



Intellectual
Property
Office

Data Sharing, Quality and Collaboration

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Why Does Data Policy Matter?

Data Policy as Strategic Framework

Data policy defines what data can be shared and how IP data is managed as a valuable asset guiding IP offices' actions and decisions.

Balancing Transparency and Protection

Data policies help balance openness with protection of sensitive and personal information in data sharing.

Ensuring Accountability and Consistency

Policies establish accountability and consistency in managing complex data ecosystems across borders.



Data Sharing Mechanisms

Secure File Transfer

Secure file transfer methods like SFTP enable bulk or scheduled data exchanges safely between systems. SFTP-style methods are best for bulk datasets, historical data, or scheduled exchanges needing stability and auditability.

APIs for Real-Time Access

APIs provide structured, near real-time access to defined datasets enhancing data availability and integration. APIs provide dynamic data access allowing programmatic consumption and service building by partners

Standards-Based Formats

Using standards-based data formats supports interoperability across diverse government and IP ecosystems. All data mechanisms operate within governance frameworks including access management, logging, and usage conditions



Standards and Interoperability

Reducing Integration Effort

Shared standards streamline integration by minimizing bespoke and complex connections between systems.

Reuse and Comparability

Standards enable data reuse and comparability across different offices and organizations effectively.

Innovation Through Structured Data

Structured data formats like WIPO ST.96 facilitate machine-readable data exchange, fostering innovation focused on analysis.



Data Quality: The Foundation of Trust

Importance of Data Quality

International cooperation is built on trust, and in the data domain, trust is built on quality

Key Data Quality Attributes

Data quality includes accuracy, completeness, timeliness, and consistency to ensure reliable IP data.

Benefits of Quality Data

High-quality data reduces duplication, supports worksharing, and builds confidence across jurisdictions.



What Does This Mean for the UKIPO?

Policy and Agreements

We have policies and data sharing agreements in place which allow us to share data with the EPO, WIPO and 30+ Third Party Subscribers.

Data Sharing Mechanisms

We currently share data via an SFTP Server but will introduce a new API based Service for accessing our patents data in May/June 2026.

Standards and Interoperability

We currently share our patent data in WIPO ST.36 standard format but will be moving to ST.96 during Phase 2 of our Transformation Programme. We have recently implemented ST.27 and are looking at mechanisms for sharing our legal status data.

Data Quality

Data Stewards and Data Owners are in place and responsible for our Data Quality Management. We are introducing new data quality tooling and have published our Authority File showing the extent and completeness of our published patent data



Unlocking Innovation through Shared IP Data

Access to IP Intelligence

Sharing IP data improves innovators' access to intellectual property intelligence, boosting research and innovation.

Advanced Analytics and AI

Shared IP data supports advanced analytics and AI-assisted search to identify emerging technologies.

Cross-border Technology Analysis

IP data sharing enables cross-border trend analysis and enhances transparency in the innovation ecosystem.

Challenges of Fragmented Data

Fragmented IP data landscapes hinder reuse, increase costs, and limit innovation potential.



Strengthening the Global IP System Together

Importance of Data Policy

Clear and aligned data policies are essential for scalable cooperation in the evolving global IP system.

Secure and interoperable sharing mechanisms enable IP offices to collaborate effectively and responsibly.

Enhancing Data Quality

Sustained improvements in data quality increase the resilience and credibility of the international IP framework.

Global Collaboration Benefits

Collective investment moves IP offices from coordination to collaboration, enabling global innovation and operational efficiency.



“The future of the global IP system will be defined by how well we share and trust our data.”

