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The Funds-in-Trust of the KIPO for IP and Education

The World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and the Korean Intellectual Property Office (KIPO) share a common vision to promote the benefits of intellectual property for developing countries, least-developed countries (LDCs) and countries in transition. Working towards this goal, the WIPO-Korea Funds-in-Trust (FIT Korea) provides technical assistance and capacity-building initiatives, in support of fueling innovation.

Established in 2004, the FIT for Industrial Property (FIT/ROK IP) has worked to enhance IP capacities in support of innovation, creativity, and entrepreneurship. Furthermore, the FIT for Intellectual Property Education (FIT/KREDU) was launched in 2011 to support human resources development through IP knowledge and skills building.

As of 2024, KIPO has contributed an estimated total of 15 million Swiss Francs towards IP and education under the FIT.



History of WIPO-FIT KIPO Activities



- PCT-ROAD Development and Distribution
- PCT On/Off-line Training
- Seminars on IP and Technologies
- Workshops on Patent information, IP Strategies and IP Management
- IP Panorama Forum
- IP Awareness Publication Translation



- IP Animation (Pororo) for Children
- Appropriate Technology Competitions
- Training Programs for IP Offices
- IP Forum on Green Growth
- IP Panorama for SME IP Awareness
- IP Education Resources for Children



- Guide on Alternative Dispute Resolutions (ADR)
- Training Programs for IP Offices
- Heads of IP Offices Conference (HIPOC)
- On/Off-line Blended Learning Course for IP Teachers
- Appropriate Technology Competitions
- IP Education Resources for Children



- Joint Master's Program in IP and Development Policy
- Leadership Course for Women Scientists
- Training Courses for IP Examiners
- IP Course for Industrial Development
- IP Commercialization Project
- Brand Development and Capacity Building
- Trade Secrets Guide / Blockchain Whitepaper
- IP Panorama 2.0
- National Invention and Creativity Education Program





20th Anniversary of WIPO-KIPO Cooperation Through The Funds-In-Trust Republic Of Korea











Fostering IP Talents of Youth

Disseminating IP Contents for Children





[Photos: Pororo Animation]

The animation series "Getting Creative with Pororo" has become an influential resource for IP education among children. First produced in 2011, the series has five episodes that help young children get a basic grasp of IP. The series is available on WIPO's YouTube Channel in nine languages.









Guideboo

Additional educational materials have been produced to supplement the animation, such as a guidebook and workbooks for three episodes published in five languages.

Appropriate Technology Competitions

Appropriate technology competitions have gained significant traction worldwide as a platform for promoting innovative sustainable solutions to challenges faced by local communities. WIPO, KIPO, and local partners have jointly hosted 23 competitions in 13 countries from 2011 until 2024 to foster innovation and encourage social entrepreneurship across various sectors.



[Photo: WIP

Promoting Innovation for Women and Businesses

Leadership Course for Women Scientists

The Leadership Course on IP, Science and Innovation for Women Scientists and Innovators is an endeavor that is to promote gender equality in the field of IP. Organized by WIPO, UNESCO and KIPO, this course aims to help women scientists and innovators understand the different forms and significance of IP, as well as to utilize IP in research, development, and commercialization. The initial course was held in WIPO in April 2023, and will be held in Korea in following years, with the support of the FIT Korea





[Photos: WIPO/Berrod]

Empowerment through Branding for Businesses

Branding projects began in 2018 to exemplify the transformative power of strategic identity building. Since then, projects have been implemented in many countries such as Iran, Bangladesh, and Niue. By effectively communicating unique local attributes and value propositions, businesses can strive to enhance their global standing, economic growth, and cultural preservation.



Photo: KIPI]

Capacity Building for IP Professionals and SMEs

Joint Master's in IP and Development Policy

The Joint Master's Degree Program in IP and Development Policy (MIPD) offers a variety of theoretical and practical knowledge to participants, providing an indepth understanding of IP and development, and the role of IP as a tool for innovation, economic growth and sustainable development.





[Photos: KIPO]

IP Course for Industrial Development

The WIPO-UNIDO-KIPO Training Course on IP and Polices for Industrial Development engages government officials involved in national industrial policies. The program equips government officials involved in handling industrial and SMEs policies with the capabilities to use IP towards fully benefiting from the advantages of IP.





[Photos: KIP0]

IP Panorama 2.0

IP Panorama is an online learning course designed to help SMEs, entrepreneurs, students, and young professionals seeking knowledge and skills to use and manage IP for business success. The 8-module course puts a focuses on the application of knowledge and the practical steps necessary to use IP for leveraging the commercial value of ideas and businesses.

What's Next?

National Capacity for Innovative and Creative Youth

National Invention & Creativity Education (NICE) is a government-driven education system that aims to raise awareness of the importance and positive role of IP and invention education for young students. With IP and invention education being introduced into class rooms across at schools, the youth are encouraged to participate in innovative and creative activities in association with IP. They are also empowered to grow into innovative future leaders and entrepreneurs. The first course for teachers and policy makers was held in November 2023 in the Republic of Korea.

Follow-up projects, with the support of FIT-Korea, will follow and offer opportunities for teachers and schools in developing countries to build up capacity to create curricula and textbooks, in order to educate students on IP and problem-solving through invention. The initiative will contribute to fostering talents and leaders by bringing IP and invention focused education to schools, who will be leading the sustainable development of societies and and communities.

Enhancing AI and IP Expertise

The expanding influence of artificial intelligence (AI) in IP presents both opportunities and challenges. Our next step is to empower IP offices and the public with the knowledge and tools needed to navigate the AI landscape in IP. This initiative is focused on delivering education and resources to demystify AI and promote its effective use in IP, ensuring equitable growth and participation.

