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GIFT

# **Laboratorio Ecosocial do Barbanza**

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Fundación RIA***

24th of September 2025 | Riga



# Laboratorio Ecosocial do Barbanza

Coordination

ria

Support



VICEPRESIDENCIA  
TERCERA DEL GOBIERNO  
MINISTERIO  
PARA LA TRANSICIÓN ECOLÓGICA  
Y EL RETO DEMOGRÁFICO



Plan de Recuperación,  
Transformación  
y Resiliencia



Financiado por  
la Unión Europea  
NextGenerationEU

Barbanza Ecosocial Lab has the support of the Biodiversity Foundation of the Ministry for the Ecological Transition and the Demographic Challenge (MITECO) of the Government of Spain, within the framework of the Recovery, Transformation and Resilience Plan (PRTR), funded by the European Union - NextGenerationEU.

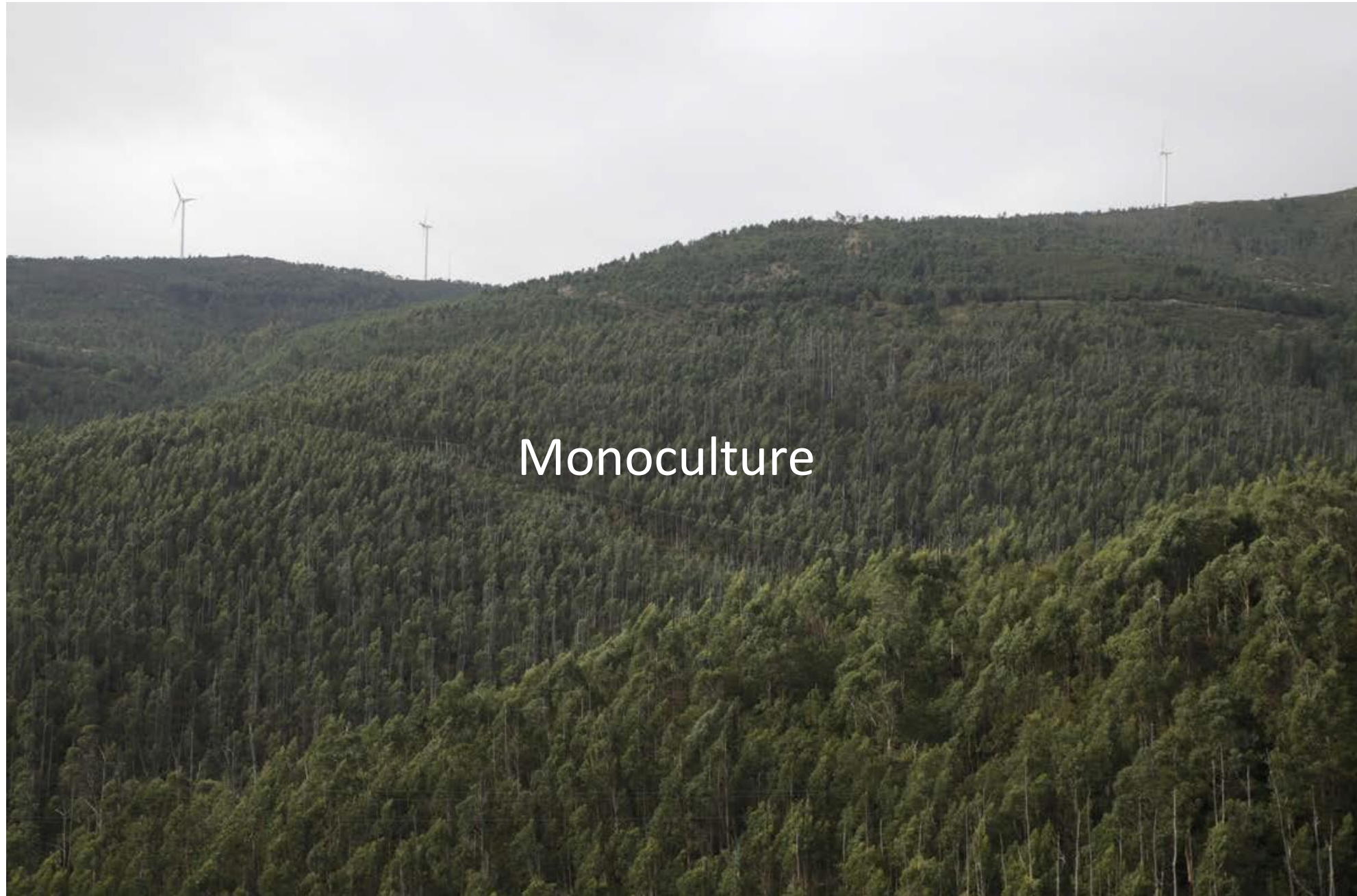












Monoculture



Fires



Recognising the importance of a territory where the productive landscape and the inhabited space form a single unit



Villages in Boiro in 2020



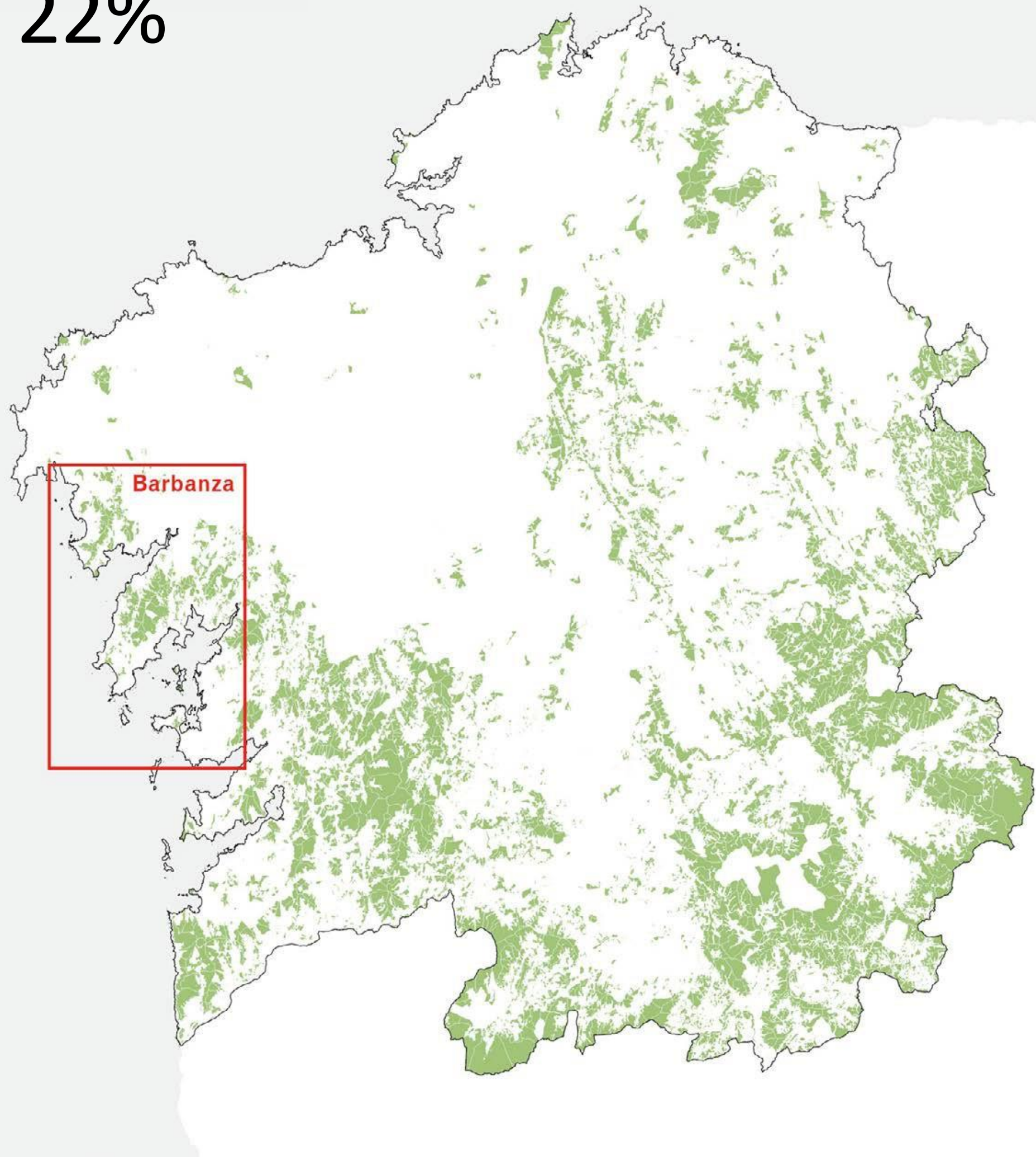
The risk of forest fires highlights the vulnerability of the communities that sustain this territory



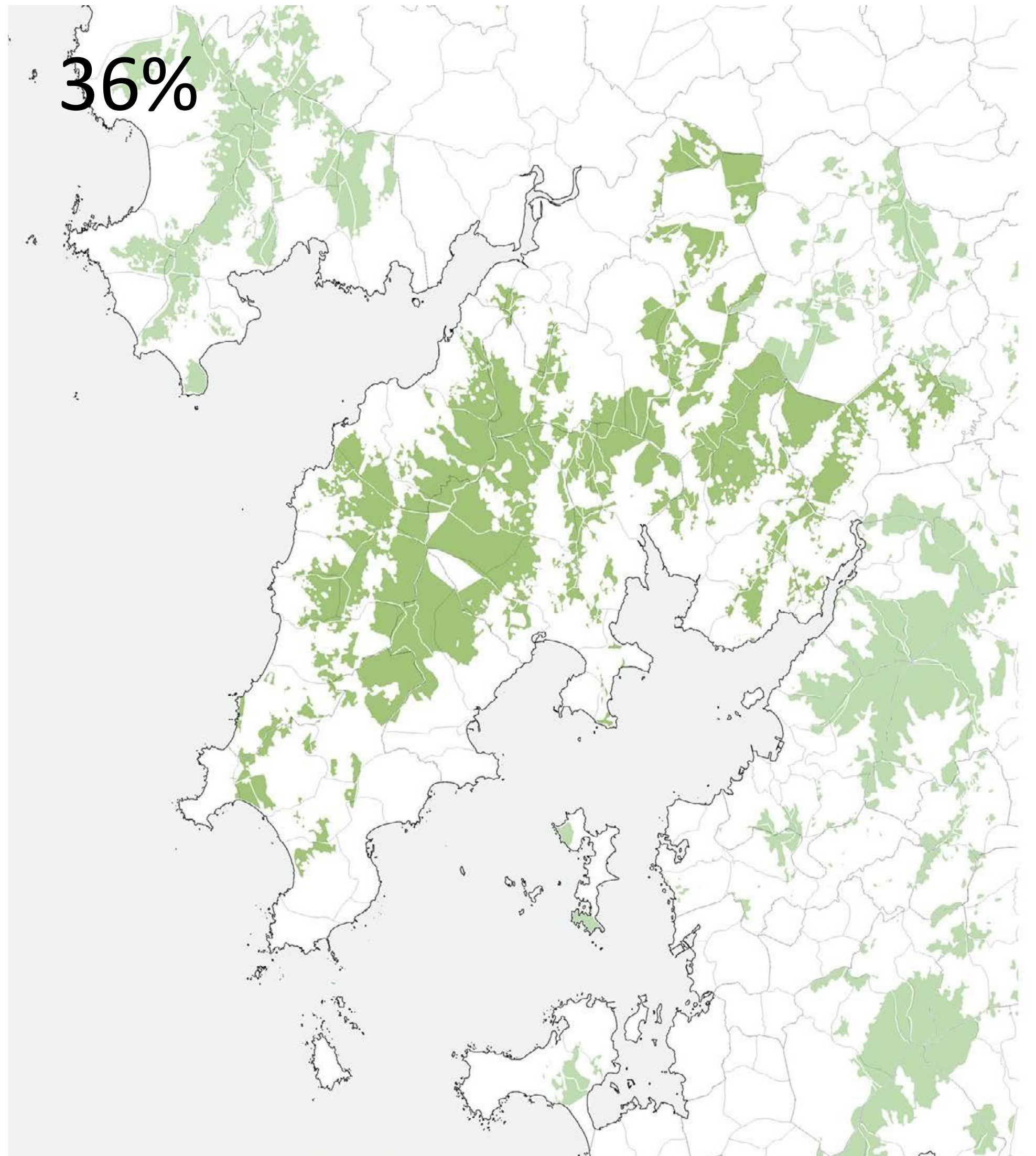
Villages in Boiro in 2022



22%



36%









An aerial photograph of a mountainous landscape. In the foreground, a steep, grassy hillside slopes down towards a small village. A paved road winds through the valley, curving around the hillside. The village consists of several buildings with red-tiled roofs, surrounded by green fields and patches of forest. In the background, the landscape opens up to reveal a wide valley with more hills, a large body of water (likely a lake or bay), and distant mountains under a cloudy sky. The overall scene is a mix of natural beauty and human settlement.

# Laboratorio Ecosocial do Barbanza



# Collaborative





# Collaborative Multidisciplinary





# Collaborative Multidisciplinary Communal





Methodology

Collaborative  
Multidisciplinary  
Communal  
**Transformative**



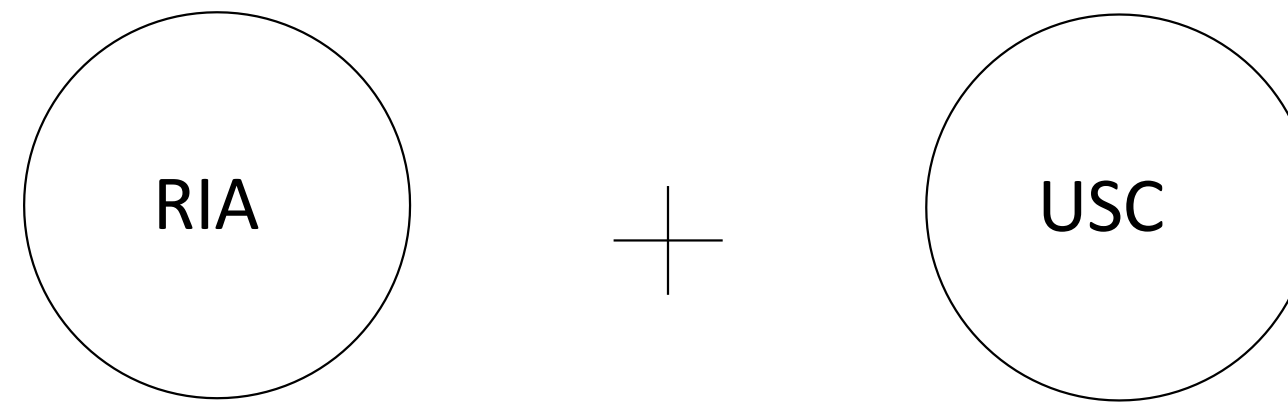


Collaborative  
Multidisciplinary  
Communal  
Transformative  
**Replicable**





# Phases of the project



Co-funded by Fundación Banco Santander with  
the support of Fundación Juana de Vega

2020–2023 → € 50.000 / year



# Phases of the project

1

## Research

Mapping the historical management of the territory to identify practices that, even within current ways of life, can be replicated in the present and future.





# Phases of the project

1

## Research

Conducting interviews with 56 neighbors from the area about the historical management of the territory.





# Phases of the project

1

## Research

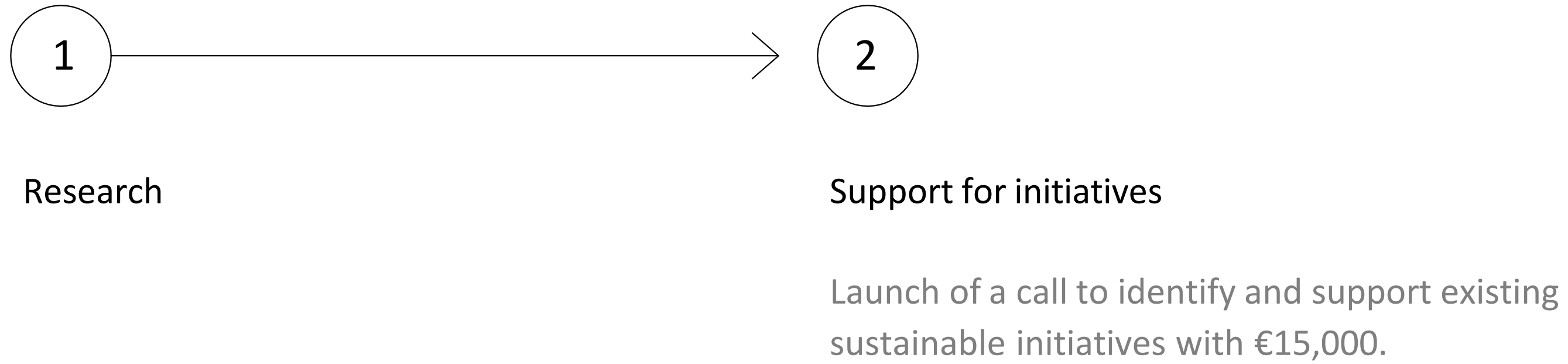
Publication of an open-access book, available free of charge in Galician, Spanish and English on the project website:

→ [barbanzaecosocial.org](http://barbanzaecosocial.org)





# Phases of the project



Demonstration area for sustainable practices

+ € 5.000



Educational programme

+ € 5.000

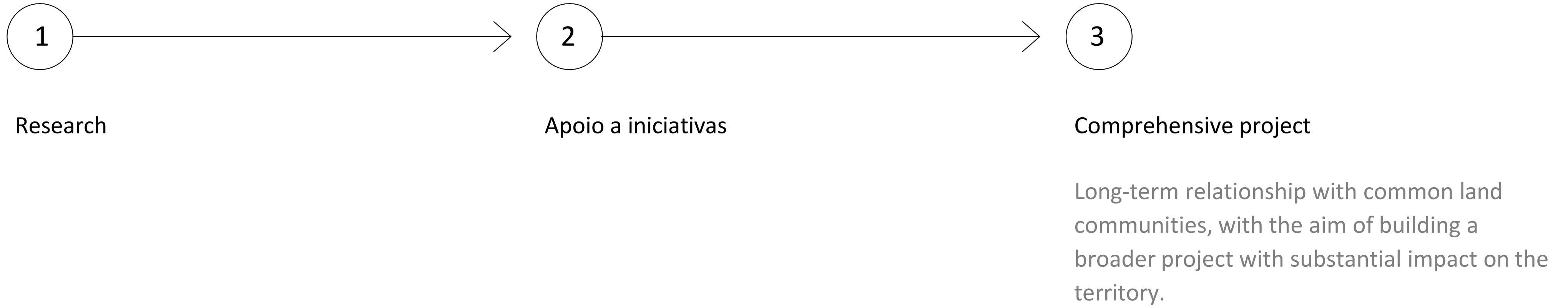


Small-scale family farming

+ € 5.000



# Phases of the project



1

Research

2

Apoio a iniciativas

3

Comprehensive project

Long-term relationship with common land communities, with the aim of building a broader project with substantial impact on the territory.







+ € 2.000.000  
2 years of work





# Actions carried out in Barbanza

**1 Sustainability assessment and energy community**

**2.1 Start of production**

**2.2 Raw material exploitation**

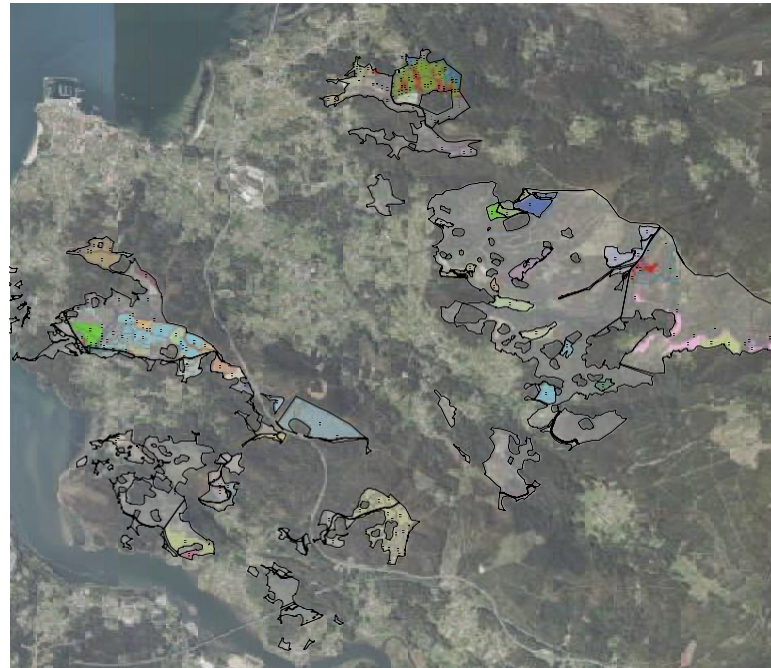
**3 Raw material processing**

**4 Circularity and biodiversity**  
Carbon capture and soil rehabilitation

**5 Community innovation**  
Training, volunteering and network creation

**6 Dissemination**

**7 Governance**





Reversing land abandonment

Joint management plan for  
6 common land communities





Reversing land abandonment

Forest biomass management works  
across more than 200 hectares





Reversing land abandonment



Hiring a tractor operator to recover  
unused machinery



Start of production



Shared herd of more than 130 goats, contributing to land management



Start of production



Hiring 3 livestock farmers, installing fences and purchasing a trailer



Start of production

Planting of more than 3,000 chestnut trees for forest regeneration





Processing and added value



Collective use of a portable sawmill in  
5 practical demonstrations



Processing and added value

Launch of a collective meat processing facility to enhance the value of livestock local products





Processing and added value

Culinary innovation workshops and creation of a strong collaboration network





Processing and added value



Production of 30 m<sup>3</sup> of compost and training sessions with 8 common land communities





Launch of an energy community to collectively produce, consume and sell renewable energy



# Assessment of the ecosystem services of the Barbanza common lands





Applied research



Sampling and analysis in 64 plots to study soil fertility



Community involvement

Involvement of more than 100 students  
from nearby schools





Community involvement

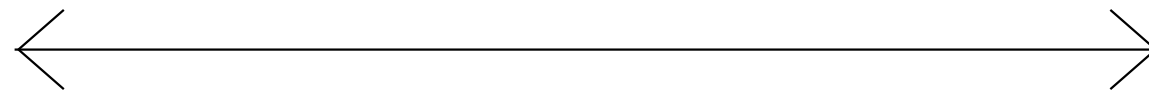


Over 480 participants in 19 environmental  
volunteering activities



# The difficulties of the process

Local initiatives



EU funds



