



Integrating the local context into a road development scheme

During rehabilitation work on the road running through Tamanredjo, in Suriname, the project took full account of the local context and of the needs of the population. A veritable success that satisfied all of the stakeholders.

DESIGNING A PROJECT INTEGRATED INTO ITS ENVIRONMENT

Initially the rehabilitation project for the Meerzorg–Albina road, in Suriname, intended to bypass the city of Tamanredjo, a solution viewed unfavourably by local people who saw a threat to their commercial activities and to their way of life. This project would eventually have led to relocation of businesses along the bypass, which would have been prejudicial to local life.

Egis took up the challenge of adapting the project and proposed a route through the urban area that was in line with local people's needs as well as satisfying the needs of road users. Movements of two-wheeled vehicles were facilitated by the creation of clearly indicated lanes and safety of access to buses was improved to ensure that the development scheme took full account of local modes of traffic flow.

Egis worked successfully with the local stakeholders (residents, business owners and local authorities) to identify all of the implications of the project, respond to stakeholders demands and participate in the development of the urban centre.



LOCAL NEEDS AT THE HEART OF THE PROJECT

APPROPRIATE RESPONSES

The challenge for the project was to find an alternative to the initially planned bypass solution, so as not to overlook local needs. This was achieved via:

- > consultation with the population, business owners and local authorities;
- > review of the project to allow safe passage through the city;
- > building of cycle lanes (usable by motorcycles) on both sides of the road, from Paramaribo to Tamanredjo;
- > provision of bus stops and paved parking areas along the road;
- > building of raised, paved sidewalks in the urban area;
- > laying of paved entrance paths for each house and business;
- > improved city sanitation and drainage.

The needs of the population and of users were core considerations for the project; safety conditions for users, roadside dwellings and business premises were greatly improved.



Before



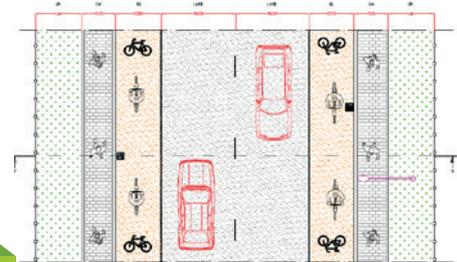
After



Before



After



A resounding success

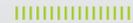
By creating an agreeable urban space and stopover point that fits perfectly with people's habits and practices, this development guarantees the quality of residents lives and helps to maintain the local economy.

This engineered section – the most salient feature of the project – is now considered as an example of rehabilitation for other urban areas in Suriname.



Benefits of the project

- > No budget overshoot in relation to initial project
- > Improved quality of life for the population
- > Improved safety along the road side and for road users
- > Creation of an amenity appreciated by road users



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