

WIPO's Technical Assistance and Capacity Building Program

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Encouraging creativity and innovation



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Outline

- Background
- WIPO's Technical Assistance and Capacity Building Program
- Programs and Activities in Asia and the Pacific Region



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Background

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Mandate for Extending Legal and Technical Assistance

Article 4 of WIPO Convention provides that WIPO shall, *inter alia*, “offer its cooperation to States requesting legal-technical assistance in the field of intellectual property.”

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Evolution of Focus Areas

- Pre-TRIPS, emphasis was mainly on:
 - Establishment of national IP systems
 - Human resource development in IP
- Assistance after the TRIPS Agreement:
 - Implementation of the TRIPS Agreement
 - Upgrading/modernizing national IP systems
- After late 90s:
 - Demystification of IP
 - Capitalizing on the assistance rendered in the past for more economic deliverables



Current Focus

- Reinforcing the development dimension of WIPO's programs and activities
- September 2007: Adopted a Development Agenda for WIPO
- Established the Committee on Development and Intellectual Property (CDIP)
- Delivery of legal and technical assistance programs in accordance with the adopted Development Agenda



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Main Types of Assistance

Legal



Legislative
advice and
assistance

Technical



- Institution building
- Human resource development
- Raising awareness

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Legal Assistance

- Provides legal advice and assistance on strictly bilateral and confidential basis and they are also neutral and non-binding
- Advice on substantive standards of protection, IP administrative manuals, flexibilities, IP provisions in FTAs, IP policies of universities and R&D institutions, etc.
- How?
 - Written advice/comments
 - Draft laws (customized to the country's needs)
 - Face-to-face consultations/meetings



Technical Assistance

- Development of national IP policy/strategy
- Establishment/modernization of IP administrations and institutions
- Training of human resources
- Promotion of innovation and creativity
- Management of IP for business development
- Education and awareness of IP
- Special focus on the needs of LDCs
- Promotion of sub-regional & regional cooperation in IP



Principles, Modalities and Target Groups

- **Approach/guiding principles**: country-specific, needs- and demand-driven, result-oriented, integrated, cost-effective, neutrality, development-oriented, coordination and partnerships at various levels
- **Tools of delivery**: special country/regional projects, focused/interactive workshops/seminars, training programs, fellowships, expert/advisory missions, studies, provision of equipment and materials, automation tools, etc.
- **Target groups**: IP administrators, policy makers, enforcement officials as well as user community such as inventors, creators, SMEs, academia and R&D institutions, etc.



Overall Objective

Support countries to develop and enhance sustainable IP capacities, knowledge base, and institutional infrastructure, enabling them to use IP as a strategic tool for economic, social and cultural development



Programs and Activities in Asia and the Pacific Region

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Cooperation with Countries in Asia and the Pacific Region

- **Asia and the Pacific region**: Over 4 billion people (more than 60% of world's population) and 3rd largest economy in the world after Europe and North America¹
- **38 developing countries** with diverse social, political and legal systems and at different stages of economic development as well as development of intellectual property systems
- **Cooperation with sub-regional groups**: ASEAN, BIMST-EC, Forum Islands Countries, SAARC

¹ World Development Report 2008 (World Bank)

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Bilateral Agreements with Countries in the Region

- Bilateral cooperation agreements with several countries in the region for joint programs and funds-in-trust
- Countries: Japan, Australia, Singapore, and Republic of Korea and the European Commission
- Activities: Roundtables, training courses, seminars, national/regional projects, advisory/expert missions and long-term fellowships, etc.



Cooperation Agreements with Institutions in the Region

- Entered into cooperation agreements with several national institutions in the region for training and developing human resources.
- Organizes a broad range of training programs with the institutions in the region, e.g.
 - International IP Training Institute (IIPTI), Republic of Korea
 - China Intellectual Property Training Center (CIPTC)



Number of Activities in Asia and the Pacific Region (2008)

- **65** (regional, sub-regional and national) seminars, workshops and training courses
- **7** study visits organized
- **2** long-term fellowship programs
- **24** advisory/expert missions undertaken
- **9** countries receiving equipment units
- **2703** participants directly benefited from WIPO programs and activities in the region



Conclusions

- Always striving to deliver its assistance in more effective and efficient manner
- **NO** “one size fits all” approach
- WIPO at the service of its Member States



Thank you for your kind attention

(<http://www.wipo.int>)



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