (Bundesagentur für Arbeit, 2018).

According to the *Statistisches Bundesamt* (2017a), there were **a total of 886 Ecuadorian students registered at an institute of higher education in Germany in the 2016/2017 winter semester** (see Table F.3, Appendix F). It is observed that the majority of these Ecuadorian students (837 individuals) were *Bildungsausländer/-innen*, while the minority (49 individuals) were *Bildungsinländer/-innen*.¹⁶ Of these 886 Ecuadorian students, 648 studied at universities (*Universitäten*), 20 studied at arts schools (*Kunsthochschulen*), and 218 studied at universities of applied sciences (*Fachhochschulen, ohne Verwaltungsfachhochschulen*).¹⁷ During the 2016/2017 winter semester, **the most popular fields of study among Ecuadorian students in Germany were engineering as well as legal, economic, and social sciences** (Statistisches Bundesamt, 2017a; see Table F.4, Appendix F).

For Ecuadorian students in the 2015/2016 winter semester, **the primary universities of attendance were the Karlsruhe Institute of Technology, the Technical University of Munich, and the Free University of Berlin** (Statistisches Bundesamt, 2017d; see Table F.5, Appendix F). Figures on Ecuadorian students in Germany are also made available by the German Academic Exchange Service. The most recent figures show that, in 2017, the DAAD supported 67 Ecuadorians in Germany in the context of individual support (*Individualförderung*) and 135 in the context of project support (*Projektförderung*).¹⁸ Another 8 Ecuadorian students received scholarships from DAAD in the context

¹⁶ It should be noted that *Bildungsausländer/-innen* is the term generally used to refer to non-German individuals who lived abroad before starting to study in Germany, while *Bildungsinländer/-innen* refers to non-German individuals who lived in Germany before starting higher education in Germany and may have completed their secondary education in Germany.

¹⁷ Similar figures are reported by the Statistisches Bundesamt (2017b) to describe Ecuadorian students in Germany during the 2017 summer semester. During this period, there were a reported 817 Ecuadorian students (435 men, 382 women) enrolled at an institute of higher education. As was also the case for the 2016/2017 winter semester, it is observed that the majority of the Ecuadorian students (777 individuals) in the 2017 summer semester were *Bildungsausländer/-innen*, while the minority (40 individuals) were *Bildungsinländer/-innen*. Of these 817 Ecuadorian students, 598 studied at universities (*Universitäten*), 19 studied at arts schools (*Kunsthochschulen*), and 200 studied at universities of applied sciences (*Fachhochschulen, ohne Verwaltungsfachhochschulen*).

¹⁸ According to DAAD (2016), “[i]ndividual funding is aimed directly at promising academics and junior researchers, while project funding supports the international orientation of academic research [...] In the area of individual funding, the DAAD mainly provides support for students, academics and university teaching staff who have successfully applied for a

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of an EU mobility programme that ran from 1 June 2015 to 31 May 2017 (DAAD, 2017; see Table F.6, Appendix F).

In 2016, 74 Ecuadorians were among the foreign scientific and artistic staff at institutes of higher education in Germany (Statistisches Bundesamt, 2018i). The Statistisches Bundesamt (2018h) furthermore reports that 60 Ecuadorian guest scientists were working at German institutions in 2016.¹⁹

5.3. Subjective view on the characteristics of the Ecuadorian diaspora in Germany and its developments

"I hardly participate in a direct way at all, but there are these events, which are mainly organised by the Ecuadorian embassy, but otherwise, I know, there are a few associations or something. But directly - I do not have so much contact actually with Ecuadorians. I do have some [Ecuadorian] friends, but not otherwise." (IN 11)

One aim of this study is to gain an insight into the Ecuadorian (organised and non-organised) diaspora in Germany. A key characteristic of the Ecuadorian diaspora in Germany is its **low level of formalisation and organisation**. Not only did the mapping identify no more than four Ecuadorian diaspora organisations in Germany,²⁰ but the respondents also reported a general **lack of connections among Ecuadorians in Germany**. Two respondents used the word *"isolated"* (IN 2 & IN 6) to describe Ecuadorians in

Germany. Respondents reported that they do not know of many, if any, initiatives by Ecuadorians in Germany and that Ecuadorians are also not very present at other events. These findings raise the question if we can even speak of an (organised) diaspora in the case of Ecuadorians in Germany. One reason for the lack of connections may be the small size of the Ecuadorian diaspora in Germany (IN 2).²¹ As previously discussed, the Ecuadorian diaspora in Germany only constitutes 0.75 per cent of the total of Ecuadorian emigrants (see Table 2 in Section 5.1).²²

One respondent (see IN 13) also explained that engaging in activities within the Ecuadorian diaspora or Latino community in Germany may hinder integration into German society. Respondents generally described the Ecuadorian diaspora in Germany as **heterogenous**, despite its small size, and divided along groups. In line with the emigration patterns and characteristics discussed in the previous sections, **four groups** can be distinguished within the diaspora.

DAAD scholarship. In the area of project funding, the DAAD primarily finances programmes to promote cosmopolitan university structures" (p. 58, 100).

¹⁹ Disaggregated data by nationality and host institution to determine the most common host institutions for Ecuadorian guest scientists in Germany is not available.

²⁰ The mapping further identified two organisations that are a lead by Ecuadorians but may not be regarded diaspora organisations following the definition established in Section 3.

²¹ Some connections with other Latino diaspora groups exist, yet this seems to depend on the individual and connections were not reported to particularly strong.

²² Compared to other immigration population in Germany,

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"[...] when I came to Germany, I was of course often with around Latinos, but there was no ... that was rather private, so we were not an organisation and, bit by bit, I realised that if I want to integrate here better, I have to get out of these groups a bit. And so, it is not that I have an organisation with people from Latin America or that I am active or have been active in such an organisation."
(IN 13)

First are mainly **female Ecuadorians** who came to Germany because of their German partner or who came to Germany in search of work/studies and stayed in the country after getting married to a German. As one respondent described, this group of Ecuadorians is "very busy solving the individual problem of the home" (IN 2). The second group encompasses **professionals** who obtained their education in Germany and stayed in Germany afterwards for employment. One respondent described this second group as "naturally coming from different social positions

in Ecuador" (IN 2). Third are **Ecuadorian students**, often on a scholarship from the Ecuadorian government or the DAAD (*Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst*; German Academic Exchange Service). This group generally sees their migration to Germany as temporary and has the intention to return to Ecuador after completing their studies. The fourth group includes **Ecuadorians "that are German descendants"** (IN 10) who generally speak German and "it was easier for them to integrate, to blend into society" (IN 10). One respondent (IN 10) noted that there used to be strict divides among the groups; yet, according to the respondent, such differences have decreased over time.

The interviews revealed another characteristic of the Ecuadorian diaspora in Germany which is a dominant **apolitical attitude** among Ecuadorians in Germany. This topic was addressed by almost all respondents. One respondent described a general disinterest in politics, be it German or Ecuadorian politics (IN 2). Another respondent explained that, in her opinion, Ecuadorians in Germany avoid discussing Ecuadorian politics with fellow Ecuadorians in Germany as very conflicting positions exist (especially with regard to Correa's administration until 2017) and discussions may quickly lead to arguments and dissent. Yet, in her opinion, it has become somewhat calmer since Rafael Correa finished his last term (IN 4). Additionally, some of the representatives of the diaspora associations expressed that they avoid talking about politics and religion within their association to avoid conflicts (e.g. IN 3). Despite isolation and heterogeneity, there seems to be one aspect that creates some degree of collective identity among Ecuadorians in Germany, namely a connectivity through the **Ecuadorian culture**, particularly food, but also music or dances. Ecuadorians do seek to be in touch with fellow Ecuadorians in Germany in order to feel connected with their country of origin and live Ecuadorian culture (IN 2, IN 10).

The use of digital technologies – including the Internet, communication applications, social media platforms (e.g. Facebook, Twitter) – has grown exponentially in the last decade to allow for global communication, interaction, and networking. Diasporas have also leveraged such technologies to both communicate with family and friends back in the country of origin as well as to connect with other members of the respective diaspora (Levitt & Lamba-Nieves, 2011; Brinkerhoff, 2009). Given the limited number of active Ecuadorian diaspora associations, **a brief mapping of Facebook groups was conducted wherein 19 groups were identified**. An overview can be found in Appendix F (Table

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F.7). The group *Ecuadorianos en Alemania* (“Ecuadorians in Germany”)²³ has 3,261 members and is, by far, the largest.²⁴ Another six groups with a broad regional focus on Germany were found.²⁵ Posts in the public groups with a regional focus on Germany include music videos, information about events, and items for sale (e.g. in the case of *ECUATORIANOS EN ALEMANIA Y EN TODO EN MUNDO* / “Ecuadorians in Germany and Worldwide”).

No group with an explicit political orientation could be identified. The authors only encountered one politically oriented page (*Ecuadorianos en Bonn-Köln Alemania Revolución Ciudadana*), yet this page has only 30 likes. The authors were not able to identify any major political discussions in the Facebook groups. All events that were posted were party invitations or similar. This **confirms the apolitical character of the Ecuadorian diaspora**. One respondent (IN 10) also confirmed that Ecuadorians show little activity within Ecuadorian groups on social media. Yet, “people are more present in other groups, German groups or Latin American groups” (IN 10).

6. Ecuadorian diaspora organisations and their engagement in development

Ecuadorian emigration patterns and the creation of the Ecuadorian diaspora are well documented, as demonstrated in Section 5. Literature on Ecuadorian diaspora in the US and Spain as the main destination countries exists.²⁶ Yet, **few existing studies also highlight the emergence of immigrant (labour) associations and targeted activities in response to their situation and certain events**. One example is the “Fifty-Kilometre March” organised by the Association of Rumiñahui Migrants of Ecuador after the approval of a Spanish Law reducing labour rights and rights to reunification (Ramírez Gallegos, 2015). In a study of migrant organisations in Spain, Lacomba and Cloquell (2014) identified 223 Ecuadorian migrant associations. Organisations varied in their degree of formalisation, ranging from “organisations with a high degree of formalisation” to “informal groups that have been able to implement small projects in their communities of origin” (Lacomba & Cloquell, 2014, p. 33). Of the 55 organisations that the authors interviewed, 51 per cent were associations with activities in the country of origin, 42 per cent were associations with development activities in the country of origin, and only 18 per cent were co-development initiatives. The identified development projects focused on gender, cooperatives, environment, solidarity tourism, and microcredits. The authors also identified some alternative strategies to enable, for example, organised sports leagues to finance projects in their country of origin.

²³ Link to group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/342178896927/>

²⁴ The group’s description calls all Ecuadorians in Germany to join the group in order to establish contacts among each other. It is a closed group; for this reason, the authors did not analyse its content.

²⁵ Another four groups were identified; these groups did not have any new post during the last 30 days and may, therefore, be considered inactive and were disregarded for further discussion. Of the remaining six groups, only one is not a public group.

²⁶ See, for example, Hierro (2013), Morales and Pilati (2013), Ramírez Gallegos (2015), or Kyle and Goldstein (2011).

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Despite this existing literature, **little is known about the Ecuadorian diaspora and Ecuadorian diaspora organisations in Germany and only very few studies exist.** Furthermore, existing studies often address Ecuadorian transnational engagement but only focus on a specific group of Ecuadorians, for example, Ecuadorians from the community Pepinales (Ramírez Gallegos, 2008; Schlichting, 2007). This limited amount of existing research on the Ecuadorian diaspora in Germany clearly shows the need for a more comprehensive study. This chapter provides an overview of the emergence and developments of the Ecuadorian diaspora and its organisational landscape within Germany. It also addresses the nature and dynamics of their transnational practices with respect to Ecuador and Germany.

6.1. Organisational landscape

"Ecuadorian business associations in Germany, no there are no[ne]. There have been in the sense of support from the different Consulates and Embassy along with the Commercial office. But established as an association, we don't have it as such at 100 percent." (IN 7)

One aim of this study was to map and document Ecuadorian diaspora organisations. Drawing on the working definition of diaspora organisations outlined in Section 3, **a total of four active Ecuadorian diaspora organisations in Germany were identified.** These four organisations are the *Asociación Ecuatoriana e.V.* (Ecuadorian Association), the *Centro Cultural Ecuador Baviera e.V.* (Cultural Centre Ecuador Bavaria), *Mi lindo Ecuador e.V.* (My beautiful Ecuador), and *PROTECCIÓN y DESCANSO – Förderverein für Behinderte in Ecuador e.V.* (Protection and Rest – Support association for disabled people in Ecuador). Additionally, **this study identified two active organisations that are led by Ecuadorians but which are not necessarily diaspora organisations as such,** namely *Ethiquable Germany* and *Provita Andina e.V.* Nonetheless, these organisations have been included in this study in order to provide a more comprehensive picture of diaspora engagement by Ecuadorians in Germany. The lack of other initiatives as well as the absence of business associations or political activities was constantly confirmed throughout the interviews (e.g. see IN 7).

In the following, the main characteristics of the Ecuadorian associations with regards to membership, capacities, cooperation and diaspora networks and transnational practices will be discussed. Profiles for each organisation can be found in Appendix A.

6.2. Membership

Table 4 provides an overview of membership by organisation. With the exception of *ETHIQUABLE Germany*,²⁷ all existing organisations identified as part of this study are **registered associations.** For registration, an association has to have at least seven members (Bundesministerium der Justiz und für Verbraucherschutz, 2016). Associations vary in size as well as

"When we organise an event, for example now [...] 60-80 people come. When we have a big party, maybe 200 people come - that's different, it all depends on what activities we do. Once a year, we have a barbeque in a swimming pool and also almost 100 people attend. That depends on what activity we are doing." (IN 3)

²⁷ *ETHIQUABLE Germany* is an employees cooperative (*Mitarbeitergenossenschaft*).

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with regards to age, gender and origin of members. It is important to note that for the associations that organize events, **the associations' networks far exceed the number of members**, with hosted events often being attended by 60 to 200 people (see IN 3). Membership fees range between 10 to 60 euros per year.

Table 4: Membership by organisation²⁸

Name of organisation	No. of members	Age	Gender	Origin of members	Membership fee (Yearly)
<i>Asociación Ecuatoriana e.V.</i>	9 (Executive committee) 17 families (not all active)	Diverse (Families)	Diverse	EC & GER	Individuals: 40€ Students/Pensioners: 20€ Families: 40€
<i>Centro Cultural Ecuador Baviera e.V.</i>	20 (7-8 active = executive committee)	40-50	Female	EC	Individuals: 10 € Families: 15 €
<i>ETHIQUABLE Germany</i>	7 staff members (4 full-time)	n.a.	n.a.	EC/GER/FR	-
<i>PROTECCIÓN y DESCANSO – Förderverein für Behinderte in Ecuador e.V.</i>	GER: 15 (3 active); EC: 40 (10 active), 5 staff members	Diverse (Families)	Diverse	GER (1 EC)	varies; minimum fee: 60€
<i>Provita Andina e.V.</i>	60-70 passive, 4 active	35-46; 70 (active members)	3 female, 1 male	GER (1 EC)	n.a.

6.3. Capacities

Respondents showed **commitment and willingness** for more engagement. During the interviews, it became clear that groups who generally have the promotion and celebration of Ecuadorian culture as their main goal also become engaged (e.g. through the church or their networks of family and friends) if emergency help is needed. This was, for example, the case after the 2016 earthquake. Another important capacity, specifically of the culturally oriented organisations, is their **outreach**.

"I think it is always difficult, for every association, to find people who also want to participate. When we sell juices, for example, we are always the same people who are always there. [...] there are many people who only come to the festivals. And I think that's a problem that all organisations have." (IN 3)

While the organisations have a small number of members, they reach an often 10 to 30 times bigger audience through their cultural events.

Some respondents voiced the wish to do more, but their own capacity and/or their organisation's capacity does not allow them to broaden engagement. The **voluntary character** of all engagement among the Ecuadorian

diaspora is a major challenge. Members of the organisations have to find the **time** in addition to their

²⁸ No interview with a representative of *Mi lindo Ecuador e.V.* could be conducted. Therefore, details, such as the number and structure of members, are not available.; "- " = not applicable, n.a. = information not available

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job and their family obligations which limits the projects the associations can operate as well as the willingness to take on leadership positions (IN 3, IN 13). Additionally, the organisations **lack active members**. In the case of one organisation, the number of members is fluctuating every year and, due to the voluntary character of engagement of all members, the organisation is not able to do a proper follow-up in order to attract more people to engage in its activities.

The existing organisations are **mostly funded through the membership fees**. Depending on the organisation, donations, fundraising events, or sales made at cultural events are also relied on for financing. In some cases, the organisations are only able to cover the costs of an event through the funds gathered at the event itself; the organisations often **lack resources** (see, for example, IN 1) for further engagement. There exists a desire to professionalise and expand their forms of engagement. The existing diaspora organisations also voiced interest in cooperating with the German Development Cooperation. Yet, a lack of funding and the voluntary character of engagement impose restrictions.

"We have thirty people here with us, but it could be more. There are more people that could use the help. Unfortunately, we cannot support them all because we do not have enough financial support for that." (IN 1)

6.4. Cooperation and diaspora networks

This study identified **three umbrella organisations** Ecuadorian associations are part of, namely *Casa Latinoamérica e.V.*, *Circulo Latino – Arbeitskreis der lateinamerikanischen Vereine Baden-Württemberg e.V.*, and *Forum der Kulturen Stuttgart e.V.* The *Casa Latinoamérica e.V.* is based in Munich and unites **eight German-Latin American associations** (including the *Centro Cultural Ecuador Baviera e.V.*²⁹). The *Circulo Latino – Arbeitskreis der lateinamerikanischen Vereine Baden-Württemberg e.V.* unites Latin American associations (e.g. Argentinian, Bolivian, Colombian, Chilean, Mexican, Peruvian) in Stuttgart and its surroundings. Twenty-two associations, including the *Asociación Ecuatoriana e.V.*, are members of the umbrella organisation. The *Forum der Kulturen Stuttgart e.V.* operates on a much larger scale than the above-mentioned organisations. Founded in 1998, the umbrella organisation now counts 110 migrant organisations within Stuttgart and its surroundings as members. The umbrella organisations mainly address cultural topics, promote intercultural exchange and regularly host cultural events, festivals, and lectures, such as a yearly Ibero-American Week (*Circulo Latino – Arbeitskreis der lateinamerikanischen Vereine Baden-Württemberg e.V.*) or a *Lateinameriktag* (Latin

"We all speak Spanish and we support each other. If the Ecuadorians have a party then the Colombians and the Chileans and Argentines will come in the same way, or the Circulo has different activities once a year, big activities, all of us then support." (IN 3)

²⁹ The current members of the umbrella organisation could not be identified as the organisation's website is currently under construction. Other sources state the following organisations as founding members: *Asociación Cultural Perunana Chasqui e.V.*, *Ayni ORG e.V.* und *Aluna Minga e.V.*, *Centro Cultural Ecuador Baviera e.V.*, *Hermanidad del Señor de los Milagros de Munich e.V.*, *Kaymy Llaqtay e. V.*, *Pacta Sevanda e. V.* and *#YoSoy132Munich*.

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America Day; *Casa Latinoamérica e.V.*).

The *Red Ecuatoriana De Mujeres Científicas* (Ecuadorian Network of Women Scientists) was mentioned as well as **a network of female scientists** in Ecuador and abroad. The network comprises female PhD candidates, post-doc researchers, and professors from 29 universities, including two German institutions (the University of Freiburg and the Leibniz Centre for Tropical Marine Research in Bremen).³⁰

“Eighteen years ago, when we started trying to make it official, say so, the Circulo Latino during this time [...], a Uruguayan, was chairman of the Circulo and he [...] took me by the hand and [did] with me all the papers and stuff that you have to do to register an association, he really helped me and since then we are also members of the Circulo Latino”

(IN 3)

As one respondent (see IN 3) highlighted, membership in an umbrella organisation offers the associations support with administrative/bureaucratic procedures, for example, when registering a group as a registered association. Additionally, the umbrella organisations, especially the *Circulo Latino e.V.*, constitute Latin American support networks and the associations’ members attend each other’s event and also organise joint events (as mentioned above).

Some **cooperation with other organisations in Germany** outside the umbrella organisations was also mentioned by interviewees (for example, *Hilfe für Guasmo, weltwärts*, the Ecuadorian consulate in Ludwigsburg, and the Ecuadorian Embassy in Berlin). With regards to **cooperation in Ecuador**, two of the discussed diaspora organisations work together with actors in Ecuador for their projects. For one organisation, this includes cooperation with governmental institutions in the form of project support by the *Ministerio de Inclusión Económica y Social* (Ministry for Economic and Social Inclusion) as well as cooperation with universities (for internships) and schools (for awareness raising). The other organisation has worked together with the *Colegio Alemán Quito* (German School Quito) and has supported other smaller organisations and projects in Ecuador in the past. Yet, the organisation found that the process of cooperation with the smaller organisations in Ecuador lacked transparency as they were not able to properly track to where their money was going and, therefore, decided to work only with German organisations in the future. Another organisation (IN 13) also described finding an Ecuadorian partner organisation with which to cooperate as being difficult as they did not find “a single organisation that really consequently follows the aims as we would imagine.” (IN 13)

³⁰ A detailed overview of the aforementioned umbrella organisations and networks – in addition to their contact details – can be found in Appendix B.

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6.5. Transnational practices

Despite the generally low level of transnational practices exhibited amongst the organisations, the interviews showed that there are two issues for which Ecuadorians in Germany unite and engage. First, diaspora organisations and individuals started **contributions in response to emergencies**, specifically the 2016 earthquake. These were of temporary and spontaneous character and primarily consisted of monetary and in-kind donations, such as mattresses and items for children. The second topic for which Ecuadorians in Germany unite and engage are **cultural reunions**. Organisations – such as the *Asociación Ecuatoriana e.V.* and the *Centro Cultural Ecuador Baviera e.V.* – have contributed to a formalisation of these gatherings. This includes the celebration of Ecuadorian festivities such as

"Integrating myself or feeling well - that was [difficult] for me, yes, I missed my home, I missed everything. I was not able speak German back then - it was even more difficult then [than now]. And that's just what we're trying to do now, just to be there for the people who are newcomers, also for the ones who have been around for a while, and then we continue our traditions" (IN 3)

the *Fiestas de Quito*³¹ or *Día de los muertos* (All Souls Day) and involves typical food, for example, *Fanesca*³² or *Colada Morada*.³³ The *Centro Cultural Ecuador Baviera e.V.* also organises yearly events to celebrate St. Valentine's day, Mother's Day, Children's day, and some Latin American celebrations such as the *Inti Raymi*.³⁴ These patterns show that Ecuadorians in Germany find it important to maintain connected with their country of origin, yet often on a very personal and/or cultural level. Through the cultural

reunions, existing diaspora organisations also make an important contribution with regards to **integration** (see IN 3). Associations also support **cultural exchange between Ecuador and Germany by inviting artists and musicians from Ecuador**. While the associations cannot offer financial support, the members of the *Centro Cultural Ecuador Baviera e.V.*, for instance, support Ecuadorian dance groups during their stays in Munich by arranging accommodation for the artists in private homes.

The only diaspora association that has a **permanent social project** in Ecuador is *Protección y Descanso e.V.* This constitutes an exception and may root in the fact that the first steps of the project in Ecuador were started by immediate family and friends who have a mentally disabled family member before the co-founder's migration to Germany. This co-founder then kept supporting the project from abroad and subsequently founded the German support association, while the families and friends in Ecuador had founded the *Fundación Protección y Descanso*. The Ecuadorian association runs a **therapy centre for adults with mental disabilities** in Riobamba which aims to address the gap with regards to special needs schools, especially for the poorer population as well as the lack of integration of adults with mental disabilities into the labour market. The German association supports its

³¹ The *Fiestas de Quito* are a week-long series of celebrations in Quito to commemorate the foundation of the city, ending on December 6th. Festivities include bullfighting, rides in *chivas* (open party buses), the selection of a beauty queen (*Reina de Quito*), and card game competitions (*Campeonatos de Cuarenta*).

³² The *Fanesca* is a traditional Ecuadorian soup which is eaten during the Holy Week only.

³³ For a brief explanation, see page 37.

³⁴ *Inti Raymi*, around the solstice on June 24th, is a spiritual Inka celebration to celebrate the sun.

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Ecuadorian partner financially and raises awareness for the situation of mentally disabled individuals in Ecuador. The centre currently supports thirty adults and their families. The daily programme of the centre includes therapy sessions (e.g. ergotherapy, hydrotherapy, physiotherapy) as well as educational sessions (e.g. literacy), craftsmanship, sport, and cooking.

ETHIQUABLE Germany also operates in Ecuador, as one of their main target countries alongside Peru. Yet, as an employee cooperative, *ETHIQUABLE Germany* takes a very different approach. The cooperative **works together with groups of local producers in Ecuador and other Latin American countries**. By placing their organic products, such as quinoa, banana chips, cocoa, or coffee, on the German market, the organisation ensures that small Andean farmers can make a living from agriculture and maintain an activity that is part of their culture and do not have to seek alternatives, such as migrating to the coast. As part of the fair-trade systems, the Ecuadorian producer cooperatives receive a development premium (*Entwicklungsprämie*). The specific use of this premium may be determined by each farmers' cooperative. Examples of projects put in place by farmers' groups include larger projects, such as the establishment of doctor's office in a village where producers previously did not have any access to medical care, as well as smaller projects, such as the purchase of school books for the producers' children.

7. Policy influence on Ecuadorian diaspora activities

Section 6 considers the influence of policies – in both Germany and Ecuador – on activities of the Ecuadorian diaspora. Diaspora engagement and the transnational engagement of migrants is highly shaped by the political context in origin and destination countries. Policies driving the political opportunity and engagement structures of migrants, targeting the sending and receiving of remittances, as well as shaping conflict dynamics play a role in how migrants engage in both their origin and destination countries (Brinkerhoff, 2012; Gamlen, 2006). As such, it is crucial to understand how such specific policy-related factors interact to influence the engagement of the Ecuadorian diaspora and its potential for development in this regard.

7.1. Ecuadorian policies toward the diaspora

Rafael Correa³⁵ was Ecuador's first president to reach out to the country's diaspora (Boccagni & Lagomarsino, 2011; Jokisch, 2014). Starting in 2007, his administration established a number of measures to encourage engagement with Ecuador as well as return (OIM, 2011). Establishing what is also referred to as **"state-led transnationalism"** (Boccagni, 2014), Correa's newly-found attention to Ecuadorians abroad went so far that the diaspora was referred to as the **"fifth region"** (Boccagni, 2014;

³⁵ Rafael Correa was President of Ecuador from 2007 to 2017.

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Jokisch, 2014).³⁶ Ecuador ranks amongst the countries with the highest score³⁷ in the Emigrant Policies Index (EMIX) which measures the degree of adoption of emigrant policies in twenty-one Latin American countries (Pedroza & Palop-García, 2017). In the following, each measure will be discussed briefly.

First, the government established the *Secretaría Nacional del Migrante* (Migration Secretary; SENAMI) in 2007. Yet, its functions were replaced by the *Viceministerio de Movilidad Humana* (Vice-Ministry for Human Mobility) due to a re-structuring of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 2013 (Boccagni, 2014). In 2009, the Ecuadorian government introduced a new **consular policy**, which re-defined the responsibilities of the already existing consulates; the services for Ecuadorian abroad offered by the consulates were expanded with a new focus on the protection of migrant's rights. Thirty-three additional consulates were opened in Spain, the US, and Mexico, and consular staff were trained to work in closer proximity with the Ecuadorian diaspora (Ramírez Gallegos, 2014).

With the **National Development Plan (Plan Nacional de Desarrollo, 2007-2010)**, the Ecuadorian government integrated migrant's rights and involvement into the framework of the *buen vivir*³⁸ of the National Development Plan (Gobierno Nacional de la República del Ecuador & SENPLADES, 2007). Based on the National Human Development Plan, the **National Plan of Human Development for Migration (Plan Nacional de Desarrollo Humano para las Migraciones, PNDHM)** was drafted. The main objectives of the PNDHM were to include human, economic, social and cultural rights for everyone in the country's migration policy and ensure the promotion of these rights, to establish and foster the connections between migrants, their families and their country, "to encourage Ecuadorians to remain in their country and build the conditions that make the dignified and sustainable voluntary return of migrants possible" and to promote "human development processes, intercultural processes and the creation of universal citizenship" (SENAMI, 2007, p. 12).

The so-called "Welcome Home Plan" (*Plan Bienvenid@s a Casa*) is the main government initiative resulting from the PNDHM to create and **consolidate links between Ecuadorians migrants and their families and the country and to integrate returning migrants into Ecuadorian society**. The plan is directed towards all Ecuadorian migrants living abroad for more than one year and who want to return (Cortés Maisonave & Sanmartín Ortí, 2010; SENAMI, 2007). It has been put in practice through three programmes. First, the *Programa Vínculos* (Links Program) aims to create transnational practices on an individual, family, community, and institutional level. This includes the creation of

³⁶ Ecuador can be divided into four geographic regions: (1) the coast, (2) the highlands (*Sierra*), (3) Amazon, and (4) the Galapagos Islands.

³⁷ Score Ecuador: 0.52; sample mean $\frac{1}{4}$ 0.36, sd $\frac{1}{4}$ 0.13; Countries include: Argentina, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay, and Venezuela (Pedroza & Palop-García, 2017).

³⁸ *Buen vivir* (Quechua: *sumak kawsay*) is a concept originating from traditions of the Quecha-speaking Andean population (in Ecuador and neighbouring South American countries) which refers to a way of life that incorporates a great sensitivity for culture and the environment and is centered around the community.

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virtual platform such as *migranteecuadoriano.gov*, *empresariomigrante.com*, and “Bienvenid@s a Casa” (Moncayo, 2011). Second, the *Programa de Incentivos y Orientación a Personas Migrantes para la Inversión Social y Productiva* (Incentive and Guidance Programme for Social and Productive Investment for Migrants) is a programme to foster social and productive investments by Ecuadorians abroad (OIM, 2011). The *Fondo Cucayo* (Fund for Dignified Return) was created in 2008 to attract entrepreneurial investments and projects by returnees (Boccagni, 2014; Cortés Maisonave & Sanmartín Ortí, 2010; SENAMI, 2007). The third programme is the “Return Home” (*Proyecto Volver a Casa*) project which aims to make the legal and economic aspects connected with returns easier for Ecuadorians abroad (Moncayo, 2011).

In line with the PNDHM objectives, an incentive programme for social and productive investments was established. This included the **establishment of a Migrant’s Bank** (*Banco del Migrante*). The bank was formed to foster investment and allow remittance transfer at low cost, offer financial support to regions with high migration via credits, and provide health insurance for migrants and their families. The aim of the Migrant’s Bank is also to support entrepreneurs, students, artists, and professionals who are living abroad so that the country can profit from their talents for development (Cortés Maisonave & Sanmartín Ortí, 2010). Additionally, other credit access provisions were established. Ecuadorian banks, for example, also signed bi-lateral agreements with Spanish banks for remittance circulation (Boccagni, 2014). Furthermore, during his presidency, Rafael Correa and some of his ministers repeatedly conducted visits to initiatives promoted by consulates and *Casas Ecuatorianas* abroad, and the pro-diaspora rhetoric was consistently present in the president’s Saturday speeches (*sabatinas*) (Boccagni, 2014; Ramírez Gallegos, 2014).

Since 2006, Ecuadorians living abroad are able to **vote in presidential, legislative, as well as supra national elections and referendums** (Boccagni, 2014; Ramírez Gallegos, 2014). A total of 1,581 Ecuadorians (574 men, 1,007 women) in Germany were registered to vote for the 2013 presidential elections, constituting a 0.8 per cent of the population eligible to vote (CNE, 2012).³⁹ In 2006, when Ecuadorian emigrants were able to participate in elections for the first time, participation was at 61 per cent; this decreased to 35 per cent in the 2017 elections, while in absolute terms the number of Ecuadorian emigrants who voted increased (2006: 87,513; 2017: 133,026) (Gobierno de la República del Ecuador, n.d.-b).

Since 2007, Ecuadorians living abroad have six **representatives in the National Assembly** “being elected as emigrants’ representatives” (Boccagni, 2014, p. 122). To foster exchange between members of congress and the Ecuadorian population, the National Assembly established *Casas Legislativas* (“Legislative Houses”) within the country and abroad. In the same year, the *Casas Ecuatorianas* (“Ecuadorian Houses”) were established by the SENAMI to promote Ecuadorian culture

³⁹ In Germany, Ecuadorians can cast their vote at the Ecuadorian embassy in Berlin or at the Ecuadorian consulate in Hamburg (Gobierno de la República del Ecuador, n.d.-c). Unlike citizens residing in Ecuador, Ecuadorians residing abroad are not obliged to participate in the elections.

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and offer assistance for Ecuadorians abroad, such as psychosocial support, trainings, programmes for prospective returnees, as well as support for overseas students and professionals among others (Boccagni, 2014; Ramírez Gallegos, 2014). In 2011, Ecuador maintained such migrant support centres in New York, Madrid, Milan, London, and Caracas as well as representations in Geneva, Rome, Barcelona, Brussels, Mexico City, and Santiago de Chile (Boccagni, 2014; Ramírez Gallegos, 2014).

Ecuador is one of ten Latin American countries that enable their emigrants to obtain **dual or multiple citizenships** (IOM & MPI, 2012). As the Ecuadorian constitution does not contain the possibility of renunciation of Ecuadorian citizenship, Ecuadorians who obtain German citizenship maintain their Ecuadorian citizenship (§ 10 Abs. 1 Satz 1 Nr. 4 Staatsangehörigkeitsgesetz „Verlust bzw. Aufgabe der alten Staatsangehörigkeit“, n.d.). The Ecuadorian government also issues consular identity cards to its citizen which, most importantly, enables irregular migrants to open a bank account (IOM & MPI, 2012).

7.2. Development and diaspora engagement policies in Germany

Ecuador has an embassy in Berlin and a Consulate General in Hamburg. Ecuador also has honorary consulates in Munich, Bremen, Stolberg, and Ludwigsburg (Gobierno de la República del Ecuador, n.d.-a). Conversely, Germany has an embassy in Quito and Honorary Consulates in Cuenca, Guayaquil, and Manta. **Bilateral political relations** have been fostered by numerous political visits and meetings between leaders of the two countries in the last few years alone.⁴⁰

Coordination that aims to promote **economic relations** (particularly with regards to trade and investment) between Germany and Ecuador is also of relevance. The two countries are important trading partners, with Germany being the largest exporter of goods to Ecuador. The German-Ecuadorian Chamber of Industry of Commerce has had offices in Quito since 1977 and the Ecuadorian government has an office of the Ecuadorian Institute for Promotion of Exports and Investments (*Proecuador*) in Germany, located in Hamburg (Proecuador, 2018). Moreover, the Ecuadorian government is currently (re)negotiating its investment promotion and protection agreement as well as its double taxation agreement with Germany (Auswärtiges Amt, 2018).

⁴⁰ In October 2014, the delegation of the German Bundestag's Parliamentary Friendship Group for Relations with the States of South America met the previous inter-parliamentary group in Quito; the German delegation also welcomed the return visit of the Ecuadorian inter-parliamentary group a year later. In June 2015, the German Federal Chancellor Angela Merkel met the then Ecuadorian President Rafael Correa in the context of the EU-CELAC (European Union-Community of Latin American and Caribbean States) Summit held in Brussels. Later in 2017, the Ecuadorian parliament also instituted a new Ecuadorian Inter-Parliamentary Group of Friendship and Cooperation with Germany. A number of German political foundations – namely the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, the Hanns Seidel Foundation, and the Rosa Luxemburg Foundation – also have offices in Ecuador and promote activities in the country (Auswärtiges Amt, 2018).

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Ecuador and Germany have engaged in **development cooperation** since the 1950s, with environmental and natural resources protection as well as public administration and economic reform being the main focus areas (Auswärtiges Amt, 2018; BMZ, 2018a; BMZ, 2018b). Germany's development cooperation with Ecuador was temporarily suspended in December 2014 (BMZ, 2018a; BMZ, 2018b).⁴¹ This partnership was resumed, however, in September 2015 (BMZ, 2018a; BMZ, 2018b). With regards to **environmental protection and resource conservation**, the German government is supporting Ecuador in developing and implementing practices at the local, regional, and national levels for sustaining its biodiversity and unique ecosystems. The technical cooperation programme is focused on four fields of action: (1) sustainable production, (2) incentive schemes for farmer and indigenous communities, (3) participatory systems of supervision and monitoring, and (4) reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and adaptation to climate change (BMZ, 2018b). *The KfW Development Bank (Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau; Reconstruction Credit Institute)* is closely cooperating by providing financing support for infrastructure development related to Ecuador's conservation efforts; the bank also supports the Ecuadorian "SocioBosque" programme, which aims to incentivise land owners to place their forest land under conservation. Germany is also supporting Ecuador's efforts to use renewable energies on the Galápagos Islands (BMZ, 2018a).

In the context of **public administration and economic reforms**, the Ecuadorian government is starting to implement the German vocational training system. In this regard, cooperation agreements have been arranged between German and Ecuadorian companies with regards to training workers and establishing a number of new training centres (Auswärtiges Amt, 2018). Moreover, the German government is supporting local and regional Ecuadorian authorities in providing improved public services through trainings as well as development, budgetary, and investment planning. The Ecuadorian government is also supported by Germany in its implementation of the New Urban Agenda that was adopted in 2016. In this regard, Germany is supporting – through the involvement of the *KfW Development Bank* and *Banco del Estado* – the development of Ecuador's municipal administration with regards to water supply, sanitation systems, waste management, and urban mobility networks (BMZ, 2018b).

On behalf of the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (*Bundesministerium für wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit und Entwicklung; BMZ*), the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, and Nuclear Safety (*Bundesministerium für Umwelt, Naturschutz und nukleare Sicherheit; BMU*), and other commissioning parties, **GIZ has worked in Ecuador within the context of development cooperation since 1962**. GIZ has around 75 employees in Ecuador, including sixty national experts, six international personnel, four development advisors, and four integrated experts (GIZ, n.d.). GIZ is also working on behalf of the German government in the areas of environmental

⁴¹ At the time, Ecuadorian Minister of Foreign Affairs and Human Mobility Ricardo Patiño stated: "[I]f the German Government believes that it gives money for cooperation, has the right to come and do monitoring and doubt the word of the authorities of Ecuador about Yasuni, we prefer to return the money" (Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores y Movilidad Humana, n.d.).

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protection and resource conservation as well as public administration and private sector reform. In this regard, GIZ works with the national, regional, local Ecuadorian governments to improve the sustainability of Ecuadorian ecosystems and marine and coastal zone management, increase the resilience of the Ecuadorian population to changes in climate, and support sustainable urban development. The GIZ also has an Innovation Fund that aims to finance initiatives related to vocational training and economic development at the local level (GIZ, n.d.).

Cooperation between Ecuador and Germany with regards to **culture and education** is also of importance. Cultural exchange between the two countries is especially mediated by the *Humboldt-Gesellschaft* and *Goethe-Zentrum* in Quito as well as the German-Ecuadorian Cultural Centre in Guayaquil. *Red Cultural Alemana* – a German cultural organisation – also collaborates with the German Embassy to organise the cultural programme of German institutions engaged in Ecuador’s cultural sector (Auswärtiges Amt, 2018). There are already numerous forms of **academic cooperation** between Ecuador and Germany, and academic exchanges and partnerships are on the rise. There are a number of German schools in Ecuador, specifically based in Quito, Guayaquil, and Cuenca, while university-level collaboration is typically promoted through either short-term research scholarships or lecturer exchange programmes. Being especially active at the *Pontificia Universidad Católica del Ecuador*, DAAD also provides scholarships that foster exchange between Ecuador and Germany (Auswärtiges Amt, 2018); this was previously detailed in Section 5.2. University-level cooperation between Ecuador and Germany especially focuses on projects related to science and engineering. Three Ecuadorian universities and eight German universities, for example, are engaged in research on the rainforests in Ecuador’s Loja Province; this project is conducted by the German Research Foundation (Auswärtiges Amt, 2018).

8. Key challenges, opportunities, and avenues for cooperation

This chapter fosters a discussion of the key challenges of the Ecuadorian diaspora in Germany based on the insights gained from this study’s interviews. Recommendations for avenues of cooperation between the German government and the Ecuadorian diaspora are also made based on the desk research and interviews.

8.1. Key challenges

As discussed in Section 6, a limited number of Ecuadorian diaspora organisations have been identified as part of this study, and there are few activities and contributions of the identified Ecuadorian diaspora organisations especially in the origin country context. In this regard, it should be noted that the Ecuadorian diaspora is restricted in its potential to carry out more comprehensive and extensive forms of engagement due to challenges faced in Germany, in Ecuador, and within the diaspora.

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It has become clear from the previous sections that there is a **lack of engagement by the Ecuadorian diaspora in the origin country**. Only very few diaspora associations were identified, and the identified diaspora organisations are mainly active with regards to culture. It is, therefore, important to understand potential reasons for this lack of engagement in the origin country. As mentioned in Section 6.3, the existing Ecuadorian organisations often **lack the capacity (e.g. time, financial resources)** needed for engaging in the desired development-related activities in the country of origin. One organisation noted that it was unable to widen the scope of its activities to encompass to more beneficiaries because of limited financial support.

In one case, a respondent also voiced that she would like to explore more options of (financial) support with similar organisations in Germany that may support projects like the one the organisation operates. Yet, she found the **administrative procedures** to engage in such cooperation to be very complicated. Other associations also expressed being burdened by **complicated bureaucracy**. One interviewee, for example, reported that it was difficult to find the necessary event spaces to carry out activities or that venues had to be booked eight months in advance.

With regards to challenges in the country of origin, this study also identified **a lack of reliable partners** as a challenge in Ecuador, as mentioned in Section 6.4. Diaspora associations either experienced that Ecuadorian organisations with which they worked were not transparent enough, or they had

difficulties finding a partner organisation that pursued the same goals as their association.

"[...] One of my areas of work is [...] the pollution of the petrol company in Ecuador. I work directly with the people affected, and I would like to work in that subject. For example, the funds that we have are derisory; I think they're about €65 and you know that no one would do anything for that here. Even the hotel can barely be covered by that, and we can't go to our family's place and stay there and eat there. We have a different type of life. We can't irrupt on theirs, especially if we travel because of work. I also know that, if a German person travels, they get over EUR 600 per day, and they give us EUR 65, there's an enormous difference [...]. We want to make a difference there but, with EUR 65 a day, it's almost impossible. We do have the initiative, but we are not treated in the same way and it is a bit offensive because we live here, we pay our taxes here and we even have the German nationality, so we deserve the same treatment." (IN 10)

"I would like to say that, if you have any interest in supporting the Ecuadorian community, people should receive concrete proposals. It goes in both ways, if there is a real proposal, people have to compromise and do a good job and be serious." (IN 10)

A **voluntary nature of engagement** is also clearly visible among the Ecuadorian diaspora associations, as a number of respondents mentioned that they rely either heavily or entirely on volunteer work to realise their organisational activities. Board members of organisations are also unsalaried, and generally carry out this volunteer work in addition to their careers. Respondents suggest that this often makes it difficult for their organisation to find the time to expand their engagement in Germany or in Ecuador. One organisation also described difficulties in arranging its volunteers with the BMZ-founded volunteers service platform *weltwärts* (IN 1) from which they previously received volunteers but do not receive any volunteers any longer.

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Moreover, a number of respondents reported facing **fluctuations in the numbers of active members or a limited number of active members altogether**, making it difficult to mobilise engagement among Ecuadorians. As described in Section 6.2., organisations – for example – noted that hosted events draw the attendance of far more members than are involved in day-to-day activities and responsibilities. Turnover in the executive positions of associations also seemed to restrict the long-term objectives of some organisations to a more **short-term planning horizon**. While the age profiles of the identified Ecuadorian diaspora associations are generally varied due to the nature of family membership (as described in Section 6.2.), members are sometimes even above the age of 70 years. One organisation drew particular attention to the **limited capacity of the aging members** in their partner organisation to deal with the public relations and administration-related work (IN 1).

In three cases, respondents reported on development-oriented projects that they were aiming to initiate in Ecuador and for which they were seeking support in the Ecuadorian community in Germany. In all three instances, they **did not receive the necessary support** as either the organisation they were part of was not willing to support the project or they did not find a sufficient number of Ecuadorians to establish an association. With regards to GIZ's programme targeting the academic diaspora, one individual (see IN 10, p. 33), who is a key person among the Ecuadorian diaspora in Germany, also pointed out a perceived lack of respect and recognition of qualifications and expertise of the diaspora.

8.2. Key opportunities & avenues for cooperation

Despite these identified challenges, **commitment to contribute to development in Ecuador** is articulated by the interviewees (e.g. IN 3). It is also observed that this willingness is especially triggered during times when emergency help is needed in Ecuador. Additional to the commitment among diaspora associations, the **commitment exhibited by individuals** should be highlighted. Three of the Ecuadorian individuals living in Germany who were interviewed for the purpose of this study outlined existing plans that they have with regards to development-related projects in Ecuador (IN 4, IN 9 &

"We would like to do something bigger with the German government or with German organisations that are planning something bigger than us. We would be looking for more help also for Ecuador. But yes, that is the hope for all of us."

(IN 3)

"I heard recently that GIZ was supporting the academic diaspora to share knowledge and I would love to participate in this. I have some other academic friends who are also interested." (IN 10)

"I would like to work more closely with GIZ and maybe do a bigger project, that would be very interesting, but yes only how and when, or how above all, I do not know exactly." (IN 3)

IN 10). In the same context, the commitment of Ecuadorians living in Germany who engage in organisations that are not diaspora organisations also has to be emphasised (IN 11 & IN 13).

Individuals generally expressed **interest in the programmes of the German Development Cooperation** (e.g. IN 3 & IN 10). Given the general willingness for engagement amongst the interview respondents, several forms of potential cooperation can be identified when considering the overlaps between the objectives of GIZ and the PME

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programme as well as those of Ecuadorian diaspora organisations and Ecuadorian individuals in Germany. A number of recommendations can also be made in this regard.

Diaspora Cooperation/Migration organisations:

It has to be acknowledged that the potential of the Ecuadorian diaspora for engagement in the country of origin remains limited. Efforts to mobilise the diaspora for more engagement should be centred around the following approaches:

- **Information sessions on funding and cooperation with PME:** Due to the voluntary nature of their engagement, organisations are often challenged by a general lack of capacity that does not allow them to realise their full potential. In addition, these obstacles limit organisations from navigating the bureaucracy associated with seeking out funding opportunities. As such obstacles with administrative procedures were expressed, **information sessions on the practicalities of applying for grants** as part of the PME's *Diaspora Cooperation* field of action should target Ecuadorian organisations. Moreover, this study found that Ecuadorian associations focus on cultural activities and little attention is being given to activities that support development in the origin country. **Information sessions provided by GIZ/PME to inform about the possibilities of cooperation** would constitute a possibility to activate knowledge in this area and encourage activities.
- **Provide information on requirements and potential partner organisations in Ecuador:** This study also identified a perceived lack of reliable partner organisations in Ecuador as a challenge that Ecuadorian diaspora organisations experience. To address this, information on current requirements and potential partner organisations in Ecuador should be provided. This could be implemented through a mapping of potential partner organisations. Additionally, **workshops**, e.g. on the practicalities of engaging in Ecuador, and **virtual networking sessions** should be facilitated to connect Germany-based diaspora organisations with Ecuadorian partners. While the mapping requires resources and frequent updating, workshop and networking sessions are a more accessible way to foster regular transfer of information.
- **Encouraging engagement in existing organisations:** Several respondents also reported having only a limited number of active members or experiencing fluctuations in their organisational membership, which limits the engagement possibilities among the Ecuadorian associations. In this regard, workshops on how to **encourage more engagement amongst Ecuadorian youth or bring people together in more formal forms of engagement** would be beneficial. Targeting the involvement of a wider cross-section of individuals from Ecuador is also a way to create further diversity in the PME's cooperation with the Ecuadorian diaspora.
- **General capacity building:** Diaspora organisations have voiced a desire to professionalise and expand their engagement in both Germany and Ecuador. It is recommended that CIM provides

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training on not only funding opportunities, but also on engagement of youth and other members of the diaspora as well as on financial management.

- **Structural funding opportunities:** A lack of funding and the voluntary character of engagement impose restrictions. As outlined in Section 6, the existing organisations are mostly funded through the membership fees, some also collect donations and organise fundraising events, or sales made at cultural events. Project-based funding, for example provided by CIM, is also more short-term and limits long-term engagement of organisations. There exists a desire to professionalise and expand the forms of engagement. In order to encourage more formalised engagement of the Ecuadorian diaspora, associations as well as individuals should be supported in professionalising their engagement not only through capacity-building initiatives, but also through structural funding opportunities.
- **Implement diaspora-specific approaches:** Diaspora organisations are able to react quickly and their interventions are highly self-driven. While structural funding and professionalisation of engagement reduce uncertainty and administrative burdens for diaspora organisations, this may take away part of the added value of diaspora engagement by reducing their independence and individuality. It is considered important to preserve the diaspora advantage while supporting the formalisation of their engagement. The aim should not be to make diaspora organisations a replacement for development cooperation, rather to realise what the diaspora can and wants to do and support these self-motivated initiatives. Moreover, rather than having broad funding opportunities, **diaspora-specific funding** (other than CIM-provided funding), which addresses the needs of the diaspora in a more targeted way, should be provided.
- **Knowledge exchange:** Two of the organisations included in the mapping do also operate projects in the region, e.g. in Peru. Existing research has recognised that diaspora engagement is complex and fluid and diasporas do not only group by nationality but also more broadly, for example on a regional level. Therefore, knowledge exchange among Latin American diasporas should be encouraged to benefit from solidarity towards the region. This should be informed by a solid understanding of the existing networks, tensions, and solidarities within the region.
- **Encourage engagement of individuals/creation of new initiatives:** The involvement of the identified diaspora associations in development-related work in Ecuador is still limited. While only two organisations identified as part of this study have formally established such an initiative, interview respondents also expressed being open to starting such initiatives or have plans to do so. Respondents, however, were often faced with being unable to find support for their project ideas from the Ecuadorian community. In this context, the **engagement of individual members of the Ecuadorian diaspora as well as the creation of new initiatives amongst individuals** should also be supported. **Promoting temporary or even longer-term return among members of the diaspora** may

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also help to institutionalise such forms of engagement. In particular, active individuals already engaging in knowledge transfer by returning to Ecuador should be supported in establishing local contacts for new development-related projects or forms of cooperation during their visits. It is recommended to use social media platforms (e.g. Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter) to distribute related information.

- **Scenario workshop:** In order to increase knowledge and ideas how and in which fields organisations could engage in the origin country context, a **scenario workshop** should be implemented. This workshop should identify the resources of the diaspora, the needs (i.e. potential fields for engagement) as well as local partners and other needs of the diaspora. The following questions should be addressed: (1) What can be potential fields of action in Ecuador?, (2) What are the distinct resources of the diaspora in this regard?, (3) What are the needs and potential challenges in this regard?, and (4) How can stakeholders support a constructive involvement and cooperation?

Additional quantitative and qualitative data collection:

- **Social media research:** Only a small number of active Ecuadorian diaspora organisations have, overall, been identified as part of this study. As a result, the authors have conducted an informal Facebook mapping in order to better understand the landscape of engagement amongst the Ecuadorian population in Germany. While this mapping already provides a rough overview of the engagement of the Ecuadorian population in Germany on Facebook, it is recommended that an **additional, more comprehensive investigation of Facebook groups** (and similar social media platforms, such as LinkedIn and Twitter) be conducted.
- **Research with focus on individuals:** Moreover, though the purpose of this research was largely limited to diaspora organisations as a unit of focus, key individuals have also been interviewed. Given the small size of the Ecuadorian diaspora in Germany, it would also be useful to carry out a **more extensive mapping of active individuals** (in addition to those identified as part of this study) using umbrella organisations and universities as a starting point. Given that the biggest proportions of the Ecuadorian population in Germany are living in the federal states of North Rhine-Westphalia, Hamburg, Bavaria, and Baden-Württemberg as of December 31st, 2017 (Statistisches Bundesamt, 2018f), these geographical areas may be important focuses of such an investigation. Such a mapping may, furthermore, use existing information on enrolment of Ecuadorians at higher education institutions in Germany (as previously illustrated by Table 7 in Section 4.2.2) to specifically target universities with the highest number of Ecuadorian students. This could then be accompanied by additional quantitative data collection. For instance, data may be collected **by implementing a survey (e.g. online)** to find out more about existing engagement and interest for engagement among Ecuadorians in Germany.

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- **Mapping study of the Latin American diasporas in Germany:** As a result of the interviews, it is also observed that there is often a tendency amongst the identified diaspora organisations and umbrella organisations to have a broader focus on the Spanish-speaking, Latin American context, rather than only being focused on Ecuador. Considering this, it would be useful to more deeply examine the **possible avenues of engagement between the Ecuadorian diaspora and other Latin American diasporas in Germany** through a similar mapping study. Though beyond the scope of this current study which is limited to a specific diaspora in Germany, it is important to understand such involvement in order to develop a more informed picture of the Ecuadorian diaspora, its activities, and its cooperation with other actors.
- **Collect quantitative data:** Moreover, the data available on the characteristics of the Ecuadorian diaspora in Germany (e.g. size, gender, geographical distribution, fields of study) are presented in Section 4.2. Nonetheless, this study identifies that a lack of comprehensive data limits a more detailed understanding of this population. No conclusions can be made, for instance, on the family sizes, occupations, income levels, and educational backgrounds of the Ecuadorian population in Germany. Given these limitations, it is recommended that **further disaggregated data about the understudied characteristics of the population be additionally collected and analysed** in order to inform policies and programmes directed at Ecuadorians in Germany.

9. Conclusion

Ecuador's history of emigration to Germany started in the late 1990s and early 2000s when a severe economic crisis turned emigration from the country into a national phenomenon and shifted the destinations to include European countries (Boccagni, 2014; OIM, 2011; Gratton, 2005). This study showed that though the stock of Ecuadorians in Germany is relatively small (UN DESA, 2017), the country has been a destination for Ecuadorians migrating for education, work, and family reasons. Given these patterns, it is observed that the Ecuadorian diaspora in Germany is **heterogenous and consists of four main groups**: (mostly) female Ecuadorians who came to or stayed in Germany due to a German partner; professionals who obtained their education in Germany and stayed for employment; Ecuadorian students; and Ecuadorians of German descent. A key characteristic of the Ecuadorian diaspora in Germany is its **low level of formalisation and organisation**. Despite this heterogeneity and existing divides among groups, connectivity related to Ecuadorian culture seems to create some degree of collective identity among the diaspora.

A total of six organisations could be identified, four diaspora organisations and two organisations led by Ecuadorians living in Germany. Engagement by these organisations can be categorised into engagement primarily for **organising emergency contributions as well as cultural reunions and integration efforts**. Only two organisations (*ETHIQUABLE Germany* and *PROTECCIÓN y DESCANSO*)

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operate initiatives in Ecuador, namely through the fair trade of organic products produced by local farmers and running a therapy centre for adults with mental disabilities and their families in Riobamba (respectively). In general, the organisations are managed by small groups of active members, are diverse in gender, and have a mix of Ecuadorian and German participants. **A number of umbrella organisations** – namely *Casa Latinoamérica e.V.*, *CIRCULO LATINO – Arbeitskreis der lateinamerikanischen Vereine Baden-Württemberg e.V.*, *Forum der Kulturen Stuttgart e.V.*, and *Red Ecuatoriana De Mujeres Cientificas* – have also been identified as part of this study. Some cooperation with other organisations in Germany and in Ecuador outside the umbrella organisations has also been mentioned by the interview respondents.

The Ecuadorian diaspora organisations face a number of challenges in Germany, in Ecuador, and within the diaspora community that limit their full potential. In particular, the **existing Ecuadorian organisations often lack the capacity and resources** needed for engaging in the origin and host country contexts. Administrative procedures associated with seeking out funding as well as a lack of meeting spaces, for example, are identified as obstacles. Within the diaspora, the primary limitation is associated with the voluntary nature of engagement. Fluctuations in the numbers of active members or limited number of active members altogether also limit engagement among the associations. The interview respondents showed commitment and willingness for engagement despite these challenges, and some respondents also voiced the wish to do more.

The authors make a number of recommendations to support the engagement of the Ecuadorian diaspora in Germany as well as its development-related activities in Ecuador in cooperation with the GIZ. In particular, PME's efforts should focus on supporting the diaspora with **information sessions on funding barriers and on potentials for cooperation**, providing general capacity building, targeting involvement of Ecuadorian youth in Germany, as well as **facilitating knowledge exchange** amongst Ecuador-related and Latin American actors. The engagement of individual members of the Ecuadorian diaspora as well as the creation of new initiatives amongst individuals should also be encouraged and may be promoted through **temporary return** among members of the diaspora. Other, more general, recommendations include providing the Ecuador diaspora with additional **structural funding opportunities**, facilitating the sustainability of projects, and implementing a diaspora-specific approach. Further research should focus on the collection of **additional disaggregated data** on Ecuadorian in Germany as well as comprehensive investigations of the Ecuadorian diaspora's engagement through social media, on an individual level, and with other Latin American diasporas in Germany.

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Appendices

Appendix A: Mapping of Ecuadorian diaspora organisations in Germany

Organisation	Year	Website	Category	Aims/Activities
Asociación Ecuatoriana e.V.	2000	https://www.ecuador-freunde-stuttgart.com/	Culture, Integration	<p>Aims: To be a platform for Ecuadorians that are new to Germany; To facilitate communication and contact between people from Germany and Ecuador as well as other people from other nationalities living in Germany; to facilitate the cooperation and collaboration between Germany and Ecuador; to create offices to provide information for Ecuadorians and Germans who want to get/ keep in touch.</p> <p>Activities: Organise typical "Ecuadorian" Events (Colada Morada, Campeonato de Cuarenta) and celebrate holidays (e.g. Easter); Have previously organised a benefit concert to collect donations for a German school in Quito; Sell fruit juices at festivals and events in the Stuttgart area to finance their activities.</p>
				<p>Aims: To facilitate a better integration of Ecuadorians in Bavaria; to facilitate communication between</p>

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Centro Cultural Ecuador Baviera e.V.	2004	http://centroecuadorbaviera.de/	Culture, Integration	<p>Ecuadorians and Germans; to foster intercultural communication between other German and Latin American associations and institutions.</p> <p>Activities: Host events for Ecuadorians and Germans about Ecuadorian music, literature, art, food, dance and traditional celebrations; Events include celebration of Valentine's day, Mother's Day, Children's Day, and some Ecuadorian (e.g. "Fiestas de Quito") or Latin American (e.g. Inti Raymi) celebrations; Support Ecuadorian dance groups who come to Munich; Provide orientation for newly arrived Ecuadorians with information.</p>
ETHIQUABLE Deutschland eG	2009	http://wp.ethiquable.de/	Development, Trade	<p>Aims: To support local producers; to promote development with regards to fair trade in Ecuador in Germany; to support local farmer cooperatives.</p> <p>Activities: Engage in the procurement, product development, and sales of fair-trade, organic products.</p>
Mi lindo Ecuador e.V.	2013	http://www.mi-lindo-ecuador.de/	Culture	<p>Aims: To preserve and to promote Ecuadorian indigenous culture.</p> <p>Activities: Organise music and dance performances.</p>
PROTECCIÓN Y DESCANSO - Förderverein für Behinderte	2006	http://www.proteccion-descanso.de	Development	<p>Aims: To facilitate a dignified life for adults with mental disabilities as well as for their families and to</p>

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in Ecuador eingetragener Verein (e.V.)				<p>promote the integration of adults with disabilities into the Ecuadorian labour market.</p> <p>Activities: Run a day center/nursing home for adults with (mental) disabilities; services include therapy (e.g. physical therapy, art/music therapy, water therapy), sports, education, handicraftship, cooking; Collaborate with local universities and secondary schools in Ecuador to support individuals doing an internship or writing their thesis; Participate in local events (e.g. markets, concerts) in Riobamba.</p>
Provita Andina e.V.	1996	http://andina.de/de/der-verein.html	Development	<p>Aims: To address social and environmental problems and provide support for a better life while also ensuring the conservation of resources.</p> <p>Activities: Sponsorship program for children in rural areas in Ecuador (phased out); ongoing project in Peru.</p>

Individuals (who wanted to be mentioned):

- Walter Trujillo
- Rocío Vera Santos

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Appendix B: Mapping of umbrella organisations

Organisation	Website	Brief description
Casa Latinoamérica e.V.	www.casalatinoamerica.org	The umbrella organisation is based in Munich and unites eight German-Latin American associations and initiatives. All these organisations address cultural topics, Latin America's society, and the peoples of Latin America as well as promote the exchange between Germany and Latin America. The main aims of the umbrella organisation are the creation of the first German-Latin American information and cultural centre in Munich, to interconnect the Munich-based German-Latin American associations and initiatives, to foster intercultural exchange between Germany and Latin America, to promote the cooperation between German and Latin American initiatives with regards to education, environment, science, tourism, and to offer advisory services for Latin Americans in Munich.
Circulo Latino – Arbeitskreis der lateinamerikanischen Vereine Baden-Württemberg e.V.	www.circulo-latino.de	The <i>Circulo Latino – Arbeitskreis der lateinamerikanischen Vereine Baden-Württemberg e.V.</i> unites Latin American associations (e.g. Argentinian, Bolivian, Colombian, Chilean, Mexican, Peruvian) for Stuttgart and its surroundings. A total of 22 associations, including the <i>Asociación Ecuatoriana e.V.</i> , are members of the umbrella organisation. The umbrella organisation regularly hosts cultural events, festivals, and lectures. An Ibero-American Week is organised each year, in which each member organisation is able to put on a related event.
Forum der Kulturen Stuttgart e.V.	www.forum-der-kulturen.de	Forum der Kulturen Stuttgart e.V. was founded in 1998. The umbrella organisation now counts 110 migrant organisations within Stuttgart and the surrounding region as members. The umbrella organisation promotes intercultural dialogue, cultural diversity, and equal participation of migrants and their descendants in social and cultural life; supports the intercultural opening of

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		institutions, offices and associations; and actively engages against exclusion, prejudice, racism and discrimination.
Red Ecuatoriana De Mujeres Cientificas (Ecuadorian Network of Women Scientists)	www.remci.org	The <i>Red Ecuatoriana De Mujeres Cientificas</i> (Ecuadorian Network of Women Scientists) is a network of female scientists in Ecuador and abroad. The network includes female PhD candidates, post-doc researchers, and professors from 29 universities, including two German institutions (the University of Freiburg and the Leibniz Centre for Tropical Marine Research in Bremen).

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Appendix C: Characteristics of interview respondents

Code	Gender	Type of respondent ⁴⁴	Main organisational focus	Reason for migration	Year of arrival in Germany	Date & place of interview (Language)
IN 1	F	DO	Development	Family (German partner)	2000 ⁴⁵	March 2018, Skype (German)
IN 2	F	I	-	n.a.	1990 ⁴⁶	March 2018, Skype (Spanish)
IN 3	F	DO	Culture, Integration	Education	1986	March 2018, Skype (German)
IN 4	F	I	-	Work	2004	April 2018, Skype (German)
IN 5	F	DO	Culture, Integration	Family (German partner)	1996	April 2018, Skype (Spanish)
IN 6	F	I	-	Education	2008	May 2018, Skype (Spanish)
IN 7	F	ST	-	-	-	May 2018, Phone (Spanish)
IN 8	F	LST	-	-	-	May 2018, Phone (Spanish)
IN 9	F	I	-	Education	2012, 2016	May 2018, Skype (Spanish)
IN 10	M	I	-	n.a.	1988, 1991	June 2018, Phone (Spanish)
IN 11	F	(DO)	Development, Trade	Family (German partner)	2004, 2009	June 2018, Phone (German)
IN 12	M	I	-	Education	1998, 2003	June 2018, Phone (German)
IN 13	F	(DO)	Development	Family (German partner)	2003	June 2018, Skype (German)

⁴⁴ DO = Member of Ecuadorian diaspora organisation in Germany; (DO) = Organisation is led by Ecuadorian, but not a diaspora organisation (according to definition in Section 2); I = Individual; ST = Ecuadorian stakeholder (e.g. Diplomatic staff from Consulate, Embassy, Proecuador); LST= Latin American / Non-Ecuadorian stakeholder; “-” = not applicable; n.a. = no information provided/respondent preferred to not disclose this information.

⁴⁵ Left Germany and migrated to Chile in 2013.

⁴⁶ Respondent was in Ecuador at the moment of the interview.

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Appendix D: Interview guide

QUESTIONNAIRE IDENTIFICATION	
1. Questionnaire Number	
2. Date	
3. Location interview	
4. Organisation name	
5. Organisation contact person	
6. Contact person phone number	
7. Contact person email address	
8. Organisation mailing address	
9. Consent to share contact details with GIZ?	<input type="checkbox"/> 0. No <input type="checkbox"/> 1. Yes

Interviewer introduction

Thank you very much for speaking with me. I am a researcher from Maastricht University/United Nations University-MERIT in the Netherlands, and I am studying the ways in which organisations like yours engage (or do not) with social, economic, and political life in Ecuador as well as in Germany. The purpose of this study is to figure out to which extent and through what activities diaspora organisations contribute to development in Ecuador. The research seeks to understand how organisations like yours are structured, what kinds of activities you undertake, and what your organisation's primary goals are. I'm collecting this information as part of a project commissioned by GIZ (German Development Cooperation), which hopes to use this information both to understand different types of engagement activities and to investigate which organisations could participate in development initiatives in cooperation with GIZ. I will take note of whatever we talk about today—as we speak, you will see me writing information down. I want you to know that I will share the information with the other project staff, but we will not share your information beyond our team and will keep it confidential. To ensure I have an accurate record of our discussion, do I have your permission to record our talk?

One of this study's goals is to have a roster of diaspora and migrant organisations that can be used to foster participation in homeland development initiatives. Do I have your permission to share your contact details with GIZ?

A. Introductory Question

First, I would like to start with a more personal question.

1. Can you tell me a bit more about your migration experience?

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- a. How was your life before you left Ecuador?
- b. What year did you migrate to Germany?
- c. What were the reasons for your migration?

B. Ecuadorian Diaspora

Now, I would like to ask you some questions on the Ecuadorian diaspora.

1. Can you tell me some details about the Ecuadorian diaspora in Germany?
 - a. Is it homogeneous or heterogeneous (in terms of socio-economic factors, ethnicity, political aspirations and religion)?
 - b. Are there strong ties/networks within the Ecuadorian diaspora in Germany, and in other countries? [What is the role of ethnicity and religion, if any?]
 - c. What is the relationship to Ecuador? Are there strong connections? What is the relationship to the state?
 - d. How do you perceive the “evolution” of the Ecuadorian diaspora since you’ve lived in Germany?

C. Basic Organisational Information

Now, I would like to ask some basic information about your organisation—about how it started, why it started, and its registration status.

1. What motivated you to become engaged?
2. In what year was this organisation established? [*Potential follow-up/prompts*: Have you been with the organisation for much of/not much of its history? Have you seen it change much in the time you’ve been here?]
3. Why was the organisation established, and why at that time?
4. What would you say is the goal or the “core mission” of the organisation? Has it changed over time?
5. What kind of organisation do you consider [name of organisation]? For instance, would you consider it a humanitarian organisation, political organisation, a professional network, a religious organisation, etc.?
6. Is your organisation registered?
7. What is the size of your organisation’s membership (excluding staff)? Does this include both active and inactive members? (What is the size of both groups?)
8. Is the size of your membership consistent, or does it fluctuate?
9. What is the composition of your membership? What is the distribution in terms of:
 - a. Gender
 - b. Age
 - c. Generation (e.g., first, second, etc.)

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- d. Ethnic group
- e. Other characteristics (education or skill level)

10. How is your organisation financed?

11. Is the organisation part of any larger network of organisations, like an umbrella organisation for all Ecuadorian diaspora organisations, or a transnational migrant platform, or something similar? Why or why not?

D. Current Organisational Activities

Now, let's talk about what your organisation does, about what kinds of activities or events your organisation organises or takes part in.

1. What does your organisation do to contribute to development? What is the role of the Ecuadorian diaspora? (*Please, describe all activities in detail*) [Prompt: Does your organisation have fund-raising events, and if so, for what causes? Does your organisation have a mentorship programme? How does your organisation engage with the wider Ecuadorian community?]
2. Have these core activities changed over time?
3. Where do these activities take place? For instance, are some activities run exclusively from country of destination while others take place in Ecuador?
4. Why have these activities become the focus of your organisation? What inspired these activities?
5. Aside from these "core activities", what other sorts of actions or events does your organisation take part in? [Alternate formulation: In a typical year, what activities will your organisation have carried out?]
6. Does your organisation raise collective remittances? [Prompt: if yes, how is the money transferred to Ecuador? Challenges?]

E. Cooperation

1. Are any of your organisation's activities run in cooperation with other organisations or institutions, either in Germany or somewhere else? If so, which ones and how? [*In other words: does your organisation cooperate with others to execute certain activities?*]
 - a. Do you cooperate with other Ecuadorian diaspora organisations from Germany or other countries of residence? Why or why not? If yes: Could you give me the names of the organisations?
2. How does your organisation interact with stakeholders in Ecuador/neighbouring countries?
 - a. What kind of stakeholders are these?
 - b. Does your organisation support any specific group in Ecuador?
3. Does the government in Germany have programmes in place to facilitate cooperation with stakeholders in Ecuador/neighbouring countries?

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4. Do you see potentials for cooperation with the German Development Cooperation (for instance, BMZ, GIZ)?
 - a. If yes, through which means/forms?

F. Main Challenges and Future Plans

Finally, I would like to talk about the future of your organisation—about what is on your agenda for the coming months and years.

1. What would you like to see the organisation achieve in the future? [For instance, what are its short/medium/long-term goals?]
2. What are its key challenges/obstacles now and in the future?

Is there any other important information you think I should know?

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Appendix E: Summary statistics Ecuador

Figure E.1 : Political map of Ecuador



Source: CIA World Factbook (2018)

Table E.1: Summary statistics of Ecuador

Indicator	Statistic
Total area, in sq. km ^a	257,217
Capital city ^a	Quito
Population (2017) ^a	16,625,000
Population of the capital (2015) ^a	1,726,000
Urban population (% of total population, 2015) ^a	63.7
GDP per capita, PPP (current international \$) ^b	1990: 4,829.4 2016: 11,242.0
GNI per capita, PPP (current international \$) ^b	1990: 4,450 2016: 11,030
National currency (2015) ^a	US Dollar (USD)
Age structure (2017 est.) ^c	
0-14 years	27.08%

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15-24 years	18.35%
25-54 years	39.59%
55-64 years	7.53%
65 years and over	7.45%
Age dependency ratio (% of working population, 2016) ^{b47}	55
Median age ^c	27.7 years
Population growth (annual %, 2016) ^b	1.5
Birth rate, crude (per 1,000 people, 2016) ^b	20
Death rate, crude (per 1,000 people, 2016) ^b	5
Life expectancy at birth, total (years, 2016) ^b	76
Sex ratio (males per 100 females, 2017) ^a	99.9 ⁴⁸
Ethnic groups (2010 est.) ^c	Mestizo (mixed Amerindian and white) 71.9% Montubio 7.4% Amerindian 7% White 6.1% Afroecuadorian 4.3% Mulatto 1.9% Black 1% Other 0.4%
Languages ^c	Spanish (Castilian) 93% (official) Quechua 4.1% Other indigenous 0.7% Foreign 2.2% ⁴⁹
Administrative divisions ^c	24 provinces (<i>provincias</i>); Azuay, Bolivar, Cañar, Carchi, Chimborazo, Cotopaxi, El Oro,

⁴⁷ Age dependency ratio is the ratio of dependents - people younger than 15 or older than 64 - to the working-age population--those ages 15-64. Data are shown as the proportion of dependents per 100 working-age population (The World Bank Group, 2018a).

⁴⁸ Note: Projected estimate (medium fertility variant).

⁴⁹ Note: Quechua and Shuar are official languages of intercultural relations; other indigenous languages are in official use by indigenous peoples in the areas they inhabit.

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	Esmeraldas, Galapagos, Guayas, Imbabura, Loja, Los Rios, Manabí, Morona-Santiago, Napo, Orellana, Pastaza, Pichincha, Santa Elena, Santo Domingo de los Tsachilas, Sucumbíos, Tungurahua, Zamora-Chinchipe
Religions (2012 est.) ^c	Roman Catholic 74% Evangelical 10.4% Jehovah's Witness 1.2% Other 6.4% (includes Mormon Buddhist, Jewish, Spiritualist, Muslim, Hindu, indigenous religions, African American religions, Pentecostal) Atheist 7.9% Agnostic 0.1% ⁵⁰
Net migration (2012) ^b	-38,001
International migrant stock (% of population, 2015) ^b	2.4
Personal remittances, received (current US\$, thousand, 2016) ^b	2,612,078.85
Personal remittances, received (% of GDP) (2016) ^b	2.6
Average transaction costs of sending remittances to Ecuador (% , 2017) ^b	4.02

Sources: ^a UN Data (2018), ^b The World Bank Group (2018a), ^c CIA World Factbook (2018)

⁵⁰ Note: data represent persons at least 16 years of age from five Ecuadoran cities.

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Appendix F: Summary tables

Table F.1: Geographical distribution of Ecuadorian citizens in Germany, 2017

Federal state	Male	Female	Total	% of total population
Baden-Württemberg	320	350	670	12.6
Bavaria	315	480	795	14.9
Berlin	230	260	490	9.21
Brandenburg	25	35	65*	1.22
Bremen	25	30	60*	1.13
Hamburg	355	565	920	17.3
Hesse	175	240	415	7.80
Mecklenburg-Vorpommern	5	15	20	0.38
Lower Saxony	130	160	295*	5.55
North Rhein-Westphalia	495	595	1090	20.5
Rhineland-Palatinate	65	80	145	2.72
Saarland	5	10	20*	0.38
Saxony	50	50	100	1.88
Saxony-Anhalt	10	20	30	0.56
Schleswig-Holstein	65	95	160	3.00
Thuringia	30	30	55	1.03

Source: Statistisches Bundesamt, 2018f // Note: The individual figures for men and women as well as totals are taken directly from the Statistisches Bundesamt (2018f). * indicates where there is a discrepancy in the total represented in the original data source.

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Table F.2: Residence status of Ecuadorian citizens in Germany, December 2017

		Male	Female	Total
Residence status (<i>Aufenthaltsstatus</i>)				
	Limited residence permit (<i>Aufenthaltstitel – zeitlich befristet</i>)	1,095	1,270	2,365
	Education	540	470	1,010
	Work	115	140	255
	Humanitarian grounds	35	35	70
	Family reasons	350	550	900
	Residence status with special right of residence	55	80	135
	Permanent residence permit (<i>Aufenthaltstitel – zeitlich unbefristet</i>)	550	880	1,430
	Exempt from requirements to have residence title	5	10	15
	Applied for residence permit/legal status (<i>Aufenthaltstitel</i>)	180	190	370
Freedom of movement according to EU law/EU mobility		215	405	620
Temporary suspension of deportation (<i>Duldung</i>)		5	10	15
Without status: No residence title, temporary suspension of deportation, or permission to reside (<i>ohne Aufenthaltstitel, Duldung oder Gestattung</i>)		260	250	510

Source: Statistisches Bundesamt, 2018e

Table F.3: Institutions of Ecuadorian students in Germany, winter semester 2016/2017

Institution of higher education	Male	Female	Total
University (<i>Universität</i>)	356	292	648
Arts school (<i>Kunsthochschule</i>)	15	5	20
University of applied sciences (<i>Fachhochschule, ohne Verwaltungsfachhochschulen</i>)	109	109	218
Total	480	406	886

Source: Statistisches Bundesamt, 2017a

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Table F.4: Fields of study of Ecuadorian students in Germany, winter semester 2016/2017

Field of study	Male	Female	Total
Humanities	25	37	62
Sport	1	2	3
Legal, economic, and social sciences	121	173	294
Mathematics and natural sciences	53	43	96
Medicine and health sciences	13	23	36
Agriculture, forestry, and nutrition sciences & Veterinary medicine	20	28	48
Engineering	223	83	306
Arts	23	16	39
Other	1	1	2
Total	480	406	886

Source: Statistisches Bundesamt, 2017a

Table F.5: Ecuadorian students in Germany, by university

University in Germany	Number of Ecuadorian students
Karlsruhe Institute for Technology	51
Technical University Munich	35
Free University of Berlin	33
Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich	24
Heidelberg University	21
RWTH Aachen University	21

Source: Statistisches Bundesamt, 2017d // Note: Universities are not presented, where attendance of Ecuadorian students is <20.

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Table F.6: Ecuadorian students receiving DAAD scholarships, 2017

		# of Ecuadorians receiving individual support (<i>Individualförderung</i>)		# of Ecuadorians receiving project support (<i>Projektförderung</i>)	
		<i>Total</i>	<i>New</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>New</i>
Level of study	<i>Bachelor</i>	21	17	32	30
	<i>Master</i>	28	13	42	36
	<i>PhD</i>	15	7	4	3
	<i>Scientists and lecturers (including post-docs)</i>	3	-	18	16
	<i>Other</i>	-	-	39	36
Funding duration	<i>< 1 month</i>	6	6	106	98
	<i>1-6 months</i>	11	11	23	18
	<i>> 6 months</i>	50	20	6	5
Total		67	37	135	121

Source: DAAD, 2017

Table F.7: Overview of Facebook groups

Type of group	Closed	10
	Public	9
Regional focus	Germany ⁵¹	11
	City in Germany	8
No. of members	< 100	7
	< 250	3
	< 750	6
	< 1000	2
	>= 1000	1
No. of posts in last 30 days	None	5
	< 10	4
	< 50	4
	< 100	2
	>= 100	1

⁵¹ One Facebook group is titled *Germany & World*