

COUNTRY REPORT

SURINAME

Geographical Information

Country	:	Republic of Suriname
Localization	:	North – East coast of South America, bordered by Atlantic Ocean (North) French Guyana (East), Guyana (West) and Brazil (South)
Total area	:	± 164.000 km ²
City	:	Paramaribo
Population	:	± 420.000 of which ± 250.000 in and around Paramaribo
Language	:	Dutch
Independency	:	1975
Integration Axle	:	Venezuela – Brazil – Guyana –Suriname
Roads in km.	:	• primary :1220 • non primary :3180

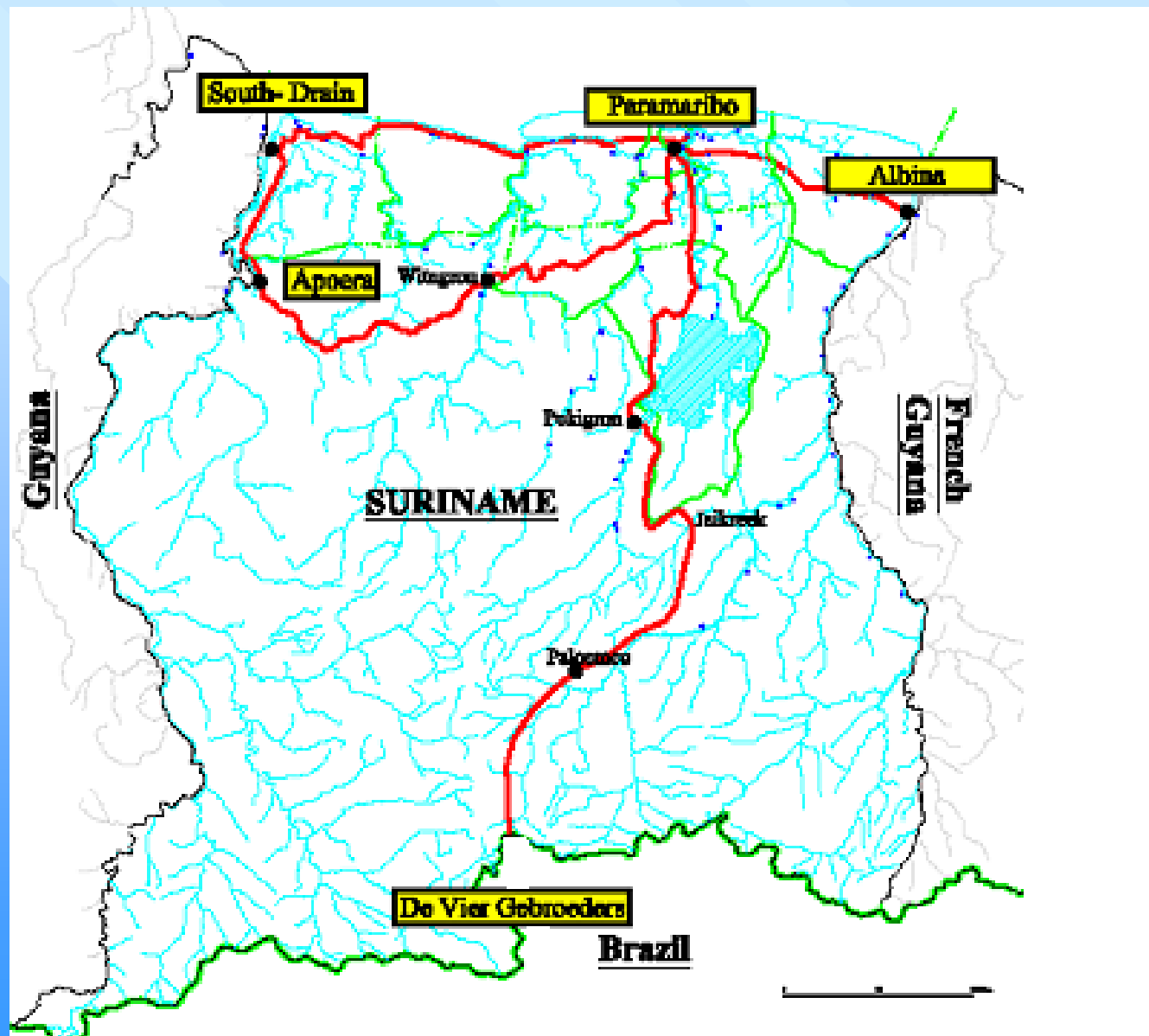
Suriname's position in IIRSA

- Political commitment to support and participate actively in the IIRSA – process
- IIRSA – process only successful for Suriname if also taken into account the Geo-economic diversity of the Guyana Shield countries
- Special treatment for the Guyana Shield hub with reference to other hub's (small scale versus fully developed)
- Suriname has only a road connection in the west with Guyana. French Guyana in the east is not a IIRSA member and with Brazil in the South there is no road connection.

Integration Road projects Suriname

1. 1st East – West connection route (anchor project)
2. 2nd East – West connection route (near future)
3. North – South connection route in mid Suriname (future)

Interstates Road Projections



Basis for selection 1st East – West connection road as part of the Northern corridor:

→ *In perspective of regional integration*

- direct availability to the integration infrastructure (IIRSA) for the Guyana Shield
- existing paved road to and from the Guyana's for transportation of goods, commodities and persons and for social integration

→ *In perspective of national development*

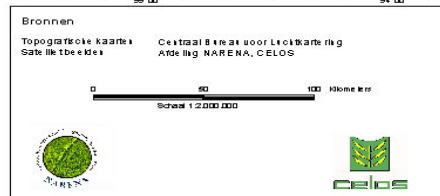
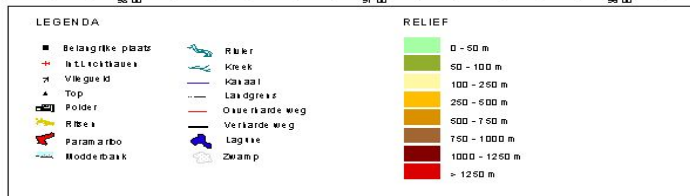
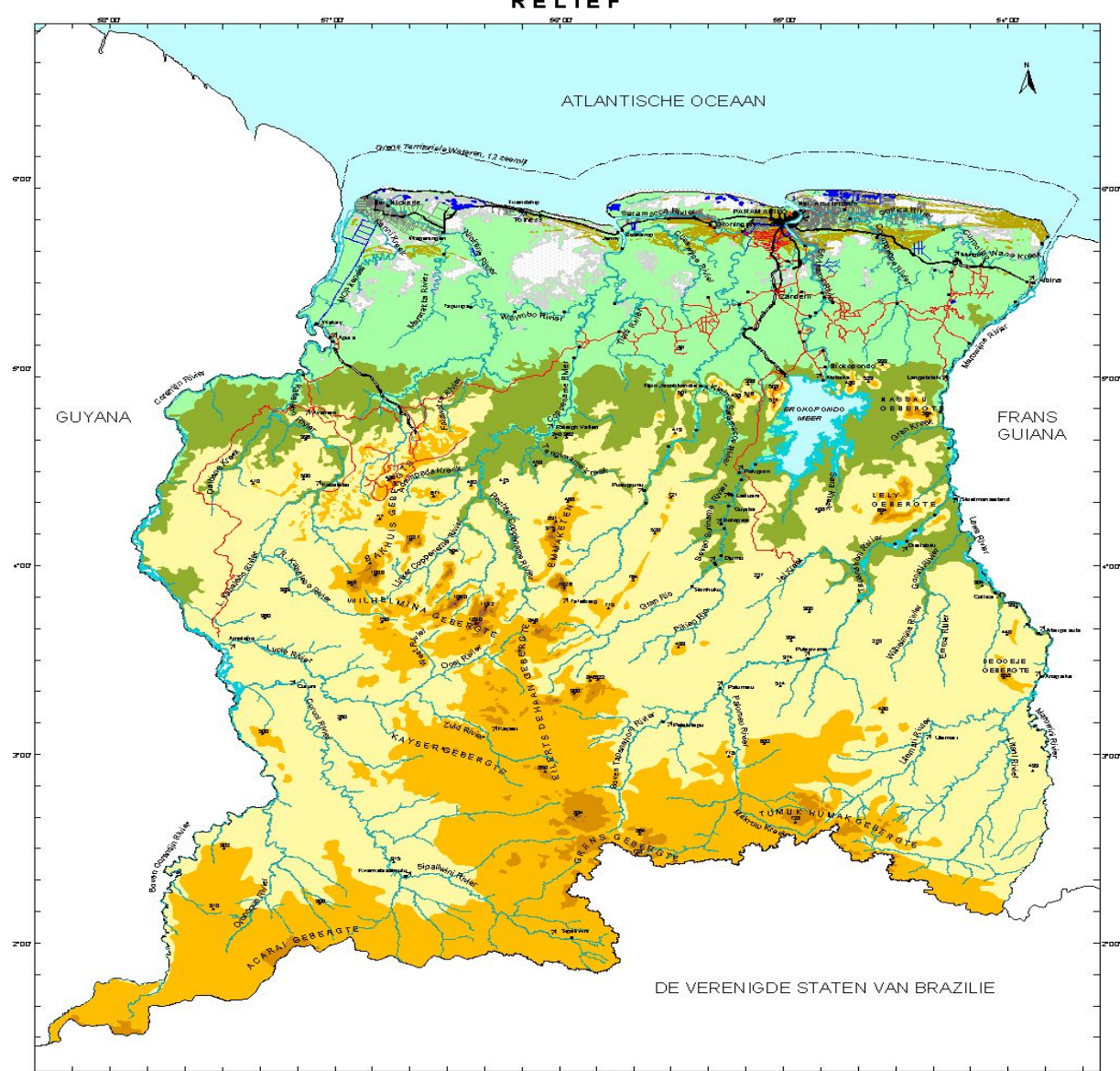
- most of the population of Suriname are living along this road
- interregional connection between the districts of Suriname

Restrictions of the 1st East – West connection route which constraints the future use of this route as an integration Axis :

- o flatness and softness of the young coastal plane
- o power and fresh water not available
- o rise of the sea level
- o limited possibilities for industrial development
- o further expansion of urban Paramaribo is not possible
- o availability of mineral deposits, and forestry

Justification 2nd East – West connection route and North – South connection in perspective of national development

- strategic reasons
- political reasons
- potential natural resources for sustainable economic development
 - mining (iron, gold, granites, bauxite)
 - forestry
 - hydropower
 - agriculture
 - eco-tourism
 - fresh water
- selection of a road connection is not only a matter of cost/benefit analysis and not only on basis of traditional selection criteria, but depends on political decisions on national level



Decision

A. Short Term

1.
 - IIRSA agreement for 1st East – West connection (anchor project)
 - Technical and financial assistance for upgrading (project proposal at IIRSA)
 - Border crossings with Guyana and French Guyana (bridge connection)
2.
 - Acceptance 2nd East – West connection as part of IIRSA—road connection for the future
3.
 - Position of French Guyana in the IIRSA – process

Decision

B. Mid Term

Technical and financial assistance for the improvement of the 2nd East – West connection road

C. Long Term

Feasibility study for the link of the North – South connection route in mid – Suriname with Brazil and other Southern – American countries