



Cantabria – Santander, Spain

Region at a glance

Located on Spain's Atlantic coast so called the "Green Spain"

A diverse landscape of mountains, rivers, grasslands and coastal areas.

Productive mountain, floodplains and grasslands an oceanic climate support agriculture aimed mainly at foraging traditional and declining dairy and meet farming activities and eucalyptus and pine tree forestry for the paper pulp and wood industries

Over 80% of the population live along the 220km long coast.

Climate risks & hazards

Heavier, more frequent rainfall worsens flooding, erosion, and habitat loss.

Mountain wildfire risk heightened by drier conditions and human activities.

Rising river water and air temperatures strain river ecosystems and inland areas.

Urban coastal zones face water stress in summer with tourism spiking demand.



Demonstrators

Urban demo: street renaturalization in Santander City

Goal: To reduce pluvial flooding and the impact of heatwaves of an urban area.

How: Renaturalization replacing pavement with permeable surfaces, planting diverse tree and plant species and creating small ponds to boost rain infiltration, shade and biodiversity and to reduce runoff.



Coastal demo: estuary biodiversity restoration

Goal: To reduce erosion risks at the mouth of the estuary and flooding risks at the inner sections.

How: enabling the natural tidal flow by lowering a dyke (trade-off NbS solution allowing local communities to keep walking across at low tides).



Rural demo: river floodplain environmental restoration

Goal: To protect against river flooding.
How: by expanding the floodplain and planting native riparian habitat species providing effective protection and improving river habitats.



Rural demo: high mountain wetlands regeneration

Goal: To avoid soil and vegetation degradation by livestock grazing and trampling on bogs, mires and fens in high mountain areas.

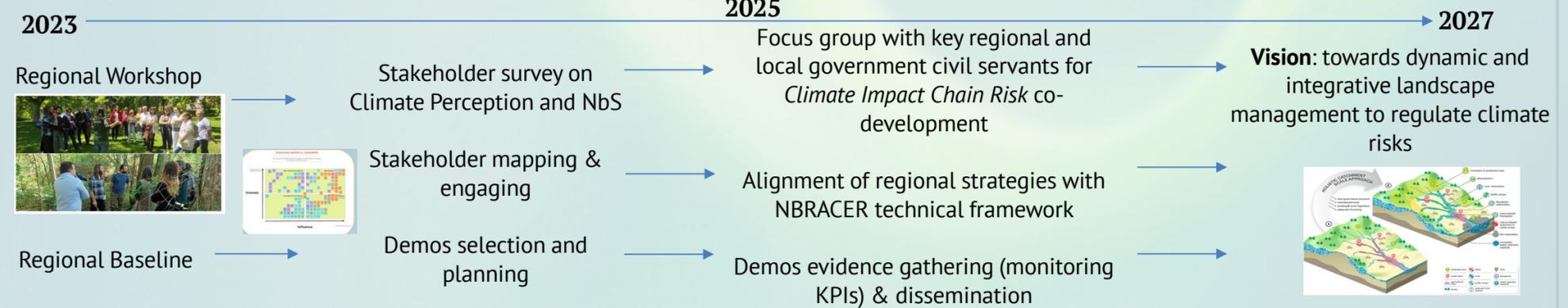


Rural demos: hillside and riparian forests conservation

Goal: to reduce erosion, sediment transport and river water temperature increase.
How: supporting ecosystem services provided via conservation of native forests.



Past 2 years vs. Future 2 years:



Regional Partners:

