How is IP policy helping to encourage technological innovation in agriculture

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In Perú, the plant breeders rights are protected by a sui generis protection system that has an intellectual property approach, in charge of Indecopi, which is the peruvian authority on intellectual property (patentes, trade marks, copyrights, among others).

A new variety is considered an innovation in the agricultural field and need to be protected as other innovations, like patents, trademarks, industrial designs, among others.

Any user of a protected variety accesses technology, not only for having the variety itself, but also for the specialized techniques and knowledge to produce and manage it. Also having new variety means technological alternatives to choose, because they were created to adapt to particulars conditions (pests, clime, acess to water, etc.), better levels of production and nutritional quality of the products.

To accede a variety protected by breeder’s rights allows to be certain about the quality, characteristics and advantages of the variety: better incomes, access to markets, competitive products beside the jobs generated.

The national policies, are framed within State policies and respond to the identification of problems or needs faced by the population that are prioritized on the public agenda. Perú at the moment, is in the process of developing the national Intellectual Property Policy, and Indecopi will assume the rectory as a sectorial Policy.

Plant Breeder’s rights are included in the design of the policy as an important topic, and the activities to promote the protection of new varieties will consider other government offices, and the academic sector.