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Press Release

The economic potential of non-agricultural geographical indications in the European Union under scrutiny

Insight Consulting, oriGIn and REDD are glad to announce that the Consortium they established has been awarded a contract by the European Commission's Directorate General for Internal Market and Services, for a study on Geographical Indication (GI) protection for non-agricultural products in the European Union (EU).

The purpose of the study is to provide an analysis of existing legal frameworks in force in the 27 EU Member States - as well as the EEA countries (Iceland, Norway and Liechtenstein) and Switzerland – in so far as they provide for the protection of non-agricultural GIs. The study aims at collecting evidence concerning the economic impact of non-agricultural GIs in the EU, as well as an in-depth assessment of stakeholders' needs. On this basis, recommendations for an EU policy on geographical indications for non-agricultural products will be provided.

“The Consortium’s team of 22 experts is currently collecting economic and legal information on existing and potential GI for non-agricultural products in the EU. In the coming weeks, we will launch a stakeholders’ survey on the needs and expectations related to the legal protection of non agricultural GIs in the EU. We invite any interested party to participate in such survey”, stated David Thual, the Consortium Team Leader

“We hope that the outcome of this study will assist the European Commission in identifying an appropriate strategy to address the key issue of GIs for non-agricultural products”, concluded Massimo Vittori, Managing Director of oriGIn.

The results of the study should be available before the end of the year.

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