Cooperation for Geographical Indications

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Since 2007, FAO has been working with several partners to leverage geographical indications as a tool fostering sustainable development through normative work, knowledge development, guidance tools and technical assistance.
Example – Madd de Casamance, Senegal

- GI project started in 2017 with support from FAO, WIPO and now CIRAD/AFD and OAPI
- GI registration in the process of being finalized
  ➔ Biodiversity preserved
  ➔ Positive economic impacts for producers, in particular for women and youth
Specifications developed by producers, especially the young shepherds:
• Tushetian landraces, sheep and cow species
• Pasture peculiar species
• Maturation on lamb skin (microbiota)
• Reduction of salt level

➡️ Biodiversity preserved
➡️ Taste, nutrition and health (salt, fermentation processes)
➡️ Enable Healthy diets

GI project started in 2017, Protected GI in 2019
good cooperation in GI: key messages

- GI better development with a bottom up approach: **absolute need for empowerment of local producers and of all players in the value chain**, importance of cooperation through win-win strategies among players (e.g. smallholders and large-scale producers, from different parts of the territory, upstream and downstream segments of VC, etc.)

- GI process relies on a comprehensive approach to address many development issues with **many technical dimensions** to consider (good agricultural practices, food safety and technology, value-chain structuration, governance and marketing): **need for comprehensive technical assistance projects with time and resources**, 

- Importance of training grassroot NGO in the country to keep supporting local actors and become a local expert for future initiatives 

- Specifications are a powerful tool but with no minimum requirements to ensure sustainability: **need for technical support and comprehensive guidelines as well as regular monitoring and adaptation**, 

- Public authorities have a key role (assessment, support and protection/control): **need for adequate policies and sufficient resources**.
Web site
www.fao.org/geographical-indications

More information

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