

## EC Partners

Bi-national Development Plan for the Ecuador-Peru border region

The Technical units and the Multi sector bi-national Group

Transport and Infrastructure Ministries, Customs and Migration Institutions, Foreign Affairs Ministries of both countries

## Facts and Figures

- EC contribution: € 51 million (72% of the project)
- Duration: 2005-2009



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# Infrastructure

## Support for Regional Integration Ecuador - Peru / Road Axis N°1

Main Highway linking Guayaquil (Ecuador) to Piura (Peru)

*"The Road Axis N°1 is the most important land connection between Peru and Ecuador. For its social and economic implications, it is considered to be the major route for cultural and tourism exchange. In gratitude to the valuable EU cooperation, the binational authorities named the biggest bridge along the route as Europa Bridge"*

Ambassador Jose A. Arrospe del Busto, Peru's Executive Director of the Binational Plan



## Context

In 1998, Ecuador and Peru signed a peace accord, enabling both countries to commit to developing an ambitious programme for border integration and development. The bi-national Development Plan was created in order to promote and combine efforts for economic integration. Both countries agreed to carry out joint projects for mutual benefit; one of them being the construction of five bi-national highways. The Road Axis N°1 is considered the most important since it is part of the Panamerican Highway, and has the greatest ground of traffic and trade between both countries.

## Objectives

- Construction of road infrastructure between Peru and Ecuador, to reduce the vulnerability to natural phenomena and to facilitate trade between both countries.

## Impact

- Road Axis N° 1 infrastructures constructed, improved and enlarged according the studies and agreements between the bi-national partners.
- Institutional Strengthening: Border Control System built and functional.
- 500 000 direct beneficiaries; 4 million indirect beneficiaries living in the border regions.

# Infrastructure

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### Beneficiaries answer the question: What is the benefit of the 'Eje Vial No.1' or 'Ruta Sponylus'?

The 'Eje Vial No.1' has benefited Huaquillas quite a lot and changed its image. Moreover, the construction activities provided jobs and we hope that the opportunities for our people will rise. Given that Huaquillas went bankrupt, we want to create employment opportunities and reactivate the economy, especially with the construction of a new international bridge. Our district has a lot of potential in tourism.

We think that signing a peace agreement should facilitate the trading of goods. The strength of Haquillas has always been commerce, the production of bricks and tourism. With the support of our national government, we hope that these activities will be triggered by the new road 'Eje Vial No.1'. I am convinced that Huaquillas, as well as Arenillas will benefit from the latter.

**Emeralda Román**, *Federación de Barrios, Huaquillas.*

The 'Variante Internacional del Eje Vial No.1' represents a better future for our children because it will lead to the expansion of the city. In order for our youngsters to live up to these challenges, they need to prepare themselves for different jobs and competences. Our children will be the ones managing all these building activities and in their turn create jobs for future generations.

**Rafael Salazar**, *shopkeeper.*



The new road fortifies peace, integration and development among both countries