

Worldwide Perspectives on Geographical Indications

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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**