The limits of inclusion in Geographical Indications
Should we exclude any exclusion?

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Rationale: Be more inclusive!

- Inclusiveness = A great worth of our times

- However GI: selecting producers, places, products to be recognized while others remain outside

- Thus exclusion is frequent in GIs

- Should we track down any form of exclusion and seek to eliminate it in order to move towards an “ideal” GI, ie fully inclusive?
Material and methods

• Scope of expertise of the co-authors

• Design of specifications and state policy regulations in several continents
  French INAO and other European countries
  South-East Asia
  Northern Africa
  Latin America

• Inclusion / exclusion in delimitation, technical choices, governance
Main findings = a lot of exclusions observed

- *in productive sphere* / Location and elaboration techniques
  Area delimitation = new boundaries among neighbors
  Specification contents = local resources, technical capacities and know-how often unequally distributed
- *in consumption sphere*
  Remunerating the efforts = selecting the buyers / less affordability
  Targeting relevant markets = depriving local customers / less accessibility
- *in governance practices*
  Upstream producers, small producers or poorly organized or dispersed in remote parts of the area = less capacity to participate to the collective management of the GI, including controls and certification procedures
Discussion: distinguish necessary and unnecessary exclusions

• Some exclusions are necessary
  Productive sphere, area delimitation and technical choices = conditions for providing guarantees of uniqueness
  Make the recognition efficient on the market

• Some exclusions are non acceptable
  Governance practices discriminating actors in the decision making process / social capital, market power
  Value sharing along the chain (Ex. milk prices in cheese long chains)
  Accompaniment of all producers in case of demanding specification revision

• Some exclusions must and can be regulated
  Generations transmission of typicalness among local connoisseurs = targeting children in canteens, fairs and markets within the area
Conclusions: Exclusion as dialogic object

- Exclusions are necessary in GI as every place-based production
  No "ideal GI" fully inclusive!

- Make sure that such exclusions are democratically decided

- Avoid any discrimination and ensure an effective participation of all concerned actors

- Inclusion is core in ethical issues of GI