

Euromountains.net

The creation of a European mountainous region network for the promotion of a continuous territorial development

Aosta Valley autonomous Region

Component 3-Theme 2

The Role of Territorial authorities in Developing and Promoting Mountain Resources and Quality Products



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Annexe 1

Description of territorial authorities

Annexe 2

Project results

STUDY AREA

1. Aosta Valley autonomous Region

1.1. Geographic and environmental description ¹

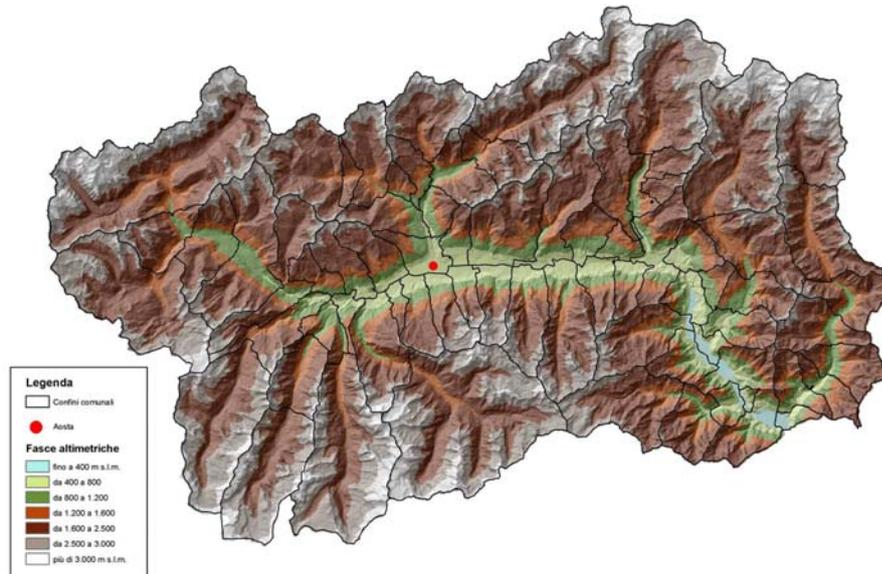


Figure 1 – Aosta Valley autonomous Region

Characteristic element: mountain

The Aosta Valley Region territory is 3.262 km², of which:

- 40% less than 2.000 m
- 50% of forests and pastures
- 8,7% of the territory inhabited all the year
- More than 1/5 of the territory is classify natural reserve in order to preserve the fauna and the flora
- 1.200 km of sky track

Land meeting of languages and cultures

- One bilingual community : French and Italian at the same level
- The *Francoprovençal* : the traditional language in everyday life
- A German speaking minority: *Walser* population of Lys valley

Land of communication

- Two alpine passes: Piccolo and Gran San Bernardo
- Two internationals tunnels : Monte Bianco and Gran San Bernardo
- Strong tradition of relationships with Europe and *Francophonie*

¹ Région autonome Vallée d'Aoste, *Rapport 2005*, Musumeci , Quart, 2005
www.regione.vda.it/amministrazione/giunta/risultati05_f.asp

Auto government and subsidiary

- 1 region
- 74 Communes
- 8 Comunità Montane (Community of Mountain Communes)
- Aosta, the regional capital

The local autonomies system of Aosta Valley autonomous Region is based on a regional law of 1998 that completely re-organized the Region. Inspired by federalism, that is based on principles of subsidiary, participation and solidarity, this text place Communes at the base of all governments and give to these ones administrative and managing functions. According to this law, Comunità Montane, are intermediate levels in order to organise services delegated by Communes. Region is the reference organism for all local autonomies systems and legislates, plans and coordinates all actions in order to ensure unity of action.

Population and employment²

- 122.868 residents, of which 62.334 women et 60.534 men
- Employment rate: 67% (men 75,4%, women 58,2%)
- Unemployment rate: 3% (men 2,2%, women 4,1%)

Economic context³

Adjoin value to the base price for economic sectors (year 2003):

- Agriculture, sylviculture and fishing : 1,57%
- Industry, in the strict sense of the term: 14,22%
- Building : 4,48%
- Commerce, hotels and restaurants, transports and communications : 28,78%
- Broking, entrepreneurial activities : 23,51%
- Other types of services : 27,44%

1.2. Economic activities and trends⁴

Farmland is generally used for grazing (53.700 ha); mowing grassland ranks second in terms of extension among the types of farmland (15.700 ha). Vineyards (510 ha) and orchards (700 ha) are the most important sector of intensive farming activity. 79.365 ha of land are occupied by forests and 250 ha of land are occupied by chestnut groves.

Dairy cattle are raised, with an annual production of about 600,000 quintals of milk, for the production of dairy products, such as: cheese, butter and yoghurt.

Active population in the agricultural sector: 3.000 farmers (2% of the population).

The regional industrial policy is focused on the promotion of high-technology, environmentally-friendly, premium quality industry (sports items, resin materials, computer storage devices, magnetic supports, electronic devices, high precision equipment, liquid crystal displays) (7.000 employees).

² ISTAT

³ ISTAT, taken from PreFin

⁴ A. V. Cerutti, *Le pays de la Doire et son peuple*, Musumeci, Quart, 1995

The industrial building and public works sector is constantly growing (6,000 employees).

The tertiary sector encompasses the largest part of economic activities, with the largest number of employees. 65% of the active population works in the tertiary sector: 6% in transport and communications; 11% in trade; 11 % in the hotel and tourism industry; 17% in credit activities and self-employment and 20% in the public administration.

1.3. Economic activities and trends

Common history: in the 12th century, the Aosta Valley already was a feud of the Count Humbert aux Blanches Mains (the Whitehanded), founder of the Savoy House. From that moment on, until the Unity of Italy, the history of the Region has been intertwined with the history of the Savoy House.

Special traditions in terms of land management and ownership: in addition to individual property, a further “common, indivisible and inalienable property system” existed in the Aosta Valley. This fostered the setting up of *Consorteries*, namely owners’ consortia, regulated by specific rules and regulations for the management of goods or services.

A few examples of *Consorteries* are: mountain pastures, woods, schools, water or windmills, brooks and pathways, etc. A few *Consorteries* still exist today.

Regional law of 5 April 1973 n° 14 « Norme riguardanti le Consorterie in Valle d’Aosta » applies to these situations.

Special traditions in terms of work management: the *Consorterie* system was based on the so-called *corvées*, namely “free and compulsory services” to be rendered by the eligible parties. The management of schools, mills, pathways and brooks was based on the *corvée* system...

At present, a few examples of *corvée*-based services still exist (e.g. brook management).

Grouping habits: from the physical point of view, the territory has always been organised in villages; villages are clusters of houses built one against the other for protection from avalanches, landslides, floods and for maximum farmland saving purposes.

From a social point of view, in the past, there were at least two social get-togethers: the so-called *consortage*, which allowed the parties entitled to it to convene a council and to meet on a regular basis; or the church, a regular meeting place for the population, whose assets were managed by councils made up of the same parishioners.

Specific language: the Aosta Valley was under a *Francoprovençal*/French bilingualism regime (French being the official language) until 1861, when the Italian language was equally introduced upon the Unity of Italy. The *Francoprovençal*/French bilingualism survived in villages until the advent of Fascism, in spite of language persecutions. At present a French/ Italian bilingualism exists and about 50% of the population still speaks the *Francoprovençal* patois, especially in villages.

Several traditional activities in various sectors: the autarchy system, which almost fully survived in villages until the mid 20th century, has led to the presence of multi-task people in various sectors: All of them were first and foremost farmers, but a farmer might also be a carpenter, a blacksmith, a weaver or a teacher at the same time. From the agricultural point of view, different farming and breeding activities were carried out, but mainly cattle breeding and cereal crops. Altitude

was also a crop and seasonal differentiation factor. (E.g. potatoes were grown at higher altitudes whereas vineyards were located on the lower slopes; higher altitude vegetables would ripen later as against the earlier lower mountain horticultural crops).

1.4. Zoning, special local measures, local and regional policies, Community Initiative Programme

Community Initiative Programme Interreg in the Aosta Valley

The Interreg Initiative (ERDF fund) envisages funds for cross-border, transnational and inter-regional co-operation projects, between public and private bodies, within the European Union or outside in the neighbouring countries, thus favouring the establishment and further strengthening of ties also beyond the EU programmes. The initiative is undertaken within the framework of programmes set forth by the public and regional authorities and approved by the European Commission.

The following Interreg programmes concern the Aosta Valley:

- **Interreg III A - Italy - France** <http://www.interreg-alcotra.org/>
(Alps) – (ALCOTRA - Alpes Latines – COopération TRANsfrontalière)
The programme covers the whole Alpine border between the two countries and, more precisely, three Italian Regions (Aosta Valley, Piedmont, Liguria) and two French Regions (Rhône-Alpes, Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur)
- **Interreg III A - Italy – Switzerland** <http://www.interreg-italiasvizzera.it/>
The area covered by the programme includes the following border areas between Switzerland and Italy: the Aosta Valley Autonomous Region, the provinces of Biella, Novara, Verbano-Cusio-Ossola and Vercelli (Piedmont Region), the provinces of Como, Lecco, Sondrio and Varese (Lombardy Region), the autonomous provinces of Bolzano and the Suisse cantons of Valais, Tessin and Grisons
- **Interreg III B - Alpine Space Programme** <http://www.alpinespace.org/>
The programme covers the whole Alpine arc and its neighbouring territories. Seven Italian Regions are included in the eligible areas, namely: the Aosta Valley, Piedmont, Liguria, Lombardy, Friuli Venezia Giulia, Veneto and Trentino Alto Adige. Other regions concerned are: France (Rhônes-Alpes, Provence-Alpes, Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur, Franche-Comté, Alsace), Germany (Oberbayern and Schwaben, Tübingen and Fribourg-en-Brigau) and Austria (the whole country). Other full members of the programme (using their own funds) are three countries that do not belong to the European Union: Switzerland, Slovenia and Liechtenstein
- **Interreg III B – Western Mediterranean Area** <http://www.interreg-medocc.org/>
The programme covers the western sector of the Mediterranean Sea and five countries of the European Union. The eligible areas are thirteen Italian Regions: the Aosta Valley, Piedmont, Liguria, Lombardy, Emilia-Romagna, Tuscany, Umbria, Latium, Campania, Sardinia, Basilicata, Calabria and Sicily. The other countries that take part in it are: France (Corse, Languedoc-Roussillon, Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur, Rhône-Alpes), Spain (Andalusia, Aragon, Catalonia, Balears, Murcia, Valencia, Ceuta, Melilla), Portugal (Algarve, Alentejo), the United Kingdom (Gibraltar) and Greece.
- **Interreg III C inter-Regional Co-operation** <http://www.interreg3c.net>

The whole territory of the European Union is entitled to participate in the ERDF co-funded programmes

Community Initiative Programme Equal in the Aosta Valley

The mission of the Equal programme (ESF fund) is to combat all forms of discrimination and inequality affecting work and employment.

<http://www.equalitalia.it/>

The Aosta Valley is concerned with Measures 1.1. and 2.2 of the Equal 2000/06 SPD.

The ongoing projects in the Aosta Valley Region aim at strengthening social economy and its networks, supporting and further developing the social enterprises located in the region (<http://www.equalteseo.it/>) in addition to further enhancing the quality and effectiveness of the social and work integration processes e (<http://www.equalintesa.org/>).

Community Initiative Programme Leader+ in the Aosta Valley

Leader+ intends to encourage the development of the rural world to outline original, integrated, high-quality strategies, to promote sustainable development. It supports the creation of partnerships and networks for the sharing of experiences.

The final beneficiaries of LEADER+ are organised in so-called Local Action Groups (LAG).

LAGs are groups of partners including public representatives or bodies (local politicians or representatives of other public bodies...) and private stakeholders (enterprises and their trade associations, cooperatives, associations...). Every LAG is responsible for the choice of initiatives that shall be undertaken and receives an overall grant on the basis of an agreement entered with the national management authority.

The Aosta Valley hosts only one LAG: the "Aosta Valley LAG"

<http://www.galvda.org/>

The Communes involved in the Programme Leader+ are displayed in the following map:

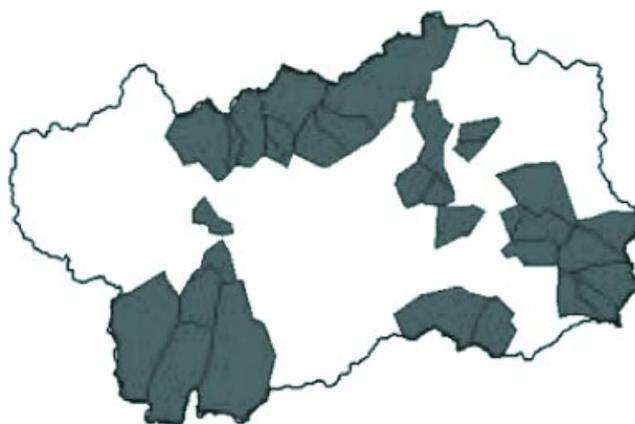


Figure 2 – Communes involved in the Leader+ Program

It can be observed that all the Communes participating in Euromountains.net (Chamois, La Magdeleine, Valgrisenche, Bionaz, Oyace, Champorcher and Pontboset) are also Leader+ Communes.

Objective 2 and Phasing out in the Aosta Valley

Objective 2 of structural funds aims at revitalising areas undergoing structural difficulties, both in the industrial, rural, urban or fishery domain. These areas are located inside Regions, whose development level is around the Community average. Nevertheless they suffer from different types of social and economic difficulties, which are often accompanied by high unemployment rates.

The Regions, which have been subsidised under objectives no. 1, 2, 5b or 6 during the last programming period of structural funds and which have achieved a certain degree of progress so that they do no longer need any massive support, are no longer covered by objectives no. 1 et 2 during the 2000-2006 period.

Yet, these Regions shall continue to benefit from the support granted during the expired period until Dec. 31 2005 or 2006 according to the various Regions' regimes.

The Communes of the Aosta Valley covered by Objective 2 (blue) and by Phasing out (yellow) are displayed in the following map:

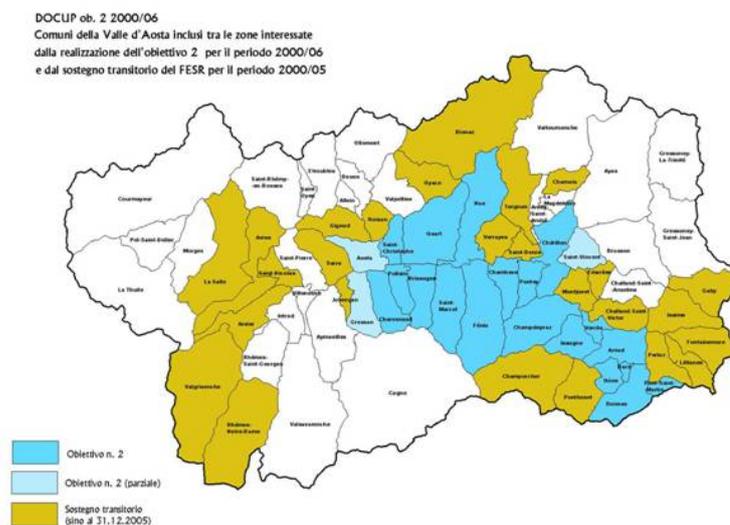


Figure 3 - The Aosta Valley Communes included in the areas concerned by Objective 2 (blue) and by Phasing out (yellow)

It can be observed that all the Communes participating in Euromountains.net (except for La Magdeleine) are also Phasing out Communes.

Objective 3 in the Aosta Valley

Objective 3 supports the initiatives aimed at fighting against unemployment, strengthening the vocational training and education system to adjust to economic, technical and technological changes in the labour market, by fostering the work integration of disadvantaged people and promoting equal opportunities between men and women. Objective 3 covers the whole Aosta Valley autonomous Region.

2. Study area : 7 Communes in the Aosta Valley autonomous Region

We have selected those Communes that well represent the features and problems of our mountain Communes. More specifically, the Communes that have been chosen are not among the most developed ones from the tourist point of view. Yet, they are rather well developed from the agro-food and artisan point of view and indeed, a few typical products exist only in the Communes under study. Hence, the role played by territorial authorities for the local development and promotion of these products is very important to assure their protection.

The 7 Communes, which have been selected, are scattered throughout the territory of the Aosta Valley autonomous Region (1 upper valley, 2 medium-upper valley, 2 medium-lower valley and 2 lower valley) and are located at an altitude ranging between 1.000 and 1.800 m.

The selected Communes are: Bionaz, Chamois, Champorcher, La Magdeleine, Oyace, Pontboset and Valgrisenche.



Figure 4 – 7 Communes of study area

The area under study is characterised by the following data:⁵

Commune	Population (no. inhabitants)	Surface (km ²)	Population Density
La Magdeleine	91	8,9	10,22472
Valgrisenche	187	113,28	1,650777
Bionaz	259	142,82	1,813472
Oyace	220	30,62	7,184847
Champorcher	422	68,46	6,164183
Chamois	127	14,49	8,764665
Pontboset	228	33,76	6,753555
Study area	1534	412,33	3,720321

General data about Aosta Valley autonomous Region (1.2, 1.3, 1.4) represent the study area characteristics too.

⁵ AAVV, *Le messenger valdôtain*, Imprimerie valdôtaine, Aoste, 2005
AAVV, *La Valle d'Aosta Paese per Paese*, Bonechi, Firenze 1997

STUDIED PRODUCTS

1. Agro-food products : Fontina PDO⁶

1.1 Description

Fontina is a PDO cheese: PDO⁷ stands for Protected Denomination of Origin, a standard that applies throughout the European Union.

It is produced in the Aosta Valley: throughout the whole territory of the Aosta Valley, but only and exclusively in the Aosta Valley. Here, thanks to the barrier effect of the Alps, the climate is dry in summer, thus allowing the proliferation of a rich mountain flora, including a few specific high quality botanic species.

Cattle grazes on the mountain pastures and the typical features offered by the best mountain grass and flowers enter the cattle food chain, their milk and finally the dairy products, namely Fontina, with its typical flavour, taste, proteins and vitamins.

It is exclusively thanks to this special combination of flowers, herbs and water, that the Aosta Valley cow milk takes its typical flavour. Furthermore, the typical Aosta Valley air adds its contribution to the ripening of the Fontina cheese.



Figure 5 – Cattle grazing in Aosta Valley mountains

⁶ <http://www.consorzioproduttorifontina.it/>; <http://www.lafontina.it/>; <http://www.fontinacoop.it/>

⁷ The 12 June 1996 the European Union gave firsts PDO Protection Denomination of Origin. Fontina was one of first cheese that obtained PDO, thanks to that a new commercialisation phase started. Assigning “PDO”, European Commission imposed that all production phases had to be connected with origin place.

European judges recognized PDO because of the existence of a strict specification closely respected by Cooperativa Produttori Latte e Fontina associated.

Thanks to PDO the whole Valdôtain origin of Fontina is certified and guarantee.

Characteristics:

- Typically flattened cylindrical shape with flat sides
- Weight: between 8 and 12 Kg
- Diameter: 43 cm
- Height: 7-10 cm
- Light-to-dark brown compact rind according to the cheese ripening conditions and length of the maturing period
- Elastic, soft, half-cooked paste, with typical holes scattered in the loaf of cheese. Its colour ranges from more to less intense straw-yellow
- A characteristic sweet and palatable flavour, getting more intense with ripening



Figure 6- Fontina PDO sample

Fontina is made according to a century-old recipe.

It is mainly made with whole raw milk of pure Aosta Valley breed cows, mainly fed on green forage during summertime and local hay throughout the rest of the year.

The Aosta Valley breed cows feature a variable milk production throughout the year, which is on average quantitatively lower than other cow milk production, but of a higher quality. Cows mainly feed on Alpine herbs, which improve the milk nutritional contents, with a slight variation between summer and winter.

Milk processing methods are based on PDO standards, which do not alter the fresh milk characteristics, thus keeping them intact when transferred to the dairy products.

Milk is generally processed within two hours after milking so that it keeps its full flavour. The still suckling calf rennet is used to start the coagulation process. The curd is then cut down to a corn grain size. While keeping on stirring the curd, it is gradually heated up to about 48 C° in order to squeeze out the whey and get rid of clots.

Upon its extraction from the cauldron, curds are poured into especially designed moulds or prints that give Fontina its unique shape. They are then pressed to squeeze out the whey. After 12 hours, the cheese is taken out from the prints.

The shaped cheese is allowed to ripen or age on spruce boards inside cheese cellars dug into the rock, whose temperature ranges between 5 and 10° C, with a relative humidity rate of 90%.

Man intervention is required on a daily basis: the ripening of Fontina requires constant care.

The cheese prints are turned every day, assuring one day of salting and one day of brushing. Brushing allows scraping the mould off the pieces of cheese, due to the natural fermentation process that makes the rind humid. Ripening lasts at least three months.

The Fontina cheese cellars are dug in rock, to assure the best temperature and humidity conditions to allow a natural ripening process.

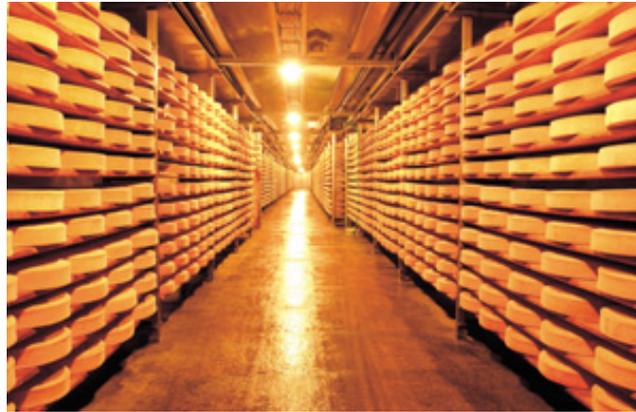


Figure 7 – Cheese cellar for Fontina PDO

The history of Fontina is the history of the Aosta Valley. The earliest information goes back to the 13th century, namely when the feudal families built their strongholds and castles, others were engaged in making life more tasty thanks to the invention of the ancestral Fontina.

Different types of cheese were already mentioned in the feudal archives of 1267 and in the *Summa Lacticinorum*, written in 1477, which reported about the Aosta Valley: "Here you can find good cheeses and pasture land is excellent. Medium-size loaves of cheese are made. When cheese is heated up or when it is used for cooking it becomes viscous and forms threads". This description already evokes the flavour and aroma of Fondue.

If you visit the Aosta Valley castles, it suffices to look at the frescoes in the castle of Issogne to admire a full medieval display of cheeses on sale, including the typical loaves of Fontina, along with warriors, ladies and knights.

This is the symbol of a century-old tradition if not of an art, which has been kept alive for as many as seven centuries and which has been appreciated by whole generations of *Valdôtains* as well as visitors.

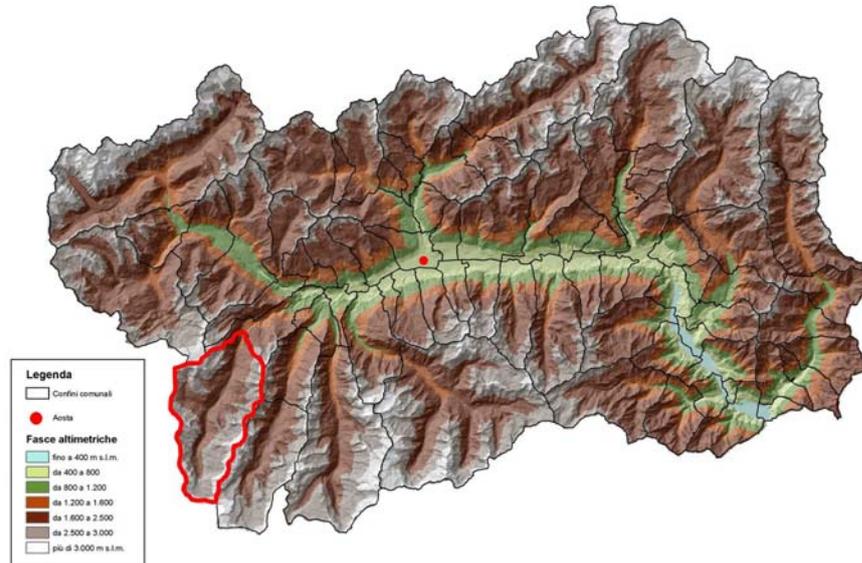
The term *Fontine* dates from 1717, when it was first used in the *Hospice du Grand-Saint-Bernard* account books. This same description was used in document of 1731, written by the Seigneur Commandant De Challant, one of the members of the most noble and famous dynasty of the Aosta Valley.

It is a word rich of history, which identifies and guarantees the compliance with strict production standards at a European level, which allows to preserve the sensory characteristics and specificity of a produce that boasts a century-old tradition.

1.2 Study case analysis and description

1a - Territory description form: Valgrisenche

Location map



1/ Geographical environment

- Mountainous massif : Valgrisenche is located in the Valgrisenche valley
- Altitude: 1.664 m
- Surface of the area: 113,28 km²
- The studied territory is entirely located in mountains areas
- Alpine climate

2/ Socio-economics dynamisms

- Population: 193 inhabitants
- Density: 1,703 (inhab. / km²)
- Demographic trends: unchanged (natural balance 0, migratory balance 0)⁸
- Share of the active population per sector of activity⁹ :
 - agriculture 39.89 %(77 employees)
 - industry 6.22 %(12 employees)
 - commerce 1.03 %(2 employees)
 - construction 1.55 %(3 employees)
 - tourism 9.33%(18 employees)
 - transport and communication 3.11%(6 employees)
 - other services 2.07%(4 employees)

3/Description of policy organisation and zoning

Territorial organisation of the area:

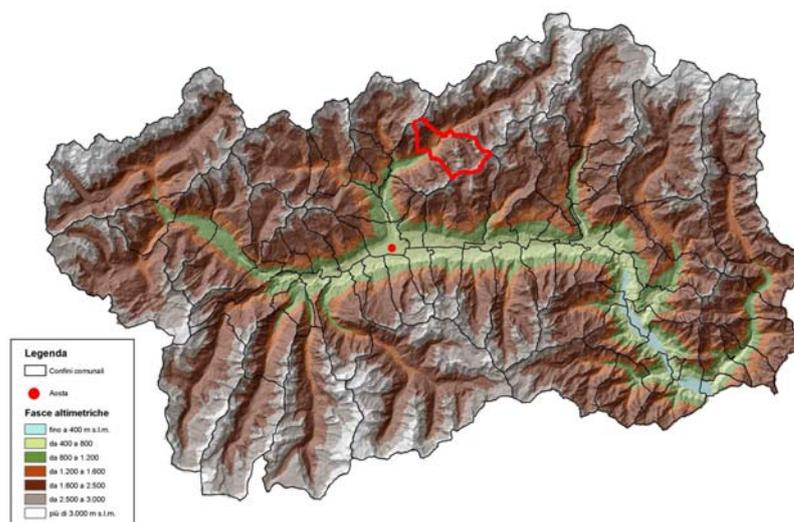
- NUTS 5 (LAU level 2)
- Valgrisenche belong to the Comunità Montana of Gran Paradiso (LAU level1)
- European zoning: Leader +, Objective 2, Phasing out and Objective 3

⁸ *Bilancio demografico nazionale 2002*

⁹ Concerning the calculation of the distribution of the active population by branch of activity we used the data on the 8° *Censimento generale dell'industria e dei servizi 2001* of ISTAT (Table Addetti alle unità locali delle imprese per settore di attività economica e Comune) and the 5° *Censimento generale dell'agricoltura 2000* of ISTAT (Table: Persone per categoria di manodopera agricola, Comune e zona altimetrica)

1b - Territory description form: Oyace

Location map



1/ Geographical environment

- Mountainous massif : Oyace is located in the Valpelline valley
- Altitude: 1.377 m
- Surface of the area: 30,62 km²
- The studied territory is entirely located in mountains areas
- Alpine climate

2/ Socio-economics dynamisms

- Population: 218 inhabitants
- Density: 7,1 (inhab. / km²)
- Demographic trends: negative (natural balance 0, migratory balance -6)¹⁰
- Share of the active population per sector of activity¹¹ :
 - agriculture 49.08 %(107 employees)
 - industry 1.37 %(3 employees)
 - energy 2.29 %(5 employees)
 - commerce 0.92 %(2 employees)
 - construction 4.58 %(10 employees)
 - tourism 0.92 %(2 employees)
 - transport and communication 0.45 %(1 employee)
 - other services 1.37 %(3 employees)

3/Description of policy organisation and zoning

Territorial organisation of the area:

- NUTS 5 (LAU level 2)
- Oyace belong to the Comunità Montana of Gran Combin (LAU level1)
- European zoning: Leader +, Objective 2, Phasing out and Objective 3

¹⁰ Bilancio demografico nazionale 2002

¹¹ Concerning the calculation of the distribution of the active population by branch of activity we used the data on the 8° Censimento generale dell'industria e dei servizi 2001 of ISTAT (Table Addetti alle unità locali delle imprese per settore di attività economica e Comune) and the 5° Censimento generale dell'agricoltura 2000 of ISTAT (Table: Persone per categoria di manodopera agricola, Comune e zona altimetrica)

2 - Product description form: the Fontina PDO

Presentation of the food/ craft product and commodity chain

Description of the product¹²

- ✘ **Type of product and description of the product:** PDO cheese which has a flexible and elastic paste, compact, with the colour of the straw, soft savour and a very pleasant flavour
- ✘ **Short history of the product:** the first information are from the XIII^e century
- ✘ **Specificity, bond with the territory:**
 - **Surface of production:** its territory of production is that of the Aosta Valley, all the Aosta Valley, only the Aosta Valley (D.P.R. 30.12.1995 n.1269)
 - **Surface of transformation:** Fontina transformation consists of a period of refining of at least 3 months in cellars (often dug in the rock) where temperature is between 5° and 10°, with a relative humidity of 90%. Cellars are distributed on all the regional territory
- ✘ **Official sign of quality:** Fontina was one of the first cheeses that obtained the PDO

Description of the commodity chain

- ✘ **Annual sales of the the commodity chain¹³:** 30,3 million euro (in all the Region)
- ✘ **Volume of production (for year)¹⁴:** 400.000 shapes, 3500 tons (in all the Region)
- ✘ **A number of producers¹⁵:** approximately 400 distributed in individual company, cheese cooperative, and dairies (in all the Region)
- ✘ **Transformer numbers¹⁶:** approximately 47 individual subjects/small company and 1 Cooperativa produttori latte and fontina (which transforms the 65% of the produced cheeses)
- ✘ **Surface of marketing distribution of the product:** in all the national territory, generally in the north and centre; European Union and principal extra continental markets (USA, Japan and Canada)
- ✘ **Origin of the raw material:** the milk used for Fontina is produced by local cows (race: *Valdôtaine*), mottled black or sweet brown, fed in the pastures for 6 months and with local hay in the remaining 6 months. The integration used in the daily ration of bovine is controlled and has a very good quality

3-Project description form : *Fontina Qualità* (Quality Fontina)¹⁷

Context (in brief): organisation of the holders and the environment of the project

- ✘ **Initiative/factor at the origin of the project¹⁸:** the project is the natural consequence of the project *Latte Qualità* (Quality milk) (State aid N. NR 181/01) and is born to propose solutions for the problems of the Fontina commodity chain: inconstant qualitative level, required training of the operators, stagnating market of cheeses, needs of defend the characteristic

¹² Milk and Fontina producer cooperative (dépliant et web site www.fontinacoop.it)

¹³ *L'equilibrio economico del sistema latte bovino in Valle d'Aosta*, INEA

¹⁴ Milk and Fontina producer cooperative (dépliant et web site www.fontinacoop.it)

¹⁵ Milk and Fontina producer cooperative (dépliant et web site www.fontinacoop.it)

¹⁶ Direct contact with the Fontina producer consortium

¹⁷ Project Fontina Qualità and interview with the person in charge of the project Alessandro Rota

¹⁸ *L'equilibrio economico del sistema latte bovino in Valle d'Aosta*, INEA, pag 77

- ✘ Description of the **organisation** that carries out the project:
 - Name of the organisation: Consorzio Produttori e Tutela della DOP Fontina (www.consorzioproduttorifontina.it)
 - Who are the holders? Producers of Fontina joined together in a Consortium
 - Constitution of the organisation: : the structure is a private consortium with external activities recognized by Mipaf (Ministry for the Agricultural and Forest Policies) with the ministerial decree law 26/04/02
 - Date of creation: 1957¹⁹
 - Object ((Mission, finalities of the structure, goals)²⁰: actions of valorisation, safeguards and protection of the PDO Fontina cheese; safeguard of the original and typical characters; studies and research of the knowledge and the relationships between the PDO and the territory of origin; information and publicity; initiatives to organize and to improve the market; initiatives to increase the technological, commercial, administrative and financial efficiency of the companies joined together in Consortium; safeguards of general interests of the original label
 - budget general of the structure (of the organization): 380.000 €²¹

✘ **Which difficulties, linked to the context, are met by the holders?**

The difficulties related to the context met within the ambit of the project could be defined better like the difficulties of the commodity chain of Fontina relieved during the preliminary investigations of the project:

- Over costs: Fontina is produced in a mountain territory, so several factors are at the origin of the over costs; in particular one underlines: tortuous transport, lengthened times of displacement, needs of structures of transformation disseminated on the territory and with correct dimensions
- Low-size commodity chain and companies: the commodity chain of Fontina produces a volume of businesses of 30 million euros for year, with a production of 400.000 cheeses; the structures of transformation count approximately 230 mountain pastures, 17 cheese dairies cooperatives and 15 private cheese dairies; the average dimension of the Aosta Valley companies also is very small: the 70% of the agricultural companies have less than 5 hectares of UAA (total utilized agricultural area)²²
- Constraining rules: being a PDO, there is a production disciplinary which impose rules to be respected (e.g. Aosta Valley hay, autochthones races of cows, prohibition of certain food, selected leavens, traditional technologies)
- Loss of know-how: the arrival of new technologies and the construction of greater cheese dairies carried to the use of the traditional practices exclusively in the mountain pastures or in the farms where there is the direct transformation of produced milk

Are some of these difficulties linked to the location within mountain areas? The mountain is especially an asset both for PDO product and for the studied project; otherwise, the mountain is the principal cause of the over costs.

¹⁹ *L'equilibrio economico del sistema latte bovino in Valle d'Aosta*, INEA, pag 9

²⁰ art 4 of the statute of the Consorzio Produttori e Tutela della DOP Fontina

²¹ Coming from the activity of affixing of sign PDO on the cheeses in conformity with the production disciplinary

²² ISTAT, *Indagini sulla struttura e produzioni delle aziende agricole* 1995.

✘Assets met linked to the context

- Natural and cultural heritage: the “traditionalism” of Fontina is defined by the production disciplinary (art 3 and 4), it imposes that milk is produced by the autochthones race, raised according to the local uses', honest and constant and fed with only local fodder (hay or pasture). Thus, cheese-making technologies which belong to the local tradition, the use of the full-cream milk of only one draft, the natural presence of bacterial flora and the specific aromas, and refining in artificial or natural caves increase the characteristic of the product
- Specificity quality/originality of the products: the product object of the project is under the sign of a Protected Denomination of Origin (PDO)
- Specificity of the modes of production and transformation: the rules to be respected during the production and the transformation are defined by the disciplinary of production of the PDO
- Notoriety/image of the product and the territory of production: marketing investigations showed the existence of the binomial Aosta Valley and Fontina²³
- Presence of a local market related to the tourist activity: Fontina is appreciated by the tourists for its soft cheese characteristics to consume all alone or combined with other products of the traditional cooking

Are some of these assets linked to the location within mountain area? The mountain itself is the true asset of Fontina considering that its territory of production is only the Aosta Valley.

Content of the project :

✘General objectives :

The objective is to obtain a qualitatively valid product which can fulfil the requirements of the market.

The project defines the following objectives:

- To improve the professional capacity of the cheese-maker and the persons in charge for store, through specific training and technical support
- To improve organoleptic quality of the product
- To increase the productivity of the cheese dairies
- As well as possible, to give value to the product on the market
- To indirectly improve the income of the basic producers (raising of prices of attribution)
- To develop a system of quality and to introduce certifications into the yield and transformation structures

✘Operational objectives :

- Formation
- Technical aid
- Improvement of the traceability and the visibility of the product
- Activity of promotion and divulgation
- Activity of research and experimentation
- Service of council

²³ *La Valle d'Aosta e i suoi prodotti*, AC Nielsen C.R.A. 2000; “*Gli italiani e la fontina*”, ASTRA, 2003

4 – Description of the action / intervention of the territorial authorities²⁴

4.1 – Which territorial authorities supported the project ?

Several institutions will collaborate to the project: (Consorzio Produttori e Tutela PDO Fontina, Associazione Nazionale Allevatori Bovini Razza Valdostana, Association Régional Eleveurs Valdôtains, Institut Agricole Régional, Cooperativa Produttori Latte e Fontina, Fédération des Coopératives Valdôtaines, Comitato di coordinamento del settore lattiero-caseario, Unità sanitaria locale, Ente certificatore, Commissione tecnica del progetto Fontina Qualità), but the single public institution is the Assessorato agricoltura e risorse naturali (Aosta Valley autonomous Region).

Name of territorial authority	NUTS level
Assessorato agricoltura e risorse naturali (Aosta Valley autonomous Region)	NUTS 2

4.2 - Description of the intervention of each territorial authority

→ Description tables of territorial authorities' intervention

4 questions	8 sub-questions	Answer
WHO ?	Name of the territorial authority	Assessorato agricoltura e risorse naturali (Aosta Valley autonomous Region) NUTS 2
FOR WHICH PURPOSE ?	What are the concrete actions supported?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Formation - Technical aid - Improvement of the traceability and the visibility of the product - Activity of promotion and divulgation - Activity of research and experimentation - Service of council
HOW ?	Type of the intervention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assistances for non-material investments (promotion, research and experimentation, traceability) - Provision of its own structures and its personnel (formation, technical aid)
	Direct beneficiaries of the intervention / measure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The carrying structure: training of its operators (markers, monitoring) and safeguards product - Producers directly: action of promotion, traceability, formation and technical aid
	Conditions to be fulfilled by the beneficiaries	The conditions to fill were defined by the European Commission with its decision C (2005) 5299
	Modalities and duration of the intervention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Multiannual Assistance for lasted six years to allow the activation of the administrative instruments and the interventions which currently do not exist in the Fontina commodity chain; the period of application takes in account also technical time to allows the operators to accept these instruments

²⁴ Source: project Fontina Qualità and interview with the person in charge of the project Alessandro Rota

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A plan of forecast of the costs divided for year and intervention was predisposed - There weren't contractualisations with the beneficiary - Helps are not decreasing in time
HOW MANY ?		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Allocated sum (€): 2.125.000 - Rate of financing (%) and ceiling of financing: according to the interventions the financing changes: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. market research, quality systems, traceability: maximum subsidy of 100.000 € for beneficiary in the three years or, for SME, 50% of the allowed expenses if the importation is higher than the first²⁵ 2. formation, technical aid and services of consultation: maximum subsidy of 100.000 € for beneficiary in the three years or, for SME, 50% of the allowed expenses if the value is higher than the first²⁶ 3. research and experimentation: 100%²⁷ 4. promotion (100%) and publicity (50%²⁸)

2. Complementary questions

A) Level of accuracy in the definition of the intervention

The assistance of the Assessorato agricoltura e risorse naturali is for the whole of the project in its globularity

B) Context of the intervention

The project is born within the context of a measure of the regional RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMING DOCUMENT (measure II.C.1) which contains several interventions in favour of quality: the project "Fontina Qualità" is thus a specific help within the context of a measure already approved by the EC at the time of the approval of the regional RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMING DOCUMENT. It is not a question of a co financed measurement, but of a state aid financed exclusively by the regional balance

C) Partnership between territorial authorities and holders

There is a transversal collaboration between all the institutions which work in the sector dairy-cheese maker; in effect the project was discussed on the level of coordinating committee of the zootechnical sector and slag-cheesemonger. There is a good collaboration between the territorial authorities and the holders

D) Non financial intervention

The Assessorato agricoltura e risorse naturali is active in the project through: its own personnel, his structures (milk analysis laboratory, tasting room ...), the activities of formation, technical aid and the disclosure on the territory, research and the experimentation

²⁵ Reference at point 13 of "Lignes directrices de la Communauté concernant les aides d'Etat dans le secteur agricole"

²⁶ Reference at point 14 of "Lignes directrices de la Communauté concernant les aides d'Etat dans le secteur agricole"

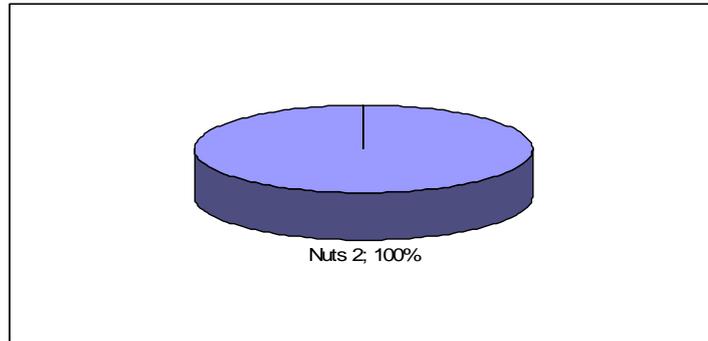
²⁷ "Communication de la Commission du 1998 que modifie la discipline communautaire per les aides d'Etat pour la recherche et l'expérimentation"

²⁸ Lignes directrices de la communauté pour la promotion et la publicité

4.4 – Financial information

Share of grants and self-financing (figures concerning several years as far as possible).

	Territorial authorities						Self-financing
	Europe	Nuts 1	Nuts 2	Nuts 3	Nuts 4	Nuts 5	
Amount (€)			2.125.000				
Share (%)			100				



5 – Analysis of the intervention of the territorial authorities in the project

The project has just started, an analysis of the intervention is not possible, but we can envisage the difficulties which we will encounter:

- Several institutions go to collaborate in the project so there will probably be problems of coordination of the activities
- Not effective availability of the financial resources envisaged
- Longer time of realization than the duration of the project (e.g. experimentation)
- Insufficient participation at various activities from the target public (e.g. formation for cheese-maker)

2. Artisan products : traditional fabrics

2.1. Description

In the Aosta Valley autonomous Region lots are traditional fabrics still produced. In particular in the studied Communes we can find: hemp, woollen cloth (*drap*) and velvet (for the creation of traditional Carnival costumes called *landzettes*).

Traditional studied fabrics are produced just in studied Communes; these products are unique and with high quality so the role of territorial authorities is very important in development and promotion of these in order to protect the same products.

The *drap*

The tradition of weave wool is still present in Valgrisenche; *drap* of Valgrisenche is a typical fabric of Alps that is obtained, today such as in the past, using hand loom and virgin wool.

The Valgrisenche population learn to weave *drap* (fabric in sheep wool) on old loom in order to be independent, at least in clothes sector, because of their limited economic availability and their winter isolation.

Colours of *draps* were limited: white, grey, black and *tannet* (colour which look like the stum colour). In order to make the fabric waterproof, it was put more times in cold water in order to become matted.

Today in Valgrisenche weavers weave with new loom built following models from Renaissance.

Drap was a coarse wool fabric and today this is still his main feature. Now *drap* is weaved in many colours and with geometrics designs. *Drap* is used for furniture and decoration thanks to his strength and durability.

In Valgrisenche there is the cooperative Les Tisserands that use both old and new Jacquard loom.

Drap is sold in Italy and abroad: France, Belgium, Switzerland and Canada.



Figure 8 – Hand loom for *drap* weaving



Figure 9 – Example of *drap*

Hemp²⁹

Hemp was grown in many areas in the Aosta Valley, mainly in the central valley, but weaving was made in specialised factories, like the one in Champorcher. Finer hemp fibres were sent to these centres, in order to produce clothes and household linen, whereas the coarse hemp was used to make ropes and bags.

Hemp was no longer cultivated in Champorcher by the end of the 1700s due the climatic conditions. Instead, people carried it on their backs from the areas where it was cultivated up into this valley, which had plentiful water due to the presence of the Ayasse torrent.

The bundles were stacked together and left to soak in the torrent, weighed down by large rocks in natural inlets and depressions which can still be seen today. In this way there was a continuous change of clean flowing water that would ensure the proper maceration of the material. After a series of processes, the fibre was obtained for producing the thread, and then the cloth.

In past centuries, weaving was one of the main activities of the community in Champorcher: during the long winters, spinning and weaving of wool but above all of hemp was carried out for domestic use and consumption, but also for others as a way of supplementing the family's agricultural income. In autumn, before the area was cut off by the snow, the hemp was carried up to Champorcher in balls or skeins-from Arnad, Issogne, Verres and the Canavese- to be woven by the various families. It was then returned in the springtime in the form of cloth.

The looms were sturdy, built using larch wood by local carpenters and positioned in the stalls where there was a constant humidity, due to the presence of the animals. This was an essential condition for the weaving of hemp thread, which is naturally fairly coarse, rigid and difficult to use, particularly at that time, when it was spun by hand.

In 1988, being organized an exposition about old times trousseau, a group of people tried to enhance the value of old looms, so the weaving restarted and eleven women met under the name of cooperative *Lou Dzeut*.

Today in Champorcher the cooperative *Lou Dzeut* weaving activity go on in the small shop where products are still commercialize: cooperative produce fabrics and then transform these in towels, wipers, pinafores, bread bags, tablecloths, mats, curtains, pillows, shirts and waistcoat.



Figure 10 – Looms for weaving hemp



Figure 11 – Small shop to sell products of cooperative *Lou Dzeut*

²⁹ Interreg IIIB Spazio Alpino CRAFTS, "Ecomuseo a Champorcher. Campo dimostrativo di canapa ad Hône", Aosta, 2006

Velvet³⁰

Velvet is a fabric not produced in Aosta Valley but used for the creation of *landzettes*, a traditional Carnival costume.

Once costumes were obtained adorning old dresses with recovered ribbons and cockades.

Along years, costumes evolved and were modified, not in the cut or in the model, but in the richness of decorations. In fact on this very coloured dress appeared more and more researched embroidery with pearls and spangle. We can observe changes in the fabric use too: from the old recovered dresses to the felt, satin and velvet costume, chosen for their bright colours.

Costume is normally composed by: a redingote, velvet trousers adorned with spangle sewed in flower form and mirrors, a hat adorned with plastic flowers and mirrors, a belt with small bells and a horse queue in the hand.

Composition of this costume is not casual, in effect Carnival is a celebration done in the period between winter and spring and it marks the passage from bad to good season: the *landzettes* dress, rich and coloured, the ribbons and flowers adorning helmet (hat) and the tinkling of small bells, remember the nature awakening, after the winter sleep.



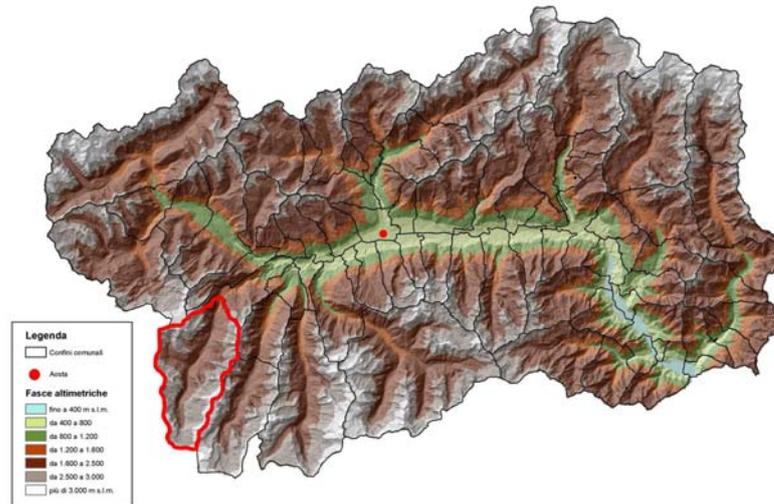
Figure 12, 13 – *Landzettes* during Carnival

³⁰ Institution scolaire du Grand Combin, *Lo Carnaval de la Coumba Frèide*, Communauté de Montagne Grand Combin, AIAT – Syndicat d'Initiatives du Gran San Bernardo, 2004
Interview to the teacher that follow the project (Lucia Levêque)

2.2 Study case analysis and description

1- Area description form: Valgrisenche

Location map



1/ Geographical environment

- Mountainous massif : Valgrisenche is located in the Valgrisenche valley
- Altitude: 1.664 m
- Surface of the area: 113,28 km²
- The studied territory is entirely located in mountains areas
- Alpine climate

2/ Socio-economics dynamisms

- Population: 193 inhabitants
- Density: 1,703 (inhab. / km²)
- Demographic trends: neutral (natural balance 0; migratory balance 0)³¹
- Share of the active population per sector of activity³² :
 - agriculture 39,89% (77 employees)
 - industry 6,22% (12 employees)
 - commerce 1,03% (2 employees)
 - construction 1,55% (3 employees)
 - tourism 9,33% (18 employees)
 - transport and communication 3,11% (6 employees)
 - other services 2,07% (4 employees)

3/Description of policy organisation and zoning

Territorial organisation of the area:

- NUTS 5 (LAU level 2)
- Valgrisenche belong to the Comunità Montana Grand Paradis (LAU level 1)
- European zoning: Leader +, Objective 3, Objective 2 and Phasing out

³¹ Bilancio demografico nazionale 2002

³² Concerning the calculation of the distribution of the active population by branch of activity we used the data on the 8° Censimento generale dell'industria e dei servizi 2001 of ISTAT (Table Addetti alle unità locali delle imprese per settore di attività economica e Comune) and the 5° Censimento generale dell'agricoltura 2000 of ISTAT (Table: Persone per categoria di manodopera agricola, Comune e zona altimetrica)

2 - Product description form, fabric: drap of Valgrisenche

Presentation of the product and commodity chain

Description of the product³³

- ✘ **Type of product and description of the product:** fabric which is obtained from traditional weaving of wool on old hand loom in maple wood
- ✘ **Short history of the product:** since unmemorable times in Valgrisenche one wove wool especially to be independent, at least from the point of view of clothing, for the long period of winter isolation
- ✘ **Specificity, bond with the territory:**
 - **Surface of production:** its territory of production is that of Valgrisenche (Aosta Valley)
 - **Surface of transformation:** its territory of transformation is that of Valgrisenche (Aosta Valley); the cooperative produces the tissue then transforms it into tablecloths, covers, bag, and clothing
- ✘ **Official sign of quality:** the tissue does not have a sign of quality but it is recognized like typical and traditional artisan product by the regional law n° 44/91.

Description of the commodity chain³⁴

Annual sales of the commodity chain: (data of the sales in 2003)
124.586 €

Volume of production (for year): variable, the 90% of the production is made on request

Number of producers: 1 cooperative with 4 member-worker (employees and associated of the cooperative at the same time) and 1 collaborator (dressmaker)

Transformer numbers: 1 cooperative with 4 member-worker (employees and associated of the cooperative at the same time) and 1 collaborator (dressmaker)

Surface of marketing distribution of the product: 1 cooperative store at Valgrisenche, sales in the IVAT stores (Institut valdotain de l'artisanat typique) (Aoste, Ayas, Cogne, Courmayeur and Gressoney-Saint-Jean) and sale in regional fairs. Many of the orders and purchases are made by customers who come from: France, Belgium, and Switzerland

Direct employment in the commodity chain: 5

Origin of the raw material: the wool used for cloth production comes from 4 different places: 70% Sardinia (Italy) (low cost), 10% Biella (Piedmont-Italy) (average cost, more flexible wool), 10% Novara (Piedmont-Italy) (high cost, more worked and more flexible wool) and 10% Aosta Valley (wool of the Rosset sheep: very expensive but of very good quality). The wool of Sardinia and Biella arrives in hanks while there of Novara and the Aosta Valley arrive already in distaff

³³ Région autonome Vallée d'Aoste, *Valgrisenche*, XXV concours Cerlogne, 1987

³⁴ Direct interview with the "soci-dipendenti" of the cooperative

3 - Project description form: Rosset wool

Foreword: the studied project is not a structured project but rather a specific activity made by the beneficiary of project within the context of its institutional support activities for the development of the ovi-caprine commodity chain. The territorial authority which developed and financed project (AREV Regional Association Eleveurs Valdôtains) is supported for the 80% by public financings (Autonomous Region of Aosta Valley and Italian State) but it is an association of category of private law. The studied project was not thought expressly to support cloths of Valgrisenche but rather to support the development of the ovi-caprine commodity chain: but the implication of Tisserands (cooperative which produces cloths of Valgrisenche) indirectly supported the development of cloth too. The project studied, through the valorisation of wool of Rosset race sheep (indigenous race in way of extinction), wants to develop the commodity chain of the Rosset sheep; within the context of the project the Tisserands cooperative had an important role from the beginning because it tried to weave and then to use for the transformation, an indigenous wool. This project was very important from the point of view of the image either for the wool itself or for the cooperative. Actually the role of the cooperative as changed a little since there is a new company (Valgrisa s.r.l.) which directly buys beneficiary wool and makes it spin, then the Tisserands cooperative deals with weaving and it sells again the majority of wool to "Valgrisa s.r.l. "; part of the tissue nevertheless is retained and worked by the Tisserands cooperative.

Context (in brief): organisation of the holders and the environment of the project

- ✘ **Initiative**/factor at the origin of the project: the birth in 1999 of the ovi-caprine section of the AREV for the recognition and the protection of the Rosset sheep and the meeting of the persons in charge for the AREV with the representatives of the laboratory of the spinning Atelier of Chantemerle (France) gave the idea to try to spin and then to weave the Rosset wool.
 - ✘ **Description of the organisation** that carries out the project:
 - Name of the organisation: AREV (Association Régionale Eleveurs Valdôtains www.arev.it)
 - Who are the holders? : The ovi-caprine section of the AREV (farmers, technicians...)
 - Constitution of the organisation: association of non-commercial category
 - Date of creation: 1978
 - Object: Association Régionale Eleveurs Valdôtains (A.R.E.V.) is an organization which represents the regional zootechnical sector; the purpose of the AREV is to improve the bovine race *Valdôtaine* and the economic conditions of the agricultural companies. The Association deals with the technical tasks and deals with giving assistance to the associated stockbreeders, by representing them near the regional authorities
 - Budget general of the structure (of the organization): 2.000.000 €
 - ✘ **Which difficulties, linked to the context, are met by the holders?**
 - Over costs: the wool which one wants to develop in this project costs more than of another wool and for the stockbreeders it is not an activity with a good revenue
 - Low-size commodity chain: the flock *Valdôtains* and in particular the number of Rosset sheep of a flock is very small
 - Little culture of company in particular in the sector of the weaving of wool
 - Geographical distance of the structures of transformation, in Aosta Valley there are not more structure for the spinning
- Are some of these difficulties linked to the location within mountain areas? No

✘Assets met linked to the context

- Cultural heritage: in particular the will to recognize and protect the Rosset sheep, indigenous race in way of extinction
- Quality of the wool products
- Specificity of the ways of production and transformation: with the Rosset wool it is possible to obtain traditional tissues

Are some of these assets linked to the location within mountain area? Yes, the wool of the project is the wool of the autochthones sheep and the weavers, the cooperative Tisserands of Valgrisenche, is located in the mountains of the Aosta Valley.

Content of the project :

✘General objectives :

The objectives by the ovi-caprine section of the AREV within the context of this project is to recognize and protect the Rosset sheep (race in way of extinction) and its products, with the final goal to obtain a mark AREV for the products obtained starting from the Rosset sheep. Concerning the wool the idea is to place it on the market considering that now there is a surplus of it and for the stockbreeders it is increasingly difficult to liquidate it

Are the objectives of the project clearly defined by the holders? No since there is not a structured project

✘Operational objectives : means implemented concerning:

- Structuring and mobilization of the actors: the stockbreeders were implied personally in this project since they provided free of charge the first 500 kg of wool to be spun, the Tisserand cooperative also was implied since it has to tissue this wool
- Legal protection: the whole interventions of the ovi-caprine section of AREV is to create a mark AREV for the products obtained starting from the Rosset sheep
- Improvement of the marketing of all the products of the commodity chain (meat, milk, cheese, wool); concerning the wool this pilot project was made to check that the Rosset wool can be tissue and the result is a product of quality thanks to its characteristic

4 – Description of the action / intervention of the territorial authorities

4.1 – Which territorial authorities supported the project ?

Name of territorial authority	NUTS level
AREV (Association Régionale Eleveurs Valdôtains)	

4.2 - Description of the intervention of each territorial authority

→ Description tables of territorial authorities' intervention

4 questions	8 sub-questions	Answer
WHO?	Name of the territorial authority	AREV (Association Régionale Eleveur Valdôtains)
FOR WHICH PURPOSE ?	What are the concrete actions supported?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mobilization of the actors of the commodity chain: the stockbreeders and the Tisserands cooperative were implied in the project - Legal Protection: the final goal is to create a mark AREV for all the products of the commodity chain of the Rosset sheep - Marketing of the product: the project gave a good visibility to the product Rosset wool and to the implied actors (in particular the Tisserands cooperative) - Capacity of investment: AREV paid the 50% of the expenditure (i.e. the 50% of the cost of 500 kg spun wool) in the first year of the project and the 20% during the second year
HOW?	Type of the intervention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assurances for investment: AREV paid the 50% of the expenditure (i.e. the 50% of the cost of 500 kg spun wool) in the first year of the project and the 20% during the second year - Assurances for the animation of the project: AREV followed all the aspects of the implication of the local actors, seeks partners, presentation and promotion of the project...
	Direct beneficiaries of the intervention / measure	The stockbreeders
	Conditions to be fulfilled by the beneficiaries	To ensure to provide the Rosset wool and to ensure the good quality of wool (clean...)
	Modalities and duration of the intervention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Multi annual assurances: the AREV financed the project during two years - No planning of the expenditure since the project was not really structured thus there was not a budget to manage... - The assurances are they decreasing in time: yes, the first year it was an help of the 50% the second of the 20%
HOW MANY?		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Allocated Sum (€): over the two years 700 € for the wool and 3.000 € for displacements and promotion - Rate of financing (%): wool 50% first year and 20% the second year, for the other expenditure 100% - No ceiling of financing was define

2. Complementary questions

A) Level of accuracy in the definition of the intervention

AREV creates and followed the project entirely working with: lenders of service for the spinning, the stockbreeders and the Tisserands cooperative for the realization of the various activities

B) Context of the intervention

The granted help is a “specific” help of local policy developed within the context of the activities of the AREV for the valorisation of the ovi-caprine product

C) Partnership between territorial authorities and holders.

The beneficiary of project and corresponding territorial authority

D) Non financial intervention

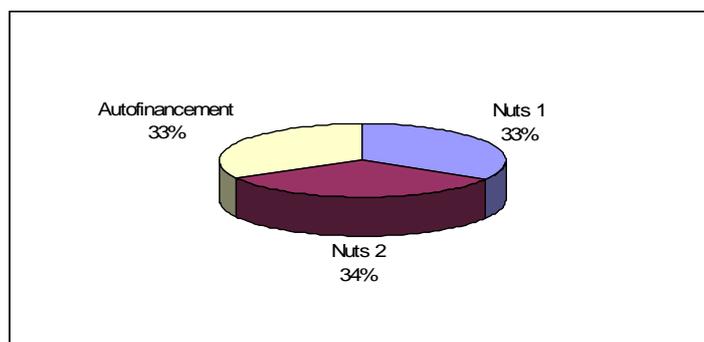
The AREV, through its qualified personnel, brought information, councils and morally supported the subjects interested during the project

4.4 – Financial information

Share of grants and self-financing (figures concerning several years as far as possible).

Period 2000-2001	Territorial authorities						Self-financing
	Europe	Nuts 1	Nuts 2	Nuts 3	Nuts 4	Nuts 5	
Amount (€)		1.480	1.480				1.440
Share (%)		33,6	33,6				32,8

The balance sheet was rebuilt by considering that the project had cost 3700 € at the AREV (3000 of promotion and travels and 700 for the purchase of spun wool) and at the Tisserands cooperative 700 € for the purchase of spun wool. Moreover one considered that the AREV is financed for the 80% by the Aosta Valley autonomous Region and by the Italian State and 20% self-financing; the Tisserands cooperative, as a cooperative, is a private subject.



5 – Analysis of the intervention of the territorial authorities in the project

5.1 – Effectiveness of the intervention of the territorial authorities

***Have the forecasted objectives of the project been achieved?**

Objectives	Answer
Objective 1: positioning of wool on market	Partially: today a good part of wool is positioned but not all In 6 years the positioning of the Rosset wool on the market is increased passing from 0 to 20 quintals which corresponds to the 50% of the production

✘ Are there any non forecasted objectives that have been achieved?

During the project one attended not only with the valorisation of wool but the valorisation of the very whole commodity chain

✘ Environment of the project :

- Are there any environment factors that prevented the realization of the objectives? No
- Are there any other policies or regulations (national policies...) that counteract with the development of the project? No

Effectiveness: Average-Good

5.2 Relevance of the terms of intervention of the territorial authorities

- Were the types of intervention (investment grant...) adapted? Yes
- Were the modalities chosen adapted? (Annual, long-term grants...) Yes
- Were the financial means developed (financing rate) sufficient and relevant? Yes
- Was the coordination between the different territorial authorities good and sufficient; were they consistent with each other? Yes
- Did the territorial authorities' contribution meet the needs of the holders? Yes
- Did it correspond to the life-span of the project (starting period...)? Yes
- What would have happened without the intervention of the territorial authorities? No project at all
- Is the intervention of the territorial authorities considered as simple or too complicated? Simple like intervention, difficult from the point of view of the relationship with the implied subjects which not always believed in the project
- Which means are implemented by territorial authorities to assess the relevance of their interventions afterward (studies, diagnosis...)? No means were implemented

Relevancy of interventions: Good-Average

5.3 –Monitoring

- ✘ **Type of monitoring:** the follow-up was technical, considering the project was not structured it did not have an important administrative and countable part to follow
- ✘ **Frequency of the meetings** once per week during the first year of project with the subjects implied in the project
- ✘ **Quality of the relations and collaboration between the territorial authorities and the holders;** There was a collaboration between the implied AREV (carrying project) and subjects (stockbreeders and Tisserand cooperative), but the partners not always believed in the project and often they evaluated only the aspect of the business instead of considering the traditional and cultural aspects and the safeguard of an endangered species

The monitoring is: Average

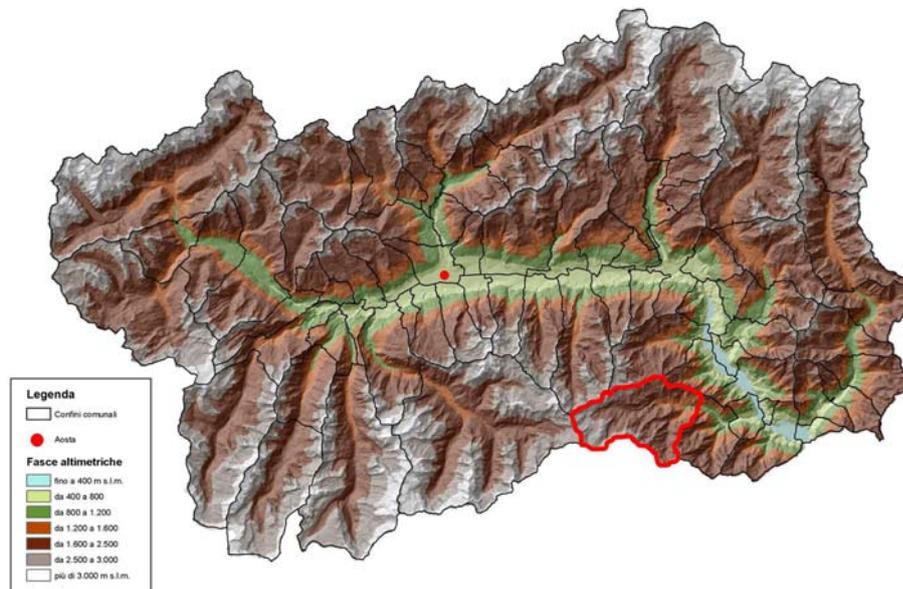
5.4 – Efficiency of the territorial authorities interventions

Examples of indicators to be used to assess efficiency of public interventions:

- Wool used before the intervention/total wool available: $0(Q)/40(Q)=0$
- Wool used the first year of intervention/total wool available: $5(Q)/18,7(Q)=0,27$
- Wool used the second year of intervention/total wool available: $5(Q)/30(Q)=0,16$
- Wool used the third year of intervention/total wool available: $9(Q)/39(Q)=0,23$
- Wool used the fourth year of intervention/total wool available: $10(Q)/42,3(Q)=0,24$
- Wool used the fifth year of intervention/total wool available: $20(Q)/44,6(Q)=0,45$
- Wool used the first year of intervention/total wool available: $5(Q)/20(Q)=0,25$

1- Area description form: Champorcher

Location map



1/ geographical environment

- Mountainous massif : Champorcher is in the Champorcher valley
- Altitude : 1.427 m
- Surface of the territory : 68,46 km²
- The whole territory is located in a mountainous area
- Alpine climate

2/ Socio-economics dynamisms

- Population : 423 inhabitants
- Density : 6,18 inhabitants / km²
- Demographical changes: positive (natural balance -4, migratory balance +14)³⁵
- Share of the active population per sector of activity³⁶ :
 - agriculture 17,73% (75 employees)
 - industry 2,36% (10 employees)
 - trade 3,54% (15 employees)
 - construction 7,09% (30 employees)
 - tourism 4,25% (18 employees)
 - transport and communication 2,6% (11 employees)
 - other services 0,94% (4 employees)

3/ Description of policy organisation and zoning

Territorial organisation of the area :

- NUTS 5 (LAU level 2)
- Champorcher belongs to the Comunità Montana Monte Rosa (LAU level 1)
- European zoning: Leader+, Objective 2, Phasing out and Objective 3

³⁵ *Bilancio demografico nazionale 2002*

³⁶ Concerning the calculation of the distribution of the active population by branch of activity we used the data on the 8° *Censimento generale dell'industria e dei servizi 2001* of ISTAT (Table Addetti alle unità locali delle imprese per settore di attività economica e Comune) and the 5° *Censimento generale dell'agricoltura 2000* of ISTAT (Table: Persone per categoria di manodopera agricola, Comune e zona altimetrica)

Presentation of the product and commodity chain

Description of the product ³⁷

- ✗ **Type of the product and its description** : fabric which is obtained by the traditional weaving by hand of hemp and flax
- ✗ **Brief history to the product**: starting from the beginning of the 1800 until 1930/1945 much of women, approximately a hundred, occupied themselves with house works and cattle breeding, but they also succeeded in weaving hemp. All that changed in 1939-45 when the poor cattle sheds became comfortable houses and the mule track was transformed into a road which invited to the escape towards the low valley. In 1988, having prepared an exposition of old time trousseaus, a group of people tried to enhance the value of loom, so the weaving restarted and eleven women met under the name of cooperative *Lou Dzeut*
- ✗ **Specificity, link to territory** :
 - **Area of production** : its territory of production is that of Champorcher (Aosta Valley)
 - **Area for processing**: its territory of transformation is that of Champorcher (Aosta Valley). The same cooperative produces fabric then transforms it into cloths, aprons, bread bags, tablecloths, mats, curtains, pillows, shirts and waistcoats
 - **Official quality label** : hemp does not have a sign of quality but it is recognized like typical handicraft and traditional product by the regional law n° 44/91

Description of the commodity chain ³⁸

- ✗ **Annual turnover of the commodity chain**³⁹ : 64.330 € (data 2004)
- ✗ **Volume of production (per year)** : 1.900 m of fabric in burlap (data 2005)
- ✗ **Number of producers** : 1 cooperative with 4 employees-associates (paid and associated to the cooperative at the same time) (1 full-time and 3 part-time employees)
- ✗ **Number of processors**: 1 cooperative with 4 employees-associates (paid and associated to the cooperative at the same time) (1 full-time and 3 part-time employees). The same people deal with the production of the fabric and the transformation
- ✗ **Area of commercialisation/ distribution of the product**: 1 cooperative store at Champorcher, sales in the IVAT stores (*Institut Valdôtain Artisanat Typique* - Valdostan Institut of Typical Craft Industry) (Aosta, Ayas, Cogne, Courmayeur and Gressoney-Saint-Jean) and sale in regional fairs and fairs in Piedmont, France and Switzerland
- ✗ **Direct employment generated by the commodity chain** : 4 people (1 full time and 3 part-time)
Origin of the raw material: the cotton stopper rod (always used for the chain) comes from Poerino (north of Italy), the screen in hemp and flax comes from Bergamo who buys the raw material in Eastern European country

³⁷ Folder of the cooperative *Lou Dzeut*

³⁸ Direct interviews to the components of the cooperative

³⁹ Value of the production of the assessment 2004, the value of the production is the result of the profit+contribution+variation of the reminder

3 – Project description form: CRAFTS (Cooperation Among Regions of Alps to forward trans-sectorial and transnational synergies)- pilot scheme 2 valley of Champorcher (WP 6)

Context (brief): organisation of the holders and the environment of the project

- ✘ **Initiative** / the factor at the origin of the project : need to develop the die of hemp and in particular the old weaving loom in its original position, inside an old house of property of the Commune of Champorcher
- ✘ Description of the **organisation** that carries out the project :
 - Name of the organisation: RAVA – Assessorato alle attività produttive e politiche del lavoro
 - Who are the holders of the project : technicians and public servants of the regional administration
 - Constitution of the organisation : it is a local community, it is a non-commercial structure
 - Date of creation : 1948
 - Purpose :
 - Dipartimento industria, artigianato ed energia
 - Ensures the connections with the Ministero delle attività produttive, the European Union, the ENEL, the ENEA, the Finaosta, the CVA and with the other departments of other Regions or local communities
 - Ensures connections with mixed investment companies or controlled
 - Dipartimento politiche per l'impiego
 - Ensures the planning and the orientation of the activities of the data processing sector of the Department
 - Coordinates, programs and directs the communication and the information with regard to the Employment Policies, the promotion of employment, employment services and the protection of the working conditions
 - Drafts the relationship with the international and national organizations and, at the regional level, with the trade-union organizations of the workers and employers or with other bodies of representation or with the companies, as regards to the topics related with employment and the protection or the support of employment
 - Is responsible for the activities of regional competence as regards to coordination and promotion of the health and the security on the places of work in the regional territory; envisaged by the national provisions exerts functions of support at the Committee noted to article 27 of the legislative decree n° 626/1994
 - Coordinates the activities of the competence of the Region in order to support the protection of the working conditions, the resolution of the controversies of work, the economic support for the workers following, the crises passed through by their companies or difficulties of employment, including the activities envisaged by the regional law n° 4/2005
 - Ensures the technical and administrative support for the Council for the work policies, aimed to article 6 of the regional law n° 7/2003
 - Guarantees the suitable buildings and services as well as the administrative support necessary to the operation of the office of

the regional advisers of parity, in accordance with the provisions of the legislative decree n° 196/2000

-Ensures the secretariat of the regional Committee of coordination regard to security and health in the places of work

- o General budget of the organization: 60.130.474,43 €⁴⁰

✘ Which difficulties, linked to the context, are met by the holders?

- o Problems connected to the system of the projects "Interreg III B Espace Alpin": constraining administration and bureaucracy and English official language
- o Difficulty to project the interventions most coherent possible with the local context to use the economic resources at disposal
- o Are some of these difficulties linked to the location within mountain areas? No

✘ Assets met linked to the context

- o Specificity of the ways of production and transformation.
Are some of these assets linked to the location within mountain area?
Yes because the tradition to weave the hemp is related to the traditional die of the valley of Champorcher

Content of the project:

✘ General objectives :

Valorisation of human resources and the cultural inheritance of the craft industry to limit the depopulation of the valley

Are the objectives of the project clearly defined by the holders?

The objectives are defined in the form Planned Work-Package 6:

-Diversify employment opportunities, in particular for women

-Diversification of activities and links between craft work and tourism will make it possible to increase employment in the textile craft sector and will make such activities more attractive for the new generations, favouring generational change

-Placing value on women's traditional cultural activity as a way of developing tourism

✘ Operational objectives: means implemented with regard to:

- o Structuring and mobilisation of the actors through a deliberation which formalizes the relationship between the Assessorato alle attività produttive e politiche del lavoro and the Commune of Champorcher; the Commune of Champorcher has received 165.000 € for the realisation of all the activities necessary for the creation of the eco-museum and for the follow-up of many administrative-financial aspects (contract for the project and the direction of the works, approval of the project, adjudication, payment of the invoices)
- o Development of tools of restoration of the cultural heritage through the restoration of the old "House of trade", the realization of the eco-museum
- o Communicate, promote: realization of a booklet, an internet site (of project www.craftsproject.org) and a book

⁴⁰ Assessorato bilancio, finanze, programmazione e partecipazioni regionali, official balance 2003

4 – Description of the intervention of the territorial authorities

4.1 – Which territorial authorities supported the project?

Name of territorial authority	NUTS level
Assessorato alle attività produttive e politiche del lavoro	NUTS 2
Commune of Champorcher	LAU 2 (NUTS 5)
Italian State	NUTS 1
EU	

4.2 - Description of the intervention of each territorial authority

→ description tables of territorial authorities' intervention

4 questions	8 sub-questions	Answer
WHO?	Name of the territorial authority	Assessorato alle attività produttive e politiche del lavoro (NUTS 2)
FOR WHICH PURPOSE?	What are the concrete actions supported?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Coordination of the activities for the realisation of the hemp route (hemp cultivated field and an eco-museum about the cloth production) and of the training courses on the traditional trades of the woman (weaving, clothes industry) - Administrative aspects (loads and reports) - Coordination of the promotional activities of the project : booklet, delivers and web site
HOW?	Type of the intervention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assistances for the management of the project - Help for the administrative aspects
	Direct beneficiaries of the intervention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The cooperative <i>Lou Dzeut</i> - The Commune of Champorcher
	Conditions to be fulfilled by the beneficiaries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The cooperative <i>Lou Dzeut</i>: hold some training courses on the traditional trades of the woman (weaving, clothes industry) - Commune of Champorcher : availability of "House of trade" for the realisation of the eco-museum, drafting of contracts for the project and the direction for the works, approval of the project, adjudication, payment of the invoices and realisation of all the activities necessary for the realisation of the eco-museum

	Methods and durations of the intervention	<p>The contribution of the Assessorato alle attività produttive e politiche del lavoro is not economic</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Multi-annual assistance : 2003-2005 - Sign a contract with the beneficiaries : there is a deliberation which formalizes the relationships between the Assessorato alle attività produttive e politiche del lavoro and the Commune of Champorcher - The helps are not decreasing during the time, but they will finish with the conclusion of the project
HOW MANY?		<p>The Assessorato alle attività produttive e politiche del lavoro do not contribute economically to the project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sum allocated (€) : 0 - Rate of financing (%) : 0 - No ceiling of financing

4 questions	8 sub-questions	Answer
WHO?	Name of the territorial authority	Commune of Champorcher (LAU 2, NUTS 5)
FOR WHICH PURPOSE ?	What are the concrete actions supported?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mobilization of the actors of the die: the project allowed the technicians of the Commune and the population to follow and to take part in the various activities of the project; also the women of the cooperative have been active in some activities of the project - Commercialisation of the product : the project indirectly supports the cooperative marketing of the product thanks to the binomial eco-museum-cooperative - Formation : the cooperative organizes some training courses on the traditional trades of the woman (weaving, clothes industry) for population and tourists
HOW?	Type of the intervention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assistances for the animation of the project, in particular: realization of all the activities necessary for the realization of the eco-museum - Contribution of a skilled labour. The public servants of the Commune dealt with: contract for the project and the direction for the works, approval of the project, adjudication, payment of the invoices - Placing at disposal of the "House of trade" for the realization of the eco-museum
	Direct beneficiaries of the intervention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The cooperative <i>Lou Dzeut</i> - The Commune of Champorcher

	Conditions to be fulfilled by the beneficiaries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The cooperative <i>Lou Dzeut</i>. hold some training courses on the traditional trades of the woman (weaving, clothes industry) - Commune of Champorcher : availability of "House of trade" for the realisation of the eco-museum, drafting of contracts for the project and the direction for the works, approval of the project, adjudication, payment of the invoices and realisation of all the activities necessary for the realisation of the eco-museum
	Methods and durations of the intervention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The contribution of the Commune of Champorcher is not economic - Multi-annual Assistance : 2003-2005 - The helps are not decreasing during the time, but they will finish with the conclusion of the project
HOW MANY?		<p>The Commune of Champorcher do not contribute economically to the project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sum allocated (€) : 0 - Rate of financing (%) : 0 - No ceiling of financing

4 questions	8 sub-questions	Answer
QUI ?	Name of the territorial authority	Italian State (NUTS 1)
POUR QUOI ?	What are the concrete actions supported?	Capacity of investment: the Italian State financed only 50% of the project and controlled the financial administrative-aspects
COMMENT ?	Type of the intervention	Helps for the investments : contribution of 50% of the cost of the project
	Direct beneficiaries of the intervention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The cooperative <i>Lou Dzeut</i> - The Commune of Champorcher
	Conditions to be fulfilled by the beneficiaries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The cooperative <i>Lou Dzeut</i>. hold some training courses on the traditional trades of the woman (weaving, clothes industry) - Commune of Champorcher : availability of "House of trade" for the realisation of the eco-museum, drafting of contracts for the project and the direction for the works, approval of the project, adjudication, payment of the invoices and realisation of all the activities necessary for the realisation of the eco-museum
	Methods and durations of the intervention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Multi-annual help : 2003-2005 - Planning of the expenditure through a plan divided per annum and by activity - The helps are not decreasing during the time, but they will finish with the conclusion of the project
COMBIEN ?		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sum allocated (€) : 132.500 - Rate of financing (%) : 50 - No ceiling of financing

4 questions	8 sub-questions	Answer
QUI ?	Name of the territorial authority	EU
POUR QUOI ?	What are the concrete actions supported?	Capacity of investment: the European Union financed only 50% of the project and controlled the financial administrative-aspects
COMMENT ?	Type of the intervention	Helps for the investments : contribution of 50% of the cost of the project
	Direct beneficiaries of the intervention	- The cooperative <i>Lou Dzeut</i> - The Commune of Champorcher
	Conditions to be fulfilled by the beneficiaries	- The cooperative <i>Lou Dzeut</i> : hold some training courses on the traditional trades of the woman (weaving, clothes industry) - Commune of Champorcher : availability of "House of trade" for the realisation of the eco-museum, drafting of contracts for the project and the direction for the works, approval of the project, adjudication, payment of the invoices and realisation of all the activities necessary for the realisation of the eco-museum
	Methods and durations of the intervention	- Multi-annual help : 2003-2005 - Planning of the expenditure through a plan divided per annum and by activity - The helps are not decreasing during the time, but they will finish with the conclusion of the project
COMBIEN ?		- Sum allocated (€) : 132.500 - Rate of financing (%) : 50 - No ceiling of financing

2. Complementary Questions

A. Level of accuracy in the definition of the intervention

The assistance of the territorial authority is assigned to the whole of the project

B. Context of the intervention

The accorded help is an European project of the program Interreg III B 2000-2006 Alpine Space

C. Partnership between territorial authorities and holders

There has been collaboration all along the project between the Commune of Champorcher and the Assessorato alle attività produttive e politiche del lavoro

D. Non financial intervention

Contribution of information, councils, moral support

4.3 – General questions (in case of several territorial authorities' interventions)

The Assessorato alle attività produttive e politiche del lavoro and the Commune of Champorcher followed the technical and administrative aspects of all the project while the Italian State and the European Union financed the project and controlled the administrative and financial aspects.

4.4 – Financial information

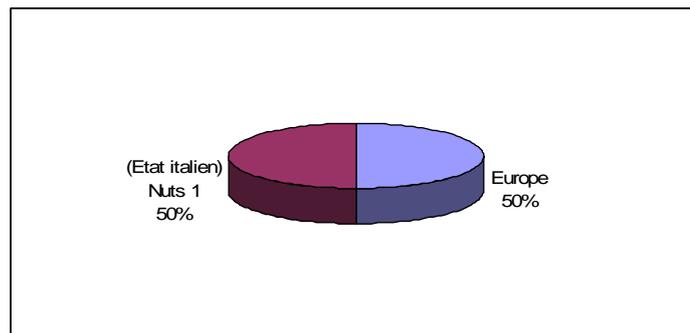
Share of grants and self-financing

2003	Territorial authorities						Self-financing
	Europe	Nuts 1	Nuts 2	Nuts 3	Nuts 4	Nuts 5	
Amount (€)	25.000	25.000					
Share (%)	50	50					

2004	Territorial authorities						Self-financing
	Europe	Nuts 1	Nuts 2	Nuts 3	Nuts 4	Nuts 5	
Amount (€)	82.500	82.500					
Share (%)	50	50					

2005	Territorial authorities						Self-financing
	Europe	Nuts 1	Nuts 2	Nuts 3...	Nuts 4	Nuts 5	
Amount (€)	25.000	25.000					
Share (%)	50	50					

2003-2004 2005	Territorial authorities						Self-financing
	Europe	Nuts 1	Nuts 2	Nuts 3	Nuts 4	Nuts 5	
Amount (€)	132.500	132.500					
Share (%)	50	50					



5 – Analysis of the intervention of the territorial authorities in the project.

5.1 – Effectiveness of the intervention of the territorial authorities

✘Have the forecasted objectives of the project been achieved ?

Objectives	Answer
Diversify employment opportunities, in particular for women	Entirely
Diversification of activities and links between craft work and tourism will make it possible to increase employment in the textile craft sector and will make such activities more attractive for the new generations, favouring generational change	Entirely
Placing value on women's traditional cultural activity as a way of developing tourism	Entirely

✘Environment of the project :

- Are there any environment factors that prevented the realization of the objectives?
No
- Are there any other policies or regulations (national policies...) that counteract with the development of the project? No

Effectiveness: Good

5.2 Relevance of the terms of intervention of the territorial authorities

- Was the type of intervention (investment grant...) adapted? Yes, even if part of work of reconstruction must be made with other financings
- Were the modalities chosen adapted? (annual, long-term grants...) Yes for the realization of the activities and the interventions, more time would have been necessary for the administrative-financial aspects
- Were the financial means developed (financing rate) sufficient and relevant? Were they too high? They were pertinent and sufficient for the activities envisaged, but to obtain a complete intervention, other financings will be necessary, above all to finish the reconstruction of the first floor of the "House of the trade", in which today in the ground plan there is the eco-museum
- Was the coordination between the different territorial authorities good and sufficient, were they consistent with each other? Yes
- Did the territorial authorities' contribution meet the needs of the holders? Did it correspond to the life-span of the project (starting period...)? Yes
- What would have happened without the intervention of the territorial authorities?: no project at all / the project would have been different (how)... Without that intervention the project would have been thought in a total way, like a single intervention above all for work on the structure of the "House of the trade", but probably, for financial reasons, would not have been carried out yet
- Was the intervention of the territorial authorities too constraining for holders or did it let too much "room for manoeuvre" to them? Good collaboration between the territorial authorities and the holder of the project
- Is the intervention of the territorial authorities considered as simple or too complicated? The activities of the territorial authorities were not complicated, the only thing complicated were the administrative times
- Which means are implemented by territorial authorities to assess the relevance of their interventions afterwards(studies, diagnosis...)? The only evaluation was a financial scheme in phase of adjudication

Relevancy of interventions: Good

5.3 – Monitoring

- ✘ **Type of monitoring** : The Assessorato alle attività produttive e politiche del lavoro followed the administrative and countable aspects of the report, the Commune followed : the contract for the project and the direction of works, approval of the project, adjudication, payment of the invoices for a total of 165,000 €
- ✘ **Frequency of the meetings** : The Assessorato alle attività produttive e politiche del lavoro and the Commune of Champorcher met more or less 3 times a year
- ✘ **Quality of the relations and collaboration between the territorial authorities and the holders**
The relations have been good from the point of view of the Assessorato alle attività produttive e politiche del lavoro that the Commune of Champorcher

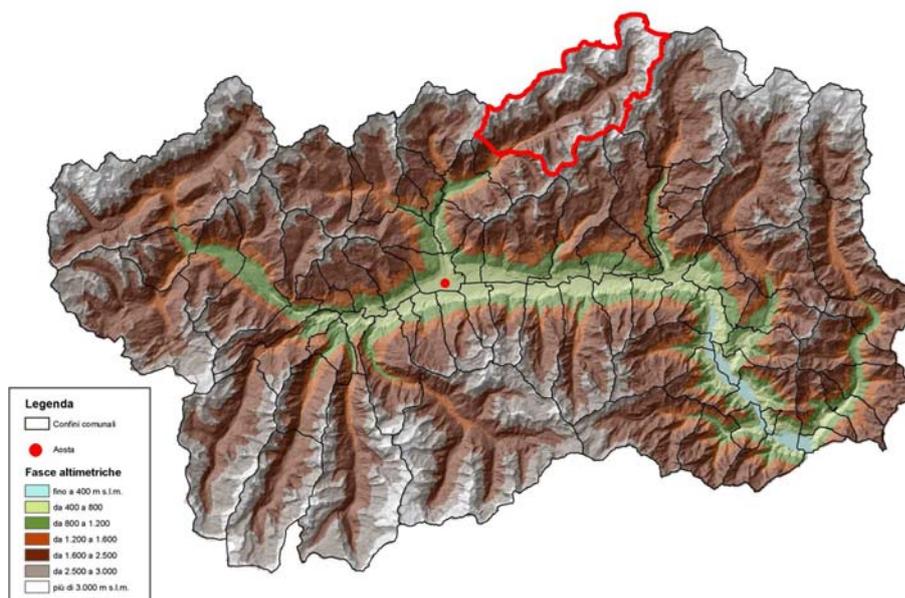
The monitoring is: Good

5.4 – Efficiency of the territorial authorities interventions

The beneficiaries did not find out the indicators to evaluate the efficiency of the interventions

1- Area description form : Bionaz

Location map



1/ Geographical environment

- Mountainous massif : Bionaz is in the valley of Valpelline
- Altitude 1.600 m
- Surface of the area : 142,82 km²
- The whole territory is located in a mountainous area
- Alpine climate

2/ Socio-economics dynamisms

- Population : 243 inhabitants
- Density : 1,7 inhabitants / km²
- Demographical changes (general trends) : negative (natural balance 0, migratory balance -1)⁴¹
- Share of the active population per sector of activity⁴² :
 - agriculture 51,85% (126 employees)
 - industry 1,65% (4 employees)
 - energy 2,06% (5 employees)
 - trade 0,82% (2 employees)
 - construction 2,88% (7 employees)
 - tourism 4,11% (10 employees)
 - other services 0,82% (2 employees)

3/ Description of policy organisation and zoning

Territorial organisation of the area:

- NUTS 5 (LAU level 2)
- Bionaz belongs to the Comunità Montana Grand Combin (LAU level1)
- European zoning: Leader+, Objective 2, Phasing out & Objective 3

⁴¹ *Bilancio demografico nazionale 2002*

⁴² Concerning the calculation of the distribution of the active population by branch of activity we used the data on the 8° *Censimento generale dell'industria e dei servizi 2001* of ISTAT (Table Addetti alle unità locali delle imprese per settore di attività economica e Comune) and the 5° *Censimento generale dell'agricoltura 2000* of ISTAT (Table: Persone per categoria di manodopera agricola, Comune e zona altimetrica)

Presentation of the product and commodity chain

Description of the product⁴³

- ✘ **Type of the product and its description** : typical costume of some Communes of Aosta Valley composed by : a redingote, velvet trousers adorned with spangle sewed in flower form and mirrors, a hat adorned with plastic flowers and mirrors, a belt with small bells and a horse queue in the hand
- ✘ **Brief history to the product** : costume which points out the uniforms of the Napoleon time; during the 50 last years the costumes have been enriched by decoration
- ✘ **Specificity, link to territory** :
 - **Area of production**: family production and some dressmakers distributed on various Communes (i.e. Bionaz, Nus, Etroubles...)
- ✘ **Official quality label** : the *landzettes* do not have a sign of quality

Description of the commodity chain

- ✘ From the information that we received, we could understand that the *landzettes* costumes are produced by the people who take part in the Carnival, either by the grand-mothers or other family persons; that made that we can't have sales turnovers neither a volume of the production nor the precise number of *landzettes* producers
- ✘ **Area of commercialisation/ distribution of the product**: the product is made only by request and the customers are normally people taking part in the Carnival of the Communes which use this costume (Allein, Doues, Bionaz, Bosses, Saint-Christophe (Sorreley), Valpelline, Saint-Oyen, Ollomont, Roisan, Gignod, Aosta (Signayes))
- ✘ **Origin of the raw material**: velvet, like spangles and flowers, do not have a precise origin; we can buy them in unspecified fabric store. The tail must be a tail of horse

⁴³ Interview to Mr Alexis Bétemps

3 – Project description form of the «Carnival Project⁴⁴ »

Context (in brief): organisation of the holders and the environment of the project

✘ **Initiative** / the factor at the origin of the project : primary schools of Gignod and Valpelline adhered to the project SOCRATES /Comenius 1 on the subject « Mythological characters and animals in the XXI century old Europe », in particular on the characters and the animals related to the Carnival

✘ **Description of the organisation** that carries out the project :

- Name of the organisation : School institution Comunità Montana Grand Combin
- Who are the holders of the project? The students and professors of the school institution Comunità Montana Grand Combin
- Constitution of the organisation : it is a public structure, non commercial
- Date of creation : 1974
- Purpose : education and training
- General budget of the association : 220.000,00 €

✘ **Which difficulties, linked to the context, are met by the holders?**

No difficulty was encountered during the project

✘ **Assets met linked to the context**

- Cultural inheritance: the Carnival is still a demonstration very present and current in the territory of the Comunità Montana Grand Combin
- Specificity of the costumes of the Coumba Frèide Carnival (*landzettes*)
- Specificity of the modes of production and transformation of costume
- Notoriety image of the product in the local context

Are some of these assets related to the situation in mountain? Yes, because the Carnival of Coumba Frèide recalls the passage of Napoleon and his troops through the Col of the Gran San Bernardo, in May 1800, and the costumes would be the allegorical or ironic French soldiers uniforms transformation.

Content of the project:

✘ **General objectives :**

Represent the Carnival experience lived by students: the activities envisage a didactic and expressive approach, as well as the participation of local associations dealing with the Carnival manifestations and the availability of families in furnishing existing documentation.

Are the objectives of the project clearly defined by the carriers of the project?

Yes, in the project the following objectives are described:

- realize the continuity inside of the Institution between the various levels of the school and the territory

⁴⁴ Institution scolaire du Grand Combin, *Lo Carnaval de la Coumba Frèide*, Communauté de Montagne Grand Combin, AIAT – Syndicat d'Initiatives du Gran San Bernardo, 2004
Interview to one of the professors who followed the project (Ms Lucia Levêque)

- stimulate and develop in the child the passage from the lived culture, which comes from the life experience, to the culture as a intellectual rebuilding
- urge the child to build his cultural identity starting from the awakening of the reality in which it lives

✳️ **Operational objectives** : means implemented concerning:

- Structuring and mobilisation of actors : participation of local associations (committees of the Carnival and committee of the traditions) which deal with the manifestations of the Carnival; participation of the families, collaboration of the communal libraries and the Comunità Montana Grand Combin
- Means to support / to preserve the know-how: realization of a collective exposition with students (nursery school, primary school and college) works, in the Carnival Museum of *Maison Ayez*, in Allein; publication of a text on the activities carried out and the found documents ; realization of a students show; realization of games on the Carnival (memory, puzzles, questions, card decks, domino...)

4 – Description of the intervention of the territorial authorities⁴⁵

4.1 – Which territorial authorities supported the project?

Name of territorial authority	NUTS level
Aosta Valley autonomous Region- School institution Comunità Montana Grand Combin	NUTS 2
Comunità Montana Gran Combin	NUTS 4
Commune of Allein	NUTS 5
Communes of Gignod, Etroubles, Saint-Oyen, Saint-Rhémy-en Bosses, Doues, Valpelline, Ollomont, Oyace and Bionaz- library	NUTS 5
AIAT (Company of information and tourist acceptance)-Tourist Office of Grand San Bernardo	

4.2 - Description of the intervention of each territorial authority

→ Description tables of the policies of the territorial authorities

4 questions	8 sub-questions	Answer
WHO?	Name of the territorial authority	Aosta Valley autonomous Region – School institution Comunità Montana Grand Combin (NUTS 2)
FOR WHICH PURPOSE?	What are the concrete actions supported?	- Mobilization of the actors of the die: all the actors of the die took part in this project bringing their knowledge, their history: families, committees of Carnival, libraries... - Research: the school institution followed all the didactic part with the students starting from the information retrieval until the realization of drawing and objects
HOW?	Type of the intervention	Assistances for the animation of the project: the school Institution followed all the didactic part with the students: the

⁴⁵ Interview to one of the professors who followed the project (Ms Lucia Levêque)

		book realization and the exposition, especially through the contribution of the professors
	Direct beneficiaries of the intervention	The beneficiaries were the students of the school institution Comunità Montana Grand Combin (nursery school, primary school and college) and the families of the Comunità Montana Gran Combin
	Conditions to be fulfilled by the beneficiaries	The beneficiaries had to take part to the didactic activities related to the project
	Methods and durations of the intervention	Annual assistances: schools worked in this project during one school year (September 2003 - June 2004), the preparation of the project (March-September 2003), the realization of the book and the exposition (June-December 2004) took one year more but only the professors, the Comunità Montana and the Communes were engaged, during this second year
HOW MANY?		Sum allocated: 0 €

4 questions	8 sub-questions	Answer
WHO ?	Name of the territorial authority	Comunità Montana Grand Combin (NUTS 4)
FOR WHICH PURPOSE ?	What are the concrete actions supported?	Comunità Montana partly financed the realization of the book and the game
HOW ?	Type of the intervention	- Assistances for the investment: the Comunità Montana partly financed the realization of the book and of the game - Contribution of a skilled labour : part of the personnel of the Comunità Montana supported some aspects of the project (drafting of the book, administrative-financial aspects)
	Direct beneficiaries of the intervention	The beneficiaries were the students of the school institution Comunità Montana Grand Combin (nursery school, primary school and college) and the families of the Comunità Montana Gran Combin
	Conditions to be fulfilled by the beneficiaries	The beneficiaries had to take part to the didactic activities related to the project
	Methods and durations of the intervention	Annual assistances: schools worked in this project during one school year (September 2003 - June 2004), the preparation of the project (March-September 2003), the realization of the book and the exposition (June-December 2004) took one year more but only the professors, the Comunità Montana and the Communes were engaged, during this second year
HOW MANY?		Sum allocated : 10.000 € Rate of financing: 66%

4 questions	8 sub-questions	Answer
WHO ?	Name of the territorial authority	Commune of Allein (NUTS 5)
FOR WHICH PURPOSE ?	What are the concrete actions supported?	Collaboration in the realization of the exposition to Maison Ayez
HOW ?	Type of the intervention	Assistances for the animation of the project: the Commune of Allein placed disposal of Maison Ayez for the realization of the exposition of produced material within the framework of the project and for the presentation of the book
	Direct beneficiaries of the intervention	The beneficiaries were the students of the school institution Comunità Montana Grand Combin (nursery school, primary school and college) and the families of the Comunità Montana Gran Combin
	Conditions to be fulfilled by the beneficiaries	The beneficiaries had to take part to the didactic activities related to the project.
	Methods and durations of the intervention	Annual assistances (2004)

4 questions	8 sub-questions	Answer
WHO ?	Name of the territorial authority	Communes of Gignod, Etroubles, Saint-Oyen, Saint-Rhémy-en Bosses, Doues, Valpelline, Ollomont, Oyace and Bionaz-library (NUTS 5)
FOR WHICH PURPOSE ?	What are the concrete actions supported?	All Communes concerned with the project through the libraries which organized and financed courses of graph and music
HOW ?	Type of the intervention	- Assistances for investment: the library financed the courses of graph and music - Assistances for the animation of the project: the library organized the courses of graph and music
	Direct beneficiaries of the intervention	The beneficiaries were the students of the school institution Comunità Montana Grand Combin (nursery school, primary school and college) and the families of the Comunità Montana Gran Combin
	Conditions to be fulfilled by the beneficiaries	The beneficiaries had to take part to the didactic activities related to the project
	Methods and durations of the intervention	Annual assistance

4 questions	8 sub-questions	Answer
WHO?	Name of the territorial authority	AIAT of Gran San Bernardo
FOR WHICH PURPOSE ?	What are the concrete actions supported?	Capacity of investment: the AIAT partly financed the realization of the book and the game
HOW ?	Type of the intervention	Assistances for investment: the AIAT partly financed the realization of the book and the game

	Direct beneficiaries of the intervention	The beneficiaries were the students of the school institution Comunità Montana Grand Combin (nursery school, primary school and college) and the families of the Comunità Montana Gran Combin
	Conditions to be fulfilled by the beneficiaries	The beneficiaries had to take part to the didactic activities related to the project
	Methods and durations of the intervention	Annual assistances: schools worked in this project during one school year (September 2003 - June 2004), the preparation of the project (March-September 2003), the realization of the book and the exposition (June-December 2004) took one year more but only the professors, the Comunità Montana and the Communes were engaged, during this second year
HOW MANY		Sum allocated: 5.000 € Rate of financing: 34 %

2. Complementary questions

A. Level of accuracy in the definition of the intervention

The territorial authorities dealt with the whole project but each community had a different role: Comunità Montana financed the activities of the students of the school Institution, the Communes organised and financed formation through the libraries and all the authorities together managed the last part of the project: the publication of the book, the game and the exposition

B. Context of the intervention

Granted help is a "specific" help of local policy dedicated to this project only

C. Partnership between territorial authorities and holders

There was a perfect collaboration between the territorial authorities and the carrier of the project, all the actions were defined together

D. Non financial intervention

All the territorial communities concerned also gave a not financial contribution: information, council, moral support...

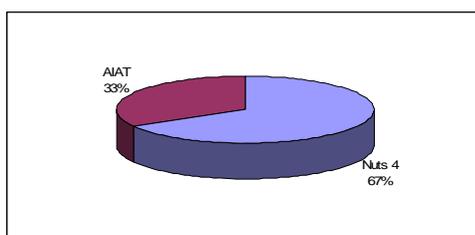
4.3 – General questions (in case of several territorial authorities' interventions)

The territorial authorities dealt with the whole project but each community had a different role; the Comunità Montana financed the activities of the students of the school Institution, the Communes organised and financed formation through the libraries and all the authorities together managed the last part of the project: the publication of the book, the game and the exposition. The most committed subject was nevertheless the school Institution

4.4 – Financial Information

Shares of various helps and the self-financing (given if possible of several years)

	Territorial authorities						Self-financing
	Europe	Nuts 1	Nuts 2	Nuts 3	Nuts 4	AIAT	
Amount (€)					10.000	5.000	
Share(%)					67	33	



5 – Analysis of the intervention of the territorial authorities in the project. ⁴⁶

5.1 – Effectiveness of the intervention of the territorial authorities

✘Have the forecasted objectives of the project been achieved ?

Objectives	Answer
Realize the continuity inside of the Institution between the various levels of the school and the territory	Entirely reached Details: the students of the nursery school, the primary school and the college worked on the same subject during one year, the book and the exposition represent the three school levels work
Stimulate and develop in the child the passage from the lived culture, which comes from the life experience, to the culture as a intellectual rebuilding	Entirely reached Details: the students of the nursery school, the primary school and the college through research could discover the history and the technique which there is around something that they already knew very well, the Carnival
Urge the child to build his cultural identity starting from the awakening of the reality in which it lives	Entirely reached Details: students of the nursery school, the primary school and the college through this project deepened something which already belonged to their cultural identity

✘Are there any non forecasted objectives that have been achieved ? No

✘Environment of the project :

- Are there any environment factors that prevented the realization of the objectives? No
- Are there any other policies or regulations (national policies...) that counteract with the development of the project? No

Effectiveness: good

5.2 Relevance of the terms of intervention of the territorial authorities

- Were the type of intervention (investment grant...) adapted? Yes
- Were the modalities chosen adapted? (annual, long-term grants...) Yes
- Were the financial means developed (financing rate) sufficient and relevant? Yes
- Was the coordination between the different territorial authorities good and sufficient; were they consistent with each other? Yes
- Did the territorial authorities' contribution meet the needs of the holders? Did it correspond to the life-span of the project (starting period...)? Yes
- What would have happened without the intervention of the territorial authorities? Only the exposition would have been made, not a book and not a game.
- Was the intervention of the territorial authorities too constraining for holders or did it let too much "room for manoeuvre" to them ? Correct

⁴⁶ Source : interview to one of the professors who followed the project (Mrs Lucia Levêque)

- Is the intervention of the territorial authorities considered as simple or too complicated? Simple
- Which means are implemented by territorial authorities to assess the relevance of their interventions afterward (studies, diagnosis...)? No means of evaluation

Relevance of the interventions: good

5.3 – Monitoring

- ✘ **Type of monitoring** : administrative and countable from the Comunità Montana
- ✘ **frequency of the meetings** with the project carriers, travels in the field...
3-4 times per year during the normal activity, 2-3 times per week during the period of book redaction
- ✘ **Quality of the relations and collaboration between the territorial authorities and the holders**
Either from the point of view of the carriers of project, or from the point of view of the territorial authorities, there was a good climate of collaboration with the other subject

The follow-up is: good

5.4 – Efficiency of the territorial authorities interventions

The carriers did not find the indicators to evaluate the efficiency of the interventions.

3. Tourist products: water and tourism

3.1. Description

Water always had a central role in Aosta Valley autonomous Region economy and development; after all to sustain agriculture and artisan sectors and then for industry: we have not to forget that before the invention of combustion engines, water was the unique mechanic and motive power available on the territory.

Today water still has an important role in the Region, not only for agriculture and hydroelectric energy production, that along years are growing following new technologies, but also for tourist development. In particular, in the studied Communes, we can found three examples, different and similar in the same time, of development of tourist activities around water.

Lod lake⁴⁸

Lod lake is situated in Chamois Commune (altitude 2.020 meters on sea level), this small mountain lake during winter time is frozen but in summer it transforms in a small mountain lake that it is rejoined just by walking.

In order to sustain tourism development in this place, during summer time, from 1987, a picnic area was created around the lake: a total surface of around 0,5 hectare with a reception capacity of around 204 persons, 34 tables, 15 barbecues, 3 fountains and 2 toilets in the same building.



Figure 14, 15 - Lod lake in winter and in summer time

⁴⁸ www.regione.vda.it/risorsenaturali/areeatrezzate

Mill pathway⁴⁹

In La Magdeleine Commune there is a group of height mills supplied by the water of the same channel (*ru*). These mills (some of which are still in function), once was used to crash cereals (barley, oat, wheat...), that in the past grow up in the land around the village. Flour produced was used to do traditional bread that was cooked in the four village ovens and that was the principal aliment of local population.

Seven of the height mills were recently recovered and a pathway allowing visit all the mills was created.

In order to increase the value of the pathway, expositions inside mills were prepared in collaboration with the population. Now access to the pathway and visit to the mills are free.

Today La Magdeleine Commune can offer something new to its tourists.



Figure 16, 17, 18, 19 – Mills pathway of La Magdeleine

⁴⁹ www.comune.la-magdeleine.ao.it and interview to the person that wrote the project (Tiziana Thiébat)

Gorge of Ratus (Pontboset)⁵⁰

Champorcher valley is furrowed by Ayasse, a stream that during century's excavated gorge and chasm creating unique and suggesting landscape and environment.

In Pontboset Commune was created a pathway with itineraries and poster bringing to the Ratus gorge.



Figure 20 – Pathway bringing to Ratus gorge

Gorges, frightful chasms with mysterious and dark corn in which impetuous stream fall with a big noise, always stimulated the popular imagination, so lots of awful legends with monsters, demons, good and bad fairy catch on.

Often gorges were obliged passages and, thanks to bridges constructed with audacious architecture, they became a communication way between the two opposite sides of the valley.

Inhabitants used to call gorges “hell” because they were very scared about these. First voyagers looking for emotions in the middle of Alps were fascinating by gorges and they reproduce these in drawings and describes the same in their travel books.

Aosta Valley gorges are not all awful, someone are situated on crystalline rocks with regular geometric structure creating long corridors along water basins and accessible platforms.

Other excavate deeply rocks that are more irregular and soft, creating «awful chasms », dark and foamy.

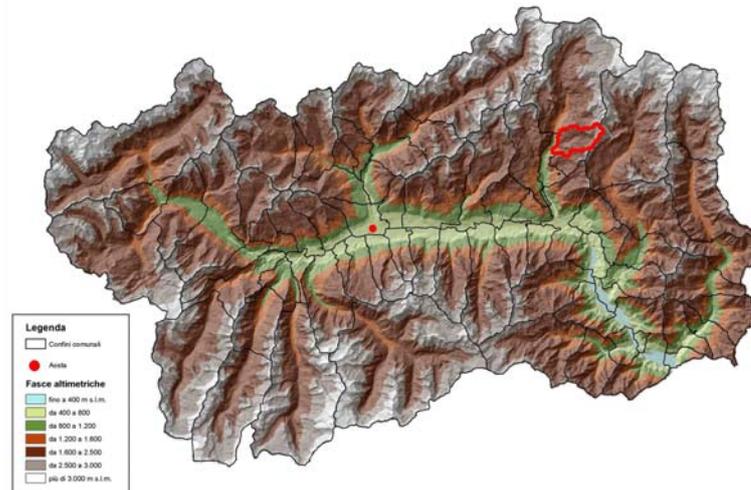
In Pontboset the more spectacular gorges are called *Orrido of Ratus*, in the past these were an obliged passage to go to *Santuario di Rétempio*, and there, was leaving a fairy that each Sunday showed herself on the stream bank combing her gilt hair.

⁵⁰ Interview to referents of Pontboset Commune Luca Pitet and Pia Zancani

3.2 Analysis and study case description

1- Area description form : Chamois

Location map



1/ Geographical environment

- Mountainous massif : Chamois is located in the Valtournenche valley
- Altitude: 1.815 m
- Surface of the area: 14,49 km²
- The studied territory is entirely located in mountains areas
- Alpine climate

2/ Socio-economics dynamisms

- Population: 92 inhabitants
- Density 6,35 (inhab. / km²)
- Demographic trends: negative (natural balance -1, migratory balance 0)⁵¹
- Share of the active population per sector of activity⁵² :
 - agriculture 54,35 %(50 employees)
 - commerce 1,08 %(1 employee)
 - construction 6,52 %(6 employees)
 - tourism 15,22%(14 employees)
 - transport and communication 7,61%(14 employees)
 - other services 1,08%(1 employee)

3/Description of policy organisation and zoning

Territorial organisation of the area :

- NUTS 5 (LAU level 2)
- Chamois belong to the Comunità Montana Monte Cervino
- European zoning: Objective 2, Phasing out, Objective 3 and Leader +

⁵¹ Population balance 2002

⁵² Concerning the calculation of the distribution of the active population by branch of activity we used the data on the 8° Censimento generale dell'industria e dei servizi 2001 of ISTAT (Table Addetti alle unità locali delle imprese per settore di attività economica e Comune) and the 5° Censimento generale dell'agricoltura 2000 of ISTAT (Table: Persone per categoria di manodopera agricola, Comune e zona altimetrica)

2 - Product description form, tourist product: Lod lake

Presentation of tourist products:

- ✘ **Type of heritage promoted:** natural patrimony
- ✘ **Brief description of this heritage:** small alpine lake surrounded by a forest of spruces and larches
- ✘ **Description of the tourist product which promotes this heritage⁵³:** equipped surface located at the edge of the lake at 2020 meters on the sea level which develops on a total surface of approximately 0,5 hectare. Principal characteristic: reception capacity of around 204 persons, 34 tables, 15 barbecues, 3 fountains and 2 toilets in the same building. The surface of the Lod lake was one of the first (1987) built with the regional law 65/1987
- ✘ **Network, the different actors involved:** the area belongs to the Commune and is managed by the service company *Chamois servizi*
Local tourism context: the Commune of Chamois is located at 1815 meters in the medium Cervin valley this locality is connected to the bottom of the valley only by a cableway line starts from Buisson (Antey-Saint-André). Chamois proposes other activities for its visitors: an appreciable skiing site, excursions, cultural and tourist events organized by *Ensemblo a Tzamoue-Ensemble a Chamois* association. Many small Communes in the surrounding of Chamois (La Magdeleine, Antey, Torgnon, Châtillon, and Valtournanche) offer others activities for the tourists. Particularly, Valtournanche offers many excursions in summer in a unique natural context and an exemplary skiing site open all the year

⁵³ Source: www.regione.vda.it/risorsenaturali/areeatrezzate

Context (in brief): organisation of the holders and the environment of the project

✘ **Initiative/factor at the origin of the project:** the article 2 of the regional law 65/1987 defines that "the Assessorato agricoltura, foreste e ambiente provides for the preparation of tourist surfaces in wooded sites belonged by the region or other communities which expressly make the request of it". The law 65/1987 is born to support the installation and the maintenance of wooded grounds; in particular the Commune of Chamois was one of the first Communes to ask for an equipped surface to develop and to preserve the environment in the neighbourhoods of the Lod lake and to promote tourism respecting the nature

- ✘ Description of the **organisation** that carries out the project:
- Name of the organisation: Assessorato agricoltura, foreste e ambiente
 - Who are the holders? Technicians of the regional administration
 - Constitution of the organisation: it is a local community, it is a non-commercial structure
 - Date of creation: 1948
 - Object:
 - Dipartimento agricoltura:
 - Coordinates the relationship with the Ministero delle politiche agricole and the European Union
 - Manages the system of the agricultural companies (including board notebook of the exploitations and the pedagogical cartography) and proceeds to the control and the follow-up of the community rules
 - It take care of administrative and accountant management of the personnel recruited within the collective agreement of the agricultural workers
 - Directs the periodical "L'informateur agricole"
 - Dipartimento risorse naturali e corpo forestale:
 - Ensures the administrative and countable management of the forest operators
 - Manages the special missions
 - Organizes and manages all the activities of the forest operators of Aosta Valley respecting national and regional rules in use
 - Diffuses information relating to its action and takes care of the information and the sensitizing of the public in several fields: forests, fires, flora, fauna, minerals, parks, protected natural spaces and alpine botanical gardens
 - Carries out the preliminary control of legality on the acts of the regional Consortium for the protection, the promotion and the practice of fishing; the regional Committee of the management of the hunting and the administrative establishment of the Natural reserve of the Mont-Avic
 - Provides for preventive legality control on the acts of the regional Consortium for protection, the promotion and the practice of fishing and those of the regional Committee of the management of hunting
 - Budget general of the structure (of the organization): 172.336.643,93 €⁵⁴

⁵⁴ Assessorato bilancio, finanze, programmazione e partecipazioni regionali, official balance 2003

✘Which difficulties, linked to the context, are met by the holders?

- Over costs: in the specific case of the Commune of Chamois there were over costs (approximately 50%) due to the limited accessibility and the consequently technical difficulties in material transportation. The Commune of Chamois is reachable only by cableway and the Lod lake is reachable only by a chair-lift starting from Chamois or by walk
- Geographical distance of the market: the elements which constitute the equipped surfaces are partly built directly by the carrier of project and partly bought in other areas of the north of Italy; the distance of the region and, particularly, of the Commune of Chamois, from the market, explains an increase in the costs

Are some of these difficulties linked to the location within mountain areas? Yes, the difficulties met are related to the mountain area location.

✘Assets met linked to the context

- Natural and cultural heritage: the Lod lake, surrounded by a wooded surface in a place without cars, is the ideal environment for the development of an equipped surface
- Quality / specificity / originality of the place: Chamois is the highest inhabited Commune of Italy and Europe. Indeed, this locality is connected to the bottom of the valley only by a cableway line: its single characteristic it is that one cannot join it by car but only by walk or by the cableway line which starts from Buisson
- Presence of a local market linked to tourist activity or urbanization: tourism is the principal activity in the Commune of Chamois

Are some of these assets linked to the location within mountain area? Yes, the assets met are related to the mountain area location.

Content of the project :

✘General objectives :

The objective is to develop a “controlled” and sustainable tourism in the wooded lands limiting free tourism.

Are the objectives of the project clearly defined by the holders? Yes, the title of the Regional law 65/1987 define objective “... initiatives for the installation and the maintenance of the public lawns, and for the **management of equipped surfaces** and trails”

As regards **tourism products**, means implemented concerning:

- Mobilization of actors from the territory: (art 4 LR 65/1987) “the Communes where are present equipped surfaces and health trails , provide for their ordinary maintenance, and also with their management and monitoring”
- Implementation of tools for protection/restoration of the heritage and awareness raising (means for preserving the quality of the heritage): the objective of this project is to protect the wooded surfaces
- Knowledge and specification of the heritage in order to protect it and promote it: throughout the years some elements of equipped surfaces were built directly by the carrier of project through the precarious personnel or seasonal worker preserving the characteristic to build the tables and the benches with a half trunk

- Communicate and promote: the carrier of the project deals with promoting all the interventions made within the context of LR 65/1987 through booklets in three languages (Italian, French and English) and through the web-site (http://www.regione.vda.it/risorsenaturali/areeatrezzate/default_i.asp)
- Adaptation to the market (propose various tourism products...): the elements of equipped surfaces are adapted to the market and when the market changes the surfaces change too; for example the surface of Chamois, built in 1987, will soon adapt its hygienic services to the new laws about adaptation for disabled people

4 – Description of the action / intervention of the territorial authorities

4.1 – Which territorial authorities supported the project ?

Name of territorial authority	NUTS level
Assessorato agricoltura e risorse naturali (Aosta Valley autonomous Region)	NUTS 2

4.2 - Description of the intervention of each territorial authority

→ Description tables of territorial authorities' intervention

4 questions	8 sub-questions	Answer
WHO ?	Name of the territorial authority	Assessorato agricoltura e risorse naturali (Aosta Valley autonomous Region) NUTS 2
FOR WHICH PURPOSE ?	What are the concrete actions supported?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The concrete actions of the Assessorato agricoltura e risorse naturali are: evaluation of the requests of the communities which want to build equipped surfaces, visit on the place and feasibility report, insertion in the scheme of work of the adapted interventions, project and realization of the interventions, inauguration and extraordinary maintenance Consequently we can identify the following specific actions: - Mobilization of the local actors: the precarious or seasonal personnel construct some elements (bench, table, fountain) and do the finishes of work; local companies make the building constructions - Management improvement of the quality of the product: thank to the intervention of the Assessorato agricoltura e risorse naturali all equipped surfaces in Aosta Valley are built according to standards which give a certain uniformity. The use of local materials is privileged - Marketing of the product: the Assessorato agricoltura e risorse naturali does not make a really commercialisation but rather a promotion through trilingual booklets and a web site

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Capacity of investment: the Assessorato agricoltura e risorse naturali finances 100% of the interventions and the extraordinary maintenance and 95% of the costs supported by the Communes for ordinary maintenance, management and monitoring
HOW ?	Type of the intervention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Helps for investment: 100% for the intervention and extraordinary maintenance and 95% for the costs supported by the Communes for ordinary maintenance, management and monitoring - Helps for the animation of the project promotion through trilingual booklets and a web site - Contribution of a skilled labour: the precarious or seasonal workers deal with the construction of some elements (bench, table, and fountain) in an artisan way
	Direct beneficiaries of the intervention / measure	The Commune
	Conditions to be fulfilled by the beneficiaries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Concession of the grounds for construction of equipped surfaces - Ordinary maintenance, management and monitoring at the conclusion of the works
	Modalities and duration of the intervention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Multiannual assistances (3 years): the realization of surface develops over 3 years, the helps for extraordinary and ordinary maintenance, management and the monitoring are for all the life of surface - Planning of the costs: there is a plan of the costs divided for year and action - Contractualisation with the beneficiaries: after the inauguration of the equipped surface the Assessorato agricoltura e risorse naturali consigns officially , through a letter, the surface at the Commune
HOW MANY ?		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Allocated Sum (€): the surface of Chamois would cost 200.000 € today, in 1985 cost 40.000 € - Rate of financing (%): 100% (construction and extraordinary maintenance), 95% (ordinary maintenance, management and monitoring) - Ceiling of financing: there is no ceiling of financing, when the budget of the year is not enough for the intervention, the actions are distributed over several years

2. Complementary questions

A. Level of accuracy in the definition of the intervention

The assistance of the local community is for the whole of the project in its globality

B. Context of the intervention

The granted assistance corresponds to a locally existing frame: the regional law 65/1987

C. Partnership between territorial authorities and holders.

There was collaboration between local community and who carrying the project during the project

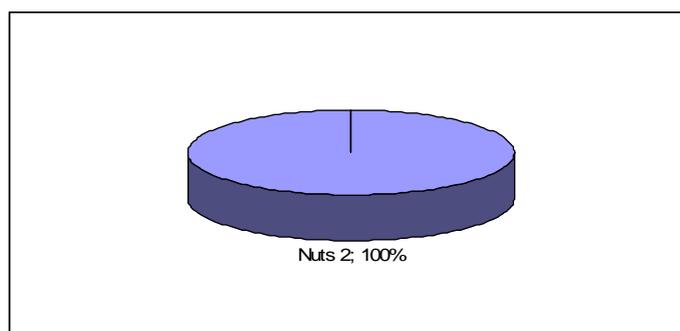
D. Non financial intervention

Technical aid from the employees of the Assessorato agricoltura e risorse naturali even after the official consign of the equipped surface, promotion through trilingual booklets and a web site

4.4 – Financial information

Share of grants and self-financing (figures concerning several years as far as possible).

	Territorial authorities						Self-financing
	Europe	Nuts 1	Nuts 2	Nuts 3	Nuts 4	Nuts 5	
Amount (€)			40.000				
Share (%)			100				



5 – Analysis of the intervention of the territorial authorities in the project

5.1 – Effectiveness of the intervention of the territorial authorities

✘Have the forecasted objectives of the project been achieved ?

Objectives	Answer
Objective 1: to develop a “controlled” tourism in wooded zones	Fully achieved
Objective 2: 2 to develop a sustainable tourism in wooded zones	Fully achieved
Objective 3: to limit free tourism in wooded zones	Fully achieved

✘Are there any non forecasted objectives that have been achieved ?

No

✘Environment of the project :

- Are there any environment factors that prevented the realization of the objectives?
The realization was more difficult than in other environment since the Commune of Chamois can be reached only by cableway, so the transport of materials and the staff management were more difficult
- Are there any other policies or regulations (national policies...) that counteract with the development of the project? No

Effectiveness : Good-Average

5.2 Relevance of the terms of intervention of the territorial authorities

- Were the type of intervention (investment grant...) adapted ? Yes
- Were the modalities chosen adapted ? (annual, long-term grants...) Yes, the administrative parts and the various projects (preliminary, final, executive) take rather long times, for this reason three years are adapted
- Were the financial means developed (financing rate) sufficient and relevant ? Were they too high? The rate of financing (100%) was sufficient and probably without the total financing the project would not have taken place; nevertheless it would be good to invest with responsibility the beneficiaries (Commune) by imposing a co-financing, even small
- Was the coordination between the different territorial authorities good and sufficient, were they consistent with each other? The intervention of the territorial authorities corresponded to the needs for the beneficiaries (the Commune)
- What would have happened without the intervention of the territorial authorities? Without the intervention of the Assessorato agricoltura e risorse naturali probably in Chamois in 1985 no one would have built an equipped surface, at the regional level without the intervention of the local communities probably the Communes would have built equipped surfaces but in a uncoordinated way, thus each surfaces would have element aesthetically different and probably to save money they would have chosen industrial solutions which are less adapted to the mountainous context
- Was the intervention of the territorial authorities too constraining for holders or did it let too much "room for manoeuvre" to them? In this case the carrier of project corresponds with the territorial authority
- Is the intervention of the territorial authorities considered as simple or too complicated? Appropriate
- Which means are implemented by territorial authorities to assess the relevance of their interventions afterward (studies, diagnosis...)? Collect articles on the newspapers and (up to 1998) statistical studies on the presences

Relevancy of interventions: Good

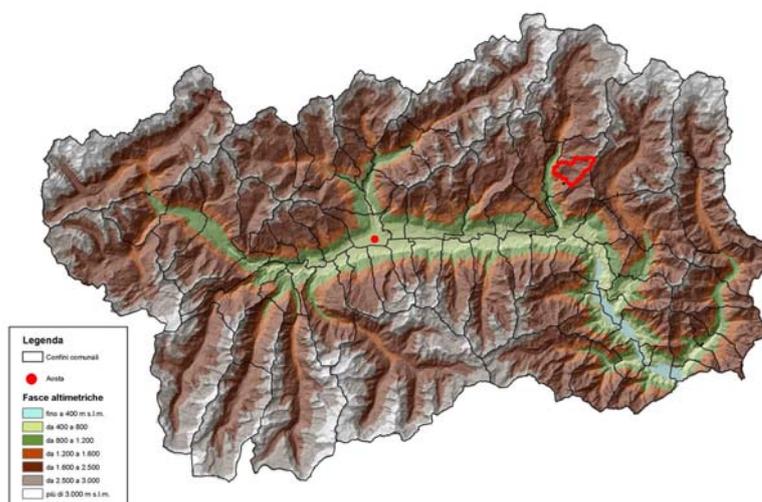
5.3 –Monitoring

- ✘ **Type of monitoring:** administrative, countable and technical
- ✘ **Frequency of the meetings:** Assessorato agricoltura e risorse naturali employees and those of the Commune met, for the period of project (2nd year), approximately once a week
- ✘ **Quality of the relations and collaboration between the territorial authorities and the holders:** good ratio of collaboration between the Commune and the Assessorato agricoltura e risorse naturali

The monitoring is: Good

1- Area description form : La Magdeleine

Location map



1/ Geographical environment

- Mountainous massif : La Magdeleine is located in the Valtournenche valley
- Altitude: 1.664 m
- Surface of the area: 8,92 km²
- The studied territory is entirely located in mountains areas
- Alpine climate

2/ Socio-economics dynamisms

- Population: 91 inhabitants
- Density 10,2 (inhab. / km²)
- Demographic trends: positive (natural balance +3, migratory balance +5)⁵⁵
- Share of the active population per sector of activity⁵⁶ :
 - agriculture 10,99 %(10 employees)
 - commerce 3,29 %(3 employees)
 - construction 15,38% (14 employees)
 - tourism 15,38%(14 employees)
 - transport and communication 4,39%(4 employees)
 - other services 4,39%(4 employees)

3/Description of policy organisation and zoning

Territorial organisation of the area:

- NUTS 5 (LAU level 2)
- Chamois belong to the Comunità Montana Monte Cervino (LAU level 1)
- European zoning: objective 3 and Leader +

⁵⁵ Population balance 2002

⁵⁶ Concerning the calculation of the distribution of the active population by branch of activity we used the data on the 8° Censimento generale dell'industria e dei servizi 2001 of ISTAT (Table Addetti alle unità locali delle imprese per settore di attività economica e Comune) and the 5° Censimento generale dell'agricoltura 2000 of ISTAT (Table: Persone per categoria di manodopera agricola, Comune e zona altimetrica)

2 - Product description form, tourism: mills pathway

Presentation of tourist products⁵⁷:

- ✘ **Type of heritage emphasized:** historical-cultural-natural heritage
- ✘ **Brief description of this heritage:** group of height mills supplied by the water of the same channel (*ru*). These mills (some of which are still in function), once was used to crash cereals (barley, oat, wheat...), that in the past grow up in the land around the village. Flour produced was used to do traditional bread that was cooked in the four village ovens and that was the principal aliment of local population
- ✘ **Description of the tourist product which promotes this heritage:** the project “Mills: symbols of work and of the sorrows of the past (La Magdeleine)”, gives value to the seven mills, which were recently reconstructed, through expositions inside mills, prepared in collaboration with the population. Now access to the pathway and visits to mills are free. The mills had been reconstructed since 1989 until 1994 with regional financings (FRIO, Fondo Regionale Investimento Occupazione, LR 51/86), in 2003 the pathway was realized thanks to the opportunity of financing of the Leader + PTO (horizontal thematic project)
- ✘ **Network :** the Commune, the people who let their old tools available for the expositions in the mills and the people who make the reception at the mills. Approximately 12 actors implied in the project; also a good part of the population (approximately 30%) take part actively in this project
- ✘ **Number of visitors per year:** 300 visitors
- ✘ **Annual turnover and annual budget:** in the first year of opening (2005) the visits were free, concerning the next years a plan of management and promotion is in phase of study
- ✘ **Employment: number of employments concerned by this tourism activity:** 3 direct employment (people from the country): 2 people deal with the reception at the mills and the third deals with transmitting to the visitor his know-how in the field of cereals and mills. For the next years is expected that this project will be able to represent a work opportunity for other people of the country through activities indirectly connected to the mills pathway
- ✘ **Local tourism context:** the Commune of La Magdeleine proposes other activities for its visitors: pathway of old ovens, excursions in the wild mountain, a health walk, spectacles during the summer, an archaeological site at the foot of the Tantané Mount, cross-country ski and snow rackets tours during the winter. Many small Communes in the surrounding of La Magdeleine (Chamois, Antey, Torgnon, Chatillon, Valtournanche) offer other activities for the tourists. Particularly, Valtournanche offers many excursions in summer in a unique natural context and an exemplary skiing site open all the year

⁵⁷ www.comune.la-magdeleine.ao.it and interview with the person who wrote the project (Tiziana Thiébat)

3 - Project description form: "Mills: symbols of work and of the sorrows of the past"⁵⁸

Context (in brief): organisation of the holders and the environment of the project

✘ **Initiative**/factor at the origin of the project: financing opportunity of the Leader+, PTO (horizontal thematic Project)

✘ Description of the **organisation** that carries out the project:

- Name of the organisation: Commune of La Magdeleine
- Who are the holders? Administrators
- Constitution of the organisation: it is a local community, it is a non-commercial structure
- Date of creation: the Commune of La Magdeleine was constituted in 1799
- Object: the Commune, within the context of its autonomy, encourages the civil, social and economical progress and development of its community, while taking as a starting point the principles, values and objectives of the Italian constitution, the national and regional laws, as well as the local traditions⁵⁹
- Budget general of the structure (of the organization): 1.000.000 €

✘ **Which difficulties, linked to the context, are met by the holders?**

- Small culture of company
- Loss of the know-how related to the use of the mills
- Difficulties to reach La Magdeleine because there is just a narrow and very stiff road

Are some of these difficulties linked to the location within mountain areas? Yes, in particular those related to the depopulation and the difficulty of access.

✘ **Assets met linked to the context**

- Natural and cultural heritage unique in Aosta Valley and perhaps in all the Alps
- Specificity of the products: La Magdeleine mills is the only case in which mills are supplied with the water of the same channel
- Presence of a local market linked to tourist activity

Are some of these assets linked to the location within mountain area? Yes, indeed without the presence of water and of cereals culture, mills would never been built

Content of the project :

✘ **General objectives :**

The purpose of the project is the realization of a thematic path concerning the reconstructed mills along the channel, as well as the valorisation of the buildings and the channel. Through this project, one would like to inspire to the population the idea of creation of collateral economic activities, to develop the culture of company too. The long term objective is to promote a tourism interested in the culture, the history but also by peace and quiet, but also to support an alternative agricultural development of the territory by supporting agricultural activities related to the grain-bread commodity chain.

Are the objectives of the project clearly defined by the holders?

⁵⁸ Project presented at the GAL and interview with the person who wrote the project (Tiziana Thiébat)

⁵⁹ Source: Statute of the Commune

The objectives are defined in the project in particular the following points are underlined in the project:

- development of tourism interested in the culture, the history and peace
- Alternative agricultural development of the territory by promoting the development of the agricultural activities of the grain-bread commodity chain
- Cultural and professional enrichment of the residents
- Reduction of the depopulation of the Commune

✘As regards **tourism products**, means implemented concerning :

- Mobilization of actors from the territory: moments of animation were carried out with the local actors and the population to explain the objectives of the project, the participation to the meetings and to the activities was numerous
- Implementation of tools for protection/restoration of the heritage and awareness raising (means for preserving the quality of the heritage): realization of videos about work in the mills and valorisation of the tools which were used in the mills to produce cereals through expositions
- Knowledge and specification of the heritage in order to protect it and promote it: organization of meetings with the population to share various knowledge related on the history of the Commune and the knowledge in the agricultural field, realization of videos to illustrate how one worked cereals in the mills
- To promote a responsible and cultural tourism and to improve quality of the tourist reception: the project financed working days with experts in the field of the marketing and the valorisation of the tourism offers
- To offer integrated tourist products

4 – Description of the action / intervention of the territorial authorities⁶⁰

4.1 – Which territorial authorities supported the project ?

Name of territorial authority	NUTS level
Commune of La Magdeleine	LAU 2 (NUTS 5)
Aosta Valley autonomous Region	NUTS 2

4.2 - Description of the intervention of each territorial authority

→ Description tables of territorial authorities' intervention

4 questions	8 sub-questions	Answer
WHO ?	Name of the territorial authority	Commune of La Magdeleine <i>NUTS 2</i>

⁶⁰ Project presented at the GAL and interview with the person who wrote the project (Tiziana Thiébat)

FOR WHICH PURPOSE ?	What are the concrete actions supported?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mobilization of the actors of the commodity chain: moments of animation were carried out with the local actors and the population. - Management improvement of the quality of the product: the project proposes to develop the seven restored mills and consequently to improve quality of the tourism reception in the Commune of La Magdeleine - Marketing of the product: a first experimentation was made in 2005, free visits were organized once a week during July and August; concerning the next years a plan of management and promotion is in phase of study - Capacity of investment: after this first investment of 20% of the total cost of the project, the next years all the expenses will be in charge of the Commune - Formation: the project financed working days with experts in the field marketing and valorisation of the tourism offers
HOW ?	Type of the intervention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assurances for investment: purchase of material (television, show windows...) - Assurances for the animation of the project: organization of moments of animation - Assurances for the costs of operation: costs of management of the mills and the other infrastructures - Contribution of a skilled labour: participation throughout the project of the local elected persons
	Direct beneficiaries of the intervention / measure	-The Commune: the administrators (carrier of the project) and all the population
	Conditions to be fulfilled by the beneficiaries	<p>The Commune is engaged either economically (20% of the total of the project), or from a professional point of view collaborating actively with the consultant.</p> <p>The Commune have to periodically prepare financial and activity reports/ratios to be given to all its upholders according to the rules of the Leader+ program</p>
	Modalities and duration of the intervention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Multiannual Assurances (2004-2006) - A planning of the expenses was made per intervention and per year - The assurances will finish in 2006, from this moment the Commune will manage with the expenses
HOW MANY ?		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Allocated Sum: 20.400, 75 (€) - Rate of financing (%): 20 - No ceiling of financing

4 questions	8 sub-questions	Answer
WHO ?	Name of the territorial authority	Aosta Valley autonomous Region (NUTS 2)
FOR WHICH PURPOSE ?	What are the concrete actions supported?	Capacity of investment: investment of 80% of the cost of the project ⁶¹
HOW ?	Type of the intervention	Financing of 80% of the cost of the project
	Direct beneficiaries of the intervention / measure	The Commune: the administrators (carrier of the project) and all the population
	Conditions to be fulfilled by the beneficiaries	The Commune is engaged either economically (20% of the total of the project), or from a professional point of view collaborating actively with the consultant. The Commune have to periodically prepare financial and activity reports/ratios to be given to all its upholders according to the rules of the Leader+ program
	Modalities and duration of the intervention	Multiannual Assistances (2004-2006)
HOW MANY ?		- Allocated Sum (€): 81.603 - Rate of financing (%): 80 - No ceiling of financing

2. Complementary questions [one answer by intervention of territorial authority]

A. Level of accuracy in the definition of the intervention

From an economical point of view the intervention of the project is total according to following percentages: 20% Commune and 80% Region. From the operational point of view the technical part is followed by the Commune itself through its personnel and his consultants. The Region has a function of control on the project

B. Context of the intervention

The granted assistance corresponds to an existing device in particular it is a Leader+ financing which has not been adapted to this particular project

C. Partnership between territorial authorities and holders.

The carrier of project (the Commune) is also one of the territorial authorities involved to support the project, therefore the collaboration is natural

D. Non financial intervention

On the level of the Commune there were various not financial interventions: contribution of traditional tools for the expositions from the population, participation of local elected persons in the meetings with the population (6 in one year)

4.3 – General questions (in case of several territorial authorities' interventions)

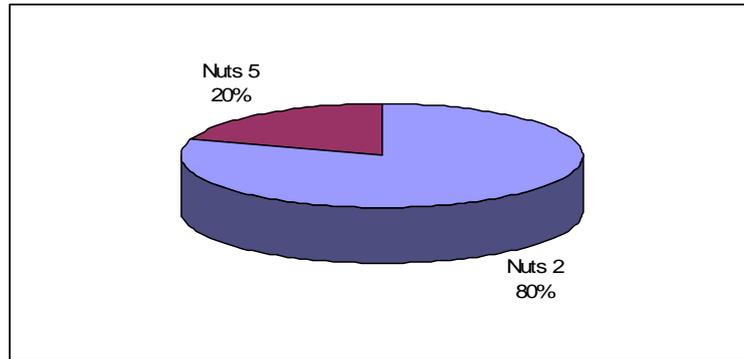
The Commune of La Magdeleine answered to an invitation of thematic offers of the GAL of Aosta Valley (Local Action Group); then the project was evaluated by the GAL and the CRESVIIR (Assessorato agricoltura e risorse naturali) and following the positive evaluation, the project was financed: 20% from the Commune and 80% from the Region

⁶¹ Normally within the context of project LEADER+ the financing LEADER are 80% of the total of the project shared into 50% EAGGF, 35% State and 15% Region; in this specific case of this project there was only the financing of the Region since there where funds of rotation

4.4 – Financial information

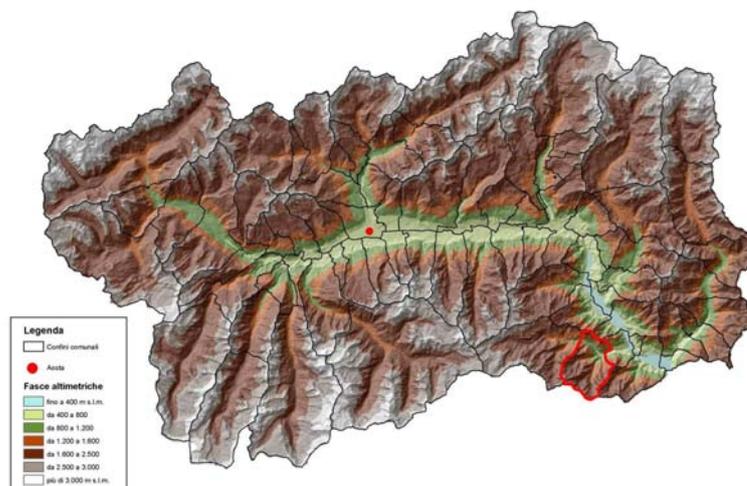
Share of grants and self-financing (figures concerning several years as far as possible).

	Territorial authorities						Self-financing
	Europe	Nuts 1	Nuts 2	Nuts 3	Nuts 4	Nuts 5	
Amount (€)			81.603			20.400,75	
Share (%)			80			20	



1- Area description form : Pontboset

Location map



1/ Geographical environment

- Mountainous massif : Pontboset is located in the Champorcher valley
- Altitude: 780 m
- Surface of the area: 33,76 km²
- The studied territory is entirely located in mountains areas
- Alpine climate

2/ Socio-economics dynamisms

- Population: 201 inhabitants
- Density 5,95 (inhab. / km²)
- Demographic trends: negative (natural balance -3; migratory balance -1)⁶²
- Share of the active population per sector of activity⁶³:
 - agriculture 14.92%(30 employees)
 - industry 0.99 %(2 employees)
 - commerce 1.99 %(4 employees)
 - construction 3.48 % (7 employees)
 - tourism 0.5 %(1 employees)
 - transport and communication 0.5 %(1 employees)
 - other services 0.99 %(2 employees)

3/Description of policy organisation and zoning

Territorial organisation of the area:

- NUTS 5 (LAU level 2)
- Pontboset belong to the Comunità Montana Monte Rosa (LAU level 1)
- European zoning: Leader +, objective 2, Phasing out and objective 3

⁶² *Populatiopn balance 2002*

⁶³ Concerning the calculation of the distribution of the active population by branch of activity we used the data oh the 8° *Censimento generale dell'industria e dei servizi 2001* of ISTAT (Table Addetti alle unità locali delle imprese per settore di attività economica e Comune) and the 5° *Censmento generale dell'agricoltura 2000* of ISTAT (Table: Persone per categoria di manodopera agricola, Comune e zona altimetrica)

2 - Product description form, water resources: the gorge of Ratus

Presentation of tourist products⁶⁴:

- ✘ **Type of heritage emphasized:** natural heritage
- ✘ **Brief description of this heritage:** Champorcher valley is furrowed by Ayasse, a stream that during centuries excavated gorge and chasm creating unique and suggesting landscape and environment
- ✘ **Description of the tourist product which promotes this heritage:** tourist and sportive walks to join the gorge of Ratus; non-commercial product
- ✘ **Network:** 2 people for management and 4 guides of nature
- ✘ **Number of visitors per year:** 300 visitors
- ✘ **Local tourism context:** the Commune of Pontboset is located in the Champorcher valley; in this zone many activities are possible. The principal sports activities are the alpine skiing (Champorcher) and the kayak (Italian championship at Pontboset); even the excursions are possible thanks to the presence in the valley of the natural reserve of the Mont Avic and many refuges. Not far from Pontboset one can even visit the Fortress of Bard, an old castle transformed during years into military fortress and recently restructured and destined for many tourist activities (restaurant, hotel) and cultural activity (museum)

⁶⁴ Interview with the referent of the Commune of Pontboset Luca Pitet

3 - Project description form: "AES (Aggregazione è sviluppo) - Intervention 3: Hells of the low valley: valorization of the gorges of Guillemore, Ratus, Goilli dou Portset, taglio dell' Ayasse"⁶⁵

Context (in brief): organisation of the holders and the environment of the project

- ✘ **Initiative**/factor at the origin of the project: financing opportunity of the Leader +, PIT (Territorial Integrated Project)
- ✘ Description of the **organisation** that carries out the project:
 - Name of the organisation: Comunità Montana Monte Rosa
 - Who are the holders? : technicians and employees of Comunità Montana Monte Rosa
 - Constitution of the organisation: it is a local community, it is a non-commercial structure
 - Date of creation: 1971
 - Object: The Comunità Montana proposes to develop its domain from the human, social, cultural and economical point of view, by a general policy of rebalances and development of the current and potential resources of his domain and pursues in particular the following goals: the support of the economical and productive initiatives aiming to promote and to develop the whole of the resources of its territory, within the context of a targeted planning of its goals and its actions; the elimination of economical and social imbalances and the improvement of the quality of life on its territory⁶⁶
 - Budget general of the structure (of the organization): 3.500.000 €
- ✘ **Which difficulties, linked to the context, are met by the holders?**
 - Difficulty of access related to the stiffly slopes and the necessity to arrange the paths to make them safe

Are some of these difficulties linked to the location within mountain areas? Yes
- ✘ **Assets met linked to the context**
 - Single natural heritage.

Are some of these assets linked to the location within mountain area? Yes

Content of the project :

✘ **General objectives :**

To develop for tourism the gorges of the torrents of the Champorcher valley and, in particular, the gorge of Ratus, in the Commune of Pontboset.
To realize a sportive and tourist walk to emphasize the natural, geological and environmental heritage of the gorges.

Are the objectives of the project clearly defined by the holders?

- Valorisation of the local environmental heritage
- Individuation of an inter-territorial thematic circuit (Pontboset, Hône, Fontainemore, Chamois)

✘ As regards **tourism products**, means implemented concerning :

- Installation of tools to valorise the natural heritage by carrying out thematic circuit to visit the gorges: realization of a walk arranged to join the gorge of Ratus and realization of safe path and accesses to the gorges
- To communicate, promote: realization of the didactic and general information panels and the publication of a booklet about the circuit of the gorges

⁶⁵ Source: project presented at the GAL and interview with the referent of the Commune of Pontboset Luca Pitet

⁶⁶ Statute of the Comunità Montana Monte Rosa

4 – Description of the action / intervention of the territorial authorities⁶⁷

4.1 – Which territorial authorities supported the project ?

Name of territorial authority	NUTS level
EU	
Italian state	NUTS 1
Aosta Valley autonomous Region	NUTS 2
Comunità Montana	NUTS 4 (LAU level 1)
Pontboset Commune	NUTS 5 (LAU level 2)

4.2 - Description of the intervention of each territorial authority⁶⁸

→ Description tables of territorial authorities' intervention

4 questions	8 sub-questions	Answer
WHO ?	Name of the territorial authority	EU
FOR WHICH PURPOSE ?	What are the concrete actions supported?	Investment of the 40% of the cost of the project (50% of the 80% cover by the LEADER)
HOW ?	Type of the intervention	Financing of the 40% of the cost of the project
	Direct beneficiaries of the intervention / measure	The Commune of Pontboset
	Conditions to be fulfilled by the beneficiaries	The Commune is engaged from an economical point of view (20% of the amount that the Communes concerned in the project must invest) and in what concern the management and the cleaning of the path
	Modalities and duration of the intervention	- Multiannual assistances: 2003 - 2005 - A planning of the expenses was made per intervention and per year - Are the assistances decreasing in time? No
HOW MANY ?		- Sum allocated for the intervention of the PIT: 194.148,61 € - Rate of financing: 50% of the 80% cover by the LEADER - No ceiling of financing

4 questions	8 sub-questions	Answer
WHO ?	Name of the territorial authority	Italian State NUTS 2
FOR WHICH PURPOSE ?	What are the concrete actions supported?	Capacity of investment: investment of the 28% of the cost of the project (35% of the 80% cover by the LEADER)
HOW ?	Type of the intervention	Financing of 28% of the cost of the project
	Direct beneficiaries of the intervention / measure	The Commune of Pontboset

⁶⁷ GAL "Aosta Valley Leader"

⁶⁸ Concerning the financial aspects (€), we considered of the whole PIT data since they are the only sure data, then we specified the money planned for the interventions of the gorges of Ratus (15.696,09 €)

	Conditions to be fulfilled by the beneficiaries	The Commune is engaged from an economical point of view (20% of the amount that the Communes concerned in the project must invest) and in what concern the management and the cleaning of the path
	Modalities and duration of the intervention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Multiannual assistances: 2003 - 2005 - A planning of the expenses was made per intervention and per year - Are the assistances decreasing in time? No
HOW MANY ?		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sum allocated for the intervention of the PIT: 135.904,03 € - Rate of financing: 35% of the 80% cover by the LEADER - No ceiling of financing

4 questions	8 sub-questions	Answer
WHO ?	Name of the territorial authority	Aosta Valley autonomous Region NUTS 2
FOR WHICH PURPOSE ?	What are the concrete actions supported?	Capacity of investment: investment of the 12% of the cost of the project (15% of the 80% cover by the LEADER)
HOW ?	Type of the intervention	Financing of 12% of the cost of the project
	Direct beneficiaries of the intervention / measure	The Commune of Pontboset
	Conditions to be fulfilled by the beneficiaries	The Commune is engaged from an economical point of view (20% of the amount that the Communes concerned in the project must invest) and in what concern the management and the cleaning of the path
	Modalities and duration of the intervention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Multiannual assistances: 2003 - 2005 - A planning of the expenses was made per intervention and per year - Are the assistances decreasing in time? No
HOW MANY ?		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sum allocated for the intervention of the PIT: 58.244,58 € - Rate of financing: 15% of the 80% cover by the LEADER - No ceiling of financing

4 questions	8 sub-questions	Answer
WHO ?	Name of the territorial authority	Comunità Montana Monte Rosa (NUTS 4 - LAU level 1)
FOR WHICH PURPOSE ?	What are the concrete actions supported?	Marketing of the product through the realization of a booklet, information panels and road signals
HOW ?	Type of the intervention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assistances for the installation of the panels, the realization of the tourist path and the setting in safety of the path - Contribution of a skilled labour for the study and the realization of the panels

	Direct beneficiaries of the intervention / measure	The Commune of Pontboset
	Conditions to be fulfilled by the beneficiaries	The Commune is engaged from an economical point of view (20% of the amount that the Communes concerned in the project must invest) and in what concern the management and the cleaning of the path
	Modalities and duration of the intervention	- Multiannual assistances: 2003 - 2005 - A planning of the expenses was made per intervention and per year - Are the assistances decreasing in time? No
HOW MANY ?		- Sum allocated for the intervention: 0 € - Rate of financing: 0 % - No ceiling of financing

4 questions	8 sub-questions	Answer
WHO ?	Name of the territorial authority	Commune of Pontboset (NUTS 5 - LAU level 2)
FOR WHICH PURPOSE ?	What are the concrete actions supported?	Management of the path carrying to gorge of Ratus
HOW ?	Type of the intervention	Assistances for the costs of operation: management and cleaning of the path
	Direct beneficiaries of the intervention / measure	The Commune of Pontboset
	Conditions to be fulfilled by the beneficiaries	The Commune is engaged from an economical point of view (20% of the amount that the Communes concerned in the project must invest) and in what concern the management and the cleaning of the path
	Modalities and duration of the intervention	- Multiannual assistances: 2003 - 2005 - Are the assistances decreasing in time? No
HOW MANY ?		- Sum allocated for the intervention of the PIT: 97.074,31 € - Rate of financing: 10% of the 20% of contribution of each commune concerned - No ceiling of financing

2. Complementary questions

A. Level of accuracy in the definition of the intervention

From an economical point of view the intervention of the project is total according to following percentages: 20% Communes and 80% LEADER (50% EAGGF, 35% Italian State, 15% Aosta Valley autonomous Region). From the operational point of view the technical part was delegated to the Comunità Montana while the Region and the State contributed only economically. The Commune contributed economically (20%) and also operationally in the management of the path

B. Context of the intervention

The granted assistance corresponds to an existing device in particular it is a Leader+ financing which has not been adapted to this particular project

C. Partnership between territorial authorities and holders.

The carrier of project (the Commune) is also one of the local communities involved to support the project, therefore the collaboration is natural

D. Non financial intervention

The Commune brought information and advices for a better development of the natural heritage of its territory

4.3 – General questions (in case of several territorial authorities' interventions)

The various communities intervened on the same objects of the project.

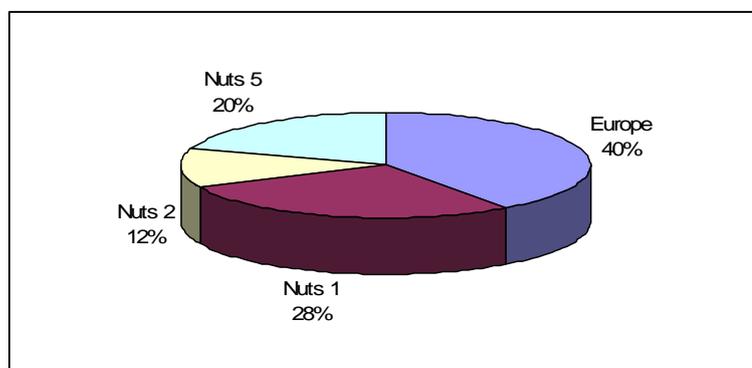
The Comunità Montana Monte Rosa decided in first to support project AES and the other communities (Communes which belong to the Comunità Montana) came in complement.

4.4 – Financial information

Share of grants and self-financing (figures concerning several years as far as possible).

Period 2003-2005	Territorial authorities						Self-financing
	Europe	Nuts 1	Nuts 2	Nuts 3	Nuts 4	Nuts 5	
Amount (€)	194.148,61	135.904,03	58.244,58			97.074,31	
Share (%)	40	28	12			20	

The data of the balance sheet refer to the entire PIT, while the money for the interventions on the gorge of Ratus de Pontboset (studied project) is 15.696,09.



5 – Analysis of the intervention of the territorial authorities in the project

5.1 – Effectiveness of the intervention of the territorial authorities

*Have the forecasted objectives of the project been achieved ?

All the objectives have been reached.

- Evolution of the activity: visitors number increased
- Economic development of the territory: there was a general repercussion in term of tourism in particular concerning the presence of tourists in restaurants and bars

*Environment of the project :

- Are there any environment factors that prevented the realization of the objectives? No
- Are there any other policies or regulations (national policies...) that counteract with the development of the project? No

Effectiveness : Good

5.2 Relevance of the terms of intervention of the territorial authorities

- Was the type of intervention (investment grant...) adapted? Yes
- Were the modalities chosen adapted? (annual, long-term grants...) Yes
- Were the financial means developed (financing rate) sufficient and relevant? Yes
- Was the coordination between the different territorial authorities good and sufficient; were they consistent with each other? Yes
- Did the territorial authorities' contribution meet the needs of the holders? Yes
- Did it correspond to the life-span of the project (starting period...)? Yes

- What would have happened without the intervention of the territorial authorities? No project at all
- Was the intervention of the territorial authorities too constraining for holders or did it let too much “room for manoeuvre” to them? No
- Is the intervention of the territorial authorities considered as simple or too complicated? Normal

Relevancy of interventions: Good

5.3 –Monitoring

- ✘ **Type of monitoring:** administrative and countable.
- ✘ **Frequency of the meetings** with the project carriers, travels in the field: each week during the project
- ✘ **Quality of the relations and collaboration between the territorial authorities and the holders:**
 From the territorial authorities point of view, is there a good climate of collaboration with the holders (elaboration of the project in common, good relations...)? Yes
 From the holders' point of view: are they satisfied with their relations with each of the territorial authorities they have been working with (from the local level to national level or even European when appropriate)? Yes

The monitoring is: Good

5.4 – Efficiency of the territorial authorities interventions

The carriers did not detect indicators to evaluate the efficiency of the interventions.