

The background features a light blue map of Europe. Overlaid on the map are several thick, curved, multi-colored ribbons in shades of green, orange, blue, and red, creating a dynamic, abstract design.

AREPO GENERAL ASSEMBLY

26 October 2022

Agenda

Statutory part

Presentation of the agenda for the GA

Welcome by AREPO President and greetings by
Ministers of Bavaria, Hessen and Baden-Württemberg

Annual report of the Presidency

Presentation of the state of the accounts 2022

Vote on the contribution 2023

Agenda

Thematic part I:

Update on the Revision of EU GI system: AREPO position and actions

Update on the Sustainable Food System Framework

EU Policy update

Update on Front of pack Nutrition Labelling

Update on the revision of EU Promotion Policy

Update on the state of play of an EU-wide protection system for industrial and craft GIs (ICGI)

Agenda

**Thematic
part II:**

Project Interreg Sudoe
AGROSMARTglobal



**Update
on EU
projects**

Project Horizon 2020 Moving



New Horizon Europe project call on
GI and sustainability

AOB

A stylized map of Spain in light blue, overlaid with several thick, curved, overlapping ribbons in shades of green, orange, and blue. The ribbons are positioned across the map, with some crossing each other.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PRESIDENCY

Begoña García Bernal,

President of AREPO and Regional Minister

for Agriculture, Rural Development, Population and Territory of the Extremadura region

The background features a light blue map of Europe. Overlaid on the map are several thick, curved, semi-transparent lines in various colors: green, orange, blue, and brown. These lines create a dynamic, abstract pattern across the slide.

PRESENTATION OF THE STATE OF THE ACCOUNTS 2022

Laurent Gomez

Secretary General of AREPO

Patricia Picard

Treasurer of AREPO

PRESENTATION OF THE 2022 ACCOUNTS

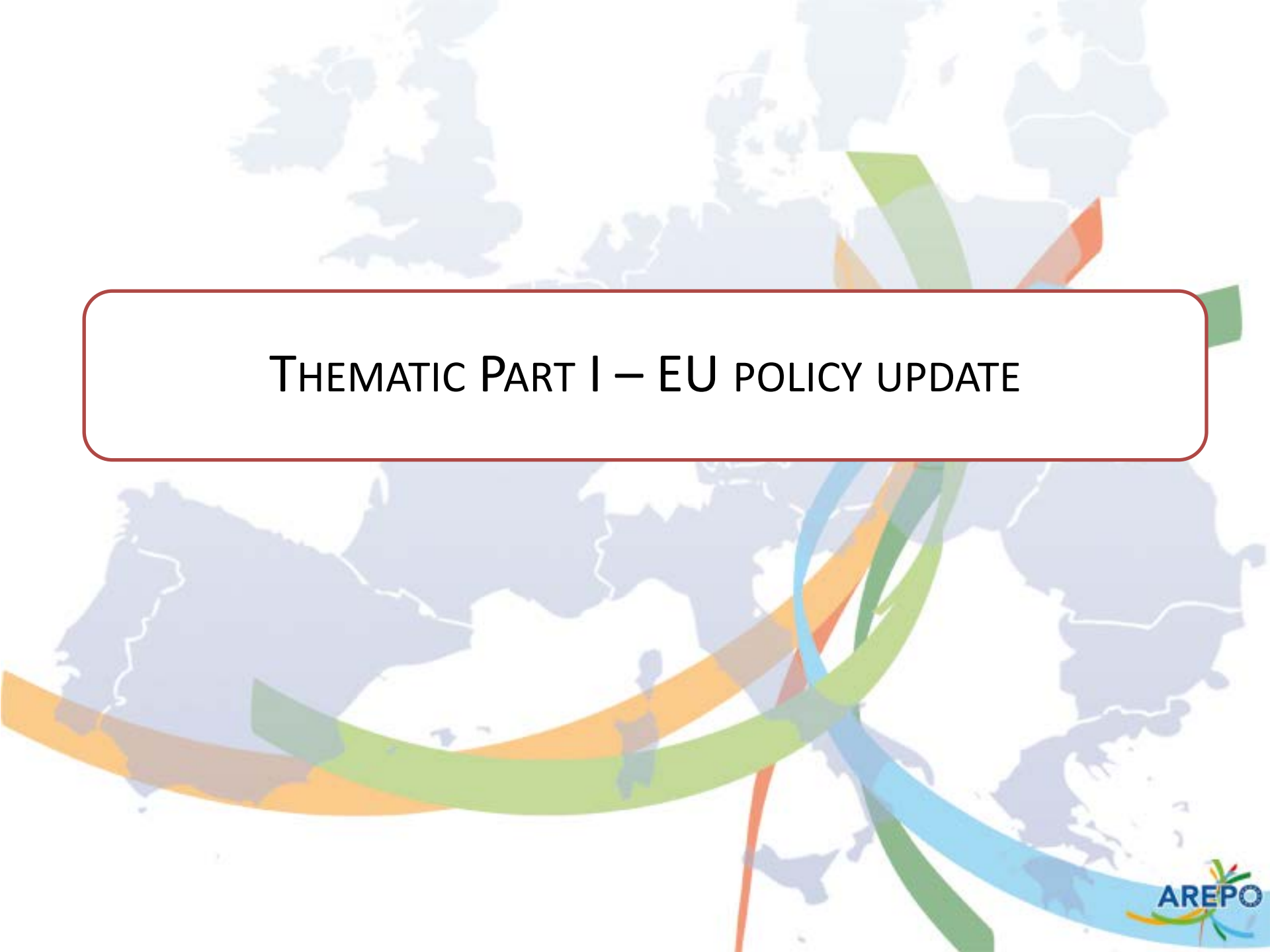


The background features a light blue map of Europe. Overlaid on the map are several thick, colorful ribbons in shades of green, orange, and blue, which curve across the continent. A white rounded rectangle with a thin red border is centered on the map, containing the main text.

VOTE ON CONTRIBUTION FOR 2023

Laurent Gomez

Secretary General of AREPO

A stylized map of Europe in light blue, overlaid with several thick, colorful ribbons in shades of green, orange, and blue that curve across the continent. A white rounded rectangle with a thin red border is centered on the map.

THEMATIC PART I – EU POLICY UPDATE

A stylized map of Europe in light blue, overlaid with several thick, colorful ribbons in shades of green, orange, and blue that curve across the map. The ribbons are semi-transparent and overlap each other.

UPDATE ON THE REVISION OF EU GI SYSTEM: AREPO

POSITION AND ACTIONS

Francesca Alampi & Giulia Scaglioni

AREPO Policy Officers

REVISION OF THE EU GIS SYSTEM - EU LEVEL

2019 - 2020
Evaluation of EU
Quality Policy

**15/01/21 –
9/03/21**

Public
consultation
on the
Revision of
EU GIs system

March 2022
EC Proposal
for a
Regulation

Nov. 2020
Roadmap for
the **revision of
the EU GIs
system**
High-level
Conference

**December
2021**
CAP
Regulations

**October
2022**
CoR NAT
Comm
adopted
opinion

REVISION OF THE EU GIS SYSTEM – AREPO ACTIONS

**February
2021**

Open letter to
the EU
Institutions
on EUIPO

April 2022

Analysis +
AREPO
appointed
CoR expert

October 2022

Visit to EUIPO
in Alicante

CoR opinion
adopted

March 2022

1. **EUIPO –
AREPO**
Technical
group

2. **Bilateral
Meeting
AREPO
President –
EUIPO
Executive
Director**

Working
group on GI
review with
oriGIN,
EFOW, COPA-
COGECA and
AREV
**Common
position
shared with
De Castro**

Summer 2022

- **AREPO
working
group** on GI
review
- **First draft of
amendment
proposal**
- **Support to
CoR
rapporteur**

AREPO team
elaborated
50 AMENDMENTS
based on the
exchanges of the
working group and the
feedback from the
members

REVISION OF THE EU GIs SYSTEM: CALENDAR

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT – COMAGRI and JURI (shared competences on articles concerning EUIPO)

COMAGRI Rapporteur: MEP Paolo De Castro (S&D)

Shadow Rapporteurs: MEP Álvaro Amaro (PT - PPE); MEP Irène Tolleret (FR - Renew); MEP Claude Gruffat (FR - Greens); MEP Mazaly Aguilar (ES - ECR); MEP Mara Bizzotto (IT - ID); MEP María Eugenia Rodríguez Palop (ES - GUE).

CALENDAR of EP Work on GI revision:

- **COMAGRI draft report:** to be presented on November 8 in COMAGRI → time for tabling of **amendments** until 22 November;
- **COMAGRI Vote:** originally planned for the beginning of 2023 (February/March), then vote of the EP Plenary but it is **likely to be postponed;**
- **Trilogues:** from March 2023 to September 2023 → **probably postponed**

REVISION OF THE EU GIs SYSTEM: MAIN NOVELTIES

- **UNITARY SYSTEM OF EU GIs → HARMONISATION** of procedures and protection provisions for all sectors
- Common set of rules for controls and enforcement for spirit drinks and agricultural products
- Procedures will increasingly make use of **electronic and digital tools**
- **EUIPO's technical assistance in the registration, amendment of product specifications and in opposition procedures (DELEGATED ACTS)**
- Inclusion of **sustainability undertakings in product specifications**, following the agreement of the producer group. **Possible definition of sustainability or sustainability criteria (DELEGATED ACTS)**
- **Producer groups vs. Recognised producer groups**
- **Improved protection on the Internet**, also concerning DNS
- Clarification of the legal framework for **GIs used as ingredients**
- **Mandatory EU logo for agricultural products and foodstuffs while Voluntary for wine and spirit drinks**

REVISION OF THE EU GIS SYSTEM

EUIPO

Sustainability

Producer
groups

Protection

EUIPO ROLE IN THE MANAGEMENT OF EU GI SYSTEM

Current EUIPO competences

- Managing the registration of the EU trade mark;
- Monitoring the interaction between GIs and trade marks.
- **Since 2019:** memorandum between DG AGRI and EUIPO
 - Development and management of **GI view**;
 - **Trainings** and learning activities;
 - **Communication** tools;
 - **International cooperation**;
 - Initial scrutiny in registration, amendment and cancellation.

EUIPO ROLE IN THE MANAGEMENT OF EU GI SYSTEM

The EC proposal introduces **EUIPO's technical assistance (initial scrutiny)** in procedures of:

- registration,
- amendment of product specifications,
- cancellation and
- in opposition.

EC should remain responsible for registration, amendment and cancellation.

Criteria should be set to assess the performance of the EUIPO to ensure quality, coherence and efficiency of the assistance provided → EC should prepare a report to the EP and Council).

!All these competences should be defined with DELEGATED ACTS! (*Council and EP can only reject not discuss*)

EUIPO ROLE IN THE MANAGEMENT OF EU GI SYSTEM

Other competences more IPR related:

- Operation of **GI register** (art. 23.7);
- **Publication of standard amendments** (art. 25.10);
- Establishment and management of an **alert system** informing applicants about the availability of their **GI as a domain name** (art. 34);
- **Scrutiny of third country GIs** other than GIs under the Geneva Act of the Lisbon Agreement, proposed for protection pursuant to international negotiations or international agreements (art. 46).

!All these competences should be defined with DELEGATED ACTS! (Council and EP can only reject not discuss)

EUIPO ROLE IN THE MANAGEMENT OF EU GI SYSTEM

PRINCIPLES OF AREPO POSITIONS	AMENDMENTS
GIs are more than IPR, they are tools for rural and territorial development	This concept has been strengthened introducing several new <i>recitals</i> (am. 2, 4, 14).
EC should maintain the responsibility and the competences over registration, amendment, cancellation and opposition procedures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Am. 10: new recital on EUIPO competences • Am. 44 to article 45 list specific competences of EUIPO: publication of standard amendments, GIs protection including on internet, operating GIs register and setting up an alert system concerning domain names • Am. 45 to article 47
EUIPO expertise could be useful and enriching on IPRs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Am. 11 → modify the recital listing topic for delegated acts • Am. 18, 19, 22 → erase delegation to EUIPO concerning registration, amendment, cancellation and opposition
The division of competences should be clearly detailed in the main regulation	This concept has been strengthened introducing a new <i>recital</i> (am. 8).
The proposal should clarify that the registration of a GI and any other procedures should remain strictly free of charge	This concept has been strengthened introducing a new <i>recital</i> (am. 8).

SUSTAINABILITY UNDERTAKINGS

What about the present legal framework? CAP reform introduced:

*“The product specification may contain a **description of the contribution of the designation of origin or geographical indication to sustainable development**”*

[See art.2 \(5\) \(b\) Reg. 2021/2117](#)

EC regulation proposal on GI system review goes further

Producers can adopt **sustainability undertaking (voluntary)**, but once adopted they have to be included in product specifications

The proposal does **not define sustainability, sustainability undertakings nor sustainability standard**, this should be made through **delegated acts**

RISKS:

- **Lack of holist approach** (focus on health and nutritional aspects)
- Risk of **standardisation** if approach does not consider territorial dimension and specificities
- **Legal uncertainty** due to lack of definition in main regulation



SUSTAINABILITY UNDERTAKINGS: AMENDMENTS

PRINCIPLES OF AREPO POSITION	AMENDMENTS
Important to acknowledge and promote existing GI contribution to sustainability	This concept has been strengthened introducing several new <i>recitals</i> (<i>am. 2, 4, 14</i>).
Sustainability should not be imposed, but encouraged and accompanied: voluntary approach to be maintained	<i>Am. 16</i> to article 12 modify EC proposal to maintain voluntary approach
An holistic and multidimensional definition of sustainability undertaking should be included in the regulation (not delegated acts)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Am. 13</i> to article 2 introducing a definition of sustainability undertakings• <i>Am. 16</i> to article 12 erase reference to delegated acts to adopt sustainability standards
To avoid standardization , producers should choose the most appropriate strategy for their product and territory	

SUSTAINABILITY UNDERTAKINGS: DEFINITION

Sustainability undertakings: ‘Sustainability undertaking’ means an undertaking which aims to contribute to one or more of the following environmental, economic or sociocultural objectives:

1. **Environmental objectives, including among others:**

- climate change mitigation and adaptation, including energy efficiency and decrease water consumption;
- preservation and sustainable use of soil, landscapes, natural resources and the Natura 2000 network;
- preservation of biocultural diversity and conservation of rare seeds, local breeds and plants varieties;
- management and valorisation of animal health and animal welfare;
- transition to a green and circular economy.

2. **Economic objectives, including among others:**

- to secure viable GI producers’ income and resilience;
- to improve the economic value of GI products and redistribution of added value;
- to contribute to the diversification of the rural economy;
- to contribute preserving the rural fabric and local development, including agricultural employment;

3. **Sociocultural objectives, including among others:**

- to attract and sustain young GI producers and new GI producers and facilitate inter-generational transmission of know-how and culture;
- to contribute to the valorisation of rural identity as well as cultural and gastronomic heritage;
- to promote education on themes concerning the quality system, food safety and balanced and diversified diets;
- to improve coordination between producers through improved efficiency of the governance instruments.

EC LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL CONCERNING PRODUCER GROUPS: DOUBLE SYSTEM

EC proposal - Article 32 PRODUCER GROUPS:

- **Set up by interested stakeholders:** farmers, farm suppliers, intermediate processors and final processors;
- It should operate in **transparent and democratic manner** & right of membership for all GI producers
- possibility for MS to allow **public officials and other stakeholders** (e.g. consumer groups, retailers, suppliers) to participate in the work of producer groups.

EC proposal – Article 33 RECOGNISED PRODUCER GROUPS:

- Upon a request of producer groups **MS shall designate one producer group as recognised producer group;**
- Requirement of the agreement between **2/3 of the producers of the GI, accounting for at least 2/3 of the production** of that GI.

Art. 7 of EC proposal (definitions):
«Recognised producer groups» means a formal association having legal personality and recognised by the competent national authorities as the sole group to act on behalf of all producers.

EC LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL CONCERNING PRODUCER GROUPS: POWERS & RESPONSIBILITIES

PRODUCER GROUPS (art. 32 of EC proposal)

EXISTING RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Develop **product specification** and manage **internal controls**;
- Take **legal action to protect GI**;
- **Develop information and promotion activities**;
- Combat counterfeiting and suspect fraudulent uses by **monitoring the use of the GI across the internal market and in third countries including on the internet.**

NEW RESPONSIBILITIES:

- **sustainability** undertakings;
- actions to **improve the performance** of their GI:
 - development, organisation and conduct of collective marketing and advertising campaigns;
 - analyses into the **economic performance, sustainability of production, nutritional profile, and organoleptic profile, of their GI**;
 - provide **advice and training** to current and future producers.

ATTENTION: A reference to the initiatives to enhance the value of product (art.45.f Reg. 1151/12) is lacking.

EC LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL CONCERNING PRODUCER GROUPS: POWERS & RESPONSIBILITIES

RECOGNISED PRODUCER GROUPS (art. 33 of EC proposal)

Agreement between 2/3 of the producers of the GI, accounting for 2/3 of the production of that GI.

- **Supply regulation** (already included in CMO);
- **to liaise with intellectual property enforcement and anti-counterfeit bodies** and participate in intellectual property enforcement networks as the geographical indication right holder;
- **to take enforcement actions**, including filing applications for actions with custom authorities, to prevent or counter any measures which are, or risk being, detrimental to the image of their products;
- To register an individual, collective or certification trade mark in order to **protect the GI in the internet domain name systems outside the EU.**

MS shall carry out **checks** in order to ensure that the conditions in terms of representativeness are complied with and can annul the recognition in case of non compliance.

Other provisions in EC proposal:

- Art. 24, par.2 of EC proposal: **recognised group shall be identified as the rights' holder of the GI in the Union register of GIs and in the official extract.**

PRODUCER GROUPS VS. RECOGNISED PRODUCER GROUPS: AREPO position

EU proposal could impact on sustainability on different levels:

RISKS AND OPPORTUNITIES:



- Strengthening the collective governance of GI system is fundamental since **governance is a pillar of GI sustainability**;
- The proposal leaves to the **producer groups** (not recognized) the competence to **adopt sustainability undertaking, without establishing any criteria** to take the decision in terms of producer **representativeness**
→ **risk of unbalances and exclusion**
- The current wording does not take into account the **diversity of legal situations in the Member States** and risks undermining well-functioning collective governance systems that are already in place in many MS.

PRODUCER GROUPS VS. RECOGNISED PRODUCER GROUPS

PRINCIPLES OF AREPO POSITION	AMENDMENTS
<p>The legislative proposal needs to define general rules and principles on the GI groups, their powers and how a GI group can be recognized by a MS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Am. 36</i> to article 33 introduces flexible criteria to be adopted and adapted by MS for recognised producer groups • <i>Am. 38</i> to article 33 introduce a clause to automatically recognised the already existing national systems
<p>Subsidiarity: National specificities need to be considered to take into account differences among MS and different sectors, and to let MS maintain or improve their national system</p>	
<p>General principles: democratic and transparent decision making to assure a balance representativeness between the different members of the producer group and avoid exclusion</p>	<p><i>Am. 35</i> to article 32 introduces criteria to be respected by producer groups to modify product specifications</p>
<p>Producer groups should privilege the participation of producers and processors (no other stakeholders)</p>	<p><i>Am. 32</i> to article 32</p>

GIs PROTECTION

PRINCIPLES OF AREPO POSITION	AMENDMENTS
Leave definition of “ genericity ” to courts	<p><i>Am. 12</i> to article 2</p> <p><i>Am. 31</i> to article 29 erase reference to delegated act to define genericity</p>
Definition of evocation is not complete nor correct, better to leave it to the jurisprudence	<p><i>Am. 27</i> to article 27 erase definition (open to discuss alternative definitions with EP rapporteur)</p>
<p>GIs as ingredients: producer groups may define minimum criteria for the use of their GIs, request a financial contribution and carry out control and supervision. Union symbols cannot be used in processed food to avoid confusion.</p>	<p><i>Am. 30</i> to article 28</p> <p><i>Am. 37</i> to article 33 includes these powers for recognised producer groups</p> <p><i>Am. 42</i> to article 47</p>
<p>GIs and trademarks: It is necessary to provide for the extension of the protection against registrations of private trademarks as of the beginning of the process at national level</p>	<p><i>Am. 41</i> to article 35</p>

GEOGRAPHICAL INDICATIONS AS EU QUALITY SCHEMES

The proposal distinguish between Geographical Indications and quality schemes (optional quality terms and STG) in the title as well as in the structure of the regulation:

PROPOSAL TO THE REVISION OF REGULATION ON EUROPEAN UNION
GEOGRAPHICAL INDICATIONS FOR WINE, SPIRIT DRINKS AND AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS, AND QUALITY SCHEMES FOR AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS, AMENDING REGULATIONS (EU) NO 1308/2013, (EU) 2017/1001 AND (EU) 2019/787

This seems to imply that geographical indications are no more considered as quality schemes and could have consequences in terms of CAP support to GI producers!

AREPO introduced an amendment to make sure that GIs will continue to be considered as quality schemes as well as an integral part of the EU CAP (see amendments 1 and 48).

ATTENTION: not included in De Castro draft report!

FIRST RESULTS OF AREPO ACTIONS

- Our role as experts for the CoR rapporteur on the GI review has been strategic not only to include our priorities in the CoR opinion, but also to influence through the opinion the COMAGRI draft report
- De Castro draft report has been published on October 20th and from a first analysis, we can say that we achieved great results with our lobbying activity:

- **24 of our amendments (out of 50) have been included at least in part in the draft report**
- **While 32 of the 122 amendments included in the draft report have been inspired at least in part by our proposals**

DE CASTRO DRAFT REPORT

EUIPO:

In line with AREPO amendments, the **draft report limits EUIPO competences excluding** scrutiny (am.24), opposition procedure (am. 28), and publication of standard amendments (am 38).

On the other hand, it gives to EUIPO competence over **GI cancellation + monitor the registration of domain names** (am 82).

What could be improved? Our amendment stating clearly the list of EUIPO competences has not been included.

DE CASTRO DRAFT REPORT

SUSTAINABILITY UNDERTAKINGS:

- **definition of sustainable undertaking included** in the regulation (only 1 paragraph including three dimension of sustainability but without examples) + delegated acts erased
- On the other hand, instead of making the introduction of the undertakings in the specifications voluntary, the report introduces two alternatives: 1. Product specifications or 2. **sustainability report**

Sustainability report: De Castro propose to introduce an obligation by 2026 for all producer groups to prepare a sustainability report comprising a description of sustainability impact of the product (environmental, social, economic, animal health and welfare commitments).

ATTENTION: it gives power to EC to adopt implementing acts setting out the format and the online presentation of the report → thus it does not solve the problem of not having all defined in the regulation

DE CASTRO DRAFT REPORT

PRODUCER GROUPS:

- **report gives centrality to producer and processors** → no other stakeholders
- It reintroduces **power to enhance the value of GI product**
- Introduce AREPO amendment concerning authorisation to mention GI used as ingredient in processed product labelling but attributed as power for producer groups (not recognised producer group) + exclude the part concerning carry out control and supervision activities which is proposed as a separate power, not just limited to GIs used as ingredients.

ATTENTION: The report does not take into account our suggestion to include a representativeness criterion for producer group in order to be able to modify the product specification (AREPO amendment 35).

DE CASTRO DRAFT REPORT

RECOGNISED PRODUCER GROUPS:

- The report erases the criteria suggested by the EC (2/3 producers and 2/3 production) → **Introduce subsidiarity** leaving the possibility to MS to choose among general criteria (inspired by our proposal: minimum number of producers or minimum production volume)
- **Excluded criteria:** structured organisation and representativeness of the categories of operators.
- **Includes grandfather clause** to automatically recognise already existing recognised producer groups (am 70).
- **Powers:**
 - possibility to establish **standard value-sharing clauses** (am 73)
 - to **liaise with the EC in the context of negotiations on international agreements** as regards the protection of the GI (am 74);
 - **NEW: includes among power to carry out supervisory activities and prevent fraud (am 72) + contribution *erga omnes* (am 75)**

DE CASTRO DRAFT REPORT

OTHER AREPO AMENDMENTS INCLUDED:

- **Generic term:** back to previous definition, new provision erased and further definition left to jurisprudence (am.2).
- Reintroduce among GIs objectives a reference to **rural development** (am. 5).
- Limit the time for **EC scrutiny** to 5 months + also limit the eventual time extension to a max of 3 months.
- Temporary amendments considered as standard amendments not only for adverse weather events and natural disaster, but also in case of **exceptional geopolitical events** (Am 34).
- Avoid possibility that the Commission or the Member States may invite the applicant to modify elements of the product specifications other than those included in the amendment procedure (am 36).
- **Protection:** De Castro has taken up several of our amendment reinforcing protection (am. 41, 42, 43)

DE CASTRO DRAFT REPORT

CRITICAL POINTS THAT STILL NEED TO BE ADDRESSED:

- **De Castro has not taken into consideration any amendments to the recitals.** It would be important to introduce new recitals and amend some of the existing ones in order to:
 - Communicate that GIs, through their multiple positive externalities, contribute to **sustainable rural growth**.
 - **Recognise the contribution of GIs to environmental, economic and socio-cultural sustainability**, thanks to their inseparable link with the territory.
 - Encourage the inclusion of GIs in the **minimum mandatory criteria for sustainable food procurement**.
- **Definition of evocation:** De Castro didn't follow our suggestion to erase the definition but tried to modify the one given by the Commission. His proposal does not clarify that the definition is open. Furthermore, oriGI n does not agree with this proposal (am 44).

DE CASTRO DRAFT REPORT

SOME NEW PROPOSALS TO BE ANALYSED:

- **Association of producer groups:** an organisation that promotes the interests of producers of products designated by different geographical indications (am. 13 & 78). Main functions: (a) participating in consultative bodies; (b) exchanging information with public authorities; (c) making policy recommendations; (d) promoting and disseminating best practices.
- **Union amendments limited to change in the name and to further restrictions on the marketing of the product** (am. 32, 33). The risk of voiding the link would be considered a standard amendment to limit the procedures analysed by the EC.
- **Cancellation:** After the cancellation of the registration of a GI, the use and the protection as another IPR of the registered name shall be prohibited for at least 10 years.
- **Name of GI producer or vendor to be added to the labelling**
- **Country of origin of a primary ingredient to be indicated in the labelling if not the same as the country of the GI**



UPDATE ON THE SUSTAINABLE FOOD SYSTEM FRAMEWORK

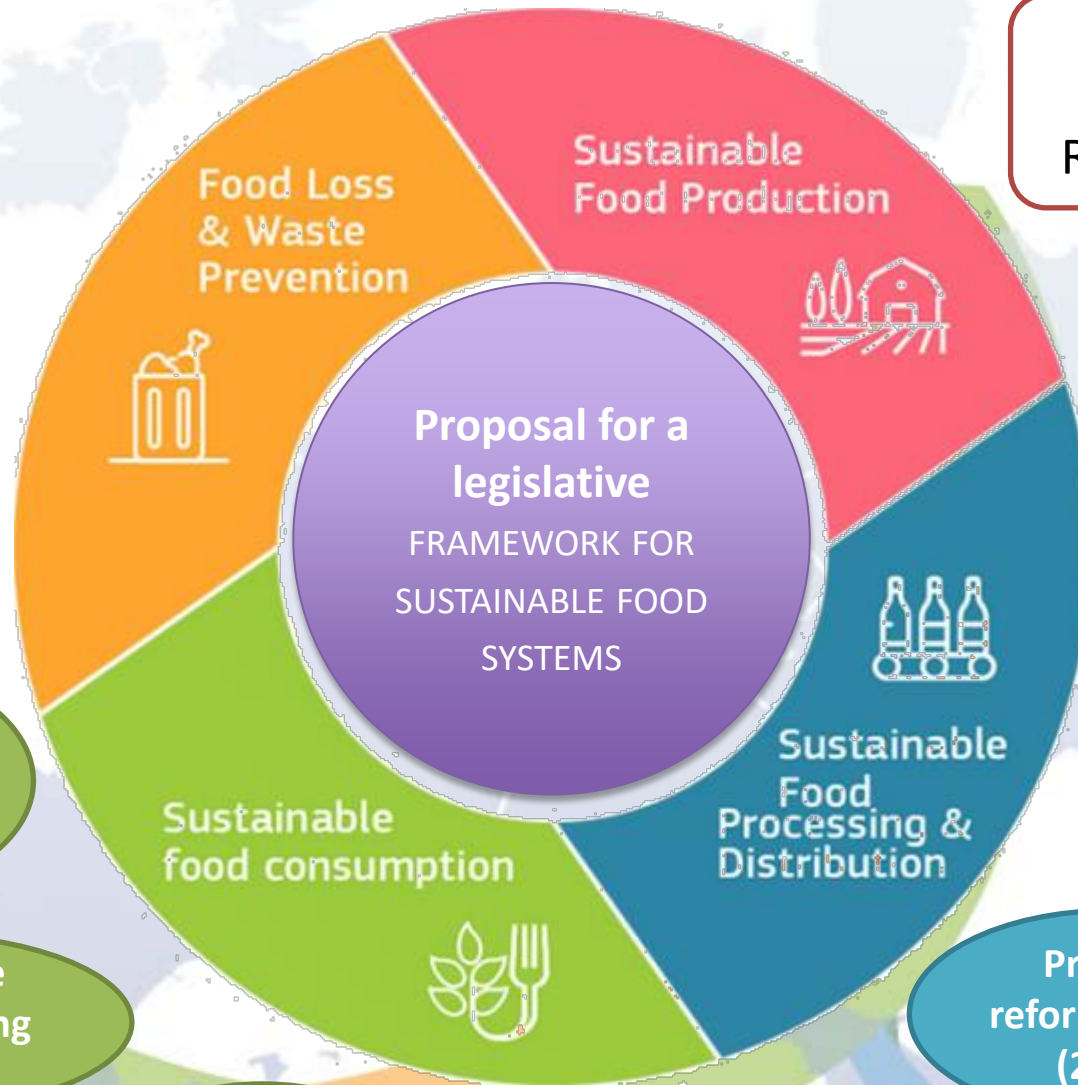
Giulia Scaglioni

AREPO Policy Officer

FARM TO FORK STRATEGY (F2F)



**F2F GENERAL
OBJECTIVES &
RELEVANT ACTIONS**



**GI
review
*ongoing***

**Nutritional
profiles
(2022)**

**Product
reformulation
(2022)**

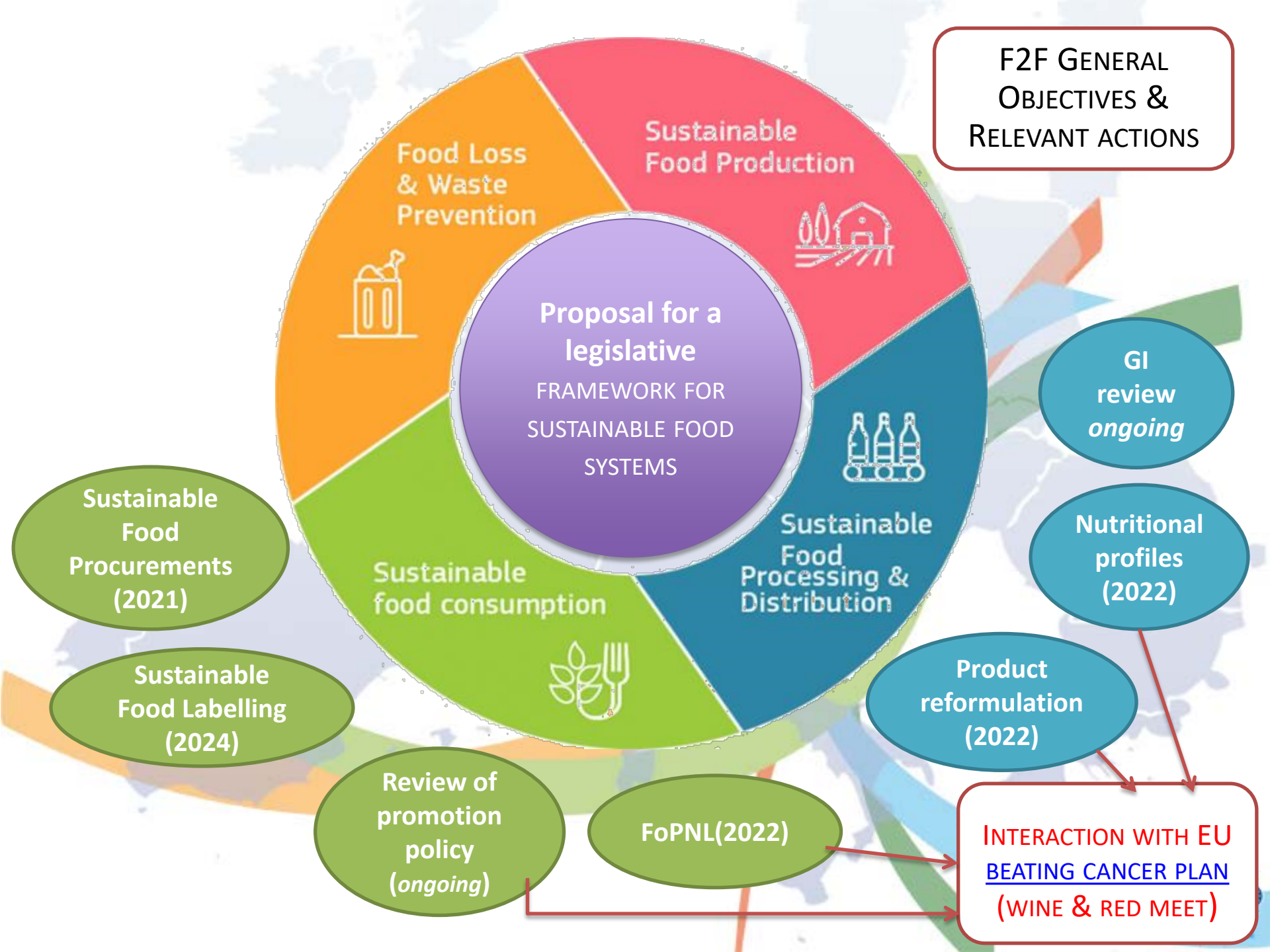
**INTERACTION WITH EU
BEATING CANCER PLAN
(WINE & RED MEAT)**

**Sustainable
Food
Procurements
(2021)**

**Sustainable
Food Labelling
(2024)**

**Review of
promotion
policy
*(ongoing)***

FoPNL(2022)



TIMELINE – EC LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS

Revision of EU
quality policy
(March 2022)

**Nutrient profiles +
FoP nutritional
labelling** Q4 2022

**Legislative framework
for sustainable food
systems & sustainable
food labelling** Q4 2023

Revision of EU
promotion policy
Q3 2022
*awaiting EC
proposal*

Minimum mandatory
criteria for **sustainable
food procurements**
Q3 2023

**Elections of EU
Parliament
2024**
**New European
Commission**

LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK FOR SUSTAINABLE FOOD SYSTEMS (FSFS)

ROADMAP- INCEPTION IMPACT ASSESSMENT EXPLORES SEVERAL OPTIONS (SEPTEMBER 2021):

Option 1

- Baseline, no particular action at EU level

Option 2

- Voluntary approaches, only soft law to encourage to transition

Option 3

- Legislative action at EU level, but only by reinforcing existing legislation

Option 4

- Comprehensive legislative framework on food sustainability that applies to all EU legislations

LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL TO BE PUBLISHED AT THE END OF 2023.



LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK FOR SUSTAINABLE FOOD SYSTEMS (FSFS)

MAIN ELEMENTS IN THE ROADMAP:

- *Lex generalis*: it will serve as basis when assessing the sustainability elements of other EU legislation
- General objectives, definitions, principles: food system, sustainable food systems, sustainable diet, sustainable agriculture....
- Pull (2) and push (1) measures
- **General minimum mandatory requirements for sustainability**
- **Sustainability analysis complementing the existing 'risk analysis' principle**
- **Sustainability labelling**
- **Minimum mandatory requirements for public procurement**
- Requirements for imported food
- EU wide monitoring framework → general to F2F, JRC working on it, use of key indicators for each pillar of sustainability

LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK FOR SUSTAINABLE FOOD SYSTEMS (FSFS)

At the moment DG SANTE is working on the following options:

**General minimum requirements
(push measures)**

Option 0 :

Keep things as they are

Option 1:

Voluntary minimum requirements

Option 2:

Responsibility of operators, kind of due diligence

Option 3:

Implementation of the “do not harm” principle with mandatory sustainability requirements

Option 4:

Combination of option 2 and 3

Definition of key objectives for the three pillars of sustainability in the framework legislation and use of delegated acts to detail the practical criteria to respect for each sector

LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK FOR SUSTAINABLE FOOD SYSTEMS (FSFS)

At the moment DG SANTE is working on the following options:

**Sustainability labelling
(pull measure)**

Option 0 :
Keep things as
they are

Option 1:
Voluntary
Guidelines by the
Commission and
then voluntary
initiative like code
of conduct

Option 2:
Development in
some sectors of
sustainability
provisions

Option 3:
EU voluntary label
for all products,
including imported
ones (3a) or only
for products with
higher
sustainability (3b)

Option 4:
EU mandatory
label, only for EU
products (4a) or
also for imported
products (4b)

The idea is **not to have an overall score for sustainability**, but to focus on 3 or 4 elements: **environment, nutrition** (integrating FoPNL), **animal welfare, socio-economic** (they don't have any ideas for this last element at the moment).

LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK FOR SUSTAINABLE FOOD SYSTEMS (FSFS)

At the moment DG SANTE is working on the following options:

Public food procurements (pull measure)

Option 0 :
Keep current
public food
procurement
guidelines

Option 1:
Extension of
guidelines to
sustainability, but
MS free to follow
them or not

Option 2:
EU public
procurement rules
for MS to adapt

Option 3:
Mandatory EU
general and
specific
requirements for
public
procurements





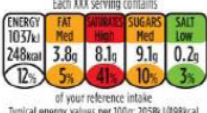


UPDATE ON FRONT OF PACK NUTRITION LABELLING

Francesca Alampi

AREPO Policy Officer

FRONT OF PACK NUTRITION LABELLING: EU CONTEXT

MAIN AIM: empower consumers to make healthy food choices

Nutrient-specific labels - examples		Summary labels - examples	
Numerical (Option 1)	Colour-coded (Option 2)	Endorsement logos (Option 3)	Graded indicators (Option 4)
 			

!! The European Commission publicly declared that is not going to propose the Nutri-score as the new EU-wide food labelling scheme.

BUT:

It doesn't exclude that the future labelling system is a **'traffic light'** label, **adapted** to the findings and criticisms of recent opinions, e.g. the opinions provided by EFSA (Nutri-score does not ensure correct and complete information to consumers).

UPDATE ON FRONT OF PACK NUTRITION LABELLING

- **27 October 2021** - AREPO online public conference "*EU Geographical Indications and Nutrition Labelling: Can a score provide meaningful information to consumers?*". More than 160 participants. Exchange with DG Sante and EP.
- **13 December 2021 - 07 March 2022** - Public consultation on Food labelling - revision of rules on information provided to consumers -> [AREPO position paper](#)
- **December 2021 - Online focus group** organised by [ICF consulting](#), under contract to DG SANTE to carry out an external evaluation study on the revision of rules on information provided to consumers. The aim of this group was to seek feedback and opinion on the lists of objectives and criteria set for this assessment.
- **March 2022** - participation in a targeted survey and an interview on FOPNL led by ICF.
- **Change in the calendar:** The European Commission will publish the **impact assessment** and its **proposal in the 1Q 2023**.
- **AREPO is working with Italian Regions and stakeholders to organise a public event on Nutri-score (open to AREPO MR and producer associations).**

A stylized map of Europe in light blue, overlaid with several thick, colorful ribbons in shades of green, orange, and blue that curve across the map. The ribbons are semi-transparent and overlap each other.

UPDATE ON THE REVISION OF EU PROMOTION POLICY

Francesca Alampi

AREPO Policy Officer

UPDATE ON EU PROMOTION POLICY

- The legislative proposal on the revision of EU Promotion Policy was supposed to be published in **June 2022**. **HOWEVER it is still blocked** due to internal divergences between Commissioner Wojciechowski (AGRI) and Commissioner Timmermans (EC Executive Vice-President in charge of the European Green Deal).
- **Main disagreement:** exclusion of some categories of products from promotion funds.
- **By November 2022, a new annual work programme** will be published. It adapts each year the basic framework to the needs of sector:
 1. **Setting out the priorities, including the allocation of resources;**
 2. **Defining the eligibility, exclusion, selection and award criteria to be applied.**
- As in 2022, a total of **€ 185.9 million** will be available;
- We expect that most of the budget will be dedicated to **campaigns more directly in line with the European Green Deal ambitions, and in particular the Farm to Fork strategy and Europe's beating cancer plan.**
- In addition, **programmes should also inform consumers of the various EU quality schemes** or promote the EU's high safety and quality standards as well as the diversity and authenticity of European products.
- **January 2023: publication of call for proposals.**

EU PROMOTION POLICY: 2022 BUDGET

SIMPLE PROGRAMMES	€ 89 M
INTERNAL MARKET	€ 42.1 M
<u>Topic 1</u> - AGRIP-SIMPLE-2022-IM-EU QS	€ 5 M
<u>Topic 2</u> - AGRIP-SIMPLE-2022-IM-ORGANIC	€ 14 M
<u>Topic 3</u> - AGRIP-SIMPLE-2022-IM-SUSTAINABLE	€ 8 M
<u>Topic 4</u> - AGRIP-SIMPLE-2022-IM-FRESH FRUIT AND VEGETABLES	€ 9.1 M
<u>Topic 5</u> - AGRIP-SIMPLE-2022-IM-CHARACTERISTICS	€ 6 M
THIRD COUNTRIES	€ 41.9 M
<u>Topic 6</u> - AGRIP-SIMPLE-2022-TC-ASIA	€ 16.3 M
<u>Topic 7</u> - AGRIP-SIMPLE-2022-TC-AMERICAS	€ 8.3 M
<u>Topic 8</u> - AGRIP-SIMPLE-2022-TC-OTHERS	€ 12.3 M
<u>Topic 9</u> - AGRIP-SIMPLE-2022-TC-ORGANIC OR SUSTAINABLE	€ 5 M
MARKET DISTURBANCE/ADDITIONAL CALL FOR PROPOSALS	€ 5 M

EU PROMOTION POLICY: 2022 BUDGET

MULTI PROGRAMMES	€ 87.4 M
INTERNAL MARKET	€ 43.2 M
Topic 1 - AGRIP-MULTI-2022-IM	€ 4.2 M
Topic 2 - AGRIP-MULTI-2022-IM-ORGANIC	€ 18 M
Topic 3 - AGRIP-MULTI-2022-IM-SUSTAINABLE	€ 12 M
Topic 4 - AGRIP-MULTI-2022-FRESH FRUIT AND VEGETABLES	€ 10 M
THIRD COUNTRIES	€ 39.2 M
Topic 5 - AGRIP-MULTI-2022-TC-ALL	€ 25.2 M
Topic 6 - AGRIP-MULTI-2022-TC-ORGANIC	€ 13 M
MARKET DISTURBANCE/ADDITIONAL CALL FOR PROPOSALS	€ 5 M
COMMISSION'S OWN INITIATIVES	€ 9.5 M
TOTAL PROMOTION ACTIONS	€ 185.9 M

A stylized map of Europe in light blue, overlaid with several thick, colorful ribbons in shades of green, orange, and blue that curve across the map. The ribbons appear to represent different regions or themes.

UPDATE ON THE STATE OF PLAY OF AN EU-WIDE PROTECTION SYSTEM FOR INDUSTRIAL AND CRAFT GIs (ICGI)

Francesca Alampi
AREPO Policy Officer

UPDATE ON THE STATE OF PLAY OF AN EU-WIDE PROTECTION SYSTEM FOR INDUSTRIAL AND CRAFT GIs (ICGI)

- **13 April 2022, EC proposal for a regulation** -> addressing the lack of a common EU legal framework concerning CI GIs, resulted in the heterogeneity of national specific protection systems;
- EC proposal is built on the existing GI scheme for agricultural products but adapted to CI products;
- The EU regulation **covers mainly PGI.**
- **EP rapporteur Ms Walsmann (PPE), JURI Committee**, has presented her draft report a couple of weeks ago.

MANAGEMENT AND FUNCTIONING OF THE SYSTEM

- Independent **two-stage protection system**, involving the national level and **then the EU level through EUIPO**;
- Member States will be allowed to charge **fees for the registration** but they have to be proportionate, while the **EUIPO stage will be free of charge**;
- **“Direct registration” procedure**, if a MS chooses to not designate a competent national authority -> **EUIPO will be directly involved** + possibility to request MS assistance to examine specific aspects of the applications. In this case, **registration fees may apply and be paid to the Office.**

UPDATE ON THE STATE OF PLAY OF AN EU-WIDE PROTECTION SYSTEM FOR INDUSTRIAL AND CRAFT GIs (ICGI)

MANAGEMENT AND FUNCTIONING OF THE SYSTEM

- The **producer group of a product will be the applicant**;
- As in the agri-food GIs scheme, **regional or local public entities** may help in the preparation of the application and in the related procedure. ;
- Should producers concerned not be able to form a group, **an authority designated by a MS** may be deemed to be an applicant producer group for the purposes of registration;
- Articles on producer groups entirely **mirror Art. 32** of the proposal for a regulation on the revision of the agri-food GI system, including the possibility for producer groups to agree on **sustainability undertakings**.

PROTECTION

- A strong set of rules on protection, inspired to the type of protection accorded to agricultural product -> **Definition of evocation**

EU LOGO

- The **EU logo established for agri-food PGIs** but it will be **voluntary**.

UPDATE ON THE STATE OF PLAY OF AN EU-WIDE PROTECTION SYSTEM FOR INDUSTRIAL AND CRAFT GIs (ICGI)

PROTECTION

- A strong set of rules on protection, inspired to the type of protection accorded to agricultural product -> **Definition of evocation**

CONTROLS AND ENFORCEMENT

1. **MS are required to designate the competent authority responsible for the official controls** and they also can introduce either a third-party certification procedure operated by competent authorities or delegated product certification bodies to carry out random inspections;
2. A procedure based on the **producer's self-declaration** followed by the verification by national competent authorities.

A stylized map of Europe in light blue, overlaid with several thick, colorful ribbons in shades of green, orange, and blue that curve across the continent. A white rounded rectangle with an orange border is centered on the map.

THEMATIC PART II – UPDATE ON EU PROJECTS

A stylized map of Europe in light blue, overlaid with several thick, colorful ribbons in shades of green, orange, and blue. The ribbons are curved and overlapping, creating a dynamic, abstract design. A white rounded rectangle with a thin red border is centered on the map, containing the text 'ONGOING EU PROJECTS'.

ONGOING EU PROJECTS

Interreg Sudoe



AGROSMARTglobal presentation

Interreg Sudoe 2014-2020 programme



European Regional Development Fund

Anne CLERMONTILLE

2nd AREPO General Assembly of 2022

October 26, 2022, Würzburg





What is AGROSMARTglobal?



- ▶ **AGROSMARTglobal** is a 3.5-year project (2019 - 2023) involving 10 partners and coordinated by the Union of agri-food cooperatives of Galicia (AGACA), Spain.
- ▶ **Interreg Sudoe 2014-2020** programme
- ▶ **Objective:** consolidate the space for promotion, intercooperation and competitiveness of agri-food cooperatives by developing advanced support tools to strengthen their positioning and internationalisation through the **implementation of digital marketing strategies.**

REFERENCE N°:
SOE3/P2/E0897

CALL:
3rd call 2018 of Interreg
Sudoe Programme
2014 – 2020

PRIORITY AXIS 2:
Promoting the competitiveness
and the internationalisation
of Southwest Europe SMEs



- ▶ **Joint strategic plan** for digital internationalisation of agri-food cooperatives
- ▶ **Technical consultancy** for digital internationalisation
- ▶ **Joint education and training programme** in digital strategies
- ▶ **Joint campaign** for the promotion and positioning of cooperatives' products



The European Commission support for the production of this publication does not constitute endorsement of the contents which reflects the views only of the authors, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.



AREPO's contribution



Role of AREPO : promote and protect agricultural and agri-food products that benefit from EU quality schemes on the Internet and disseminated the project results.

To carry out this activity, AREPO is working on the elaboration of a "**best practice**" guide which would aim to:

- Improve knowledge on **how to promote products that benefit from EU quality schemes on the Internet**;
- Provide with **operational tools to protect GIs on the Internet**.



To identify your needs in both these areas, we sent you a survey which collected almost **80 responses**

AREPO budget: €118,360, 75% co-financed by the ERDF

To disseminate the AGROSMARTglobal results, AREPO will organise its major **European event for the promotion of quality and origin products!**



EU dissemination event

Save the date!



5th European event for the promotion of quality and origin products!

The event will be organised on **March 30, 2023, in Brussels** and divided as follows:

▷ **A conference in the afternoon**

The theme of the conference will be on the Revision of the EU GIs systems with a focus on the protection of GIs on the Internet and other AGROSMARTglobal results

▷ **A sampling in the evening**

A sampling of quality and origin products from our regions and AGROSMARTglobal cooperatives

AREPO will benefit from **€26 820** co-financed at 75% by the ERDF to finance the organisation of this event in the framework of AGROSMARTglobal.



2009 | 1st AREPO EU event

Main guest: Ms. Fischer Boel, European Commissioner for Agriculture





2011 | 2nd AREPO EU event

Main guest: M. Ciolos, European Commissioner for Agriculture

Interreg 
EUROPEAN UNION

Sudoe

AGROSMART
global

European Regional Development Fund





2015 | 3rd AREPO EU event

Main guest: M. Hogan, European Commissioner for Agriculture

Interreg 
EUROPEAN UNION

Sudoe

AGROSMART
global

European Regional Development Fund





2018 | 4th AREPO EU event

Main guests: Ms. Sauze-Vandevyver, Director “Quality, Research & Innovation”
DG AGRI, European Commission

M. Dorfmann, MEP, Member of COMAGRI, Rapporteur on the
Communication on “The Future of Food and Farming”





EU dissemination event

Logistic information



For Regions wishing to participate in the sampling!

Three products from the following categories (**200 individual portions** for each product) :

- ▷ PGI, PDO, TSG (registered or in process of registration);
- ▷ and/or organic farming;
- ▷ and/or optional quality term "mountain product".

Important: Try not to exceed the 200 portions in order to avoid food waste!
Please note that there is no possibility to cook the products. The caterer will be available only for simple operations.



We also recommend:

- ▷ 3 different categories of products
- ▷ including a fruit or vegetable among these three products
- ▷ decorating the table with other food products and handicrafts



EU dissemination event

Logistical information




For Regions wishing to participate in the sampling!

Wines/ciders: each Region wishing to present wines/ciders is invited to provide at most two different wines/ciders:

- ▷ 6 bottles in case you choose one wine/cider
- ▷ 12 bottles in case you choose two different wines/ciders

Important: for practical reasons, the wines will be served on the wine bars by the catering.

 An **information meeting** concerning the event logistical information will be held on **November 4, at 10.00 am** on Zoom.



We would kindly ask you to confirm us the participation of your Region in the sampling before **December 8, 2022**, by replying to: arepoevents@arepoquality.eu



Thank you for you attention!

For any questions regarding the event,
please, contact us here: arepoevents@arepoquality.eu

<https://www.agrosmartglobal.eu/>



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MOVING project presentation

Horizon 2020 programme

Giulia SCAGLIONI and Francesca ALAMPI

2nnd AREPO General Assembly of 2022

October 26, 2022, Brussels



MOVING receives funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No. 818194. The content of this document does not reflect the official opinion of the European Union. Responsibility for the information and views expressed therein lies entirely with the author(s).

What is MOVING?



- ▶ **MOVING** (MOUNTAIN Valorisation through INterconnectedness and Green growth) is a four-year project (2020-2024) gathering 23 partners and coordinated by University of Córdoba, Spain.
- ▶ **Horizon 2020** programme.
- ▶ The **project main objective** is to co-develop relevant policy frameworks across Europe for the **establishment of value chains that would contribute to the resilience and sustainability of mountain areas to climate change.**



- ▶ **400 value chains** inventory
- ▶ **23 case studies** (23 value chains selected from the inventory for analysis)
- ▶ Policy analysis/audit and roadmap tool
- ▶ Drafting of new/updated policies

To achieve these goals, MOVING has launched a bottom-up participatory process with the value chains actors:

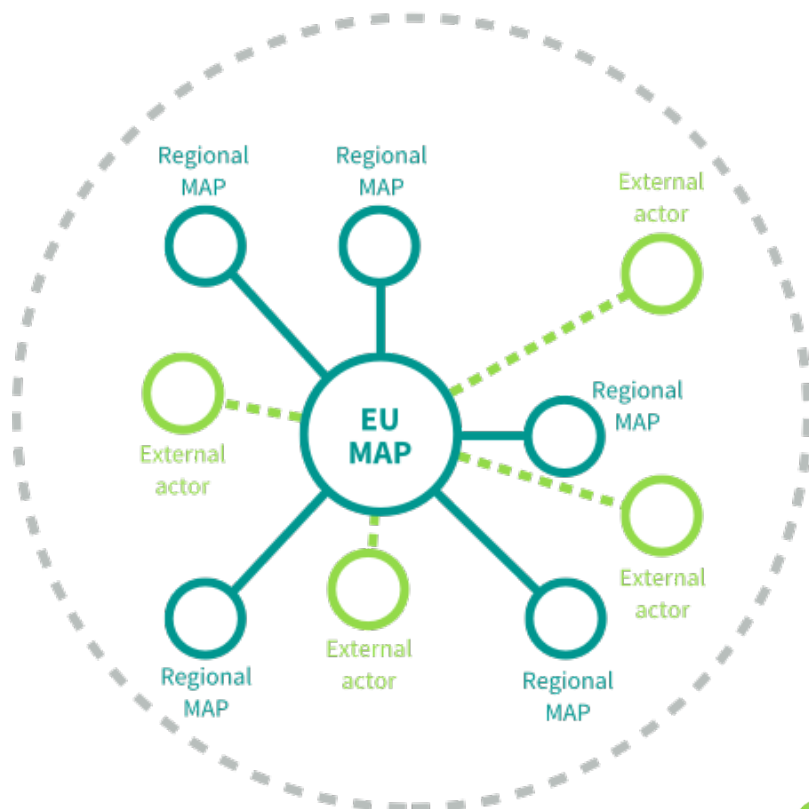
 **The Community of Practice (CoP)**



Community of Practice



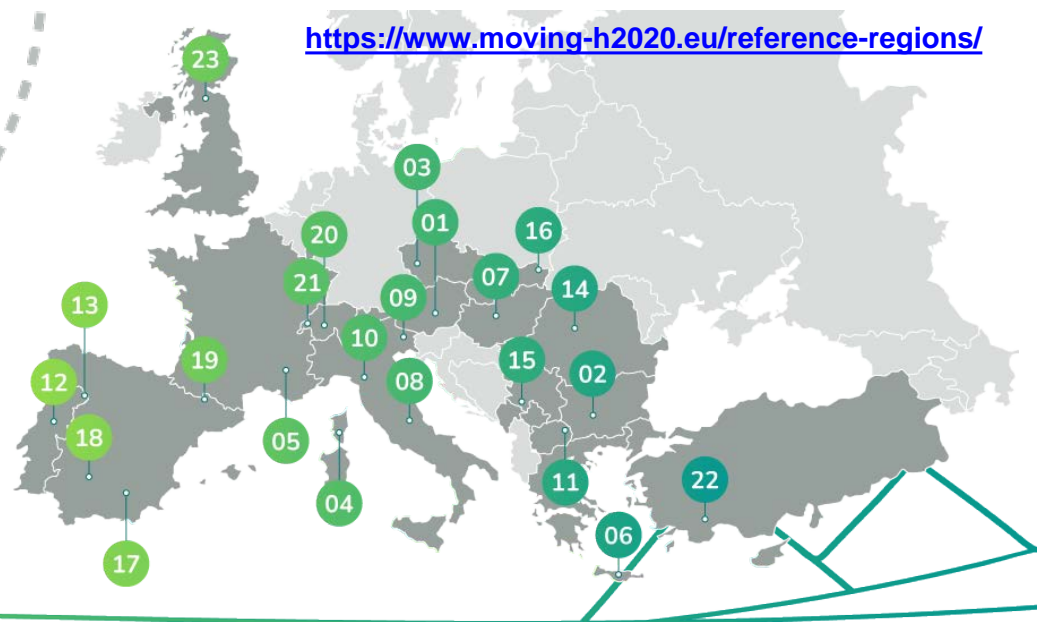
MOVING CoP



The Community of Practice (CoP) is a European-wide **Science-Society-Policy interface** built upon:

- **23 regional MAPs** (Multi-Actor Platforms) established in the 23 Reference Regions
- **1 European-level MAP** (if you want to join the EU MAP, you can find the link in the activity report)

<https://www.moving-h2020.eu/reference-regions/>



Reference Regions & Regional Multi-Actor Platforms



MOVING
MOUNTAIN VALORISATION THROUGH
INTERCONNECTEDNESS AND GREEN GROWTH

In each reference Region – ex. Sierra Morena (Spain)

- ▷ One selected **value chain: Jamón Ibérico Los Pedroches PDO**
- ▷ A **Regional Multi-Actor Platforms** composed by the key actors of the value chain (ex. breeders, producers, landowners, researchers, technicians, public authorities, businesses, cooperatives, PDO actors, NGOs, and civil society)

Based on the interaction with the regional MAP



1. Policy brief

- description of value chain contribution to sustainability and resilience of mountain Reference Region
- policy relevant considerations

2. Participatory vulnerability analysis

- identify possible future changes and trends,
- foresee impact on reference region and
- discuss solution to improve adaptability



Policy recommendations

3. Participatory foresight



GI value chains



MOVING
MOUNTAIN VALORISATION THROUGH
INTERCONNECTEDNESS AND GREEN GROWTH

- **SWISS JURA** | Tête de Moine PDO cheese:
 - [Policy brief](#)
- **SIERRA MORENA** | Iberian Ham PDO – Los Pedroches:
 - [Policy brief](#)
- **DINARIC ALPS** | Sjenica lamb PDO
 - [Policy brief](#)
- **CORDILHEIRA CENTRAL** | Serra da Estrela PDO Cheese
 - [Policy brief](#)
- **CORSICA** | PDO chestnut flour and chestnut trees in the Renoso massif:
 - [Policy brief](#)



Consult the story maps [here](#). The first time you need to register [here](#).



Upcoming events and activities



MOVING
MOUNTAIN VALORISATION THROUGH
INTERCONNECTEDNESS AND GREEN GROWTH



MOVING EU MAP WEBINAR

AREPO contributed to the organisation of the next EU MAP **webinar** “**EU quality schemes and their added value for mountain value chains**” on November 8, 2022. AREPO will present its position on GI review with a focus on GI and sustainability + other partners will present **GI value chains**.

[Registration is still open!](#) *More information, agenda and registration form available [here](#).*

Communication and dissemination:

- **Blog articles:** [GI review](#), [FAO guide on GI evaluation](#), [EU CAP network](#)
- Communication on **social media and AREPO website**

Subscribe to the [newsletter](#) and follow the project on social media:



Participatory multi-level foresight:

- **5 thematic workshop** with local clusters
- **EU workshop in September 2023 in Brussels**

Policy analysis and roadmap (2023-2024):

- **Policy analysis** and elaboration of **policy recommendations (2023-2024)** with focus on **GIs and other certification systems**
- **Analysis of implementation of optional quality term “mountain product”**





MOVING
MOUNTAIN VALORISATION THROUGH
INTERCONNECTEDNESS AND GREEN GROWTH

Thank you for you attention!

For any questions, please, contact me here:

eu-projects@arepoquality.eu

<https://www.moving-h2020.eu/>



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DRAFT CALL ON GIS AND SUSTAINABILITY IN HORIZON EUROPE

GIS AND SUSTAINABILITY HORIZON EUROPE PROGRAMME

Draft Call HORIZON-CL6-2023-COMMUNITIES: *“Investigating the contribution of geographical indications (GIs) to sustainable development and optimising support for newly established schemes”*

GENERAL OBJECTIVES:

- **Better understanding of the contribution of GIs schemes to sustainable development** and in particular to achieve the objectives of the farm to fork strategy.
- **Sustainability attributes in GI schemes are widely implemented by the producers and recognized and correctly interpreted and understood by consumers.**
- **Better design and implementation of GIs policy to foster their delivery of sustainable agriculture and fishery, healthy and sustainable diets and sustainable food systems.**

RESEARCH AND INNOVATION ACTION (RIA)

PROJECT BUDGET: €3 000 000 founded at 100%



The final text of the call will be published at the end of November.

GIS AND SUSTAINABILITY

HORIZON EUROPE PROGRAMME

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES:

- Sound analysis of the **state-of the art in research on the impacts of GIs schemes in terms of all aspects of sustainability**;
- **Assess sustainability impacts of all GIs products (>3000) in all three dimensions**, i.e., economic, social and environmental (including use of natural resources, cultural heritage preservation, public health);
- **Comprehensively map the practices in GIs production systems** and identify those that minimise the negative environmental and health impacts and at the same time balance the economic and other social dimensions of sustainability;
- **Investigate how to better valorise the sustainable deliverables of GIs**, including the type and characteristics of public goods generated by the GI production and the benefits for local areas and society at large;
- **Identify synergies among different intervention schemes**;
- Explore **consumers' perception of GIs** and how to better promote GIs that are **aligned with healthy and sustainable diets** to increase demand and willingness to pay for GI products.
- **Explore and benchmark the approaches/policy followed by the different Member States** and Associated Countries when it comes to GIs and sustainability;
- **Formulate best practices, decision tools, recommendations to be used by producers and policy makers to improve sustainability** of the GIs schemes and optimise the support for newly established GI schemes that are aligned with healthy and sustainable diets;

GIS AND SUSTAINABILITY

HORIZON EUROPE PROGRAMME

STRATEGIC PRIORITY FOR AREPO

- Important to participate as a full partner in order to develop **practical tools for regions and producer groups**, as well as to contribute on **policy design and recommendations**
- We took contact with the coordinator of our scientific committee, prof. **Giovanni Belletti (University of Florence)** + with previous co-coordinator of Strength2food project, Prof. **Filippo Arfini (University of Parma)** → creation of a **steering committee currently working on the concept note**

CONSORTIUM

- **INRAE** proposed to coordinate
- **Ideally 1 academic member per cluster of MS** in order to cover all EU
- **AREPO is in charge of relations with other stakeholders of GI sector** (we took contact with oriGIn, EFOW, Euromontana and BEUC)

Internal workshop in preparation of the project proposal: we would like to organise an internal workshop with AREPO members in order to identify priorities and to have feedback on the concept note.