

Training Course in the GIs Field for the Official Control and Verification Authorities

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On May 23, the State Agency on Intellectual Property (AGEPI), together with the European Union Project "Support to Enforcement of Intellectual Property Rights" in the Republic of Moldova, organized the second stage of the Training Course in the Field of Geographical Indications intended for the official control and verification authorities. The event was attended by representatives of the territorial units of the National Agency for Food Safety (ANSA), the State Inspectorate for Alcohol Production Supervision, the Product Certification Center, the Ministry of Agriculture, Regional Development and Environment and specialists from AGEPI. The event was held at the ANSA headquarters.

The seminar aimed to increase the knowledge of the specialists of authorities involved in the control system for agri-food products, including those with protected appellations of origin (PAO), protected geographical indications (PGIs) and traditional specialties guaranteed (TSG).

In the opening, AGEPI Director General Lilia Bolocan stressed the importance of providing the legal and institutional framework for promoting and using products with GI in the Republic of Moldova and noted that the Agency will continue to make strong efforts to create a strong geographical indications protection system.

In the message addressed to the participants in the event, ANSA Director General, Gheorghe Gaberi, talked about the importance of the state's involvement in supporting the development of the geographical indications protection system in the Republic of Moldova.

The second stage of the seminar addressed issues related to the planning of controls for products with PAO, PGIs, TSG, verification of compliance with the provisions of the specification, mechanisms and practice of applying the rights of use of geographical indications in the Republic of Moldova and ex officio control of products with PAO, PGIs, and TSG. The project experts also talked about the recommendations on improving the geographical indications system in the Republic of Moldova. Some case studies on the ex officio controls have been presented. The first stage of the training course took place on 29 March this year, at AGEPI headquarters.

Currently, on the territory of the Republic of Moldova are protected on the basis of registration by national route – 10 appellations of origin, including 3 local and 7 foreign, as well as 7 local geographical indications.

The Technical Assistance Project "Support to Enforcement of Intellectual Property Rights", funded by the European Union, has a two-year period and is due to be completed in November 2018. One of the basic objectives of the project is to improve the geographical indications system in the Republic of Moldova.



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