



CONFERENCE: OAPI ONLINE TOOLS AND SERVICES

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PLAN



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- **Opportunities**
- **Requirements**
- **Deployment strategy**

ABOUT OAPI

- Created on the 13th September 1962
- 17 members states
- Benin, Burkina, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Comoros, Congo, Ivory Coast, Gabon, Guinea Conakry, Bissau Guinea, Equatorial Guinea, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal, Chad, Togo.
- Most recent member state is Republic of Comoros since May 2013

ABOUT OAPI

- Headquarter in Yaoundé
- Common law : Bangui Agreement
(Revised edition of 24th February 1999)
- There is revision process going on
- One unique office, Centralize procedures
- One Unique IP Office for all members states. Meaning there is no co-existence between the regional office and Nationals systems

ABOUT OAPI

- Centralized registration procedures.
Only the Regional office that is OAPI is mandated to grant IP Rights.
- “File once, pay one set of taxes and your creation is protected in 17 members states”

ABOUT OAPI

- IP Rights protected at OAPI : Patents (18.000), Utility Models, Trademarks (115.000), Industrials Designs (5.500), Commercial Names (150.000),
- Plants Varieties (150),
- Geographical indications (5)
- 120 staff members



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CORE IPAS SYSTEM

Using IPAS since 2015 with the following core modules installed

- 2015 - Trade Mark (115.000 records)
- 2017 - Patent (18.000 records)
- 2019 - Designs (5.500 records)
- 2019 - Commercial names (150.000 records) in a separated environment

CORE IPAS SYSTEM

- Madrid module for Madrid Protocol management (2.000 records per year)
- EDMS (32.000 Trademarks available)

2nd Phase of digitalisation project on preparation with WIPO and JPO

Challenges

- Receiving paper base applications on time from 17 different members states
- More and more work of data capture with the increase of number of applications
- Frequent errors on office documents
- Delay in processing paper base applications file

Opportunities

- Taking advantage by using members states staff to capture data in the system from their various location especially for commercial names
- Giving representatives access for online filing

Representatives file about 70% of
Regional Trade marks and 90% of Patents

Requirements – non Technical

- Adaptation of the law if needed
- Putting in place the project team
- Capacity building of project team
- Communication with future users of the system (agents, staff of national branch)

Requirements – Technical

- Internet connection
- Network and security issues
- Hardware and software : more servers, virtualisation software and windows licence
- At least 2 new production servers for WIPO File + 1 for WIPO Publish
- Multiply that number by 2 to take into consideration test environment

Requirements – Technical

In the case of OAPI since Commercial Name is running in separate environment we have :

- 4 virtual servers for WIPO File (production (2) and test (2))
- 4 virtual servers for WIPO File Commercial Name
- 2 virtual servers for WIPO Publish (Internal search and external search)
- 2 virtual servers for WIPO Publish Commercial Names (Internal search and external search)
- Total of 12 virtual machines for online services

Deployment strategy

- Training of IT staff by WIPO
- Deployment with the assistant of WIPO in two weeks
- Appropriation and test by ICT internal team
- Pilot phase with 3 to 5 agents
- Pilot phase 2 members states (Ivory Coast and Senegal)
- Starting with offline payment mode

Deployment strategy

- Using **WIPO Publish internally** as a search system with the **whole collection** of data
- **Public instance** of WIPO Publish will content only **already published data**
- Run Production and Training environment for each system

Deployment strategy

- Training of staff users
- Training of agents users
- Training of OAPI local branches staff users
- Pilot phase
- Evaluation and adjustment
- Opening of the system to all agents and all members states



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