AREPO GENERAL ASSEMBLY March 26th 2021



Agenda

STATUTORY PART

Presentation of the agenda for the GA

Vote to extend the term of the Executive board until September 2021

Report of the Presidency

Presentation and vote of the financial accounts for 2020 and provisional budget for 2021



Agenda

THEMATIC PART

AREPO priorities for 2021

Front of Pack Nutrition Labelling and Nutriscore: Presentation of the position of Crete Region and discussion with the participants, **Ms Eirini** Choudetsanaki

Introduction to the proposal for the creation of a "Mediterranean product" or "Mediterranean diet" label, Ms Agnès Rampal

Conclusions and recommendations of AREPO study on GIs used as ingredients

The Regional Food Strategies: Presentation of the Catalan Food Strategic Plan 2021-2026, Mr Joan Godia







Eirini Choudetsanaki

President of AREPO and Crete Regional Councillor



Presentation and vote of the financial accounts for 2020 and provisional budget for 2021

Laurent Gomez

Secretary General of AREPO



UPDATE ON THE ACCOUNTS

	Réalisé	Prévu	Réalisé	Evolution	2019/2020	Prévu
	2019	2020	2020	2019/2020	Différence	2021
					prévu/réalisé	
Dépenses par poste	€TTC	€TTC	€TTC	Taux %	€TTC	€TTC
Contrat Giulia et Francesca : salaires, charges, logement, TR, Mutuelle	49,149	62,000	73700	26	12,851	74,000
Stage	407	3,770	2900	826	3,363	3,000
Consulting	37,189	36,000	38400	-3	-1,189	38,500
Réunions et documents hors interprètes réunions plénières	972	600	0	-38	-372	0
Avion, train, hôtels, restauration, km pour SG et team Bruxelles	6,226	5,000	3700	-20	-1,226	3,500
Avion, train, hôtels, restauration, km pour membres dont présidente	12,020	5,000	5000	-58	-7,020	5,000
2 Réunions plénières (printemps et automne) dont interprètres	38,302	10,000	12600	-74	-28,302	12,500
Tél., internet, fournitures, publicité, publications, locations	11,189	3,000	3900	-73	-8,189	3,000
Commissaire aux comptes, comptable, assurances, contrôleurs	4,680	5,000	6600	7	320	6,000
Autres charges de gestion courantes	318	200	800	-37	-118	300
Frais bancaires	330	330	100	0	0	300
Charges exceptionnelles	1,430	1,000	0	-30	-430	500
Total	162,212	131,900	147700	-19	-30,312	146,600



UPDATE ON THE ACCOUNTS

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	Réalisé	Prévu	Réalisé		2019/2020	Prévu
	2019	2020	2020		Différence	2021
Ressources	2	€TTC	€TTC		€TTC	€TTC
Cotisations des Régions membres 4500 €/an	153,000	116,995	130500	-24	-36,005	130,500
Revenus des produits financiers	3,882	500	3700	-87	-3,382	3,800
FEDER Projet AGROSMART puis Agrosmart Global		67,157	4440	1,247	62,170	9,800
Autres produits de gestion courante (cotisations sociales)	28	0	0	-100	-28	0
Produits exceptionnels, dettes, produits constatés d'avance	0	0	0	0	0	0
Autres produits dont Com UE et autres remboursements		5,000	460	98	2,471	2,500
Total	164,426	189,652	139100	15	25,226	146,600
Résultat	2,214		-8,600	7		0
Capital disponible (total fonds propres)	229,212		220,623	4	8,589	
Produits constatés d'avance et dette			48,330			
Etat compte au 31/12/2020			268,960	7	39,748	#i



UPDATE ON THE ACCOUNTS





AREPO priorities for 2021

Giulia Scaglioni

AREPO Policy Officer



EU POLICIES

Common Agricultural Policy trilogues

Revision of EU quality policy

Revision of EU Promotion Policy

"Farm to Fork" strategy and all related developments, especially the harmonised mandatory front-of-pack nutrition labelling





REVISION OF EU QUALITY POLICY

- November 2019 February 2020 EC public consultation on the evaluation of EU Quality Policy: AREPO replied to the consultation joining a <u>position paper</u>.
- November 2020 Roadmap for the revision of the EU GIs system:
 AREPO presented its <u>position</u>
- 25-26 November 2020 High-level Conference "Strengthening geographical indications"
- 15 January 2021 9 April 2021 Public consultation on the Revision of EU geographical indications scheme: AREPO has prepared a working document to consult its members in order to submit a position addressing the proposals and objectives of the consultation
- End of 2021 Commission proposal for a revision of EU quality policy: accompanied by an Impact Assessment, based on the results of the consultation



- Improve and strengthen communication bw MS
- Introduce a register of GIs producers
- Protection against weakening and dilution of reputation
- Protection on internet, including ecommerce platforms and domain name registration
- Better protection in third countries





- Trainings for national authorities
- Publication of EC guidelines

 on internal evaluation criteria
 for GI registration and amendment
- Collect and publish data on GI sector
- Introduce specific Combined
 Nomenclature codes
- Clarify labelling rules for processed products using a GI as ingredient





- Allow inclusion of sustainability aspects in product specifications
- Increase funding for EU R&I on GIs and sustanability
- Support formative offer
- Financially support ex-ante and ex-post evaluation of Gls impact
- Training for producer groups





- Support measures under the CAP strategic plans
 - Certification and promotion
 - Operating costs
 - Surveillance activities
 - Trainings
- Analysis of groups in MS
- Supply regulation





- Extend to all GIs the obbligation to use the EU logos
- Maintain dedicated budget under promotion policy
- Promote the use of Glview





 AREPO recommends the European Commission to examine possibility to strengthen and improve the TSG system, including by guaranteeing a protection comparable to GIs intellectual property right



DISSEMINATION/INFORMATION ACTIVITIES ON GIS

May 2021 2022

AREPO will work on the production of informative materials, to be published and freely used by its member regions:

- 1. In line with the priorities of the EU Farm to fork strategy, informative and didactic material explaining what are GIs and their advantages in relation to sustainability -> young consumers school-aged.
- 2. UN General Assembly designated 2021 International Year of Fruits and Vegetables (IYFV). AREPO would like to propose to other organizations specifically dealing with fruit and vegetables to cooperate on the topic of PDO and PGI fruits and produce together informative material within this UN framework.

FOSTERING NEW TOPICS: GIS AND PUBLIC FOOD PROCUREMENT

May 2021

December 2021

Public Food Procurement, focusing on the use of local products and PDOs and PGIs in public menus.

METHODOLOGY:

- Initial collect of information, through literature and the definition of a general bibliography;
- Working group with AREPO regions. Firstly, the group should work on understanding whether specific laws covering this subject are in place in some regions. Secondly, it will be explored how to promote this initiative and encourage especially public administrations to include PDO and PGI products in the menus they propose, with the ultimate aim of facilitating the consumption and improving consumers recognition.

FOSTERING NEW TOPICS: GIS AND TOURISM

July 2021 2022

In the past AREPO carried out a study on the **touristic flux of AREPO regions**. Starting form this and considering how this sector has been harshly hit by the COVID-19 crisis, AREPO would like to resume this work and expand it.

METHODOLOGY:

• Strategic cooperation with other organization dealing with tourism (namely, Necstour and Eurogites) in order to identify new areas of cooperation, such as agrotourism, rural tourism and slow tourism, with the aim to rekindle the link between AREPO and its regions.



AREPO STUDIES

GIS AS INGREDIENT IN PROCESSED FOOD

January 2021

June 2021

The report is about to be finalised. Following the translation in the four AREPO working languages, the study should be published by the first semester of 2021.

PROBLEMS AND NEEDS OF SMALL GIS

April 2021

September 2021

The study is still ongoing. The student has so far realised a database including all Gls represented in AREPO and has set the criteria to define small and medium Gls. A survey should be submitted to AREPO Regions and producers in order to collect information for the study and to elaborate recommendations.

MEETINGS WITH AREPO MEMBER REGIONS DEDICATED TO SPECIFIC TOPICS

- Working group with the Italian regions on GIs support measures allowed by article 71 of the proposed EC Regulation on the strategic plans of the CAP dedicated to "cooperation" -> to identify which types of interventions in support of GIs and quality schemes could and should be included and propose a common draft of these interventions. The results will be shared with the rest of AREPO members
- Meeting on National quality schemes with AREPO German member regions:
 National quality schemes should be better taken into account by EU policymakers as viable options to achieve some of the main goals of the Farm to Fork strategy -> to better understand this subject and learn from existing good practice





STRENGTH2FOOD HORIZON 2020 PROGRAMME



<u>Strength2Food</u> is a five-year EU-funded project that started in March 2016. It aims to provide the EU and its Member States with evidence-based recommendations on the implementation of quality policy.

- AREPO is a member of the Stakeholder Advisory Board
- 16 November 2020, "GIs and public goods: experiences and recommendations": Virtual conference organised in collaboration with Strength2food to discuss with AREPO members and other GI stakeholders and policy makers the results and recommendations delivered by the project and to elaborate policy recommendations on EU quality policy simultaneously with the conclusion of the Commission evaluation process on quality policy.
- **20 May 2021, Final Conference:** "Future Policy and Research Directions: Panel discussion led by FAO & AREPO"



AGROSMARTGLOBAL INTERREG SUDOE PROGRAMME



Abstract

- AGROSMARTGlobal "Space for the competitiveness, promotion and intelligent international expansion of agri-food cooperatives in the Sudoe rural areas" is a project approved in 2019 by the Interreg Sudoe 2014-2020 programme.
- Aim: improve the visibility and the competitiveness of agri-food cooperatives/SMEs from the South-West Europe on the digital market place.
- Project budget: 1 598 000 € including 118 360 € for AREPO co-financed at 75% by the ERDF.
- **Project duration:** 36 months, from October 1st, 2019 to September 30th, 2022 + a 6-month extension due to the COVID-19 crisis.

AGROSMARTGLOBAL INTERREG SUDOE PROGRAMME



Regions covered by the consortium:

Spain: Galicia, Castilla-La Mancha, Euskadi and La Rioja

France: Nouvelle-Aquitaine

Portugal: Região do Norte, Algarve, Região do Centro, Região de Lisboa and Alentejo

AREPO's main deliverables:

- Elaboration of a "best practice" guide for agri-food cooperatives and SMEs from the South-West Europe to provide them with operational tools to protect their products under PDO or PGI on the Internet;
- Organization and coordination of a European event in Brussels to transfer the project's results to strategic allies.



MOVING HORIZON 2020 PROGRAMME



Abstract

- **MOVING** "Mountain Valorization through Interconnectedness and Green Growth" is a research and innovation project approved in 2020 by the Horizon 2020 Programme.
- Aim: build capacities and co-develop policy frameworks across Europe for the establishment of value chains that contribute to resilience and sustainability of mountain areas.
- Total budget: 6 000 000 € included 85 600 € for AREPO financed at 100% by the Horizon 2020 Programme.
- Project duration: 48 months, from September 1st, 2020 to August 31th, 2024.

Role of AREPO: bring its expertise on policy assessment.





SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL- EXPANSION

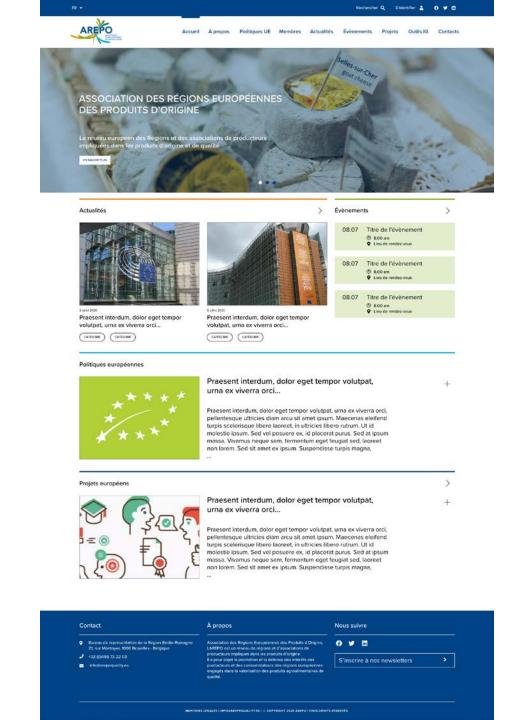
Definition of a three-level governance structure:

- Scientific council: a collegial body open to all universities and research centres in our member regions (traditional field of activity of AREPO);
- Scientific committee: a coordinating or steering body composed of experts identified and invited by the AREPO secretariat;
- A coordinator who leads the work of the steering body: Giovanni Belletti,
 University of Florence.

EXPANSION IMPROVING GEOGRAPHIC COVERAGE:

- At least one member from each of AREPO member regions, without excluding competent experts from other European regions.
- We asked the Scientific Committee to identify, among their contacts, experts that could join AREPO Scientific Council
- All members are welcome to send us their contacts in their regional research facilities





TO SUM UP

Working plan 2021 & 2022 AREPO

				2021			
TASK DESCRIPTION	PLAN START	PLAN END	TYPE	J F M A M J J A S O N D J F M A			
Review of EU quality policy	01/01/21	01/01/23	В	Consultation EC legislative proposal			
F2F consultations	01/01/21	01/01/23	В				
Virtual GA & producer meeting	15/02/21	15/04/21	0	GA GA			
Study on GI as ingredients	01/01/21	01/06/21	Р				
Study on small GI	01/04/21	01/09/21	Р				
New AREPO website	01/01/21	01/04/21					
Working group on CAP measures	01/03/21	01/08/21	В				
Meeting on regional marks (German Region)	16/04/21	16/04/21	Х				
Scientific concil meetings			1				
Second AREPO GA (in presence?)	01/08/21	01/10/21	0	GA GA			
Gis and tourism	01/09/21	01/01/23	Р				
Dissemination/information activities on Gis	02/09/21	02/04/22	Р				
Gis and public food procurement	01/05/21	01/12/21	Y				
Internship N1	01/05/21	01/09/21	G				
Internship N2	01/09/21	01/04/22	G				
Maternity leave - Giulia	01/09/21	01/04/22	R				



FRONT OF PACK NUTRITION LABELLING AND NUTRISCORE

Francesca Alampi,

AREPO Policy Officer



FRONT OF PACK NUTRITION LABELLING: EU CONTEXT

MAIN AIM: empower consumers to make healthy food choices

FOLLOW UP:

- Two roadmaps concerning some actions in the field of information to consumers
- A public consultation will follow
- Impact assessment in 2021
- EC proposal by the end of 2022.

INCEPTION IMPACT ASSESSMENT: To identify a preferred option or a policy mix

Nutrient-specific labels - example	S	Summary labels - examples				
Numerical (Option 1)	Colour-coded (Option 2)	Endorsement logos (Option 3)	Graded indicators (Option 4)			
Commany per time (18 g) continue Commany per ti	Each XXX serving contains [ENERGY FAIL SALET SUGARS SALET 1037k; Med Salet Med Low 248kaal 3.8q 8.1q 9.1q 0.2q 123 41	A STATE OF THE O	NUTRI-SCORE A B C D E			

FRONT OF PACK NUTRITION LABELLING AND GIS: AREPO POSITION

- Any colour-coded system oversimplifies the nutritional information of a product, especially with regard to GIs -> Algorithm assesses a product on the content of four nutrients (fat, saturates, sugars, salt);
- Nutriscore provides limited information on nutritional balance -> nutritional composition per 100 g or 100 ml of the product;
- Nutriscore does not take into account the level of processing of a product;
- Reformulation is seldom possible for GIs due to their composition or traditional characteristics -> it should be limited to industrial products;

PROPOSALS TO IMPROVE THE CURRENT NUTRISCORE SYSTEM

To modify the algorithm at the basis of Nutriscore

De facto classification for PDO/PGIs, some traditional and singleingredient products To assess, where appropriate, the need to apply specific conditions and exemptions



FRONT OF PACK NUTRITION LABELLING AND GIS: AREPO POSITION

- FOPNL cannot alone engender such an ambitious long-term change;
- Fighting off unbalanced nutrition **requires nutrition education** in order to increase consumers understanding and use of information eventually provided with nutrition labelling;
- More education and better communication on the importance of a <u>diversified and balanced diet</u> and how EU Geographical Indications and quality products can contribute to it;
- "Eating less but better": reintroducing the notion of portion and daily intake, combined with the adoption of a more active lifestyle;
- Dietary diversity, encompassing different categories of food, tastes, seasonality, freshness, culture and skills;
- Many GIs are associated with specific diets recognized for their interest in terms of nutrition, e.g. the Mediterranean diet.

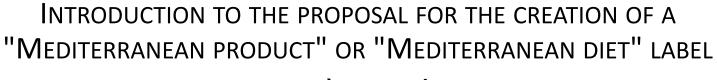




Eirini Choudetsanaki,

Regional Councillor of the Region of Crete and President of AREPO





Agnès Rampal,

President of the Euromediterranean commission of the Region Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur and Vice-deputy mayor of the City of Nice







