

BETTER TOGETHER.

# GI: SETTING THE SCENE

NAMC Workshop

Dr DP Troskie Elsenburg 1 March 2017

# GI: Setting the scene



CONTEXT

ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT (EPA)

AFRICAN UNION GI STRATEGY



## A Geographical Indication (GI)

#### 'n GI is:

A product whose unique quality can directly be associated with the area and people with which produces it.

#### **Examples:**

- Champagne (France)
- Parmaggianno Reggiano (Italy)
- Rooibos
- Heuningbos
- Karoo Lamb

#### Also?:

- South African Olive Oil?
- Cape Flora?
- Karoo / Cape Ostrich leather/meat?
- Cape Aloe / South African Aloe?



## **Arguments for a GI**

- Protection against usurpation
  - Protection of specific names
  - Protection of identity
  - Protect a "common good"
- Economic benefits
  - Product differentiation
  - Price premium / shelf space
  - Marketing of a region
  - Regional identity



#### A GI is not:

- It is not a trademark
- It is not a brand
- It cannot be owned by one company or person
- It cannot be disassociated from the area.
- It cannot be sold.



## Components of a GI

#### A successful GI should have:

#### The Artifact

- Product
- Place
- People

#### The System

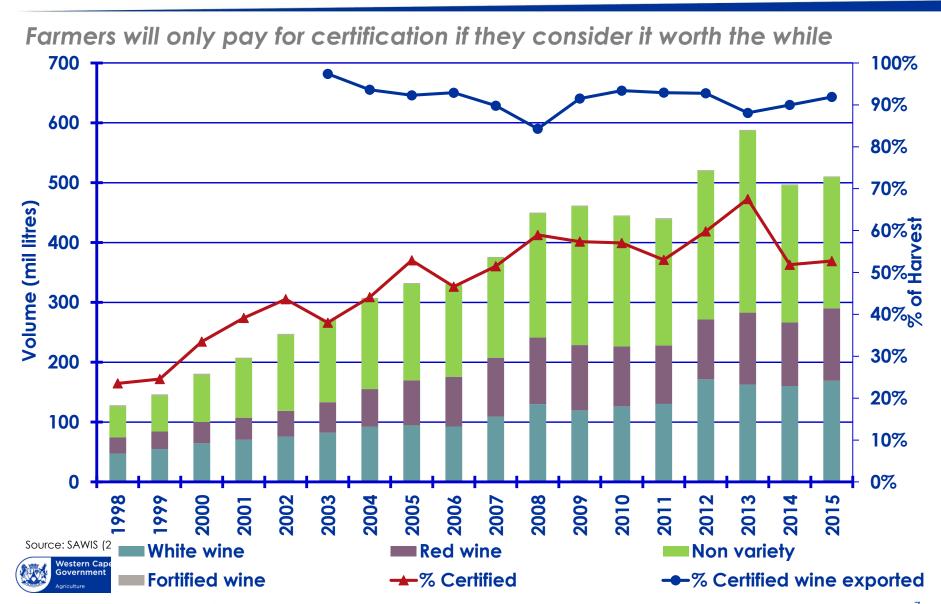
- Institutional framework
- Value chain

#### The Demand

- Consumer
- Quality perceptions
- Secondary market

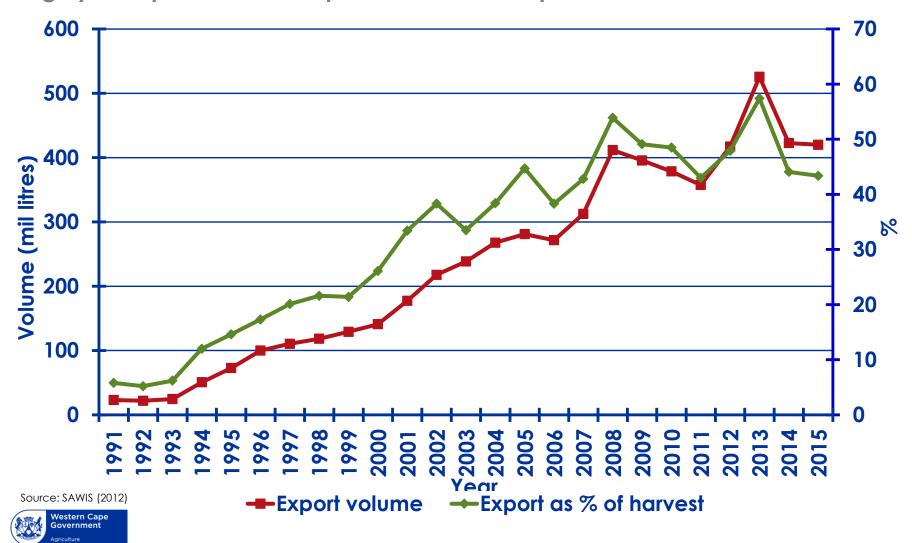


## Wine Industry: Certification



## Wine Industry: Export growth

Highly competitive, but dependent on the export market



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## The economic partnership agreement (EPA)

- To replace the Cotonou Agreement
- SA Part of the SACU EPA group
  - Problem: Nothing to purchase better market access
- Implemented on 1 November 2016
- GI is an addendum to the Agreement (only SA others may follow)
  - Provide for the in-principle mutual protection of GI
- Exchange of lists has taken place.
  - EU list published in Government Gazette of 4 February 2014 for comment
    - Wine
    - Olives
    - Cheeses
  - SA list published in EU Official Journal of 22 February 2014.
    - Mostly wine (102)
    - Also Rooibos and Honeybush
    - "Karoo Certified Meat of Origin"
- List open for additional products



#### GI IN THE EU

- Sui generis system
- Country and EU institutions in place
- Government take responsibility to police and prosecute
- More than 3 000 products
- Allow for third country registration (Café de Colombia was first)
- EU Parliament took decision that no FTA without GI clause will be ratified

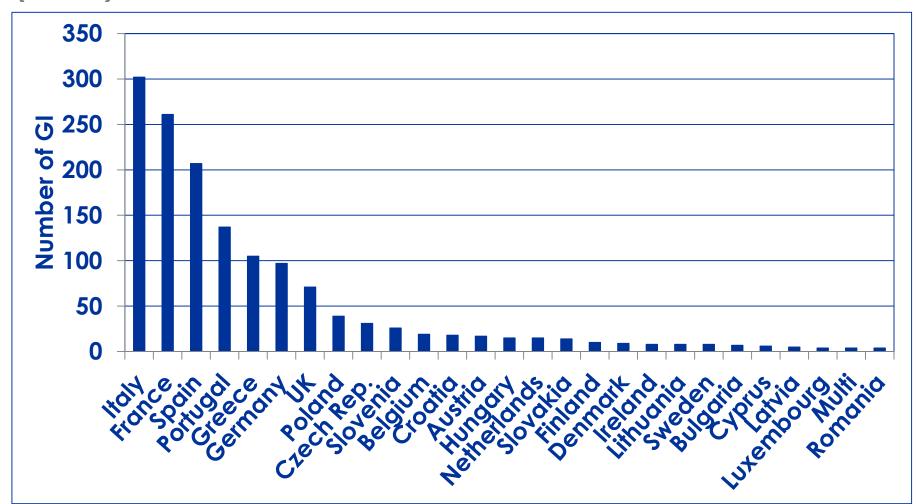






#### Non-Wine GI in the EU

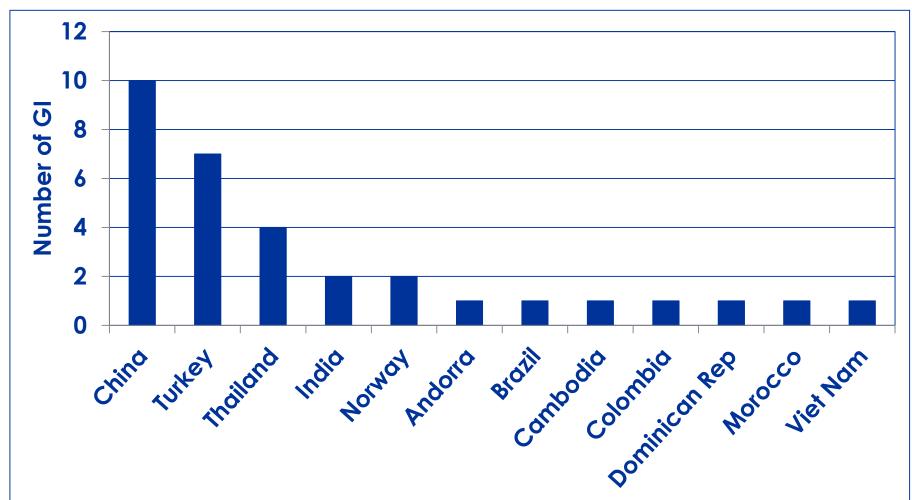
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## Non-Wine GI registered in the EU by non-EU countries







# Industries engaged in the Duras Project















# Industries currently participating

#### Products currently being explored by the WCDOA:















#### Process to be followed

- •Industries/areas need to take a decision whether they want to pursue this opportunity.
  - If they want to, domestic protection is required.
    - Wine: Liquor Products Act (60 of 1989)
    - Other (interim): Merchandise Marks Act (17 of 1941)
    - Eventual: Agricultural Product Standards Act (Act 119 of 1990)
  - To this end, the elements of protection needs to be documented
    - i.e. a product description needs to be developed.
  - Done by Industry, but the WCDOA is prepared to support industries
  - After product description, request DAFF or DTI for protection.
    - Publication in Government Gazette, etc.
- If EU GI Certification is to be explored:
  - Industry to write a letter to DTI and request inclusion in EPA.
  - DTI inform their counterparts in EU and Published in Journal of EU
  - 2 Months period for comments and EU evaluate comments.
  - If approved, DTI request inclusion in register



## The elements of a product description

- Applicant
- Name
- Description of the product
  - Type of product
  - Description of the product
  - Raw materials (for processed products)
  - Specific production steps that must take place in the geographical area.
  - Specific rules concerning slicing, grating, packaging, etc.
  - Specific rules concerning labelling.
  - Inspection and control structure
- Concise definition of the geographical area.
- Link with the geographical area.
  - Specificity of the geographical area
  - Specificity of the product
  - Reputation of the product
  - Causal link between the area, quality, reputation & other characteristics



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## The AU Policy on GI

#### Road to date:

- Draft developed during 2015.
- Draft consultation (31 May to 2 June 2016 in Benin)
- Draft finalisation and work commence on action plan (22-25 November 2016 in Nairobi).
- Further action plan discussion during August 2017 in Harare.
- The outcomes envisaged:
  - An African vision on GI
  - Legal and institutional frameworks
  - Development and registration of GI products as pilots
  - Market development for GI products
  - Research, training and extension regarding GI.
  - Stakeholder awareness
- It is proposed that 16 pilot projects should be supported:
  - 4 from members aligned to ARIPO
  - 4 from members aligned to OAPI
  - 4 from non-aligned members (e.g. South Africa)
  - 4 cross-border GI (e.g. "biltong")
- Should South Africa participate in the pilot projects?



#### **REPUTATION WITHOUT PROTECTION = DISASTER**





# Informationen

zur Marke 30771119, Stand 28.04.2010

Die Marke mit der Registernummer **30771119** ist mit den folgenden Angaben in das Register des Deutschen Patent- und Markenamts eingetragen.

Die Schutzdauer der Marke beginnt mit dem Anmeldetag und endet am 31.10.2017. Eine Verlängerung um jeweils 10 Jahre ist gemäß § 47 Markengesetz möglich.

#### Informationen zur Marke 30771119, Stand: 28.04.2010

[----] Datenbestand: DE

[111] Registernummer: 30771119

[210] Aktenzeichen: 307711111

[540] Wiedergabe der Mar e: Biltong

[550] Markenform: Wortmarke
[220] Anmeldetag: 29.10.2007

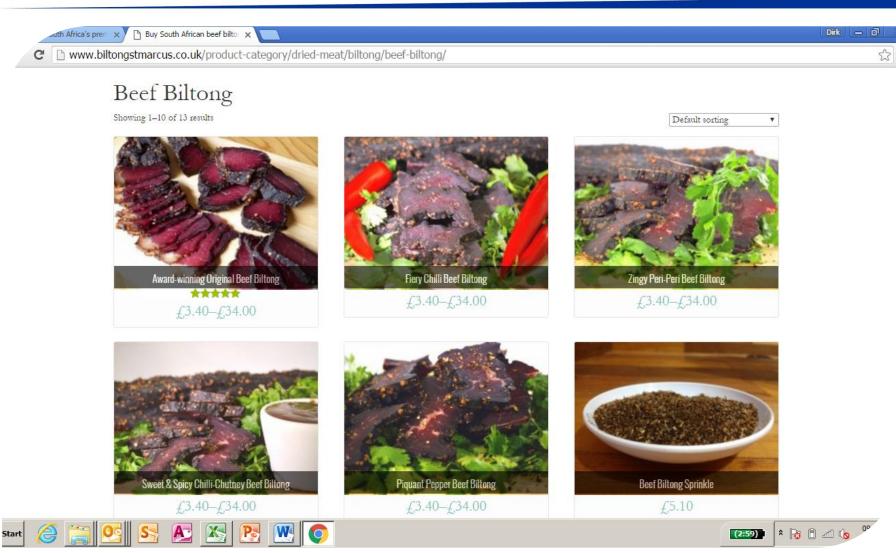
[151] Tag der Eintragung im Pogister 12 02 2000

[7 o] Inhaber: Franken, Louw, 10317 Berlin, DE; Ruscheniko, Anton, 10439 Berlin, DE

[750] Zustenans ... 10. Herry Anton Ruscheniko, Kanzowetr 9, 10430 P.

[----1 Version der Nizza-Klassifikation; NCL9

## Biltong in the UK





# Biltong in the USA

# Biltong gewild in VSA danksy Suid-Afrikaner

#### Nadine Theron

"Is dit 'n bul se tong?" vra Amerikaners wanneer Ben en Emily van den Heever hulle aan biltong voorstel.

"Die uitspraak van die woord is die grootste struikelblok," sé Ben van den Heever, medestigter van Brooklyn Biltong. "As hulle eers daardie deel onder die knie het, is hulle gou oorgehaal."

Die voorstad Brooklyn (en



Ben en Emily van den Hoover maak biltong gewild in Amerika. pie kry nie. "Ek wens dit was in die troukoek!" sê Emîly.

Die volgende dag, toe die egpaar die oorskiet-troukos aan verbygaande haweloses van hal stoep af uitgedeel het, het dit hulle getref: Biltong is voedsaam, dit bevat bate protelene en dit bederf nie vinnig nie.

"Almal wat biltong proe, kan nie weer teruggsan na gewone beef jerky nie," sê Emîly in die video.

Vandag paykonn kulle



Thank you Dankie Enkosi

# Contact Us



BETTER TOGETHER.

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