

## WP 5 – BEST PRACTICE STARTING UP

### *REGIONE AUTONOMA VALLE D'AOSTA* pilot areas

#### - *PONTBOSET*



#### **Main characters:**

Commune situated in the middle mountain at the entrance of the Champorcher Valley and distributed on the two side of the Ayasse stream. The steep slopes terraced for agricultural and pastoral activities characterise the landscape. The resources of the land were always the products of the country, in particular the chestnut cultivation, the goat breeding, in reason of the asperity of the territory. The high part was used for the pasture. In the past there was frequently relations with the Piedmont valleys in the opposite side of the mountain boundary line. The tree-woods were also used for the fabrication of the coal carbon. In the 18th century and in the first half of the 19th century there was a foundry of iron very important for the economy of the entire valley of Champorcher.

The settlements are distributed in all the territory and represent the rural organisation of the community.

The chief town (780 m. a.s.l.) lies with the houses closed the one another, between the hard mountain slope and the steep streamside; the church was founded in the 1625.

Many villages are nominated in ancient document and conserve the chapel of the 17th century. A little sanctuary was built in the 19<sup>th</sup> century at 1474 m. a.s.l. and every year a procession moves from the parish church of Pontboset and goes up along an old path route to the sanctuary. In this land where the slope is very strong there are many very beautiful stone bridges on donkey-back over passing the streams.

Far from the tourist route they are undervalued, the settlements have maintained their architectural features, beauty and environment.

In the last year the community want promote the naturalistic tourism to admire the environmental beauty and the rural settlements.

#### **Local authorities involved:**

Municipality of Pontboset

#### **Starting from...**

cataloguing of the rural historic architecture in progress; presence of buildings made with stone, particular construction in stone and wood

#### **Operational tools to be applied:**

- cataloguing in order to the historical architectonic minor heritage

- WP2 card
- SWOT analysis
- guidelines for the interpretation of the old building system and for the restoration