

# LIFE +REB: *Quercus pyrenaica* forest management to obtain cascading use of timber products as a tool for mitigation in Castilla-Leon

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## INTRODUCTION

The Pyrenean oak also known as ‘rebollo’ occupies more than 550000 Ha in Castilla y León alone and 845000 Ha in Spain. Currently, more than 80% of the wood is used for firewood. LIFE+REB (2021 - 2025) proposes a sustainable forestry in the Pyrenean oak (*Quercus pyrenaica*) forests of the objective Castilla y León. The aim is to achieve a Smart-Climate Forestry model, with of improving the resilience of forest stands, mitigating climate change, helping to conserve biodiversity and substituting fossil materials. In addition, it seeks to contribute to the revitalisation of rural economies by innovating wood products with long-term carbon storage.

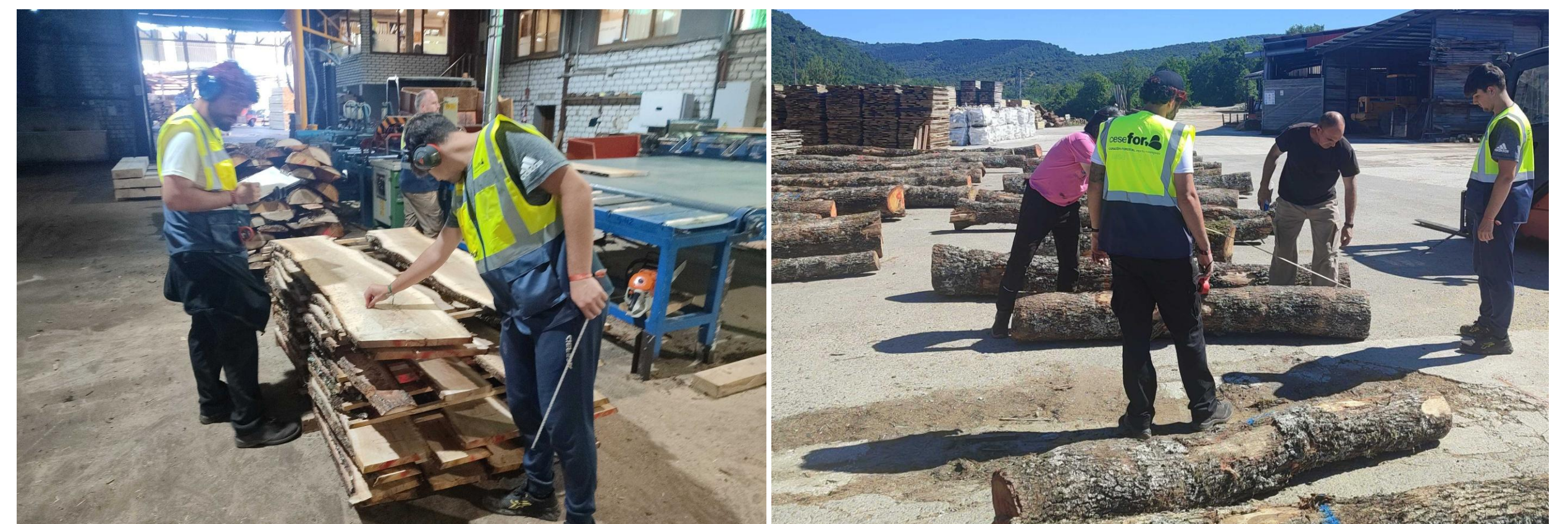


## OBJECTIVES

- ✓ OE1. Improve knowledge of the forests of *Q. pyrenaica* and, in particular, the evolution of its covered areas, its forest dynamics, conservation status, risks, vulnerabilities, and its capacity as natural carbon sinks, which serve as technical background for the establishment of CSF.
- ✓ OE2. Test and validate the application of CSF in demonstrative stands that become the Rebollo-Labs will develop, and that will give evidence to the theory of change through participation and co-creation with the agents involved.
- ✓ OE3. Implement new value chains for the use of wood in *Q. pyrenaica* stands, through the creation of new products from sustainable forest management that involve a longer time of carbon storage in wood products.
- ✓ OE4. Under different scenarios, evaluate the overall climate change mitigation capacity of *Q. pyrenaica* stands managed under the new CSF framework, through full analysis of carbon flows in forests, products, and replacement of fossil materials.

## EXPECTED RESULTS

1 new CSF Rebollo forest management model.  
 200 ha of the demonstration stands where the proposed model is applied  
 Regional strategy for the management of rebollo forests.  
 Addressed to policy makers  
 Development of innovative products such as decking, glulam, particle board and barrels.  
 Assessment of carbon sequestration over the lifetime of each product.



## WHAT ARE WE WORKING ON?

- We have applied the proposed management model in the 200 Ha of demonstration stands spread throughout Castilla y Leon
- We are developing a participatory management strategy for the management of ‘rebollo’ forests from 15 Rebollo Lab's
- We have the first innovative products from Pyrenean oak
- We share the experience with future generations
- And we are going to estimate long-lived carbon sequestration.



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The success of the LIFE+REB project thanks to the collaboration of partners and companies that, in addition to their usual activities, contribute to the forest management and valorisation of the rebollares, promoting their new use and conservation.