## **EUROPAN 15 - Casar de Cáceres (ES)**



SCALES: L - urban + architecture

TEAM REPRESENTATIVE: Architect / urbanist / landscaper SITE FAMILY: MAKING PROXIMITIES - Interfaces and short cycles LOCATION: La Charca del hambre industrial estate, Casar de Cáceres, Cáceres Province POPULATION: 4,532 inhabitants STRATEGIC SITE: 255 ha PROJECT SITE: 8.8 ha SITE PROPOSED BY: Directorate General of Architecture. Regional Government of Extremadura ACTORS INVOLVED: Regional Government of Extremadura + Casar City Council OWNERS OF THE SITE: Public & Private

### **POST-COMPETITION PHASE**: Urban development project

#### HOW CAN THE SITE CONTRIBUTE TO THE PRODUCTIVE CITY?

The proposed site forms a backbone for the "Charca del Hambre" Industrial Estate in Casar de Cáceres, alongside the N-630 highway. This industrial zone contains a variety of small and medium businesses, of great value for the area's competitive economy and a good opportunity for local development, taking advantage of its location between two natural areas. The work done by the enterprises based here will contribute to the technological, economic and social growth of the area.

In this context, the potential of this industrial space is to be analysed with a view to drafting a sustainable urban development proposal. Proposals should improve the current conditions and attract new businesses to set up on the estate.

#### CITY STRATEGY

The present and future of this industrial area is closely linked to its urban planning and its connection to the "Las Capellanías" Industrial Estate in Cáceres. These two estates, barely 10 km apart, are both located beside the N-630 highway. They constitute a potential growth and development axis. The value of this axis will soon be further incremented when a new eminently technological estate opens at the junction of the A66 and N630 highways.

On a more local scale, work has been done to improve the main road link, CC-100, between the town and its industrial area, including a new bicycle path. The authorities wish to continue improving the connections with the southern part of the town along "Polígono Casar de Cáceres" Road. The disappearance of the current railway tracks will allow as well to improve connections between east and west, between Cojuge Pond, Charca del Hambre pond and El Casar Lagoon.

# **EQUITY SPACES**



### SITE DEFINITION

The area proposed for the operation is on the "Charca del Hambre" Industrial Estate. It has a clearly linear structure, marked by the adjacent N-630 highway and the railway easement. There is a broad diversity of business activity on the estate, with predominantly smallscale production systems.

One of the features of this area is the relationship between the industries and the natural environment, represented by Charca del Hambre and Charca del Cojuge ponds. This relationship lends a distinctive character to the area and is also a good opportunity for the reappraisal of the spaces that define it.

### HOW IS PRODUCTION CONSIDERED IN THE URBAN DIVERSITY PROGRAM?

The major highways that form the backbone of Casar de Cáceres — mainly the A-66 motorway and the N-630 national highway— and the town's proximity to the province capital, Cáceres, make the project area an interesting opportunity for local development and the promotion of industrial activity. The relation between the current industrial estate and the new one foreseen in the southern part of the city, will help to the productive development of Casar

The aim is to improve the value of the "Charca del Hambre" Industrial Estate and create a relationship between the traditions of Casar de Cáceres' economic activities —the reception of raw materials— and their transformation in the industrial pavilions that are the focus of this proposal.

Any new activities must be established in an environmentally responsible and respectful way with the area that receives them and its ethnographic values. It is worthwhile reappraising the evolution of traditional production activities and the way they have transformed and adapted to technological progress.

The disappearance of the current railway tracks underlines the importance of the role of this area in the relationship between Dehesa Boyal neighbourhood and Charcha del Hambre pond, using the opportunities that the area's natural resources provide.

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Production area - Industrial estate Charca del Hambre