

### **Fieldwork in Aoste (Italy), 9-12 May 2017**

On 9-12 May 2017, a team from the *URPP Language and Space* took part in a fieldwork trip organised in the area of Aoste (Italy) by the *Centre of Dialectology* at the University of Neuchâtel (dir. Federica Diémoz). 21 researchers and students from UNINE, UZH and the Albert Ludwig University of Freiburg (Germany) took part in the event. The Zurich participants were Elisabeth Stark, Tabea Ihsane, David Gerards and two students. Their trip was funded by the *Romanisches Seminar (RoSe)* at UZH that we warmly thank for their support.

The goal of this fieldwork was to collect Francoprovençal data corresponding to examples involving the so-called partitive articles in French, i.e. *du, de la, des* 'of.the', in order to determine whether 'partitive articles' are attested at all in the varieties of Francoprovençal found around Aoste and if they are, what form(s) they have (e.g. gender, number marking) and whether or not they occur in the same contexts as their French counterparts (e.g. affirmative, negative, generic contexts, constructions involving a quantifier, a numeral, a mass noun, etc.).

To investigate these aspects, a questionnaire elaborated by Tabea Ihsane, checked by the expert in dialectology Cecilia Poletto (Goethe University Frankfurt) and tested by different speakers of Francoprovençal in a small pilot study, was used. The questionnaire consisted in a translation task (50 sentences) from French (or Italian) into Francoprovençal, and a socio-linguistic part. The 19 interviews were all recorded and are currently being transcribed and translated. The output will be available from the *Centre of Dialectology* in Neuchâtel.