



Stephane Passeri, Officer of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations and Project Coordinator of the FAO/AFD (French Development Agency) Project on the Promotion of Rural Development through Development of Geographical Indications (GI) at Regional Level in Asia

Stephane Passeri, a national of France, is an Officer of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations since March 2013, and is currently managing the FAO/AFD (French Development Agency) Project on the Promotion of Rural Development through Development of Geographical Indications (GI) at Regional Level in Asia, stationed at the FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific in Bangkok. This 4 year project launched in February 2013 aims to increase the income of small farmers by developing GI value chains, improving market access and increasing the recognition of GI by consumers.

Previous to his current position, has been the Director for the European Patent Office (EPO) of the European Union- ASEAN Project on the Protection of Intellectual Property Rights (ECAP III Phase 1) after being previously the Administrator of the European Commission-ASEAN Intellectual Property Rights Co-operation Programme (ECAP II) implemented by EPO in cooperation with the OHIM (now called the EU IPO). These programmes focused on all areas of intellectual property addressing four main areas of cooperation, namely legal framework, administration of IPRs, enforcement and awareness activities and providing to ASEAN countries over 200 Intellectual Property related activities.

From 1998 to 2004, Mr. Passeri was stationed at the French Embassy in Thailand, being Commercial Attache and Intellectual Property Regional Coordinator in Asia-Pacific for the French Ministry of Finance, Economy and Industry and Regional Representative of the French National Institute of Industrial Property (INPI) also responsible for the coordination of the ASEM IPR Working groups in the region.

From 1998 to 2008, Mr. Passeri also directly participated to the drafting of several legislations on IPR in ASEAN countries, in particular related to Geographical Indications (Thailand, Cambodia, Lao PDR and Indonesia).

Mr. Passeri holds a master's degree in Economics from the University of Nice-Sophia Antipolis in France and a post-graduate degree in Finance and Management.

