

Valle d'Aosta, Italy

Pilot area(s)

Pontboset and Perloz

Aim

To identify territorial dynamics and the elements that could represent strengths and/or weaknesses for the pilot areas.

Methodology

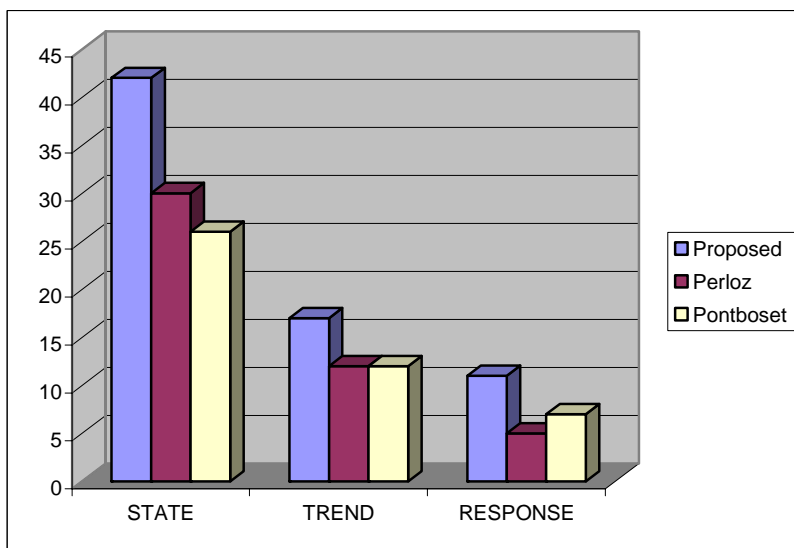
Indicators were collected harmonizing the data coming from existing data sets and the ones identified through the community planning activities. Regional and national statistical data sets, on-the-spot surveys and in-depth interviews to local administrators and stakeholders are the main sources of data.

State, Trend and Response indicators at a municipality level were collected and processed.

The most used indicators concern demography, economy (mainly tourism and retail activities), access to the historical centre and cultural heritage elements.

State of work

Already concluded



Proposed/used indicators

SWOT analysis of Pontboset

Strengths	Weaknesses
Typical mid-mountain landscapes, with deep side valleys devoted to agriculture and breeding, not damaged by heavy infrastructures	In winter period, scarce exposure to the sun of the settlement along the regional road
Good variety of natural landscape with high value: streams	Settlements on steep slope and buildings not in line with town planning rules (low ceilings)
Easy accessibility from central valley by means of a regional road	General negative perception of the place, due to the traditional difficulties for agriculture activities
Well developed infrastructures (sewerage, water, electricity and phone, car parks), near historical settlements	Agriculture and breeding sector in decline
In the historical settlements, high value architectural heritage, with a high authenticity level (under-used and still to be restored)	Risk of landslides (outside the historical centres)
Well maintained footpath network, with bridges of high cultural interest	Negative trend of resident population, throughout the last century
Local voluntary service for community activities (Pro Loco)	Ageing of population
Proximity to "Fort de Bard", over-regional heritage key place (opportunity for positive synergic effects)	Lack of basic public facilities, such as primary school and library; as a consequence, lack of cultural and educational activities addressed to children
Site of high geological interest along the Ayasse stream	
Opportunities	Threats
Development of handicraft activities, especially linked to stone and wood	Giving up of finding solutions to the place maintenance problems
"Soft" preservation and renovation measures of historical centre, in order to increase accommodation facilities ("chambres d'hôtes", B&B, etc.) and to foster equal opportunities, employment for woman and young people	Strong increase of wooded areas around historical settlements, no maintenance
Construction of roads by respecting natural environment and historical centres	Fires due to dry weather
Valorisation of the main centre and its monuments (church, chapel, bridges)	Abandoning of historical settlements, collapse of buildings
Valorisation of tourism linked to cultural and natural heritage	New accessibility infrastructures with strong environmental impact, giving rise to alteration and destruction of public spaces (squares, fountains, ancient footpaths)
Setting up of promotion strategies to increase tourist activities, through web sites and tourist circuits	Restoration of buildings near road access not matching local character
Tourism strategy addressed to raising profile of local importance (e.g. religious tourism)	Ongoing decrease of population
Development of original local gastronomic products: fruit, herb liqueurs	
Possible setting up of a free climbing gymnasium	

SWOT analysis of Perloz

Strengths	Weaknesses
<p>Proximity to the central Valley and its facilities (motorway, railway)</p> <p>To left side, easy accessibility from central valley by regional road</p> <p>Medieval settlement with two castles and other important monuments, like the Church of Notre-Dame-de-La-Garde</p> <p>A number of well preserved settlements in the Nantey side valley; some of them (Pessey, Praz, Ruine) with careful maintenance of the place</p> <p>Ongoing increase in population, with a significant percentage of young people</p> <p>Mid-mountain landscapes with chestnut woods, not damaged by heavy infrastructures thanks to the access problems</p> <p>In the historical settlements, high value architectural heritage, with a high authenticity level (under-used and still to be restored)</p> <p>Existing footpath network, to be maintained</p> <p>Local voluntary service organizing festivals for local population (Pro Loco)</p> <p>Proximity to "Forte di Bard", over-regional heritage key place: opportunity for positive synergic effects because of the cultural and environmental tourist resources</p>	<p>From Pont-Saint-Martin, narrow, winding road to reach the right side of the valley, where the main centre and the most populated villages (Plan-de-Brun e Marin) are located</p> <p>Incomplete infrastructures (sewerage, water, electricity and phones, car parks)</p> <p>Settlements on steep slope</p> <p>Abandoning of traditional agriculture</p> <p>Population is not interested in tourism-related activities</p>
Opportunities	Threats
<p>"Soft" preservation and renovation measures for historical centre, in order to increase accommodation facilities ("chambres d'hôtes", B&B, etc.) and to support employment for young people</p> <p>Development of handicraft activities, especially linked to stone and wood</p> <p>Valorisation of the main centre and its monuments (castles, church, chapels)</p> <p>Setting up of promotion strategies for local activities, through web sites and tourist circuits</p> <p>Development of original local gastronomic products: chestnuts, fruit, herbs</p>	<p>Giving up of finding solutions to the place maintenance problems</p> <p>Strong increase in wooded areas around historical settlements, no maintenance</p> <p>Fires due to dry weather</p> <p>Abandoning of historical settlements, collapse of buildings</p> <p>New accessibility infrastructures with strong environmental impact, giving rise to alteration and destruction of public areas (footpaths)</p> <p>Restoration of buildings near road access not matching local character</p> <p>Decrease in population</p>