

Workshop on Labelling requirements for Fisheries and Aquaculture products

**Geographical Denomination regarding fish
products
–Certification as an advantage**

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Introduction

- ▶ In 1993 EU legislation came into force which provides for a system for the protection of food names on a geographical or traditional recipe basis.
 - ▶ The EU Protected Food Name scheme highlights regional and traditional foods whose authenticity and origin can be guaranteed. The product is awarded one of three marks: Protected Designation of Origin (PDO); Protected Geographical Indication (PGI); and Traditional Speciality Guaranteed (TSG).
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Introduction

- ▶ Under this system a named food or drink registered at a European level will be given legal protection against imitation throughout the EU.
 - ▶ Producers who register their products for protection benefit from having a raised awareness of their product throughout Europe. This may in turn help them take advantage of consumers' increasing awareness of the importance of regional and speciality foods.
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The Marks of the Scheme

- ▶ Protected Designation of Origin: Open to products which are produced, processed and prepared within a particular geographical area, and with features and characteristics which must be due to the geographical area



Marks of the scheme

- ▶ Protected Geographical Indication: Open to products which must be produced or processed or prepared within the geographical area and have a reputation, features or certain qualities attributable to that area



Marks of the scheme

- ▶ Traditional Speciality Guaranteed: Open to products which are traditional or have customary names and have a set of features which distinguish them from other similar products. These features must not be due to the geographical area the product is produced in nor entirely based on technical advances in the method of production.



How to Apply

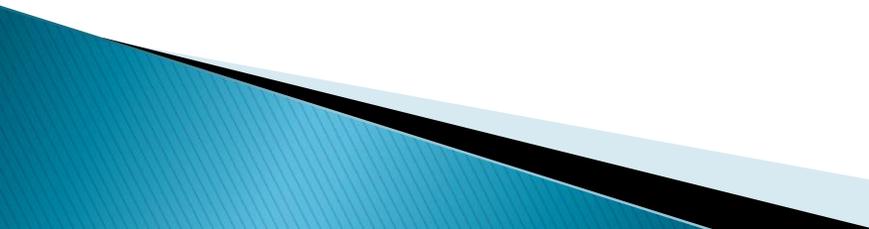
Applications for each of the 3 designations can be put forward by groups of producers.

Individuals can also put forward applications for either of the two geographical designations, ie PDO or PGI if:

- ▶ local and traditional methods and practices are used; and
- ▶ the geographical area has characteristics which differ from neighbouring areas
- ▶ the product has characteristics which are different from those of similar products

Stages in the application process

Key stages are:

- ▶ the application dossier is developed by the applicant group and assessed by relevant member state authority
 - ▶ the application is subject to national opposition procedure
 - ▶ Once any issues arising from the opposition procedure are resolved, the application is submitted to the European Commission where it is subject to a European Commission scrutiny
 - ▶ Publication in the EU Official Journal which commences EU wide opposition procedure
 - ▶ If no opposition is received, the product is registered as a protected food name
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Thank you

