

COMMITTEE ON DEVELOPMENT AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY (CDIP)

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CAPACITY-BUILDING IN THE USE OF APPROPRIATE TECHNOLOGY-SPECIFIC TECHNICAL AND SCIENTIFIC INFORMATION AS A SOLUTION FOR IDENTIFIED DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGES (RECOMMENDATIONS 19, 30 AND 31)

prepared by the Secretariat

1. At the Fourth Session of the Committee on Development and Intellectual Property (CDIP), held from November 16 to 20, 2009, while discussing the document CDIP/4/12, related to the proposal by the Republic of Korea on the “Use of Patent Information in the Transfer of Appropriate Technology”, the Committee requested the Secretariat to prepare a project document on the said proposal, while taking into account the comments made by delegations (see paragraph 9 of the Summary of the Chair).
2. Accordingly, a project on “Capacity-Building in the Use of Appropriate Technology-Specific Technical and Scientific Information as a Solution for Identified Development Challenges” has been developed and annexed to this document.
3. The estimated cost for the project amounts to 670,000 Swiss francs, of which 390,000 Swiss francs relate to non-personnel costs, and 280,000 Swiss francs to personnel costs pertaining to WIPO staff that will be devoted to the implementation of the project.
4. *The CDIP is invited to consider and approve the Annex to this document.*

[Annex follows]

1. SUMMARY	
Project Code:	DA_19_30_31_02
Title:	Capacity-building in the use of appropriate technology-specific technical and scientific information as a solution for identified development challenges.
Development Agenda Recommendation(s):	<p>Recommendation 19 (Cluster B): 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>Recommendation 30 (Cluster C): WIPO should cooperate with other intergovernmental organizations to provide developing countries and Least Developed Countries (LDCs) upon request, advice on how to gain access to and make use of IP-related information on technology, particularly in areas of special interest to the requesting parties.</p> <p>Recommendation 31 (Cluster C): To undertake initiatives agreed by member States, which contribute to transfer of technology to developing countries, such as requesting WIPO to facilitate better access to publicly available patent information.</p>
Project Budget:	<p>Non-personnel costs: Sfrs.390,000</p> <p>Personnel costs: Sfrs.280,000</p>
Project Duration:	24 months
Key WIPO Sectors Involved and Links to WIPO Programs:	<p>Cooperation for Development Sector, Global IP Information Service, the Global Challenges Division, Patent Division, and Global IP Issues Division.</p> <p>Links to WIPO Programs 1, 9, 14 and 18.</p>
Brief Description of Project:	<p>This project proposal is prepared taking into account the proposal made by the Republic of Korea on Appropriate Technology in document CDIP/3/7 and aims to contribute to building capacity at the national level in the use of appropriate technical and scientific information as appropriate technology to address the identified development challenges facing least developed countries (LDCs). In particular, it addresses "Stage Two" of the Korean proposal in CDIP/3/7 by exploring the delivery possibilities of appropriate technologies at a practical entry point level by working with government and non-government stakeholders in LDCs.</p> <p>The project will link with and build on other Development Agenda projects, in particular: "Specialized Database Access and Support" as described in CDIP/3/2, Annex III, through the establishment of Technology and Innovation Support Centers (TISCs), the access to patent information databases and to scientific and research publications in the "Access to Information for Research and Development" (aRD) program; as well as the project "Developing Tools for Access to Patent Information" contained in document CDIP/4/6 regarding patent landscapes.</p>

	<p>More particularly, the project seeks to move beyond merely providing access to knowledge, but also to explore the possibilities of effectively delivering appropriate technologies to the people, communities and organizations in LDCs who need them by coordinating not only the access and retrieval of technical information, but also in providing effective and practical implementation of such technology through appropriate know-how.</p> <p>In order to achieve its aims, the project will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Select three pilot LDCs on the basis of requests received; (b) Identify the most urgent development issues where appropriate technologies could effectively contribute to improved living conditions; (c) Establish a national expert group from existing stakeholders to request the support of WIPO in the preparation of technical information reports using patent, scientific and technical sources to identify the most relevant appropriate technology on the basis of identified needs; the appropriate technology information will include and rely on information from relevant organizations, institutions, centers of excellence, etc., working in these areas of development; (d) Organize outreach programs in order to present and explain at a grass-roots level the implementation of the appropriate technology; these would also be linked with ongoing activities of WIPO in this area. The outreach program will focus in policy forums, training of senior and middle level managers and skills development program for those who work in the implementation of the appropriate technology; (e) The national expert group, in cooperation with relevant international organization and agencies will develop project proposals that respond to the implementation of technologies identified. A Consultant will be employed to assist the national expert group in undertaking its responsibilities; (f) Implementation of the appropriate technology identified through the project be those, inter alia, in the food, agriculture, health or environment should be planned and coordinated by the national expert group in cooperation with relevant specialized agencies with required experience and expertise such as, WHO, FAO, UNEP and ITC; (g) The national expert group should consider organization of a donors meeting in the country for funding the implementation of the appropriate technology. A report has to be prepared by the national expert group on the final evaluation of the implementation of the project.
<p>2. PROJECT DESCRIPTION</p>	
<p>2.1. Introduction to the Issue/Concern</p>	
<p>Knowledge and technology can be used as a tool to combat poverty because of the contribution they can make to sustained economic growth, enhanced market efficiency and the creation of employment opportunities. In this context, their application in industry, agriculture, health, education and services is critical. Building technical capacity that will allow developing and least</p>	

developed countries to meet their social and economic challenges requires the participation of a range of players from individuals to institutions, including inventors, creators, research and development (R&D) centers, academic institutions, manufacturing enterprises, agricultural organizations and health services. Regulatory, legal and administrative policies have an influence on these players and on their interactions, which in turn determine how knowledge, technology and resources flow among them.

During the third and fourth sessions of the Committee on Development and Intellectual Property, discussions were held on the proposal by the Republic of Korea on "Use of Patent Information in the Transfer of Appropriate Technologies", as contained in document CDIP/3/7 (pp. 4–6 of the Annex). According to the proposal, technical information contained in patent landscape could be used to stimulate innovation and development in the selected technologies. The project on "Developing Tools for Access to Patent Information" (document CDIP/4/6, submitted by the Secretariat) and the above proposal by the Republic of Korea both consider that patent information is an under-utilized resource that could be better exploited, particularly in the areas of public policy and development. Furthermore, both proposals suggest that the specific technologies or topics to be studied should be identified in consultation with Member States, relevant IGOs and NGOs, thus ensuring that the activities are demand-driven and respond to a real need for specific information. Both documents identify critical areas of development such as food and agriculture, health and the environment.

In food-deficit countries and in countries where agriculture has a comparative advantage, the use of scientific and IP-related technical information could help increase food production, for example through better soil management, efficient irrigation and the cultivation of high-yield crops with enhanced nutrition value. It could also play a pivotal role in meeting health-related development objectives, i.e. those relating to drugs, vaccines, diagnostic systems, access to medical information and systems for monitoring drug quality, all of which are indispensable in the fight against infant mortality and maternal health, malaria and other forms of diseases, as pointed out in the MDGs and Brussels Program of Action.

This will require stronger multilateralism, including delivery on the agreed goals for strengthening the global partnership for development.

In the light of the above, the primary purpose of this project is to contribute to the national capacity of least developed to improve the management, administration and utilization of technical and scientific information with a view to building their appropriate technology base and meeting national growth and development goals through knowledge transfer and capacity building taking into account social, cultural and gender implications of the use of technology through joint interaction with the national expert group. The overall objective of the project is thus to contribute to the economic, social, cultural and technology development of the country concerned and, ultimately, to poverty alleviation.

Given that this proposed project is limited in resources and in duration, it does not seek to provide assistance in every area of the above sectors but only in specific, nationally identified need areas. Other areas may be considered at some time in the future, depending on the needs expressed by WIPO member States. It is envisaged that the delivery of an appropriate output for a particular sector in a specific need area in a given country will be an effective way to assist governments and national development agencies, communities as well as individuals in their efforts to use scientific and related technical information for development.

2.2. Objectives

- (a) To facilitate greater use of appropriate technical and scientific information in addressing nationally identified needs for development goals;
- (b) To build national institutional capacity in the use of technical and scientific information for identified needs so as to progress towards the achievement of key national development targets; and

- (c) To coordinate the retrieval of appropriate technical and scientific information and the provision of appropriate know-how in this technical area to implement this technology in a practical and effective manner.

2.3. Delivery strategy

The project will consist of the following elements:

A. Selection of countries

It is foreseen that the project would be implemented in three pilot Least Developed Countries, to be selected on the basis of requests received.

B. Establishment of a national expert group

WIPO will coordinate the establishment of a national multi-stakeholder expert group comprising government representatives and representatives of sectors such as business, industry, university, relevant IGOs, NGOs, research and development institutions, health, agriculture and energy.

The national expert group will coordinate the following activities:

C. Drafting of appropriate technology landscapes

- (a) Identifying two urgent development issues where appropriate technologies could effectively contribute to improve living conditions; examples could include the following: in health, the purification of drinking water; in agriculture, tools and techniques for improved soil management; and in energy the development of simple renewable energy means, etc.;
- (b) Requesting the support of WIPO in the preparation of two technical landscape reports using patent, scientific and technical sources to identify the most relevant appropriate technology on the basis of identified needs; the landscape will include and rely on information from organizations, institutions, centers of excellence, etc., working in these areas of development;
- (c) Formulating the exact requirements (terms of reference) for the appropriate technology landscapes; and
- (d) Approving the completed appropriate technology landscape reports.

D. Implementing the selected appropriate technologies

- (e) Selecting one or more appropriate technologies to be practically implemented;
- (f) Planning and coordinating a business plan, including if necessary the steps of identifying national or international funds to finance specific projects, as well as identifying any necessary production know-how, so as to actively implement the appropriate technologies; a member of the expert group will draft the business plan specifying implementation steps, time schedules and deliverables; and
- (g) Establishing a monitoring and evaluation mechanism to assess the implementation of the project and the achievement of project objectives.

E. Organizing a national outreach program

- (h) Developing and organizing a national outreach program within the business plan.

The national expert group should from the very start of the project be aware and aim to coordinate activities within the project of establishing Technology and Innovation Support Centers (TISCs) for access to patent, scientific and technical journal (e.g., WIPO's Access to Research for Development and Innovation – aRD) databases.

It is foreseen that the national expert group would meet three times during the duration of the project:

- (i) an initial meeting to identify the development areas, the subject-matter and format of the landscape reports – with respect to points (a) to (c) above;
- (ii) a meeting to approve the landscape report, select specific appropriate technologies to be implemented, provide input for the drafting of a business plan (donor possibilities, technical expertise and know-how contacts, etc.) – with respect to points (d) to (f) above; and
- (iii) a final meeting to launch the practical implementation of the project by participating at an initial outreach event – point (h) above.

WIPO will coordinate the meetings and will also actively take part in the work of the group through correspondence and online communications.

Risks which could impede project delivery and how these risks may be mitigated

This particular project is an investment in LDCs which involves a series of activities with the aim of solving identified needs within a given time frame and in a particular location. The investment includes money, specific time frame, human and material resources. As it has several stages, it requires careful monitoring at each stage in order to avoid risks. Risks in the implementation of projects in least developed countries usually include areas such as lack of skilled personnel, interoperability of computers in some of the LDCs and sustainability. All these risk areas in the specific countries need to be tackled in consultations and cooperation with the national expert group in the countries concerned and organizations involved.

- (i) Risk: Definition of topics regarded as AT;
Approach for mitigation: Close cooperation with experts knowing the specific conditions and needs of individuals and communities;
- (ii) Risk of coordination;
Approach for mitigation: Assist in the preparation of work and business plans;
- (iii) Risk: Institutional realities in LDCs such as lack of focal point institutions and technology information centers and relevant research institutions;
Approach for mitigation: Assist the government concerned in the establishment of appropriate focal points in cooperation with partners for development: governments and organizations;
- (iv) Risk: Lack of resources for the organization of skilled development programs and forums; Approach for mitigation: Look for the availability of resources from partners for development, countries or organizations;

(v) Risk: Lack of motivations and problems of having the right target group to participate in training and skills development program; Approach for mitigation: demonstration of case studies, films and videos on how technical solutions; to identified problems brought about changes in the life of people and careful selection of the beneficiaries.	
3. REVIEW AND EVALUATION	
3.1. Project review schedule	
<p>Evaluation report: An end-of-project report will be drafted with a view to assessing whether the project objectives have been achieved, as well as to suggest future action that will ensure the sustainability of the projects. Subsequently, there will be an evaluation regarding the use of project outputs.</p> <p>Evaluation by the national expert group: The national expert group will be encouraged to commission an independent evaluation of the implementation of the project.</p>	
3.2. Project self-evaluation	
Project outputs	Indicators of successful completion (output indicators)
National expert group	Expert group established in each country within 30 days of start of project
AT Landscape Report	AT landscape report to be made available to the government and WIPO
Business plan for implementing the selected appropriate technologies	One or more appropriate technologies would be selected for implementation and a business plan drafted to practically implement the project 6 months after the start of the project
Outreach program	Sector-specific, targeted outreach program completed within 24 months of start of the project
Project objective(s)	Indicator(s) of success in achieving project objective (outcome indicators)
Strengthened national capacity of least developed countries in using appropriate technical solutions to address major national development challenges	Number of organizations, communities and individuals that used appropriate technology as a solution to identified development challenges
Improved understanding of the use of technical and patent information for innovation and national technology capacity-building	Use of AT information for development
Exploitation of technical and patent information for achieving development objectives and goals	Resolution of needs based identified problems

5. BUDGET

	TOTAL (Swiss Francs)
Travel and Fellowships	
Consultants	
Staff Missions	40,000
Third-party Travel	
Fellowships	
Contractual Services	
Conferences	25,000
Experts' Honoraria	
Publishing	30,000
Others	369,000
i. 6 International Experts for the preparation of technical information report (2 for each selected countries)	120,000
ii. 6 Local Experts for the preparation of business plan (2 for each selected countries)	30,000
iii. Missions of International Experts (3 missions per country per Expert)	144,000
iv. Outreach programs	75,000
Equipment and Supplies	
Equipment	
Supplies and Materials	
TOTAL	464,000

[End of Annex and of document]