L‘Arbu, the Crafts of the Mountain

Training opportunity for building up a mountain farm

Our pilot project is situated in Piedmont, in the north-west of Italy in a small mountain municipality called Demonte. The project is called “L'Arbu”, which in the local dialect means “the plant” and which is specifically used to refer to the chestnut tree. This project will be developed around the chestnut tree, a traditional culture of the valley, and aims to train a migrant with the objective of building up a mountain farm.

One of the migrants living in the valley will attend a training course provided by the Young Mountain Farmers’ School promoted by the Nuto Revelli Foundation during which his personal and professional project will be developed. He will also accompany Germinale Agricoltura Comunitary in the field work for one year. The idea is to employ this person at the end of the project.

The project will include an historical-documentary research on the local varieties of cultivation in Valle Stura, an experimental plantation of the mountain areas accessible to the schools, and a training course for new farmers and migrant people.

L'Arbu can count on the support of the Unione Montana Valle Stura, that is particularly interested in the valorization of the local products and traditional expertise and crafts, in the recovery and protection of the landscape and in the integration of new citizens.

Goals of the project
• Provide the migrant with better knowledge of the territory and its traditions
• Raise awareness on pluralism in the local population
• Create job opportunities for the migrant and the local population
• Revitalise the landscape and traditional cultures

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