



**Ambassade de France en Turquie
Service Économique d'ANKARA**

Geographical Indications Regarding France-Turkey Bilateral Cooperation

Pierre AUTISSIER, Agricultural Counsellor



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BACKGROUND : A LONG-STANDING RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE TWO MINISTRIES IN CHARGE OF AGRICULTURE

- ▶ **1 Agreement on the Establishment of Agricultural Technical Committee between the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Affairs of the Republic of Turkey and the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry of the Republic of France, signed on April 13, 1989 in Ankara.**
- ▶ **3 Technical Committees since October 2012 (Paris, Ankara, Paris)**
- ▶ **5 bilateral meetings between the 2 Ministers in charge of Agriculture : M. Mehdi EKER and M. Stéphane LE FOLL , one agricultural meeting during the G 20 Turkish presidency (May 8th 2015)**

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BACKGROUND : A BILATERAL TECHNICAL PROGRAM OF COOPERATION

- **1. Food security and fight against the price volatility**
- **2. Sanitary and phytosanitary issues**
- **3. Cooperation on Animal Husbandry and Animal Health**
- **4. Cooperation on Rural Development**
- **5. Cooperation on Fisheries and Aquaculture**
- **6. Cooperation on Agricultural Research**
- **7. Other Topics**

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7.1 Formation of Sub-Working Groups (abandoned)

7.2 Geographical indications

Both sides are engaged to follow the works on Mediterranean region, with the initiative of CHIEAM, aiming recognition, protection and promotion of geographical indications, signs and quality labels which are guarantors of the identity and the vitality of local economies.

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A COMMON INITIATIVE : A MISSION AND A SEMINAR



*Mission en Turquie sur les
Signes de la Qualité et de l'Origine
15-17/03/2015*



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OVERVIEW OF THE SITUATION IN TURKEY

- **180 GI in Turkey (more than 230 on-going requests)**
- **2 PGI recognized in Europe : Gaziantep Baklavasi ; Aydin Inciri**
- **2 on-going process requests sent to the EC [*Afyon Sucuğu & Afyon Pastirması*]**
- **TPE and MoFAL : 2 key players for running the GI system**
- **Procedures involving local actors (like Chambers of commerce)**

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STRENGTHS

- Long tradition of high quality gastronomic products (diversity and anteriority)
- Forecast of 230 new GI's in the near future
- An existing system to recognize GI's (National strategy and procedures set up by TPE...)
- Strategic issue for the Ministry of food, agriculture and livestock
- Many products recognized and protected

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STRENGTHS

- Potential source of incomes for Family farming
- GI's considered as a tool for valorizing cultural and patrimonial heritage
- Willingness to set up a local products data base to give more visibility to GI's (price, costs, localization, ...)
- Amendments of the law are on-going : definition of producers, logo, reinforcement of control
- Assistance of TPE to farmers and chambers of commerce to bring adequate information to the producers

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PROGRESSES TO BE DONE

- Registration : complex & long procedures
- Logo, label, communication, visibility of GI's...
- Property of the GI's : not by the farmer, producers, local institutions
- Defense of the origin of the products (for instance Kars cheeses, Finike oranges)
- Information in GI specifications (species, varieties, recipes, origin of raw materials...)
- no specific logo, identification system
- Compliance with EU regulation (for instance mix of products - carpets, handicrafts, agro food products, traditional recipes - under different EU regulations)
- Internal & external controls
- Awareness of farmers

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OPPORTUNITIES

- Strong intern demand on Good food, good taste, local & traditional products
- Political support
- Increase of life level for Turkish middle class
- Traceability and Food security driven demand market
- IPARD : financial subsidies for meat and milk sector, and diversification of income for farmers
- European Union Fundings available for Capacity building (for instance TAIEX : 2 seminars held in Ankara in November and December 2015, one study visit programmed in France in June 2016)

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OPPORTUNITIES

There is a Common approach between France & Turkey about GI's in terms of :

Importance

History

Cultural heritage

Need for economical valorization

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Merci pour votre attention İlginiz için teşekkürler

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