

## Master Internship Offer (M2) Protected Geographical Indication (PGI) “Livno Cheese” (*Livanjski Sir*) and Agroecology Pathways (Bosnia & Herzegovina)

### YOUR MISSION AND YOUR ACTIVITIES

---

#### Internship Context

- In France based on the Law “for the balance of commercial relations in the agricultural and food sector and healthy, sustainable and accessible food for all” of 2018 (EGalim Law), Geographical Indications (GI) are currently engaging different initiatives aimed at better integrating agro-environmental dimensions of the production: either by modifying the product Specifications, or by adopting additional environmental certifications (organic, zero pesticides, etc.) or by initiating other voluntary approaches (charters, etc.).

Even more, at the European level, inter-professional organizations are encouraged to take a leading role in defending the environment and promoting agroecological practices (Regulation (EU) 1308/2013), particularly for products benefiting from PDO or PGI. Recently (2021), the Omnibus Regulation confirmed this orientation. Finally, the Commission’s proposal to revise the European GI regulation reinforces the possibility of including sustainability commitments directly in the product Specifications.

Bosnia-Herzegovina (BiH) is officially recognized as EU candidate country since December 2022. But for twenty years, BiH has been engaged in a process of adopting European Union norms and standards as part of pre-accession process. In that regard, BiH shares a common perspective on the evolution of the EU institutional and legal framework of quality schemes and valorization of the origin of agri-food products.

- In Canton 10 of the Bosnian Federation, producers recently (12/2023) registered “Livanjski Sir /Livno cheese” with the European Union, in order to protect and promote a product of national and regional reputation. Livno cheese market is experiencing renewed dynamism, driven by a group of semi-industrial dairies which ensure the processing and marketing of this regionally renowned cheese in Bosnia but also in Europe, particularly in Croatia and in diaspora markets. This production extends over a territory defined by the presence of four large karst poljé (Livanjsko, Glamočko Kupreško, Duvanjsko), which form a remarkable hydro-morphological unit, among the largest in Europe. The pastoral systems (sheep and cattle farms) which supply the production of Livno Cheese are then a decisive element for the assessment of the environmental and economic impact of the GI at the scale of its territory of production.

- Your internship will contribute to a research project funded by the French National Research Agency (ANR) entitled Gingko as for “*Geographic indications as knowledge commons. Reassessment of current models of regulation and collective action in the context of agroecological transitions*”. This interdisciplinary project involves the analysis of around forty case studies, representing the diversity of agroecological transition trajectories of these systems under GI scheme in France and abroad. The internship is particularly relevant to research work packages related to the description of Agroecological transitions and GI sustainability strategies through case studies (WP2) and their transversal comparative analysis (WP3).

#### Internship Objectives

The objective of the internship is to analyze the trajectories of livestock farming systems and particularly pastoral livestock farming in PGI Livanski Sir area. The aim is to describe the influence of the PGI building process of Livno Cheese (and its prospects for development) with regard to territorial development issues, in their economic and environmental dimensions. A two-fold research perspective can be envisioned:

- Analyze the trajectory of the creation of the geographical indication: retrace the history of the process of constructing the PGI (actors involved, points of consensus and dissensus, etc.); describe the evolution of cheese production practices and marketing strategies, etc. It will be important to carry out an exhaustive analysis not only of the dairies-cheese factories producing cheeses identified by the GI but also of all the large producers supplying these processors, and to address questions of leadership and productive inclusion/exclusion.

- Analyze agrarian production systems within the PGI area: to understand the agroecological issues of PGI from a territorial perspective, it is important to situate this approach in the analysis of the evolution of agrarian systems in the area, paying particular analytical attention to different breeding systems present in this area. region of karst poljes, and their impacts on the surface or underground hydrographic network, as well as on the dynamics of biodiversity protection and resource use.

The research could take the form of an agrarian diagnosis composed of: (1) a landscape and historical analysis of the territory and tracing the general evolution of agrarian systems in the area, (2) a description of the production systems coexisting in the territory, and particularly the livestock systems with regard to their access to the territory's resources (fodder autonomy and pastoral dimension). In parallel, (3) semi-directive interviews with main actors of the Livno cheese PGI building process will be carried out (a dozen) in order to characterize the evolution of the PGI and its impact on the evolution of the different production systems coexisting in the territory.

Finally, this analysis will bring a solid basis for exploring future territorial development scenarios. How can Livno Cheese producers respond to growing demand, while maintaining or even increasing their agroecological ambitions (reduction of inputs, fodder autonomy, maintenance of postural character)? What competition/synergies with other uses of the territory? Through the restitution of field work results, the internship will contribute to the participatory approaches undertaken with producers, environmental NGOs and the municipality, to identify controversies and compromises linked to sometimes opposing issues and expectations around this PGI cheese production.

## WE ARE LOOKING FOR

---

- Desired training : Agricultural engineer with a strong interest in social sciences and qualitative/quantitative analysis methods ; Master in Social Sciences (economics, geography, sociology, others)
- Knowledge/experience desired : practice of semi-structured interviews, good command of English, ability to adapted to international context, autonomy
- Experience appreciated : knowledge in quality schemes (regulations, mode of collective action, etc.) and/or breeding systems
- Driving License

### ↘ Work Conditions

- Unit : UMR Innovation – Cirad
- City : Montpellier
- Contract : Internship Agreement
- Duration : 6 months
- Starting date : 1 semester of 2024
- Remuneration : compensation according current French regulation

### ↘ How to Apply

Send a cover letter and detailed CV to:

✉ email : [claire.bernard-mongin@cirad.fr](mailto:claire.bernard-mongin@cirad.fr)

✘ Deadline to apply : **December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023**  
Applications will be considered in order of arrival