

Digitization Guidelines Survey

Response ID:187 Data

1. Identification page

1. Please enter the ST.3 code of the member state or inter-governmental organization you represent.

IE - Ireland

2. Please enter the name of the Office or Organization you represent. For instance, International Bureau of WIPO.

If your organization name is the same as your ST.3 code name, you may put "n/a".

Intellectual Property Office of Ireland

2. General questions

3. Is your national patent collection part of the PCT minimum documentation or does your Office contribute your IP documentation to one of WIPO's databases? Please select all that apply.

Patentscope

4. What file or document format(s) does your Office accept at filing for IP applications? Please select all that apply.

For industrial design collections:

PDF

Paper

Other (please specify): Word

For patent collections:

PDF

DOCX

Paper

For trademark collections:

PDF

Media-based formats (e.g., MP3)

3D formats

Other (please specify): Word, paper

5. In what language(s) do you publish your IP documents in? Please provide a full list of 2-letter language codes.

EN - English

6. In what format(s) do you publish or disseminate your IP collection? Please select all that apply.

For industrial design collections:

Not applicable

For patent collections:

PDF

For trademark collections:

Not applicable

7. In what format(s) does your Office publish the bibliographic data associated with the format(s) indicated in question 8? Please select all that apply.

For industrial design collections:

Not applicable

For patent collections:

XML

PDF

For trademark collections:

Not applicable

8. If your Office produces XML or JSON instances and does not validate these instances before publication, please provide your reasoning below.

The XML file is cross-referenced and validated using an authority file

9. Does your Office publish the color drawings they receive, if they are permitted during the filing of a patent application?

Yes

3. Digitization activities

10. Does your Office perform digitization of documents you receive before publication or data dissemination, for one or more IP rights, or has experience of digitization of documents associated with IP rights?

Yes

- 10.1. How are or were these documents or associated data transformed from the format you received? e.g., paper document manually scanned and OCR'd or DOCX converted to XML.

Applicable to patent documents only:

- Paper documents are manually scanned and converted to PDF without OCR processing.
- Electronically filed applications submitted in Word format are converted to PDF for publication purposes.

- 10.2. If you rely or relied on a third party to perform the digitization of your documents, why did you reach this decision?

The Office recently decided to rely on a third party for document digitisation by sharing data with WIPO, which currently provides OCR services. This approach was taken to improve the accuracy and efficiency of digitising documents.

- 10.3. Does your Office use or did you use any IT tools, in particular AI tools, in the digitization process that you find particularly useful?

N/A

- 10.4. What are or were the biggest technical challenges you have experienced in digitizing your documents? e.g., extracting drawings or chemical formulae from a patent application. Please provide further details in the comments box below, including how you overcame these challenges and the relevant IP right type.

The main challenges in digitising documents are limited resources, as many documents require manual processing, and the need for OCR processing. At present, WIPO provides OCR services to IPOI.

4. Digitization activities

11. If your Office is considering future digitization activities, please provide details regarding the tools you are considering, in particular AI tools, and include your reasons for selecting them for potential use in digitization.

Tools for OCR processing of documents would be a key area of interest, particularly AI-based OCR solutions. These tools could help improve the accuracy, efficiency, and searchability of digitised documents, especially for patent applications containing technical text, drawings, symbols, and chemical formulae.

12. Please provide any other feedback regarding capacity building for the digitization of IP document collections.

Continued support and capacity building in OCR technology, AI-based digitisation tools, and staff training would help improve the efficiency and quality of digitising IP document collections. Collaboration with WIPO has also been beneficial in supporting these activities