

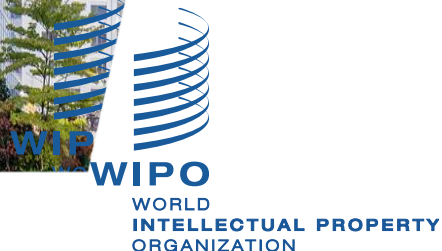
Recent developments in WIPO initiatives for strengthening technological capacities of LDCs

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WIPO's Vision

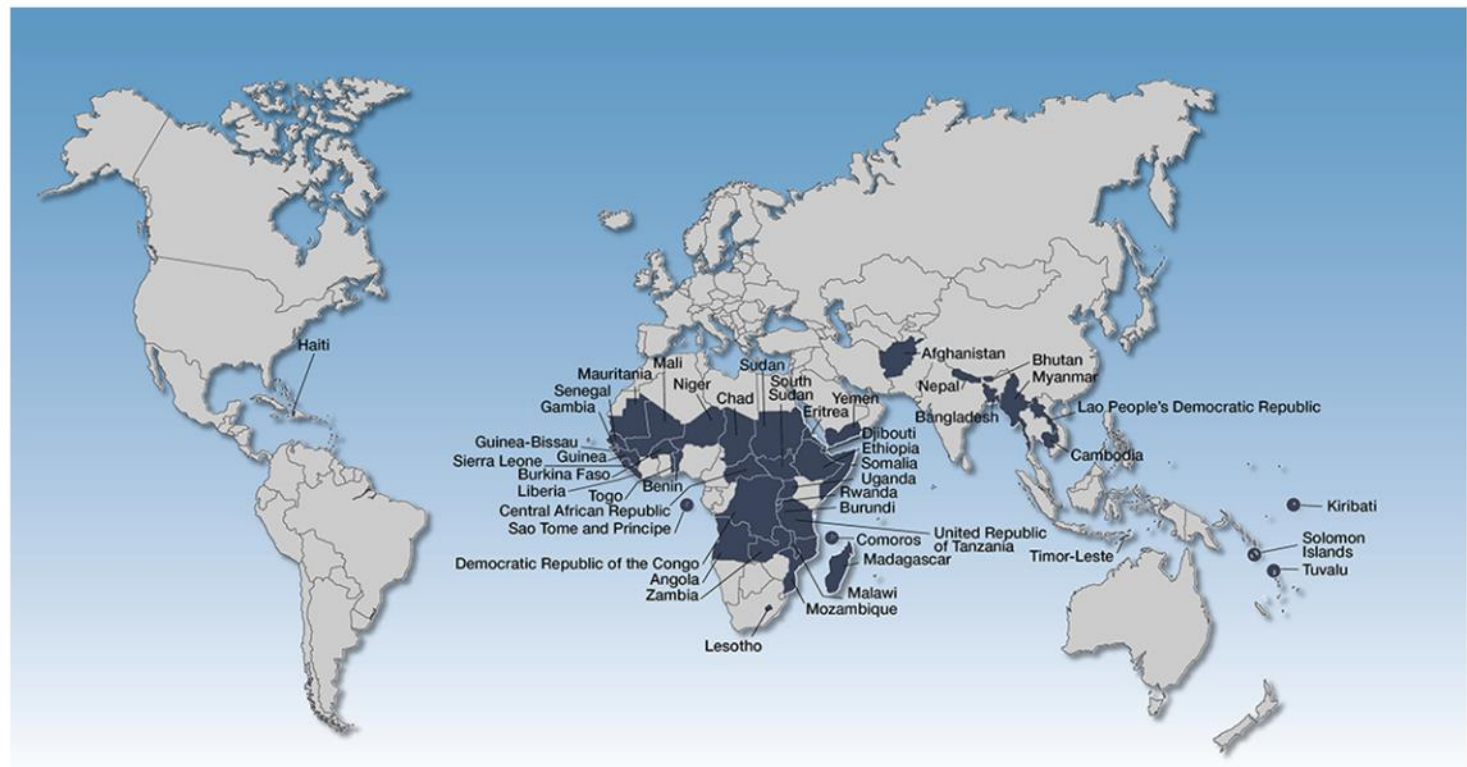
- Building an inclusive global IP ecosystem for all countries and their interested stakeholders.
- Working towards a balanced ecosystem where all global innovation stakeholders can participate and benefit from it.
- Forward-looking ecosystem to broaden its perspective of IP beyond its legal and technical aspects to its powerful role as a supporter of entrepreneurs and enterprises, catalyst for investments, driver for economic growth and a promoter of social vibrancy.

Mission

- The Division for LDCs is responsible for assisting 46 LDCs in using IP for institution building and development with defined objectives, as set out by **“Medium-term strategic plan (MTSP) for WIPO for 2022-2026”**, as well as **WIPO Deliverables for LDCs**, which contributes to the implementation of the **UN Programme of Action for LDCs**.

[46 countries]

Africa 33, Asia 9, Caribbean 1 and Pacific 3



It is also pertinent to note that WIPO implements its technical assistance in LDCs in cooperation and guidance with all development partners, especially donor countries and in consultation with relevant United System wide organization such as:

- (1) The United Nations Office of High Representative for Least Developed, Land Locked and Small Island Developing States (UN OHRLLS)
- (2) The United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN-ESCAP), and
- (3) The World Trade Organization (WTO)

A wide range of technical cooperation activities is undertaken by WIPO relating to the TRIPS Agreement. WIPO regularly responds to requests from least-developed countries (LDCs), developing countries, and countries in transition to provide TRIPS-related legislative advice and conduct technical cooperation activities. These activities fall within the framework of the 1995 WIPO-WTO Cooperation Agreement and the ensuing 2001 WIPO-WTO joint initiative on technical cooperation to assist LDCs.

New adopted WIPO Deliverables for LDCs for 2022-2031

During the last decade, WIPO has also been actively contributing to the implementation of the Istanbul Program of Action for LDCs through a comprehensive set of support activities defined in “WIPO Deliverables for LDCs for 2011-2020”. This practice has been unique within the UN system.

I. Building an enabling national intellectual property (IP) environment, innovation and creative ecosystems in LDCs to drive economic growth and development

1.1 Continued support for developing, implementing and updating national IP and innovation policies and strategies, as well as relevant IP laws, in alignment with national development goals, as well as their preparation for graduation from the LDC category and smooth transition strategies;

1.2 Enhanced support for developing institutional IP policies in universities to encourage creating IP and bringing research results to the next stage of development and to enable closer linkages between university and industry.

II. Enhancing IP knowledge and skills for a broad spectrum of national stakeholders in the innovation and creative ecosystems in the LDCs to enable the practical use of IP for value creation, economic growth and competitiveness, and sustainable development

Deliverables:

- 2.1 Supporting the use of IP for product branding and design for strengthening business competitiveness, in particular in agro-food, textile, artisanal, hospitality and tourism industries;
- 2.2 Building skills on management and commercialization of IP assets for SMEs and start-ups;
- 2.3 Support in leveraging copyright and related rights in the creative industries, including through strengthening collective management organizations (CMOs);
- 2.4 Facilitating the effective use of patent information for research and development, as well as for technological capacity building, through sustained skills building;
- 2.5 Continued support for the IP Office digitization and automation to enhance the efficiency and accessibility of their services;
- 2.6 Assistance on the use of IP for holders of traditional knowledge (TK), traditional cultural expressions (TCEs) and Genetic Resources (GRs) for the protection, preservation and use of their tradition-based innovation and creativity for wealth creation and sustainable development.

How we work

- The Division for LDCs serves as **WIPO's development cooperation arm for LDCs** to promote the use of innovation and creativity to enhance their productive capacity and competitiveness in a rapidly evolving knowledge economy through building a national knowledge base.
- Implements **tangible, nationally focused and result-oriented development cooperation** programs and projects for the benefit of LDCs.

Key pillars of activities

Pillar One

- Promoting the use of IP for development in LDCs with defined objectives through needs-based, tailor-made capacity building activities and projects

Pillar Two

- Coordinating WIPO activities for Least Developed Countries and collaborating with the UN support system for LDCs

Pillar Three

- Research and Policy Studies on crosscutting thematic issues for LDCs

Highlight of main technical cooperation for LDCs (part I)

1. Knowledge transfer activities for strengthening IP human and institutional capacity for the promotion of innovation and technological capacity have been one of the key focus areas of WIPO's support to LDCs (with Swedish IP Office (PRV) and the Swedish International Development Cooperation (Sida) : since 2004 with participation over 1000 Senior Official from LDCs with over 350 country projects in various IP areas
2. Facilitating access to technological and scientific knowledge available globally in specialized databases of the IP system and in scientific literature ([Access to Specialized Patent Information \(ASPI\)](#), [Access to Research for Development and Innovation \(ARDI\)](#))
3. Public–private partnerships
 1. WIPO Green: global market place promoting green technology innovation with 11 partners offering over 3,000 climate-friendly technologies
 2. WIPO Match: free online tool used to match seekers of specific need of specific IP related development needs with potential providers offering resources with 120 partners from 53 countries

Highlight of main technical cooperation for LDCs (Part II)

4. Establishment of Technology and Innovation Support Centers (TISCs), which are an institutional and infrastructural response to the need of accessing technical and scientific information

- TISCs provide the local research and business community with expert assistance in the effective retrieval of technical and scientific information including resources such as online access to patent, scientific and technical journal databases.
- Between 2010 and 2021, TISC networks have been established by WIPO in 27 LDCs in Africa and Asia.

5. Developing and implementing Innovation and Intellectual Property (IP) Policies and Strategies.

Highlight of main technical cooperation for LDCs (Part III)

6. WIPO DLDC : Transfer of Appropriate Technology

Objectives

1. Identification of appropriate technology which can be deployed in specific communities to fulfill development needs.
2. Support Least Developed Countries in the identification, management, administration and utilization of patent, technical and scientific information with a focus on patent information (technical capacity building)

Key themes of the program

- Knowledge and technology as a tool for development
- Scientific and Technical Information (including patent information) is an important (often underutilized) resource
- Provides Technical Solutions for Identified Development Need Areas
- Linkage to National Development Plans
- Building Technical Capacity in the use of Patent Information.
- Creation of Institutions (National Expert Groups)
- Country Driven Implementation Process

Key Deliverables

Patent search requests

- Analysis of the problem area and specific needs for which technologies are required

Patent search reports

- Detailed picture of the technical solutions available from patent documents

Technology Landscape Reports

- Detailed analysis of the technologies provided in the search reports and the most relevant appropriate technology for each of the identified needs

Business Plans

- Describe how best the technologies could be deployed and commercialized including strategies to assist national institutions in applying the identified technologies in the designated communities.

Implementation

- 12 projects have been implemented in 6 beneficiary countries (Bangladesh, Ethiopia, Nepal, Rwanda, Tanzania, Zambia)
 - **12 Development Need Areas** Identified (2 for each country)
 - **6 National Expert Groups** established
 - **12 Patent Search Requests**
 - **12 Patent Search Reports**
 - **12 Technology Landscape Reports**
 - **12 Business Plans** for application of the identified technology
 - Identification of **12 Appropriate Technologies** for development needs

Implementation

The project is currently being implemented in Mozambique, Senegal and Uganda.

The identification of the following Appropriate Technologies is underway:

Mozambique

1. AT for a fish incubator for the production of high quality “tilapia fry” and “fingerlings” (aquaculture)
2. AT for anaerobic digesters for conversion of waste into biogas and bio fertilizers for smallholder farmers

Senegal

1. AT for the drying of fruit (onion and mango)
2. AT for the extraction of oils for waste recovery and value addition.

Uganda

1. AT for wood firing of bricks
2. AT for Rainwater Harvesting and Treatment

Conclusion

- Gender equality and women's empowerment in the use of IP tools for invention, innovation and technological capacity building are also integral part of the work of the Division for LDCs. As a result of this engagement, training and capacity building activities for women entrepreneurs and inventors have been organized in Uganda, Cambodia and Sudan.
- WIPO has also put in place initiatives to spur innovation in battling the Covid-19 pandemic in LDCs. This includes a new search functionality for its global patent database, PATENTSCOPE, to facilitate the location and retrieval of information contained in published patent documents that may be useful for Covid-19 related technologies.
- **Capacity-and institution-building for science, technology, innovation and intellectual property in LDCs, as well as facilitating the use of technologies for development of LDCs will continue to be key areas of priority for WIPO.**



INNOVATION

distinguishes between a

LEADER

and a

FOLLOWER.

Be the market leader. Take risks, innovate and excel.

Thank You!



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Division for LDCs

