

# GI SUSTAINABILITY: EUROPEAN FRAMEWORK

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# I. INTRODUCTION

• First idea:

- **Lack of consensus on the regulation of Agricultural GIs:** it is not strange, GIs are based on territoriality and tradition. It is difficult to harmonize different interests, customs and traditions
- However, at least **Agricultural GI, are incardinated in AGRICULTURAL SECTOR**, governed by the principles of the Common Agrarian Policy. (CAP)
- In short, despite their marked traditional and territorial component, intrinsic in their nature, the regulations and policies on **GIs would be consistent with the CAP principles.**

## II. CAP OBJECTIVES, SUSTAINABILITY AND GIS

- 2.1. CAP objectives and sustainability.
- 2.2. General Role of GI sustainability.
- 2.3. GIs as tool to comply PAC goals.

## 2.1. CAP TARGETS ARE BASED ON SUSTAINABILITY

PAC GOALS 2023-2027	SUSTAINABILITY GOALS
<b>ii) To increase competitiveness</b> <b>x) Fostering knowledge and innovation</b>	Economics (Increase Value)
<b>I) To ensure a fair income for farmers</b> <b>iii) To improve the position of farmers in the food chain</b> <b>vii) To support generational renewal</b> <b>viii) Vibrant rural areas;</b>	Socials -Distribution of wealthy produced (Direct or indirect) -Circular economy - Sustainable economy
<b>iv) Climate change action</b> <b>v) Environmental care</b> <b>vi) To preserve landscapes and biodiversity</b> <b>ix) To protect food and health quality</b>	Environmental

## 2.2. GENERAL ROLE OF GI IN SUSTANABILITY

- **Successful** GIs are an ideal instrument to promote sustainability.
- 1° First of all : **A high added value provided by a GI** implies greater benefits for GI users.
- 2° If there is a **redistribution of wealth generated** by GI, **in their own local area**, social goals could be easily achieved.
- 3° If GI value is linked to environmental criteria, the **GI beneficiaries have incentives to** take environmental measures **aimed at its maintenance**

## 2.3. GIS AS TOOL TO COMPLY PAC TARGETS.

PAC goals 2023-2027	Role of GIs in (sustainable) PAC goals
i) To ensure a fair income for farmers	Yes, as long as the GI has a good added value
ii) To increase competitiveness	Yes. <b>First of all.</b> <i>GIs make a difference among products that could be perceived as homogeneous by average consumer.</i>
iii) To improve the position of farmers in the food chain	Yes, as long as the GI has a good added value
iv) Climate change action	It depends of the GI product specifications.
v) Environmental care	It depends of the GI product specifications
vi) To preserve landscapes and biodiversity	It depends of the GI product specifications. Ex. Lot of GI are linked with a specific local plant varieties.
vii) To support generational renewal	Yes, as long as the GI has a good added value and impact in local economy
viii) Vibrant rural areas;	Yes, as long as the GI has a good added value and impact in local economy
ix) To protect food and health quality	In many cases, but it is not a GI function.
x) fostering knowledge and innovation	Not Exactly. GIs foster traditional knowledge

### III. FINAL REFLECTION: *LEGE FERENDA* IMPOSITION OF "ENVIRONMENTAL" SUSTAINABILITY CRITERIA?.

- The recent Proposal for a Regulation of ... GI Agricultural products\*: Recognised that **"Sustainability should not be imposed on the GI producers, but encouraged and accompanied"**
- It seems the most balance option taking into account that:
- GI producers also must comply all legal, environmental and healthy Rules (Ex. Traceability, phytosanitary)
- Some studies pointed out that strategy *from farm to fork*, implemented in EU, produce an imbalance. Environmental edge prevails over the social and economic. **The costs of farmers and producers would be increase**
- **This imbalance has risks:** (abandonment of agricultural activity and rural areas, external dependency (food sovereignty) ...
- The increase in costs due to the imposition of environmental measures is more difficult to bear for small producers. **Excessive environmental measures would not be equal for all of them.**

\* Proposal for REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL 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 and repealing Regulation (EU) No 1151/2012