### **Welcome Culture**

# MigrAction: Generations on the move

#### The development of a migration route

The Valleys of Stura and Ubaye, in Italy and France, have always been at the heart of economic migration movements; from the Italian side, people moved to France to find seasonal work, and from France, itinerant traders arrived in Italy. From Barcelonnette, many went as far as Mexico to seek fortune.

Hence the idea of the project has been to trace the ancient migration route, developing a route dedicated to visitors on foot and by mountain bike, linking

Caraglio to Barcelonnette. This route traces migratory movements by alternating outdoor walks and breaks to visit exhibitions and cultural places at emblematic cultural and environmental sites of the territory. One can also find places of restoration and animation. The project aims to enhance the remarkable architectural and cultural elements of the territory, making them cardinal points of a route in the heart of nature, which benefits from the countless existing paths along the two valleys. In this way, different places become places of tourist reception (information point, forest, food and wine centre) and stories of the migration and return of these emigrants (artistic installations, performance halls and temporary exhibitions).

### Promoting the return of young people to the mountains

The route provides an opportunity to reflect on the theme of migration, understood both as a movement to discover places characteristic of a living memory, and as a movement to return to the mountains for young people who want to take up this challenge and undertake new professions in the field of tourism, crafts, conservation of environmental and cultural heritage.

This discovery trail promotes tourism in the Stura and Ubaye valleys and at the same time generates concrete and sustainable local development. This is achieved by both by creating new jobs but also by enhancing public investments already made in the past on the Filatoio Rosso, Paraloup, Fortification of Vinadio and Museum of Barcelonnette.

### Several tools and events to develop tourism

The social and productive development of the territory is promoted through educational laboratories, training courses and meetings with the local population and traders. The "Young Mountain Farmer School" contest is also a promotional tool which selects 5 young people to follow specific training to support the establishment in the mountains of new sustainable productive activities.

The project partners are currently working on a detailed map with the migration routes "Migracard Circuit Map" that will be ready by 2019.

#### Location

Valley of Stura and Ubaye, Italy and France

#### **Key figures**

• 5 places became touristic areas

#### Website

http://interregalcotra.eu/fr/decouvrir-alcotra/lesprojets-finances/migractiongenerations-en-mouvement





Preparation of an open-air theatre in Paraloup (Photo credit: MigrAction)

## **Innovative aspect**

The MigrAction project develops its tourism based on the migratory route of the region's former inhabitants. This regional development thus makes it possible to attract not only tourists, but also old and new inhabitants to these mountainous areas.