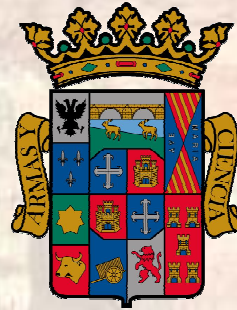




## DIPUTACIÓN DE PALENCIA

*A study case about the conflict  
between economic activity and the  
protection of the environment*





## DIPUTACIÓN DE PALENCIA

**MANAGEMENT OF ALTERNATIVES IN THE  
DEVELOPMENT OF A SUSTAINABLE  
TOURISM IN THE MOUNTAINOUS AREA  
OF PALENCIA: “CUEVA DE LOS  
FRANCESES” AND ITS SURROUNDINGS.**



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- KEY MILESTONES IN THE PROGRESS OF THE PROJECT
- RESULTS





EURO  MOUNTAINS



DIPUTACIÓN DE PALENCIA

# LOCALIZATION

Nord Est **sud** Ouest  
**INTERREG III C**



Thematic seminar in Aix-les-Bains, France, 5-6 December 2006





### NUTS 1





# RESOURCES

- GEOGRAPHICAL ENVIRONMENT
- SOCIO-ECONOMIC DYNAMISMS
- LANDSCAPE AND NATURAL RESOURCES





# GEOGRAFICAL ENVIRONMENT



The area that is going to be studied (surroundings of *Revilla de Pomar*) is located in the region called *Páramo de la Lora*, in the most oriental part within the **North of Palencia**. The studied territory is located in a **mountainous area** in its totality.

*Revilla de Pomar* is 1.045 m high above the sea level . there is an access of about 5 km that leads to the **Covalagua , a natural protected resource**, in its surroundings. The climate is Atlantic with soft summers and cold winters. The average temperature during the year ranges from 18 to 2 ° C. The rainfall rate ranges from an average of 600 to 700 mm





# SOCIO-ECONOMIC DYNAMISMS

- *Revilla de Pomar* has got 43 inhabitants at the moment , with a population density of 10,3 inhabitants/km<sup>2</sup> .This density is higher than the average density of Palencia mountain area.
- The main economic source and occupation of these residents is the **agricultural sector**, and mainly the **cattle subsector in semiextensive** system. Another important factor of the economy is the **rural tourism** that is increasing lately.



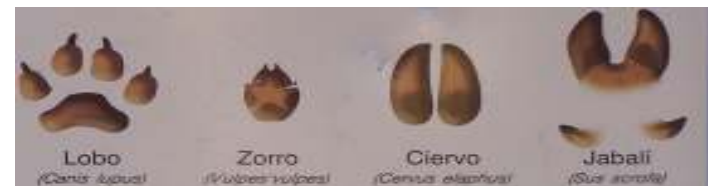


# LANDSCAPE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

- The study is carried out within the protected natural space *Covalagua*. On a relief characterized by big hung synclines, an spectacular geological karstic landscape has been developed. The geological landscape is mixed with the agrarian landscape in which we highlight the grazing lands.



Its main value is geological due to its biological importance because of its particular flora and fauna.





# THE PROJECT

- OBJECTIVES
- INVOLVED AGENTS
- PRINCIPAL AGENT
- KEY MILESTONES IN THE PROGRESS OF THE PROJECT
- INNOVATED ASPECTS
- RESULTS (FORECASTED AND NON FORECASTED)





## OBJECTIVE

The project general objective is to carry out a cave and its surrounding management as an alternative for the sustainable tourism.

To carry out this objective, the following secondary objectives have been implemented:

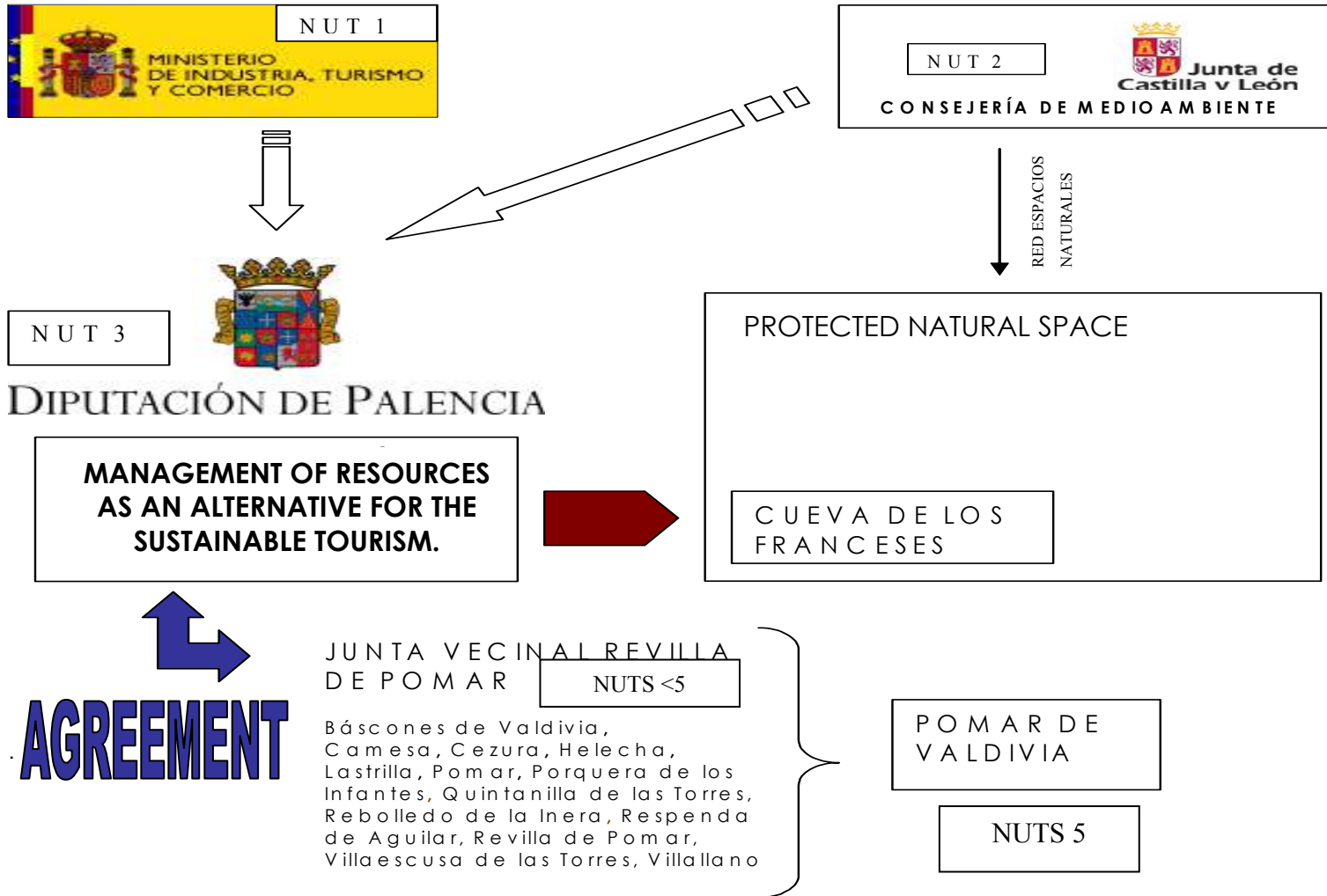
- Identification of the resources conservation needs.
- Identification of the tourism adaptation needs.
- Development of proceedings that permit the cave conservation as well as its tourist promotion.
- Signature of an agreement with the stake holders.
- Inclusion of a private enterprise that guarantees the expected objectives consecution.



# IMPLICATED AGENTS



Nord Est sup Ouest  
**INTERREG IIC**





The project pretends to carry out a management of the cave and its surroundings as an **alternative of sustainable tourism**. It is pretended to develop a **management to preserve the resources and at the same time allowed the economic development of the area through tourism**. The steps are taken through a dialogue with the different stakeholders (regional administration and residents) that are carried out in agreements. These agreements have defined measures to maintain and to preserve the cave and its surrounding, promoting the tourism at the same time.





# PRINCIPAL AGENT

Public administration

The Diputación Provincial of Palencia was created in 1835 and the provincial tourism council, Patronato Provincial de Turismo in 2004.

The provincial tourism council Patronato Provincial de Turismo is an institution of the Diputación provincial of Palencia, assigned to the presidency or provincial deputy, to which it corresponds, in a general way, to promote and foster as many possible initiatives and activities to improve the touristic services of the province and the development of its tourism.





# KEY MILESTONES IN THE PROGRESS OF THE PROJECT

- Knowledge of the cave characteristics and its surroundings by briefs and studies done mainly by inhabitants of the area and expert speleologists.
- Study of the measures that are going to be developed to get the synergy between conservation and tourism.
- Signature of the agreement with the neighbourhood board of Revilla de Pomar by which the Diputación of Palencia gets involve in the conservation and promotion of the cave and its surroundings, and the neighbourhood board transfers the cave property and its surroundings to Diputación of Palencia. The economic aid package of the agreement will be invested in conserving the cave and give it the most suitable facilities, as well as giving a quantity to the municipality of Revilla de Pomar because of the facilities custody and its collaboration in the management.





# INNOVATIVE ASPECTS

- The innovative aspect is that Diputación of Palencia, link between the regional administration and the neighbourhood board (private agents), develop a sustainable management of the resources, the cave and its surroundings being at the same time a touristic alternative.
- It collects the aims and needs of the implied agents (conservationist for the regional administration, and touristic for the neighbourhood board) and carries out the different proceedings needed by signing agreements with the agents mentioned.
- It is a public institution in charge of the touristic promotion of the resources, which introduces as a condition the sustainable management, with the aim of joining the aims of the different implied agents.





# RESULTS

## OBJECTIVES

## IT HAS BEEN ACHIEVED?

Identification of the needs regarding resources conservation.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Total securing</li><li>2. Preservation of the geological manifestations, plants and fauna.</li></ol>
Identification of the needs regarding the adaptation for tourism.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Total securing</li><li>2. The adaptation works (artificial light, paths, viewpoint, etc,...) of the resources have made possible a sustainable tourist activity.</li></ol>
Development of proceedings that allow the resources conservation and at the same time its touristic promotion.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Total securing</li><li>2. The cave and its surroundings keep its environmental specificities, increasing at the same time both the number of visits, 17000 in 2005, as well as the hotels.</li></ol>





# RESULTS

## OBJECTIVES

## IT HAS BEEN ACHIEVED?

<p>Sign of an agreement with the more direct agents implied.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Total securing</li><li>2. The agreement is signed and renewed yearly and it contains the terms, proceedings and economic costs necessary in the management of the sustainable resources.</li></ol>
<p>Inclusion of a private enterprise that guarantees the consecution of the proposed objectives.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Total securing</li><li>2. The service of the private enterprise is bid yearly. It must have some requirements regarding the sustainable management of the resources.</li></ol>



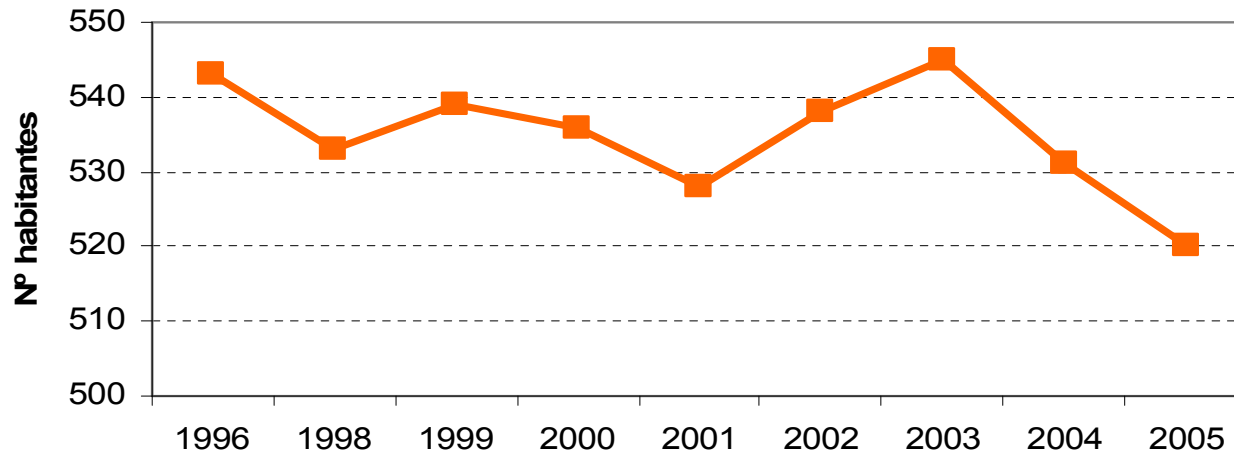


# NON FORECASTED OBJECTIVES THAT HAVE BEEN ACHIEVED

- One of the objectives that didn't come up at the beginning was to stop the depopulation in the mountainous area of Palencia, but although is not due to the results got as a consequence of the sustainable management of the cave *Cueva de los franceses* and its surroundings, it is observed that, **in the municipality in which the resources are located, the number of inhabitants have increased.**

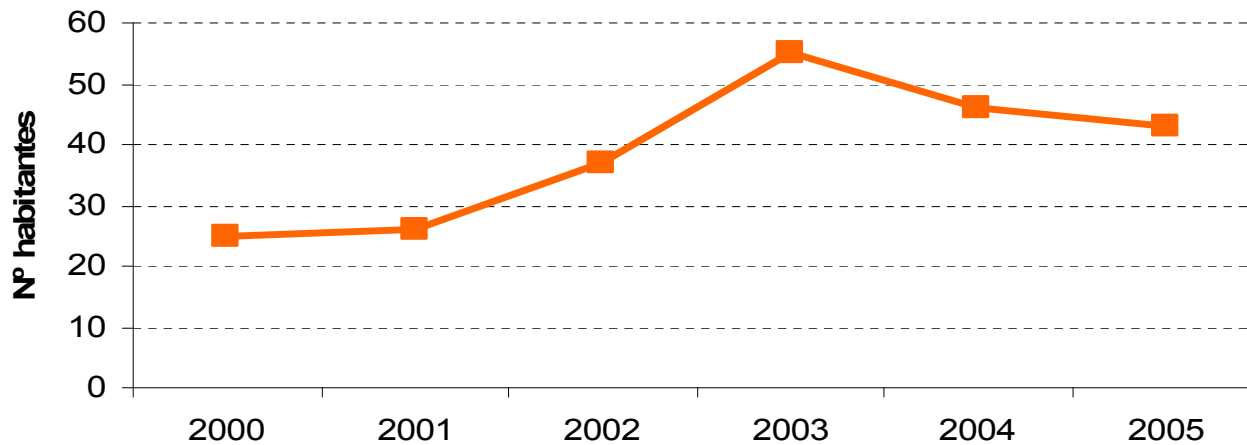


**Población municipio Pomar de Valdivia**



**NUTS 5**

**Población Revilla de Pomar**



**NUTS < 5**





# NON FORECASTED OBJECTIVES THAT HAVE BEEN ACHIEVED

- In the same way, a **rehabilitation and adequacy of local houses has been produced**, becoming a respected and beautiful town, **preserving the traditional architecture** of mountains areas (design, materials, etc..).



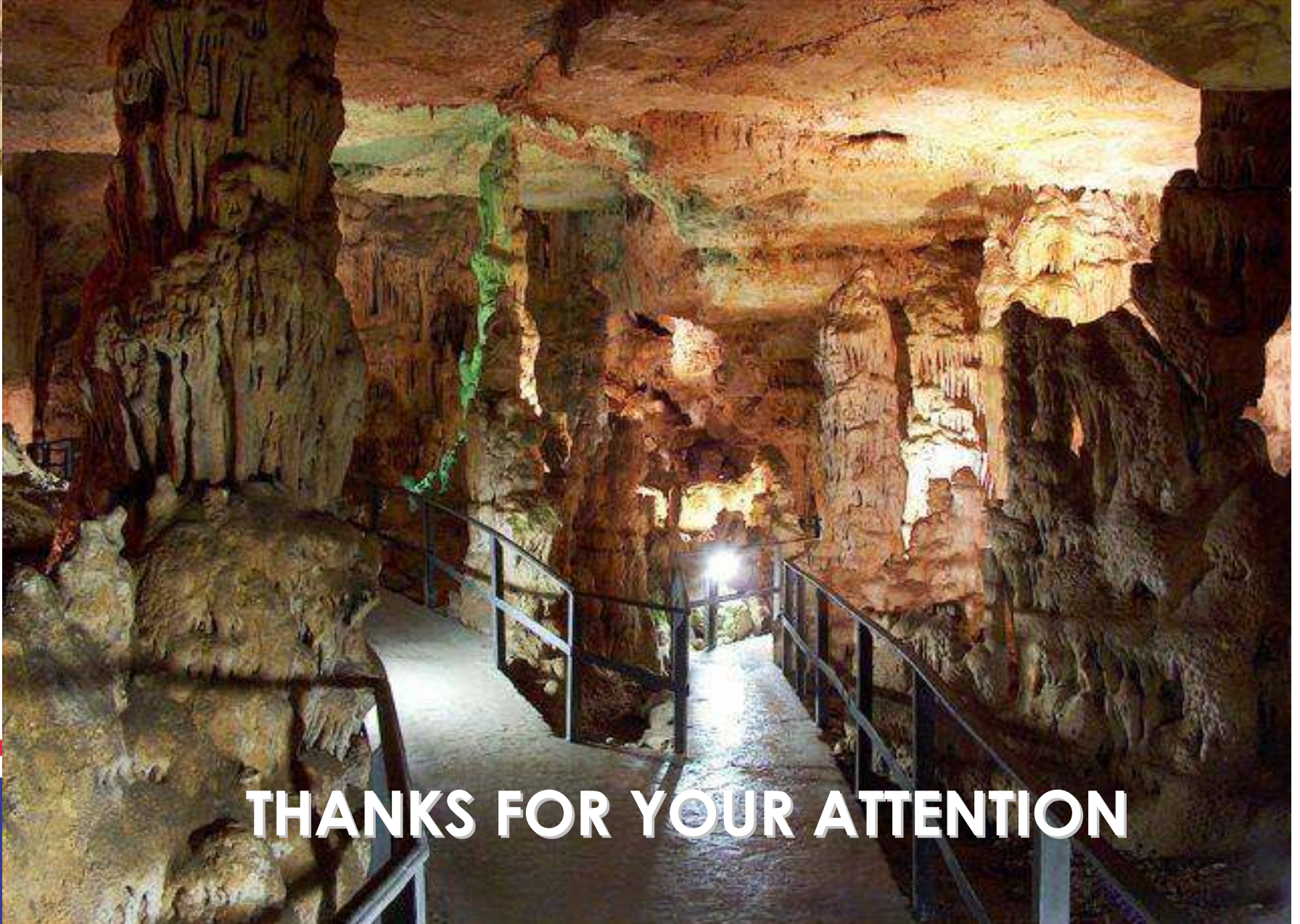
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DIPUTACIÓN DE PALENCIA



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**THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION**