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## **Understanding the Trade-offs at Stake for More Sustainable GIs Outcomes: Identifying Underlying Good Practices**

Sustainability in Geographical Indications (GIs) systems involves balancing diverse goals across economic, environmental, social, and governance dimensions. GIs encompass intricate systems that include diverse stakeholders, from producers to public authorities and NGOs, contributing to the production, value chain, and territorial development of the designated product. This complexity creates challenges when decisions affecting one dimension lead to unintended consequences in others. This contribution investigates the trade-offs that arise in these systems and explores good practices that can mitigate conflicts and enhance sustainability outcomes.

The methodology involves a participatory approach using structured group discussions to identify trade-offs within Geographical Indication (GI) systems across six dimensions: social-economics, environment-economics, governance-economics, social-environment, social-governance, and governance-environment. Participants examined GI systems at territorial and value chain scales, considering both production and consumption contexts. Trade-offs were analyzed by identifying their causes, impacts, and possible mitigation practices.

Examples of key trade-offs include balancing traditional practices with modern animal welfare rules, navigating the economic impacts of environmental certifications on small producers, and addressing the social exclusion of foreign workers in local GI systems. Governance challenges, such as unequal decision-making power in producer groups, further highlight the need for inclusive and participatory approaches.

Promising practices include circular economy solutions, like whey repurposing in dairy production, which align environmental and economic goals, and training programs for young farmers to ensure generational renewal. EU Regulation 2024/1143 emphasizes such sustainable practices, from biodiversity conservation to fair labor conditions.

By promoting scalable good practices and fostering stakeholder collaboration, GIs can harmonize conflicting objectives, ensuring their cultural, economic, and environmental integrity. Successful examples, like PDO governance reforms and eco-friendly farming initiatives, demonstrate the potential of GIs to serve as global models for sustainable development.

### **Bibliography**

FAO-SINERGI Guide on GI systems

- EU Regulation 2024/1143 on Sustainability Practices
- Case studies on PDO/PGI governance and whey repurposing initiatives



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- **Vandecandelaere, E., Arfini, F., Belletti, G., & Marescotti, A. (2010).** *Territorial Tools for Agricultural Markets: The Strength of Geographical Indications*. FAO.
- **Belletti, G., & Marescotti, A. (2011).** *Evaluating the Effects of Protected Designations of Origin (PDOs) on the Rural Development of European Areas*.

Veillez choisir (avec une X, nombre illimité) les principaux mots-clés de votre contribution \*

- Agriculture :
- Biodiversité X
- Diversification X
- Durabilité : X
- Innovation : X
- Politiques X
- Qualité :
- Résilience
- Système alimentaire

Mots clés secondaires \*

- Agriculture familiale
- Agriculture urbaine
- Agroécologie
- Approche territoriale X
- Filières alimentaires courtes
- Consomm'acteurs
- Diversité culturelle X
- Droit à l'alimentation
- Économie circulaire
- Gastronomie
- Inclusion sociale
- Indication géographique : X
- Initiatives/Projets
- Montagne
- Outils
- Patrimoine
- Paysage
- Petits producteurs
- Processus participatif X
- Réseau
- Savoir-faire traditionnel : X
- Sécurité alimentaire

- Stratégies de valorisation
- Certification et étiquetage : X
- Tourisme durable