

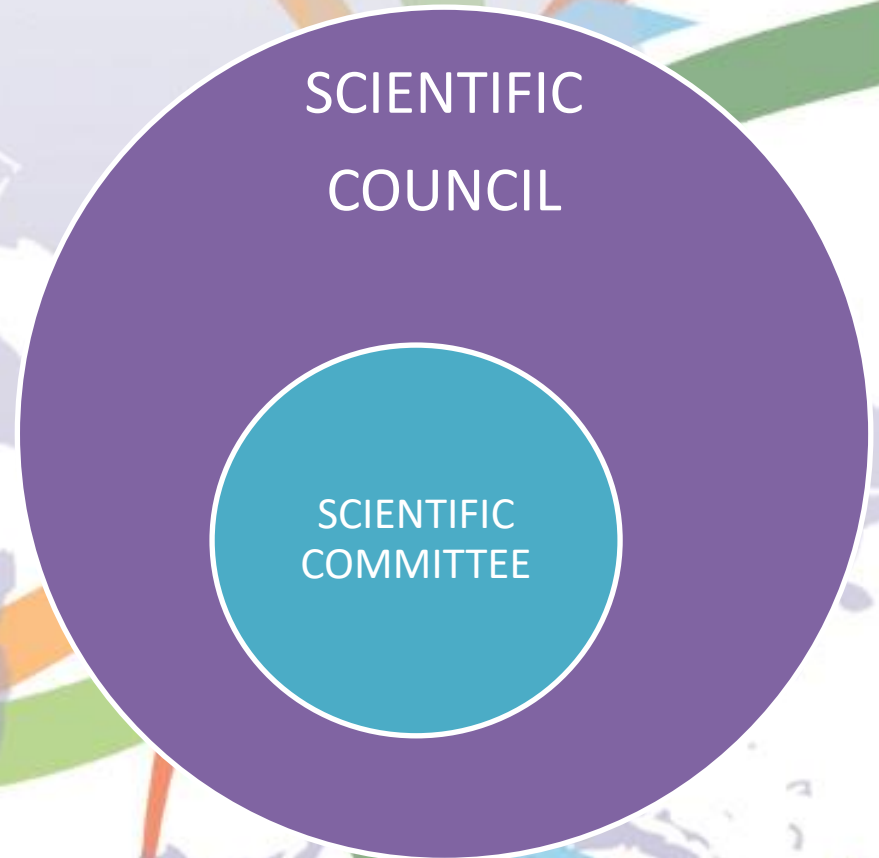
The background of the slide features a light purple map of Europe. Overlaid on this map are several thick, curved, semi-transparent lines in various colors: green, orange, blue, and red. These lines sweep across the map in a dynamic, non-linear fashion.

AREPO Scientific Council

AREPO general Assembly
October 20th, 2021

The role of the Scientific Council – Structure and Governance

- **AREPO Scientific Council** is a **collegial consultative body** open to experts from all universities and research centres in AREPO member regions.
- The **Scientific Committee** acts as a coordinating or **steering** body composed of experts identified and invited by the AREPO secretariat.
- AREPO's secretariat also identifies a **coordinator** who leads the work of the scientific committee.



Attention: Experts participate **on a voluntary basis on their own behalf**.

Scientific council - Aims

- Developing common actions on **education, socio-economic analysis, and exchange of good-practices** concerning rural and territorial development;
- Building **common positions and actions** with the support of scientific information produced by the experts participating in the Scientific Council;
- Defining together **questions and research needs** concerning LAFS, origin products and EU quality systems;
- **Strengthening the European research and innovation policy** in favor of LAFS, origin products and EU quality systems;
- **Increasing support and funding at EU level on education and training** programmes on GIs and EU quality systems.

Scientific Committee - Aims

The **Scientific Committee** acts as a coordinating and **steering** body inside the Scientific Council.

MEMBERSHIP: CIRAD, ESA d'Angers / Master Food Identity, University of Parma, University of Florence.

COORDINATION: Giovanni Belletti, University of Florence

MEETINGS: the Scientific Committee meets virtually each 3 months.

AIMS AND ACTIVITIES

- Identifying the strategic guidelines and themes to be submitted to the Council;
- Preparing the Council meetings;
- Promoting scientific debate on origin products and EU quality schemes in scientific congresses and venues.

Activities and Meetings

- **Periodic meetings** by videoconference (at least one per year);
- **At least one physical meeting per year** in occasion of AREPO General Assemblies in order to strengthen the link between the Scientific Council and AREPO regions and producers;
- **Dissemination of research results to AREPO members:** publication of articles on the AREPO website + email to members (e.g. every 3 months) to send out the latest publications concerning GIs;
- **Consultation of the experts** within the Scientific Council to develop AREPO position on the priority themes.

Priority Themes

1. Revision of EU quality policy
2. Elaboration and sharing good-practices and recommendations aimed at supporting the development of local/regional agri-food policies and short supply chains, included good practices to support agri-food sector during the health COVID-19 crisis
3. Farm to fork strategy
4. Nutritional labelling
5. Inventory and analysis work on the educational offer concerning GIs, in order to identify the actual offer and needs that remain unanswered (e.g. training needs for professionals)
6. Collaboration with Regions for identify and organize participation in scientific research activities (Horizon and others)
7. **Opportunity to identify specific themes relevant for (one or more) Regions**
→ *we are waiting for suggestions!*

Next steps

1. Revision of EU quality policy → meetings planned beginning next year in order to feed AREPO positions
2. Organize one or more Seminars/Talks aiming at presenting and exchanging to the Regions and Producers on the results of research on specific issues
3. International conference "Global Perspectives on Geographical Indications", July 12th to 15th, 2022, in Montpellier (France) → organize a session on Gis and the role of Regions
4. Geographical expansion of the Scientific Council researchers' network → active role of the Regions in identifying new potential members