Intellectual Property for Women Entrepreneurs from Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities

Training, Mentoring and Matchmaking Program
The WIPO Training, Mentoring and Matchmaking Program on Intellectual Property for Women Entrepreneurs from Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities aims to strengthen the capacity of indigenous and local community women entrepreneurs to make strategic and effective use of intellectual property tools in support of their entrepreneurial activities.

Since 2019, nearly 50 women entrepreneurs from indigenous peoples and local communities have been selected from hundreds of applicants. They include artisans, designers, performing artists, researchers, healers or small-scale farmers who are planning, or have already initiated, a project or business based on traditional knowledge and/or traditional cultural expressions.

How is the Program delivered?

Organized by WIPO’s Traditional Knowledge Division, the Program has a practical approach, consisting of two phases: a training phase and a subsequent mentoring and matchmaking phase.

The training phase consists of a practical workshop that includes a mixture of short presentations, case studies and group work.

During this phase, participants acquire basic knowledge of the main principles, systems and tools of the intellectual property system as they relate to traditional knowledge and traditional cultural expressions.

In doing so, emphasis is given to the potential value (and challenges) that intellectual property can bring in support of projects and businesses based on traditional knowledge and/or traditional cultural expressions.

The practical workshop also provides the opportunity for participants to network and share experiences with other indigenous and local community women entrepreneurs from around the world.

During the mentoring and matchmaking phase, participants are expected to implement the intellectual property components of their projects and businesses.

Mentors are assigned to individual participants to provide guidance and support in the implementation of the intellectual property components of the participants’ projects and businesses.

Mentoring is provided through video chat, email and telephone communication by WIPO and/or its Program Partners.

More information can be found at: www.wipo.int/tk/en/women_entrepreneurs/
To contact us: grtkf@wipo.int