

Featured cooperation initiatives taking place among countries of the South in the field of intellectual property:

Title	Description
<p><b>ARABPAT project</b></p>	<p><b>Countries/Territories</b></p> <hr/> <p>Egypt, Jordan, Morocco, Tunisia</p> <p><b>Objective</b></p> <hr/> <p>Developed with the support of EPO and WIPO in 2012, ARABPAT is a collaborative project to facilitate the production, publication and exchange of patent information in Arabic, English and French among patent offices in Arab countries. This patent information dissemination platform is open to industrial property offices of Arab countries who want to contribute to the wider dissemination of innovation and knowledge transfer in the region.</p> <p><b>Links</b></p> <hr/> <p><a href="http://arabpat.com/le-projet-arabpat-en.html">http://arabpat.com/le-projet-arabpat-en.html</a></p>
<p><b>Association of Caribbean States (ACS) project on regional branding and geographical indications</b></p>	<p><b>Countries/Territories</b></p> <hr/> <p>Antigua &amp; Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, St. Kitts &amp; Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent &amp; the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad &amp; Tobago, Venezuela</p> <p><b>Objective</b></p> <hr/> <p>Initiated in 2013, this project aims to promote export diversification, intra-regional and extra-regional trade in the region by capitalizing on regional branding through the utilization of geographical indications. The project uses a twofold approach looking at individual Member States and their unique products on one hand and looking at commonalities on a regional scale on the other hand, with the overall objective to tap into the potential of geographical indications in the region and boost economic, social and cultural development through trade and economic integration in the region.</p>

	<p><b>Links</b></p> <hr/> <p><a href="http://www.acs-aec.org/">http://www.acs-aec.org/</a>  <a href="http://www.acs-aec.org/sites/default/files/geographical_indications.pdf">http://www.acs-aec.org/sites/default/files/geographical_indications.pdf</a></p>
<p><b>Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Working Group for Intellectual Property Cooperation (AWGIPC)</b></p>	<p><b>Countries/Territories</b></p> <hr/> <p>Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Viet Nam</p> <p><b>Objective</b></p> <hr/> <p>Established in 1994, the AWGIPC is composed of the IP offices of the ASEAN Member States and aims to promote innovation and competitiveness through the use of intellectual property in the region. Based on a five-year action plan (currently for 2011-2015), the AWGIPC is responsible for 28 initiatives which include <i>inter alia</i> patent examination cooperation, the sharing of policy experiences on IP rights protection and implementation, regional capacity-building and the modernization of regional IP infrastructure. Launched in 2013, the ASEAN IP portal also provides a virtual platform for sharing IP information and data and for networking among the participating countries.</p> <p><b>Links</b></p> <hr/> <p><a href="http://www.aseanip.org/ipportal/index.php">http://www.aseanip.org/ipportal/index.php</a></p>
<p><b>Brazil Funds-in-Trust (FIT) for South-South Cooperation</b></p>	<p><b>Countries/Territories</b></p> <hr/> <p>Brazil, Arab and South American countries</p> <p><b>Objective</b></p> <hr/> <p>Administered by the WIPO Brazil Office, this FIT exclusively dedicated to South-South cooperation was established in September 2012 with the objective to increase the capacity of developing countries to use intellectual property tools for their economic and social development. The Brazilian Government committed over USD 1mio for the period 2012-2016 under this FIT and has already undertaken a number of cooperation initiatives in the field of industrial property with intellectual property offices from South American and Arab countries such as, for instance, the training of patent examiners.</p> <p><b>Links</b></p> <hr/> <p><a href="http://www.inpi.gov.br/portal/categoria/eventos/south_south">WIPO Brazil Office</a>  <a href="http://www.inpi.gov.br/portal/categoria/eventos/south_south">http://www.inpi.gov.br/portal/categoria/eventos/south_south</a></p>

<p><b>Ibero-American Program of Industrial Property and Development</b></p>	<p><b>Countries/Territories</b></p> <hr/> <p>Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Mexico, Paraguay, Peru, Portugal, Spain, Uruguay</p> <p><b>Objective</b></p> <hr/> <p>Initiated in 2012 for an initial duration of three years, the program was developed with the objective to promote development in the region through the strategic use of intellectual property in public policy and as a tool to boost the competitiveness of the industrial, trade and research sectors in the region. The project aims in particular to increase and strengthen industrial property asset generation and management, promote knowledge and technology information exchange, share best practices, and enhance management and cooperation practices among the industrial property offices of the participating countries in the region.</p> <p><b>Links</b></p> <hr/> <p><a href="http://segib.org/programas/files/2011/11/Programa-Propiedad-Intelectual.pdf">http://segib.org/programas/files/2011/11/Programa-Propiedad-Intelectual.pdf</a></p>
<p><b>INAPI Proyecta experience exchange</b></p>	<p><b>Countries/Territories</b></p> <hr/> <p>Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica</p> <p><b>Objective</b></p> <hr/> <p>Coordinated by the Chilean International Cooperation Agency and jointly funded by the European Union (EU) and the Government of Chile in the framework of the EU-Chile Program for Innovation and Competitiveness, the <i>INAPI Proyecta</i> platform was developed in 2012 with the objective to facilitate the dissemination of industrial property and knowledge transfer in Chile and in the region so as to strengthen the strategic use of intellectual property for development and to promote innovation and entrepreneurship in the region. The platform contains a number of knowledge-sharing tools including e-learning courses on industrial property, case studies, legal and technical information, patent and technology databases, a forum for exchange, and alerts on latest technological developments. The Government of Chile, with the support of WIPO, has shared its experience with Colombia and Costa Rica and is planning on exporting the experience of the <i>INAPI Proyecta</i> platform to other IP offices in the region, including through cooperation in the framework of the Pacific Alliance (Chile, Colombia, Mexico, Peru).</p> <p><b>Links</b></p> <hr/> <p><a href="http://www.inapiprojecta.cl">www.inapiprojecta.cl</a></p>

<p><b>Knowledge exchange initiative between Chile and Peru</b></p>	<p><b>Countries/Territories</b></p> <hr/> <p>Chile, Peru</p> <p><b>Objective</b></p> <hr/> <p>Knowledge-exchange initiative between the National Institute of Industrial Property of Chile (INAPI) and the National Institute for the Defense of Competition and the Protection of Intellectual Property of Peru (INDECOPI) in the area of knowledge-transfer and of the effective use of the innovation system, translated into a series of workshops and the development of a strategic plan for INDECOPI based on INAPI's experience.</p> <p><b>Links</b></p> <hr/> <p><a href="http://www.inapi.cl/">http://www.inapi.cl/</a></p>
<p><b>Knowledge exchange initiative between China and Egypt</b></p>	<p><b>Countries/Territories</b></p> <hr/> <p>China, Egypt</p> <p><b>Objective</b></p> <hr/> <p>Three-year bilateral agreement concluded in March 2013 between the Egyptian Patent Office and the Patent Office of the State Intellectual Property Office of the People's Republic of China to exchange experiences and patent information.</p> <p><b>Links</b></p> <hr/> <p><a href="http://www.egypo.gov.eg/">http://www.egypo.gov.eg/</a></p>
<p><b>Knowledge exchange initiative between Egypt and the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC)</b></p>	<p><b>Countries/Territories</b></p> <hr/> <p>Bahrain, Egypt, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates</p> <p><b>Objective</b></p> <hr/> <p>This initiative was developed with the objective to provide specific training to GCC countries on legal and technical aspects related to the examination of patent applications.</p> <p><b>Links</b></p> <hr/> <p><a href="http://www.egypo.gov.eg/">http://www.egypo.gov.eg/</a></p>

<p><b>Knowledge exchange and cooperation initiative in the field of industrial property</b></p>	<p><b>Countries/Territories</b> Côte d'Ivoire, Morocco</p> <hr/> <p><b>Objective</b> With this initiative, the participating countries agreed to strengthen their cooperation in the field of industrial property, including through the promotion of partnerships among small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) in the two countries.</p> <hr/> <p><b>Links</b> <a href="http://www.oipi.ci/">http://www.oipi.ci/</a></p>
<p><b>Knowledge exchange and cooperation in the field of copyright and related rights between the National Copyright Institute of Mexico (INDAUTOR) and other national copyright offices</b></p>	<p><b>Countries/Territories</b> Mexico, Colombia; Mexico, Costa Rica; Mexico, Ecuador; Mexico, Guatemala; Mexico, Paraguay; Mexico, Peru</p> <hr/> <p><b>Objective</b> Concluded for an initial duration of three years, these bilateral cooperation agreements between INDAUTOR and the national copyright offices of Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guatemala, Paraguay and Peru aim to strengthen cooperation and knowledge exchange in the field of copyright and related rights among the participating countries.</p> <hr/> <p><b>Links</b> <a href="http://www.indautor.gob.mx/">http://www.indautor.gob.mx/</a></p>
<p><b>Knowledge and information exchange initiative between members of the West African Economic and Monetary Union (UEMOA)</b></p>	<p><b>Countries/Territories</b> Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea Bissau, Mali, Niger, Senegal, Togo</p> <hr/> <p><b>Objective</b> This initiative was developed with the objective to promote information exchange and good practices in the field of intellectual property protection among participating countries and to strengthen their respective intellectual property systems through knowledge exchange.</p> <hr/> <p><b>Links</b> <a href="http://www.uemoa.int">http://www.uemoa.int</a></p>

<p><b>LATIPAT</b></p>	<p><b>Countries/Territories</b></p> <hr/> <p>Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Spain, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay, Venezuela</p> <p><b>Objective</b></p> <hr/> <p>Developed with the support of the Spanish Patent and Trademark Office, EPO and WIPO, LATIPAT is a patent database established with the objective to promote the exchange of patent information in Spanish and Portuguese and to set up and maintain an updated regional database containing information on patents published in Latin American countries. Nowadays the database contains more than one million and a half bibliographical information and several thousands of images.</p> <p><b>Links</b></p> <hr/> <p><a href="http://lp.espacenet.com/?locale=en_LP">http://lp.espacenet.com/?locale=en_LP</a></p>
<p><b>Open African Innovation Research and Training (Open A.I.R) Project</b></p>	<p><b>Countries/Territories</b></p> <hr/> <p>Botswana, Cameroon, Canada, Germany, Ghana, Egypt, Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Nigeria, Senegal, South Africa, Tanzania, Tunisia, Uganda</p> <p><b>Objective</b></p> <hr/> <p>Launched in 2011, the Open A.I.R. Project is investing in pan-African research, networking, capacity-building and policy engagement with the central aim to investigate how IP regimes can be harnessed in Africa to facilitate innovation through collaboration and to make processes more participatory, knowledge more accessible, and benefits more widely shared. Funded by Canada's International Development Research Centre and Germany's Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, the Open A.I.R. Project focuses on empirical research across the African continent as well as training and capacity-building for researchers, policy leaders, innovators and creators through seminars, workshops and specific courses on IP and development.</p> <p><b>Links</b></p> <hr/> <p><a href="http://www.openair.org.za/">http://www.openair.org.za/</a></p>

<p><b>PlagioS.O.S.</b></p>	<p><b>Countries/Territories</b></p> <hr/> <p>Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Spain, Uruguay, Venezuela</p> <p><b>Objective</b></p> <hr/> <p>PlagioS.O.S. is a virtual platform designed to facilitate the sharing of information and documents related to, in particular, the protection and enforcement of copyright and related rights, with the ultimate objective to raise awareness of the importance of copyright protection and to stimulate creativity in the region. The portal includes relevant legislation, articles, case studies, and a space for networking.</p> <p><b>Links</b></p> <hr/> <p><a href="http://www.plagiosos.org/">http://www.plagiosos.org/</a></p>
<p><b>PROSUR</b></p>	<p><b>Countries/Territories</b></p> <hr/> <p>Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Uruguay</p> <p><b>Objective</b></p> <hr/> <p>PROSUR was established in 2009 as a regional partnership among nine South American countries – Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname and Uruguay – to promote innovation, competition, and entrepreneurship in the region through the strategic use of intellectual property rights, and in particular through the establishment of a common and collaborative platform for the integration and exchange of information on patent applications, patent examination results, and other intellectual property resources among the nine participating countries.</p> <p><b>Links</b></p> <hr/> <p><a href="http://www.prosur.org.ar/">http://www.prosur.org.ar/</a></p>

<p><b>Regional Copyright Observatory (RCO), Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)</b></p>	<p><b>Countries/Territories</b></p> <p>Benin, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Côte d'Ivoire, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Togo</p> <p><b>Objective</b></p> <p>Initiated in 2010, this structure was developed with the objective to promote the role and importance of copyright, strengthen the protection of copyright, and promote the development of cultural industries in the region.</p> <p><b>Links</b></p> <p><a href="http://www.ecowas.int/">http://www.ecowas.int/</a></p>
<p><b>Southern Africa Innovation Support (SAIS) programme</b></p>	<p><b>Countries/Territories</b></p> <p>Botswana, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Zambia</p> <p><b>Objective</b></p> <p>Funded by the Finnish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the SAIS programme seeks to promote innovation in southern Africa through collaboration between the innovation systems of the five participating countries and the development of technology transfer offices to support the exploitation and protection of intellectual property generated from research activities in the region.</p> <p><b>Links</b></p> <p><a href="http://www.saisprogramme.com/">http://www.saisprogramme.com/</a></p>
<p><b>Summit of South American-Arab Countries (ASPA)</b></p>	<p><b>Countries/Territories</b></p> <p>Members States of the League of Arab States (LAS) and of the Union of South American Nations (UNASUR)</p> <p><b>Objective</b></p> <p>Established in 2005, the main purpose of ASPA is to foster economic, cultural, social, scientific and technical cooperation among the two regions. In the field of intellectual property, the two regions agreed to exchange IP knowledge and information, to collaborate on IP rights enforcement, to exchange best practices and experiences, to strengthen IP training, education and awareness, and to strengthen capacities for innovation.</p> <p><b>Links</b></p> <p><a href="http://www.aspa3.com/">http://www.aspa3.com/</a></p>



<b>Support System for the Management of Patent Applications (CADOPAT)</b>	<b>Countries/Territories</b>
	Belize, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Panama, Nicaragua, ARIPO Member States (Botswana, Gambia, Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sudan, Swaziland, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe)
	<b>Objective</b>
	Established with the objective to facilitate the sharing of information from patent examinations and to support IP offices in, initially, the Central American and Caribbean region in state-of-the-art searches and substantive examination of patent applications procedures, the CADOPAT platform was extended to other interested countries, including ARIPO Member States, so that they could also benefit from this service.
	<b>Links</b>
	<a href="https://cadopat.impi.gob.mx/index.do">https://cadopat.impi.gob.mx/index.do</a>

[Contact us](#) if you would like to submit another South-South or triangular cooperation initiative or fill in this [questionnaire](#).