

Strengthening the Economic Circuit in the Food Axis: Challenges and Opportunities for the Popular and Solidarity Economy in Chimborazo

Doris Nataly Gallegos Santillán¹, Sandra Iveth Huilcapi Peñafiel², Gema Viviana Paula Alarcón³, María José Álvarez Verdezoto⁴, Ortega Huilcapi Lizeth Katherine⁵, Andrea Catherine Zapata Amores⁶

¹Carrera de Economía, Facultad de Ciencias Políticas y Administrativas, Universidad Nacional de Chimborazo, Ecuador. dgallegos@unach.edu.ec

²Carrera de Economía. Facultad de Ciencias Políticas y Administrativas, Universidad Nacional de Chimborazo, Ecuador. shuilcapi@unach.edu.ec

³Carrera de Contabilidad y Auditoría, Facultad de Ciencias Políticas y Administrativas, Universidad Nacional de Chimborazo, Ecuador. gemapaula@unach.edu.ec

⁴Institución o universidad a la que está afiliado el autor *UNIVERSIDAD NACIONAL DE CHIMBORAZO
Dirección de correo electrónico institucional maria.alvarezv@unach.edu.ec

⁵Correo electrónico: Lizortega_huilcapi@hotmail.com ORCID:<https://orcid.org/1665-1674-1665-1674>

⁶Centro de Especialidades HISTOLAB Ecuador, andyza_92@hotmail.com
ORCID:<https://share.google/DoEe4MR3KZv42tQNB>

HOW TO CITE: ABSTRACT:

Doris Nataly Gallegos Santillán, Sandra Iveth Huilcapi Peñafiel, Gema Viviana Paula Alarcón, María José Álvarez Verdezoto, Ortega Huilcapi Lizeth Katherine, Andrea Catherine Zapata Amores (2026). Strengthening the Economic Circuit in the Food Axis: Challenges and Opportunities for the Popular and Solidarity Economy in Chimborazo

International Journal of Special Education, 41(20s), 1665-1674

COPYRIGHT STATEMENT:

Copyright: © 2026 Authors. Open access publication under the terms and conditions of the Creative Commons Attribution (CC

BY) license
(<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>).

The Economic Circuit Eje Alimentos and its Impact on the Popular and Solidarity Economy in the Canton of Riobamba, Province of Chimborazo addresses the impact of the popular and solidarity economy on the production and marketing of vegetables, dairy products and quinoa. Using qualitative and quantitative methods, a situational diagnosis was made through surveys and interviews, reaching a sample of 257 producers.

The results indicate that the implementation of the popular economy has improved the productivity, quality of life and income of this group, highlighting a 60.3% female participation in the sector. Despite the advances, challenges in commercialization still persist due to intermediaries and the need for technical training. The conclusions suggest that, through technical advice, training and financing, more favorable conditions have been generated for producers, promoting their inclusion in the market. It is recommended to work on improving the quality of products and strengthening alliances between the productive sectors to optimize production, marketing and access to financing, thus boosting the local economy and contributing to the eradication of poverty in the region.

Keywords: Popular and Solidarity Economy, Economic Circuit, Agricultural Production, Sustainable Development.

Introduction

The popular and solidarity economy emerged as a set of economic strategies and practices that, whether individual or collective, are self-managed by the same actors involved (Maya et al., 2022). Emphasizing the person as the central subject of economic activity, this approach prioritizes good living and harmony with nature over the mere search for profit and capital accumulation. Recent studies emphasize this approach, suggesting that it is essential for fostering sustainable development and resilience within communities (Rezabala and Felipe, 2024).

The concept of the economic circuit, which models the interrelations of the sectors in the economic system, implies the interaction between economic actors, specifically families and companies (Mejía et al., 2022). This bond, although functionally distinct, is complementary and seeks to satisfy human needs. According to recent studies, strengthening these circuits can play a crucial role in improving general well-being and promoting the local economy (Sakurai, 2021).

Within the taxonomy of economic circuits are simple, complex, and solidarity circuits. Solidarity circuits are defined by their ability to establish reciprocal relationships between subjects, promoting collective well-being and socioeconomic development. According to Lee (2020), these circuits act as a nexus between economic and sociocultural aspects, strengthening the networks of popular and solidarity economy in various regions.

In the current context of Ecuador, the province of Chimborazo has actively adopted the popular and solidarity economy, facilitated by initiatives of the Institute of Popular and Solidarity Economy. This effort is part of a series of public policies promoted by the Agenda of the Ministry of Economic and Social Inclusion between 2001 and 2013 and continues today (Camino et al., 2023). The implementation of programs such as Spinning Developmenty Vulcanizer Partnerit has allowed the strengthening of key sectors such as manufacturing, services and food, through citizen fairs, training, and access to financing. Recent studies indicate that these policies have substantially improved the living conditions of local producers (Castro et al., 2022).

Historically, vegetable, dairy, and quinoa producers in Chimborazo faced significant challenges, including low-quality production and inefficient marketing, compounded by a system full of middlemen who exploited these producers. Recent research highlights the importance of addressing these inequalities through the organization and empowerment of local actors, incorporating a gender perspective that favors inclusion (Kasparian et al., 2023). Thus, it is essential to demonstrate, through socioeconomic indicators, the positive or negative influence of the intervention of the popular and solidarity economy in the lives of these producers.

In addition to the economic impacts, it is crucial to consider the social and cultural dimensions that accompany the practice of the popular and solidarity economy (Vera, 2024). These approaches not only seek to improve the quality of life of producers, but also promote the strengthening of cultural identity and social cohesion in communities. By refocusing economic dynamics towards collaboration and mutual support, a more robust social fabric is created, in which community values and solidarity become pillars of local development (Rivera, 2024).

On the other hand, the integration of appropriate technologies and continuous training are key elements to maximize the potential of producers in Chimborazo. Initiatives that promote technical education and knowledge transfer allow these actors not only to adopt more efficient production methods, but also to adapt to market demands. This, in turn, opens up new avenues for innovation and competitiveness in a globalized world, where resilience in the face of economic and environmental shocks is more critical than ever (Tobar et al., 2022).

A case study on the production of vegetables, dairy products and quinoa in the Riobamba canton is presented as an opportunity to demonstrate the relevance of these practices in an area of great agricultural and livestock potential. When analyzing the results, alternatives are glimpsed that can strengthen both the agricultural sector and the national economy as a whole.

Background

The province of Chimborazo, known for its

agricultural wealth and the diversity of food products, has been the subject of various investigations that address the popular and solidarity economy, especially in the food sector. One of the most relevant studies is that of Aguilar et al. (2021), which examines the impact of local fairs as a strategy to strengthen smallholder marketing skills. The authors found that these fairs not only improved the sale of local products, but also fostered social cohesion and a sense of belonging among producers.

Another significant study was conducted by Gualán (2022), who analyzed the marketing system of agricultural products in Chimborazo. Zambrano identified that intermediaries and wholesale merchants controlled a large part of the transactions, generating a cycle of exploitation that harmed producers. Her research proposed the need to implement solidarity marketing alternatives, highlighting how these could empower farmers and improve their living conditions.

In addition, in the work of Luque and Peñaherrera (2021), explore the experiences of agricultural cooperatives in the Riobamba canton within the context of the popular and solidarity economy. This study revealed that cooperatives not only facilitated the production and marketing of food, but also supported practices that promoted gender equity and social inclusion, offering an organizational model that could serve as a reference for future public policies.

In addition, a recent study by Pilatásig (2023) focused on the resilience of quinoa producers in Chimborazo to climate change. Paredes concluded that popular and solidarity economy initiatives, such as organic farming and crop diversification, were effective strategies to address environmental challenges, while also improving food security in the region.

Finally, the research of Lascano (2021)It focused on the role of information technologies in the popular and solidarity economy, emphasizing how digital platforms were beginning to transform the way local producers could market their products more directly, eliminating or reducing dependence on intermediaries. This highlighted the importance of education and technical training for the empowerment of farmers.

Theoretical foundation

Popular and Solidarity Economy (EPS)

The popular and solidarity economy is an approach that seeks to promote forms of economic organization that prioritize equity, social inclusion, and sustainability, as opposed to the neoliberal model that tends to favor capital accumulation and profit. According to Arias et al. (2018), the EPS is configured as a "set of economic forms and practices, individual or collective, self-managed" where the actors are simultaneously producers, consumers and suppliers. This model is characterized by its orientation towards good living, integrating economic, social and environmental dimensions.

Recent research has reinforced the idea that EPS has the potential to contribute to local development by generating employment, improving the quality of life and reconnecting communities with their social and natural environment (Sarmiento, 2025). This approach is especially relevant in the Ecuadorian context, where public policies have begun to recognize its importance for the inclusion of historically marginalized groups.

Economic Circuit

The concept of economic circuit refers to the dynamics of interaction between the different instances of the economic system. According to Villar (2023), two agents intervene in a basic economic circuit: families and firms, which, although functionally different, are complementary and contribute to satisfying human needs. The economic circuit is made up of various stages, such as production, distribution and consumption, and in the context of EPS, each stage can be integrated into a model based on cooperation and not only on competition.

Economic circuits can be classified as simple, complex and solidary. As he points out Gualán (2022), the latter focus on the search for general well-being and the articulation of responsible exchanges, fostering reciprocal relationships between actors. In the food axis, the solidarity circuit enhances local production by facilitating direct interactions between consumers and producers, avoiding intermediaries that often affect farmers' profits.

Food and Rural Development Axis

The food axis is crucial for the popular and solidarity economy, especially in regions such as Chimborazo, where agriculture plays a fundamental role in the subsistence and economic development of the population. Chipantiza et al. (2021) They affirm that public policies that have promoted the strengthening of economic circuits in this sector have made it possible to improve the productivity and quality of life of small agricultural producers.

In this context, initiatives that connect local producers with the community through fairs, popular markets and cooperatives stand out. By establishing these connections, not only is the marketing of local products ensured, but also the social cohesion and cultural value of agricultural production is strengthened (Zambrano et al., 2024).

Socioeconomic Impact and Public Policies

The implementation of the EPS in Chimborazo has been accompanied by public policies that seek to promote the economic and social inclusion of disadvantaged groups. According to the Agenda of the Ministry of Economic and Social Inclusion in Ecuador (1665-1674), the programs implemented in this region have had a direct impact on the lives of thousands of producers, improving not only their income level, but also their community organization and leadership (Murillo et al., 2025).

An analysis of these policies shows that, although significant progress has been made, challenges related to the sustainability and effectiveness of interventions remain. It is essential to continue researching the socioeconomic conditions of producers in the food axis to identify areas for improvement and ensure that interventions continue to be relevant and effective in the changing context of the popular and solidarity economy (Ramírez & Zambrano, 2024).

Gender Perspectives in EPS

The inclusion of the gender perspective in the popular and solidarity economy is an important aspect that requires attention in research on the economic circuit in the food axis. The EPS should not only focus on economic aspects, but also on

how roles and resources are distributed between women and men within the communities (Feijó, 2024). Recent research has shown that when women have access to resources and opportunities within the EPS, there is a positive effect on family and community well-being (Carranza et al., 2025). Women's empowerment in the economic sphere can be a significant driver for sustainable development and for true social equity.

Materials And Methods

According to the characteristics of the research, the deductive, descriptive and analytical method was used, which served to obtain real data, which later generated results that allowed us to strengthen the economic activity in the Popular and Solidarity Economy in the Riobamba canton through the Food Axis Economic Circuit. It was used to process the information obtained through field research, composed of surveys, interviews and observation aimed at people immersed in the Food Axis Economic Circuit in the Riobamba canton and a general vision of the investigated problem was obtained.

This method was applied to describe the productive activities of the products carried out by the people involved in the Food Axis Economic Circuit and in this way point out how it has affected the Popular and Solidarity Economy of the Riobamba canton to contribute to improving their living conditions. This method was considered, in the analysis of the definitions to be developed in the theoretical framework and the diagnosis in order to reach a pertinent and clear conclusion of the subject, this allowed the study of the socioeconomic situation of the people immersed in the Food Axis Economic Circuit in the Riobamba canton, which determined its impact on the Popular and Solidarity Economy.

Through this type of research, the people involved in the Food Axis Economic Circuit participated, in which techniques and instruments were applied for data collection and then analyzed to be able to propose conclusions and recommendations. The technique used for the field research was: the survey, which allowed direct contact with the problem posed. The surveyed population is 720 producers of the Economic Circuit Eje Alimentos of the Riobamba Canton. After applying the sample formula to the 720 producers of the Food

Axis Economic Circuit, the sample of 257 people surveyed is obtained.

A survey was applied that served to measure the impact of the Food Axis Economic Circuit on

the Popular and Solidarity Economy of the Riobamba canton. For the processing of the information of the surveys, the Microsoft Office Excel package was used, through which a database was made for the tabulation of the surveys, this database was entered into the statistical program SPSS 22, which yielded data for the respective analysis. For the discussion of the results, analysis and synthesis were applied, the results of the research allowed to determine if the proposed objectives were achieved and also to test the hypothesis, in order to elaborate the conclusions and recommendations, to test the hypothesis the Chi-Square was used.

Results And Discussion

The Popular and Solidarity Economy is applied in Ecuador, particularly in the province of Chimborazo, Riobamba canton, promoting the participation of producers of the Food Axis Economic Circuit, as a viable form of economic organization, an alternative to the traditional economic system, which seeks to get citizens actively involved in development, in addition to improving social and economic relations. working together supporting alternatives that improve living conditions. The initiatives of the Popular and Solidarity Economy are promoted and supported by the Institute of Popular and Solidarity Economy (IEPS) in the Riobamba canton, this organization directly supports the actors of the Food Axis Economic Circuit with organization, training, technical advice and financing, and promote the production of vegetables, dairy products and quinoa since it is a strategic area potentially agricultural and livestock.

Taking into consideration the methodology set out above, it was possible to determine the causal relationship between the economic circuit of the food axis and the popular and solidarity economy of the Riobamba canton, due to the availability of statistical data in the first place, because Chimborazo is predominantly agricultural and livestock and, due to the application of surveys in inclusive citizen fairs; thus obtaining the pertinent elements of judgment to infer the impacts in the

province of Chimborazo. Likewise, the objectives set out in the research have been taken into consideration, from which the indicators of the development of local producers have been derived, the results of which are detailed below:

● □ **Gender.** - Of a sample of 257 producers in the economic circuit in the food axis, 60.3% are women and 39.7% are men, considering that the age of the producers in the circuit is over 40 to 75 years of age. The female gender has been a beneficiary, since belonging to the economic circuit of the food axis, women have developed in the production of vegetables, being part of the programs of the Institute of Popular and Solidarity Economy, there has been a greater participation in citizen fairs, entrepreneurship, organizing themselves in associations with the technical advice corresponding to each sector of the axis food circuit without neglecting the participation of the male gender since Its contribution to this food circuit lies in the area of livestock and quinoa production.

● □ **Basic Services.-** 77.6% of the population, which makes up the economic circuit of the food axis, does have access to these services according to their needs and own resources, since most of them live in conditions of poverty, in this sector the support of the Institute of Popular and Solidarity Economy is not notorious; since its competence is not the provision and care of basic services; rather, Their participation is given directly to the support of production and incentive to agriculture and livestock.

● □ **Education.** - It can be seen that 57.6% of the population has a primary education level, 7.8% secondary, 0.4% university and 34.2% indicate that they have not completed formal education. Most of the members of the food axis circuit are between 40 and 75 years of age, which implies that most of them did not have formal education, but the government has tried to promote formative education through the literacy program in this way promoting learning to improve the development of their activities.

● □ **Housing.-** In terms of housing, 91.4% have their own home, 4.3% rent and 4.3% have a borrowed home; therefore, it is stated that

the housing of the members of the economic circuit is according to their living conditions, most of them have their own home, observing a state of the house in regular to poor conditions, with brick or block predominating as the predominant material of the walls of the exteriors and the roof material of most of the houses are made of asbestos eternit, thus considering that the impact of the work of this Institute of Popular Economy is not reflected in a considerable support in terms of an incentive to improve the state of the housing.

● □ **Health.** - In health, 73.2% attend a sub-center, 13.6% attend peasant insurance, 9.3% traditional medicine, 2.7% attend a public hospital and 1.2% attend a private doctor. According to the income of the members of the economic circuit food axis, they have the ability to cover their health expenses, the fact that they are producers does not have enough income to go to a private doctor, which is why they attend the public health centers of each parish of the Riobamba canton.

● □ **Productive Activity and Economic Activity.** - The productive situation indicates that 72.8% of the population has agriculture as its main activity, 25.7% livestock and the complement to these activities is commerce, which represents 65.4%, while its economic activity represents 100% production and marketing. As the canton of Riobamba and the province of Chimborazo are eminently agricultural and livestock, with the action of the Institute of Popular and Solidarity Economy, these areas have been strengthened by generating and supporting entrepreneurship and with it, employment opportunities, thus achieving an increase in income to improve their living conditions.

● □ **Production Area.** - The number of annual harvests carried out by producers is 28.8% who produce only once a year, 22.6% who produce 2 times a year, 21.4% who produce 3 times a year and 6.2% who produce 4 times. In this area, the support of the Institute of Popular and Solidarity Economy towards this sector in technical advice regarding the irrigation area, whether by sprinkler, drip or gravity, regardless of each planting; at the same time, it coordinates production to be able to market in the markets created by this organization.

● □ **Annual Production.** - The number of annual harvests carried out by producers is 28.8% who produce only once a year, 22.6% who produce 2 times a year, 21.4% who produce 3 times a year and 6.2% who produce 4 times. In this sense, producers are benefited with financing to acquire seeds and inputs necessary for the production of their soils and technical advice. With regard to the associative production and marketing of quinoa, this institute has promoted its cultivation with greater emphasis, due to its nutritional values and because it is a product that represents high export rates. Milk production, on the other hand, is carried out every day of the year, so its conditions are suitable for small producers to dispose of their livestock according to their economic conditions and, because their production is small and their income is minimal, they do not have specialized

machinery to transform the product and give it added value. so they make cheeses and cheeses in an artisanal way and, therefore, there has been no evidence of a direct boost from this institute to this sector.

● □ **Destination of production.** - The destination of production is distributed as follows: 15.6% sell stockpilers, 49.6% to processing companies, 73.2% to local consumers, 11.7% to intermediaries, 1.2% to retailers and 26.1% to local wholesalers. Small producers of vegetables and quinoa market their products on fair days in the different cantons of Chimborazo, where consumers flock en masse, but, among the main drawbacks, there are the low prices of agricultural and livestock production, due to intermediation or because they do not meet the quality requirements demanded in the places of sale. this being a bottleneck in the application of solidarity circuits; and therefore, of the appropriate application of strategies for opening and consolidating national and international markets. In products such as quinoa, producers sell the cereal mostly to processing companies, who give added value to the product, they also do so with stockpilers to whom they sell in smaller quantities, and to intermediaries according to the number of bags of quinoa they put on the market.

● □ **Form of Participation.** - 37.4% participate as a family, 28% belong to an association, and 34.6% individually or

independently. With the direct help of institutions such as the Institute of Popular and Solidarity Economy, the producers of the economic circuit of Chimborazo are committed to associative marketing as a strategy to improve access to markets that promote sustainable production; however, it has not been possible to eliminate bottlenecks such as intermediation, which affects the drop

in prices and therefore, their economic benefits.

● **Income and Expenses.** - 65% of those surveyed respond that they are dedicated to producing vegetables and that their monthly income is less than \$340, 10.1% that they are dedicated to dairy and say that their estimated monthly earnings are from \$341 to \$500 and 24.8% state that they are dedicated to producing Quinoa and receive an annual income of \$700 to \$1000. 93.8% of the surveyed population responds that their monthly expenses are on food, 23.3% on transportation, 9.3% on health, 6.6% on public services, 0.4% on clothing, and 67.7% on education. Because the actors of the popular and solidarity economy are small vegetable producers, their income does not exceed the basic living wage, that is, their income is subsistence, being \$340 per month, with which they can access food, transportation, basic services and education as a priority, this has allowed them to improve their living conditions. generating that they are reinserted into the local economy, strengthening the agricultural production branch. The income generated by dairy production is between \$341 and \$500 per month, with which they can access food, transportation, health, basic services and education mainly, in addition this has allowed producers to have access to credits, increase their livestock, improve their living conditions, this because the price of a liter of milk has increased its value and its quality has managed to better possess this sector of the production. Quinoa allows the producer to receive from \$700 to \$1000 per year, that is to say that the profit generated must be invested to be able to generate another activity that allows them to have a monthly income to live, the fact that they receive these values does not mean that they leave the ranges of poverty, and this sector has access primarily to food, transportation, basic services and education.

● **Losses and Gains.** - 69.9% state that they do obtain profits by being participants in the economic circuit – food – while 2.7% state that they have losses and 27% state that they sometimes make profits. The producers of the economic circuit axis food at the time of marketing vegetables, dairy products and quinoa by strengthening their production mostly mention that if they receive profits from what they produce, a part of the surveyed population produces to subsist and sell in small quantities, they mention that sometimes they win and sometimes they lose and a minimum part of the population loses when marketing their products since they do not they can recoup their investment in the production process.

By way of discussion, it is highlighted that before the participation of vegetable, dairy and quinoa producers in the province of Chimborazo, they were characterized by greater intermediation when selling their final product, due to the fact that there was not enough openness on the part of the markets; also, the exploitation by the intermediary of the producer in terms of price fixing; that the income they received from their production did not exceed investment expenditure and did not contribute to improving their living conditions; they did not have the credit capacity to access financing from private entities that at the time would have been conducive to improving their production; the little intervention of public entities, so indicators such as poverty, unemployment, education, housing, in this sector of the economy did not show growth; and, because there was no associativity on the part of the producers, so it was not possible to manage technical advice, provision of machinery, financing.

Comparatively, as there is the intervention of the popular and solidarity economy in the food axis of the economic circuit of this province, it was evident that the direct marketing of the producer to the final consumer, through the creation of citizen fairs, and a wide range of markets; the setting of prices is done in a standard way for all producers, the income they receive from their production does not exceed the minimum living wage, but it is a subsistence income that has allowed them to improve their living conditions; public financial institutions have implemented

programs to finance productive enterprises and thus encourage producers to improve the agricultural sector; The popular and solidarity economy has contributed to improving the socioeconomic conditions of these sectors of production, since the benefits they have received are: better incomes, better sales, and in this way sources of employment have been generated; and that support organizations such as the Institute of Popular and Solidarity Economy, have intervened directly in terms of organization, training, financing and technical advice, and promoting associativity to strengthen the production and marketing of vegetables, dairy products and quinoa.

Conclusions

The Popular and Solidarity Economy has contributed to the productive development of the Food Axis Economic Circuit, through the implementation of enterprises, which has made it possible to generate greater diversification and enhancement of the production of vegetables, quinoa and dairy products, consequently improving productivity and marketing, hence the products have a better quality, which is why the income level of families in this sector has increased.

The economic activity of the Food Axis Economic Circuit, by applying the Popular and Solidarity Economy, has improved the indicators through technical advice, organization, training and financing, generating greater production, which has allowed them to participate in the market as direct actors in the production and marketing of their products both independently, and in a family or associative, obtaining benefits by accessing a greater number of markets and citizen fairs and in this way they have improved their sales, which has favorably affected the economic growth of the agricultural activity of the Riobamba canton.

In the social aspect of the Food Axis Economic Circuit in the Riobamba canton, it is evident that when applied to the Popular and Solidarity Economy, their living conditions have improved,

the organizational capacity and leadership with the inclusion of gender is highlighted, highlighting the participation of women with 60.3% in the communities, provoking interest in the problems of the sector to combat the low level of education of the inhabitants. the high levels of poverty and migration, through the generation of employment that has allowed them to insert themselves into the economy of the sector.

It is recommended to work together with the entities and institutes of standardization and regulation in the quality of the products, so that these are not only products for national consumption but also for export, obtaining their respective certification and complying with international requirements and in this way promoting the industrialization of the products to increase production. specializing the actors in their activity in order to offer quality products and create supply chains between the productive sectors to potentiate their sector and make it competitive against the large existing private chains.

It would be important to strengthen alliances, integration between the productive sectors to generate favorable conditions to manage the activities of production, marketing, circulation and consumption of goods and services, articulating all the programs and projects offered by the Popular and Solidarity Economy in order to offer all the benefits to the actors such as; training, advice, financing, access to the means of production and technology, economic and social inclusion, promoting the principles of equality and equity.

The budget of programs and projects should be increased so that there is greater coverage of the beneficiaries and thus promote entrepreneurship, work, employment in order to reduce poverty, for which brigades of advisors, motivators, trainers should be created, to look for people who are in a vulnerable state to enter the programs and projects of the Popular and Solidarity Economy and access the benefits that they have to offer. provide the sector and improve their socioeconomic conditions.

References

- Aguilar, J., Avalos, V., Moncayo, Y., & Carrión, M. (2021). Fair trade a strategic option to improve the agricultural marketing system. *Research and Business Journal*, 14(23), 1665-1674.

http://www.scielo.org.bo/scielo.php?pid=S1665-16742021000100049&script=sci_arttext

- Arias, R., Yuquilema, J., & Aguirre, J. (2018). Popular and Solidarity Economy: Its Evolution in the Ecuadorian Context. *Contributions to the Social Sciences*, 1, 1665-1674. <https://www.eumed.net/rev/cccss/2018/01/economia-popular-ecuador.zip>
- Camino, S., Merino, V., Basurto, M., & Sánchez, I. (2023). The control standard for the management of environmental and social risk for COACs and their impact on the development of micro-entrepreneur members who produce or market alcoholic beverages of the Cooperativa Comercio LTDA. *MQRInvestigar*, 7(2), 1665-1674. <http://www.investigarmqr.com/ojs/index.php/mqr/article/view/353>
- Carranza, C., Villalba, U., Hurtado, G., & Villavicencio, N. (2025). Experiences of ecosocial transition in Ecuador from the social solidarity economy and agroecology. *Iberoamerican Journal of Development Studies=Iberoamerican Journal of Development Studies*, 1665-1674. <https://papiro.unizar.es/ojs/index.php/ried/article/view/10636>
- Castro, S., Chima, E., Orbe, M., & Ordoñez, C. (2022). The historical evolution of the popular and solidarity economy and its contribution to the economy of Ecuador. *Revista Decisión Gerencial*, 1(2), 1665-1674. <https://decisiongerencial.ucacue.edu.ec/index.php/decisiongerencial/article/download/21/24>
- Chipantiza, J. G., Bonilla, A. E., & Jativa, M. F. (2021). Horizontal-vertical urban and peri-urban gardens for the promotion of sustainable environmental education. *University Education*, 14(2), 1665-1674. https://www.scielo.cl/scielo.php?pid=S1665-16742021000200165&script=sci_arttext
- Feijó, N. (2024). Determining factors of the viability of microenterprises in Ecuador with a gender perspective. Case of Manabí. <https://helvia.uco.es/handle/10396/28374>
- Gualán, J. (2022). Factors that promote the growth of non-financial associations within the "Popular and Solidarity Economy" in the provinces of Ecuador [PhD Thesis, Universidad Autónoma de Nuevo León]. <http://eprints.uanl.mx/23004/1/1080315803c.pdf>
- Kasparian, D., Súnico, A., Grasas, J., & Cófreces, J. (2023). Socio-labour inclusion of low-income women in the digital economy: A comparison between corporate and cooperative domestic work platforms. *Social Sciences*, 12(10), 579. <https://www.mdpi.com/1665-1674/12/10/579>
- Lascano, L. (2021). Creation of a digital collection management platform for the financial sector of the Popular and Solidarity Economy of Ecuador. <https://repositorio.flacsoandes.edu.ec/handle/10469/18506>
- Lee, S. (2020). Role of social and solidarity economy in localizing the sustainable development goals. *International Journal of Sustainable Development & World Ecology*, 27(1), 1665-1674. <https://doi.org/10.1080/13504509.2019.1670274>
- Luque, A., & Peñaherrera, J. (2021). Credit Cooperatives in Ecuador: The Challenge of Being Cooperatives. *REVESCO: Journal of Cooperative Studies*, 138, 1665-1674. <https://dialnet.unirioja.es/servlet/articulo?codigo=7873084>
- Maya, M., Pila, B., & Ramos, V. (2022). Relationship between innovation and competitiveness of enterprises in the non-financial sector of the popular and solidarity economy. *Management Studies*, 11, 1665-1674. <https://www.redalyc.org/pdf/7198/719877740012.pdf>
- Mejía, R., Arico, D., Ramos, S., & Villavicencio, N. (2022). The Kurikancha Experience: Plaza de la vida y la resignification de las prácticas económicas hegemonicas través de los Circuito Económicos Solidarios Interculturales (CESI). *Tekoporá. Latin American Journal of Environmental Humanities and Territorial Studies*. ISSN 1665-1674, 4(1), 1665-1674. <https://www.revistatekopora.cure.edu.uy/index.php/reet/article/view/145>
- Murillo, J., Mendoza, C., Yáñez, L., & Vélez, R. (2025). Barter as a sustainable cultural practice for healthy eating in the students of the Tena Higher Technological Institute. *Revista Científica Arbitrada Multidisciplinaria PENTACIENCIAS*, 7(3), 1665-1674. <http://editorialalema.org/index.php/pentaciencias/article/view/1518>
- Pilatásig, F. (2023). The effects of climate change on quinoa production and the adaptive capacity of farmers in the community of San José in the Juan Montalvo parish of the Latacunga canton. <https://repositorio.utc.edu.ec/items/2c3e1565-ab4e-1665-1674c1665-1674a12b90a252>
- Ramírez, L., & Zambrano, E. (2024). Social Marketing, an opportunity for socioeconomic development for the population victim of forced displacement in Fresno, Tolima. <https://repository.ucc.edu.co/entities/publication/450dd21c-eee1665-1674bd7-b1b1-ef8efc5b06a7>
-

- Rezabala, Y., & Felipe, P. (2024). Agroproductive model of commercialization for the popular and solidarity economy, Manabí, Ecuador. *Interdisciplinary Peer-Reviewed Journal Koinonia*, 9(18), 1665-1674. https://ve.scielo.org/scielo.php?script=sci_arttext&pid=S1665-16742024000200019
- Rivera, K. (2024). The Popular and Solidarity Economy and the Socioeconomic Development of the Merchants of the Lizarzaburu Market (San Francisco) Riobamba [B.S. thesis, Notional University of Chimborazo]. <http://dspace.unach.edu.ec/handle/51000/12404>
- Sakurai, Y. (2021). Possible challenges to the welfare state in a post-COVID-19 society: An illustration from a citizen's perspective. *The International Journal of Interdisciplinary Civic and Political Studies*, 16(2), 21. <https://search.proquest.com/openview/1944b2663e1599dbe5dad234f80e3cf9/1?pq-origsite=gscholar&cbl=5529413>
- Sarmiento, I. (2025). Multivariate statistical modelling of the factors associated with the development of the Popular and Solidarity Economy. <http://repositorio.untumbes.edu.pe/handle/20.500.12874/65631>
- Tobar, A., Ortega, E., Rivera, P., & Moya, D. (2022). From a Popular and Solidarity Economy to a Social and Community Economy: Ecuador as a case study. *Revista Economía y Política*, 1665-1674. <https://publicaciones.ucuenca.edu.ec/ojs/index.php/REP/article/view/4172>
- Vera, T. (2024). Popular and Solidarity Economy Policies and Strengthening Strategies for the Development of Local Enterprises of the GADPSE. [Master's Thesis, La Libertad, Santa Elena Peninsula State University, 2024]. <https://repositorio.upse.edu.ec/handle/46000/10919>
- Villar, S. (2023). Microeconomics. <https://ridaa.unq.edu.ar/handle/20.500.11807/4114>
- Zambrano, J., Zambrano, V., & Mieles, D. (2024). Community Enterprises and their Impact on the Economic, Social and Cultural Development of Ecuador: A Systematic Review of the Literature. *Ciencia Latina Revista Científica Multidisciplinar*, 8(6), 1665-1674. <https://www.ciencialatina.org/index.php/cienciala/article/view/14671>