



LIFE HUMAN BEAR COEX

2023
2027



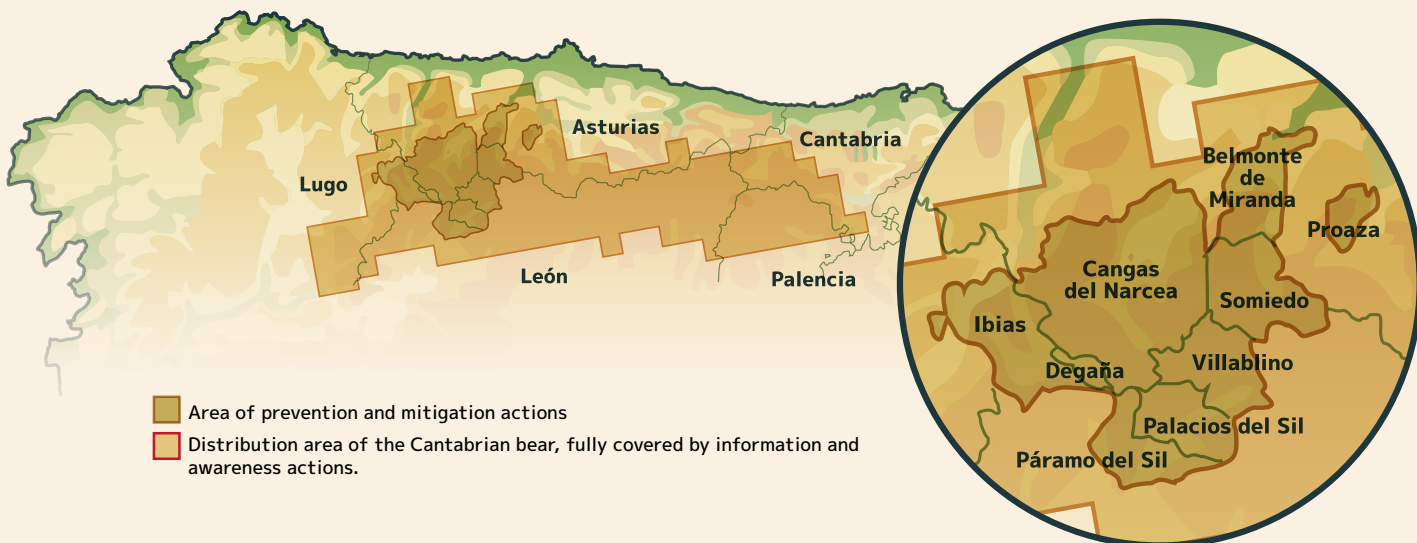
WHAT DO WE WANT TO ACHIEVE?

To promote **human-bear coexistence** in the municipalities with the highest density of the species in the **Cantabrian Mountains** by strengthening the role of local leaders and actors.

HOW IS IT GOING TO BE ACHIEVED?

By working hand in hand with the local communities to **prevent** and **mitigate** potential conflicts.

AREA OF ACTION



PROJECT ACTIONS

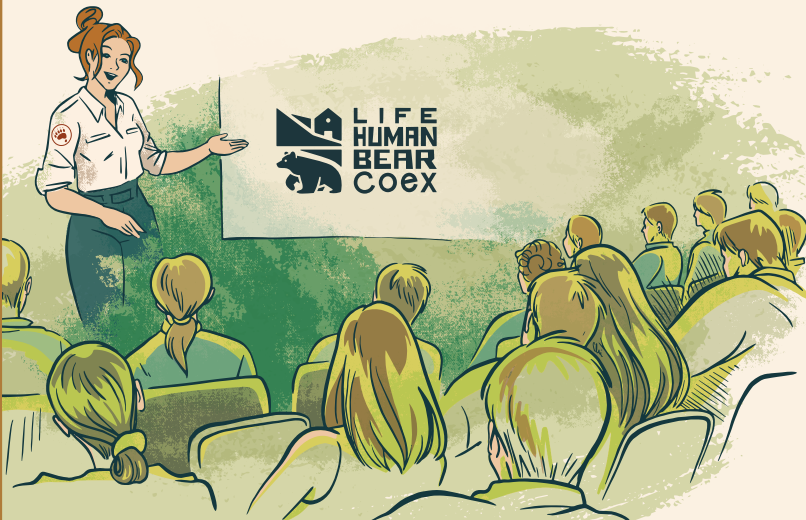
Prevention with local work crews

Cleaning of safety perimeters around 120 inhabited areas and 100 paths.

Planting of 50,000 fruit trees in 250 dissuatory fruit tree stands, located well away from villages.



Awareness and communication



More than **160 talks and meetings with residents, businesses, and social actors** to discuss the causes and consequences of bear presence in inhabited areas, and how to take preventive measures.

Environmental education campaign in 27 rural schools, reaching 2,300 students.

Management of interactions between humans and bears



Installation of 45 containers and 45 innovative, bear-proof cover **structures for containers.**



Protection of domestic animal facilities and other property with **200 electrified enclosures.**



Testing of **90 detection and deterrent systems in orchards, gardens, or other attractive elements.**



Detection and cleanup of **30 illegal dumpsites** (or other attractive elements).



Marking and radio-tracking of habituated bears (in Asturias).

Support for socioeconomic development



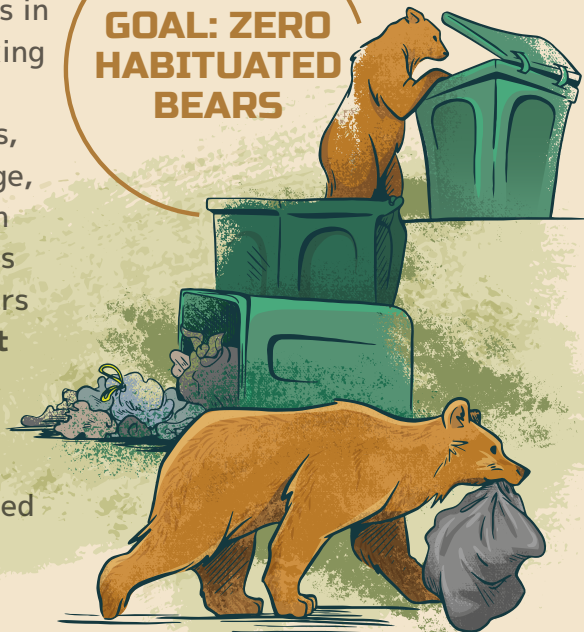
Support for business strategies focused on the positive contribution of the brown bear to economic and social growth in rural areas, and the creation of **rural employment** in prevention teams.

CANTABRIAN BEARS IN HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

The Cantabrian bear population was brought back from the brink of extinction and is experiencing a very hopeful recovery - although the species remains endangered. This population increase, combined with the ending of human persecution and social changes in rural areas over recent decades, has led to a greater likelihood of interactions between humans and bears.

The presence of bears in inhabited areas, seeking easy human-provided food such as orchards, fruit trees, or garbage, is a common situation in all bear populations worldwide. When bears **recurrently seek out** and **tolerate human presence** for such easy food, they are they are considered "habituated bears".

**GOAL: ZERO
HABITUATED
BEARS**



THE BEAR TOWNS, UNITED FOR COEXISTENCE



Six councils in Asturias and three municipalities in León, along with their respective regional administrations and the Brown Bear Foundation, have joined forces on this project to work towards a peaceful and positive coexistence with bears. Lessons learned and best practices will be disseminated throughout all bear areas with similar characteristics.

GET TO KNOW THE PROJECT IN MORE DETAIL

The LIFE Human-Bear Coex project, “Prevention and Mitigation of Conflicts in Villages and Their Surroundings to Promote Coexistence Between Humans and Bears in the Municipalities with the Highest Bear Density in the Cantabrian Mountains,” is **funded by the European Union’s LIFE program.**

fundacionosopardo.org/human-bear-coex

COORDINATOR



PARTNERS



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de **SOMIEDO**



Ayuntamiento
de **PROAZA**



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Principado de
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