

**Proposal for a Project for the Implementation of Certain Recommendations of the
World Intellectual Property Organization Development Agenda**

1. SUMMARY	
Project Code:	DA_1_10_11_13_19_25_32_01
Project Title:	Project on Enhancing Cooperation on IP and Development Among Developing Countries and LDCs
Development Agenda Recommendations:	<p>1, 10, 11, 13, 19, 25, 32:</p> <p><u>Cluster A: Technical Assistance and Capacity Building:</u></p> <p>Recommendation 1: WIPO technical assistance shall be, <i>inter alia</i>, development-oriented, demand-driven and transparent, taking into account the priorities and the special needs of developing countries, especially LDCs, as well as the different levels of development of Member States and activities should include time frames for completion. In this regard, design, delivery mechanisms and evaluation processes of technical assistance programs should be country specific.</p> <p>Recommendation 10: To assist Member States to develop and improve national intellectual property institutional capacity through further development of infrastructure and other facilities with a view to making national intellectual property institutions more efficient and promote fair balance between intellectual property protection and the public interest. This technical assistance should also be extended to sub-regional and regional organizations dealing with intellectual property.</p> <p>Recommendation 11: To assist Member States to strengthen national capacity for protection of domestic creations, innovations and inventions and to support development of national scientific and technological infrastructure, where appropriate, in accordance with WIPO's mandate.</p> <p>Recommendation 13: WIPO's legislative assistance shall be, <i>inter alia</i>, development-oriented and demand-driven, taking into account the priorities and the special needs of developing countries, especially LDCs, as well as the different levels of development of Member States and activities should include time frames for completion.</p> <p><u>Cluster B: Norm-Setting, Flexibilities, Public Policy and Public Domain:</u></p> <p>Recommendation 19: To initiate discussions on how, within WIPO's mandate, to further facilitate access to knowledge and technology for developing countries and LDCs to foster creativity and innovation and to strengthen such existing activities within WIPO.</p> <p><u>Cluster C: Technology Transfer, Information and Communication</u></p>

	<p><u>Technologies (ICT) and Access to Knowledge:</u></p> <p>Recommendation 25: To explore intellectual property -related policies and initiatives necessary to promote the transfer and dissemination of technology, to the benefit of developing countries and to take appropriate measures to enable developing countries to fully understand and benefit from different provisions, pertaining to flexibilities provided for in international agreements, as appropriate.</p> <p>Recommendation 32: To have within WIPO opportunity for exchange of national and regional experiences and information on the links between IPRs and competition policies.</p>
Project Budget:	<p><u>Non-Personnel Costs:</u> To be provided in consultation with WIPO Secretariat;</p> <p><u>Personnel Costs:</u> To be provided in consultation with WIPO Secretariat and including the assignment of one WIPO staff as focal point for South-South Cooperation.</p>
Project Duration:	In its first stage, the project would last 24 months.
Key WIPO Sectors Involved:	<p><u>Key WIPO Sectors Involved:</u> Cooperation for Development Sector; Patents Sector; Trademarks, Industrial Designs and Geographical Indications Sector; Copyright Sector; Global Issues Sector; Global Infrastructure Sector.</p> <p>It is envisaged that a focal point for South-South Cooperation would be established within the WIPO Secretariat to support activities in this area.</p>
Brief Description of Project:	This project relates to specific DA recommendations in the areas of promoting development-oriented IP technical and legal assistance (1, 13), IP institutional capacity building (10), domestic innovation capacity building (11), facilitating access and dissemination of knowledge and technology, and the use of IP flexibilities (19, 25), and understanding the link between IP and competition policies (32). The project is suggested under the framework of South-South cooperation, and it is envisaged that it will play an important role in achieving the objectives described in the relevant DA recommendations above.

2. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

2.1 Introduction to the Issue/Concern:

Developing countries, including LDCs, are increasingly using IP as a tool for economic development. In recent years, this has included innovative means of deploying IP in a balanced manner, conscious of their particular socio-economic conditions, while taking into account their different levels of development. As such, an independent body of knowledge and experience on the strategic use of IP for development has sprung up in the South. This project attempts to harvest and exchange this valuable knowledge and experience about IP

and Development through enhancing cooperation in this area among developing countries and LDCs.

The project thus relates to specific DA recommendations in the areas of promoting development-oriented IP technical and legal assistance (1, 13), IP institutional capacity building (10), domestic innovation capacity building (11), facilitating access and dissemination of knowledge and technology, and the use of IP flexibilities (19, 25), and understanding the link between IP and competition policies (32).

The project is suggested under the consideration that South-South cooperation can play an important role in achieving the objectives described under the relevant DA recommendations above.

South-South cooperation is one stream of the broader avenues of cooperation, which runs in parallel to and is not a substitute for North-South Cooperation. Furthermore, the intersection of these two streams, the field of trilateral North-South-South cooperation should continue to be promoted in parallel. For this current project, South-South cooperation is particularly useful to achieving pro-development IP systems in developing countries and LDCs given the particular circumstances and challenges developing countries and LDCs face, and the ability to share information and promote understanding of the practical initiatives that developing countries and LDCs can and have utilized to link IP as a tool to broader public policies and development goals.

WIPO can undertake specific activities to promote South-South cooperation in the areas described. This project suggests some activities in that direction.

2.2 Objectives:

The objectives of this project are to contribute to an enhanced capacity for developing countries and LDCs to make the most effective use of IP for development within the context of their socio-economic conditions, and their different levels of development. This is in line with the achievement of the objectives of the DA recommendations noted above.

Part of these objectives includes the ability of developing countries and LDCs to share their knowledge and experience in the area of IP and Development.

The project should contribute to better-informed socio-economic context-sensitive decision-making on IP policies at the national and regional levels in the South.

2.3 Delivery Strategy:

The WIPO Secretariat, through establishing a South-South cooperation focal point, would undertake the following:

- a. Organization of regional and inter-regional meetings among developing countries and LDCs to foster the sharing of national experiences, including historical experiences, and information on the process of design of national IP policy and legislation, and its implementation, and use of IP flexibilities. These meetings should also include participants from regional and international governmental organizations of developing countries. This should include the organization of an Annual WIPO Inter-Regional

Conference on South-South Cooperation on IP and Development.

- b. Support and assist developing countries and LDCs to provide training and capacity building activities to other developing countries and LDCs, including in the training of patent examiners, and other IP officials, judiciary, competition authorities, sharing of information among IP offices.
- c. Increase the use in WIPO technical assistance and capacity building activities of resource persons and experience sharing from developing countries and LDCs.
- d. Dedicate a page on the WIPO website to South-South Cooperation on IP and Development.¹
- e. Organization of meetings and establishment of an interactive web portal/virtual network among IP offices, universities, public research institutions, and civil society organizations in developing countries and LDCs, to foster the building of institutional linkages and collaborative research projects, and enhance access to knowledge, and the transfer of technology.
- f. Establish links and coordination with the UNDP Special Unit for South-South Cooperation, as the designated UN System focal point for such cooperation.

3. REVIEW AND EVALUATION

To be provided in consultation with WIPO Secretariat.

4. IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINE

To be provided in consultation with WIPO Secretariat.

5. BUDGET

To be provided in consultation with WIPO Secretariat.

¹ A good example in this regard is the UNEP dedicated page, to be found at the following address:
<http://www.unep.org/south-south-cooperation/>.