



**ARIPO**

*African Regional Intellectual  
Property Organization*

# Initiatives by ARIPO in promoting creativity and innovation in Africa

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*Fostering Creativity and Innovation for Economic Growth and Development in Africa*

## About ARIPO

- **ARIPO: African Regional Intellectual Property Organization**
- **ARIPO is an inter-governmental organization that facilitates cooperation among member states in intellectual property matters.**
- **Established: December 9, 1976 (as ESARIPO)**
- **Headquarters: Harare, Zimbabwe**
- **19 Member States**



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# ARIPO MEMBER STATES

- Botswana
  - Gambia
  - Ghana
  - Kenya
  - Liberia
  - Lesotho
  - Malawi
  - Mozambique
  - Namibia
  - Rwanda
  - Sao Tome & Principe
  - Sierra Leone
  - Somalia
  - Sudan
  - Swaziland
  - Tanzania
  - Uganda
  - Zambia
  - Zimbabwe
- = 19



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# Support initiatives by ARIPO for SMEs and start-ups

**ARIPO works closely with its Member States in conducting the following activities:**

- Facilitating harmonized national & regional protection, exploitation and enforcement of IP
- Organizing and participating in IP awareness seminars, conferences, workshops and other appropriate means
- Working with Member States to develop IP policies and strategies that encourage and enable SMEs and start-ups to more effectively and equitably generate and exploit IP assets



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# Support initiatives by ARIPO for SMEs and start-ups – cont'd

- Organizing seminars that promote linkages between SMEs and start-ups with industry.
- Capacity building for IP protection and utilization through trainings/workshops in IP management and education programs (Masters Degree in IP)
- Providing information online and in brochures on the benefits and filing procedures for the different forms of IP. Also on how SMEs and start-ups can effectively utilize patent information.
- Providing an efficient and accessible IP system (promote online registration, discount for online filing)





## **African Regional Intellectual Property Organization**

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