Government & Commerce

Atlanta is home to the Consulate General of the Republic of Ecuador. Mr. Francisco Riofrio serves as the Consul General. The Consulate serves the states of Georgia, Tennessee, North Carolina and South Carolina. In addition, Ms. Patricia Elena Boezio serves as Honorary Consul.

Georgia also hosts the Ecuadorian-American Chamber of Commerce. The chamber strives to promote and develop trade and investment opportunities for entrepreneurs in Georgia and Ecuador. The chamber hosts an annual Ecuadorian Trade & Tourism Expo Fair which includes a festive celebration of Ecuadorian culture and community. Mr. Cesar Loor Solorzano serves as president.

The Atlanta Botanical Gardens hosts students from Ecuador to learn horticulture skills during a three month program coordinated in collaboration with the Maquipucuna Foundation. This non-profit organization is dedicated to the conservation of Ecuador's biodiversity and the sustainable use of natural resources.

Ecuadorian representatives joined Georgia’s 27th annual International VIP Tour in March of 2012. This tour showcased tourism destinations, business and economic development partnerships and provided opportunities for diplomatic corps to meet local Georgians.

The Lovett School in Atlanta purchased a piece of cloud forest property in Ecuador, named Siempre Verde, to create a protected nature reserve and establish a research center to support tropical conservation education. Siempre Verde offers opportunities for U.S. and Ecuadorian students to conduct research and exchange ideas.

The Georgia Aquarium hosts the annual Frank Ski Kids Planet Green Essay Contest which awards students with an opportunity to visit one of Ecuador’s most popular tourist and academic destinations, the Galapagos Islands.

The Georgia Institute of Technology, the University of Georgia, Georgia Southern University and Middle Georgia College all offer study abroad programs to various cities in Ecuador, including a conflict resolution program in Quito, a Spanish language program in Cuenca and a student teaching program in Quito.

Trade Relationship

EXPORTS: In 2012, Georgia exports to Ecuador totaled $177 million, a 45.9% increase over 2011. Ecuador is currently the 39th largest export market for Georgia.

Top exports from Georgia to Ecuador include soybean oil, paper products, aircraft parts, chemical wood pulp, cotton, electronics and petroleum.
Georgia leads the nation in the export of the following goods to Ecuador: soybean oil (1st), live chickens (1st), cocoa (1st), kaolinic clays (2nd), civilian aircraft parts (2nd), cotton (2nd) and motorcycles (2nd).

IMPORTS: In 2012, Georgia’s imports from Ecuador totaled $62 million. Ecuador ranks 67th among Georgia’s top importer nations.

Top imports from Ecuador include fish, crustaceans, cane sugar, ceramics, batteries and fruits.

Capital Investment

There are approximately eight Georgia companies that have operations in Ecuador, including but not limited to:

- Ciba Vision Corporation
- Crawford & Company
- Delta Air Lines Inc.
- Equifax Inc.
- Havells USA Inc.
- Hooters of America Inc.
- The Coca-Cola Company
- UPS Supply Chain Solutions

Transportation

Delta Air Lines offers daily direct flights to Quito.

The Georgia Ports Authority (GPA) in Savannah has an established relationship with two Ecuadorian ports, the Port of Esmereldas and the Port of Guayaquil. GPA offers one weekly shipping service route to each port with multiple carriers.

About GDEcD

The Georgia Department of Economic Development (GDEcD) plans, manages and mobilizes state resources to attract new business investment to Georgia, drive the expansion of existing industry and small business, locate new markets for Georgia products, inspire tourists to visit Georgia, and promote the state as a top destination for arts events and film, music and digital entertainment projects. Visit www.georgia.org.

*Information valid as of April 2013