



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
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Organization for an International
Geographical Indications Network

Third Regional Consultation on Geographical Indications in Europe and Central Asia - Virtual



Protection of Geographical Indications in the Republic of Moldova

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Why consolidate the GI system

- Moldova is an agro-industrial, landlocked country, with favourable climate, fertile soil and multicultural society;
- Agri-food sector based on small and medium sized farms;
- The share of agricultural production in the GDP - 12%, representing about 45% of total exports;

MD agri-food strategic goal:

to increase the share of processed high-value-added products and to augment the incomes of small farmers through the value added generated by processing their own agricultural products, turning them into high quality products, using quality schemes, including GIs

!!! National Strategy on Agriculture and Rural Development for 2014-2020 confirms the recognition of the importance of the agrifood sector and rural development, and is a precondition for their long-term development

Regulatory framework - general

- Law No. 66/2008 on the Protection of Geographical Indications, Appellations of Origin and Traditional Specialties Guaranteed;
- Law No.101/2014 on approving national symbols associated with PGI, PDO and STG;
- GD/RM No. 610/2010 on approval of the Regulations on the procedure of filing, examination and registration of geographical indications, appellations of origin and traditional specialties guaranteed;
- GD/RM No. 644/2010 on appointing competent authorities empowered with attributions and responsibilities related to the products with AO, GI and TSG;
- GD no. 915 of July 26, 2016, on approval of the Regulation on enforcement of intellectual property rights by customs authorities , that establishes procedures for the protection of IPR, including for products of GI, AO and TSG designation;

Regulatory framework: wines/agri-food

WINE

- Law No. 57-XVI of March 10, 2006, on vineyards and wines, establishing the framework for production of wines, including wines with appellation of origin, with registered designation of origin and with geographical indication;
- GD no. 356 of June 11, 2015, on approval of the Technical Regulation “Organization of the wine market” that establishes requirements related to the raw materials, the used technological procedures, the conformity evaluation procedures, and the specific requirements for market surveillance, wine production traceability, etc. essential for the wines with GI and AO.
- GD No. 741 of 22.11.2017 for the approval of the Regulation on the definition, description, presentation and labelling of aromatized wine products.
- MAFI Order No. 50 of April 4, 2012, on the approval of the demarcation of wine - growing areas for the production of wines with a protected designation of origin;
- MAFI Order No. 12 of January 12, 2016, on the delimitation of wine-growing areas for the production of wines with a protected GIs;

AGRIFOOD

- Order No. 149 of 04.08.2015 on the procedure for approval of the specifications of agricultural products and foodstuffs with GI, DO, STG.

Governmental support

- National Fund for Agriculture and Rural Area Development established by the Law No 276 from 16.12.2016 and Government Decision no. 455 of 21 June 2017 on Distribution of Funds of the National Fund for Agriculture and Rural Development
 - Compensation of up to 50% of the cost for the registration of GI, AO or TSG (under sub-measure 1.9);
 - increased compensation is provided (under Sub-measure 1.2) for the producers of technical grapes for the vineyards established in the area of a GI for the production of the GI wine.
- The agriculture producers, through the professional associations in the field of agriculture, can benefit from a compensation of 50% from the cost of participation in exhibitions, fairs, etc, but not more than 100 thousand lei per beneficiary).
- The producers of GI wines and wines products are entitled to benefit from additional support provided through the National Office for Vine and Wine.

4824 GIs protected in Moldova/15 Moldovan origin GIs

AGGPI DATABASES



National DB ▾

International DB ▾

On-line filing ▾

User guides ▾

Contacts



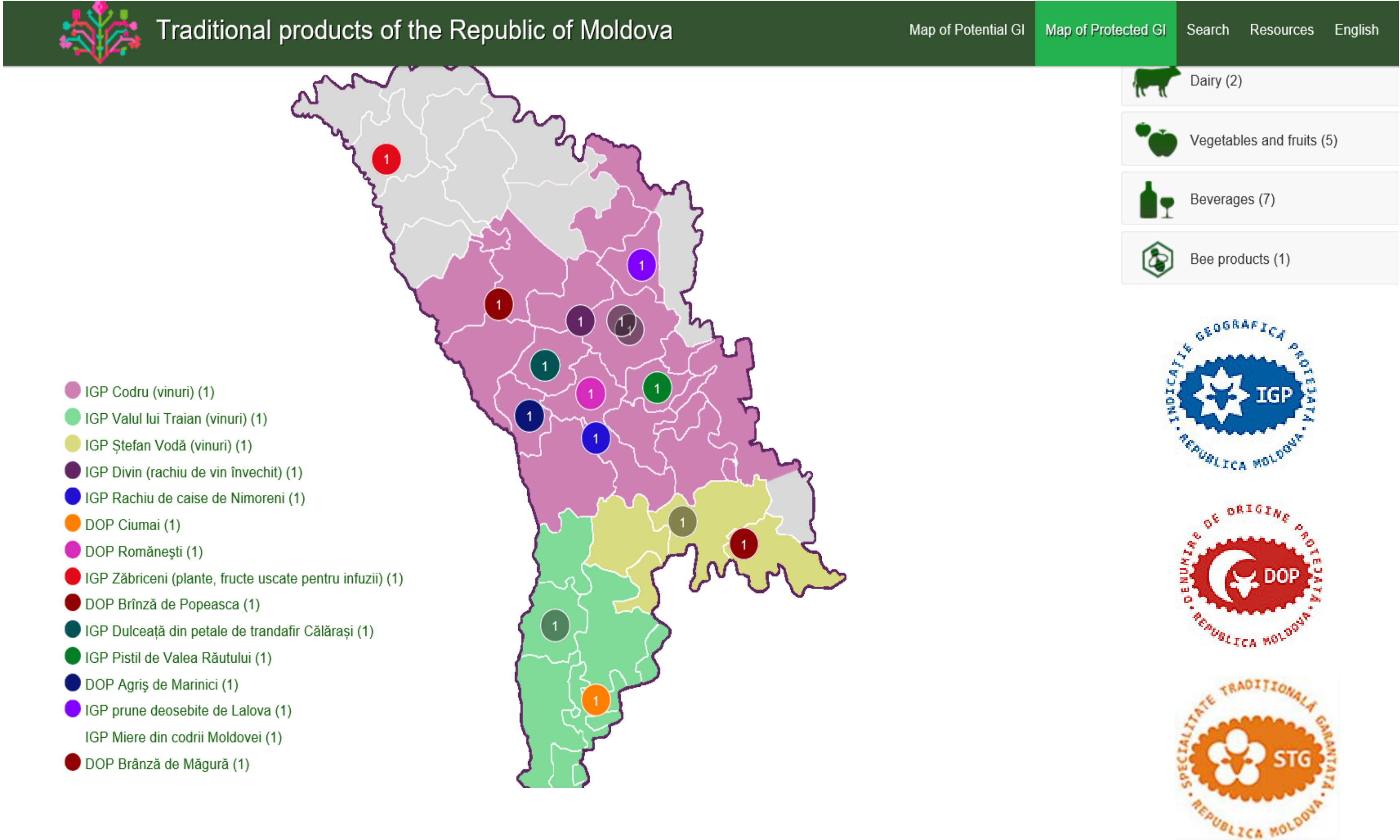
Multilateral/Bilateral Agreements

- *Lisbon Agreement for the Protection of Appellations of Origin and their International Registration- on the bases of the Lisbon Agreement (1060 AO/1 MD AO) ;*
- *EU-Moldova Association Agreement (3739 EU GIs/8 MD GIs).*
- *UK-Moldova Strategic Partnership, Trade and Cooperation Agreement (66 UK GIs/8 MD GIs).*

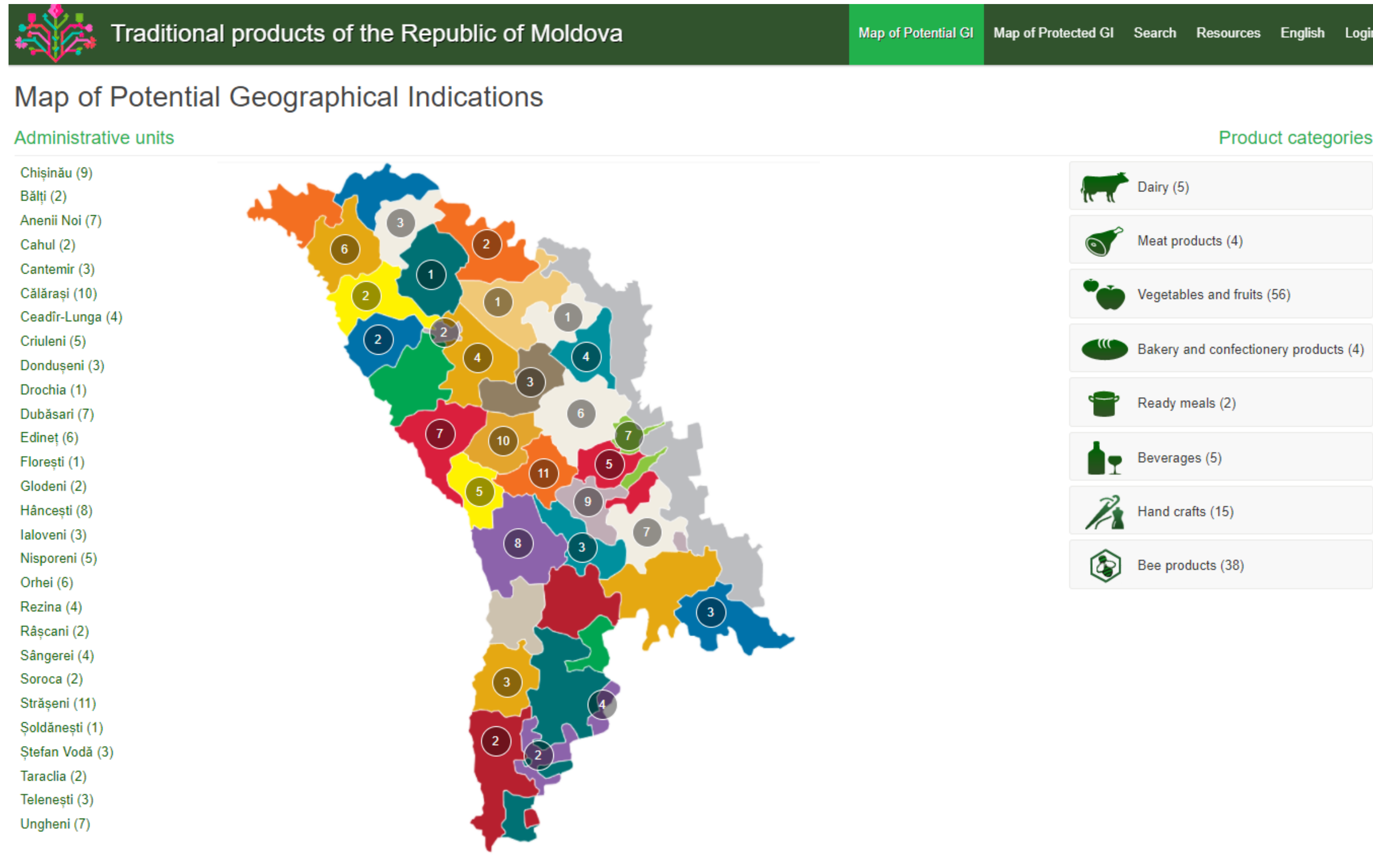
Under negotiations:

- *The Agreement Between Georgia and the Republic of Moldova on the mutual recognition and protection of geographical indications was negotiated and is ready to be signed (46 GE GIs/10 MD GIs).*
- *EFTA –Moldova Free Trade Agreement, there are ongoing negotiations on the mutual protection of GIs from Moldova, on one part, and Switzerland and Liechtenstein from the other part (221 CH/LI GIs/15 MD GIs).*

Map of Moldovan Geographical Indications



Map of Moldovan Traditional Products



Deficiencies/obstacles in GI field

- Low priority of the GI system at the level of the Government (lack of a clear policy or strategy);
- Lack of an operational certification and control system for agri-food; products – no certification bodies for agri-food products;
- Limited capacities of producers/limited GI products' volumes.
- Low level of GI knowledge and GI consumption culture;
- Limited support for GI producers;
- Complexity/high cost of the GI system for producers;
- Lack of competitive advantage (no difference in price policies);
- Limited institutional capacities in the public authorities dealing with GI (limited human resources).

FAO Role in GI quality System – MD expectations:

- *Ongoing:* FAO project “Strengthening MAFI institutional capacities in developing quality systems of the quality of Moldovan agricultural products and foodstuffs” (2019-2021)
- *More needed:* in building sustainable quality policy scheme that could help local producers to promote their products on local and third markets, contribute to sustainable regional development and promotion of country image for investments agri-food sector and domestic tourism:
 - ❖ Promote the importance of GI system among policy makers (at the Governmental and at local level);
 - ❖ Promote the consumption of local traditional products in the society (campaigns, studies, adds, etc.);
 - ❖ Contribute to the consolidation of institutional capacities of public authorities;
 - ❖ Promote the use of the GI system by producers, establishment of associations, development of value chains, organization of promotion and marketing policies;
 - ❖ Promote the role of the GI system for rural development, social sustainability, environmental sustainability and preservation of cultural heritage.

Useful links:

AGEPI GI webpage: <https://agepi.gov.md/en/content/geographical-indications-gi-appellations-origin-ao-traditional-specialties-guaranteed-tsg>

WIPO Virtual Exhibition on GIs: <https://wkce Exhibitions.wipo.int/gi/>;

MD GIs DB: <http://www.db.agepi.md/GeogrIndications/SearchGI.aspx>

Map of Traditional Products and GIs: <http://harta-ig.agepi.gov.md/>

For further Information, please contact:

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