Abstract
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Andean migrant associations’
host and home country
engagement

Lessons from the Cantons of Geneva and
Vaud, Switzerland

THESE
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by
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Table of contents

Table of contents ................................................................. i
List of tales, figures and boxes ........................................... iii
Résumé .............................................................................. v
Abstract ........................................................................... vii
Acknowledgments ............................................................... ix
Abbreviations .................................................................... xi
Introduction ......................................................................... 1

Chapitre 1. A conceptual framework for migrant simultaneous engagement in multiple societies and through migrant associations ........................................ 7
  1.1 Migrants’ simultaneous engagement in multiple societies ............ 7
  1.2 Migrant associations: the state of knowledge ......................... 10
  1.3 Migrant associations and integration ................................... 14
  1.4 Migrant associations and homeland engagements .................. 18

Chapitre 2. Research design and fieldwork ................................. 23
  2.1 Data collection ................................................................ 23
  2.2 Data management and analysis ........................................ 26
  2.3 Reflection on the status of the researcher ............................ 26
  2.4 Limitations of the study .................................................. 27

Chapitre 3. The Swiss Migration context .................................... 29
  3.1 Migration dynamics and legal and policy framework ............. 29
  3.2 Migration institutional framework .................................... 35
  3.3 Political rational ............................................................. 37
  3.4 “La métropole Lémanique”: Cantons of Geneva and Vaud in Switzerland ...................................................... 39

Chapitre 4. Migrant associations in Switzerland, Swiss society’s influence in their formation and their role on integration and development ................................. 43
  4.1 Migrant associations in Switzerland ..................................... 43
  4.2 Influence of the Swiss society on the formation of migrant associations ......................................................... 45
  4.3 Recognition of migrant associations’ role on integration in the Swiss context ......................................................... 47
  4.4 Swiss encouragement of migrant associations’ role in development ................................................................. 48
  4.5 Migrant associations in the Cantons of Geneva and Vaud ........ 51

Chapitre 5. Andean migration to Switzerland .............................. 53
  5.1 Emigration trends in Andean countries ................................ 53
  5.2 Andean communities in Switzerland .................................... 55

Chapitre 6. Andean migrant associations in Geneva & Vaud Cantons ................................. 67
  6.1 Who are the Andean Migrant associations in the Cantons of Geneva and Vaud? ......................................................... 67
  6.2 What are they aiming for? .................................................... 73
  6.3 Structure and management of Andean migrant associations .... 75
  6.4 Capacity development needs and trainings ............................ 80

Chapter 7. Andean migrant associations activities .................................... 83
  7.1 Andean migrant associations activities in Cantons of Geneva and Vaud ................................................................. 83
  7.2 Andean migrant associations’ homeland engagement ............ 96
7.3 Andean migrant associations’ host and home country engagements…104

Conclusion.........................................................................................................................110
Key findings and conclusions............................................................................................110
Implications of findings........................................................................................................123
Recommendations for future research on the topic..........................................................123

Bibliography..........................................................................................................................125

Annex 1. Preliminary database of Andean migrant organizations in the Cantons of Geneva and Vaud .................................................................141
Annex 2. Interview questionnaire .......................................................................................143
Annex 3. Survey questionnaire ............................................................................................144
Annex 4. Participant observation activities and working groups ..............................151
Annex 5. Studied Andean migrant associations’ websites and social media....153
List of tables, figures and boxes

Tables
Table 1. Integration processes and policies .................................................. 16
Table 2. Characteristics of the undocumented migrants in Switzerland ........... 30
Table 3. Residence permits for third country nationals in Switzerland ................ 32
Table 4. Migration institutional framework at Federal level ............................... 36
Table 5. Popular initiative and referendums on immigration in Switzerland ...... 38
Table 6. Andean population in Switzerland 1990 – 2017* ................................ 59
Table 7. Andean population in Geneva Canton 1990-2017*.............................. 61
Table 8. Andean population in Vaud Canton 1990 - 2017* .............................. 63
Table 9. Studied Andean Migration Associations .......................................... 68
Table 10. Frequency of socio-economic activities among Andean migrant associations .......................................................... 84
Table 11. Number and regularity of legal and political integration-related activities .88
Table 12. Number and regularity of cultural integration-related activities .......... 92
Table 13. Number and regularity of solidarity actions .................................. 95
Table 14. Activities and frequency in countries of origin among Andean migrant associations .................................................. 98
Table 15. Andean associations activities in host and home countries by type of association ..................................................................... 105
Table 16. Typology of activities in host and home countries by type of Andean association ..................................................................... 107

Figures
Figure 1. Cantonal Integration Programmes’ areas of action ................................ 34
Figure 2. Andean permanent residents in Switzerland 2010 – 2016 .................. 60
Figure 3. Andean permanent residents in Geneva 2010 - 2016 ....................... 61
Figure 4. Andean permanent residents in Vaud 2010 - 2016 ............................ 62
Figure 5. Andean permanent residents in Switzerland by sex in 2016 .............. 63
Figure 6. Andean permanent residents in Switzerland by type of residence permit in 2016 .............................................................. 65
Figure 7. Acquisition of Swiss nationality among Andean migrants 1991 – 2017 .... 65
Figure 8. Andean migrant associations’ objectives ....................................... 74

Boxes
Box 1. Demographic influence in the migrant organizing process .................... 72
Box 2. Andean migrant associations’ objectives by type of association .......... 75
Box 3. Warmi, informing and guiding Latin American women migrant in Geneva ...................................................................................... 85
Box 4. AEYAEEL’s mobilization for the regularization of undocumented Ecuadorians in Vaud .............................................................. 91
Box 5. Festival Colombia Vive - 15 years and going strong ............................. 93
Box 6. ABG, supporting vulnerable Bolivian and Latin American migrants in Geneva ...................................................................................... 96
Box 7. Andean Associations’ perception of their role supporting migrant integration ...................................................................................... 97
Box 8. Examples of Andean association disaster response activities in countries of origin ...................................................................................... 100
Box 9. ACIS, stimulating development through knowledge networks ............ 102
Résumé

Les rares études sur la migration de l’Amérique latine en Suisse ont principalement porté sur les communautés, un peu moins sur les individus, et peu de recherches ont été consacrées à la participation des migrants latino-américains aux associations de migrants de leur pays d’origine. La principale motivation de cette étude est le manque de connaissances et de compréhension des associations de migrants des pays d’Amérique latine en général et des pays andins de Bolivie, de Colombie, d’Équateur et du Pérou en particulier. Cette recherche cherche à combler cette lacune en examinant les origines, les objectifs et les activités principales des associations de migrants andins des pays susmentionnés situés dans les cantons de Genève et de Vaud en Suisse, afin de comprendre dans quelle mesure elles contribuent à l'intégration des migrants andins dans le pays d'accueil et s'engagent avec leurs pays d'origine. Cette étude cherche également à comprendre la structure, le développement des capacités et les interactions des associations de migrants andins avec les autres associations de migrants, les organisations civiques et les autorités publiques.

Les principales méthodes utilisées pour la recherche sur les associations de migrants andins dans cette étude incluent des entretiens avec les dirigeants des associations dans les cantons de Genève et Vaud, l'observation participante des associations, une enquête standardisée menée avec les associations et la revue des documents, du contenu des sites Web et des entrées sur Facebook des associations andines. L'analyse de ces différentes sources permet de mieux comprendre les associations de migrants andins dans les deux cantons. Cette étude montre que les associations de migrants andins sont actives au niveau transnational et s’engagent principalement dans des pratiques transnationales socioculturelles. La plupart des associations andines ont pour objectif de renforcer l'identité des migrants, de recréer un sentiment de communauté et de soutenir le processus d'intégration de leurs membres et des non-membres appartenant au même ou similaire groupe de migrants. Quelques associations de migrants andins participent également à des pratiques économiques transnationales grâce aux transferts collectifs de fonds collectés en réponse à des situations d'urgence telles que des catastrophes naturelles; dans les pratiques politiques transnationales en soutenant des projets communautaires et des organisations caritatives dans leurs pays d'origine; ou par la participation en politique dans la société d’accueil pour améliorer la situation de leur groupe de migrants.

Le degré d'engagement et d'influence varie considérablement entre les activités menées par les associations andines dans les deux cantons par rapport à leurs pays d'origine. Bien que les associations contribuent de manière significative au processus d'intégration des migrants andins vivant dans les deux cantons, leur engagement et leur soutien envers les pays d'origine sont moins importants. Cette étude conclut que la majorité des associations ont pour priorité de contribuer au processus d'intégration des migrants andins en Suisse afin d'améliorer leurs conditions de vie et leur stabilité avant de s'engager davantage dans les pays d'origine, en exerçant un «transnationalisme de base».

Cette étude contribue à l'état des connaissances et de la compréhension des associations de migrants andins en Suisse. Ce faisant, elle fournit également une nouvelle source de données primaires sur le sujet des études sur les migrations d'Amérique latine en Suisse. Les résultats et conclusions de cette étude sont particulièrement pertinents aujourd'hui, car les migrations internationales sont
devenues un phénomène presque universel qui touche pratiquement tous les pays du monde. L'intégration est un aspect essentiel pour comprendre et planifier les interventions en matière de migration. Cette étude aide à comprendre le rôle potentiel que les associations de migrants peuvent jouer dans le processus d'intégration des migrants, ainsi que le partenariat potentiel entre les associations de migrants et les organisations gouvernementales et civiques de la société d’accueil.
Abstract

The scarce studies on Latin American migration to Switzerland have mainly focused on communities, slightly less on individuals, and there has been little research on Latin-American migrants’ participation in migrant associations from their countries of origin. The lack of knowledge and understanding of migrant associations from Latin American countries in general and from the Andean countries of Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru, in particular, is the primary motivation for this study. It seeks to fill this gap by examining the origins, aims and main activities of Andean migrant associations from the above-mentioned countries in the Cantons of Geneva and Vaud in Switzerland to understand the degree to which they contribute to the integration of Andean migrants in their host country, and engage with their countries of origin. This study seeks to also understand Andean migrant associations’ structure, capacity development, and interactions with other migrant associations, civic organizations and public authorities.

The primary methods used to research Andean migrant associations for this study include interviews with associations’ leaders in Geneva and Vaud cantons, participant observation of the associations, a standardized survey conducted with the associations, and a review of documents, webpage content and Facebook entries of the Andean associations.

The analysis of these different sources yields a better understanding of the Andean migrant associations in both cantons. This study demonstrates that Andean migrant associations are active transnationally and engage primarily in sociocultural transnational practices. Most of the Andean associations are oriented towards reinforcing migrants’ identity, recreating a sense of community and supporting the integration process of their members and non-members from the same or similar migrant groups. Few Andean migrant associations also engage in economic transnational practices through collective remittances collected in response to emergency situations such as natural disaster; in political transnational practices through support to community projects and charity organizations in their countries of origin; or through ‘migrant politics’ in the host society to improve the situation of their migrant group.

The degree of engagement and influence varies greatly between the activities pursued by Andean associations in the two cantons versus their countries of origin. While the associations contribute significantly to the integration process of Andean migrants living in the two cantons, their engagement with and support to countries of origin is less significant. This study concludes that this is because the majority of associations first prioritize contributing to the integration process of Andean migrants in Switzerland to improve their living conditions and stability before engaging further in the countries of origin, exercising a “basic transnationalism”.

This study contributes to the state of knowledge and understanding of Andean migrant associations in Switzerland. In doing so, it also provides a new source of primary data on the topic of Latin American migration studies in Switzerland. The findings and conclusions of this study are particularly relevant today, as international migration has become a nearly universal phenomenon affecting virtually all countries of the world. Integration is a critical aspect to understand and plan for migration interventions. This study helps understand the potential role that migrant associations can play in the integration process of migrants, including the potential partnership between migrant associations and the host society’s government and civic organizations.
Acknowledgments

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## Abbreviations

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Full Form</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AB9</td>
<td>Asociacion Bolivia 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ABG</td>
<td>Asociacion Boliviana de Ginebra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACIS</td>
<td>Asociacion Colombiana de Investigadores en Suiza</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACOGE</td>
<td>Asociacion de Colombianos de Ginebra</td>
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<tr>
<td>ACP</td>
<td>Asociacion Cultural Peru</td>
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<tr>
<td>ACV</td>
<td>Asociacion Colombia Vive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AEYAEEL</td>
<td>Asociacion de Ecuatorianos y Amigos del Ecuador en Lausanne</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AIEG</td>
<td>Associations pour l’Integration des Equatoriens de Geneve</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APAIS</td>
<td>Asociacion Peruana de Academicos e Investigadores en Suiza</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BCI</td>
<td>Cantonal Office for the Integration of Foreigners and the Prevention of Racism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIE</td>
<td>Cantonal Office for Integration of Foreigners Geneva</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BLI</td>
<td>Office for Foreigners Lausanne</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAN</td>
<td>Andean Community</td>
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<tr>
<td>CCSI</td>
<td>Swiss-immigrant Contact Centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CIP</td>
<td>Cantonal Integration Programme</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CTA</td>
<td>Tripartite Agglomeration Conference</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EPER</td>
<td>Relief Organization of Evangelical Churches of Switzerland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FCM</td>
<td>Federal Commission on Migration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FCR</td>
<td>Federal Commission against Racism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FEDEVACO</td>
<td>Cooperation Federation of Vaud</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FGC</td>
<td>Cooperation Federation of Geneva</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GCM</td>
<td>Global Compact for Migration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GFMD</td>
<td>Global Forum on Migration and Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INGO</td>
<td>International Non-Government Organization</td>
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<tr>
<td>IO</td>
<td>International Organization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IOM</td>
<td>International Organization for Migration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LEtr</td>
<td>Federal La won Foreigners</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MIPEX</td>
<td>Migration Integration Policy Index</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OAS</td>
<td>Organization of American States</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCSTAT</td>
<td>Cantonal Office of Statistics Geneva</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OECD</td>
<td>Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OFS</td>
<td>Swiss Federal Office of Statistics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ONG</td>
<td>Non-Government Organization</td>
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<tr>
<td>PSC</td>
<td>Plataforme Suisse – Colombie/ Festival Colombia</td>
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Andean migrant associations’ host and home country engagement

SAI Andean Integration System
SDC Swiss Agency for Development Cooperation
SECO State Secretariat for Economic Affairs
SEM State Secretariat for Migration
SIT Interprofessional Workers Union
STATPOP Swiss Population and Household Statistics
STATVD Cantonal Office of Statistics Vaud
SVP Swiss People’s Party
UN United Nations
VERS Voluntariado Ecuatoriano Residente en Suiza
WARMI Asociacion Warmi, Soutien aux Femmes Latinoamericanes
Introduction

Migration is a contemporary global phenomenon and one of the most pressing issues today. The number of international migrants reached an estimated 258 million people in 2017, of which 57 and 43 per cent lived in developed and developing regions respectively. Flows of migrants from the south to norther countries has remained relevant at 35 per cent. However, migration increased from the north to north (at 20 per cent), the north to the south (at 6 per cent) and the south to the south (at 38 per cent) (UN, 2017). Currently, the traditional distinction between origin, transit and destination countries is blurred (Koser, 2016) and although migration impacts all regions of the world, migrants tend to concentrate in prime destination countries in Europe, the Gulf and Asia (Czaika & de Haas, 2015).

Research relevance

There is evidence of the positive contributions of migrants to host and home societies (Faist, 2008; OECD, 2014; Sinatti & Horst, 2015), however there is also a widespread negative public perception and fear of migrants. Economic, cultural and security concerns fuel a threat narrative and hostile public attitudes towards migrants (Dempster & Hargrave, 2001; Esipova et al, 2015; Fietkau & Hansen, 2017). In turn, this negativity towards migrants is leverage by conservative political parties and governments to advocate for tightening migration policies and legislation and the implementation of further border controls, as seen recently in the United States, Great Britain, Italy and Hungary. However, despite restrictive admission policies, people continue to migrate regular or irregularly into these ‘restricted’ countries. Therefore, it is important is to focus on how to integrate these populations into their host society and facilitate their engagements with their countries of origin. In this regards, migrant associations are extremely relevant in host countries because of their critical role.

While it is common for migrant associations to be founded to preserve the identity and culture of their countries of origin, these associations typically play a major role in the settlement processes of their members. When migrants arrive in a host society, they face a lot of challenges to physically, socially and economically integrate into their host country. They need to locate housing, employment, and other social services, such as health care and education. They also need to interact with locals and other migrants, create a sense of community, develop a new identity in their new society and achieve a degree of acceptance and sense of home. Migrant associations can play an important role in this integration process. As Schover and Vermeulen (2005, p. 824) express “migrant associations are important for understanding

2 Koser, International Migration.
3 Czaika and de Haas, "The Globalization of Migration."
4 Faist, "Migrants as Transnational Development Agents."
5 OECD, "Is Migration Good for the Economy?"
6 Sinatti and Horst, "Migrants as Agents of Development."
7 Dempster and Hargrave, "Understanding Public Attitudes towards Refugees and Migrants."
8 Esipova, Ray, and Tsabutashvili, "How the World Views Migration."
9 Fietkau and Hansen, "How Perceptions of Immigrants Trigger Feelings of Economic and Cultural Threats in Two Welfare States."
10 Schrover and Vermeulen, "Immigrant Organisations."
immigration and integration processes, because the extent to which immigrants cluster in organisations is a critical measure of collectively expressed and collectively ascribed identity."

Migrant associations often have a privileged position in the host society as a community “insider” and “interlockers”, playing a crucial role defending migrant rights, lobbying for their migrant group, while also establishing and navigating mutually beneficial relationships with public authorities. Migrant associations generate social trust, which can turn into political trust and lead to greater political participation (Fennema, 2004; Fennema & Tillie, 1999, 2001). In addition to their role in the integration process of migrants in host societies, migrant associations often engage with their homeland countries. From collective remittances to disaster relief and development projects, increasing attention has focused on the potential contributions of migrant associations to their countries of origin (Faist & Fauser, 2011; Haas et al., 2009; Orozco & Rouse 2007; Van Ewijk & Nijenhui, 2016). Such cross-border relationships that migrant associations develop with their homelands and host lands contribute to what some scholars refer to as simultaneous engagements in multiple contexts (Basch et al., 1994; Glick Schiller et al., 1992; Glick Schiller et al., 1992; Oestergaard-Nielsen, 2003; 2011; Tsuda, 2012).

Switzerland is a fascinating laboratory to examine migrants and their associations giving the following characteristics: a foreign born population accounting for 25 per cent of the total population in 2017 (OFS, 2017); a restraining migration regime with restricted access to temporal and permanent residence permits, to family reunification, to electoral rights, to nationality and to anti-discrimination measures, especially for third country nationals (MIPEX, 2015); an estimated population of 50.000 and 99.000 undocumented migrant (Morlok, et al., 2016); and finally, the great ease to form any type of association according to the Swiss Civil code and the high number of migrant associations in the cantons of Geneva and Vaud (the geographic focus of this study).

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12 Fennema and Tillie, “Political Participation and Political Trust in Amsterdam.”
13 Fennema and Tillie, “Civic Community, Political Participation and Political Trust of Ethnic Groups.”
14 Faist and Fauser, “The Migration–Development Nexus.”
15 De Haas et al., “Mobility and Human Development.”
16 Orozco and Rouse, “Migrant Hometown Associations and Opportunities for Development.”
17 Van Ewijk and Nijenhui, “Translocal Activities of Local Governments and Migrant Organizations.”
18 Basch, Schiller, and Blanc, Nations Unbound.
19 Schiller, Basch, and Blanc-Szanton, “Transnationalism.”
20 Schiller, Basch, and Blanc-Szanton, “Towards a Definition of Transnationalism.”
22 Østergaard-Nielsen, “Codevelopment and Citizenship.”
23 Tsuda, “Whatever Happened to Simultaneity?”
25 Migrant Integration Policy Index, “Switzerland - MIPEX 2015.”
26 Morlok et al., “Sans-Papiers in der Schweiz 2015.”
27 In 2012, 350 migrant associations from both cantons responded the survey of the mapping of migrant association in the canton of Geneva and Vaud - Castillo Rueda and Obadiaru, “Etat des lieux des
Introduction

Research purpose and thematic scope
This study seeks to understand the origins, aims and main activities of migrant associations of the Andean countries of Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru in the Cantons of Geneva and Vaud in Switzerland. Specifically, it draws upon scholarly literature, as well as primary data collection in the Swiss cantons of Geneva and Vaud, to examine the degree to which 1) migrant associations contribute to the integration of Andean migrants in their host country, and 2) engage with their countries of origin. This study seeks to also understand Andean migrant associations' structure, capacity development, and interactions with other migrant associations, civic organizations and public authorities. Specific research questions to explore this thematic include:

1) How were the Andean migrant associations in the cantons of Geneva and Vaud formed, and what key factors influenced this process?
2) How are the Andean migrant associations structured, what are their strategic objectives and the type of activities they pursue?
3) Are Andean migrant associations aware of their capacity weaknesses and strengths? Are they willing to strengthen underdeveloped capacities? If so, how and through which means do they pursue capacity development?
4) Do Andean migrant associations collaborate with other migrant associations, public authorities and/or civic organizations in pursuit of their objectives? If so, what type of collaboration do they establish?
5) To what degree do Andean migrant associations in the Swiss cantons of Geneva and Vaud contribute to the integration of Andean migrants in Switzerland?
6) To what degree do the Andean migrant associations engage with and provide support to their homeland countries of origin?

Target group, geographic scope and motivation
This study focuses on the Andean countries of Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru, all located in the Amazon basin with varied tropical and highland ecosystems, with a rich Amerindian heritage (Price, 2017) and a variety of ethnic and social groups resulting from a hierarchical system inherited from colonization where the colonizing European white descendants occupy a dominant position. This has had a profound influence on the population's identity, customs and culture. In addition to their ethno-geographic similarities, these countries are also members of the Andean Community, a customs union organized by fifteen entities and institutions articulated in the Andean Integration System (SAI), with a population of 109 million people (Comunidad Andina, associations de migrants des Cantons de Geneve et Vaud", 2012. More recent data from the Canton of Vaud accounts 450 migrant associations in 2017 - BCI, "Programme d'integration Cantonal (PIC). Canton de Vaud 2018 - 2021.", 2017. There is not data available for the Canton of Geneva, however it is expected to account a similar or higher number that the Canton of Vaud.

28 Price, "Constructing the Andean Diaspora."
Andean migrant associations’ host and home country engagement

2018). This research does not include Argentina and Chile, Andean countries from the geographical but not geopolitical or cultural points of view, nor does it include Venezuela, which withdrew from the Andean Community in 2006.

According to the Swiss Federal Statistic Office, of the 2,101,146 foreigners living in Switzerland in 2016, 4,544 were Colombians, 2,825 were Peruvians, 2,732 were Ecuadorians and 2,016 were Bolivians (Duc-Quand, 2017). However, these demographics do not include the high number of undocumented migrants from these communities, and they exclude those naturalized as Swiss citizens and Andean-Spanish who migrated to Switzerland after the 2008 economic crisis in Spain. With regards to their demographic characteristics, in 2016 there were more women than men, most of them in the working age group between 20 and 64 years old and with a B Permit.

The selection of the cantons of Geneva and Vaud is particularly important for this study because both are part of the multi-ethnic region of the ‘Metropole Lémanique’, where 40.2% (OCSTAT, 2018), and 33% (STATVD, 2017) of the population respectively is of foreign nationality. The number of migrants from the Andean countries of Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru are higher in both cantons than in any other part of Switzerland. Both cantons also have a high number of undocumented migrants from Latin America and have been following a more liberal migration policy and attitude towards this population for almost three decades (Morlok et al., 2016).

The lack of knowledge and understanding on migrant associations from the above-mentioned Andean countries is the primary motivation for this study. The scarce studies on Latin American migration to Switzerland have mainly focused on communities (macro), slightly less on individuals (micro) and little interest has been

30 Argentina is a country with European cultural orientation, member of Mercosur, the Southern South American trade bloc and current associate member of the Andean Community since 2005.
31 Chile is a country with European cultural orientation, member of the Andean Community between 1969 and 1976 and current associate member since 2006.
32 Venezuela is also not included due to the low numbers of migrants in Switzerland in general, and specifically in the Cantons of Geneva and Vaud.
33 Duc-Quand, “Defining the 25% Foreign Population in Switzerland.”
34 The term mis used by the researcher to refer to the Andean that have been regularized and naturalized in Spain and hold Spanish passports to enter to Switzerland.
35 OCSTAT, “Bilan et état de la population du canton de Genève en 2017.”
37 Data obtained from the interactive tables service by the Swiss Federal Statistic Office - Office Federale de la Statistique Suisse, “Population Résidente Permanente et Non Permanente Selon Année, Canton, Type de Population, Autorisation de Résidence, Sexe, Classe d’âge et Nationalité.”
shown in Latin-American migrants’ participation in migrant associations from their countries of origin (meso - level). As Bolzman, Carbajal and Mainardi (2007) note in their book “Switzerland at Latin rhythm”, that there is a gap in the migration literature in Switzerland of systematic studies on Latin American migration to the country. According to the authors, the Latino population remains invisible for three fundamental reasons: the perception that the migration of Latin Americans is temporary, the lack of regular status for many of the migrants, and the familiarity of Swiss people with this population as they are not part of a migrant group perceived as problematic, such as asylum seekers, or are not seen as culturally different in terms of religious differences or skin color.

Structure of the thesis
This dissertation is organized into introduction, seven chapters and conclusions. This section introduces what is studied, why it is important, which is the target group, thematic and geographic scope and what is the motivation behind this research. Chapter 1 then presents the conceptual framework informing this study, delineating the primary unit of analysis – migrant associations – and the aspect of simultaneity in the transnationalism perspective of migrants and their associations. Chapter 2 provides the sources and methods used, Chapters 3, 4 and 5 then explore the Swiss migration context, migration associations in Switzerland and Andean migration to Switzerland, respectively. These chapters help contextualize the following two chapters, which draw upon primary data collection to present the core analysis of this study. Chapter 6 zooms-in and focuses on Andean migrant associations active in the Cantons of Geneva and Vaud, and Chapter 7 specifically examines these associations’ roles in migrant integration in the host society, as well as their engagements in their countries of origin. The final section presents the conclusions from this study, as well as further research to consider on the topic. The following annexes and bibliography provide supplemental information related to the data sources and methods used for this study.

Autobiographical reflection
My interest on migration began when I became a migrant in 2007. Academic and professional advancement was my main motivation to migrate, but also the desire to explore new opportunities offered by Geneva, Switzerland and Europe.

Early in my postgraduate studies on development, the concepts of diaspora and the nexus between migration and development began to resonate with my interest in...
Andean migrant associations’ host and home country engagement

international cooperation. As such, my MA thesis at the Graduate Institute of International and Development studies focused on Colombian migrant associations in Spain and their homeland engagements.

At the time, I was still relatively new in Geneva, a temporary migrant, and the attachment to my country of origin (Colombia) was strong. I decided to deepen my knowledge on this fascinating topic and continued my studies on demography and socio economy at the University of Geneva, always focusing on the migration aspect of these social sciences. This academic focus gradually became part of my identity.

During this time, in 2011 I started my professional career on migration with the Labour Migration Branch of the International Labour Organization (ILO), and then in 2012, I started working with the Migration Unit of the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC). At this stage, I realized that my temporary journey in Switzerland was becoming a settlement into this host society, albeit restricted as a third country national and holder of a Permit B – student and then a legitimation card.

Up to this point in time, I felt quickly “à l’aise” (at ease) in Geneva and felt relatively integrated into the society, its culture and customs. However, when I realized that my journey in Switzerland was going to be prolonged, my interest in migration became more personal. Concurrently, I began exploring integration and social inclusion as an academic and professional pursuit.

Geneva is a city where, from my point of view and experience, it is easy to participate in the civic and political life. I quickly became active and engaged in the associative milieu linked to migration in a variety of initiatives. Examples of this engagement include: an advocacy group in Switzerland supporting the Green Party candidacy for the Colombian presidential election 2010, a migration working group of the Green Party Geneva 2010, a civil society group active on the preparations of the Global Forum on Migration and Development in Switzerland in 2011, the “No maid is illegal” campaign 2013 – 2014, the Festival Colombia 2013, and advocacy groups in Switzerland supporting the referendum of Peace in Colombia 2016. I also engaged with a variety of associations: Association Geneve – Dakar – Geneve, Association de Chercheures Colombians en Suisse, MigrAction, and Plateforme Colombie – Suisse; and organizations: migration and development working group of the Federation Genevoise de Cooperation and the Swiss Civil Society Platform of Migration and Development. These experiences reflect my activity, passion and commitment to this subject area and my host land and homeland engagements.

In conclusion, my circumstance as woman, Latino migrant in Switzerland for more than ten years has had a considerable impact on my identity, as well as my interest on the topic of this study.
Chapitre 1. A conceptual framework for migrant simultaneous engagement in multiple societies and through migrant associations

This chapter presents the conceptual framework for this study, largely based on the simultaneity aspect of transnationalism. The transnational perspective in migration studies highlights the complexity of migrants' lives and their affiliations and loyalties to multiple spaces (Basch et al., 1994). According to Glick Shiller and colleagues, pioneers on formulating and developing the transnational migration theory (Basch et al., 1994; Glick Schiller & Fouron, 1999; Glick Schiller et al., 1995), transnationalism has two components. First, there is the trans-border aspect of transnationalism, which refers to the linkages and social connections that migrants establish and maintain with their countries of origin across borders. Second, there is the simultaneity aspect of transnationalism, which refers to the influence migrants have in both home and host countries at the same time, given their simultaneous engagement in two societies (Tsuda, 2012).

As mentioned earlier in the introduction, the aim of this study is to understand how Andean migrant associations in the Cantons of Geneva and Vaud were formed and how they operate, as well as the degree to which migrant associations contribute to the integration of Andean migrants in their host country and engage with their countries of origin. The simultaneity aspect of transnationalism provides a valuable framework to analyse Andean migrant engagement “here” and “there” through migrant associations from countries or origin.

The remainder of this chapter will examine this through four key elements: the simultaneous engagement of migrants in multiple societies, migrant associations, their role on integration and their homeland engagements.

1.1 Migrants’ simultaneous engagement in multiple societies

“Simultaneous engagement enables linkages between dispersed people to tighten, new livelihood opportunities to emerge, social institutions to change, and hybrid identities to develop” (Mazzucato, 2008, p. 73)

Today, some migrants are simultaneously engaged in their home and host countries, resulting in a fluid movement of people, goods, money and ideas between two or multiple nation-states (Glick Schiller et al. 1992). The movement and communication over long distances, connecting physical, social, economic and political spaces, has been accelerated by twentieth century technologies such as air transportation, telephones, satellite technology, faxes and the internet (Mazzucato, 2008).

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42 Glick Schiller and Fouron, “Terrains of Blood and Nation.”
43 Glick Schiller, Basch, and Blanc, “From Immigrant to Transmigrant.”
44 Mazzucato, “The Double Engagement.”
45 Not all migrants because some migrants do not live a transnational life, but instead remain active only in their host country.
according to tsuda (2012, p. 634), to truly theorise transnational simultaneity, the dynamic relationship between migrant’s integration\(^{47}\) in the host society and the cross-border engagement with the country of origin needs to be explored as “one coherent transitional process”, where migrant’s simultaneous engagements in both (or multiple) societies are analysed as related processes that impact each other and no separate processes that can happen at the same time. Dealing with homeland engagement and integration as separate matters mistakenly leads to an incomplete view of migration that can result in inadequate policies (Mazzucato, 2008).

As Bilgili (2014, p. 301\(^{48}\)) expresses, “a plausible way to enhance the positive association between integration and development may be to further encourage the active involvement of migrants in both their home and host countries, without compelling them to make a choice about permanent residence”. Dual citizenship, believes the scholar, facilitates simultaneous engagements in multiple societies as it allows more mobility. Migrants engage in both societies through transnational practices which simultaneously impact both the sending and receiving country (Tsuda, 2012).

1.1.1 Transnational practices\(^{49}\)

According to most transnational scholars, transnational practices fall into three categories: economic, political and sociocultural (Itzigsohn & Saucedo, 2002\(^{50}\); Portes 2001\(^{51}\); Portes \textit{et al.}, 1999\(^{52}\); Perrin & Martiniello, 2011\(^{53}\); Reisenauer & Gerdes, 2012\(^{54}\); Snel \textit{et al.}, 2006\(^{55}\)). However, there is not consensus in the academic community on the type of activities included per category, and some scholars identify four categories, dividing the sociocultural category into social- or civil-societal and cultural (Al–Ali \textit{et al.}, 2001\(^{56}\); Itzigsohn \textit{et al}. 1999\(^{57}\)).

This study is framed primarily on sociocultural practices undertaken by Andean migrant associations. However specific economic and political practices within some migrant associations are also identified. As such, the following discussion summarizes key elements of these three primary categories.

\(^{46}\) Mazzucato, \textit{Simultaneity and Networks in Transnational Migration}.

\(^{47}\) Tsuda refers to assimilation in his text as it is common in the US context.

\(^{48}\) Bilgili, “Migrants’ Multi-Sited Social Lives.”

\(^{49}\) Some scholars refer to this as transnational “activities”: e.g. Portes \textit{et al.}, 1999, Al – Ali, 2001, Snel \textit{et al.}, 2006).

\(^{50}\) Itzigsohn and Saucedo, “Immigrant Incorporation and Sociocultural Transnationalism.”

\(^{51}\) Portes, “Introduction.”

\(^{52}\) Portes, Guarnizo, and Landolt, “The Study of Transnationalism.”

\(^{53}\) Perrin and Martiniello, “Homeland-Oriented Activities and Integration in the Host Society.”

\(^{54}\) Reisenauer and Gerdes, “From Return-Oriented to Integration-Related Transnationalisation.”

\(^{55}\) Snel, Engbersen, and Leerkes, “Transnational Involvement and Social Integration.”

\(^{56}\) Al-Ali, Black, and Koser, “Refugees and Transnationalism.”

\(^{57}\) Itzigsohn \textit{et al}.,”Mapping Dominican Transnationalism.”
A conceptual framework for migrant simultaneous engagement in multiple societies and through migrant associations

**Economic practices**

Transnational economic practices include remittances, transnational investments and transnational companies. Remittances are the largest private transfers in the global economy in terms of volume and stability (Guarnizo 2004\(^{58}\)). It is also important to name collective transfers of funds in these transnational economic practices, whether they are collected by an informal group of migrants or a formal migrant association. Transnational investments occur when remittances are used for commercial purposes in real estate, construction or small businesses (shops, restaurants, repair services). Finally, transnational companies include formal and informal activities created by transnational entrepreneurs. For example, mail companies, nostalgic cultural trade enterprises, magazines, radio, hairdressers, clothing shops, ethnic restaurants, crafts and micro-enterprises and other businesses after migrants return to their country of origin (Al – Ali et al., 2001; Castillo, 2009\(^{59}\); Portes et al. 1999).

**Political practices**

Transnational political practices include participation in electoral activities, political affiliation and fundraising or mobilisation for political purposes in both home and host societies (Al-Ali et al., 2001, Guanrizo et al., 2003\(^{60}\); Portes et al. 1999), as well as support to community projects and charity organisation in the country of origin (Guanrizo et al., 2003). Ostergaard-Nielsen (2003) identifies three domains of political action: 1) homeland politics, which involves migrant political activism regarding their country of origin in their host society; 2) migrant politics, which involves activities undertaken in the host society to improve the situation of migrant groups; and 3) translocal politics, which refers to host country initiatives to improve the conditions of communities in the country of origin.

**Sociocultural practices**

Sociocultural practices are oriented towards reinforcing migrant ethnic identity, recreating a sense of community in the host country but also maintaining contact with family and friends in the country of origin. It includes collective enjoyment of cultural events, national festivities and ethnic goods, social remittances, and mutual support and assistance. Social activities in host countries range from social clubs and community organization to sporting or charitable activities associated with countries of origin (Al-Ali et al., 2001; Itzigsohn & Saucedo, 2002; Portes et al. 1999; Snel et al., 2006).

Some scholars include the civic component in the category of social practices, which includes participation in formal and/or informal migrant organizations\(^{61}\) (Al-Ali et al., 2001; Itzigsohn et al, 1999). According to Cordero-Guzman (2005\(^{62}\)), these migrant groups and organizations provide assistance during the migration process, adaptation and integration in the host country, represent the migrant community and identity, and link migrants with their country of origin.

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58 Guarnizo, “Aspectos económicos del vivir transnacional.”
60 Guarnizo, Portes, and Haller, “Assimilation and Transnationalism.”
61 Some scholars include the participation of migrant into migrant organization in the political practices: Portes et al. 1999, Guanrizo et al., 2003.
62 Cordero-Guzmán, “Community-Based Organisations and Migration in New York City.”
As mentioned earlier, some scholars separate the cultural aspect of transnationalism as a fourth category, but this study includes it as part of this sociocultural category. Cultural practices refer to music, song, dance, artistic and literary events, celebration of nations holidays, and promotion of native language among children (Al-Ali et al., 2001). It also includes symbolic practices, such as the formation of values, identities and tastes (Itzigsohn et al., 1999). According to Levitt (1998), this reinforces the identity and cultural ties of the migrant community, as well as the collective memory of the shared past (history) through meetings and celebrations.

1.2 Migrant associations: the state of knowledge

The study of migrant organizations, including associations, is complex due to the multiple elements involved, and the absence of an agreed definition of this phenomenon. Some scholars focus on defining what is a migrant association and its role (Fennema, 2004; Moya 2005; Schrover and Vermeulen, 2005; Cordero, 2005), others focus on the migrant organizing process (Cordero, 2005; Lacroix, 2010; Vermeulen, 2006), and yet others combine the phenomenon with the study of social capital and networks (Cederberg, 2012; Eggert & Pilati, 2014; Fennema, 2004) or with the political opportunity structure (Bolzman & Fibbi, 1991; Danase, 2001; Fennema & Tillie 1999; Jacob & Tillie 2004; Hooghe, 2005; Morales & Giugni, 2011; Tackle, 2013). Other scholars focus on the complementary nature of migrant organizations’ activities in both origin and destination countries (Portes et al., 2007), their active role on integration (Portes et al., 2007; Somerville et al., 2008) or on...
A conceptual framework for migrant simultaneous engagement in multiple societies and through migrant associations

development (Fox & Bada, 200977, Lacroix 2010, Lacroix, 201678; Orozco & Garcia, 200979; Orozco & Rouse, 200780).

Another complexity is the diverse terms used to describe migrant organizations, such as ethnic organization (Fennema, 2004; Hooghe, 2005), migrant community base organization (Cordero-Guzman, 2005), hometown association (commonly used in the US, e.g. Lacroix 2010; Orozco & Garcia, 2009; Orozco & Rouse, 2007; Somerville et al., 2008), and migrant association, indistinctly of organization type81 (Camozzi, 201182; Caponio, 200583; Cattacin & La Barba, 200784; Moya, 2005; Vermeulen, 2006). As discussed below (2.2.1), this study uses migrant associations when framing theoretical concepts, which includes those with affiliates or members (Fennema, 2004), and their voluntary participation during the analysis of findings.

1.2.1 Defining migrant associations

It is important to recognize that migrant associations are one form of migrant organizations, which can take many forms, and often coexist in a given society (Breton, 196485; Moya 2005; Sardinha, 200986; Vermeulen, 2006). Examples include, credit and business associations, mutual benefit societies, religious, sport, educational, dance, gastronomy and recreational groups, hometown and women associations, student organizations, solidarity and political and advocacy groups.

There are also migrant organizations established by migrants and those established for migrants (Vermeulen, 2006). This study focuses on migrant associations, defined by Fennema (2004) as those migrant organizations with affiliates or members.

Schrover and Vermeulen (2005), as well as Moya (2005), question the extent an organization can be labelled as migrant association. Is it because its members are migrants, or because most of them are descendants from migrants? Does it refer to associations established by first-generation migrants with mixed membership, or those founded by natives but with mostly migrant membership? Such line of questioning leads to the fundamental question of when a migrant association should no longer be classified as a “migrant” association, but rather converts to an organization of some other label, such as an ethnic association. Does it depend on whether they are founded or managed by second or third generation-migrants? These are complex considerations and, as reflected in the previous section, consequently there is no consensus on a precise definition by scholars working in this area.

77 Fox and Bada, “Migrant Civic Engagement.”
78 Lacroix, Hometown Transnationalism - Long Distance Villageness among Indian Punjabis and North African Berbers.
79 Orozco and Garcia-Zanello, “Hometown Associations.”
80 Orozco and Rouse, “Migrant Hometown Associations and Opportunities for Development.”
81 Credit and business associations, mutual benefit societies, religious, sport, educational and recreational groups, hometown and women associations, student organizations, solidarity institutions and political and advocacy groups (Breton, 1964; Moya 2005; Vermeulen, 2006; Sardinha, 2009).
82 Camozzi, ‘Migrants’ Associations and Their Attempts to Gain Recognition.”
83 Caponio, “Policy Networks and Immigrants’ Associations in Italy.”
84 Cattacin and La Barba, “Migration et organisation. La vie associative des migrants – une analyse sur la base d’une recherche exploratoire sur l’organisation des migrants italiens en Suisse.”
85 Breton, “Institutional Completeness of Ethnic Communities and the Personal Relations of Immigrants.”
86 Sardinha, Immigrant Associations, Integration and Identity.
Given the characteristics of the target group and focus of this study, migrant associations are defined as membership organizations formed by individuals from the same country of origin with the aim to provide social services mostly to migrants from the same or similar migrant group (Cordero-Guzman, 2005, Somerville et al., 2008). They explicitly integrate ethnic or national-origin identity and cultural components into their mission, activities, and services (Cordero-Guzman, 2005).

1.2.2 Factors stimulating the formation of migrant associations

Factors related to the migrant group as well as the host society influence and stimulate the formation of migrant associations (Cordero-Guzman, 2005, Vermeulen\(^{87}\), 2006). According to Vermeulen (2006), the migration process shapes the collective identity of migrant groups, which raises the demand for migrant associations, or contributes to disruption in migrants’ lives that increases the demand for a safe environment which, in turn, increases the demand for migrant associations. Other key considerations that influence the migrant organizing process include the specific characteristics of the migrant population, such as their size, demographic composition, socioeconomic status and cultural attributes. The active or passive attitude towards migrant associations by countries of origin can also influence the formation of migrant associations.

According to Vermeulen (2006), several factors play a role in the host society on the migrant organizing process. For instance, the economic opportunity structure can impact the labour position of migrants at the local level, motivating them to organize and establish migrant associations, or to join existing ones. Similarly, migrant accessibility to institutions such as churches, labour unions and welfare organizations can affect the formation of migrant associations, if migrants have easy access to these organizations and their services, the need of creating a migrant association decline. Finally, scholars identify the political opportunity structure, or official stance authorities have towards migrants and their organizations, as a critical factor (Danase, 2001; Hooghe, 2005; Morales & Giugni, 2011; Schrover & Vermeulen, 2005; Tackle, 2013; Vermeulen, 2006).

1.2.3 Migrant associations key characteristics

Migrant associations play a key role providing a space (non-necessarily physic) for people from the same ethnic or national-origin to gather, play, dance and reminisce (Moya, 2005), constituting a key source for socialization, conviviality, mutual aid and identity renewal. They also assist with the migrant process, contributing to the socioeconomic integration of migrants into the host society by providing a diversity of social services and community programmes, including advocating for their ethnic groups needs and concerns and representing them in host society political and policy processes, while promoting and preserving connections between migrant communities in the host country and their country of origin and viceversa (Cordero-Guzman, 2005; Moya, 2005; Odmalm, 2004\(^{88}\)).

\(^{87}\) The author researched and documented the structural determinants of the migration organizing process comparing three migrant groups in two different cities (Turks in Amsterdam, Turks in Berlin and Surinamese in Amsterdam) and provided evidence of the influence of migrant group, host society and internal dynamics within groups of organizations in the migrant organizing process.

\(^{88}\) Odmalm, “Civil Society, Migrant Organisations and Political Parties.”
Migrant associations frequently replace support systems traditionally provided by the family and the community migrants left behind, and provide a space for membership recreation, capacity development and awareness raising of their rights (Castillo & Obadiaru, 2012). They help migrants to unite and adapt to the often-complicated living conditions in the host society, supporting them to exercise their ‘voice’ in their host country as well as their ‘loyalty’ for their countries of origin (Lamba-Nieves, 2018). Migrant associations can be large and well-established, small and ephemeral, more or less formally structured, with very specific objectives such as promoting the integration of migrant women in the labor market in a particular city, or with very broad objectives, such as promoting the culture of a particular country in the host society.

As such, it is evident that migrant associations are diverse in characteristic. It is also important to recognize that they are dynamic, and these characteristics can change over time (Lamba-Nieves, 2018; Schrover and Vermeulen, 2005). For instance, objectives and their specificity can evolve, as can the formality of the associations’ structure and processes.

Developing and managing an association is time-consuming and requires that some members invest substantial time for planning and implementing activities and events, fund raising, and networking with other migrant associations, civil organizations and/or public authorities. Association board members and other volunteers often work beyond normal working hours, after their regular jobs elsewhere. Their involvement is usually without financial compensation, unless the association has developed a stable structure and financial solvency (Castillo & Obadiaru, 2012; Matthey & Stainer, 2009).

Migrant associations normally have limited financial means, with funds generated primarily through activities, donations or membership fees, and sometimes public contributions. Migrant associations also have time limitations, as most active members in charge of managing the association and organize activities are volunteers providing in-kind service.  

1.2.4 Tensions within and between migrant associations and with civic organizations and authorities

Tensions and conflict within and between migrant associations are not uncommon, nor is uncommon for there to be tension between migrant associations with other civic organizations and authorities. Tension within migrant associations is largely due to power struggles or differences regarding decisions over associations’ objectives and activities (Cammozi, 2011) and between migrant associations or with other civic organizations as a result of competition for support from a target population and funding available (Fennema & Tillie, 1999; Odmalm, 2004; Sardinha, 2009; Schover & Vermeulen, 2005; Vermeulen, 2006). Tension between migrant associations and authorities results from migrant mistrust of host country institutions, when political participation and representation to consultative bodies do not give real power to migrant associations, or when migrant associations’ citizen engagement performs unpaid tasks that should be the responsibility of local authorities (Mantovan, 2013, Moret & Dahinden, 2009, Vermeulen, 2006). While these sources of tension vary, they

89 Lamba-Nieves, “Hometown Associations and the Micropolitics of Transnational Community Development.”

90 “In kind” refers to goods, services, and transactions not involving money or not measured in monetary terms.

91 Mantovan, “Cohesion without Participation: Immigration and Migrants’ Associations in Italy.”
are nevertheless important factors to consider for the functioning of migrant associations.

1.3 Migrant associations and integration

As mentioned in the introduction of this chapter, this study is interested in the simultaneous engagement of migrants through migrant associations’ action in the home and host societies. One of the important engagements is the roles these organizations can play supporting the integration of migrants in the host society (Portes et al., 2007; Somerville et al., 2008).

1.3.1 Migrant’s integration and related processes and policy dimensions

Before examining more closely the integration of migrants into host societies, it is helpful to understand that the concept of integration in social sciences has different meanings, including micro – macro interpretations (Habermas, Luhmann), actor – structure interpretations (Lockwood, Mouzelis), objective – subjective emphasis (Weber), and face-to-face relations versus indirect relations (Guiddens).

Møller (2002) himself puts forth a useful conceptualization of integration in social sciences as an umbrella concept, which allows for a more comprehensive and open interpretation that embraces key elements of the many different concepts and connotations. In this manner, rather than competing interpretations of integration, or errors to be avoided, Møller sees the various approaches to defining integration as a reflection of the real complexity that exists in society. As such, the goal is not a single unitary conception of integration in society, but a sum of different concepts of integration that can be drawn upon to adapt to and interpret in different contexts.

It is also “central to distinguish between integration in the macro sociological sense and integration understood as individuals’ and groups’ inclusion into societal subsystems” (Møller, 2002).

With regards to the inclusion of migrants into societal subsystems (legal, political, social, economic, cultural) in host countries, migration scholars use concepts such as assimilation, acculturation, incorporation, accommodation, and integration. The first two tend to focus on the cultural dimension of migrant settlement, while other three focus on the host society and the legal, political and socio-economic dimensions of migrant integration (Pennix & Garces-Mascarenas, 2016).

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92 Moller, “Understanding Integration and Differentiation.”
93 A multi-layered process where the individual acquires cultural practices from the host culture, participates economic, social and politically in the host society to finally adapts their identity. Gordon, Assimilation in American Life., 1964.
94 A process where the individual acquires cultural practices from the host culture (Bauböck, 1998)
95 Where four levels can be identified, a perceived cultural difference between a group and outsiders (ethnic category), interaction between ethnic members (ethnic network) and members’ common interest and political organization expressed as a collectively (ethnic association), and high degrees of institutional organization (ethnic community) (Handelman, “The Organization of Ethnicity.”, 1977)
96 A process by which all parts involved, nationals and migrant groups adjust and cooperate mutually (Bach, Changing Relations., 1993)
Bauböck (1998) and Vermeulen and Penninx (2000) argue that integration is a preferable term to use due to its suppleness as an umbrella concept (same approach as Møller). Pennix & Garces-Mascarenas (2016) discuss diverse approaches by different scholars to the integration concept. For example, Esser (2004), refers to integration as the inclusion of individual in already existing social systems, while Heckmann (2005), defines integration of migrants as the process by which migrants learn a new culture, acquire rights, access status and position of power, develop personal relations with members of the host society and develop a sense of belonging and identification in the host society. Whereas, Bommes (2005) argues that, integration of migrants refers to the success or failure to fulfill the conditions of participation in social systems. Pennix (2005), in the same line of Møller, proposes a simple but, at the same time, comprehensive, umbrella type definition of integration with the emphasis on the process, but with the outcome of this process left open; meaning that it does not specify the degree or particular requirements by the host society for acceptance. For Pennix (2005, p. 141), integration is “the process of becoming an accepted party of society”. This definition implies that the integration process is context-related and varies from country to country.

This study adopts Pennix’s conceptualization of integration. Integration is interpreted primarily as an interactive process between migrants and the host society. It is an unequal interaction, where the institutional structure from and the reaction to migrants by the host society are much more significant for the outcome of the process than the migrant's actions (Pennix & Garces-Mascarenas, 2016). However, integration is not strictly a two-way process between migrants and the host society, and there is greater recognition that it is a three-way process where countries of origin can also play a role in the integration process. This is reflected by the 2011 policy shift and expansion of the definition of integration proposed by the European Commission with the renewed European Agenda for the Integration of Third-Country Nationals, which included the countries of origin as a third significant factor affecting the process of migrant integration (Garces-Mascarenas & Pennix, 2016). In migration studies, this recognition of the importance of countries of origin occurred much earlier, since the late 1990s, with comparative research on the important role of migrant countries of origin on their settlement, as well as on their migration process and sense of belonging (Østergaard-Nielsen, 2016).

According to Pennix (2005), integration processes involve three dimensions - legal-political, socio-economic and cultural-religious - and three key levels - individuals, organizations and institutions. The same three dimensions are considered when analysing integration policies (see Table 1).

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97 Baubock, “The Crossing and Blurring of Boundaries in International Migration. Challenges for Social and Political Theory.”
98 Vermeulen and Penninx, Immigrant Integration.
99 Penninx and Garcés-Mascareñas, “The Concept of Integration as an Analytical Tool and as a Policy Concept.”
100 Esser, “Welche Alternativen zur ‘Assimilation’ gibt es eigentlichs?”
101 Heckmann, Integration and Integration Policies.
102 Bommes, “Transnationalism or Assimilation?”
103 Penninx, “Integration of Immigrants in Europe: Policies of Diversity and Diversity of Policies.”
104 Østergaard-Nielsen, “Sending Country Policies.”
105 Penninx, “Integration of Migrants: Economic, Social, Cultural and Political Dimensions.”
Table 1. Integration processes and policies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Migrants</th>
<th>Dimensions</th>
<th>Interaction</th>
<th>Host society</th>
<th>Dimensions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Individual: migrants</td>
<td>Legal-political: Residence and political rights and statuses.</td>
<td>Legal-political: individual legal status and political participation.</td>
<td>Individual: natives</td>
<td>Legal-political: Recognition of migrants as permanent foreign residents, thus incorporating them socially but limiting their political rights, or as full citizens, thus removing all barriers for and even promoting naturalization.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Socio-economic: social and economic position of residents, irrespective of national citizenship.</td>
<td>Socio-economic: individual position in the hard domains of housing, work, education and health.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cultural-religious: perception and practices of migrants and host society and reciprocal reaction to difference and diversity</td>
<td>Cultural-religious: individual migrant identification with a specific cultural-religious group and with the receiving society; the cultural and religious attitudes, behaviour (or acceptance) and practice of host country individuals towards migrants and the consequences of these.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organizations: migrant organizations</td>
<td>Legal-political, socio-economic and cultural-religious: migrant organizations mobilize resources and ambitions of the group, which may be strong or weak; oriented primarily towards (certain aspects of participation in) the host society or to specific cultural and religious needs of the group. They may become an accepted part of civil society—and a potential partner for integration policies—or isolate themselves or be excluded by the host society.</td>
<td>Organizations: Host society civic organizations such as NGOs, trade unions, churches.</td>
<td>Socio-economic: Measures may be devised catering for migrants’ interests and needs or to address the common interests of citizens in general.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institutions: Institutions of migrant groups</td>
<td>Legal-political: Institutional arrangements of the political system, including laws, regulations and executive organizations.</td>
<td>Institutions: Public institutions of the host society</td>
<td>Cultural-religious: Request for adaptation and education of migrants but also significant changes in access to and the working of institutional structures of the host society. Or, societal rules and structures, including underlying norms and values, should be taken as a given and migrants should (voluntarily or even as a mandatory task) adapt to them.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Socio-economic: Public service institutional arrangements in the labour market, housing, education and public health.</td>
<td>Institutions for migrants groups</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cultural-religious: institutional arrangements for cultural and religious diversity. Unwritten rules and practices.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Adapted from: Pennix, 2005, Pennix & Garces - Mascarenas 2016
1.3.1 Migrant associations’ role on integration: Their commitments and practices in the host society

Migrant associations play a central role in the settlement process and in the integration of migrants into the host society in a number of ways, including: membership and services provided to members and others (Kindler et al., 2015); the socialization of migrants in the host society; provision of advice and related support for employment and housing (socio-economic integration); introducing cultural practices specific to the host country (cultural integration); the dissemination of relevant information in relation to migrant rights, and the provision of services for migrants and the institutions that offer those services (political integration).

At the same time, migrant associations facilitate potential active citizenship in the host society through engaged participation within the association, provide networking opportunities with community organization and act as a point of contact and coordination between migrants, local government and other institutions (Somerville, Durana, Terrazas, 2008). As Shrover and Vermeulen (2005) point out, even when associations are not notable in activity and influence, they are still relevant for understanding migration and integration processes.

While some scholars (and policymakers) support the positive influence migrant associations have on integration, others claim that migrant associations can hinder the development of personal relationships with host country natives and retard the process of integration given that they are established along ethnic lines (Sardinha, 2009).

Putnam’s distinction between bonding and bridging social capital is helpful when considering the dichotomy between positive or negative influences of migrant association on integration (Putman, 2000). Basically, bonding capital brings together people who are alike such as family, friends and where ‘strong ties’ are present, whereas bridging capital brings together people who are different from each other, such as different social or ethnic groups and the ties between them are weak (Kindler, 2015). If the migrant association is a vector of bonding capital exclusively, it might hinder the integration process of its members, isolating them from the host society. On the other hand, if the association is a vector of bridging capital, it can support the integration process of its members. Eggert & Giugni (2010) argue that voluntary associations, such as host country organizations, cross-ethnic organizations and ethnic organisations, are an important vector for social capital, with contributions to multicultural democracy. Furthermore, they found evidence that, “both bonding and bridging social capital play an important role in this process” (Eggert & Giugni, 2010, p. 199).

Even more influential than a migrant association’s type and degree of social capital, is the degree of support from host societies to migrant associations. According to Shrover and Vermeulen, (2005), in contexts where migrants are seen as ‘foreign temporarily residents’ and state policy limits its role in integration to legal

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107 Sardinha uses the term “cultural adaptation.”
108 Putnam, “Bowling Alone.”
109 Eggert and Giugni, “Does Associational Involvement Spur Political Integration?”
Andean migrant associations’ host and home country engagement

Migrant associations’ host and home count ry engagement

1.10, migrant association activities are often unwelcome or even perceived as threatening, and consequently banned or strongly controlled. In contrast, in societies that are more receptive and open - ‘migrant societies’ - migrants are approached as citizens with easier access to nationality, and migrant associations activities are regarded as helpful in the integration process and very often funded.

As Cordero – Guzman (2005) points out, one of the key challenges for migrant associations, is to achieve both the process of integration while at the same time recognising and preserving their cultural practices. However, migrant associations do not see any contradiction in simultaneously assisting their members with the process of integration in the host society while also preserving a cultural and ethnic identity with the customs, ethics, traditions and norms. This dual task makes them dynamic because they need to integrate and adjust themselves to new cultural practices brought in by new members and to the requirements and pressures from the changing environment where they operate.

1.4 Migrant associations and homeland engagements

Migrants activities in countries of origin is the second component of the simultaneous engagement of migrants through migrant associations’ action in the home and host societies.

At the individual level, remittances (financial and social\textsuperscript{111}), direct investments, human capital transfers (know-how and competences), political influence (political and economic reforms, democratization, increasing transparency and the emancipation of minority groups), philanthropic contributions, capital markets investments and tourism are areas where migrants can engage in countries of origin and contribute to their development (Brinkerhoff, 2012\textsuperscript{112}). At the organizational level, migrants, through their associations, can contribute mainly via collective remittances, disaster relief, academic and scientific activities and cooperation programmes and projects joining other partners such as governments, civic organizations from home and host societies. All these engagements contribute to the development of countries of origin,
A conceptual framework for migrant simultaneous engagement in multiple societies and through migrant associations

medicines, food and housing, as well as in community projects is perceived as investing in development as long as these actions expand people’s wellbeing and capabilities (De Haas, 2010\textsuperscript{115}).

During the last two decades, an optimistic view on the relationship between migration and development gained considerable importance in international relations. Since the early 2000s, the debate shifted due to multiple changing migration contexts, new policies and an academic interest on the topic (Collyer & King, 2016\textsuperscript{116}). States, international organizations and development agencies value the contributions of migrants towards the development of the countries of origin through remittances, knowledge and practice transfers.

However, the topic on the relationship between migration and development is far from new. After the Second World War, four periods (including the above-mentioned one) can be identified during which the conception of migration and development has changed (Castles, 2009\textsuperscript{117}; De Haas 2006; De Haas, 2010; De Haas, 2012\textsuperscript{118}; Faist & Fauser, 2011):

1) 1950-1960 – Development and migration optimism (‘virtuous circle’): Developing and neoclassical approaches where policies stressed the need to fill ‘labour gaps’ in the North with migrant workers from the South and thus contribute to ‘development’ in the South.

2) 1970-1980 – Development and migration pessimism (‘vicious circle’): Approaches to historical structuralism and dependence that assume that migratory flows are the expression of the global relations of domination.

3) 1990s – Development and migration pessimism: More nuanced visions that assume that migration flows are a household strategy to diversify resources in order to reduce income risks (New Economics of Labour Migration - NELM); a strategy to diversify income sources and overcome social, economic and institutional development constraints in places of origin (livelihood approach) and sustained and continuous cross-border practices engagements by ‘diasporic actors’, new transnational agents (transnationalism).

4) 2001-Current – Migration and development optimism: international institutions and development agencies value the role of migrants in the development of countries of origin through remittances, and the development contribution of migration is often framed within renewed hopes put on circular and return migration.

As De Haas (2012, p. 10) argues, empirical evidence is required to understand the strongly context-dependent and potential development impacts of migration. This holds for whether the relationship is viewed optimistically, as a “silver bullet development fix”, where migrants make daily contributions that improve the well-being, living standards and economic conditions of family left behind and communities in countries of origin, or pessimistically with migration blamed for underdevelopment and a “brain drain” or exodus of talent and labour from the country of origin.

Indeed, the literature is vast on the link between migration and development, the effects of remittances, social transfers and knowledge, circular migration and return.

\textsuperscript{115} De Haas, “Migration and Development.”

\textsuperscript{116} Collyer and King, “Narrating Europe’s Migration and Refugee ‘crisis’.”

\textsuperscript{117} Castles, “Development and Migration or Migration and Development.”

\textsuperscript{118} De Haas, “Migration and Development.”
These are controversial subjects that depend largely on the points of view from which they are approached, and ultimately there are positive and negatives outcomes in the development-migration nexus. However, the potential benefits are considerable and thus recommend the involvement of migrants, transnational networks and migrant’s associations in the establishment of ties between host and home societies, allowing the creation of a positive transnational social space.

For Faist and Fauser (2011), the partnership between migrant associations, development organizations and local, state and international public agencies provides an opportunity to observe the impact of the migration-development nexus, and the potential role of migrants as development agents. Currently, cooperation with migrants in post-conflict reconstruction and peacebuilding is seen as beneficial by development agencies, when in the past it was feared they played a role in fuelling conflict and war (Faist and Fauser, 2011). Also, co-development policies for migrant communities and organizations with the aim to support their transnational engagements for their countries of origin multiplied in Spain and France.

Although migrants can potentially hasten development in their countries of origin, they cannot be expected to invest in unappealing environments nor to be held responsible for underdevelopment. Migration is not the only or for that matter primary factor for generating human and economic development. “The right question is not whether migration leads to certain types of development, but how differences in migration policy and investment environments explain why migration plays a positive development role in some cases and less positive or even negative roles in others” (De Haas, 2012, p. 21).

1.4.2 Migrant associations’ homeland engagements: Their commitments and practices in countries of origin

As underscored in the previous section, the last two decades have seen an increase in interest among scholars, governments, and international organizations on the relationship between migration and development nexus, and the potentially positive role that migrants and their associations can play in the development of their country of origin. The number of studies and the array of international initiatives such as the High-Level Dialogue on International Migration and Development (2006 and 2016) and the Global Forum on Migration and Development (2007 – 2018), where civil society, including migrant associations have a voice (although not as powerful as states and international organizations), convey the extent of interest on the topic.

Most migrant associations are in contact with their countries of origin either sporadically, or on a more regular and structured basis. According to Van Ewijk & Nijenhui (2016), they can play a variety of roles such as intermediaries between home and host societies: for lifecycle events, such as marriage, child birth, and funerals; for payments of community taxes back home; for political activism, undertaking advocacy work, affiliating with a political party or participating in political elections; as a charity organization, raising resources to support a specific projects; as professional development organization, carrying out development projects, such as providing

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short-term aid in the form of disaster relief or through government matching-funds programmes (Munoz & Collazo, 2014\textsuperscript{120}); or by stimulating development through knowledge networks, sharing and transfer through highly skilled migrants (Meyer, 2007\textsuperscript{121}).

When migrant associations focus on contributing to development in their countries of origin, they usually pool together resources to be invested in basic infrastructure and communication projects, such as the construction of roads, bridges, schools, potable water systems, drainage, wells, electrification and telecommunications networks. These funds transferred to countries of origin are known as ‘collective remittances’, and while they are low in number in comparison to individual remittances, they nevertheless are an important source of aid with the potential to impact the quality of life of a wider population (households and communities) than individual recipients of remittances (Orozco, Garcia-Zanello, 2009). It is worth noting that this kind of collective initiatives not only focus on the financial support. Collective social remittances “are exchanged by individuals in their role as organisational members and are used in organisational settings such as hometown associations, church groups or political parties” (Levitt and Lamba-Nieves, 2011, p. 13\textsuperscript{122}). The importance of migrants’ collective development initiatives is underscored in that they have been a key topic in recent debates on migration and development (Faist & Fauser, 2011; Haas \textit{et al.}, 2009; Orozco & Rouse 2007; Van Ewijk & Nijenhui, 2016).

In order to increase the impact and sustainability of development projects and programmes, migrant associations often establish partnerships with governmental and non-governmental organizations, or the private sector (Haas \textit{et al.}, 2009) as well as with local informal and formal counterparts, such as family members, local civic society organizations (e.g. NGOs), or even an organization established by the migrant association specifically for project implementation (Van Ewijk & Nijenhui, 2016). The engagement with migrants and their associations for development has become an important strategy of many emigration states. However, as De Haas (2006) points out, it is important for those states, as well as engaging development agencies and other partnering development actors, to create durable alliances with migrant associations. This includes such elements as a joint agenda or strategy to address shared priorities; collaboration with their existing initiatives and joint investment schemes for social and economic projects; strengthening networks and knowledge sharing; and providing capacity building and technical assistance for community development. And as De Hass reminds us, this should be done in an un-patronizing manner, building on their unique strengths: “it would be a mistake to assume that diaspora groups and their members should be taught how to ‘do’ development or how best to spend their remittances” (De Hass, 2006, p. iii).

According to Faist and Fauser (2011), the potential of this strategy lays on the role of migrants through migrant’s associations, their transnational practices and networks, in addition to the NGO’s support. However, this potential development role of migrant associations is not without risk because scaling-up their role and responsibilities could be ‘overwhelming and counterproductive’ and undermine their capacity empowerment. The level of expertise in project management may be limited for migrant associations engaged in development, and funding source scare. Related, \textsuperscript{120} Muñoz and Collazo, “Looking out for Paisanos.”

\textsuperscript{121} Meyer, “Building Sustainability. The New Frontier of Diaspora Knowledge Networks.”

\textsuperscript{122} Levitt and Lamba-Nieves, “Social Remittances Revisited.”
migrant associations often face organizational restraints or weakness (Delgado Wise, 2014), and can be perceived by development agencies and states as mere operators and not as participants in the design and decision-making process (Lacomba & Escala Rabadan, 2013). As with the interventions they support themselves (e.g. a project or programme), it can be hard to sustain migrant associations’ work with local communities without the local community’s ownership towards the proposed projects (Orozco, Garcia-Zanello, 2009). There can also be harmful competition between migrant and non-migrant groups (Lamba-Nieves, 2018). In addition, migrant associations’ projects can also be constrained by restrictive migration policies and conditioned international cooperation aiming at controlling migrants’ flows (Faist & Fauser, 2011).

Any review of development will reveal that it is complex and not an easy endeavour for any development actor. This is as true for migrant associations as it is for international development agencies, NGOs and faith-based organizations.

Nevertheless, the dual ‘presence’ of migrant associations in both home and host societies gives them a privileged position as they know both realities; while this is not a guarantee for success, it does offer potential for development partnerships if collaboration and implementation are well planned, monitored, and evaluated, with shared responsibility and local ownership.

This chapter presented the conceptual framework informing this study, delineating the primary unit of analysis – migrant associations –, the aspect of simultaneity in the transnationalism perspective of migrants and their associations and their engagement in countries of destination through integration and countries of origin through development. The following chapter will focus on presenting a background of migration in Switzerland.

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123 Delgado-Wise, “A Critical Overview of Migration and Development.”
124 Lacomba and Rabadán, “Limits and Challenges for the Participation of Migrants’ Associations in State Development Policies in Morocco and Mexico.”
Chapitre 2. Research design and fieldwork

This chapter describes how the research was carried out, including data sources, collection and analysis. It also includes a reflection on the status of researcher, and on the methodological limitations of the study.

Research for this study took place intermittently between 2012 and 2018. The first stage of research (2012) focused on the academic and institutional migration literature in Switzerland, particularly on migrant associations and on Latino American migration, and on creating a preliminary database of Andean migrant organizations. The preliminary database for this study included twenty-five organizations related to the four-targeted country provided by the Office of Integration of Foreigners in Geneva, or the Cantonal Office of Integration and Prevention of Racism in Vaud, the Consulates of Bolivia, Colombia and Peru, and through the researcher’s contacts (see Annex 1). Those organizations were established by Andean migrants or by Swiss interested and engaged with pressing issues in Andean countries such as children in precarious conditions. Thirteen organizations were eliminated from the study for the following reasons: seven were NGOs, advocacy or educational groups and were out of the scope of the study, as they do not identify themselves as migrant based-organizations and do not provided services to people from their migrant groups; one was a web information platform rather than an association and five associations, which fulfilled the criteria, one was inactive and the other four had invalid contact information and were unreachable, despite efforts to contact them through other migrant associations. The remaining twelve associations are the target group of this research and constitute the final database.

Once the final database was established, the second stage (2012 – 2015) started and centred on reviewing the associations’ websites, social media and other background documents to better understand them and how to best get access to and to connect with them. Once relationship was established, the third stage (2017) included key informant interviews, as well as the association survey. During the second and third stages, participant observation was regularly conducted (described below).

2.1 Data collection

In addition to a literature review on migration in Switzerland (see Chapters 3, 4 and 5), primary data collection and analysis (see Chapter 6 and 7) for this study included twelve Andean migrant associations formed by Andean migrants from the four targeted countries in the Cantons of Geneva and Vaud in Switzerland.

2.1.1 Approaching the migrant associations

As mentioned above, the second stage of the research focused building an understanding of the associations, including their strategic objectives and activities through a review of online and printed background information, and establishing

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125 After several attempts and failure on finding funding for the study, the researcher was employed full time on a humanitarian – development migration programme with the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies. She was nevertheless able to continue here exchanges with Andean communities and involvement on associational work linked to the research. Furthermore, her practical job experience deepened her analytical understanding and analysis for this study. The researcher also became a mother in the meantime, this happy event has also consequences on the time available for the research.

126 The Consulate of Ecuador did not respond or provide any information.
contact with the associations through diverse strategies such as sending letters introducing the research and the researcher, participating in association events that they organized, or organized by authorities or civic organizations. Given the researcher’s origins, her connection and affinity with the migrant associations was natural, and she became directly involved with two of the associations, giving her an insider view (participant as observer – Gold, 2003).127

2.1.2 Primary data collection: interviews, survey and participant observation

Three key methods were used for primary data collection. First, qualitative interviews were conducted with the leaders of the Andean associations. They helped address the research objective of understanding the associations’ origins and history, aims and main activities. In turn, this helped to analysis the associations’ degree of contribution to the integration process of Andean migrants in the Cantons of Geneva and Vaud and their engagements with their countries of origin.

Second, a survey was distributed among the Andean migrant associations with the objective of obtaining standardized background information from the associations, such as the associations’ structure, activities in host and home societies, capacity development and interactions. The survey also helped to cross-check and validate the information obtained from the interviews.

The third method employed was participant observation. This played a central role in the fieldwork and was facilitated by the longitudinal timeframe of the research, allowing the researcher to develop a genuine rapport with the associations, and in the instances of two associations, she was able to conduct deep observation as an embedded researcher. Participant observation allowed the researcher to understand how association leaders (and sometimes other members) interact with their members, other migrant associations, civic organizations and cantonal and communal authorities, and the challenges they face during the interaction. The researcher’s role as observer varied along a continuum from completely removed to completely engaged with the participant(s).

Interviews

This study is based on qualitative interviews with representatives from the governing board of each association. This included the associations’ Presidents or Secretary Generals and in one case the whole board.

A semi-structured questionnaire was used that allowed probing of different topics for deeper understanding of each association, its influences, and how it operates (see Annex 2). Most of the interviews were held in public places, mainly cafes, with the intention of creating an informal and relaxed environment. Some interviews took place via skype.

Interviews were conducted using a narrative technique that consisted of formulating a general question for the interviewee to describe the origins and history of the association. In this way the interviewee was able to freely tell her/his personal story about the association, in a relaxed way, without much interruption, allowing the researcher to come to an integral and evolving understanding of the factors influencing the establishment of the association. The researcher was then able to clarify and explore certain topics in more detail with the interviewees. The combination of narrative and semi-directive techniques allowed the researcher to obtain

satisfactory answers to some of the research questions (Berg, 2009; Bernard, 2013; Jovchelovitch & Bauer, 2000; Schensul & LeCompte, 2013).

**Survey**
A survey was completed by ten of the twelve migrant associations (see Annex 3). It consisted of twenty-seven closed-ended and open questions, organized into the following seven sections:

1. Survey introduction, including informed consent
2. The background information of the association: Name, date and location the association was established, primary objective and scope.
3. The activities carried out by the association in Switzerland and in the countries of origin.
4. The association structure and management: statutes, work plan, structure, members, volunteers and finances.
5. The capacity development needs and trainings.
6. The partnerships established with other migrant associations, civic organizations and authorities.
7. The role of the association on facilitating the integration of its members in Switzerland and the contributions and engagements in the countries of origin.

Considering the low number of cases, the exploitation of this survey remains essentially qualitative.

**Participant Observation**
Participant observation played a key role in the field research, providing a “richer picture” or understanding by sharing in migrant association activities (Bernard, 2013, Schensul & LeCompte, 2013). This insider/outsider perspective allowed the researcher to gain empathy and trust through personal experience and observe Andean migrant associations’ leaders in their natural settings and in interaction with others relevant actors. However, it was time consuming and it was difficult to select and prioritize participation in migrant associations’ and public authorities’ events and to make generalizations from those participant observations.

The researcher’s cultural and linguistic competencies, combined with prior knowledge and work with migrant associations, provided opportunity and entry into a variety of events organized by the migrant associations, or where representatives from those associations were present (see Annex 4).

**2.1.3 Secondary data sources**
Before, during and after the fieldwork, literary sources were also collected and analysed. The desk review included scholarly research and institutional literature on migration in Switzerland, especially on migrant associations and Latin American

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128 Berg, *Qualitative Research Methods for the Social Sciences*.
129 Bernard and Bernard, *Social Research Methods*.
130 Jovchelovitch and Bauer, “Narrative Interviewing.”
131 Schensul and LeCompte, *Essential Ethnographic Methods*.
132 The Association pour l’Integration des Equatoriens de Geneve did not fill the questionnaire despite of several reminders sent and the former president of the Association Voluntariado Ecuatoriano Residente en Suiza provided an interview to the researcher and provided the contact details of the new president, but she was unreachable, so the association did not complete the survey.
migrant to the country. Statistics also played an important role, providing key information to contextualize the number of migrants from the four targeted countries living in Switzerland over the last decades, as well as their socio-economic and legal characteristics. Other key materials reviewed were annual reports and related background documents, as well as association website content and social media entries (see Annex 5).

2.2 Data management and analysis

Primary data collections (surveys and interviews) were conducted in Spanish. This facilitated the exchange of information because interviewees (and the interviewer) could speak in their mother tongue. In order to facilitate the writing and reading of this research, quotations were translated into English.

Each interview lasted between one and two hours, and the information provided was written down in a journal or recorded, and then later transcribed and collated into Microsoft Word documents by date and interviewee. The survey consisted of twenty-seven closed-ended and open questions, and Google Form was used for its design, distribution, and storage. Survey and interview data were used to analyse patterns, similarities and differences, which was triangulated with other data sources, such as associations’ background documentation, entries in their Facebook pages, information contained on their websites, extracts from newspapers and journals, oral and visual information gathered, conferences, and other public forums.

The analysis of this empirical data is presented in Chapter 6 and 7 and is the main contribution and heart of this research.

2.3 Reflection on the status of the researcher

Adopting a reflexive posture in the relationship between the researcher and her informants is imperative from the methodological point of view. During the fieldwork, the researcher established different relationships with key informants, balancing the research role with her personal engagement with the research subjects. Her proximity to her research subject is evident primarily with the Colombian associations, given her origins, as mentioned above, and her direct involvement with two of the four Colombian associations (Asociacion Colombiana de Investigadores en Suiza and Platorme Suisse - Colombie). Yet it was important for her to maintain an independent point of view in her research. As Gold (2003: p. 345) expresses, “Although the fieldworker in the role of participant-as observer tries to bring his relationship with the informant into friendship, it is incumbent upon him to keep enough distance to avoid precipitating into intimacy”. During the fieldwork, the researcher was able to cultivate close relationships with informants without falling into intimacy.

Another element worth noting about the status of the researcher is that she became sometimes an informant of her informants, mainly during the interviews when touching upon some topics such as Cantonal or Communal funding and training opportunities.

Related, the researcher was able to promote networking opportunities among studied the Andean migration associations by using the research as a tool of empowering and bringing together the Andean associations. However, her contributions in this area was limited due to time constrains and a change in residence of the researcher in the final phase of the study when activities were planned. Perhaps, in the near future, other opportunities will arise.
2.4 Limitations of the study

This research focuses specifically on the point of view of the leaders of the Andean migrant association. Associations’ members, Andean migrants, Swiss nationals and authorities’ points of view on the topic would have enriched the findings.

The research touch upon important elements such as the undocumented Andean migrants and the Andean – Spanish, but these were not the focus of the research. With more time and resources, the inclusion of these topics in the data collection would have provided a deeper understanding of their realities.
The Swiss Migration context

Chapitre 3. The Swiss Migration context

This chapter provides a background of migration in Switzerland, before specifically examining demographic and cultural characteristics of the two cantons selected for this study – Geneva and Vaud.

3.1 Migration dynamics and legal and policy framework

3.1.1 Migration dynamics

Switzerland has one of the largest foreign-born population in terms of the share of migrants in its population among the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) countries\(^\text{133}\), accounting for 25 per cent of the total population in 2017 (OFS, 2017). According to the Swiss State Secretariat for Migration (SEM) (SEM, 2017\(^\text{134}\)), at the end of December 2016, the foreign-born population permanently residing in Switzerland\(^\text{135}\) reached 2,029,527 people (954,191 women and 1,075,336 men). This number is complemented by the foreign-born population non-permanently residing in Switzerland\(^\text{136}\) (53,151 people, 19,042 women and 34,109 men) for a total of 2,082,678 people. Of the permanently residing, 1,390,405 (or about 69\%) were nationals of EU-28 or EFTA\(^\text{137}\) countries and 639,122 (31\%) of third countries. Italians constitute the largest foreign community in Switzerland, with 318,653 people (15.7\% of the permanent resident foreign population), followed by Germans (304,706 or 15\%) and Portuguese (269,521 or 13.3\%). “While 63\% of immigrants from the EU and EFTA went to Switzerland for professional reasons, nationals of countries outside these blocks generally immigrated to join their families (49\% of inflows)” (OECD, 2016, Para. 1\(^\text{138}\)).

In addition to the above mentioned two million foreign-born population permanently residing in Switzerland, a recent study on undocumented migrants in Switzerland\(^\text{139}\) (Morlok et al. 2016) estimates that between 50,000 to 99,000 migrants are in Swiss territory on an irregular status (see Table 2), of which the undocumented migrant from Central and South America are the most prevalent (43\%), followed by non-EU/EFTA European migrants (24\%), Africans (19\%) and Asians (11\%). Male undocumented migrants work in construction, agriculture and in hospitality industry and most women in urban private households and services. Compared to the age distribution of the

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\(^{133}\) Second largest after Luxemburg in 2013, OECD, “Migration - Foreign-Born Population - OECD Data.”, 2013

\(^{134}\) Secretariat d’Etat aux migration, “Statistique des étrangers et de l’asile 2016.”

\(^{135}\) “All foreign nationals who reside in Switzerland for at least one year and who have one of the following three authorizations: establishment, stay or short stay (when the stay is equal to or greater than 12 months). The following people are not included in the permanent resident foreign population: people in the field of asylum, diplomats holding a permit issued by the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, international civil servants and members of their families (if they are not active in the labour market”).

\(^{136}\) “All foreign nationals who reside in Switzerland for less than one year and who have a short-term residence permit”.

\(^{137}\) European Free Trade Association (Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland).

\(^{138}\) OECD, “Switzerland.”

permanent resident population, there are many more undocumented migrants in the working age category between 18 and 40 years of age (60%), while children represent 12% and older than 40 years of age 28%.

EU citizens have partially replaced the undocumented third-country nationals in low-paid jobs. This policy-driven trend has apparently intensified as a result of the crises in southern Europe at the end of 2008. There have been several reports of increased competition between EU / EFTA and third country nationals in the relevant labour market niches, at least as far as the metropolitan areas are concerned such as the “Métropole Lémanique” and Zurich (Morlok et al 2015).

Table 2. Characteristics of the undocumented migrants in Switzerland

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Characteristics</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Population</td>
<td>Estimates suggest between 50,000 to 99,000 undocumented migrants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gender</td>
<td>Women and men are roughly in line with the permanent resident population</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>women 51% men 49% in 2014 (OFS, 2017).</td>
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<tr>
<td>Age</td>
<td>Over half of the undocumented migrants are between the ages of 18 and 40.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>The vast majority are in working age, which can be explained by the fact that</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>most of them enter and stay because work related reasons.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Origin</td>
<td>People from Central and South America represent the largest group, followed</td>
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<td></td>
<td>by people from Eastern Europe (non-EU / EFTA states). A minority of the</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>sans-papers comes from Africa and Asia, and practically none from North</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>America or Australia.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>Nearly half of the undocumented migrants paper has no post-compulsory education.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Around a third have completed vocational training and one fifth tertiary</td>
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<td>Family structure</td>
<td>Around two-thirds of undocumented migrants are single or at least without</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>their family in Switzerland. Experts estimate that about one tenth of them are</td>
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<td></td>
<td>underage. Estimates based on birth statistics suggest that around 2,800</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>undocumented families with children born in Switzerland live in Switzerland.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Employment</td>
<td>About nine out of ten undocumented adults work. About half work in private</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>households. The construction and hospitality industries are two other</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>important employers. In agriculture, in recent years, undocumented have</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>been largely replaced by workers from Eastern Europe.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Migration biography</td>
<td>Almost two-thirds of the undocumented migrants arrived as tourists and over</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>stayed or entered the country on a clandestine manner. About one-fifth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>applied for asylum but it was not granted or remained in Switzerland after a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>non-renewal of a B or C permit. Most of the undocumented migrants have</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>been in Switzerland for several years.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


3.1.2 Migration regime

Switzerland’s migration regime is currently characterized by dual foreigner’s rights, and the legal status of citizens from EU/EFTA in Switzerland is clearly distinguishable from that of people from third countries. A bilateral agreement between Switzerland and the EU in effect since 2002 gives EU nationals the same living and working rights as Swiss nationals, except for voting rights. In 2014 the initiative against mass migration supported by 50.3% of voters reintroduced the quotas for all categories of foreigners, including EU nationals. However, in December 2016, after almost three years of political discussion and negotiations with the EU, the Swiss Parliament
adopted a light implementation of the initiative (Deloitte, 2016)\textsuperscript{140} to avoid the risk of damaging Switzerland’s relationship with the European Union.

Since the bilateral agreement with the EU, legislation regarding foreigners no longer applied to EU citizens but only to people from third countries. In 2008, the Federal Law on Foreigners came into effect which establishes much higher requirements in terms of family reunification and admission to the labour market (Sandoz, 2016)\textsuperscript{141}, restricting the entry of third-country nationals to highly skilled people (Riaño \textit{et al.} 2018\textsuperscript{142}).

Various studies have identified the important difference for non-EU nationals in terms of harder admission procedures, restricted access to temporal and permanent residence permits (see Table 3) and to naturalization and family reunification, constraining integration agreements, access to labour market and limited electoral rights, among other factors (Bolzman 2002\textsuperscript{143}; Fibbi, 2013\textsuperscript{144}; Piguet 2013\textsuperscript{145}; Piguet 2004\textsuperscript{146}; Sandoz, 2016; Schindall, 2009\textsuperscript{147}; Wichmann, 2013\textsuperscript{148}; Wichmann \textit{et al.} 2011\textsuperscript{149}). As a result of these restrictive policies, migrants do not feel entitled to their rights and this has serious implications in the choices available to them, their flexibility to change employers, move from one canton to another, to leave the country for a period longer than six months, reunite with spouses and children and to be able to participate in or influence communal, cantonal and federal politics.

\textbf{3.1.3 Integration Policy}

The current Swiss integration policy, according to SEM\textsuperscript{150}, tries to meet two objectives simultaneously. The first is to \textit{encourage} social cohesion through the adoption of concrete measures in areas such as education and the labour market. The second objective is to \textit{demand} migrants to comply with a set of compulsory integration mechanisms required at all stages during their stay in the country.

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\textsuperscript{140} “Instead of imposing quotas for all nationalities, the Swiss Parliament wants to empower the local employment market with a reporting obligation for employers, to notify job vacancies for a certain period exclusively to the regional job centres (RAV). This leads to a privileged treatment of unemployed Swiss nationals or EU nationals already residing in Switzerland and holding a valid work and residence permit”. Deloitte, “Swiss Parliament Decides on a Very Light Implementation of the Mass Immigration Initiative.”

\textsuperscript{141} “According to the Swiss government, only “qualified workers from third countries who are absolutely needed” are allowed to enter the Swiss labor market as the Swiss admission system for third country workers is demand driven: employers must first request to hire a foreigner and prove they could not find someone in Switzerland or the EU”. Sandoz, “The Symbolic Value of Quotas in the Swiss Immigration System.”

\textsuperscript{142} Riaño, Lombard, and Piguet, “How to Explain Migration Policy Openness in Times of Closure?”

\textsuperscript{143} Bolzman, “La politique migratoire suisse.”

\textsuperscript{144} Fibbi, “La Suisse et Ses Migrations: Entre Optique Nationale et Systeme Migratoire Mondial.”

\textsuperscript{145} Piguet, \textit{L’immigration En Suisse}, 2013.

\textsuperscript{146} Piguet, \textit{L’immigration En Suisse}, 2004.

\textsuperscript{147} Schindall, “Switzerland’s Non-EU Immigrants.”

\textsuperscript{148} Wichmann, “Existe-t-il Une Approche Romande a l’integration Des Etrangers?”

\textsuperscript{149} Wichmann \textit{et al.}, \textit{Les marges de manoeuvre au sein du fédéralisme}.

\textsuperscript{150} Secretariat d’Etat aux migrations, “Politique Suisse En Matière d’intégration.”
Table 3. Residence permits for third county nationals in Switzerland

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of permit</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Permit B</td>
<td>The permit B for third-country nationals generally has an initial term of one year and is subject to quotas (a predetermined number of permits per year). This permit is usually renewed from year to year if there is no reason to object (welfare dependency, criminal acts). The permit is tied to an employer and the holder must live in the township that granted the permit. Taxes are deducted at source and therefore deducted from wages. Permit B is also used in family reunification cases and for students.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permit C</td>
<td>The C permit may be granted to third-country nationals after an uninterrupted stay of 10 years. For Americans and Canadians, a five-year stay is enough. The holder of a permit C can freely choose his employer and his place of residence. It is no longer subject to tax at source.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legitimation Card</td>
<td>The legitimation card from the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs is a residence permit attesting the privileges and immunities enjoyed by the holder; it exempts the latter from the visa requirement for the duration of the exercise of its function. The holders of a FDFA legitimation card are exempted from the obligation to notify the cantonal authorities responsible for the control of the inhabitant.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permit Ci</td>
<td>The Ci permit is intended for members of the family of officials of intergovernmental organizations or members of foreign representations. It is exclusively for spouses and children up to the age of 25. The validity is limited to the duration of the function of the principal holder.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permit G</td>
<td>Frontier workers are foreigners who live in the foreign border zone and work in the Swiss border area. Third-country nationals obtain a border permit only if they have a right of permanent residence in one of the neighbouring countries of Switzerland and have, for at least six months, their regular residence in the country. neighbouring border area.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permit L</td>
<td>Foreigners admitted on a provisional basis. People who are subject of a referral decision from Switzerland but for whom the execution of the referral would be unlawful (violation of public international law), inexcusable (endangerment of the foreigner) or materially impossible (for technical reasons of execution). Provisional admission is therefore a substitute measure. Provisional admission may be granted for a period of twelve months. The canton of residence may extend the duration, each time for twelve months.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permit F</td>
<td>Holders of a short-term residence permit L are foreigners who temporarily stay in Switzerland for a specific purpose, usually for a period of less than one year, whether or not they are gainfully employed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permit N</td>
<td>Asylum seekers are people who have applied for asylum in Switzerland and are subject to an asylum procedure. During this period, they have in principle a right of residence in Switzerland.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permit S</td>
<td>Identity paper authorizing the temporary stay in Switzerland but allowing neither to cross the border nor to return to Switzerland. A right of residence cannot be guaranteed until the expiry of the validity period. Each take or change of employment is subject to prior authorization. When applying for a job, the booklet must be presented to the employer.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: State Secretariat for Migration\textsuperscript{151} and Federal Department of Foreign affairs\textsuperscript{152}.

According to this policy, successful integration is based on respect for the Federal Constitution, participation in economic life, and a willingness to learn national languages and acquire professional education. Language requirements usually vary

\textsuperscript{151} State Secretariat for Migration, “Residence Permits for EU/EFTA Nationals.”

\textsuperscript{152} Departement federal des affaires etrangeres, “Carte de légitimation du DFAE.”
depending on the residence permit required and the length of stay of the person in Switzerland.

Conditioning the granting of residence permit to successful integration is evidence that integration is exploited to serve as an instrument of immigration control (Fibbi, 2011). An assimilation vision of integration is present, dominated by the requirement of acceptance of host society norms, values and costumes by migrants. It is an exclusive policy considering that the non-adaptation to norms and values in place is sanctioned by exclusion (Gianni, 2009). Primary gaps in the Swiss integration policies include the lack of specific measures for the host society to participate in the integration process, and the lack of encouraging measures for migrants to participate in politics at the local level (Wichmann et al., 2011).

Cantons and municipalities have a decision making and implementation role. The responsibility lies with and concrete measures are set at local level (Liebig et al., 2012). The cantonal legal basis in the field of integration is very diverse, argues Wichmann, Hermann, D’Amato, Efionayi-Mader, Fibbi, Menet and Ruedin (2011), and in some cantons the encouragement of integration of migrants is included in their cantonal constitution, in others in their law on integration or in a specific decree on the topic.

The responsibility for social assistance and health support for migrants lies at municipality level (Liebig et al, 2012). Municipalities also play an important role in the implementation of the promotion of specific integration by funding projects and informing migrants about living and working conditions in Switzerland, their rights and obligations, migration policy implications (Wichmann et al., 2011), and have a key role in the naturalization process.

According to the 2015 Migrant Integration Policy Index (MIPEX) analysis on Switzerland (MIPEX, 2015), the country is ranked as halfway favourable to integration. In terms of permanent residence, it is, “one of longest and most demanding paths to long-term residence, delays equal opportunities for newcomers and keeps most non-EU citizens in Switzerland relatively insecure in their status” (MIPEX, 2015, “Permanent Residence”, Para. 1). The highest ranked category is access to health, providing accessible and rather responsive services for all categories of migrants and the lowest ranked are access to nationality and anti-discrimination measures.

Regarding access to nationality (SEM, 2017), migrants still face one of the most restrictive policies in Western Europe (after Austria) and “one of the longest waits as

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153 Fibbi, “L’évolution des droits politiques des étrangères et des étrangers en Suisse – quelle signification du point de vue de la citoyenneté ?”
154 Gianni, “Citoyenneté et Intégration des Musulmans en Suisse: Adaptation aux normes ou participation à leur définition?”
155 Liebig, Kohls, and Krause, “The Labour Market Integration of Immigrants and Their Children in Switzerland.”
156 According to 2011/2 estimates, most non-EU citizens in Switzerland (78%) would normally be considered eligible for long-term residence in other European countries, since they have lived in Switzerland for 5+ years (the period required in nearly all European countries).
157 Foreigners who have resided in Switzerland for 10 years (12 before January 2018), hold a permit C (since January 2018 holders of permits B and F permit and legitimation card are excluded) and who have become integrated into the Swiss community can benefit from ordinary naturalization. Facilitated naturalization is granted to foreign spouses of Swiss nationals living in Switzerland or abroad. In addition, facilitated naturalization is granted to foreign children of a Swiss parent. Reinstatement in Swiss nationality is granted when a person has lost Swiss nationality however the applicant must have links with Switzerland (SEM, 2017).
Andean migrant associations’ host and home country engagement

well as highly demanding and discretionary conditions, depending on their canton. Migrants, their children and even their grandchildren face more lengthy, complicated and costly paths to citizenship in Switzerland than in any of its neighbours (except Austria) or other major destination countries” (MIPEX, 2015, “Access to nationality”, Para. 1).

In terms of anti-discrimination measures, “the law provides less protection from racial, ethnic, religious and nationality discrimination than in nearly all other developed countries. Unlike all EU countries, Switzerland has made no major legal progress on fighting discrimination” (MIPEX, 2015, “Anti-discrimination”, Para. 1).

Switzerland’s score might have changed since 2015 MIPEX analysis, hopefully for the better, given the implementation of the first round of Cantonal Integration Programmes (CIP) in all cantons from 2014 to 2017.

**Cantonal Integration Programmes - CIP**

Since January 2014, each canton has a Cantonal Integration Programme (CIP) defining the set of measures related to specific encouragement of integration. The strategic objectives are set under agreements concluded between the FOM and the cantons for the period 2014-2017. The CIPs are based on three pillars: 1) information and counselling, 2) education and employment and 3) mutual understanding and social integration. The joint strategy identifies eight areas of action (see Figure 1) in which specific integration measures are implemented throughout the country. Thus, the federal level is the strategic actor and cantons are the operational actors in the context of integration policies.

**Figure 1. Cantonal Integration Programmes’ areas of action**

Source: State Secretariat for Migration, 2016

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158 Secretariat d’Etat aux migrations, “Programmes Cantonaux d’intégration.”
According to the CIP interim report, “thanks to the four-year timeframe, cooperation with other cantonal and communal agencies as well as social partners has flourished, and new areas of action were identified” (SEM, 2016, P. 16). Key outcomes are: 1) integration is a shared responsibility, many Cantons have established interinstitutional advisory groups to ensure the participation of a wide range of stakeholders in the implementations of their integration programmes and an improved coordination between agencies involved, and 2) Integration happens at local level, so the communes are key players in providing orientation and social integration services. From their part, Cantons grant compensatory contributions, and 3) refugees and temporarily admitted persons are a priority and jobs, apprenticeship and traineeship positions must be provided to successfully integrate this population.

In January 2017, the Federal Council decided to continue with the Cantonal Integration Programmes for the period 2018-2021. The new round is in line with the already defined strategic objectives and are based on the experience gained so far by the Confederation and the cantons. Measures to encourage integration will be further developed. It is planned to extend the vocational qualification offers for persons provisionally admitted and recognized refugees, to enhance their employability (SEM, 2017).

Cantonal Integration Programmes are an opportunity for social partners such as migrant associations to obtain funding for their projects and programmes, but at the same time they are a straitjacket as projects and programmes are selected only if they target one or more of the eight areas of action. These associations confront power relationships where integration needs are defined from the top, so they need to adjust and potentially get funding or forget about any financial support.

3.2 Migration institutional framework

At federal level, the State Secretariat for Migration (SEM), attached to the Federal Council’s Department of Justice and Police, is the main body in charge of migrations matters. It determines under what circumstances a person may enter Switzerland to live and work, decides who is granted protection from persecution, co-ordinates the integration of foreign nationals into Switzerland, is responsible for granting citizenship to foreigners and works actively at international level to control migration movements.

Complementing the SEM, there are the Federal Commission on Migration (FCM), the Labour Directorate of the State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO), attached to the Federal Council’s Department of Economic Affairs, Education and Research, the Federal Commission against Racism (FCR), attached to the Federal Council’s

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160 PIC I (2014-2017) cost CHF154.4 million, CHF 38.6 million per year were distributed among the cantons.


162 Formerly, the Federal Office for Migration (FOM)

163 In collaboration with the cantons, the SEM organises the accommodation of asylum seekers and the return of people who do not need protection to their country of origin.

164 Secretariat d’Etat aux migrations, “Le SEM.”
Department of Home Affairs and the Global Programme on Migration and Development of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), attached to the Federal Council’s Department of Foreign Affairs (see Table 4).

Table 4. Migration institutional framework at Federal level

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SEM</th>
<th>FCM</th>
<th>SECO</th>
<th>FCR</th>
<th>SDC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| • Entry and residence.  
• Asylum / protection from persecution  
• Integration of foreign national (policy and coordination of cantons activities)  
• Naturalising foreigners.  
• Return | • Advisor role to the Federal Council and the public administration on migration.  
• Integration projects financing.  
• Studies and recommendations on migration policy  
• Link between civil society and the Federal administration | • Labour market policy.  
• Labour market integration policy. | • Information campaigns to fight discrimination and racism.  
• Legal advice and support to victims  
• Part of consultation procedures when the law on migration is revised. | • Swiss foreign policy on migration.  
• The international political dialogue on migration.  
• The fight against human trafficking.  
• Refugees and internally displaced persons  
• Labour migration.  
• The diaspora. |

Source: Liebig et al, 2012, own research

SEM, SECO, FCM and FCR formulate, influence and coordinate the integration policy at the federal level. The federal government finances up to 45% of the total cost of integration projects, the cantons, municipalities and other stakeholders share the remaining costs (Liebig et al., 2012).

At the cantonal level, there are immigration (entry and residence, asylum, access to nationality), labour market and integration authorities. The offices in Geneva are the Cantonal Office of Population and Migration, the Foreign Labour Service of the Cantonal Office of Inspection and Labour Relations, and the Office for Integration of Foreigners, attached to the Cantonal Office of Population and Migration. In Vaud, the Population Service, the Employment Service and the Cantonal Office for the Integration of Foreigners and the Prevention of Racism, attached to the Population Service.

At the municipality level, there is a remarkable difference between Geneva and Lausanne. In Geneva there is no specific office dealing with migration matters. However, the thematic is included in the Agenda 21 Service, in charge of all thematic related to sustainable development, under the diversity domain. On the contrary, in Lausanne there is a specific office dedicated to migrants – the Office for Foreigners Lausanne.
3.3 Political rational

According to Ruedin, Alberti and D'Amato, popular initiatives have become a key instrument in shaping migration and integration policy in Switzerland since 1968. “The increasing rate of regulation can be understood as a form of politicization of the topic” (Ruedin et al, 2015, p. 15). Since 1968 many popular initiatives on immigration and integration have been presented to the Swiss government by political parties or associations, of which just one intended to support migrants, all the rest were against their presence in the country. Also, four referendums on migration matters in 1983, 1994 and 2004 have been voted (see table 5). Even though most of those many initiatives against immigration in the last five decades in Switzerland were rejected, they reflect the sensitivity and politicization of the topic for the Swiss people and their political parties.

As it is the case in most countries in Europe, Swiss right-wing parties are reluctant to immigration. Although, other right-wing parties have initiated several initiatives against immigration, the Swiss People’s Party (SVP), with national presence, has taken the lead on such initiatives in recent years with success. This conservative and right-wing populist political party funded in 1971, became stronger in 2000 with its charismatic leader, Christophe Blocher. The party focuses on issues such as ‘euroscepticism’ and opposition to immigration, leading several campaigns with xenophobic connotations.

The SVP has succeeded in getting the Swiss parliament to pass several laws tightening controls on immigration and foreign residents in Switzerland (Schindall, 2009). The party strongly supported the 2006 Law on Foreigners and the amendment to the Law on Asylum; campaigned for a negative vote on the 2009 referendum to continue the free-movement of labour agreement that Switzerland has with the EU; and proposed an initiative to ban minarets as symbol of Islamic Law in 2009. In 2010, it proposed an initiative to expel migrants who commit crimes, through a campaign using discriminatory connotation toward migrants and managed to have it approved by referendum. In 2013, the SVP supported the amendment and tightening of the Asylum Law and proposed the initiative against mass immigration calling for the reintroduction of quotas for migrants including EU nationals, asylum seekers and refugees. In February 2014, the proposal was accepted by a majority of the electorate (50.3%) and the majority of cantons; however, the French-speaking part of Switzerland rejected it (58.5%)167. This has been a trend for the last 20 years, where the French-speaking cantons and urban municipalities are more liberal, while the German-speaking cantons and rural municipalities are more restrictive (Wichmann et al. 2011).

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165 Ruedin, Alberti, and D’Amato, “Immigration and Integration Policy in Switzerland, 1848 to 2014.”
166 As a merger of the Party of Farmers, Traders and Independents (BGB) and the Democratic Party,
167 Chancellerie fédérale, “Votation no 580 Résultats dans les cantons.”
### Table 5. Popular initiative and referendums on immigration in Switzerland

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Popular initiative / Referendum</th>
<th>Proposed / deposited</th>
<th>Voted</th>
<th>Results</th>
<th>Political party / Association</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PI Against foreign penetration (withdrawn)</td>
<td>30.06.1965</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Democratic Party of Zurich</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PI Against the foreign influence “Schwarzenbach”</td>
<td>20.05.1969</td>
<td>7.06.1970</td>
<td>54% No</td>
<td>National Action</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PI Against the foreign influence and overpopulation of Switzerland</td>
<td>30.11.1972</td>
<td>20.10.1974</td>
<td>66% No</td>
<td>National Action</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PI - For the protection of Switzerland - For a limitation of the annual number of naturalizations</td>
<td>12.031974</td>
<td>13.03.1977</td>
<td>70.5% No 66.5% No</td>
<td>National Movement of Republican and Social Action</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PI To stand in solidarity for a new policy towards foreigners</td>
<td>20.10.1977</td>
<td>5.04.1981</td>
<td>83.6% No</td>
<td>Left-wing parties</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R Allowing certain types of naturalization</td>
<td>3.12.1983</td>
<td></td>
<td>55.2% No</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PI For the limitation of immigration</td>
<td>10.04.1985</td>
<td>4.12.1988</td>
<td>67.3% No</td>
<td>National Action</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PI Against Illegal immigration</td>
<td>18.10.1993</td>
<td>1.12.1996</td>
<td>53.7% No (10 cantons accepted)</td>
<td>Swiss People’s Party</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R Procedure for Naturalizing Young Immigrants</td>
<td></td>
<td>12.06.1994</td>
<td>52.8% Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PI For a regulation of immigration</td>
<td>28.08.1995</td>
<td>24.09.2000</td>
<td>63.8% No</td>
<td>Inter-party committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R Federal Resolution on Naturalization</td>
<td></td>
<td>26.09.2004</td>
<td>65.9% No</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R Federal Resolution on Third-generation foreigners getting Swiss citizenship</td>
<td></td>
<td>26.09.2004</td>
<td>51.6 No</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PI For the return of foreign criminals “Black Sheep campaign”</td>
<td>2008</td>
<td>28.11.2010</td>
<td>52.6 Yes</td>
<td>Swiss People’s Party</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PI/R Against construction of minarets</td>
<td>1.05.2007</td>
<td>11.2009</td>
<td>57.5% Yes</td>
<td>Swiss People’s Party and Federal Democratic Union</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PI/R Against mass immigration</td>
<td>14.02.2012</td>
<td>9.02.2014</td>
<td>50.3% Yes</td>
<td>Swiss People’s Party</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PI/R Stop overpopulation</td>
<td>2.11.2012</td>
<td>30.11.2014</td>
<td>74.1% No</td>
<td>Ecology Population Association and</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Ruedin et al., 2015
The Swiss Migration context

With regards to integration, left-wing parties generally are prone for the state to be responsible for the integration of migrants, while right-wing parties consider that migrants are responsible for their own integration (Wichmann et al., 2011). SVP representatives are often critical to the State integration policy. According to Wichmann, Hermann, D’Amato, Efionayi-Mader, Fibbi, Menet and Ruedin, when the SVP is represented in the cantonal executive body, there are less cases of naturalization in a given municipality, even if it has a rather liberal naturalization policy168.

3.4 “La métropole Lémanique”: Cantons of Geneva and Vaud in Switzerland

3.4.1 Geneva Canton

**Demographics**

According to the Cantonal Office of Statistics Geneva (OCSTAT, 2018), at the end of 2017, the population of Geneva reached 498,221 people of which 40.2% (200,457 people) were foreigners. Almost two-thirds of foreigners come from EU28 / EFTA, 8% from another European country and 27% from third countries. The four largest foreign communities are, in order, Portuguese, French, Italian and Spanish. These four nationalities represent 52% (103,281 people) of the total foreign population and 79% of the EU28 / EFTA population. While 57% of migrants from the EU and EFTA settled in the canton for professional reasons, nationals of third countries migrated to join their families (31%), or for educational reasons (25%), only 9% came to work. More than half (54%) of foreign residents hold an authorization of establishment (permit C), 31% have a residence permit (permit B), 11% are international civil servants and the members of their family, and the remaining 4% have a short-term permit (permit L) or are asylum seekers (permit N).

In 2017, a large number of foreigners becomes Swiss (6,048) (OCSTAT, 2018) in the canton. This movement, already noted in 2015 and 2016, is due to the enforcement of the revision of the Law on Nationality on 1 January 2018. Because this revision of the law makes it more difficult to obtain Swiss nationality, many foreigners obtained the Swiss citizenship before the law went into effect. From January 2018, only foreigners holding a permit C (establishment) can be naturalized.

**Geneva international**

Geneva is recognized as an international hub of international organizations (IOs), and international non-governmental organizations (INGOs). “The international Geneva”, as it is called, is the headquarters of important United Nations agencies, and hosts an assortment of other United Nation organizations offices, well-known international organizations, 240 permanent diplomatic missions and some 250 non-governmental organizations. Overall, the size of Geneva’s international community, including the people working for IO, INGOs, permanent missions and their family members is close to 40,000169.

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168 When responsibility for naturalization lies at the cantonal legislative body, the number of cases of naturalization in a given municipality is low, when it lies at the cantonal executive body, the number is higher. However, the political composition of the executive influences the rate of naturalizations.

169 Republique et Canton de Geneve, “International & Non-Governmental Organizations.”
In addition, Geneva is also attractive to the private sector given the city’s central location in Europe, its geographical proximity to Africa and the Middle East, its quality of life and infrastructure, its highly educated and multilingual workforce, and the stable and secure surroundings. International banks, world high-tech and biotech companies, as well as trading companies, have chosen the city for their headquarters or a key office. Some 130 multinationals are based in Geneva\textsuperscript{170}. Finally, the prevalence of universities (the University of Geneva, the International University, the Webster University), or higher-level education (the Graduated Institute of International Relations and Development, the Geneva Academy of International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights) in the city attracts young foreigners from diverse origins.

### 3.4.2 Vaud

**Demographics**

According to the Cantonal Office of Statistic Vaud, at the end of 2016 the total population of the canton reached 778,251 people of which 33% (257,227) were foreigners (STATVD, 2017). As in the Canton of Geneva, the four largest foreign communities in order are Portuguese, French, Italian and Spanish. Most foreigners migrated for professional reasons (38%), followed by family reunification (27%), educational reasons (26%), and other less significant (in number) reasons (STATVD, 2017\textsuperscript{171}). In 2016, 7,381 people obtained Swiss nationality, which is particularly high; since 2006, the number of naturalized foreigners in Vaud oscillates between 4,200 and 5,900 per year (STATVD, 2017).

**Lausanne, the capital of the Olympic and sporting world**

Lausanne hosts the International Olympic Committee (IOC), and 23 international sporting federations and 20 international organizations linked to sports. Vaud also hosts the Union of European Football Associations (UEFA) in Nyon, and the International Cycling Union (UCI) in Aigle.

In addition to the sport field, the Canton also is home to conservation organizations, such as the World-Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) and the World Conservation Union (IUCN), as well as a large number of multinationals and corporate headquarters. Twenty or so companies with foreign roots have even decided to set up their global, European or regional headquarters in the canton.

Lastly, as well as in Geneva, universities in Lausanne (the university of Lausanne and the Federal Technical University of Lausanne) and specialized schools (the Lausanne Hotel School and the international Institute for Management Development) attract young foreigners from various nationalities.

### 3.4.3 Undocumented migrants in “la Métropole Lémanique”

The 2015 study on undocumented migrant in Switzerland by Morlok, Meier, Oswald, Efionayi-Mader, Ruedin, Bader and Wanner (2016) estimates that there are approximately 13,000 irregular migrants in Geneva and 12,000 in Vaud. This study also identified that places with larger proportions of migrant population (Basel, 170 Republique et Canton de Geneve, “Companies That Have Chosen Geneva.”

Geneva, Lausanne), under the influence of committed civic organizations, are more inclined towards inclusive policies.

In the cantons of Geneva and Vaud\(^{172}\), where the undocumented issue is being debated more publicly and population is more open to migrants (apparent in voting results on migrants’ issues), regulations focusing on undocumented migrants are more widely known. A quasi-official regulation (unpublished directive), for example, provides that families of children are not expelled in the middle of the school year or that workers under certain conditions have access to labour courts without being denounced. The Geneva Constitution guarantees all minors access to schooling and the school regulations stipulate that all school children are insured against illness and, if necessary, receive a reduction in premiums.

According to the authors, the cantons of Geneva and Vaud have been following a specific migration policy for undocumented migrants since the early 1990s, when a favourable political attitude towards social rights and socio-economic circumstances of migrants, as well as an understanding of the state and the influence of civil society organizations, fostered a more liberal position towards undocumented migrants.

It is worth noting that Geneva government has taken steps forward into action and requested to the Federal authorities in 2005 a collective partial regularization of undocumented migrant domestic workers living and working in the Canton.\(^{173}\) This was indeed largely due to the active engagement of civil organizations working for the protection and better living conditions of undocumented migrants, such as Collectif de soutien aux sans-papiers (Support group for undocumented migrants), Centre de Contact Suisse Immigrés (CCSI) (Swiss-immigrant Contact Centre), Syndicat Interprofessionnel de Travailleuses et Travailleurs (SIT) (Interprofessional Workers Union) and Syndicat UNIA. However, the Federal government declined this request.

From 2013 to 2014, a national campaign called, “No maid is illegal,” was run by the association “Reconnaitre l’économie domestique – Régulariser les sans-papiers” (Recognize the domestic economy – Regularize undocumented migrants) – an association composed of 30 civic organizations, including some very active and committed from Geneva, (those mentioned above and others). Thanks to this campaign, the strong commitment from local civic organizations to improve living and working conditions for undocumented migrants, and the willingness from the Canton of Geneva authorities to tackle the situation of these migrants, the Canton started at the end of 2015 a test phase of regularization of undocumented migrants living and working in the Geneva. 590 undocumented migrants from 147 families were granted a residence permit (B), usually given to migrants arriving to work (The Local, 20017\(^{174}\)).

Later in February 2017, Geneva State Council officially launched the "Papyrus" operation (which had started secretly since 2015 with the test phase) aiming at


\(^{173}\) For more information about the background of this initiative and the commitment of civil society organizations visit: http://www.sans-papiers.ch/index.php?id=182

\(^{174}\) The Local, “Geneva Reveals Secret Operation to Legalize Illegal Workers.”
regularizing under certain conditions non-EU/EFTA undocumented migrants residing and working in the canton. By February 2018, a total of 1,093 undocumented migrants have been regularized of which the majority are families (244), including 374 adults and 412 children, 8 couples without children and 291 single people (Republique et canton de Genève, 2018).

Worth to note, 81% of the recipient migrants are from Latin America (mainly from Brazil, Bolivia and Colombia), 10% from Eastern Europe (Bosnia, Kosovo and Macedonia), 6% from Asia (the Philippines and Mongolia) and 3% are from North Africa (Morocco, Algeria and Tunisia) (Budry, 2018). According to the intermediate evaluation, conducted by the Institute for Applied Research in Economics and Management of the University of Geneva, “most of the people benefiting from the Papyrus project are women [70%] from Latin America who are on average 44 years old, mothers of one or more children and work in the home economics sector. It is worth noting also the high level of training, the majority (81%) of respondents having completed a secondary or university education” (Republique et canton de Genève, 2018, p. 2). The operation ends in December 2018 and expects to reach between 2,000 and 2,500 regularizations.

This chapter provided a background on migration in Switzerland from the legal, policy, institutional and political perspective, and examined the demographic and cultural characteristics of the Cantons of Geneva and Vaud. The following chapter will focus on Andean migration to Switzerland.

\[175\] Financial independence; continuous stay of 5 years minimum (for families with children attending school) or 10 years minimum (for other categories, i.e., couples without children and singles); successful integration (minimum A2 level of French and children attending school) and no criminal conviction.

\[176\] Departement du developpement economique, “Opération Papyrus.”

\[177\] Budry, “Papyrus a fait de 1093 sans-papiers des Genevois comme les autres.”
Chapitre 4. Migrant associations in Switzerland, Swiss society’s influence in their formation and their role on integration and development

This chapter first examines migrant associations in Switzerland and the influence of Swiss society in their formation. It then shows how their role in migrant integration is recognized by Swiss authorities and scholars, and how Swiss authorities and civic organizations active in development cooperation encourage their engagements on development initiatives in countries of origin and strengthen their capacities through trainings. Finally, it gives an overview of migrant associations in the cantons of Geneva and Vaud. Chapter 6 will then share findings specifically on Andean migrant associations in these two cantons.

4.1 Migrant associations in Switzerland

In Switzerland, the law of association is governed by the Articles 60 to 79 of the Swiss Civil Code. A minimum of two people is required to create an association, and statutes must be in writing and adopted by a constitutive General Assembly. The General Assembly has the authority to amend the statutes. An association must have at least two organs, the General Assembly, which comprise all members of the associations, and a Committee/Board, which consists of at least a president, a secretary and a treasurer. As soon as the statutes have been adopted by the constitutive General Assembly, the association has legal personality and could start its activities; it does not require approval from or to be registered with public authorities to operate. The establishment of an association does not entail any administrative cost. These requirements apply to all type of associations, including migrant associations.

In Switzerland, as in other countries with a large number of migrants, there are many migrant associations, whose aims, activities, composition and operation differ considerably. These associations often have close relations with their country of origin, with a view to transnational engagement (Castillo & Obadiaru, 2012; Moret & Dahinden, 2009), awareness raising and advocacy on priority issues. However, association objectives and networks are predominantly directed to the host society, and especially supporting their members’ integration process (Bolzman, Fibbi, Vial, 2003; Fibbi 1995). In several instances, migrant associations have become key partners to local authorities as representatives of their national or ethnic groups (Moret & Dahinden, 2009).

Italian migrant workers were the first to organize themselves in migrant associations to address the problems they encountered in the Suisse society. In Zurich in 1930, Colonie Liberale Italiane (CLI) was founded to become the most notable Italian migrant association, with nine other colonies subsequently established in other cantons, creating all together in 1943 the Federazione delle Colonie Liebere Italiana in Svizzera (FCLI) (Bolzman and Fibbi, 1991; Cattacin & La Barba, 2007; Mahnig et al, 2005). Spanish migrants followed a similar structure, founding the Asociación de

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178 An association need to be registered with the Commercial registry only if it conducts a commercial operation in pursuit of if objectives.

179 Bolzman, Fibbi, and Vial, Secondos - Secondas.

180 Mahnig et al., Histoire de La Politique de Migration, d'asile et d'intégration En Suisse Depuis 1948.
Trabajadores Emigrantes Españoles en Suiza (ATEES) in 1968, which in 1975 had already 42 local branches. During the 1970s, both the Italian and Spanish associations became increasingly involved in the fight for a more respectful policy in response to the limitations to immigration, particularly the restraint of migrants’ rights with regards to changing jobs (only after one year of work) or changing canton (only after three years of work (Mahnig et al., 2005).

In response to xenophobic initiatives in Switzerland in 1969 and 1972 (see Chapter 3), the popular initiative for the revision of the Law on Foreigners by the Swiss Movement of Catholic Workers and Employers, launched in 1973, brought together numerous associations, as well as personalities from Christian and left-wing social circles and migrants. This was a broad mobilization process and a turning point contributing to a radical shift in the political perception of foreigners not only as economic, but also cultural and social actors (Mahnig et al, 2005).

In addition to the above two examples with Italian and Spanish migrant communities, other migrant communities present in Switzerland were also active, each with distinct socio-demographic characteristics and migrant organizing process. However, it is beyond the scope of this study to also cover these examples, and the brief historic overview of the emergence of Italian and Spanish migrant associations in Switzerland was provided to highlight the relevance of the influence of the host society, especially xenophobia and rejection of foreigners, and the backlash of migrants group, especially temporary, workers with restricted rights, through organizing migrant associations for representation – which we will examine further in this chapter.

The migrant situation in Switzerland, as well as the one prevailing in their country of origin, is critical in that it determines the extent diversity is possible within migrant associations. According to a study focused on Portuguese, Albanese and Tamil communities in Switzerland (Matthey & Steiner, 2009), in migrant associations that have been established for a long period of time, the demarcation between "us" and "the others" applies not only in relation to the Swiss society, but also to subgroups within the association itself – for example, old-comers and new-comers prevalent in the Albano and Portuguese communities. In contrast, with migrant associations established for a shorter period time and whose members are confronted with unstable political situations in the country of origin, as with Tamil migrants, attempts are made to smooth out differences within the group.

Temporal (old-comer, new-comers) and motivational (politic or economic situation of countries of origin) factors also impact the migrant organizing process and strategic priorities they focus on to support migrants in their adaptation and integration in their host association. Newly founded migrant associations have the task to provide a space of enjoyment and recreate cultural aspects of the country of origin in the host society. Once the community has settled, enlarged, and the likelihood of finding more people from the same origin elsewhere has increased, this initial function fades, and the dynamics changes with increased specialization and distinction within association based on demographic characteristics (Matthey & Steiner, 2009). This is the case, for example, with associations from Kosovo (the Association Vitia gather people from this town in Kosovo), Albania (the Association Albano- Swiss L’Avenir focuses on assistance and integration matters) and Portugal (the Association Lusophone Entrelaçar focuses on public health matters), each which reflect increased specialization to provide tailored services to their member communities.
4.2 Influence of the Swiss society on the formation of migrant associations

As introduced in Chapter 1, key factors related to the migrant group (see section 6.1.1) and in the host society affects the opportunity for the formation of migrant associations. These factors include the economic opportunity structure in host societies, migrant accessibility to host society institutions (e.g. churches, labour unions and welfare organizations), and the influence of the political opportunity structure on the migrant organizing process (Vermeulen, 2006). The following discussion contextualises these factors in the Swiss setting.

4.2.1 The economic opportunity structure

Any host society has notable influence on the migrant experience and integration process (as introduced in Chapter 1). This includes information and knowledge sharing with European, third country nationals and undocumented migrants to provide support in domains such as access to employment, housing, education, health care. However, in the domain of employment, migrants’ host country has a particularly notable influence on both the migrant and the type of support provided by associations.

In the Swiss context, access to employment depends first on the nationality. If the migrant comes from an EU/EFTA, she/he will be covered by the bilateral agreement signed between the Swiss government and the EU, with access to same working rights as Swiss nationals. In these instances, migrant associations often focus on using their networks to help the migrant in finding a job. On the other hand, if the migrant is a third country national, the Federal Law on Foreigners will apply, with much higher requirements to access the labour market. In these instances, employers have to comply with quotas per country and prove that there is no Swiss or European national who could do the job; this is done either prior to migrants entering the country (resident permit B - work), or when changing work permit status after entering the country, (as described in Chapter 3, this includes change to residence permit B, work or legitimation card for international workers or Permit CI, international worker’s relatives to Permit B, and students’ change in status to residence permit B). In these cases, the migrant association role is not as active as there is not much help it can provide, other than explanation of the process. However, if the third country national has a residence permit C (long stay – see Chapter 3) which means they can choose the employer and place of residence, then migrant associations can play the same role as with the European nationals. Finally, with regards to undocumented migrants, migrant associations can play an important role assisting them with employment through their in-country (Swiss) networks.

4.2.2 Migrant accessibility to institutions such as churches, labour unions and civic organizations

Another key factor influencing the migrant organizing process is migrant accessibility to institutions such as religious organizations, civic organizations and labour unions as noted by Vermeulen (2006). Apart from influencing the formation of migrant associations, these organizations also are key in providing assistance to migrants and collaborating with migrant associations (Danese, 2001). Before analysing the accessibility of migrants to these organization, it is worth considering their position before migrants. In Switzerland, faith-based and welfare organizations have been and still are often involved in voluntary social work with migrants, providing school support
for migrant children, sharing relevant information for families or organizing meetings and discussions between migrants and Swiss national (Mahning et al, 2005), supporting asylum seekers and undocumented migrants. Apart from this type of social services, they have also played an important role in supporting the ‘migrant cause’ before xenophobic initiatives, such as seen 1969 and 1972, by promoting a popular initiative for the revision of the Law on Foreigners in 1973, (as seen earlier in this chapter), and initiating or supporting more recent initiatives such as: requests for collective regularizations of undocumented migrants in Geneva in 2003 – 2004, the campaign “No maid is illegal” in 2013 – 2014, and “safe and legal routes for refugees in Switzerland “ 2018.

On the other hand, labour unions have been active participants and/or initiators of the above-mentioned initiatives to support undocumented migrants or have positioned themselves against new discriminatory measures towards migrant workers after the 2014 vote against mass immigration (Pelizzari, 2017¹⁸¹). However, they have not always supported the “migrant cause”. Indeed, for a long time they were resistant to migrants and in favour of limiting foreign labour, but more recently have opened their doors and actively defended migrants, while still protecting the locals. According to Stohr (2013¹⁸²), in the post war period (1945 to 1950), the Swiss government had a policy of high turnover of foreign labour, seen as a pure variable of adjustment, hence of a great precariousness for the labour migrant. The unions approved this policy and sought to secure conditions for the native population and, at the same time, denounced migrants as threats to Swiss "labour peace" or dangerous competitors or instruments of communism or employers.

Religious organizations, such as the Relief Organization of Evangelical Churches of Switzerland (HEKS/EPER), CARITAS, Centre Social Protestant (Protestant Social Centre), among others; civic organizations such as Camarada, Centre de Contact Suisse – Immigres, Elisa, la Roseraie, among others; and labour unions such as UNIA, Syndicat Interprofessionnel de Travailleuses et Travailleurs – SIT - Geneva (Interprofessional Workers Union), among others have joined forces to advocate for the improvement of migrant living conditions in Switzerland and to provide services addressed to migrants.

This assortment of service providers for migrants can reduce the need of such services from migrant associations, but they do not fulfil the identity-related role of migrant associations. Related, it should be noted that migrant associations play a key role informing their membership about these other organizations and the services they provide.

4.2.3 The political opportunity structure
The approach authorities adopt towards migrants and their organizations is another central factor influencing the migrant organizing process. The support for the formation of migrant associations by Italy and the Ex-Yugoslavia facilitated the establishment of Italian and ex-Yugoslavian associations in the 1970s in Switzerland, while the absence of Muslim religious structures favoured the establishment of Muslim migrant association (Moret & Dahinden, 2009).

¹⁸¹ Pelizzari, “Les syndicats et le débat sur la « préférence nationale ».”
Despite Switzerland tends to see migrants more as foreign temporarily residents than being receptive to migrants (see degree of support from host societies to migrant associations in Chapter 1), Swiss authorities have opted for a pragmatic approach toward migrant associations, establishing partnerships with them to support migrant integration. For instance, many cantons have created databases that identify migrant associations active locally (Moret & Dahinden, 2009), reflecting authority interest in such organizations. In the case of Lausanne, the database is publicly accessible online, identifying more than two hundred migrant associations in the Canton. Geneva’s database is not publicly available, but data from 2012 (Castillo & Obadiaru, 2012) on African, American, Asian and North African and Middle Eastern associations provide information about 224 migrant associations.

Another influence to note is the role of consultative commissions (politic organs) can have on giving voice to migrants and their associations. In the case of Vaud, there are a Cantonal Consultative Chamber of Immigrants (CCIC) composed by members of the Cantonal administration, of the Communal Commissions of integration and representatives of migrant communities and Communal Commissions of integration composed by internal and external members of the communal administration. The Bureau Cantonal pour l’Integration d’Etrangers et Prevention du Racisme (Cantonal Office for the Integration of Foreigners and Prevention of Racism) hosts the Secretariat and collaborates closely with it.

Another notable source that gives voice to migrants is through civic federations of migrant associations supported by the authorities as interlocutors or intermediaries with the government. For example, the Maison Kultura in Geneva serves as the main interlocutor between migrant associations and the Bureau d’integration des Etrangers (Office for the Integration of Foreigners). This centre provides associative support, formed around a network that includes 61 associations whose members are from different continents.

Although the above sources exist from Swiss authorities to work and give voice to migrants and their organizations, migrants’ voice is not always heard, and the power relations remain unequal (Matthey & Steiner, 2009). In addition, there are issues with the representability within migrant groups, as well as the risk of instrumentalization (co-optation) of migrant representatives (Moret & Dahinden, 2009).

### 4.3 Recognition of migrant associations’ role on integration in the Swiss context

In Switzerland, integration policy reports acknowledge the important contribution migrant associations have on the migrant integration process. For instance, at the Federal level, a 1996 report from the Federal Commission of Foreigners, ‘Sketch for an integration concept’, states that migrant associations play the role of intermediaries between their migrant group and the Swiss, as long as the necessary logistical support is provided by authorities (Riedo, 1996). In 2009, in the Tripartite Agglomeration Conference report “Future of the Swiss integration policy for foreigners”, migrant associations, churches and other civic organizations were recognized for their

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183 One could question if the only interest is for integration support purposes or it might be to monitor and control them, especially surveillance of potential anti-government or terrorist activity.

184 Riedo, “Esquisse Pour Un Concept d’integration.”
important role supporting migrant integration as early as the 1970s when there was no Federal integration policy (CTA, 2009\textsuperscript{185}).

Similarly, the interim report of the 2014-2017 Cantonal Integration Programmes (SEM, 2016) identifies the importance of cooperating with migrant associations as they make it easier for recently arrived migrants to access services targeting them. However, this report also points out that migrant associations are often unaware of the organisational structures requirements and that their capacities are not strong enough in project development and implementation and, as a consequence, many cannot be given partner status. A few cantons - among them Geneva and Vaud - support migrant associations in their efforts to adjust their structures and obtain the prerequisite skills to propose and implement projects according to required standards.

At the cantonal level, in its report ‘How immigration evolves and modifies Geneva,’ the Office for the Integration of Foreigners recognised that migrant associations are the first integration space for migrants; the associations play a cushioning role against the shock of the mandatory passage between "here" and "elsewhere", preserving traditions while also allowing migrants to adjust to their new cultural context (BIE, 2003 \textsuperscript{186}). According to the Cantonal Delegate of Integration while migrant associations are full partners in implementing all areas of focus of the Cantonal Integration Programme (language and training, early encouragement, prevention of discrimination) in the Canton of Vaud, they have a central role to play in the social integration component (BCI, 2014\textsuperscript{187}).

Several scholars also recognize the important role of migrant association in integration (Bolzman & Fibbi, 1991; Fibbi, 1995; Matthey & Steiner, 2009; Mathey & Steiner, 2009; Moret & Dahinden, 2009; Maggi \textit{et al.}, 2013). According to Moret and Dahinden (2009), migrant associations in Switzerland have played an important role for a long time in the migrant integration domain, with some becoming indispensable partners to local authorities as representatives of national or ethnic groups. In Geneva, for example, Maggi, Sarr, Green, Sarrasin, & Ferro (2013) point out that migrant associations have played a leading role in promoting integration for four decades, before the canton embarked on a law on integration of foreigners in June 2010.

4.4 Swiss encouragement of migrant associations’ role in development

Migration and development, as a relevant area of work, became part of the Swiss government's multilateral and bilateral agenda in the 2000s. At the multilateral cooperation level, Switzerland has engaged in concrete initiatives in the international dialogue on migration and development, including: hosting the 2011 Global Forum on Migration and Development, helping to set up the second-High Level Dialogue on Migration and Development 2013 (Maggi \textit{et al.}, 2013) and acting as co-facilitator with the government of Mexico in the Global Compact for Migration (GCM) process between 2016-2018.

\textsuperscript{186} BIE, “Comment l’immigration Evolue et Modifie Geneve.”
\textsuperscript{187} BCI, “Journal Intégration info.”
Hosting the GFMD in 2011 activated and brought together NGOs, scholars and migrant associations active in this domain at the national level, with several preparatory meetings held mainly in Geneva and Berna. The Swiss government encouraged and funded Swiss civil society participants in the following GFMDs, through its Agency for Development and Cooperation.

At cantonal level in Geneva, the Fédération Genevoise de Coopération (FGC - Cooperation Federation of Geneva) is notable as an umbrella organization of sixty associations active in international solidarity, development cooperation and public awareness and information on North-South relations. FGC was a pioneer discussing the links between migration and development and the role of migrants in development in Switzerland. In January 2008, the FGC organized an event on the theme ‘Migration, the last chance for development?”, which was a great success, followed by debates and round tables involving migrant populations directly concerned with this topic.

In June 2008, the FGC organized a forum about “Migration and development cooperation projects”, with the objective to consider how to better involve migrants and their associations in development projects supported by the FGC. At the end of 2008 the FGC set up a working group on migration and development composed of representatives of migrant associations and its members. The preparations for and the Civil Society Days of the GFMD summit in 2011 provided new momentum, and a FGC’s Migration and Development Working Group188 engaged in the preparation of a new series of activities focusing more on migrant associations, with which the Cooperation Federation of Vaud (FEDEVACO), a sister organization of the FGC, decided to partner.

In its 2012 action plan, this working group mandated a mapping of migrant associations active in development projects (see next section) and provided to some of them a series of training on institutional strengthening, management and monitoring of projects, accounting, communication and fundraising. It also launched the ‘Diaspora and Development Award’ given to a development cooperation project proposal led by a migrant association. The working group also carried out awareness raising activities, such as street performances and radio programmes, focused on the dual orientation of the role of migrant associations in development and integration, in order to disseminate information on these topics to external audiences, and to make migrant associations and the individual trajectories of migrants more visible, particularly in terms of their contribution to development here and there.

In 2013, FGC initiated some changes in the coordination of its Working Group, with activities focused on a second round of trainings for migrant associations, a second edition of the ‘Diaspora and Development Award’, and a round table entitled ‘Migration, agriculture and development’, organized by two migrant association members in the working group, the round table brought together migrant associations, scientific diaspora and NGOs in Switzerland. However, with the appointment of a new FGC president the following year, FGC priorities shifted as the president’s agenda focused on food security rather than migration and development, and in 2014 the FGC Working Group became dormant and has not been reactivated since.

188 The researcher was an active member of the working group between 2010-2014, and the content of the following paragraphs is first-hand information of her experience while in the group.
On the other hand, in the Canton of Vaud, the FEDEVACO decided to pursue work on migration and development, resuming its capacity development of migrant associations as well as the 'Diaspora and Development Award' – both activities are carried out every two years, two editions have taken place in 2015 and 2017.

At the national level, it is worth noting the 2015 launch of the Swiss Civil Society Platform on Migration and Development, an initiative funded by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) and led by Caritas and Helvetas. It seeks to reunite civic organizations and migrant associations interested in migration and development, initiating thematic workshops and meetings with the objective to strengthen and coordinate information exchange, knowledge and organizational capacity development, and support project collaboration between organizations. Representatives of the group have participated in GFMD summits since 2015 and have contributed the international dialogue on migration and development through their participation in the Global Compact on Migration and the Global Compact on Refugees processes.

At the country level, their efforts have focused on an assessment of the needs and potentials of the Swiss civil society organizations, including migrant associations, working on migration and development; a training cycle in 2016 on migration and development and the establishment of four working groups: 1. Stock-taking and best practices on migration and development, 2. GFMD preparation and international dialogue, 3. Psycho-social challenges of migrants and 4. Media and migration.

In summary, examples cited above reflect a promising recognition and support for the work of migrant associations, (and related civic organizations), in the area of migration and development in Switzerland. It is also worth noting the relevant role of countries of origin in the encouragement of migrant associations’ role in development (Goldring, 2002; Lacomba & Rabadan, 2013; Orozco, 2006; Ostergaard-Nielsen, 2011; Portes & Zhou, 2012; Rannveig Agunias & Newland, 2012). Colombia and Peru, in the framework of this study, played a key role in supporting the formation of academic migrant associations with the intention of exploring the potential of skills and knowledge transfer between their high skilled national living in Switzerland and their countries of origin.

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189 The researcher was an active member in the initial stage of the Platform between 2015 and 2016.
190 Goldring, “The Mexican State and Transmigrant Organizations: Negotiating the Boundaries of Membership and Participation.”
191 Lacomba and Rabadán, “Limits and Challenges for the Participation of Migrants’ Associations in State Development Policies in Morocco and Mexico.”
192 Orozco and Welle, “Hometown Associations and Development: A Look at Ownership, Sustainability, Correspondence and Replicability.”
193 Portes and Zhou, “Transnationalism and Development.”
194 Rannveig Agunias and Newland, Developing a Road Map for Engaging Diasporas in Development.
4.5 Migrant associations in the Cantons of Geneva and Vaud\textsuperscript{195}

As identified above, as part of its planning in 2012, the FGC’s Migration and Development Working Group mandated a mapping of migrant associations in the cantons of Geneva and Vaud. This mapping is a valuable data source to better understand the associations’ background, activities and operations, experience in implementing development projects and their capacity development needs. This research resulted in a single database of 385 migrant associations\textsuperscript{196} by triangulating information from various data sources from authorities in both cantons, civil society organizations and scholars. It provides a further insight of the 90 associations that responded the online questionnaire proposed.\textsuperscript{197}

Mapping data reveals that responding associations prioritize both home and host society activities 51.7% of the associations were found to have a geographical focus on their home countries, whereas 31.5% of the associations have a local geographical focus, prioritizing their situation in their host society and integration. The most prevalent activities for migrant associations were cultural events followed by development cooperation projects in their home country, then conferences and debates and migrants’ integration.

African migrant associations are the most numerous (46), with the majority established between the 1990s and 2000s. Latin American and Caribbean migrant associations are second in number (24), most established in the 2000s, but some in the 1980s and 1990s. Middle Eastern and North African association are third in number (17), established in the 2000s and finally, Asian migrant associations are the less numerous (3) and were established between 1980s and 2000s.

Migrant association activities focus on the field of cooperation and the organization of cultural events, especially for the African associations, while for most associations in Latin America and the Caribbean, Asia and the Maghreb and In the Middle East, setting up activities geared towards the organization of cultural events and projects aimed at integrating migrants seems to be a priority. At the same time, promoting their culture and traditions in the host country is a fundamental aspect of facilitating the integration of their communities in Switzerland. This bidirectional choice to engage both in development projects for the country of origin and in actions to facilitate the social inclusion of migrants shows their simultaneous engagement in both communities.

\textsuperscript{195} This section is based on the mapping of migrant associations in the Canton of Geneva and Vaud carried out in 2012 by the researcher in collaboration with Isabel Obadiaru, under the mandate of the Migration and Development Working Group of the Federations of Cooperation in the cantons of Geneva and Vaud.

\textsuperscript{196} 385 associations of which 203 are African (117 are based in the Canton of Geneva and 85 in the Canton of Vaud), 77 are Latin American (41 are based in the Canton of Geneva and 36 in the Canton of Vaud), 39 Asian (27 based in the Canton of Geneva and 12 in the Canton of Vaud) and 66 North African and Middle Eastern (39 based in the Canton of Geneva and 27 in the Canton of Vaud).

\textsuperscript{197} 90 associations of which 46 are African (51.1%), most of them from Senegal, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Angola; 3 are Asian (3.3%) from China, India and Sri Lanka; 24 are Latin American associations (26.7%), most of them from South America (Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru) and the Caribbean (Haiti); and 17 are from North Africa and the Middle East (18.9%), most of them from Morocco and Kurdistan. The canton distribution is 48 (53.3%) associations based in the Canton of Geneva and 42 (46.7%) in the Canton of Vaud.
These associations work for the social, economic, cultural and political integration of their members on a daily basis and promote the contribution of migrants to the country. They also organize conferences and debates on topics related to the situations that migrants face in order to make their reality known among the local population and other migrant populations.

As reflected in this chapter, migrant association in Switzerland are numerous, as in other countries with a large number of migrants. Their aims, activities, composition and operation differ considerably; some might focus on awareness raising and advocacy, on priority issues in countries of origin and in Switzerland, or on supporting their members’ integration process. As noted above, the economic and politic opportunities presented to migrants by Switzerland, as well as the access to and receptiveness from the local civic society organizations, influence migrant associations formation. Switzerland encourages their action either in integration, in development, or in both domains and their role has been recognized by authorities and other relevant actors. A further step would be to include these associations in these processes and further strengthen their capacities.

After examining in this chapter migrant associations in Switzerland and in the Cantons of Geneva and Vaud and the recognition granted by Swiss authorities to their role on integration and development, Chapter 5 will focus on Andean migrant associations in Switzerland.
Chapitre 5. Andean migration to Switzerland

This chapter first provides an overview of emigration trends for Andean countries, and then examines Andean migrant communities in Switzerland, with particular attention to the cantons of Geneva and Vaud.

5.1 Emigration trends in Andean countries

The main destination of South American migrants, including Andean migrants, is the United States, with a stock of almost 3 million people (2,820,681) in 2015, of which more than 1.5 million came from Colombia, Peru and Ecuador (IOM, 2017\textsuperscript{198}). Spain is the second most popular destination with 1.6 million Andean migrants in 2017, of which 15.3 per cent (178 thousand) were Bolivians, 32.1 per cent (372 thousand) Colombians, 35.9 per cent (417 thousand) Ecuadorians and 16.7 per cent (194 thousand) Peruvians. Women represented 56 per cent of these migrants, with this trend of a greater number of women among Andean migrants over the past ten years, with the age groups 25 – 44 and 45 – 64 representing the highest proportions (46 per cent and 28 per cent respectively) (Comunidad Andina, 2018). Finally, intraregional migration in South America has intensified, as in other regions in the world. The fact that Mercosur and the Andean Community, the two regional blocs in South America, have adopted measures enabling mobility such as the recognition of national identification documents to cross regional borders or special lanes at airports for regional migrants, has contributed to this trend.

According to the Andean Community (2018), remittances to the CAN countries has reached $12.766 million, of which Bolivia received $1,289 million, Colombia $5,585 million, Ecuador $2,840 million and Peru $3.051 million. The five top countries of origin of the remittances were United States at $5,450 million (42.7 per cent), Spain at $2,318 million (18.1 per cent), Chile at $824 million (6.5 per cent), Italy at $512 million (4 per cent) and Argentina at $449 (3.5 per cent).

5.1.1 Bolivia

According to the IOM Migration Country Profile (Pereira, 2011), low levels of human development make Bolivia a country with a high number of emigrants, by 2011 a little more than 706 thousand Bolivians resided outside the country, representing 6.8% of the total population. Argentina continues to be the main recipient country, followed by Spain and the United States of America. In the Americas, Chile and Brazil are also important host countries of Bolivians migrants. Social networks of migrants from their communities of origin play a key role in the departure of Bolivians in terms of entry into the destination country, accommodation upon arrival and job opportunities.

\textsuperscript{198} IOM, “Migration Trends in South America.”
The participation of Bolivian migrants in labour markets outside the country favours the sending of remittances which reached a level of 1,204 million dollars in 2016, representing 3.4% of GDP in that year (Maldonado et al., 2017199). Despite the tightening of migration policies in the United States, Spain and other European countries, there has been no significant flow of return for Bolivians migrants.

5.1.2 Colombia

Colombia remains a country of emigration and the largest sending country of migrants in South America. Some 4.7 million Colombians, 10% of the total population, lived abroad in 2012, according to Ministry of Foreign Affairs estimates (Carvajal, 2017200). In addition of being an emigration country, it has become also a transit and destination country for migrants. The largest foreign-born community in Colombia comes from Venezuela (numbers have increased since 2014 when the economic and political situation in Venezuelan deteriorated), followed by United States, China and Spain (OAS - OECD, 2017201). “Due to its strategic location, Colombia has also seen increases in irregular mixed migration flows from Africa, Asia, and the Caribbean, making it a major transit country for extracontinental migrants in recent years” (Carvajal, 2017, p. 8).

Colombian emigration to OECD countries and Latin America increased 32% in 2015 in comparison to 2012. The main destination countries were the United States of America (23%), Ecuador (16%), Chile (15%) and Argentina (15%) (OAS - OECD, 2017).

According to the OIM (OIM, 2010) the main reason why people migrate abroad is for economic reasons, searching for better job opportunities, followed by personal reasons such as marriage or family reunification. In third place is education and training, and to a lesser extent, safety (Ramirez & Mendoza, 2013202).

Colombia was the first largest recipient of remittances in South America in 2016, 4,857 million dollars were sent to the country, representing 1.8% of GDP in that year (Maldonado et al., 2017).

5.1.3 Ecuador

Ecuador is a country of origin, transit and destination of migrants [from Colombia, Peru and US mainly]. “Ecuador’s geographical variety is nearly matched by its diverse migration patterns. Although it is a small Andean country of approximately 15.7 million people, Ecuador accounts for the largest Latin American nationality in Spain [456,233 in 2013], the second largest in Italy [91,145 in 2014], and one of the largest migrant groups in metropolitan New York [58% of the estimated 428,500 in 2013]. Ecuador also is an important migrant destination. The long-standing conflict in Colombia has driven tens of thousands of its citizens into

199 Maldonado, Cervantes, and Bonilla, “Remittances to Latin America and the Caribbean in 2016. A New Record.”
200 Carvajal, “As Colombia Emerges from Decades of War, Migration Challenges Mount.”
201 OAS, OECD, “International Migration in the Americas. SICREMI 2017.”
202 Ramírez Herrera and Mendoza S., Perfil migratorio de Colombia 2012.
Ecuador, making it the country in Latin America with the largest refugee population” (Jokisch, 2014, P. 1203)

The country has faced in the last decade a deceleration of the outflow of Ecuadorians, a moderate increase in immigration, a significant growth in forced migration, and an increasing tendency for return migration influenced by economic, vulnerability abroad and deportation reasons, as well as family circumstances (Herrera et al., 2011204).

The number of Ecuadorians to OECD and Latin American countries increased 10% in 2015 when compared to 2012. The main destination countries were the United States (41%), Spain (15%), Argentina (9%) and Chile (8%) (OAS - OECD, 2017).

Remittances sent to Ecuador reached a level of 2,602 million dollars in 2016, representing 2.6% of GDP in that year (Maldonado et al., 2017).

5.1.4 Peru

In 2015, Peruvian emigration was four times higher than the inflows of immigrants and represents close to 10% of its total population (3.5 million). “Close to 75% of Peruvian emigrants are between 19 and 49 years old. Women represent a slight majority. Among the Peruvian emigrants, 15% are scientists, professionals and technicians. It is noteworthy that Peruvian emigration is largely an employment-related migration”. (Sanchez, 2012, P. 11)205

According to Sanchez (2012), the total number of Peruvian emigrants, almost 90% are concentrated in seven countries: the United States (31.5%), Spain (16%), Argentina (14.3%), Italy (10.1%), Chile (8.8%), Japan (4.1%) and Venezuela (3.8%). Much smaller Peruvian migration has been observed in Brazil, Canada, France and Germany.

After Colombia, Peru was the second largest recipient of remittances in South America, 2,879 million dollars were sent to the county, representing 1.6% of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) (Maldonado et al., 2017).

5.2 Andean communities in Switzerland

5.2.1 The Latino community in Switzerland206

Andean communities in Switzerland are part of the bigger Latino community, which is characterized by the diversity of reasons and motivations to migrate, the predominant feminine component, 207 as well as the high numbers of undocumented migrants, making Latinos the largest undocumented migrant group in Switzerland.

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203 Jokisch, "Ecuador."
204 Herrera Mosquera, Moncayo, and Escobar Garcia, Perfil Migratorio Del Ecuador 2011.
205 Sanchez Aguilar, Perfil Migratorio del Peru 2012.
206 Also includes migrant from the Caribbean islands.
207 This phenomenon is quite exceptional and distinguished Latin American-migration from those of other regions of the world where women represent about half of migrants.
During the 70s, the first Latino migrants arrived in Switzerland escaping from the dictatorships in the southern South America (Chile and Argentina). Before them, just a few people from the economic and artistic elites or diplomats visited the Helvetic territory. During the 1990’s and 2000’s, new nationalities increased their number, including Dominicans, Brazilians and Peruvians and then Ecuadorian, Colombians, Cubans and Mexicans respectively (Bolzman et al, 2007). After 2010, and as a consequence of the economic crisis in Spain, many South Americans who migrated to Spain in the 1990’s re-immigrated to Switzerland in the search of work because of the precarious situation they were facing in Spain (Amstutz, 2012). Of those migrating South Americans, many were Andean who have obtained Spanish nationality after regularization processes.

According to a thorough study on the Latin American community in Switzerland edited in 2007 by Bolzman, Carbajal and Minardi (2007), about 60% of the “new” Latino who had migrated from the 90’s onward, are young adults, often already educated. This study also identifies four types of motivations of Latin Americans to migrate to Switzerland. This typology is based on earlier research undertaken by two of the authors.

- Economic and family related motivations: Latino Americans leave their countries of origin to improve the living conditions of the family left behind through generating savings while abroad (migration-insurance). Most of them are undocumented, have an elementary educational level, and come from a disadvantage social class. They find work as domestic workers, nannies, cleaners, in the building and restauration industry or in prostitution. A minority are middle class and have university level education.

- Romantic, “from the heart” motivation: A life project abroad for couples where both are Latin-American, often, one of the spouses has double nationality (Swiss or from another European country); or at least, one is highly skilled; or binational couples, where one spouse is Swiss or European, the woman often the one from Latin America.

- Unspecified motivation: Neither the migratory goal nor the duration of the journey are clear. It is characterized by the existence of inciting conditions at the country of origin such as the modalities of relations between men and women, need of rupture with the milieu of origin or social and political violence. Subcategories are first, the adventurous, who want to explore openly the new possibilities that the host society offers, often young and single without any commitment to send remittances or support the family back home; second, people, especially women, who are looking for family and social emancipation, often young single middle-class women with university studies; third, those who escape violence in their countries of origin and seek protection in Switzerland (from the Andean countries, Colombians are part of this

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208 Amstutz, “Trabajlar, Trabajar y Trabajar... e Inventar. Une Enquete Ethnographique Aupres Des Migrantes Sud-Americaines Employees Domestiques En Suisse Romande.”

subcategory) and fourth, those who did not take the decision to migrate to Switzerland, minors who came with their parent and sometimes spouses.

• Career advancement: people who migrated to Switzerland to undertake university studies (bachelor, master, PhD or Post Doc), as well as skilled and highly skilled migrants. The university students are middle class, young and single, mainly coming from an environment where education and training is highly valued. “It is important to mention that in the Latin American context, studies are considered as one of the privileged ways of social mobility and thus the path to obtain a better social status” (Bolzman et al., 2007, P. 24).

The overrepresentation of Latin American women in Switzerland, the highest (62 per cent) in comparison to other origins (52 per cent for Asian, 44 per cent Africans, 45 per cent, Europe, 53 per cent, North America and 52 per cent Oceania) (Office Federal de la Statistique, 2018) is not new. Scholars studying the situation of Latin American migrants in Switzerland have already identified this representation as higher than the average (Bolzman et al. 2007; Carbajal, 2007; Mainardi, 2007; Riaño, 2007). It is related particularly to the importance of marrying Swiss nationals or Europeans resident in Switzerland, as well as the existence of a strong demand for labour in the care and service sector (Bolzman et al., 2007, Riaño, 2007). Beyond the aspect of a feminized migratory flow, it is important to stress that these are very often women who migrate autonomously, single mothers or the first ones in the migratory chains who are later follow by their spouses and families (Carbajal, 2003, 2007).

Their legal status varies: some are undocumented, others come through family reunification, study or working permits and have a stable status (permit B, C) or have obtained the Swiss nationality (OFS, 2010). As for their level of education, more than half of Latin American women residing in Switzerland are highly qualified, however it is difficult to assert their qualifications on the labour market, have their foreign diplomas recognized so they are often confronted with professional deskillling or exit from the labour market (Bolzman et al., 2014; Riaño, 2003; Riaño 2007) which involve psychosocial effects. Some of these migrant women become active in migrant associations in order to use their professional skills, and to achieve professional integration and recognition through militant political activity (Cattacini & Domenig, 2014).

The situation of deskillling is so notorious among Latin American women that in 2007 three Latin American migrant women and one Suisse founded in Geneva the Association Decouvrir to support skilled Latin American migrant women facing deskillling through counselling, trainings, labour reinsertion programmes and information and assistance in the process of recognition of foreign diplomas. The association has been so successful that it expanded its population target coverage to all skilled migrant women and its geographic target coverage to the Cantons of Neuchatel and Vaud.

211 OFS, “La Population Étrangère En Suisse.”
212 Goguiian Ratcliff, Bolzman, and Gakuba, “Déqualification des femmes migrantes en Suisse.”
213 Cattacin and Domenig, “Why Do Transnationally Mobile People Volunteer?”
There are also those with a lower socio-professional status, mainly working in the care and service sectors. It is worth noting that when the two spouses are from Latin American, it is mostly the woman who becomes the main economic support in the family because of the female labour demand in the above-mentioned sectors (Carbajal, 2004). However, among binational couples or political exiled, the economic contribution of women is complementary to that of men (Mainardi, 2005). Many of those women working as waitresses or domestic workers taking care of children, disable or elderly people are undocumented and confront clandestine quotidien with plenty of constraints and unpredictability, adopting a "homogenization" strategy in public spaces to avoid being noticed, with the aim of extending their stay in Switzerland (Carbajal, 2007). In the case of the domestic workers, they are poorly paid, unrecognized, and a largely invisible source of work (Carreras, 2008).

5.2.2 Latino organizations, dance and gastronomy groups, restaurants, library and media

There is a great diversity of Latino organizations in Switzerland, including non-governmental, advocacy and educational (Spanish classes) organizations, as well as associations in the main cities where this community resides (e.g. Geneva, Lausanne, Berne, Zurich, Neuchatel, Basel). These groups support Andean migrant in their settlement and integration in Switzerland and sometimes in their engagement with their countries of origin (see Chapter 6 for Andean associations).

Latino dance groups are common in cities with a high proportion of Latin Americans participating in local events like carnivals or local festivities. There are also gastronomy groups for Peruvian cuisine and for Pisco (Peru) or Tequila (Mexico) spirits. The Latino community have an array of restaurants serving traditional food as well as grocery shops with products from countries of origin.

There is the Albatros library in Geneva specialized in Spanish language authors and two Latino online newspapers that provide information in Spanish to the Latino community and others interested in Latin America: Hebdo Latino based in Geneva and Punto Latino based in Zurich.

5.2.3 How many Andean migrants are in Switzerland?

Demographic data does not provide a complete picture of the numbers of Andean migrants in Switzerland. According to the Swiss Federal Statistic Office, 3.75% (78,758 people) of the total foreigners living in Switzerland in 2016 came from the Americas, of which 4,544 (0.216%) were Colombians, 2,825 (0.134%) were Peruvians, 2,732 (0.130%) were Ecuadorians and 2,016 (≥0.1%) were Bolivians (Duc-Quand, 2017). However, these demographics do not include the high number of undocumented migrants from these communities. They also exclude those naturalized as Swiss citizens, which is significant for the Colombians and Peruvians, who are more numerous, and especially significant for Peruvians, whose migration is older, or Andean-Spanish regularized and naturalized in Spain with a resultant privileged status to reach Switzerland and its job market. This is a large group that arrived at both Cantons after the 2008 economic crisis in Spain.
As mentioned earlier, the number of migrants from the Andean region in Switzerland started in the 1980s and began to increase since the 1990’s and 2000’s steadily until today (see Table 6). The drivers of migration were and still are mainly work and family reunifications for all four countries, and, also for security reasons for the Colombian community. One of the possible explanations for the sharp increase in 2010 is the economic crises in Spain and the need for Andean migrants to look for a new and more stable host society. This is a hypothesis, beyond the scope of this research, and for which further research would be required.

Table 6. Andean population in Switzerland 1990 – 2017*

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bolivia</td>
<td>312</td>
<td>487</td>
<td>692</td>
<td>1,517</td>
<td>2,111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colombia</td>
<td>721</td>
<td>1,055</td>
<td>2,832</td>
<td>4,189</td>
<td>4,648</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ecuador</td>
<td>172</td>
<td>227</td>
<td>1,016</td>
<td>2,291</td>
<td>2,710</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peru</td>
<td>492</td>
<td>1,088</td>
<td>2,675</td>
<td>3,066</td>
<td>2,810</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* OCSTAT publishes the total resident population (permanent and non-permanent).


According to the patterns showed since 2010 (OFS, 2017) (see Figure 2), between the four nationalities, Colombians represent the biggest Andean population in Switzerland and live mainly in Geneva, followed by Vaud and Zurich. They have increased in numbers from 2010 to 2013, and then stabilised from 2013 to 2016; this most probably not because the number of Colombian migrants diminished, but for the acquisition of Swiss nationality among some of them, which immediately reduces the numbers as they are no longer counted in the statistics as foreigners.

Peruvians are the second largest in number, but their migration to the country has slowly decreased from 2010 to 2016, most probably for the exact same reason Colombian migrant numbers stabilised. They live mainly in Geneva, Zurich and then Vaud. Ecuadorians, from their part, occupy the third position in number, increasing from 2010 to 2013 and then stabilising from 2013 to 2016, like the Colombian community; most of them live in Vaud, Geneva and then Zurich. Finally, Bolivians are the smaller community in number, nevertheless have increased steadily from 2010 to 2016 and live mainly in Geneva, then Vaud and Zurich.

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214 Vaud and Zurich compete closely for the second biggest Colombian population in Switzerland.
Geneva

Demographic data does not provide a complete picture of the numbers of Andean migrants in Geneva, as this data does not include the high number of undocumented migrants from these communities. According to data from the Swiss Federal Statistic Office (2017) (see Figure 3), from 2010 to 2016, the Bolivian population in the Canton of Geneva has passed from the third in number of people living in the Canton in 2010 to the first one in 2016. Colombian migration increased slightly from 2010 to 2014, and then decreased from 2014 to 2016. The Ecuadorian community had a similar trend, although the number of people living in the Canton increased at a higher proportion than Colombians from 2010 to 2015, to then decrease slightly from 2015 to 2016. The number of Peruvians in the Canton, on the contrary, decreased from 2010 to 2012, increased in low proportion from 2012 to 2014, to then decrease again.
The below data from the Cantonal Statistical Office shows how the number of migrants from the four Andean countries in the Canton of Geneva has steadily increased during the last four decades (see Table 7). Bolivians tripled from 2000 to 2010, and almost double between 2010 and 2017. The case of Colombians and Ecuadorians follows a similar pattern between 2000 and 2010: the flow almost doubled for Colombians and almost tripled for Ecuadorians, but then stabilized until 2017 (most probably due to acquisition of Swiss citizenship in the case of Colombians), while Peruvian migration increased more than doubled from 1990 to 2000, with an earlier migration to the Canton to then stabilized from 2000 to 2010. and then decreed in 2017 (also most probably due to acquisition of Swiss citizenship).

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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bolivia</td>
<td>176</td>
<td>231</td>
<td>820</td>
<td>1,404</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colombia</td>
<td>302</td>
<td>700</td>
<td>1,282</td>
<td>1,292</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peru</td>
<td>442</td>
<td>1,098</td>
<td>1,100</td>
<td>927</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ecuador</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>194</td>
<td>554</td>
<td>677</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* OCSTAT publishes the total resident population (permanent and non-permanent).

Source: OFS – Population and households statistiques (STATPOP)
**Vaud**

Demographic data does not provide a complete picture of the numbers of Andean migrants in Vaud either, as this data does not include the high number of undocumented migrants from these communities. In the case of the Canton of Vaud, the data from the Federal Statistical Office (2017) (see Figure 4) shows that the largest Andean community living in the Canton comes from Ecuador. The number of Ecuadorians increased from 2010 to 2013 to then stabilise and keep the almost same numbers until 2016.

The other three communities, Bolivians, Colombians and Peruvians, show a stable migration from 2010 to 2016. The Colombian migrant community is the second largest, followed by the Peruvian and Bolivian migrant communities.

The data in Table 8 from the Cantonal Statistic Office illustrates how migrants from the four Andean countries in the Canton of Vaud steadily increased between 1990 and 2000, and then sharply increased between 2000 and 2010 and continued thereafter. Ecuadorians changed from being the smallest migrant group to the largest in four decades, almost double between 2010 and 2017, followed by Colombians who increased almost one third, while Bolivians and Peruvians also increased but in a lower proportion.

**Figure 4. Andean permanent residents in Vaud 2010 - 2016**

Source: OFS – Population and households statistiques (STATPOP)
Table 8. Andean population in Vaud Canton 1990 - 2017*

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bolivia</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>181</td>
<td>206</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colombia</td>
<td>170</td>
<td>395</td>
<td>642</td>
<td>742</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peru</td>
<td>130</td>
<td>337</td>
<td>461</td>
<td>418</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ecuador</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>881</td>
<td>1.305</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* OCSTAT publishes the total resident population (permanent and non-permanent).

Source: OFS - PETRA (1990-2009), STATPOP (from 2010)

5.2.4 Demographic and legal characteristics – Who are they?

**Sex**

In 2016, following a trend since 2010 (OFS, 2017), the number of Andean women migrants was higher in Switzerland than the number of men for all four Andean migrant communities, according to data obtained from the Federal Statistics Office (see Figure 5), Bolivian and Colombian women represented both 64% while Peruvian women were 63%, and Ecuadorian women 60%.

Figure 5. Andean permanent residents in Switzerland by sex in 2016

A similar trend of the feminization of migration was evident in Geneva and Vaud Cantons in 2016. Bolivian women represented 67% and 64% of their community Colombian women 62% and 60%, Ecuadorian women 62% and 59% and Peruvian women 62% and 60% respectively.
Andean migrant associations’ host and home country engagement

Age

According to the Swiss Federal Statistical Office (2017), most of the migrant Andean population in Switzerland in 2016 were in the working age group between 20 and 64, 79% of Bolivians, 84% of Colombians, 81% of Ecuadorians and 85% of Peruvians. Similarly, this trend is found in the Canton of Geneva (Bolivia 76.3%, Colombia 84.2%, Ecuador 80.4% and Peru 80.5%), as well as the Canton of Vaud (Bolivia 82%, Colombia 82%, Ecuador 76% and Peru 84%).

The Andean children and young, 0 to 19 years of age, is the second group in number after the working age group, and it is worth highlighting that the percentage of youth of migrants from Bolivia (19%) and Ecuador (18%) is higher than migrants from Colombia (14%) and Peru (11%). Similarly, this trend is found in the Canton of Geneva (Bolivia 22.3%, Ecuador 18.1%, Colombia 13.4%, and Peru 12%) and slightly different in the Canton of Vaud where this trend occurs only with the Ecuadorian migrant population (Ecuador 23%, Colombia 16%, Bolivia 15% and Peru 13%).

The least represented Andean age group is that of older adults, from 65 onwards, comprising a lower percentage of the total migrant population relative to the other two age groups. This might be due to the “recent” migration to Switzerland, with the increase in the number of Andean migrants in the 1990’s and 2000’s. Or it could be due to migrants returning to their countries of origin once they reach retirement age. These are just hypothesis, beyond the scope of this research, and for which further research would need to be tested.

Peruvians in the retirement age compose a higher percentage of the Peruvian migrant population than the other three nationalities. This trend occurs at the national level (total 4%, women 5% and men 3%), as well as the Cantonal level in Geneva and Vaud (total 7.5% and 3%, women 9.5% and 2.1% and men 4% and 4% respectively).

This trend may be related to their earlier migration to Switzerland, and mainly to Geneva, in comparison to the other three Andean nationalities and, with better integration into the host country. However, this is also a hypothesis that would require further research to determine.

Residence permit

In 2016 (OFS, 2017), the majority of Andean migrants in Switzerland were Permit B holders (Bolivia 1,250, Colombia 2,363, Ecuador 1,686, and Peru 1,192). This was followed by Permit C holders, except for Peruvians, for whom the number of Permit C holders was higher that Permit B holders (Bolivia 716, Colombia 1,941, Ecuador 926 and Peru 1,461) (see Figure 6). Same trend is found in the Cantons of Geneva and Vaud215.

Acquisition of Swiss nationality

According to the patterns showed since 1981 – 2017 (OFS, 2017) (see Figure 7), between the four nationalities, Colombians have the highest number of naturalisations (5,096) followed by Peruvians (4,096), Ecuadorians (1,662) and Bolivians (1,140). As expected, this trend coincides with the number of permanent residents from these migrant groups (see section 5.2.2).
5.2.5 Undocumented – High number of irregular migrants come from Latin America\textsuperscript{216}

The 2015 study on undocumented migrants (Morlok \textit{et al}, 2015) estimates that between 50,000 to 99,000 undocumented migrants reside in Switzerland. 43% are people from Central and South America, of which 41% live in the German speaking Switzerland and 46% in the Latin Switzerland. 47% of all undocumented Latino migrants live in urban cantons, and 11% in tourism cantons.

Migrant women from Ecuador, Bolivia, Peru and later Brazil have emigrated from Latin America as a result of economic and financial crises in their countries of origin, but also due to the steadily growing demand in the care sector in Switzerland. This is the result of various socio-economic or demographic reasons, including increasing maternal employment, lack of nursery and child care centres, private care for more elderly people, and the rationalization of care services (Morlok \textit{et al}, 2016). Latin Americans find job opportunities mainly relying on existing social networks (Carreras, 2014).

There is not data on the number of Bolivian, Colombian, Ecuadorian and Peruvian undocumented migrants in the Canton of Geneva and Vaud. However, it is highly probable that an important proportion of the estimated 13,000 and 12,000 irregular migrants in Geneva and Vaud come from these four countries.

Undocumented Latino migrants in Switzerland, and particularly in the Cantons of Geneva and Vaud, which are more liberal towards undocumented migrants, is a fascinating research topic to explore, but beyond the scope of this research.

After providing a brief overview in this chapter of emigration trends of the four targeted Andean countries and examining their migrant groups living in Switzerland, particularly in the Cantons of Geneva and Vaud, chapter 7 will share findings specifically on Andean migrant associations in these two cantons.

Chapitre 6. Andean migrant associations in Geneva & Vaud Cantons

As discussed earlier, migrant associations play an important role providing a space, (not necessarily physical), for people of the same origin, in this case from the Andean countries of Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru, to meet, socialize, support each other and feel “at home”. This chapter focuses on Andean migrant associations active in the Cantons of Geneva and Vaud. It first analyses the key factors influencing the formation of Andean associations in these cantons – primarily the migration process, and the demographic, socioeconomic and cultural influences of migrant groups on the formation of these associations, as well as the role (active or passive) played by migrants’ countries of origin. The chapter then examines the objectives, structure and management of the associations, their pursuit of capacity development, as well as partnerships and collaboration with other migrant associations, civic organizations and authorities.

Findings draw from primary data collected through interviews and survey responses. As key sources of data, the voice of association leaders is prominent, and therefore risk a one-dimensional perspective. In order to minimize this, the researcher triangulated interviews and surveys with a careful review of association-related documents, websites and Facebook pages and participation/observation of association events.

6.1 Who are the Andean Migrant associations in the Cantons of Geneva and Vaud?

In the Cantons of Geneva and Vaud there are twenty-five organizations related to the four targeted countries, according to Suisse and Andean authorities (mentioned in Chapter 2 of this study). Of those twenty five organization, four are non-governmental organizations, two work in Colombia on education (reading and information) and social issues in remote areas and on humanitarian action, two work in Peru with children in precarious conditions, two are advocacy groups denouncing the human rights situation in Colombia and Latin America, one is a Latin American educational association providing Spanish classes for children of Latin Americans residing in Geneva and contributing to the integrations of those migrant groups, one is an informative Web platform for the Peruvian community, and sixteen are migrant associations of which five were unreachable or inactive. Twelve Andean migrant associations from Bolivia (two), Colombia (four), Ecuador (three) and Peru (three) participated in this study (see Table 9). Most of these associations refer to their national origin in their names, and there is no association covering the whole Andean geographical region because associations focus on their nation states; however, migrants from other Andean or Latin American countries (and sometimes people from other nationalities) participate in other Andean associations’ activities. Each association is a formal organization recognized by the Swiss Cantonal authorities, and/or Consulates from their respective countries of origin. As such, it is important to recognize that this study does not include informal associations, primarily because they are difficult to track and therefore data is limited.

The studied associations were established in three waves: one association was created at the beginning of 1990s; seven at the end of 1990’s and the beginning of 2000s; and four at the end of 2000s and beginning of 2010s. Seven associations are
located in Geneva and five in Vaud, most of them with a geographic scope that focuses primarily at local canton level. All associations were established and are primarily composed by first generation migrants. There are five cultural associations, three awareness raising and information associations, two solidarity associations and two scientific and academic associations. It is worth noting that the boundaries between the categories are blurred as most of the associations engage in more than one of the categories, but they were categorized according to the primary activity focus.

**Table 9. Studied Andean Migration Associations**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Canton</th>
<th>Association</th>
<th>Date and place of establishment</th>
<th>Geographic scope</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Geneva</td>
<td>Asociacion Boliviana de Ginebra - ABG</td>
<td>1997 - Geneva</td>
<td>Local</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colombia</td>
<td>Vaud</td>
<td>Asociacion Colombia Vive</td>
<td>2001 Lausanne</td>
<td>Local</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Vaud</td>
<td>Asociacion Colombiana de Investigadores en Suiza - ACIS</td>
<td>1992 - Lausanne</td>
<td>Local / National / International</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Geneva</td>
<td>Asociacion de Colombianos de Ginebra - ACOGE</td>
<td>2003 - Geneva</td>
<td>Local</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Geneva</td>
<td>Plateforme Suisse – Colombie/ Festival Colombia</td>
<td>2014 - Geneva</td>
<td>Local / National / International</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ecuador</td>
<td>Vaud</td>
<td>Asociacion de Ecuatorianos y Amigos del Ecuador en Lausanne- AEYAEL</td>
<td>2001 Lausanne</td>
<td>Local</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Vaud</td>
<td>Voluntariado Ecuatoriano Residente en Suiza - VERS</td>
<td>2003 Lausanne</td>
<td>Local / National / International</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peru</td>
<td>Vaud</td>
<td>Asociación Cultural Perú - ACP</td>
<td>2002 Lausanne</td>
<td>Local / National / International</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Geneva</td>
<td>Warmi – Soutien aux femmes Latinoamericanes</td>
<td>2010 - Geneva</td>
<td>Local</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Geneva</td>
<td>Asociación Peruana de Académicos e Investigadores en Suiza - APAIS</td>
<td>2014 - Geneva</td>
<td>Local / National / International</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Survey
6.1.1 Key factors affecting the formation Andean migrant associations

Chapter 4 examined migrant associations in general in Switzerland; here the discussion focuses on the migration process of Andean migrants as it affects the formation of migrant associations in the Cantons of Geneva and Vaud. Certainly, there are singularities to each Andean migrant group from all four countries, and each migrant and her/his family migratory experience and circumstance. However, some similarities in the migration process among the Andean migrants can be established. Related, other key factors influencing the migrant organizing process are the demographic, socioeconomic and cultural characteristics of the Andean migrant group in both cantons, and the active or passive role of the countries of origin. The analysis of these influencing factors in the formation of Andean migrant associations is based on those proposed by Vermeulen (2006) and Cordero-Guzman (2005) (see Chapter 1).

Migrant process

Labour migration from Latin America towards Europe started in the 1980s and intensified in the late 1990s and onwards, as a consequence of the 1980s economic crisis and the 1990s neoliberal policies in the region. Ecuador, for example, was heavily impacted by an economic crisis and dollarization at the end of 1990s which influenced directly the high rate of emigration (Montaluisa, 2007217).

Economic factors were not the only ones influencing the departure of Latin-Americans at that time; inequalities and violence have been two constant characteristics of the region which have influenced the migratory trend towards developed countries (e.g. the US, Canada, and Europe). Violence in Peru in the 1980s for example, accelerated emigration to neighbouring countries and Europe, likewise in Colombia where the long-lasting social and political violence has also impacted emigration (Pellegrino, 2004218).

According to Pagnotta (2011219), people from Andean countries, (first Ecuador and Peru, followed by Colombia and Bolivia), started migrating in mass primarily towards to Spain, followed by Italy as a second choice and then France, England and Germany. The reasons for these destination countries were the ‘cultural’ proximity of Spain, Italy and France as Latin countries, as well as the labour demand in these countries for workers to perform unskilled jobs that natives discarded, such as domestic work and care of children, elderly and sick people.

The increase of Andean migrants arriving to Switzerland began in the 1990s and 2000s, as discussed in Chapter 5. They settled primarily in the French-speaking part of Switzerland, specifically the Cantons of Geneva and Vaud, most likely for the same “cultural” proximity identified above. However, as Montaluisa (2007) expresses, they encountered restrictive legal regimes without labour insertion mechanisms and with a notable absence of social and health guarantees. Currently, the Federal Law on Foreigners (LEtr) that applies to third national foreigners continues to severely restrict the admission of new workers, demands for professional qualifications and an "effective integration".

217 Montaluisa Vivas, "L’émigration Équatorienne."
218 Pellegrino, "Migration from Latin America to Europe: Trends and Policy Challenges."
219 Pagnotta, “Migraciones Andinas En Europa (1990–2010).”
In summary, Andean migration to Switzerland has also been in response to economic and socio-political factors in the four primary countries of origin studied. The migration has been most prominent in the cantons of Geneva and Vaud, largely due to cultural proximity, and has been facilitated by the demand for unskilled labour in Switzerland. It should also be noted that the “feminization” of migrants in Switzerland reflected a trend throughout Europe in response to the demand for workers in the domestic and care sectors (Lutz, 2016). The migration of Andean women to Switzerland is a clear example. In addition to the domestic and care sectors, the academic and professional sectors are also a niche for Andean migrant women, although many of them face de-skilling (Goguikian et al. 2014) (See Chapter 5).

The economic and socio-political conditions in countries of origin, as well as the labour demand and restrictive legal and policy environment in Switzerland, influenced the collective identity of the migrant groups and the demand for a safe ‘place’ to face the challenges they were confronted to in a new and different society. These factors contributed to the emergence and increased activities of seven of the twelve migrant associations researched in this study, which were established between 1997 and 2003 (Asociacion Boliviana de Ginebra, Asociacion Colombia Vive, Asociacion de Colombianos de Ginebra, Asociacion de Ecuatorianos y Amigos del Ecuador en Lausanne, Association pour l’intégration des Equatoriens de Genève, Voluntariado Ecuatoriano Residente en Suiza and Asociación Cultural Perú), coinciding precisely with the period of increased Andean migration in the two cantons. For four of the five remaining associations, (Asociacion Bolivia 9, Asociacion Colombiana de Investigadores en Suiza, Warmi – Soutien aux femmes Latinoaméricaines and the Asociación Peruana de Académicos e Investigadores en Suiza), the key factor that contributed to their formation was the influence of the county of origin (discussed below), and for one association (Plateforme Suisse – Colombie/ Festival Colombia) its origins trace to a cultural festival organized between a local civic organization and Colombian migrant associations in 2013.

**Characteristics of migrant population**

Other factors influencing the migrant organizing process are the characteristics of the migrant groups, such as their size, demographic composition, socioeconomic status and cultural attributes. In the case of Andean migrant groups in the cantons of Geneva and Vaud, there are relevant similarities worth noting. The demographic composition of the four Andean migrant groups (see Chapter 5), reveal women, most in the working age group between 20 and 64, to be predominant. Socioeconomically, most of the regular Andean migrants hold Permit B as a residence card, and all four migrant groups have a high number of undocumented people. Finally, all four Andean groups share a very similar cultural heritage, despite particularities to each migrant group. Differences also exist (see Chapter 5), such as the size of the four Andean migrant groups. Colombians are the most numerous in Switzerland followed by Peruvians, then Ecuadorians and finally Bolivians. The biggest community of Colombians, Peruvians and Bolivians live in Geneva and the second biggest live in Vaud for Colombians and Bolivians, while for Peruvians this canton is third position. The biggest community of Ecuadorians, on the contrary, live in Vaud and the second biggest in Geneva. Other differences could be noted on the demographic composition and socioeconomic status for Peruvians. As noted earlier, Peruvians began migrating

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220 Lutz, “Global Care Chains.”
Andean migrant associations in Geneva & Vaud Cantons

to Switzerland earlier than the other four groups. It might be for that reason that their percentage in retirement is highest of the four Andean groups, and also why more Peruvians have C permit than B permit.

As noted earlier, the size of the migrant group influences the migrant organizing process. This might be the reason why there are more Colombian migrant associations (Asociación Colombia Vive, Asociación Colombiana de Investigadores en Suiza, Asociación de Colombianos en Ginebra and the Plateforme Suisse – Colombie / Festival Colombia), advocacy groups (e.g. Association on y va, Asociación Aipazcomun, Foundation-Uraba Global Suisse – Colombie, Asociación Pro-Tierra Adentro) and NGO migrant organization (e.g. Lectures Partagees) than the other Andean migrant groups. In addition, the sustained conflict and social fragmentation in Colombia might have also created a ‘distrust’ among Colombian migrants, which motivated them to regroup among friends and acquaintances with whom they feel safer, so this might also influence the number of associations. This issue of distrust has been studied with Colombians in the United States by Guarnizo and Diaz (1999221), Bouvier (2007222) and included in a report from INSTRAW – IOM (2007223), where the authors argue that the country’s complex situation makes Colombians living abroad a reflection of the daily reality of social fragmentation and conflict in Colombia. This is evidenced by the distrust between Colombian migrants and the reproduction of the same social divisions, especially the divisions relating to regional origin and social class. Colombian migrants come mainly from the urban middle class, where individual promotion and meritocracy is a principle. They have strong relationships with primary groups like their families, friends and network, but not much with others.

The current political polarization in the Colombia adds to the already complicated equation and has an impact on the relationship between Colombian migrants. In the case of Geneva and Vaud, this distrust is present, primarily due to the opposite political views among Colombian migrants. This is also reflected on their associations, despite the efforts to distance themselves from the political debate in their country of origin. All four Colombian associations targeted in this research have been identified as pro-government, critical to government, guerrilla or paramilitary-related and this has generated tensions between the associations and the Colombian community and/or between the associations.

With regards to the demographic composition of the four Andean groups (see Box. 1), the feminine component of Andean migrants and the vulnerability faced by women influenced the creation of Warmi, soutien aux femmes Latino-Américaines, supporting first women migrants from Peru, but then extending their services to women migrants from Latin America. The socio-economic and political status of Andean migrants also influenced the establishment of migrant associations, illustrated by the Asociación Cultural Perú and Asociación de Ecuatorianos y Amigos del Ecuador en Lausanne, which were initially created to support undocumented migrants from Ecuador and Peru in Lausanne; both later transformed their objectives to focus primarily on promoting the culture of their countries of origin, although both continue to support undocumented. Another example is the Asociación Boliviana de Ginebra, which has

221 Guarnizo and Diaz, “Transnational Migration.”
222 Bouvier, “A Reluctant Diaspora? The Case of Colombia.”
223 INSTRAW and IOM, Género y remesas.
always provided legal advice and support to migrants from Bolivia and other Latin-American countries in vulnerable situations. Finally, the cultural attributes of the Andean migrant groups have heavily influenced the establishment of Andean migrant associations. In most Andean associations the cultural identity and its promotion among the Swiss society is a fundamental element.

### Box 1. Demographic influence in the migrant organizing process

#### Female component

*During a women’s day celebration in the Consulate of Peru in 2012, there was an exchange of experiences among the participants. Most women did not have information on access to health or administrative procedures. The Consul, at the time, said to me, given your long experience living in Switzerland, why don’t you create an association to help and guide Peruvian women in Geneva.’ There were two additional participants that joined in establishing Warmi support to Peruvian women. Warmi means women in quechua”.*

President Warmi, soutien aux femmes Latino-Américaines (female, 40-49 years old)

Source: interview

#### Socio-economic and political status (an example)

“How to support, inform, communicate, solidarize with the Peruvian undocumented community was the origin and reason for the creation of the association. Experts on the topic were contacted and they advised these undocumented to create an association with another type of name. The association was established with the cultural element in its name, as it was also important for the funders.

President Asociacion Cultural Peru (male, 40-49 years old)

Source: Interview

#### Cultural attributes (an example)

“We wanted to show that Colombia was not just Pablo Escobar and the FARC, that there were other things to highlight, like the dances, the food, and that Colombians are good workers and serious”.

“The association participates in the Lausanne Carnival every May since 2007 with a dance group, and in the Lausanne marathon, and it organizes cultural activities throughout the year, such as a Mother Day celebration, a National Day celebration since 2002 (which is now a festival that last two days), and a Christmas celebration”.

President Asociación Colombia Vive (female, 40-49 years old)

Source: Interviews
Country of origin influence

As discussed in Chapter 1, the active or passive role of the countries of origin also impacts the establishment of migrant associations. As a result of the active role of the Colombian government through a national agency and of Peruvian Consulate in Geneva, three Andean associations were established (Asociacion Colombiana de Investigadores en Suiza, Asociacion Warmi and Asociación Peruana de Académicos e Investigadores en Suiza). In the case of Bolivia, the absence of consular representation in Switzerland influenced the establishment of the Asociacion Bolivia 9, with a primary objective (already concretized) to specifically negotiate with the country of origin to achieve opening a consulate. Nowadays, its work is oriented towards promoting unity among Bolivians, favouring their integration and valorising the Bolivian identity in Switzerland.

The Colombian government created, through its Administrative Department of Science, Technology and Innovations - Colciencias, the Caldas Network in 1992 with nodes in different countries. This initiative connected the scientific community and national research programmes in Colombia with Colombian scientists and researchers studying and working overseas (Tejada, 2010). The Swiss node was one of the most active and functioned through the Association of Colombian Researchers in Switzerland, also founded in 1992. Although funding from the Caldas Network lasted only two years, the associations is still active organizing academic events in Switzerland and fostering collaboration with Swiss and Colombian Universities whenever possible.

From its part, the Consulate of Peru in Geneva had a critical role in the establishment of Warmi, Soutien aux Femmes Latino-Américaines and Asociación Peruana de Académicos e Investigadores en Suiza. In both cases, the Consul encouraged Peruvians in Geneva to create the associations to support their target populations, providing a space to meet when needed and made available the consulate network.

Another aspect of the country of origin worth noting is the experience and know-how in the associative milieu that Andean migrants obtain in and bring with them from their home country.

6.2 What are they aiming for?

Most of the Andean migrant associations share the objective to valorise the identity, traditions and culture of their country of origin and favour their members’ integration process, except for two associations which focus on promoting, supporting and diffusing scientific, academic and technologic development and one supporting vulnerable children and disabled in the country of origin. Two associations highlighted the importance of promoting unity among their migrant groups (Asociación Bolivia 9 and Asociación Cultural Peru). Other associations mentioned the relevance for them to play a bridge role between the migrant group and the host society, informing their members about how to navigate the new society (Asociación Colombia Vive), to inform and guide migrant women (Warmi, Soutien aux femmes Latino-américaines and to assist migrants in vulnerable situation (Asociación Boliviana de Ginebra).

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224 Tejada Guerrero, “The Colombian Scientific Diaspora in Switzerland.”
The focus of Andean migrant associations on valorising their migrant group’s identity, traditions and culture in Switzerland is a primary reason for the Andean migrants in the two cantons to become members or participate in association activities. The incentive resides in the migration process (similar or different) that migrants have gone through, which tends to strengthen and refine collective identities based on national and ethnic identities (Moya, 2005).

With the shared objective of cultural valorisation in the centre, Figure 8 summarizes primary objectives identified in the survey by the targeted twelve Andean migrant associations and Box 2 provides few quotations from the associations’ responses to the survey and from their websites. Associations fulfil these objectives through their activities. The survey and interviews focused on two types of activities: first, activities which contribute to the integration process of their members and/or assisting members or others from the migrant group through solidarity activity in the Cantons of Geneva and Vaud; second, activities conducted to contribute to the development and humanitarian relief in their countries of origin. Such activities are analysed in chapter 7.

**Figure 8. Andean migrant associations’ objectives**
6.3 Structure and management of Andean migrant associations

6.3.1 Structure

All twelve associations have statutes which guide their functioning and action and are structured and managed by an elected board and a General Assembly. Some associations (Asociación Boliviana de Ginebra, Colombia Vive, Asociación Bolivia 9, Asociación Colombiana de Investigadores en Suiza) have added working groups or subcommittees to support them in their work. Most of the associations have three board members: president, secretary and treasurer, however some (Colombia Vive, Asociación Bolivia 9, Asociación Colombiana de Investigadores en Suiza) have other roles such as vice-president, public relations coordinator and/or communications coordinator. This type of structure and management follows the instruction provided by the Swiss Civil Code, article 60 but more importantly, the associative know-how that spreads among people active in the associative environment.

Most of the associations have had periods of increased activity, and some of inactivity. This is part of the changing dynamic associations confront over time; as discussed in Chapter 1, objectives and their specificity can evolve, as can the formality of the associations structure and processes.

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**Box 2. Andean migrant associations’ objectives by type of association**

**Cultural association (an example)**

“To promote Ecuadorian culture and develop social and cultural activities in order to present the realities of the Ecuadorian people”.

Asociacion de Ecuatorianos y Amigos del Ecuador en Lausanne – AEYAEEL

**Scientific and academic association (an example)**

“To promote, support and disseminate all kinds of activities related to the scientific, technological and academic development of Colombia, as well as promoting the exchange and dissemination of knowledge among our members”.

Asociacion Colombiana de Investigadores en Suiza – ACIS

**Awareness raising association (an example)**

“To inform and guide Latin American migrant women in the process of adaptation and integration in the Swiss society”.

Warmi – Soutien aux femmes Latinoamericaines

**Solidarity association (an example)**

“To work for the interests of Latin Americans in general and Bolivians in particular who reside in Switzerland”.

Asociacion Boliviana de Ginebra – ABG

Source: Survey and associations’ websites
6.3.2 Members

Migrant associations are based on volunteering and Andean migrant associations are not an exception. All Andean association board members are volunteers wanting to contribute to the fulfilment of the association’s mission, and also looking for recognition and notoriety to benefit their own economic activities and professional careers, to compensate for professional deskilling, and/or mitigate political exclusion (Cattacin & Domenig, 2014).

Apart from the voluntary time offered to migrant associations, members also made available their economic, social, human and symbolic capitals. Regarding economic capital, for instance, some Andean association collected funds to support their countries of origin during recent natural disasters – see Box. 7.6 (Asociacion Boliviana de Ginebra, Asociacion Colombia Vive, Asociacion de Colombiana de Investigadores en Suiza, Association pour l'Integration des Equatorien a Geneve and Asociacion Cultural Peru225) Also, occasionally board members contributed financially from their own resources to carry out activities in Geneva or Vaud (Asociacion Boliviana de Ginebra, Asociacion Colombiana de Investigadores en Suiza and Plataforme Suisse – Colombie226). In terms of social capital, many board and regular members offered their networks and connections in their countries of origin and in Switzerland. In many instances, bonding and bridging capital (see Chapter 1), came into play through family, friends or relevant contacts in civic organizations and authorities to support the implementation of activities in countries of origin (Voluntariado Ecuatoriano Residente en Suiza, Asociacion Colombia Vive and Asociacion Colombiana de Investigadores227).

In Switzerland, new members or volunteers are often recruited by an older member, usually a family member or a friend (for all 12 associations), illustrating bonding capital. Andean associations also obtain rooms to carry out activities, funding, speakers for conference or manage to influence the discussion of topics of interest through members’ contacts with civic organizations or authorities, illustrating bridging capital (Asociacion Boliviana de Ginebra, Asociacion Bolivia 9, Asociacion Colombiana de Investigadores en Suiza, Plateforme Suisse Colombie, Warmi, Soutien aux femmes Latinoamerican228). With regards to human capital, apart from the associations’ members education, training and skills acquired in countries of origin and in Switzerland (all associations), some members offer the know-how to create and manage associations and fundraise for the implementation of activities (Asociacion Bolivia 9, Asociacion Colombiana de Investigadores en Suiza, Plateforme Suisse Colombie, Warmi, Soutien aux femmes Latinoamerican228).

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225 Information was provided during interviews with Association pour l'Integration des Equatorien a Geneve and Asociacion Cultural Peru, through participant observation with Asociacion Colombia Vive, and Asociacion de Colombiana de Investigadores en Suiza, and through website review with Asociacion Boliviana de Ginebra.

226 Information was provided during the interview with Asociacion Boliviana de Ginebra, and obtained through participant observation with Asociacion Colombiana de Investigadores en Suiza and Plataforme Suisse – Colombie

227 Information was provided during the interview with the former president and founder of the Voluntariado Ecuatoriano Residente en Suiza, and obtained through participant observation with Asociacion Colombia Vive and Asociacion Colombiana de Investigadores.

228 Information was provided during interviews with Asociacion Boliviana de Ginebra and Warmi, Soutien aux femmes Latinoamerican and obtained through participant observation with Asociacion Bolivia 9, Asociacion Colombia Vive, Asociacion Colombiana de Investigadores en Suiza, Plateforme Suisse Colombie,
Plateforme Suisse Colombie and Warmi- Soutien aux femmes Latinoamericanes. With regards to symbolic capital, some leaders of Andean associations have a well-known reputation for their associative activities in Geneva and Lausanne (Asociacion Boliviana de Ginebra, Asociacion Bolivia 9, Asociations Colombia Vive and Plateforme Suisse – Colombie).

It is important to highlight that the above capitals are not static but change over time based on changes in the composition of the migrant associations (board, committees, etc.), and on the context in which they function – in this case the Cantons of Geneva and Vaud.

With regards to the number of association members, it varies greatly, between 9 – 200 people, and most of them have supporters between 20-500 people, among whom there are people from the same migrant group, Latin American, Swiss and from other nationalities who participate to the associations’ activities. Counting members is challenging as some associations include people in their membership from their contact list or who participate in their events, while other associations only count people who are active in the implementation of activities and in the management of the association, and in the case of some associations, membership is counted based on yearly membership fees.

6.3.3 Leadership

Some Andean migrant associations have been able to strengthen their bridging social capital (see Chapter 1), through their board members or founders’ roles in local politics, consultative commissions, interinstitutional working groups and civil society networks. These associations leaders enjoy a degree of recognition by members of the associations they represent and others from the same migrant group which gives legitimacy to their action (Martinello, 2010\textsuperscript{231}). In local politics, the president of the Asociacion Colombia Vive, is a town counsellor in Lausanne – Vaud for the Socialist Party; one of the funding members of the Asociación de Ecuatorianos y Amigos del Ecuador en Lausanne, is a communal counsellor in Renens – Vaud for the Workers’ Party Vaud and the president of Warmi, was administrative counsellor in Veyrier – Geneva in 2015. For the consultative commissions, the president of Asociación de Ecuatorianos y Amigos del Ecuador en Lausanne, is the representative for Latin America in the Cantonal Consultative Chamber for Migrants in Vaud. From the interinstitutional working groups, a representative of the board of the Asociacion Boliviana de Ginebra (ABG) participates each year at the annual meeting of migrant health and medicine of first resort with Swiss organizations, where ABG is the only association from Latin America; and finally, for the civil society network, the Asociacion Bolivia 9’s Secretary General is an active member and former president of Maison Kultura, collaborates with the Colectivo de apoyo a sin papeles (the support group for undocumented migrants), the Centre de Contact Suisse Immigrés (CCSI) (the Swiss-immigrant Contact Centre) and the Coordinator of the Association pour l’intégration des Equatoriens de Genève – AlEG, was active before in Maison Kultura and is currently in La Escuelita de Onex, a non-profit cultural association, born in 2013.

\textsuperscript{229} Information was obtained through participant observation with Asociacion Bolivia 9, Asociacion Colombiana de Investigadores en Suiza, Plateforme Suisse Colombie and Warmi- Soutien aux femmes Latinoamericanes

\textsuperscript{230} Information was obtained through participant observation.

\textsuperscript{231} Martiniello, “Ethnic Leadership, Ethnic Communities’ Political Powerlessness and the State in Belgium.”
with the intention of creating a space for learning and transmitting language and culture to children whose parents are of Latin American origin and reside in the Canton of Geneva.

**Women leadership**

According to the literature, migrant associations are generally led by men (Vermeulen, 2006). However, in the case of Andean migrant associations in the Cantons of Geneva and Vaud, this premise does not hold; seven associations are led by women presidents (Asociación Boliviana de Ginebra, Asociación Colombiana Vive, Asociación de Ecuatorianos y Amigos del Ecuador en Lausanne, Voluntariado Ecuatoriano Residente en Suiza, Warmi – Soutien aux femmes Latinoamericanaines and Asociación Peruana de Académicos e Investigadores en Suiza), and of the remaining five, two of them were until recently led by women presidents (Asociación Colombiana de Investigadores en Suiza and Asociación Colombiana de Ginebra). The feminine component of the Andean migratory flow has an impact in the formation of associations, their structure and the activities they carry out. Clear examples are the Asociacion Boliviana de Ginebra, Voluntariado Ecuatoriano Residente en Suiza and Warmi– Soutien aux femmes Latinoamericanaines, which have always been led by women, and in the cases of Asociacion Boliviana de Ginebra and Warmi– Soutien aux femmes Latinoamericanaines, it has been the same women.

As mentioned earlier, the president of the Asociacion Colombia Vive is a town counsellor in Lausanne, Vaud for the Socialist Party; this position is a recognition of the work of the association and her other associative work. Similarly, the female president of Warmi, was administrative counsellor in Veyrier in 2015 and the female president of Asociación de Ecuatorianos y Amigos del Ecuador en Lausanne is the representative for Latin America in the Cantonal Consultative Chamber for Migrants in Vaud. Working in a migrant association provided these migrant women the opportunity to use their professional skills, and to achieve professional integration and recognition through political engagement (Cattacini & Domenig, 2014).

**6.3.4 Funding**

Some of the associations have a membership fee, ranging from 20 to 30 CHF annually, while the source of funding for other associations are the events that they provide to members, supporters and others, donations from individuals or the private sector. Few associations have received funding from the cantonal and communal levels. Most of the association are not aware of the funding application procedure, and many prefer not to adapt their objectives and activities to the areas where funding is available. This is the case with the Cantonal integration Programmes’ areas of action, which does not fund activities such as celebration of the culture of origin, associative fundraising parties, projects in the field of North-South cooperation or international solidarity or projects to promote human rights (BIE, 2017232). In addition, funds are conditioned to the principle of co-financing. In Geneva, this principle is very flexible – “own contributions from

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232 BIE, “Financement d’un projet en lien avec l’intégration des étrangers.”
the project organization can be quantified in terms of volunteer work and / or free provision of equipment and / or premises” (BIE, 2017, Pag. 2). However, in Vaud the funds granted may not exceed 70% of the overall cost of the project (BCI, 2018\textsuperscript{233}). For the twelve associations studied, annual budgets range from less than 2,000 CHF for four, between 2,000 and 5,000 CHF for two associations and more than 5,000 CHF for another two. Budget information was not available for the four remaining associations.

### 6.3.5 Premises

None of the associations have a physical space to meet. In general terms, Board meetings take place in the residence of one of the members and general assemblies and events in a rented or lent locations such as ‘la Maison des Associations’, University of Geneva and in the premises of Federation Kultura in Geneva; Benevolat Vaud, EPFL, University of Lausanne and Centre Social Protestant in Vaud; and socio cultural spaces in neighbourhoods, spaces provided by authorities and ‘maisons de quartier” in both Geneva and Vaud. The fact that locations are lent or rented at a “associative” price by these associations shows the network and connections that leaders and other members of the associations have established with public authorities and other civil society actors, highlighting the importance of their bridging social capital (Putman, 2000).

### 6.3.6 Tension within and between migrant associations

Six of the twelve Andean associations have had internal tensions among members over the primary focus of the association, the type of activities or the leadership (see Chapter 1). For instance, in terms of the primary focus and activities of the associations, one association with an initial objective to support undocumented migrants shifted towards cultural activities, some tensions arise as some members wanted to focus on cultural activities only, while others wanted both areas to be central to the association. Some of the original funders supported a candidate for president who ensured this later approach during their General Assembly, and this President was elected and serves as the current president of that association\textsuperscript{234}. There were tensions within another association in its early years because founding members wanted to include cultural activities with awareness raising of human rights issues in their country of origin; but there was a fragmentation of members and the ones who stay continued focused on cultural activities without a human rights focus. Finally, one of the academic and scientific migrant association went through a restructuring process to expand its target population and also include social sciences; however, this proved to be a complicated process between exclusive and inclusive approaches, and in the end the inclusive approach won\textsuperscript{235}.

Leadership is the other area of tension. Two associations faced power struggles within board members as some of the leaders where attached to the power and recognition that this role provided both within the community as well as with local authorities. A related element of tension was the power to influence the type of activities taking

\textsuperscript{233} BCI, "Appel Aux Projets 2019. Conditions et Modalités d’octroi de Subventionnement En Faveur de Projets Pour l’intégration Des Étrangers et/Ou La Prévention Du Racisme."

\textsuperscript{234} Information was provided through the interview of the association’s leader.

\textsuperscript{235} Information was provided through the interview of the association’s leader.
Another association confronted the arrival to the board of Andean – Spanish, shifting the primary focus of the association solely towards this population until the association’s founders and older members recovered the power and initial focus.

In terms of tensions between Andean migrant associations, two collaborating association had some differences of opinion regarding project selection in the country of origin after a natural disaster. Money for projects was collected through a cultural event organized by the two associations. The two association finally agreed on the selected project. In another instance, there was also a degree of power struggle and competition between four Andean associations’ leaders related to old time quarrels regarding the recognition of these individual as leaders within the community.

6.4 Capacity development needs and trainings

Capacity development is a key area for migrant associations which contribute largely to the pursuit of their objectives, it is also a way to enhance their members’ knowledge and capacities, making the association a learning place (Cattacini & Domenig, 2014). This is recognized by authorities and civic organization which often provide capacity development programmes addressed to migrant association. Andean migrant associations recognize the need of strengthening their capacities in areas such as financial management (6 associations), fundraising (6 associations), project and programme management (5 associations) and communication (5 associations). Each area is relevant to support the associations’ work. For instance, if an association has proven experience and capacities for the management of projects and programs and the financial management of funds allocated to implement them, it would be in a better position when applying for funds from the Cantonal or Communal authorities. Also, financial sustainability is largely dependent on an association’s capacity to secure funding from different sources, such as membership fees, obtaining sponsorship, donations and contributions from individuals, businesses and authorities, or generating funds from events associations organized that serve its membership and local community.

While many of the associations focus on implementing activities, they devote less time to making their work and what they achieved visible to their members, supporters and authorities (see chapter 7), this is why communication is also one of the identified areas where capacity development is needed.

Other capacity areas targeted for development by associations include governance (4 associations) and advocacy (2 associations). With regards to governance, if an association has a strong internal governance structure with a well-functioning board and general assembly, effective financial oversight and procedures, strategic planning, monitoring and evaluation, its chances to succeed in achieving its objectives is higher. Finally, the ability to effectively advocate membership rights and well-being helps represent members and negotiate on their behalf with cantonal and communal authorities.

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236 Information was obtained through participant observation.
237 Information was provided through the interview of the association’s leader.
238 Information was obtained through participant observation.
239 Information was obtained through participant observation.
Most Andean associations pursue capacity development in the aforementioned areas through training provided by the cantonal and communal authorities in both cantons - in Geneva through the Office for Integration of Foreigners, and in Vaud through the Office for the Integration of Foreigners and the Prevention of Racism and the Office for Foreigners Lausanne. All association in Vaud identified the active role of the Office for Foreigners Lausanne in proving capacity development trainings, which also has information publicly available on their website, while the cantonal offices for integration communicate directly with the associations. It is worth noting that this office also proposes regular meetings for open exchange and dialogue between municipal policy makers and associations.

Other providers of capacity development trainings identified include the Maison Kultura in Geneva, the federation of migrant associations in Geneva, which is the main interlocutor between migrant associations and the Bureau d’Integration des Etrangers, and the Office for the Integration of Foreigners and FEDEVACO in Vaud.

6.5 Partnerships

Association willingness and ability to collaborate or partner with other organizations is a way to strength the associations and members' bonding and bridging social capital (concepts discussed in Chapter 1). The Andean migrant associations in this study partnered with organizations such as other migrant associations from the same or similar migrant group, i.e. between Andean migrant associations, migrant associations from other regions of the world, and local civic and public organizations.

Research in this study explored the type of partnerships that the Andean associations establish, including whether they were part of any federation or umbrella organization. However, only four associations belong to such larger organizations: Asociación Boliviana de Ginebra to the International Migrant Alliance, Asociacion Colombia Vive and Asociación Cultural Peru to the Union des Sociétés Lausannoises (Union of Societies in Lausanne) and Asociación Bolivia 9 to Maison Kultura, Colectivo de apoyo a sin papeles (a support group for undocumented migrants) and Centre de Contact Suisse Immigrés (CCSI, Swiss-immigrant Contact Centre).

With regards to direct collaboration with migrant associations, most Andean associations partner frequently with the same migrant groups and other Latin-American associations, organizing cultural events together or joining forces in response to natural disasters in countries of origin. Six associations partner with associations from other regions (Asociación Boliviana de Ginebra, Asociacion Colombia Vive, Asociación Bolivía 9, Asociación Colombiana de Investigadores en Suiza, Warmi, Soutien aux femmes Latino-americaines and Asociación Cultural Peru).

Most of the associations collaborate with Swiss cantonal and communal authorities in both cantons and consulates from their countries of origin. This collaboration ranges from frequent to sporadic, and includes funding events, participation as speakers in round tables or conferences organized by migrant associations, co-organization of events, among others. Some Andean migrant associations also partner occasionally with civil organizations to protect and support migrants, (e.g. Warmi, Soutien aux femmes Latino-americaines, Asociación Bolivía 9, Asociación Colombiana de Investigadores en Suiza, Plateforme Suisse – Colombie / Festival Colombie and Asociación Cultural Peru).
This chapter covers the origin of the targeted Andean migrant associations in the Cantons of Geneva and Vaud, their objectives, structure and management responding to the research questions 1 and 2. It concludes that Andean associations formed mostly in response to increased Andean migration due to the political and socioeconomic conditions in the countries of origin, the demographic profile and characteristics of Andean migrants and the economic demand and opportunity in Switzerland. These associations share the objective to valorise their migrant group’s identity, traditions and culture through activities which provide migrants from same or similar groups with a safe space to interact, while at the same time supports their integration and builds awareness among the Swiss population towards the Andean migrants and their home country cultures. Their structure has been significantly influenced by the Swiss Civil Code and, as expected, voluntarism from their members play a key role in their operations. The number of members vary greatly among the twelve associations, most of the associations are led by women, and their main source of funding is the events they organize and none of them have their own premises.

Then, responding to research questions 3 and 4 concludes that there is a particular need among the associations to strengthen capacities for project and programme management, financial management, fundraising and communication. They interact mostly with migrant associations of the same or similar migrant group – mainly co-organizing, through participation in or disseminating information about events they organize. They also interact with public authorities, diplomatic representatives of their countries of origins, and with civic organizations during events organized by these actors or by the migrant associations themselves.

Chapter 7 will focus on the activities carried out by the studied Andean associations.
Chapter 7. Andean migrant associations activities

This chapter focuses on the activities carried out by the twelve Andean migrant associations researched in this study. It first examines associations’ activities targeting Andean migrants in the cantons of Geneva and Vaud which contribute to the integration of members and non-members from same or similar migrant group; it then examines association activities in countries of origin which contribute to disaster relief, long-term social services, academic and scientific activities and the recognition of the role of migrants in their countries of origin. These functions are not accomplished without difficulty given the differences in legal and socio-economic status, as well as the discrimination suffered in countries of origin and in Switzerland based on ethnic origin, social group or colour of their skin.

This chapter is based primarily in the responses to the survey (in which ten of the twelve association responded the questionnaire) and complemented by the information gathered in the interviews with the twelve associations, their websites, Facebook pages and relevant associations’ documents.

7.1 Andean migrant associations activities in Cantons of Geneva and Vaud

The primary activities carried out by Andean migrant associations in the cantons of Geneva and Vaud demonstrates that these associations contribute to and facilitate the integration process of their members. The activities also demonstrate the important role Andean migrant associations play supporting member as well as non-member migrants from the same or similar migrant groups, i.e. migrants from other Andeans or Latin-American countries, by providing solidarity activities that assist migrants during difficult times. The discussion of activities is organized into four categories: the first three categories – socio-economic, legal-political and cultural – relate to activities associated with migrants’ integration process and its policy dimensions, while the last category focuses on the solidarity aspects of the associations’ activities.

7.1.1 Activities contributing to the integration process of association members

Migrant associations play a key role in the integration processes of their members and their migrant groups. As introduced in Chapter 1, this includes the provision of advice, information and guidance to migrants to assist them with socio-economic aspects in the host society, such as administrative procedures, access to employment health, education and housing; in the legal and political realm, support includes informing migrants of their rights and obligations, and providing advice on legal status and acquisition of citizenship; and in the cultural realm, it includes knowledge sharing about the host society’s norms, local values and costumes to support migrant integration. Integration is a two-way process between migrants and the host society, and as such, migrant associations also play a role in introducing their migrant groups’ norms, values and costumes to the host society. Andean migrant associations in both cantons provide advice, information, guidance and support to their members and others in the above three areas, while also promoting the identity, traditions and culture of the home country the association represents.
The Andean migrant associations in this study do not see any contradiction in simultaneously assisting their members with the process of integration in the host society, while also preserving a cultural and ethnic identity with the customs, ethics, traditions and norms. As discussed in Chapter 6, the objectives of most of the Andean migrant associations predominantly focused on activities to support members’ integration process.

### Activities related to socio-economic integration

This section summarizes activities carried out by the Andean migrant associations studied as they relate to the socio-economic aspects of integration (see Table 10).

Most of the associations (Asociacion Boliviana de Ginebra, Asociacion Colombia Vive, Asociacion Warmi, Association Boliva 9, Plateforme Suisse – Colombie, Asociacion Cultural Peru and Asociacion de Ecuatorianos y Amigos del Ecuador en Lausanne) provide information to their members and others interested about their canton of location (Geneva or Vaud) and its most common administrative procedures. These activities facilitate their members’ day to day lives and allows them to understand better the host society norms, rules and culture, increasing migrant possibility for better integration. For example, the Warmi association organizes two conferences per year on key topics sensitive to women migrants, bringing in local experts to present on and discuss key topics with the migrant audience (see Box 3).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Never</th>
<th>Seldom</th>
<th>Often</th>
<th>Always</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Information about Switzerland / Canton of Geneva or Vaud and administrative procedures</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information about housing opportunities</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information about job opportunities</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information about French classes</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information about organizations supporting migrants</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>French classes</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vocational-job training</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vocational-job counselling and/or placement services</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Survey
Chapter 7. Andean migrant associations activities

The following testimony from the President of the Colombia Vive association illustrates the importance of being well informed upon arrival and during the settling-in process:

“Colombia Vive’s history is linked to Jorge and my history. We arrived in 1991 and made many errors due to lack of information. We were offered apartments, training and we discarded them without thinking on the opportunities we were losing, and we had tense relationship with the Cantonal Office of Population. Eleven years later, we thought we could share all this experience and help people to avoid making the same mistakes”

Female, 40 - 49 years old - Interview extract.

Box 3. Warmi, informing and guiding Latin American women migrants in Geneva

“To reach the largest number of migrant women, we have chosen to inform them through conferences. We want to be a bridge between migrant women in Geneva and the Swiss institutions...The difficulties speaking French prevent migrants to know where to find help, for example in the case of domestic violence. At these meetings they can get information but also meet with relevant institutions representatives. We invite experts such as doctors, lawyers, psychologists and representatives of Swiss associations to expose a topic and to answer questions”

President Warmi, Soutien aux femmes Latinoamericaines (Female, 40 – 49 years old)

Source: Survey

Sessions organized by the Warmi association:

- "In-time screening can prevent cervical cancer” (February 2013)
- "Women united against domestic violence" (May 2013)
- "What will happen after the vote of February 9, 2014” (May 2014)
- "Breast Cancer: Screening and Treatment” (November 2014)
- "Migrant women in the world of work: between illusion and reality (May 2015)
- "Immigration and its impact on the lives of children” (November 2015)
- "Stop Domestic Violence” (May 2016)
- "The rights of workers in the domestic economy” (December 2016)
- "Papyrus Operation and the regularization of irregular workers” on (June 2017)
- “Warmi, five years of service to the Latin American community” (November 2017)
- “The legal protection of victims of domestic and sexual violence” (May 2018)

Sources: Document presenting the association, participant observation, association’s Facebook page and emails
This testimony from the President of the Asociacion Cultural Peru demonstrates the critical role associations can play as an information source for knowledge sharing to support Andean migrants:

“ACP provides tips on how to come to Switzerland, what is needed from Peru and from other countries in Europe. The association serves as a platform for arriving migrants, it acts as a bridge with the Swiss society and guides migrants towards NGOs and respective authorities when needed”.

Male, 40 - 49 years old - Interview extract.

Apart from providing information, the associations (Asociacion Boliviana de Ginebra, Asociacion Colombia Vive, Association Warmi, Association Boliva 9, Asociacion Cultural Peru, Asociacion de Colombianos en Ginebra, Asociacion de Ecuatorianos y Amigos del Ecuador en Lausanne and Asociacion Peruana de Académicos e Investigadores en Suiza) also refer their members and others interested to organizations supporting migrants according to need. For instance, if a person is an undocumented domestic worker with difficult working conditions, they may be referred to a union such as Unia in Geneva or Vaud, or the Syndicat Interprofessionnel de Travailleuses et Travailleurs -SIT (Interprofessional workers Union) in Geneva, and/or to specialized entities working with undocumented migrants such as the Collectif de soutien aux sans-papiers (Support Group for Undocumented Migrants) in Vaud or Geneva. Such collaboration with local civic organizations and governmental entities increases the associations’ bridging capital, as discussed in Chapter 1. If the association is a vector of bridging capital, it can better support the integration process of its members, or at least their living conditions in Switzerland.

The following testimony from the President of Warmi illustrates that the provision of information or a comfortable ‘space’ to talk is not enough and a referral is required:

“For the last three years, I have been meeting migrant women in a café or other public places to talk and provide advice, I play a role of itinerary counsellor or advisor. Sometimes they just want to talk, but some other times the cases are so complicated that I cannot help, so I refer them to the adequate service which can assist them such as EPER or Caritas for example”.

Female, 40 - 49 years old - Interview extract.

Of the organizations supporting migrants, EPER and Caritas are very active organizations in the provision of services to vulnerable population, including migrants in Switzerland and worldwide. Both are faith-based organizations linked to evangelic and catholic religious beliefs. It is worth noting that Latin America is predominantly Catholic, but in the last decades evangelism has grown fast. These two religious beliefs are intrinsic in the Latin American migrant communities and the rapprochement from Andean migrants to Swiss Evangelical and Catholic churches, a part of the religious aspect, is another bridge to the Swiss society.
Chapter 7. Andean migrant associations activities

This testimony from the President Asociacion Boliviana de Ginebra illustrates how associations can support migrants in the process of referring them to specialized organizations for more focused support:

*For the Papyrus programme, we first provide information about the requirement to interested people, then help checking that the documentation is complete and filing out the required forms. Then cases are referred to unions or to Contact Suisse Immigrés.*

Female, 60 - 69 years old - Interview extract.

Some associations provide information about French classes providers, (e.g. Asocacion Boliviana de Ginebra, Asociacion Colombia Vive, Asociacion Warmi, Asociacion Bolivia 9, Asociacion de Colombianos en Ginebra and Asociacion de Ecuatorianos y Amigos del Ecuador en Lausanne), which is a critical skill to help migrants integrate into the cantons of Geneva and Vaud. Some other associations also share information about employment opportunities. For instance, the association AEYAEEL publishes adds about people seeking or offering jobs on its website, such assistance is of great help as migrants, especially those who have arrived recently, do not yet have a network to support a job search, which takes time to establish given the language barrier and constraints due to their lack of regular status among many. The association ACIS and APAIS also informs their members about employment opportunities, although for highly skilled migrants.

It is worth noting that Andean associations are less active in proving information on housing and in offering French classes or vocational-job training and counselling in the two cantons (see Table 10). This is because these services are provided mainly by authorities and other civil society organizations. Authorities, through the language and learning and employability areas of action of the Cantonal Integration Programmes (CIP), fund civic society organizations to provide French classes and vocational job training to migrants. Housing information is provided in both cantons by the Geneva and Vaud Institutions for Social Action for migrants in difficult situations or receiving financial support from the government. Migrants also receive housing information through their informal networks.

On the academic and scientific area, the two researchers’ associations are active in supporting and disseminating activities in Switzerland related to the scientific, technological and academic development of the country of origin of the associations. They are also active in establishing relations with agencies and institutions that facilitate cooperation between Switzerland and the country of origin of the associations in the technological, scientific and academic fields and in researching on topics related to migration.

These socio-economic activities, primarily the informative one, are key in helping migrant association members and others from the same or similar migrant group to integrate in the host society. “Associations have inadvertently moulted into collective actors that contribute to urban-integration policy. As information platforms about opportunities and basic understanding, and also as places where the new language is learned, and the language of origin is perpetuated, these associations become the backbone of successful inclusion. And, as accurate and efficient providers of information, these places build a bridge between state agencies and mobile people” (Cattacin & Domenig, 2014, P. 10).
Table 11. Number and regularity of legal and political integration-related activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Never</th>
<th>Seldom</th>
<th>Often</th>
<th>Always</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Information regarding migrant rights and services</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conferences, debates and other public forums related to migrant issues</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advocacy for migrant rights and services</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal counsel and services</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Political representation Switzerland</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Survey

The most common type of activities organized by Andean associations related to the legal and political dimension are conferences, round tables and debates on migrant issues. For instance, after the launch of the Papyrus programme for undocumented migrants in the Canton of Geneva, the Asociacion Boliviana de Geneva and Warmi both organized separate information sessions to inform their members and interested people about the requirements needed to apply to this programme. These events provided valuable information to undocumented migrants seeking to legalize their migrant status. If they meet the criteria and are successful in the process, they can then start a veritable integration process into the Swiss society.

Other relevant examples include a conference on migration and gender organized by the Asociacion Cultural Peru, an appropriate theme considering the feminization of Latin American migration into Switzerland (see Chapter 5), and a round table organized by the Asociacion Colombiana de Investigadores en Suiza as part of the 2013 Festival Colombia in Geneva that brought together institutional, academic and associational perspectives of Colombian Community in Switzerland. These events are related to the political aspects of the integration process of migrant because they highlight for both the Andean migrant and Swiss attending such events the political realities Andean migrants confront. Such exchanges of information highlight that integration is an interactive process between the migrants and the host society (see Chapter 1).

Providing information about migrant rights and services is another type of activity relevant to the day to day needs of migrants and their integration into Swiss society. As discussed in Chapter 4, migrant associations are recognised as information intermediaries connecting migrants and the Swiss society, where migrant associations often partner with local authorities or civic organization to support integration. Associations such as Colombia Vive, Warmi, Bolivia 9, Asociacion Cultural Peru and Asociacion de Ecuatorianos y Amigos del Ecuador conduct these types of activities. For instance, in 2016 the Asociacion de Ecuatorianos y Amigos del Ecuador organized an information session on tax payments and insurances...
information, and that same year, as noted above, Warmi organized an information 
session on the Papyrus programme with the collaboration of the Collectif de soutien 
aux sans-papiers (Support group for undocumented migrants) and the Relief 
Organization of Evangelical Churches of Switzerland (HEKS/EPER).

Asociacion Bolivia 9, Asociacion Boliviana de Ginebra, Warmi, Colombia Vive and 
Asociacion Cultural Peru play a counsellor/advisor role with their members, migrant 
groups and others seeking guidance with information and advice on their rights, as 
well as the obligations they need to fulfil, contributing to the understanding of the new 
society, as well as providing assistance with administrative procedures (socio-
economic integration). For example, the Asociacion Boliviana de Ginebra provides 
general information about Geneva and administrative procedures through its 7/7 
virtual office (internet, email and telephone), and if needed through face to face 
meetings, and it also provides information and advice on migrants’ rights and 
obligations through its Swiss Law Advisory Group. Interviews with the associations’ 
leadership, however, revealed that while these types of activities represent an 
important amount of work and time, the effort invested in them is not always visible or 
well communicated to the associations’ members, supporters and external audience. 
In the majority of times, just the Board is aware of all the activities carried out by the 
association. These and other type of smaller scale but key activities are normally 
mentioned in the annual reports and presented during the annual general assembly. 
However, members, supporters and external audience typically remember those 
activities the associations directly communicate to them through announcements.

The following testimonies from the President of Colombia Vive and the Secretary 
General of Bolivia 9 show their acknowledgement on this issue:

“Our biggest problem is to communicate and disseminate information 
about all activities we carried out. As we all work elsewhere, we do not 
have the time or proper knowledge to do it. Members of the Board have 
even taken training on communications, as we know is our weakness”.

Colombia Vive. Female, 40 - 49 years old - Interview extract.

“We acknowledge we do not communicate enough everything we do, but 
we also know that if we communicate all we will be more solicited and will 
not have the capacity to respond to requests”.

Bolivia 9, Male, 50 - 59 years old - Interview extract.

The latest testimony also highlights a key element common among these 
associations: often, migrant association board members are overworked and 
overwhelmed by the amount of demands made by their communities and do not have 
the physical, temporal or financial capacity to handle all requests.

With regards to legal counsel, two associations are especially active in this area – the 
Asociacion Boliviana de Ginebra and the Asociacion de Ecuatorianos y Amigos del 
Ecuador – providing an important source of support and advice to vulnerable migrants 
that otherwise could not afford the legal fees otherwise provided elsewhere by a 
lawyer.
The following testimony from the President of the Asociacion Boliviana de Ginebra provides an example of the type of legal support that this association offers:

“For the Papyrus programme, the ABG helps undocumented migrants to prepare all the papers so that the final costs of lawyers are lower. Their documents are not adequately prepared, the cost can be high, approximately 5,000 CHF. The association provides the relevant information and reviews the documentation. It also discusses whether it suits the person to enter the process or not, depending on whether the person plans to stay in Switzerland or to return. When regularizing their status, the migrant will start paying taxes, medical insurance and other costs, and therefore many prefer to remain in the shadow to save money and send back to the country”.

Female, 60 - 69 years old - Interview extract.

In the search of a way to give voice to and change the vulnerable situations that some migrant face, some Andean associations have used advocacy and mobilisation as a powerful tool. Bolivia 9, for example, pursues its stated goal to open a Bolivian Consulate in Geneva through community mobilization, bringing the Bolivian community together to pressure the Bolivian government to provide official representation to serve its population in Switzerland. The Asociación de Ecuatorianos y amigos del Ecuador en Lausanne (AEYAEL) is another example, conducting activities for advocacy and mobilization to support the regularization of the Ecuadorian community in Lausanne (see Box 4).

When it comes to political representation (discussed in Chapter 6), a few leaders of Andean migrant associations have served or serve currently in political positions. While these are individual achievements, these leaders’ committed work for the wellbeing and integration of their migrant groups through the associations contributed to their elections.

The following reflection from the President of Colombia Vive highlights the important role that association work can have on the election to political position for association leaders:

“My husband tells me that the position as Municipal Counsellor is the recognition of the work of the association, an acknowledgement of the other associative work I have done, and my 10 years work with refugees.”

Female, 40 - 49 years old - Interview extract.

The participation of Andean migrant associations in legal-political activities in both Cantons, as well as the role played by their leaders in political and civic spaces – see Chapter 6, contributed to strengthening the symbolic and bridging capital of associations as leaders and their associations are recognized as valid and respected actors by local authorities and civic organizations.
Box 4. AEYAEEL's mobilization for the regularization of undocumented Ecuadorians in Vaud

AEYAEEL was the pioneer organization working for the undocumented in Vaud – an example of an Andean association's contribution to solidarity in the integration process. In the 2000s, 95% of the Ecuadorian community in Vaud did not have legal authorization of residence or work, which meant the lack of rights, the risk of exploitation by certain employers, the risk of expulsion by the authorities and the lack of respect for human dignity.

A group of seven Ecuadorians started meeting and discussing how to obtain residence permits. They decided to organize the Ecuadorian community to collectively obtain authorization to remain in Vaud, working for the social and cultural integration of Ecuadorians, and demonstrating and sharing their culture with the Swiss people and with the other nationalities. This was the inception of AEYAEEL, formally established in March 2001.

With efforts and voluntary work, AEYAEEL’s leadership was able to organize and mobilize the Ecuadorian community in Vaud. In September 2001, together with other organizations, AEYAEEL participated in the first major peaceful demonstration of the "undocumented" in Bern, and then continued to advocate for their rights as workers in Zurich, Geneva, Basel, Fribourg and Lausanne.

Sources: Interview and association’s website and Facebook page

Activities related to the cultural dimension of integration

As discussed in Chapter 6, most of the Andean migrant associations in this study share the objective to valorise the identity, traditions and culture of their countries of origin. All associations promote relevant cultural events via their Facebook pages, events that they either organize and/or contribute to, or which are organized by others, such as concerts, dance performances, and gastronomy events.

Most associations provide a range of cultural activities (see Table 12) Among the most common activities are events such as national holidays from their countries of origin, festivals, religious, music, dance or food events. For national holiday celebrations, the Colombia Vive association has organized since 2002 a National Day festival lasting two days every third weekend of July, coinciding with the celebration of Colombian Independence Day on July 20 (see Box 5). Similarly, the Asociacion Cultural Peru organizes every year a Peruvian National Day on the fourth weekend of July, coinciding with the Peruvian Independence Day. Every October this association also organizes an important religious celebration for Peruvians, the Lord of the Miracles celebration, where traditional dances and creole and mestizo music are an important element. The Asociacion Bolivia 9 also has organized every year the “La Fiesta de la Unidad” (the Unity Celebration), a meeting point for the Bolivian and Latino community in Geneva. As of 2019, this celebration will be organized by the Centro Cultural Boliviano (Bolivian Cultural Centre), reactivated by the Bolivian migrant group and associations in 2017.

Such participation in cultural events either organized by local authorities or by the migrant associations themselves, are an effective way to share with the Swiss society their Andean traditions and culture, and as mentioned earlier in this chapter, this
Andean migrant associations’ host and home country engagement

contributes to the migrants’ integration process as the Swiss society increases its familiarity with and appreciation and respect for the Andean cultures residing in their canton. There are several traditional dance troupes from all four Andean countries in both cantons that contribute to the associations’ cultural events. The asociacion Colombia Vive has its own dance groups, which participate in the annual Carnival of Lausanne in May, a public event organized by local authorities.

Table 12. Number and regularity of cultural integration-related activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Never</th>
<th>Seldom</th>
<th>Often</th>
<th>Always</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Conferences to promote the culture of the country of origin of the Association and its diaspora in Switzerland</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cultural events for the membership, such as national holidays, festivals, religious, music, dance or food events commemorating the association’s country of origin</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intercultural events with membership and Swiss nationals or people of other nationalities such as festivals, religious, music, dance or food events</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spanish classes for Latin American migrant children</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information about Latin American shops, restaurants and meeting points</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Survey

Other example of association cultural activities is found in Geneva with the associations Bolivia 9 and the Platforme Suisse – Colombie / Festival Colombia, which organize respectively an artisanal ice cream stall and a traditional Colombia food stall at the ‘La rue est a vous’ (the street is yours) events, organized each year by city authorities to take place in different neighbourhoods between May and September.

The following testimony from the Coordinator of Association pour l’intégration des Equatoriens de Genève illustrates how associations utilize culture to support the migrant integration process:

“We work so that Ecuadorians have a better way of adapting and integration here. We do it through culture, language, customs, so that people identify themselves on the activities”

Male, 40 - 49 years old - Interview extract.

Several of the associations organize traditional Christmas celebrations for their members and migrant group, such as Colombia Vive, and in some instances these Christmas events are also open to the Swiss and people from other nationalities, as with the Asociacion Colombiana de Ginebra, the association of Colombian Researchers in Switzerland and the Plateforme Suisse – Colombie.
Chapter 7. Andean migrant associations activities

Some associations host conferences or related events designed to promote their culture of origin, such as Bolivia 9 and also the Asociacion Cultural Peru, and intercultural events such as Colombia vive, Bolivia 9, Plateforme – Festival Colombia, Asociacion Cultural Peru and Asociacion de Ecuatorianos y amigos del Ecuador en Lausanne.

One example of a cultural activity from Andean associations targeting Swiss and people from other nationalities are Spanish classes which were offered in the pass by associations such as Colombia vive, Asociacion Cultural Peru, Bolivia 9 and Asociacion de Ecuatorianos y amigos del Ecuador en Lausanne. Currently in Geneva, the association La Escuelita de Onex has the primary goal to create a space for learning and transmitting the language and culture to children whose parents are of Latin American origin and live in the Canton of Geneva. Also the association Kayu in Geneva and INECLA (school of Spanish and Latin American culture) in Lausanne provide Spanish lessons.

It is worth noting that Andean associations often provide information about Latin American shops, restaurants and meeting points in their cantos to their members and migrant group, (e.g. Bolivia 9, Asociacion Cultural Peru, Asociacion de Colombianos de Ginebra and Asociacion de Ecuatorianos y Amigos del Ecuador en Lausanne).

### Box 5. Festival Colombia Vive - 15 years and going strong

The Colombia Vive National Day festival has evolved into an intercultural event bringing Colombians, Latin-Americans, Swiss and other nationalities together in Lausanne. Currently, up to 3000 people attend the event, and it has evolved from a 1-day to 2-day event, and in 2018 it was held for the first time as a 3-day event. The following from the President of Colombia Vive conveys the background and purpose of the event:

“It started as a small dance event, two dances groups, one of the Ecole Polytechnique Fédéral de Lausanne and the other from the Associations Colombia Vive, and one stall. The first time there were 50 attendees, the next time 70 attendees. Six years later, in 2008, it became a big event with 500 attendees and the participation of the bagpipers of San Jacinto, a Colombian traditional band and Grammy winners.

The event now includes dance performances from other Andean countries, such as Ecuador and Bolivia, and a wide variety of Colombian music. There are traditional food and beverage stalls, and a group of volunteers who oversee the event.

The purpose of the event is to recreate a sense of Colombian life from their home country, like at a traditional a village patronal feast. It helps to make Colombians (and other Latinos) feel at home, while also introducing and sharing with people other nationalities Colombian folklore, traditions and culture. Many Swiss, French and Portuguese come and join the celebration.”

Source: Interview extract, participant observation and association’s website and Facebook page
As mentioned earlier, most of the Andean associations valorise the culture, costumes and identity of countries or origin; it is a key stimulus for Andean migrants to engage in the association’s activities. These cultural and identity related activities in Switzerland, also enable hybrid (Mazzucato, 2008) or syncretic (Matthey & Dahinden, 2009) identities to develop – e.g. Colombian community in Geneva or Ecuadorian community in Lausanne. Migrants associations play a central role in helping their members and others from the same or similar migrant group to stabilize their identity and fend off the effects of migration-induced identity insecurities (Cattacini & Domenig, 2014). They also display a positive image and pride (Cordero-Guzman, 2005), and build awareness of Andean migrants’ identity, traditions and culture among Swiss people as an antidote to discrimination and racism, helping to compensate them for the humiliations of their daily living conditions.

7.1.2 Solidarity actions

Although solidarity action is not explicitly stated in any of Andean associations’ objectives, it is part of their daily activities as a response to the vulnerable situations that some members of the associations and migrant groups face. It is worth noting that this topic was not part of this study’s initial focus, (which was originally focused on Andean migrant associations contribution to members integration process in Geneva and Vaud cantons, and their potential contributions development in their countries of origin). However, after data collection for this study, the contribution of the Andean association to solidarity among their members emerged as a key activity, and therefore an unexpected outcome of the associations for this study.

As discussed in Chapter 1, the literature supports that migrant associations constitute a key source for socialization, conviviality and mutual aid, and frequently replace other support systems left behind in the country of origin from community and family. This is reflected in Table 13. For five Andean associations in this study (Colombia Vive, Warmi, Bolivia 9, Platforme Suisse – Colombie / Festival Colombia and Asociacion de Ecuatorianos y Amigos del Ecuador en Lausanne), which primarily engage in activities supporting and assisting their members and migrant group with social issues.

The following testimony from the President Colombia Vive highlights how an Andean association considers the socialization and networking among members and essential aspect of its activities:

“Colombia Vive helps to build that social network among Colombians and Latin-American that is so much needed here. Through our activities and the engagement of our members a feeling of belonging appears, they feel that they belong to something here, that there is a network and at the same time, it allows people to be close to their culture and create that social network”.

Female, 40 - 49 years old – Interview extract.

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240 Although it is worth mentioning that people also migrate because those systems are not efficient or even sometimes oppressive.
Table 13. Number and regularity of solidarity actions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Never</th>
<th>Seldom</th>
<th>Often</th>
<th>Always</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Support and assistance in legal issue (detention, labour exploitation, human trafficking)</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support and assistance in health issue (accident, sickness, psychologic illness)</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support and assistance in economic issue (precarious living conditions)</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support and assistance in social issues (lack of family or network in Switzerland)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising for Association members, individual from Association’s country of origin or Latin American in Switzerland</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Survey

Associations that are especially active helping migrants with obtaining health-related services include the Asociacion Boliviana de Ginebra, Warmi, Bolivia 9, Asociacion Cultural Peru, Voluntariado Ecuatoriano Residente en Suiza and Asociacion de Ecuatorianos y Amigos del Ecuador en Lausanne. A common health-related solidarity activity among these associations is to collect money to repatriate the body in cases of unexpected deaths of members of the migrant group.

Legal assistance is another form of solidarity that some Andean associations support, as identified earlier in this chapter; the Asociacion Boliviana de Ginebra is very active in this area, with legal advice for migrants being one of its primary objectives (see Box 6). Two associations that also provide legal assistance to migrants are the Asociacion Cultural Peru and the Asociacion de Ecuatorianos y Amigos del Ecuador en Lausanne, which is to be expected as both of these associations were created with the primary objectives to support undocumented Peruvians and Ecuadorians in Vaud Canton.

Occasionally, Andean associations will conduct activities to fundraiser or provide financial assistance in another manner for a member who encounters extreme economic hardship. In these instances, the association will call upon the member with financial difficulties to participate in an association’s event selling to the public traditional foods, with the earnings going to this member.

The following testimony from the Coordinator of Association pour l’intégration des Equatoriens de Genève illustrates the dynamics at work when organizing an association event to assist one of its members:

“We do not help directly but provide the association logistical support to organize an event, we give the responsibility to the person in need. In other occasions, when we are going to organize an event, we contact people who want or need to earn some money and let them take care of the food”.

Male, 40-49 years old – Interview extract.

Many times, Andean associations serve as channel of information and promote, via email, Facebook or in their websites, solidarity events organized by individuals or other associations from the same migrant group or from Latin America.
Established in 1997, the Asociacion Boliviana de Ginebra’s primary objectives include the preservation of South American culture, (especially the Bolivian culture), the integration of Bolivians into Swiss society, and supporting people in need, especially children. In 2005, its association’s General Assembly added as an objective the defence of migrants’ fundamental rights in Switzerland, such as the right to health care, and other basic human rights in the interest of Bolivian and other Latino migrants. The association’s Board and supporting members work together to provide legal service to migrants in vulnerable situations, under the principle of solidarity, offering advice from lawyers specialized on Swiss and Bolivian law and working in collaboration with voluntary jurists, unions, and other lawyers. The association formed a Swiss Law Advisory Group that listens to and informs migrants about their rights and obligations, regardless of their permit status. Its primary focus is on labour issues, and its services are free of charge. In the event that the intervention of a lawyer is needed, the group refers the person towards a list of vetted and trusted lawyers.

Sources: Interview and association’s website and Facebook page

7.1.3 Perception of Andean migrant association on their contribution to integration

All of the associations responding to the survey administered in this study identify their activities as contributing to the integration process of their members. The testimonies in Box 7, illustrate how Andean associations view their important role on the integration process of their members. As discussed, sometimes associations contribute to the integration process of members primarily by providing a safe space and network within the migrant group, and other times by serving a bridging role with the host society through relationships established with authorities, civic organizations and locals.

7.2 Andean migrant associations’ homeland engagement

A key research question identified for this study is the degree to which Andean migrant associations in the cantons of Geneva and Vaud engage with and conduct activities targeting their countries of origin. The remainder of this chapter examines this question, looking at activities pursued by the Andean migrant associations in their countries of origin. Research findings reveal that Andean migrant associations indeed engage in a range of activities targeting their homeland countries, but not to the level of structured regularity of other association activities such as integration.

However, before examining the specific forms of Andean migrant association engagement with homeland countries, it is worth noting the prevalence of individual migrant engagement with their homeland countries. While this was not the focus of this study, interviews with Andean migrant associations nevertheless identified...
individual remittances as an important form of engagement among its membership, regardless of associations’ organized activities targeting countries of origin.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 7. Andean Associations’ perception of their role supporting migrant integration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The following quotes highlight revealing responses from Andean migrant associations in Geneva and Vaud cantons to the survey question:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Do you consider that the Association facilitates the integration in Switzerland (Cantons of Geneva / Vaud) of its members and associates?”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• “It is very possible. Although, our current concern is not so much the “integration”, but to facilitate the survival in the best possible conditions, especially of the “undocumented”. What it has become more difficult since the immigration policy becomes harder”. Asociacion Boliviana de Ginebra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• “The association participates in the integration process of our nationals by providing information, facilitating procedures or making them more understandable. Also, by creating spaces of reunion and solidarity which contribute to maintain the mental health of our nationals”. Asociacion Colombia Vive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• “Yes, because integration is achieved when migrants know their rights and obligations in this country. We also serve as a bridge so that migrants can have links with the different public entities and civic organizations in Geneva that are in charge of helping and guiding the migrant”. Asociation Warmi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• “We are a factor of integration and openness of our community towards all others with whom we live” Asociacion Bolivia 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• “Yes, since the association promotes labour integration and activities related to projects that take place in Switzerland”. Association of Colombian Researchers in Switzerland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• ”Through all our events, it is the spirit of the project”. Plateforme Suisse – Colombie / Festival Colombia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• “Yes, I believe that the association facilitates the integration of its members in Switzerland, however it is not the only form of integration of the Peruvian migrants in Switzerland”. Asociacion Cultural Peru</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• “Of course. The mere fact of the conformation of our association already means the integration of a group of people. Then, through our activities we bring together people who probably would not meet in another context, so we promote the rapprochement and exchange”. Asociation Apais.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• “We are an information channel for the whole community and that favour the integration process”. Asociacion Colombiana de Ginebra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• “Through the activities and experience of our association, we contribute to the integration process of our members”. Asociacion de Ecuatorianos y Amigos del Ecuador en Lausanne.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Individual remittances fell into two primary types. One form is financial and material remittances to family, friends and other acquaintances in the country of origin. Another form is what can be called “social remittances,” which includes sharing knowledge and competencies with people in the country of origin (see Chapter 1). This occurs either during visits to the countries of origin or through communication from Switzerland using the telephone and social media. Examples of social remittances identified by migrant associations included sharing with homeland acquaintances new codes, rules and different ways of approaching life that migrants acquire through their experience of living in Switzerland.

Again, while the focus of this study is on the activities of Andean migrant associations in the cantons of Geneva and Vaud, it is important to understand that the exchange of material and nonmaterial resources from individual migrants to their homeland countries is a fundamental and ongoing form of homeland engagement occurring simultaneously.

7.2.1 Andean migrant association activities in countries of origin

At organizational level, Andean migrant associations engage in countries of origin in an assortment of ways. As Table 14 reflects, this includes supporting response and recovery to natural disaster and manmade conflict; helping vulnerable or disadvantaged populations to improve their conditions through educational, livelihoods, health and other types of development projects; contributing to academic, political and cultural collaboration, and collective remittances and fundraising for people in the country of origin.

Table 14. Activities and frequency in countries of origin among Andean migrant associations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Never</th>
<th>Seldom</th>
<th>Often</th>
<th>Always</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Support in response to natural disaster</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support in response to conflict</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rural development</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban Development</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education / Training</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employment</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental conservation</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health services</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strengthening civil society organizations</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support academic, political or cultural exchange with country of origin</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collective remittances to communities in the Association’s country of origin</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Political representation or involvement in the Association’s country of origin</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising for individuals or communities in country of origin</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Survey
Chapter 7. Andean migrant associations activities

Disaster Relief

One notable area of homeland engagement among the Andean migrant associations in the two cantons is disaster relief. Two associations reported in the survey that they have a high frequency (often and always) of activities in their homeland countries supporting disaster response (Asociacion de Ecuatorianos y Amigos del Ecuador en Lausanne and Asociacion Cultural Peru). However, subsequent interviews revealed that six associations actually took part in disaster relief and recovery activities in their homeland countries in the past 5 years.

Natural disasters are unplanned, and for the most part, disaster relief activities from associations were emergent in response to the occurrence of a disaster. The recent string of natural disasters in Andean countries between 2013 and 2016 exemplify this. The major disasters during this period, that Andean migrant associations responded to, were the floods in the Beni Province of Bolivia due to torrential rain at the end of 2013 and the beginning of 2014, the earthquake on the north coast of Ecuador in April 2016, and the floods and avalanches in Mocoa Colombia in March 2017. Box 8 illustrates the range of disaster relief activities from associations, and underscores that such activity is not limited to just a couple of associations.

Longer-term social services

As the survey questions in Table 7.5 reflect, there are a range of activities the Andean migrant associations in Geneva and Vaud pursue that invest in the longer-term improvement of conditions in their homeland countries, mainly following a “classical” development agenda focusing on children with education and health as central areas.

One notable example is the Voluntariado Ecuatoriano Residente en Suiza, which works as a charity organization raising resources to support projects assisting vulnerable children and disabled people in Ecuador, (as Chapter 1 introduced, charitable work from migrant associations is not uncommon). In 2003, a group of people came together to form this association, and the first donation made was a wheelchair for a disable woman purchased with funds raised by the group. Since, a number of donations have been sent to Ecuador through the work of the association, including clothing and toys for orphanages and street children sent through relatives. In 2014, the association helped rebuild a small school devastated by floods from the river Guarico. Although the association focuses its work in Ecuador, it is worth noting it has also carried out activities in the Canton of Vaud related to cases of illness or death (expatriate the corpse). The association events are not limited to Ecuadorian migrants, but also include other Latin American communities in Geneva and Vaud, with notable support for Bolivians, Peruvians and Paraguayans.
Box 8. Examples of Andean association disaster response activities in countries of origin

The following summarizes disaster response activities conducted by Andean migrant associations in response to recent natural disasters in Bolivia, Ecuador and Colombia between 2013 and 2016:

**Solidarity Fund for the victims of the floods in Bení (2013 – 2014)**

In collaboration with the External Support Committee for the Indian Council of South America (CEA-CISA), the Asociacion Boliviana de Ginebra created a solidarity fund for the victims of the floods in Bení. They organized a Kermess on March 2, 2014, from which more than 7,000 CHF was collected. Following the advice of the Departmental Health Service of Bení, the association decided to donate the money to procure medicine. The association president personally travelled to five towns in Bení Province to present the donations.

Asociacion Boliviana de Geneve
Source: Association’s website

**Solidarity events for the victims of the Ecuadorian earthquake (April 2016)**

In Geneva, “The Association pour l’Integration des Equatorien a Geneve participated in three of the five events that were held in Geneva to support victims of the earthquake in Ecuador. The biggest event in September gathered between 500 and 600 hundred people from Ecuador and Latin-America, organized in collaboration with the embassy and consulates in Bern and the UN in Geneva. There was a meeting in the mission so that everyone knew what was being done and people participated in different events to support the organizers. Many groups that were organized had family members in the disaster areas. We joined a project to rebuild a foundation and the implementation of the project was monitored by the Red Cross. We collected between 3,000-4,000CHF.” (Interview with the President Association pour l’Integration des Equatorien a Geneve).

In Lausanne, The Asociacion de Ecuatorianos y amigos del Ecuador organized on April 23, 2016 an Ecuadorian cultural and gastronomic festival in Lausanne in favour of the victims of the earthquake. Approximately 40,000CHF were collected which were destined exclusively to support the victims of the earthquake and the reconstruction of the areas devastated by the natural disaster.”

Asociacion de Ecuatorianos y amigos del Ecuador en Lausanne
Source: Interview
Solidarity event for the victims of the floods in Mocoa – Colombia (March 2017)

The Asociacion Colombia Vive and the Asociacion Colombianos Investigadores en Suiza jointly organized a fundraising campaign called "Together for Mocoa" to support flooding victims. The campaign was launched during a cultural event on April 8, 2017, and the collection of funds was extended into May with over 15,180 CHF raised. These funds were then distributed to 4 projects, providing primary assistance to families affected by avalanche.

Asociacion Colombia Vive and Asociacion de Colombianos Investigadores en Suiza

Source: Final report “Together for Mocoa, and associations’ websites

The following testimony from the former association president illustrates how the Voluntariado Ecuatoriano Residente en Suiza generates income for its social service work in homeland countries:

"We organize cultural activities such as the Halloween celebration, an annual event free for children and with a cost for adults between 15 and 25 CHF. Since 2011, Kings Jouets, a toy shop in Lausanne, allows the association to wrap presents during Christmas season in exchange for tips from the shop’s costumers. Such income is used to fund our charitable activities".

Female, 60-69 years old – Interview extract.

Another notable example of social and economic development activities from an Andean association in its homeland country is that of Colombia Vive. This association has been investing proceeds from the Festival Colombia Vive (discussed above) over the last twelve years into projects supporting children, education and microfinance. Its activities have provided support to two organizations in Neiva: 1) the Association "Puertas Abiertas" (open doors) provides a space for education, welfare and protection to children and teenage mothers in the neighbourhood in the south of the Neiva, and 2) the "Elisa Muñoz" Foundation, which promotes microcredits for underdeveloped economic sectors, working in particular with women responsible for the family group.

Other examples of Colombia Vive’s social service activities in Colombia include: support for the construction of a meeting place for people with physical disability in Bogota; sponsorship for fifteen children with school fees and materials for the start of the school year; support for E-changer, a Swiss NGO working to improve conditions in coal mines; support the construction of a children’s shelter in the Amazon; and support for the construction of a rural school in Cauca, where children cultivate soy and quinoa for consumption and sale on the market. The Asociacion de Ecuatorianos y Amigos del Ecuador en Lausanne has also engaged in an education programme for children in Ecuador.
Academic and scientific activities

Another important area of activity for migrant associations with their countries of origin is education, training, and academic exchange. Two associations responded that they are often active in education and training – the Asociacion de Investigadores Colombianos en Suiza and Asociación Peruana de Académicos e Investigadores en Suiza. Both researchers’ associations play a bridging role between students, teachers, scientists and educational institutions in countries of origin and in Switzerland. They are always active in academic, political or cultural exchange with their countries of origin. Such activity is generally through organizing forums and related knowledge sharing events in Switzerland during which researchers, professional and governmental representatives participate from countries of origin.

For instance, the Asociacion Colombianos de Investigadores en Suiza is active in Colombia with activities addressing environmental conservation, as well as employment, (for which the Asociación Peruana de Académicos e Investigadores en Suiza also pursues). ACIS serves as a channel of information for employment opportunities in Colombia for highly skilled Colombians living in Switzerland. As Box 9 illustrates, an academic symposium it organized lead to the creation of a project that contributes to development in its homeland, Colombia.

It is worth noting that for the past 25 years, ACIS has also played a critical role supporting scientific collaboration between Switzerland and Colombia. In 2010, a study on the role of scientific diasporas as development partners featuring skilled migrants from Colombia, India and South Africa in Switzerland acknowledged the role played by ACIS in Colombia: “ACIS is a clear example of an association of the scientific diaspora which has had an impact in the field of science and technology in the country of origin as some of its members have contributed to the creation or reinforcement of a critical mass in key areas such as the environment, medicine or ICT, through scientific collaborations based on individual efforts” (Tejada, 2010, P. 205).

Box 9. ACIS, stimulating development through knowledge networks

In 2015, the Asociacion de Investigadores Colombianos en Suiza (ACIS) organized an academic symposium entitled, ‘Until when will we have water in Colombia?’, bringing together experts from Colombia to facilitate knowledge exchange between Swiss and Colombian participants. As a result of the symposium, Colombian professionals, researchers and students living in Switzerland established a project with Colombian academic and governmental institutions to implement ‘SieNi’, a project with the objective to work with children in the responsible management of water in Colombia through research groups of children led by teachers and accompanied by a scientist specialized in water management. The associations served as a platform for this project, first encouraging the scientific network exchange during the symposium, and then presenting the proposal ‘Education for water conservation in Colombia’ to the FEDEVACO’ Migration and Development Award in 2015 (see Chapter 4), for which it won the “Special Jury Prize”. Afterwards, the initiative became an independent project that evolved in the creation of an NGO to implement the project; this evolution reflected that the association reserved its work to initiate the project, but once it took hold, the project implementation was not part of its core objectives.

Source: Participant observation and association’s website
According to Tejada (2010), ACIS has played an important role in promoting bilateral, bottom-up scientific collaboration, as well as knowledge transfer, social remittances and transnational practices benefiting Colombia. In 2012, celebrating its 20 years of existence, ACIS had a major strategic shift, adding social sciences into its strategic objectives, with an active role in the Migration and Development working group of the Cooperation Federation of Geneva (see chapter 4) between 2011-2014, as well as its membership in the Swiss Civil Society Platform on Migration and Development.

Apart from the facilitation of scientific collaboration, ACIS promotes activities related to the scientific, technological and academic development of Colombia, encourages exchange and dissemination of knowledge among members, and establishes and strengthens relationships with national and international institutions to meet its goals.

**Recognition of the role of migrants abroad in countries of origin**

One notable area of activity for two Andean migrant associations that was not anticipated in the structured survey questions but was identified in qualitative interviews with association leadership is advocating for the recognition of the role of migrants in countries of origin. The Asociacion Bolivia 9, for instance, has been actively lobbying for the possibility to have Bolivian representatives living abroad elected as member of the congress in Bolivia.

Related, the Asociacion Colombiana de Investigadores en Suiza organized and moderated a session, during the Forum for Peace: peace agreements and migration held in Geneva between 28 and 30 October 2016, entitled “Youth, academics and peace in Colombia” with the objective to discuss the role of youth and academics living abroad in the peace process. The session was successful with participants from different parts of the world creating a group of “Colombian Academics and Students Living Abroad” committed to coordination and to work together for peace of Colombia. This group is dormant nowadays.

### 7.2.2 Andean migrant associations’ perception and reality of homeland engagement

Clearly there is an assortment of activities pursued by Andean migrant associations in Geneva and Vaud that target their respective countries of origin. However, it is worth noting that most of these associations do not consider these activities for their homeland countries a strategic priority or primary area of activity. The most common response to a survey question as to whether the association contributes to the development of its country of origin was simply “no” (with three exceptions - Bolivia 9, Asociacion Colombiana de Investigadores en Suiza and Asociacion Colombiana de Ginebra). Also, as Table 7.5 reflects, associations generally rated engagement in a range of homeland activities, from disaster response and health services to collective remittances and sociocultural exchange, as either never or seldom.

However, despite the negative responses from Andean associations regarding their contribution to development in their countries of origin, as well as the low frequency of related activities identified in the survey, as the analysis above substantiates, Andean migrant associations nevertheless do engage in a range of activities with their countries of origin. While the planning for and frequency of such activities may not match other association’ activities related to the integration of migrants in Switzerland, Andean associations in Geneva and Vaud are nevertheless involved with various assistance activities targeting their homeland countries.
7.3 Andean migrant associations’ host and home country engagements

As seen above, Andean migrant associations engage simultaneously in Switzerland and in countries of origin. Table 15 provides an overview of Andean association activities in host and home countries by type of association, helping to distinguish the engagements that the four types of associations prioritize. It also informs the typology presented in Table 16, which summarizes the diversity of activities and level of engagement of Andean migrant associations in Switzerland, particularly to the Cantons of Geneva and Vaud and in countries of origin.

According to the below table, Andean cultural associations are the most active in all type of activities in host and home country with different grade of engagement. The array of activities contributing to the integration process of their members and non-members of the same or similar migrant group in Switzerland is ample and covers the three dimensions of socio-economic, legal-political and cultural. They are also engaged in solidarity actions, legal counselling, health and social areas in Switzerland. Three of the five cultural associations engage sporadically in countries of origin in disaster relief, long-term social services and recognition of the role of migrants.

Andean awareness raising and information associations are active only in Switzerland. Their activities focus primarily on the socio-economic and cultural dimensions, and on the social and health areas of integration and solidarity domains respectively.

Andean solidarity associations are active in both host and home country. One, of the two associations, focuses its action in Switzerland, primarily on the health area and on socioeconomic and legal-political dimensions in the solidarity and integration domains respectively. It also engages sporadically in the country of origin in emergency situations linked to natural disasters. The other association focuses its actions in the country of origin; Ecuador mainly in long-term social services to assist vulnerable children and the disabled, and seldomly supporting disaster recovery and engages in Switzerland in solidarity action on health-related issues.

Finally, Andean scientific and academic associations are active primarily in their areas of interest in both Switzerland and countries of origin. They also engage in the three integration dimensions: socio-economic, legal-political and cultural, in Switzerland, in disaster relief and in the recognition of the role of migrants in countries of origin.
### Table 15. Andean associations activities in host and home countries by type of association

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Place of engagement</th>
<th>Activities</th>
<th>Type of association</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Cultural</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Host country</td>
<td>Information about Switzerland and administrative procedures</td>
<td>ACV AB9 ACP AEYAE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Socio-economic activities</td>
<td>Information about job opportunities</td>
<td>AEYAE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Information about French classes</td>
<td>ACV AB9 ACP AEYAE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Information about organization supporting migrants</td>
<td>ACV AB9 ACP AEYAE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Academic and scientific activities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal - political activities</td>
<td>Information on migrant rights and services</td>
<td>ACV AB9 ACP AEYAE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Conferences and debates on migrant issues</td>
<td>ACP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Advocacy and mobilization for migrant rights and services</td>
<td>AB9 AEYAE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Legal counselling</td>
<td>AEYAE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Political representation</td>
<td>ACV AEYAE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cultural activities</td>
<td>Conferences to promote the culture of the country of origin</td>
<td>AB9 ACP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Intercultural events such as festivals, religious, music, dance or food events for members, Swiss nationals and other nationalities</td>
<td>ACV ACP AB9 AIEG AEYAE</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The following typology shows the level of engagement of Andean migrant associations by the four types of associations in the four types of activities in Switzerland, and the three types of activities in the countries of origin. Three pluses (+++), represent the high level of engagement, two pluses (++) the medium level of engagement and one plus (+) the low level of engagement.
Table 16. Typology of activities in host and home countries by type of Andean association

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Place of engagement</th>
<th>Activities</th>
<th>Type of association</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cultural</td>
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<tr>
<td>Host country</td>
<td>Information about Switzerland and administrative procedures</td>
<td>++ Information about Switzerland and administrative procedures</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Information about French classes</td>
<td>++ Information about French classes</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Information about organization supporting migrants</td>
<td>++ Information about organization supporting migrants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Information about job opportunities</td>
<td>++ Information about job opportunities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Socio-economic activities</td>
<td>Information on migrant rights and services</td>
<td>++ Information on migrant rights and services</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Advocacy and mobilization for migrant rights and services</td>
<td>++ Advocacy and mobilization for migrant rights and services</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Political representation</td>
<td>++ Political representation</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Conferences and debates on migrant issues</td>
<td>++ Conferences and debates on migrant issues</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Legal counselling</td>
<td>++ Legal counselling</td>
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<tr>
<td>Legal - political activities</td>
<td>Information on migrant rights and services</td>
<td>++ Information on migrant rights and services</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Conferences and debates on migrant issues</td>
<td>++ Conferences and debates on migrant issues</td>
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<td>Legal counselling</td>
<td>++ Legal counselling</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Information raising and information</td>
<td>Information raising and information</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Solidarity</td>
<td>Solidarity</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Scientific and academic activities</td>
<td>Scientific and academic activities</td>
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<td>Academic and scientific activities</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Information about job opportunities</td>
<td>++ Information about job opportunities</td>
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<td>Information about organization supporting migrants</td>
<td>++ Information about organization supporting migrants</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Information about Switzerland and administrative procedures</td>
<td>++ Information about Switzerland and administrative procedures</td>
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<td>Information about organization supporting migrants</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Conferences and debates on migrant issues</td>
<td>++ Conferences and debates on migrant issues</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>Legal counselling</td>
<td>++ Legal counselling</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Place of engagement</th>
<th>Activities</th>
<th>Type of association</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Cultural activities | Intercultural events  
++  
Conferences to promote the culture of the country of origin  
++ | Awareness raising and information  
Intercultural events  
++  
Solidarity action  
Support and assistance in legal issue  
++  
Support and assistance in health issue  
++  
Support and assistance in social issues  
++  
Support and assistance in economic issue  
+ | Solidarity  
Support and assistance in social issues  
++  
Support and assistance in health issue  
++  
Support and assistance in legal issue  
+ | Scientific and academic  
Disaster relief  
++  
Long-term social services  
+  
Recognition of role of migrants  
+  
Academic and scientific activities  
+++  
Disaster relief  
+  
Recognition of role of migrants  
+ |
| Home country | Disaster relief  
++  
Long-term social services  
+  
Recognition of role of migrants  
+ | Support and assistance in health issue  
++  
Support and assistance in legal issue  
+ | Academic and scientific activities  
+++  
Disaster relief  
+  
Recognition of role of migrants  
+ |

+++ High engagement       ++ Medium engagement       + Low engagement
Chapter 7. Andean migrant associations activities

As the table above reflects, Andean migrant associations highly engage in cultural and socioeconomic activities, engage to a lesser but nevertheless notable level in legal-political and solidarity activities in Switzerland, and engage to a less degree in countries of origin.

Considering the characteristics of the Andean associations, one could say that Andean migrant associations exercise a “basic transnationalism”. Ambrosini (2014, p. 242) proposes a distinction between basic and advance transnationalism at the individual level. He argues on the one hand that basic transnationalism is related to newer migratory flows and is highly focused on sending remittances to and communicating with families left behind. Entrepreneurs concentrate their efforts in developing business in the host society, mainly couriers, money-transfer agencies and phone centres, instead of investing in the home society and associations are fragile. On the other hand, “advanced transnationalism” develops when well-establish migrant elite in the world of business, the voluntary sector and the political arena is formed. If these concepts are extrapolated to the organizational level, one can argue that Andean migrant associations in Switzerland are for the most part at a basic level of transnationalism where the primary focus is on Switzerland and the engagement with the countries of origin is sporadic given: 1) the characteristics of the Andean migrant associations, (focus on migrant group’s identity, traditions and culture and support on the integration process of their members), 2) the characteristics of association members (restricted rights as third nationals or undocumented), 3) their uneven simultaneous engagement in host and home societies. Two elements that contribute to progress from a basic to a more advance level of transnationalism are the stabilization of the living conditions of Andean migrant associations’ members in Switzerland, (which is a difficult task given the number of undocumented and the socioeconomic situation of many Andean migrants), and the maturation and institutional and financial strengthening of Andean associations.

This chapter first examined the activities carried out by Andean migrant association in the Cantons of Geneva and Vaud, as well as their countries of origin. It then, analysed the Andean migrant associations’ roles in the integration process of their members and non-members from same or similar migrant groups in the two cantons and their engagements in their countries of origin, as well as the solidarity action carried out in host and home countries, (hence, responding to the research questions 5 and 6). The chapter concludes that Andean migrant association in Geneva and Vaud cantons play a central role in migrants’ integration. Integration-related activities are the primary activity area for the associations, demonstrating that they contribute to and facilitate the integration process of their members and non-member migrants from the same or similar migrant groups. They also help vulnerable migrants to cope with their precarious situations in the cantons of Geneva and Vaud, providing health-related and legal support, social advice, and mutual aid to help migrants partially overcome adversity. Simultaneously, Andean migrant associations engage in a range of activities targeting their homeland countries, but these activities do not have the same degree of structured regularity as those related to integration and solidarity in the Cantons of Geneva and Vaud.

242 Ambrosini, “Migration and Transnational Commitment.”
Conclusion

This conclusive discussion aims to provide a comprehensive understanding of Andean migrant associations in the Cantons of Geneva and Vaud, paying attention to their most relevant characteristics with regards to their origin, structure, capacity development and interactions with relevant actors (characteristics discussed in Chapter 6). It also seeks to evaluate the degree to which the associations contribute to the integration of Andean migrants in their host country, as well as engage with their countries of origin, (analysis presented in Chapter 7). The discussion will refer to key concepts presented in the conceptual framework discussed in Chapter 1 to interpret the functioning and actions of the Andean migrant associations. This chapter also examines the implications of key findings from this study and concludes with a list of recommendations for future research.

Key findings and conclusions

This section summarizes the key findings of this study, addressing the six research questions. It begins with an introduction describing the simultaneous engagement of Andean migrants in host and home societies through migrant associations of their countries of origin. This discussion examines their transnational practises using transnationalism perspective, with attention to the simultaneity aspects based on the conceptual framework presented in Chapter 1. This section then addresses the four key lines of inquiry in this study: 1) Andean migrant associations in Switzerland, 2) their contribution to the integration process of members 3) their contribution to homeland engagements and 4) their solidarity actions, which reinforce the conceptual framework, transnationalism, as migrant associations are ‘per se’ an expression of the civic component of sociocultural transactional practices and migrant associations engagements. Those practices and engagements in host (integration process and solidarity) and home (homeland engagements) societies are evidence of the simultaneous engagements in the two societies.

Transnational practices and simultaneous engagement of Andean migrants and their associations in Switzerland

While the analytical focus of this study is Andean migrant associations, it is worth noting that at the individual level, Andean migrants engage in economic, political and sociocultural transnational practices. However, it is important to clarify that such transnational activity varies. Not all Andean migrants in the Swiss cantons of Geneva and Vaud engage in transnational practices. Some are mainly active only in the host country, Switzerland, although they maintain linkages with family and friends in their countries of origin, including sporadic home visits. On the other hand, some Andean migrants are more transnationally active, with affiliations and loyalties to multiple spaces at the same time, including the host society (Switzerland), the country of origin (Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador or Peru) and sometimes additional countries such as Spain, where some Andean migrants first migrated, given the colonial heritage, the cultural and language proximity and the economic opportunities before the 2008 crisis. This means on the one hand that transnationalism is not only bipolar, but sometimes multipolar; on the other hand, it means that migration can be a multistage process and not simply a trip from a point A to a point B.
Those Andean migrants simultaneously active in both (or more) societies engage in individual and collective trans-border practices that enable, as argued by Mazzucato (2008), linkages between dispersed people, with family and friends left behind in countries of origin, and also with other migrants from the same or similar migrant group in the host society. These migrants often introduce new livelihood opportunities. This is the case of additional income for households in countries of origin from monetary remittances sent to family members, which are invested in education, health, housing, and income generating activities. This is also the case of consumption and/or job and housing opportunities due to the personal or collective networks established in the host society, including migrant associations. These migrants develop hybrid identities, with activities in the host society and their country of origin, reflecting a presence of ‘here’ and ‘there’, reinforcing an identity with both societies’ rules, costumes and traditions.

At a collective level, Andean migrants also engage in all transnational practise dimensions through their participation in migrant associations. This research demonstrates that Andean migrant associations are active transnationally and engage primarily in sociocultural transnational practices. Most of the Andean associations are oriented towards reinforcing migrants’ ethnic identity, recreating a sense of community in both Geneva and Vaud cantons, maintaining contacts with their country of origin. In addition, as mentioned above, their existence is ‘per se’ an evidence of the civic component of sociocultural transactional practices. Few Andean migrant associations also engage in economic transnational practices through collective remittances collected in response to emergency situations such as natural disaster; in political transnational practices through support to community projects and charity organizations in their countries of origin; or through what is called ‘migrant politics’ (Ostergaard-Nielsen, 2003). This term refers to activities undertaken in the host society, in this study the Cantons of Geneva and Vaud, to improve the situation of Andean migrant groups.

The economic, politic and sociocultural transnational practices of Andean migrant associations are intrinsically related to their engagement and simultaneous influence on host and home societies. This results in contributions to the integration process of Andean migrants in Geneva and Vaud cantons, (summarized below in the section on integration process), and in contributions to their countries of origin (summarized below in the section on homeland engagements). However, the degree of engagement and influence varies greatly between the activities pursued by Andean associations in the two cantons and in the countries of origin. While these associations contribute significantly to the integration process of Andean migrants living in the two cantons, their engagement with and support to countries of origin is less substantial. In other words, this study concludes that relative to the engagement of individual Andean migrants with their countries of origin, the influence of associations’ collective homeland activities is less significant. This disequilibrium between the engagement in host and home countries is because the majority of associations give priority to contributing to the integration process of their members and non-members from same or similar migrant group in Switzerland in order to improve their living conditions and stability before engaging further in the countries of origin, exercising a “basic transnationalism”. This however is compensated by the exchange of material and nonmaterial resources from individual Andean migrants to their countries of origin.
The activities carried out by Andean migrant associations in Geneva and Vaud cantons highlight their important role supporting members and non-member migrants from the same or similar migrant groups through solidarity activities that assist migrants during difficult times. In relation to homeland engagement, such solidarity and identification with their cultural origin contribute to engagement with their countries of origin. For instance, when communities in countries of origin face natural disasters, migrant Andean associations often mobilize collective activities with their migrant group to raise resources and to support relief and recovery initiatives in the country of origin.

In summary, Tsuda (2012) claims that is critical to explore the dynamic relationship between migrants’ integration in the host society and the cross border engagements with their countries of origin as a ‘one coherent transnational process’; this study contributes to this area of research by providing evidence of simultaneous engagements in both host and home societies, drawing upon the case studies of Andean migrant associations in the Cantons of Geneva and Vaud. It concludes that these associations represent an opportunity for Andean migrants to find a space for collective discussion and action that can generate better integration in the Swiss society, and to a lesser degree simultaneously strengthen their homeland engagements.

Having contextualized the transnational practices and simultaneous engagement of Andean migrants and their associations in both the host country (Switzerland) and countries of origin, the following sections focuses on the three key areas of inquiry in this study: 1) migrant associations, 2) their contribution to the integration process of their members and 3) their homeland engagements.

Andean migrant associations – origin, structure, capacities and interactions

Findings on Andean migrant characteristics and capitals support the theory on migrant associations presented in the conceptual framework. Cattacin and La Barba (2007) argue that South American migrant associations focus on their communities and identity, provide mutual aid and play the role of stabilizing morals and values in multicultural settings. This is substantiated by the findings of the Andean migrant associations in the two cantons examined in this study.

Andean migrant associations provide a space for members and migrants from the same or similar migrant groups to collectively pursue cultural activities where Andean migrants socialize and develop or strengthen their networks. Although interrelationships between migrants are not limited to social relations acquired and cultivated in associative life, the associations and their networks nevertheless provide a support system and serve as a significant source of solidarity, conviviality and mutual aid. Association objectives and activities are oriented towards valorising their migrant group’s identity, traditions and culture, which also contributes to the integration process of their members and people from the same or similar migrant groups. In addition to providing mutual support and identity to Andean migrants, association’s cultural activities open to the general public helps to build understanding, respect and acceptance of migrants in the two studied cantons.

Andean migrants support their migrant associations by making available their capitals to serve associations objectives; at the same time, associations activities allow Andean migrants to develop and/or reinforce these migrant capitals. Primarily, Andean migrants contribute to their migrant associations with cultural and affective capitals, (e.g. cultural costumes and a sense of belonging) that strengthen the
associations’ common aim to valorise their migrant group’s identity, traditions and culture (see discussion on Structure below). Migrants also contribute with their social and symbolic capitals, including networks, connections and reputation in both home and host societies (see discussions on Structure and Interactions below). Migrants provide economic capital when they contribute to collective remittances collected by associations for countries of origin (see Section on Homeland engagements below), or fund association activities in the host society (see section on Integration below). Other forms of capital that migrants provide to the associations include human capital, such as skills and knowledge (see section on Capacities below), as well as local capital, such as permanent liaison with their region or municipality of origin (see section on Homeland engagements below).

**Origin**

Vermeulen (2006) argues that a set of key factors influence the formation of migrant associations, some are related to the migrant group and some others to the host society. The factors related to the migrant group are, first, the migration process, or the circumstances that cause migrant to migrate; these include the political and economic forces that shape motivations for migrant to relocate to the given host country. A second factor is the resultant characteristics of migrants that choose to migrate under these given circumstances. The third factor is the influence of countries of origin. The factors related to the host society are the context and influence of the given conditions that creates (or limits) demand and opportunity for migrant association formation, including accessibility to institutions such as churches, labour unions and welfare organizations, and the presence or absence of political place and resources for associations to organize and operate.

The following discussion summarizes key findings in relation to these three factors as they influence the formation of migrant associations in the two studied cantons, with conclusions responding to the research question, “How were the Andean migrant associations in the cantons of Geneva and Vaud formed, and what key factors influenced this process?”

Between 1990 and 2014, three primary waves established the twelve Andean migrant associations studied in the Cantons of Geneva and Vaud. One association was created in the beginning of 1990s, as a result of the active role of its country of origin. Seven associations were established at the end of 1990’s and the beginning of 2000s, largely in response to the increase of Andean migration in the two cantons due to the economic and socio-political conditions in countries of origin, as well as the labour demand in Switzerland. Then, between 2009 and 2014, four associations were formed, two as a result of their country of origin active role in their formation, one in response to the absence of its country of origin’s consular representation in Switzerland and one emerged from a cultural festival organized between a civic organization and migrant associations.

As premised in the theory of migrant association formation (see Chapter 1), these socioeconomic and political factors stemming from both Andean countries of origin and the host country, Switzerland, interact with and influence each other. For instance, the labour demand for care and domestic migrant workers in Switzerland has resulted in a predominantly female demographic representation from those countries and most probably has influenced the high number of undocumented Andean migrants. Related, the restrictive legal and policy environment in Switzerland influences the collective identity and actions of the Andean migrants, increasing migrant demand for
a safe ‘place’, which, in turn, influences the activities that migrant association pursue. Such symbiotic dynamics illustrate a more holistic, systemic perspective of Andean migrant associations and the role they play assisting migrants with the challenges they confront in a new and different society.

In conclusion, the formation of Andean migrant associations in the cantons of Geneva and Vaud were significantly influenced by the migration process, characteristics of the migrants and the conditions in the host country, Switzerland. This substantiates Vermeulen’s argument regarding these key factors. The Andean associations formed largely in response to increased Andean migration due to the political and socioeconomic conditions in the country of origin that motivated people to migrate. In turn, the economic demand and opportunity in the host country, Switzerland, shaped the demographic profile and characteristics of Andean migrants. While countries of origin played an active role in just in few cases (3 associations), it is worth noting that experience and know-how in the associative milieu, as well as capitals developed in countries of origin, also influenced and favoured the formation of Andean migrant associations.

**Structure**

The following discussion responds to the research question, “How are the Andean migrant associations structured, what are their strategic objectives and what type of activities did they pursue?”

As discussed in Chapter 1, migrant associations can be large and well-established, small and ephemeral, more or less formally structured, with very specific or broad objectives, and dynamic, with their characteristic changing over time. Andean migrant associations in the cantons of Geneva and Vaud are mostly structured organizations, small in size, with broad objectives and have gone through changes over time to adapt to new realities, as presented in Chapter 6. Other migrant associations in Switzerland have gone through similar processes, for instance migrant associations from Albania have modified their focus from politi-orientated due to war to integration-oriented once the war in Kosovo was over in 2006 (Matthey & Steiner, 2009).

To a large degree, the structure and management of Andean migrant associations in Geneva and Vaud reflect the guidance and instruction provided by the Swiss Civil Code, article 60. Andean migrant associations have statutes which guide their functioning and actions and are structured and managed by an elected board (composed by at least 3 members - president, secretary and treasurer) and a General Assembly. Some associations have working groups or subcommittees to support their work. The influence of the Swiss Civil code on migrant associations formation and operation reflects the pervasive effect of public policy and guidance on civic organizations.

Volunteerism plays a central role in the operations of the Andean migrant associations, as it does in most if not all migrant associations - see chapter 1. All members, including those on the Board, are volunteers seeking to contribute to the fulfillment of the association’s mission. However, being part of the association can also be a form of personal gain, i.e. gaining notoriety in order to economically develop, or to compensate for professional deskilling. Time, since they have jobs elsewhere, and financial resources, primarily obtained through events organized by the associations, are limited. These limitations plus the number of activities organized sometimes fatigue their members (mostly the board ones as they do the close follow up of activities) given that developing and managing an association is time and energy
Conclusion

Consuming, as seen in Chapter 1. The number of members greatly varies, between 9 and 56 people, with the exception of one association that counts with 100 members. Most associations also have supporters, ranging from 20 to 120 people, with the exception of one association which has 500 supporters. The primary source of funding for the association are the cultural events they organize for members, supporters and others.

It is worth noting that seven associations are led by women presidents and of the remaining five, two of them were until recently led by women presidents. This characteristic opposes the argument found in the literature (Vermeulen, 2006), which states that migrant associations have generally a male leadership. Quite likely this trend is linked to the feminization of Andean migration to Switzerland due to the influence of the type of labour demand (care, domestic and professional sectors), as well as the human capital of these women with a university level education, but unable to enter the Swiss labour market. It could also reflect the emancipation objective that led those women to migrate abroad.

It is also relevant to mention that Andean migrant associations have been able to strengthen their symbolic and bridging social capitals through their board members or funders’ roles in local politics, consultative commissions, interinstitutional working groups and civil society networks, as well as through their interactions and collaborations with relevant actors such as other migrant associations, civic organizations and public authorities. This topic is further developed below in the section on interactions.

With regards to the strategic objectives and the core activities pursued by the associations, all Andean migrant associations share the aim to valorise their migrant group’s identity, traditions and culture. Almost all associations provide activities supporting the integration process of members, with the exception of two associations that focus on promoting, supporting and diffusing scientific, academic and technologic development, and another that supports vulnerable children and the disabled in its country of origin. Many associations identified the relevance they play as a bridge between the migrant group and the host society, informing members about how to navigate the new society and to assist migrants in vulnerable situation.

Andean migrant associations’ activities in Cantons of Geneva and Vaud can be broadly classified into two categories. First are those activities performed that target members and sometimes non-members from the migrant group in the host country, Switzerland; these activities include those that contribute to migrant integration process, as well as assistance to members facing vulnerable situations through solidarity activities. Second are those activities performed that target the country of origin of the migrant associations; these include activities that contribute to development and humanitarian relief in their countries of origin. Further details on the activities carried out by Andean migrant association in this study and related conclusions are summarized in the sections below on integration process and on homeland engagements.

In conclusion, the structure of Andean migrant associations’ in Geneva and Vaud cantons has been significantly influenced by the Swiss Civil Code and related guidance and instructions from public authorities, which Indicates a very good knowledge and recognition of the dominant norms of the host society, as well as a will to “play the game” of standards defined by the host society. As expected, voluntarism plays a central role in the operation of Andean migrant associations, with members freely committing time and in-kind services towards the fulfilment of associations’
objectives. Some Andean migrant associations have been able to strengthen their bridging social capital through their board members or funders’ roles in local politics, consultative commissions, interinstitutional working groups and civil society networks.

Andean migrant associations share the strategic objective to valorise their country of origin’s identity, traditions and culture through activities which not only provide migrants from same or similar groups with a safe space and comfort zone to interact with peers, but also supports integration because it builds awareness, acceptance and respect among the Swiss population towards the Andean migrants and their home country cultures.

One of the most important conclusions is that the female prevalence in the Andean migrant groups in the two cantons influenced, on the one hand, the origin, structure and activities carried out by some of the associations and, on the other hand, the high rate of women leaders among several of the associations.

**Capacities**

Migrants contribute to the migrant associations they belong to with their capitals, as discussed in Chapter 1 and earlier in this Chapter. The board members, primarily, make available their human capital, skills and knowledge for the development and management of the associations, as well as their social capital, networks and connections and their symbolic capital and reputations to obtain capacity development trainings for the board members and sometime other members. Although Andean migrants belonging to Andean migrant associations in the cantons of Geneva and Vaud use their skills and knowledge to manage their associations, their leaders acknowledged the need for further capacity development. These same leaders use their social capital, networks and reputations, (as some are known for their work in local politics, consultative commissions or interinstitutional working groups, and for their active role in the local civil society network), to remain informed about and obtain capacity development opportunities for their associations and sometimes for themselves.

The following discussion summarizes key findings and conclusions related to the capacities of Andean migrant associations and their capacity development activities. It responds to the research questions, “Are Andean migrant associations aware of their capacity weaknesses and strengths? Are they willing to strengthen underdeveloped capacities? If so, how and through which means do they pursue capacity development?”

The Andean migrant associations studied recognize their weaknesses and the need of strengthening their capacities in areas such as financial management, fundraising, project and programme management, communication, governance and advocacy. Each of the above areas were identified by the associations as areas to improve (weaknesses), with the exception of governance and advocacy, which were broadly identified as strengths by the associations.

Andean associations are willing to strengthen their capacities and pursue capacity development in the above areas through training that is primarily provided by the cantonal and communal authorities in both cantons, as well as civil society providers. This is another example of the influence of the host country context and engagement of government agencies that can explain why associations’ structure and management mirrors guidelines provided by the government – as discussed above.
As seen in Chapter 4, to obtain partner status in the integration domain, public authorities demand from migrant associations to have a robust organizational structure and strong capacities in project development and implementation. For this reason, capacity development is a critical area for Andean migrant associations, (or for any migrant association), because it increases their ability to be recognized and engaged as a key partner by authorities and civic organizations in the domains of integration in the host society and development cooperation with countries of origin.

In conclusion, Andean migrant associations in the cantons of Geneva and Vaud recognize the need for and pursue organizational capacity development. There is a particular need for strengthening capacities for project and programme management, financial management, fundraising and communications. Public authorities and civic partners play a key role as a source of capacity development for the Andean migrant associations. They provide guidance, advice and training, which, as discussed above, also influences the formation of the associations.

Interactions

Developing and managing a migrant association is time-consuming, which often includes substantial time for networking with relevant actors, (discussed in Chapter 1). The following discussion to the research question, “Do Andean migrant associations collaborate with other migrant associations, public authorities and/or civic organizations in pursuit of their objectives? If so, what type of collaboration do they establish?”

The targeted Andean migrant associations partner with an assortment of organizations, including other migrant associations from the same or similar migrant group, migrant associations from other regions of the world, and local civic and public organizations. Direct collaboration with other migrant associations is typically with those representing the same migrant groups, as well as other Latin-American associations organizing cultural events together or joining forces in response to natural disasters in countries of origin. Some Andean associations partner sporadically with associations from other regions of the world advocating for migrants’ rights or for the recognition of the role played by migrant associations in supporting their migrant group.

Most of the migrant associations collaborate with Swiss cantonal and communal authorities in both cantons, as well as consulates from their countries of origin. This collaboration with authorities from the host and home societies, ranges from frequent to sporadic, and includes funding events, participation as speakers in roundtables or conferences organized by migrant associations. Some Andean migrant associations also partner occasionally with civic organizations to protect and support migrants and to collaborate in their integration process.

There are sometimes tensions or competition among Andean migrant associations of the same migrant group mainly due to the implementation of similar activities, similar networks and connections with relevant actors, and competition for funding opportunities since they serve the same target population. However, details of this tensions and misunderstanding are not revealed in this study for respect of the trust and openness of the key informants.

In conclusion, Andean migrant associations interact largely with migrant associations of the same or similar migrant group mainly co-organizing, through participation in or disseminating information about events they organize. This collaboration enhances the bonding capital of their members and strengthens their sense of belonging and
identity. Andean migrant associations also collaborate with public authorities, diplomatic representation of their countries of origins and with civic organizations during event organized by these actors or by the migrant associations themselves. These interactions boost the bridging capital of their members and play an important in the integration process.

Simultaneous transnationalism: host and home country engagements

Andean migrant associations in Switzerland are for the most part at a basic level of transnationalism where the primary focus is on Switzerland and the engagement with the countries of origin is sporadic due to the characteristics of the Andean migrant associations, which focus on migrant group’s identity, traditions and culture and support on the integration process of their members; the characteristics of association members, who have restricted rights as third nationals or are undocumented and their uneven simultaneous engagement in host and home societies. The stabilization of the living conditions of Andean migrant associations’ members in Switzerland and the maturation and institutional and financial strengthening of Andean migrant associations would contribute to the progress from a basic to a more advance level of transnationalism.

Integration process

Migrant associations play a central role in the settlement process and the integration of migrants into the host society. This includes the socialization of people of the same or similar migrant group, provision of services, advice and related support for employment and housing, introducing cultural practices specific to the host country and the countries of origin, and the dissemination of relevant information in relation to migrant rights and about the institutions that offer services to migrants, (discussed in Chapter 1).

Andean migrant associations in the two studied cantons follow the pattern presented in the conceptual framework given that they play a significant role in the integration of members and others from same or similar migrant groups. They are oriented towards the host society since they facilitate potential active citizenship through engaged participation within the associations, and provide networking opportunities with other migrant associations, civic organization and public authorities. The Andean associations are, at the same time, oriented towards specific cultural needs of the migrant group, providing a safe space among people from the same or similar culture, and embracing their traditions and identity. This dual orientation is also observed, for instance, in migrant associations from Portugal in Switzerland: the transition from temporary to settlement migration shifted association’s members openness and willingness for Swiss society and integration, yet the associations played an important role as a source of tradition, culture and recreation related to the shared Portuguese origin of their members (Fibbi et al., 2010).

The following discussion summarizes key findings and conclusions related to the contribution of Andean migrant associations in the integration process of their members and others from the same or similar migrant group. It responds to the research question, “To what degree do Andean migrant associations in the Swiss cantons of Geneva and Vaud contribute to the integration of Andean migrants in Switzerland?”

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243 Fibbi et al., “Les Portugais En Suisse.”
The process by which migrants adapt to and become accepted into Swiss society is the primary activity area of Andean migrant association in Geneva and Vaud cantons. The main activities carried out by the associations facilitate the integration process of their members and non-member migrants from the same or similar migrant groups. These activities play a significant role assisting migrants to settle into their new home in Switzerland.

Integration activity areas provided by Andean migrant associations in both cantons can be classified into two categories. First are those activities that provide advice, information, guidance and support to migrants to navigate legal and political and cultural dimensions of integrating into Swiss society. A second category of activities include those related to building awareness and acceptance by native Swiss people of Andean migrants by promoting the identity, traditions and culture of the respective Andean home country the association represents.

In the socioeconomic dimension, most of the Andean associations provide information to Andean migrants about their Swiss canton (Geneva or Vaud in this study), including common administrative procedures, as well as referrals to other organizations that support migrants according to their needs, (e.g. employment opportunities, health services, and French classes providers). These activities facilitate association members’ day to day lives, supporting them to better understand the societal norms and rules that allow migrants to better adapt and integrate into Geneva and Vaud cantons.

In the legal and political dimension, most of the studied Andean associations organize conferences, roundtables and debates about migrant issues, and provide information about migrant rights and services. In addition, some associations play a counsellor/advisor role with their members, assisting them with individualized information and advice on their rights, as well as the obligations they need to fulfil living in Switzerland. A few associations offer legal counselling, while some other associations organize to mobilize and advocate for migrants’ rights.

In the cultural dimension, all Andean associations in this study valorise their migrant group’s identity, traditions and culture, (as also noted earlier in this chapter). They do this through promoting cultural events, such as national holidays, festivals, and religious, music, dance and/or food events derived from their countries of origin. They also participate to cultural events organized by local authorities. Such activities prove to be an effective way to share with the Swiss society their Andean traditions and culture, building familiarity among Swiss participants that helps demystify the migrants, building Swiss appreciation and respect for them, which contributes to the migrants’ integration process.

With regards to the type of association and activities related to integration in Switzerland. Andean cultural associations are the most active in Switzerland with an array of activities contributing to the three dimensions of the integration process of their members and no-members of the same or similar migrant group. Andean awareness raising and information associations are active only in Switzerland focusing primarily on the socio-economic and cultural dimensions of the integration process. Andean solidarity associations are active in Switzerland on the socioeconomic and legal-political dimensions of the integration process. And finally, Andean scientific and academic associations are active primarily in their areas of interest in Switzerland engaging in the three integration dimensions.
In conclusion, Andean migrant associations in Geneva and Vaud cantons play a critical role in migrant integration. Integration-related activities are the primary activity area for the associations and demonstrates that these associations contribute to and facilitate the integration process of their members and non-member migrants from the same or similar migrant groups. Andean migrant associations provide advice, information, guidance and support to migrants to navigate legal, political and cultural dimensions of integrating into Swiss society and, at the same time, build the awareness and acceptance of native Swiss people of Andean migrants by promoting the identity, traditions and culture of the respective Andean home country the association represents. At the same time, through these activities the associations create a feeling of recognition (self-esteem) among their members, and especially among their leaders, who can recover a protagonist social role that is often lost as a result of the migratory process.

This evidence supports the initial hypothesis of this study – that Andean migrant associations make an important contribution to the integration process of their members and people from the same or similar migrant group.

**Homeland engagements**

Migrants associations can play a variety of roles in their homeland, such as: intermediaries for lifecycle events and payment of community taxes; political activists and advocates; charitable organizations or fund raising for specific development projects; short-term aid providers; and stimulating knowledge networks and transfer, (discussed in Chapter 1). In the two cantons studied – Geneva and Vaud - Andean migrant associations played a few of these roles, some of them providing short-term aid in case of natural disasters, a few supporting the provision of social services and a few others supporting knowledge networks. Migrant associations in Switzerland from other migrant groups also engage in countries of origin from very different perspectives, such as the Tamil whose associations focus on the political situation in Sri Lanka, and who ensure that their compatriots contribute financially to the cause (Matthey et al., 2009). Another example are migrant associations from Senegal that engage in cooperation projects with the country or region of origin through partnerships with non-governmental organizations, academic sector and public authorities (Maggi et al., 2013).

The following discussion summarizes key findings and conclusions related to the Andean migrant association homeland engagements. It responds to the research question, “To what degree do the Andean migrant associations engage with and provide support to their homeland countries of origin?”

While Andean migrant associations engage in a range of activities targeting their homeland countries, research conducted in this study concludes that such engagement with countries of origin is sporadic, and these activities do not have the same degree of structured regularity as other association activities, such as those related to integration. However, as Chapter 7 notes, it is worth remembering that individual Andean migrants engage to varying degree with their home country independent of migrant associations (i.e. remittances and knowledge sharing with family and acquaintances).

When Andean migrant association do engage with their homeland countries, the activity focus is typically related to areas such disaster relief, long-term social services, and the recognition of their role as migrants in countries of origin. Disaster relief, one of the primary forms of association engagement, can explain the sporadic frequency
of engagement that matches that of the occurrence of disaster. In response, Andean migrant associations mobilise members and other supporters to participate in events they sponsor that generate money to send back to the affected population. During such efforts, they often partner with other migrant associations from the same migrant group to collaborate for a greater return on investment.

Other areas of action pursued by migrant associations are long-term social services in their Andean homeland, such as education, income generation, health services, scientific and cultural exchange initiatives and the recognition of migrants’ role and contributions in countries of origin.

With regard to the type of associations and activities in countries of origin, Andean cultural migrant associations engage sporadically in disaster relief, long-term social services and recognition of the role of migrants. One of the Andean solidarity associations engages sporadically in emergency situations linked to natural disasters, the other association focuses its actions in the country of origin; Ecuador mainly in long-term social services to assist vulnerable children and the disabled. Finally, Andean scientific and academic associations are active sporadically in disaster relief and in the recognition of the role of migrants in countries of origin.

In conclusion, Andean migrant associations engage in a range of activities targeting their homeland countries, but these activities do not have the same degree of structured regularity as other association activities, such as those related to integration and solidarity. Nevertheless, they still are a notable activity area for few associations as demonstrated in this study. One of the main activity area Andean migrant association engage in countries of origin is response to and recovery from emergency situations and disaster. This reflects the loyalty to and solidarity towards their countries of origin and people left behind.

None of the Andean associations are fully dedicated to activities contributing to development cooperation projects, nor have they established partnerships with governments, non-governmental organizations or the private sector to implement development projects. This evidence counteracts the initial hypothesis of this study on the significant role played by Andean migrant associations in contributing to development in countries of origin, at least as active participants in development cooperation projects.

Solidarity actions

Solidarity is an intrinsic element present in all associations, although at different degrees. While solidarity action is not explicitly stated in any of Andean associations’ objectives\(^\text{244}\), it is very much part of their daily activities and it is the engine that drives their actions. It is worth noting that this topic was not identified as an explicit area of research for this study at the initial stage, but it emerged during data collection as a key contribution of migrant associations to the migration process of their members. Therefore, the following discussion summarizes key findings and conclusions for this area of findings.

Some Andean migrants in the two cantons face difficulties and precarious conditions with regards to accessing employment and housing, having decent working conditions and wages, facing health issues or domestic violence. Such adversity is especially relevant to the undocumented migrants who face a latent state of vulnerability,

\(^{244}\) Although solidarity is included in the name of Colombia Vive, Asociacion cultural y solidaria.
described by Oris (2017, P. 13) as, “the more or less generalized, more or less localized deficiencies in resources that increase the probability that the risk will occur and/or reduce the capacity to cope with the risk”.

Some Andean migrants face vulnerabilities due to a number of reasons, including their legal status (difficulties to obtain or maintain a work permit and residency; their socio-economic conditions, including precarious employment or housing, low wages, lack or low of social and human capitals; and their demographic characteristics, with a high number of Andean women migrants working in the care sector, which is less economically secure). As a result, many Andean migrants are susceptible to a vulnerability cycle, and considerable effort is required of individuals to grow, learn and adapt from experience. Those vulnerable Andean migrants find in migrant associations a way to cope with the vulnerability they face, and migrant associations contribute to alleviate, when possible, their difficulties in an assortment of ways.

Andean associations help vulnerable Andean migrants to unite and adapt to the often-complicated living conditions, providing a secure place to interact with others from same or similar migrant groups, to develop or strengthen networks, and share information about employment and self-development (e.g. language trainings), and provide a sense of familiarity through a collective of people who share a linguistic and cultural background.

In the cantons of Geneva and Vaud, some Andean migrant associations provide support and assistance to Andean migrants through legal advice and helping migrants with obtaining health-related services and information. To some extent, the associations can replace support systems traditionally provided by the family.

Solidarity is also reflected in the collective objective and sense of duty many associations provide to engage in issues related to their countries of origin. This is especially noted in the provision of relief and recovery activities pursued by some Andean associations after floods, earthquakes or other natural disasters that occur in their homelands, or through specific social services to vulnerable populations in their countries of origin, such as for disadvantaged children and the disabled.

With regards to the type of associations and solidarity actions, Andean Cultural associations engage in legal counselling, health and social areas in Switzerland. Andean awareness raising and information associations are active on the social and health areas in Switzerland. Finally, Andean solidarity associations are active in both host and home country; one, of the two associations, focuses its action in Switzerland, primarily on the health area, the other association focuses its actions in the country of origin, Ecuador mainly assisting vulnerable children and the disabled.

In conclusion, Andean migrant associations help vulnerable migrants to cope with their precarious situations in both cantons, underscoring the importance of the solidarity function of these associations. They share relevant information on employment, health services and trainings, providing legal and social advice and mutual aid to help migrants partially overcome adversity. Andean migrant associations also provide a space through which migrants express their loyalty, commitment and solidarity with their countries of origin during emergencies or through social services contributions to vulnerable populations. However, such activities are less structured and are more ad hoc in occurrence than the integration activities pursued by migrant associations.

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245 Oris, “Vulnerability. A Life Course Perspective.”
Implications of findings

This study contributes to the state of knowledge and understanding of Andean migrant associations through twelve case studies of associations in the Swiss cantons of Geneva and Vaud. In doing so, it also provides a new source of primary data on the topic of Latin American migration studies in Switzerland, as well as Europe as a whole. This research is notable in that its focus is on the migrant associations at the meso-level, versus individuals or communities.

The study provides evidence that Andean migrant associations play a significant role supporting the integration of migrants in the cantons of Geneva and Vaud in Switzerland. This includes activities specifically designed to help migrants adapt and acclimate to their host country, as well as activities that promote the culture and traditions of the homeland, which not only builds solidarity (as to be expected) but demystifies the local perception of migrants within the cantons, building host society awareness, respect and acceptance of Andean migrants.

The findings and conclusions of this study are particularly relevant today, as international migration has become a nearly universal phenomenon affecting virtually all countries of the world (UN, 2017). Integration is a critical aspect to understand and plan for migration interventions. The European Agenda for the Integration of Third-Country Nationals (EC, 2016) recognizes integration as the most effective way to realize the potential of migration. Integration will increasingly play a key role in destination countries, such as the primary destinations countries in Europe. This study helps understand the potential role that migrant associations can play in the integration process of migrants, including the potential partnership between migrant associations and the host society’s government and civic organizations.

Recommendations for future research on the topic

Migration in general, and migrant associations in particular, are rich and relevant research topics with a variety of potential areas for further study. As already noted, while most research on Latino migration to Switzerland has focused on the individual or the community level, this research has explored the migrant organizational level. The following list, although far from exhaustive, summarizes some additional areas of research identified through this study:

- Longitudinal research on the evolution and changing dynamic of Andean migrant associations studied here, selecting a few case studies. This methodological approach would contribute to a more in-depth understanding of the subject.
- Research comparing the role of non-Andean migrant associations with the Andean associations in the two cantons focused on in this study – Geneva and Vaud. This comparison would shed light on the characteristics of each migrant group and its activities related to host and homelands engagements.
- Research on the role of Andean migrant associations on integration in other Swiss cantons, and/or other European countries. This comparison would deepen the understanding of the impact of the migrant association’s context, (e.g. Swiss French-speaking vs. German-speaking cantons and Switzerland Andean communities vs. Spanish, English, French or Italian Andean communities).

• Research examining/comparing the effect of different government policies and approaches to migration in the 26 cantons in Switzerland (as affected by their distinct context). This analysis would inform how governmental policies on migration impact migrants and the migrant association process.

• Research on Latino undocumented migrants in the cantons of Geneva and Vaud, their key characteristics, and recommendations as to how to overcome their vulnerabilities and challenges. This analysis would contribute greatly to the studies carried out on undocumented migrants in the two cantons and Switzerland overall. The Latino population is the more preponderant among the undocumented population, but research of this population is challenging given the difficulty accessing undocumented migrants.

• Research on the impact of the Papyrus programme on the status of Latino documented and undocumented migrants in Switzerland. This analytical focus would increase the literature on undocumented migrants. Related, contrary to the previous research topic, access to those who applied to the Papyrus Programme would be less complicated if the research is carried out in collaboration with the authorities of the Canton of Geneva and with the agreement of programme participants.
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Andean migrant associations’ host and home country engagement


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Annex 1. Preliminary database of Andean migrant organizations in the Cantons of Geneva and Vaud

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Contact details obtained through the Office of Integration of Foreigners in Geneva, the Cantonal Office of Integration and Prevention of Racism in Vaud and the Consulates of Bolivia, Colombia and Peru.

Contact detail of “La Escuelita de Onex were obtained through the Colombian Consulate as part of the list of the Colombian migrant associations, however the association recognizes itself as a Latin American association according to its website.
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<td>21</td>
<td>Asociación Peruanos en Suiza</td>
<td>Peru</td>
<td>Geneva</td>
<td>Consulate</td>
<td>Web platform</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Asociacion Peruana de Academicos e investigadores en Suiza</td>
<td>Peru</td>
<td>Geneva</td>
<td>Consulate</td>
<td>Part of the study</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Association les Enfants du Pérou</td>
<td>Peru</td>
<td>Geneva</td>
<td>Consulate</td>
<td>NGO - out of the scope of the study</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Asociación Tarpuy Suiza</td>
<td>Peru</td>
<td>Vaud</td>
<td>Consulate</td>
<td>NGO - out of the scope of the study</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Asociación Cultural Perú</td>
<td>Peru</td>
<td>Vaud</td>
<td>Consulate</td>
<td>Part of the study</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Annex 2. Interview questionnaire

Questionnaire on migrant associations from Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru in the Cantons of Geneva and Vaud

Introduction
This interview will be used in my PhD research at the University of Geneva to better understand the role of migrant associations from Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru in Geneva and Vaud Cantons – Switzerland, in the areas of integration and development.

Thank you for taking the time to meet me and respond to my questions about the association you represent!

Origin and history of the association
7) Could you please tell me about the origins and some of the history of the association?

Topics to be covered:
- Name, date and place of establishment.
- Type of association (area of focus) and geographical scope.
- Factor influencing formation.

Objectives and activities
8) Could you please share with me the association’s main objective and activities?

Topics to be covered:
- Main and secondary objectives.
- Type of activities (related to integration, development and others).

Structure, capacities and interactions
9) Could you please share with me the association’s functioning (structure, capacities and interactions)?

Topics to be covered:
- Structure (management, members and volunteers, financing).
- Inhouse capacities and capacity development resources.
- Partnerships or collaboration with other migrant associations, public authorities and/or civic organizations.

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249 Interviews were conducted using a narrative technique that consisted of formulating a general question for the interviewee to describe the origins and history of the association. In this way the interviewee was able to freely tell her/his personal story about the association, in a relaxed way, without much interruption, allowing the researcher to come to an integral and evolving understanding of the factors influencing the establishment of the association. The researcher was then able to clarify and explore certain topics in more detail with the interviewees.
Annex 3. Survey questionnaire

Questionnaire on migrant associations from Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru in the Cantons of Geneva and Vaud

Introduction (informed consent)

This survey will be used in the PhD research of Victoria Castillo at the University of Geneva to better understand the role of migrant associations from Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru in Geneva and Vaud Cantons – Switzerland, in the areas of integration and development.

Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey, which should take between 10 to 20 minutes.

You do not need to complete any part of this survey that you do not feel comfortable with, or for which you do not have sufficient knowledge to respond to a question. Although voluntary, your participation and responses are of great importance for the success and quality of this research.

By completing this survey, you consent to me using the information you provide for my graduate research, (and I again thank you very much). If, however, you do not want your Association’s name mentioned in the research, please let me know via email.

If you have any questions or comment related to the survey, please contact me at maria.castillo@etu.unige.ch.

1. Association background information

1. Association name:
2. Date the Association was established:
3. Location the Association was established:
4. Briefly, please describe the mission statement or primary objective of the Association:
5. Association geographic scope/focus (you may select more than one if appropriate):
   i. Local to community or city/Canton in Switzerland
   ii. National throughout Switzerland
   iii. International (outside of Switzerland)
   iv. Local, national and international
2. **Association activities**

6. Please indicate the degree to which the Association is active in Switzerland in the following areas:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Never</th>
<th>Seldom</th>
<th>Often</th>
<th>Always</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Migrant integration</td>
<td>Information about Switzerland / Canton of Geneva and Vaud and administrative procedures</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Socio-economic integration</td>
<td>Information about housing opportunities</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Socio-economic integration</td>
<td>Information about job opportunities</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Socio-economic integration</td>
<td>Information about French classes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Socio-economic integration</td>
<td>Information about organizations supporting migrants</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>French classes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vocational-job training</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vocational-job counselling and/or placement services</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Migrant integration</td>
<td>Information regarding migrant rights and services</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Migrant integration</td>
<td>Conferences, debates and other public forums related to migrant issues</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Migrant integration</td>
<td>Advocacy for migrant rights and services</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Migrant integration</td>
<td>Legal counselling and services</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal and political integration</td>
<td>Political representation Switzerland</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal and political integration</td>
<td>Conferences to promote the culture of the country of origin of the Association and its diaspora in Switzerland</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cultural integration</td>
<td>Cultural events for the membership such as national holidays from country of origin of the Association, festivals, religious, music, dance or food events</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

250 Vertical columns are not included in the disseminated survey questionnaire, it is for personal reference.
## Andean migrant associations’ host and home country engagement

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Activities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Other</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Intercultural events with membership and Swiss nationals or people of other nationalities such as festivals, religious, music, dance or food events</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Spanish classes for Latin American migrant children</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Information about Latin American shops, restaurants and meeting points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Research on topics related to migrants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Support and dissemination of activities in Switzerland related to the scientific, technological and academic development of the country of origin of the Association</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Relations with agencies and institutions that facilitate cooperation between Switzerland and the country of origin of the Association in the technological, scientific and academic fields</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Support and assistance activities in Switzerland</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Support and assistance in legal issue (detention, labour exploitation, human trafficking)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Support and assistance in health issue (accident, sickness, psychologic illness)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Support and assistance in economic issue (precarious living conditions)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Support and assistance in social (lack of family or network in Switzerland)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fundraising for Association members, individual from Association’s country of origin or Latin American in Switzerland</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

7. Please indicate any other activity the Association does in Switzerland
8. Please indicate the degree to which the Association is active in the country of origin of the Association in the following areas:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Never</th>
<th>Seldom</th>
<th>Often</th>
<th>Always</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Support in response to natural disaster</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Support in response to conflict</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rural development</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Urban Development</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Education / Training</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Employment</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Environmental conservation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Health services</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Strengthening civil society organizations</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Support academic, political or cultural exchange with country of origin</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Collective remittances to communities in the Association’s country of origin</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Political representation or involvement in the Association’s country of origin</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fundraising for individuals or communities in country of origin</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

9. Please indicate any other activity the Association does in the country of origin of the Association

3. **Association structure & management**

10. Does the association have formal statutes or a constitution to guide how it functions? Y/N

11. Does the association have a written strategy identify its strategic objectives for a set period of time (work plan)? Y/N

12. The Association is structured by *(please check any that apply from the following list):*

   i. Board, Committee or another elected body:
   ii. General Assembly
   iii. Working groups or sub-committees
   iv. Other *(specify): ____________

13. If the Association has a Board, Committee or Body, please indicate which positions it has:

   ___ It has a president
   ___ It has a Secretary General
   ___ It has a Treasure
   ___ It has a Vice-president
   ___ It has a working group coordinator
   ___ Other: *(specify) ____________________

14. Number of active Association registered members:

15. Number of Association “friends” or “supporters” on record:

16. Does the Association have volunteers actively involved in its operations?  
   Y/N

17. If the Association have volunteers, how many:

18. How does the association finance itself? (you may select more than one response)
   i. Membership fees
   ii. Events
   iii. Consultancies
   iv. Contributions from Swiss government sources
   v. Donations from private businesses
   vi. Donations from individuals
   vii. Other (specify) __________________________

19. The Association’s 2016 annual budget was:
   i. Less than 2,000CHF
   ii. Between 2,000 – 5,000
   iii. Between 5,000 – 10,000
   iv. Greater than 10,000

4. **Capacity development and strengthening**

20. In what area/s do you think the Association would need to strengthen its capacities? (check the corresponding options):
   i. Project or programme management
   ii. Governance
   iii. Financial management
   iv. Fundraising
   v. Communications
   vi. Advocacy
   vii. Other (specify) __________________________
21. Have members of the Association participated in or received any training? Y/N
   a. If members of the Association have received training in the framework of their associative work, please indicate the areas and sources:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project or programme management</th>
<th>BCI Vaud</th>
<th>BLI</th>
<th>FEDEVACO</th>
<th>BIE Geneva</th>
<th>International Solidarity Service Geneva</th>
<th>FGC Geneva</th>
<th>Maison Kultura</th>
<th>Other</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Governance</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial management</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communication</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advocacy</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5. **Partnerships**

22. Is the Association a member of a federation? Y/N

23. Does the Association collaborate with other associations? Y/N
   a. If yes, please list of the name/s of the migrant associations that your Association collaborates with and their origin (same country of origin of the Association, Association of another Latin American country - indicating the country-, Non-Latin American Association - indicate the country):
   b. If the Association collaborates with other migrant associations, how often does it do it?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Associations of same country of origin of the Association</th>
<th>Seldom</th>
<th>Often</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Associations of another Latin American country</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Latin American Association</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
24. Does the association collaborate with civic organizations in Geneva and/or Vaud Cantons? Y/N
   a. If yes, please list of the name/s of the civic organizations that your Association collaborates with specifying the Canton where they are established:
   b. If the Association collaborates with civic organizations, how often does it do it?
      _____ Seldom
      _____ Often

25. Does the Association collaborate with public (government) institutions in Geneva and/or Vaud Cantons. Y/N
   a. If yes, please list the name/s of the public institution your Association collaborates with:
   b. If the Association collaborates with civic organizations, how often does it do it?
      _____ Seldom
      _____ Often

6. Integration and development cooperation

26. Do you consider that the Association facilitates the integration in Switzerland (Geneva / Vaud) of its members and non-members of the same or similar migrant group? (please explain)

27. Do you consider that the Association contributes to the development of the country of origin of the Association, through its activities in Switzerland or Bolivia / Colombia / Ecuador / Peru? (please explain)

You have reached the end of the questionnaire. thank you very much for your cooperation!
Annex 4. Participant observation activities and working groups

Migrant associations:

**Association Bolivia 9:**
- Fete de l’Unite, Geneva 4 March 2017
- Fete de l’Unite, Geneva 5 March 2016
- Fete de l’Unite, Geneva 24 Janvier 2015

**Asociacion Colombia Vive**
- Juntos por Mocoa - Solidarity event for the victims of the floods in Mocoa in Collaboration with ACIS, Lausanne 8 April 2017
- Colombia Vive Festival, Lausanne 18 July 2015
- Colombia Vive Festival, Lausanne 19 July 2014

**Asociacion Colombiana de Investigadores en Suiza - ACIS**
- Member since 2012
- Vice-President and member of the Geneva Committee 2014-2017
- Active participation to board meetings, general assemblies and events in Lausanne, Geneva and Bern (2014-2017).

**Asociacion de Colombianos de Ginebra - ACOGE**
- Novena de Navidad - Christmas event December 2014

**Plateforme Suisse – Colombie / Festival Colombia**
- Founder member (2014)
- Active participation to board meetings, general assemblies and events in Geneva (2014 – 2017)

**Asociacion de Ecuatorianos y Amigos del ecuador en Lausanne**
- Solidarity events for the victims of the Ecuadorian earthquake, Lausanne 23 April 2016

**Warmi – Soutien aux Femmes Latinoamericaines**

**Maison Kultura**
- 2017 General assembly with the participation of Bolivia 9, Plateforme Suisse – Colombie/ Festival Colombia and Warmi, June 2017

**Migration and Integration**
- 2ème Forum sur l’intégration des étrangers à Genève (forum on the integration of foreigners in Geneva), 1 April 2017. Event organized by the associations Baobab d’Afrique, Bolivia 9, Culture d’ici et d’ailleurs, Echoes d’Afrique, Espace Afrique, Fédération Maison Kultura, Reformat, Association Culturelle Luso-Suisse (Laços), SAFEVAD, Université Populaire Africaine with the
Andean migrant associations’ host and home country engagement

collaboration of Unia Union and with the support of the Swiss Confederation, the Canton and City of Geneva.


Migration and Development

- Member of the Swiss Civil Society Platform of Migration and Development. Active participation 2015 - 2016
- Member of the Migration and Development Working Group of the Fédération Genevoise de Coopération (FGC - Cooperation Federation of Geneva). Active participation to plan and implement activities 2012 - 2014
## Annex 5. Studied Andean migrant associations’ websites and social media

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Associations</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Canton</th>
<th>Website</th>
<th>Facebook page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Asociacion Bolivia 9</td>
<td>Bolivia</td>
<td>Geneva</td>
<td><a href="http://www.bolivia-9.ch">www.bolivia-9.ch</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Asociacion de Colombianos en Ginebra</td>
<td>Colombia</td>
<td>Geneva</td>
<td><a href="http://www.facebook.com/ACOGE/">www.facebook.com/ACOGE/</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Plateforme Suisse – Colombie / Festival Colombia</td>
<td>Colombia</td>
<td>Geneva</td>
<td><a href="http://www.facebook.com/Festivalcolombiasuiza/">www.facebook.com/Festivalcolombiasuiza/</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Asociacion Colombiana de Investigadores en Suiza</td>
<td>Colombia</td>
<td>Vaud</td>
<td><a href="http://www.acis.ch">www.acis.ch</a></td>
<td><a href="http://www.facebook.com/AsociacionColombianaDeInvestigadoresEnSuiza/">www.facebook.com/AsociacionColombianaDeInvestigadoresEnSuiza/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Colombia Vive</td>
<td>Colombia</td>
<td>Vaud</td>
<td><a href="http://www.colombiavive.com">www.colombiavive.com</a></td>
<td><a href="http://www.facebook.com/colombiavive.suiza/">www.facebook.com/colombiavive.suiza/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Association pour l’intégration des Equatoriens de</td>
<td>Ecuador</td>
<td>Geneva</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Genève - AIEG</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Voluntariado Ecuatoriano Residente en Suiza</td>
<td>Ecuador</td>
<td>Vaud</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>en Lausanne</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Warmi – Soutien aux femmes péruviennes</td>
<td>Peru</td>
<td>Geneva</td>
<td><a href="http://www.facebook.com/War">www.facebook.com/War</a> miSoutienAuxFemmesLatinoAmericaines/</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Asociacion Peruana de Academicos e Investigadores</td>
<td>Peru</td>
<td>Geneva</td>
<td><a href="http://www.apais.ch">www.apais.ch</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>en Suiza</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.facebook.com/Asociacion-Cultural-Peru-43374216244170/">www.facebook.com/Asociacion-Cultural-Peru-43374216244170/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Asociación Cultural Perú</td>
<td>Peru</td>
<td>Vaud</td>
<td><a href="http://www.acperu.ch">www.acperu.ch</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>