

Swiss – South African Intellectual Property Project (SSAIP)

Presentation at 21st BioTrade Stakeholders' Forum

20 February 2024

Points of the presentation

- **The Swiss Federal Institute of Intellectual Property (IPI)**
- **The Swiss-South African Intellectual Property project (SSAIP)**
- **Proposed trainings for the year**
- **Feedback needed**

- The IPI is the center of competence of the Swiss Confederation for all matters of intellectual property (IP)
- The IPI has a mandate to implement technical cooperation projects in the area of IP on behalf of the Swiss Confederation
- The IPI currently has 11 active projects



Swiss-South African Intellectual Property Project

Duration: Aug. 2020 – Jul. 2024 (extended to Jul. 2025)

Financed: Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO)

Main Implementing Partners: Companies and Intellectual Property Commission (CIPC) and Department of Trade, Industry and Competition (dtic)

Priority Areas

- Support of the implementation of the national IP Policy
- Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs) registration and administration entities provide efficient and user-friendly services
- SMME supporting agencies and IPR entities promote protection and use of IPRs to potential users of IPRs
- Increased commercialization of IPRs as part of innovation process

Other Beneficiaries: Department of Small Business Development (DSBD); Department of Science and Innovation (DSI); National Intellectual Property Management Office (NIPMO); and the Small Enterprise Development Agency (SEDA)

Proposed trainings for 2024

General IP training for producers and providers of Genetic Resources, Associated Traditional Knowledge and Biodiversity related products

- Introduction to the various types of IPRs such as patents, Trade Marks, Copyright, Designs and Geographical Indications. The interlinkages between these IPRs and GRs, ATK and Biodiversity.
- The training will address the following questions:
 1. What can IP be used for?
 2. What type(s) of IP is right for a business?
 3. When and how should an IPR be used?
 4. What are the limits of IP?

Proposed trainings for 2024

Deeper dive for more experienced producers, researchers and entrepreneurs

- A more advanced workshop aimed at Business Support Organizations (BSOs).
- The training will introduce the IP tools available for TK, GRs and biodiversity related products
- It will look at how IPRs and “access and benefit sharing” agreements interact
- At the national level
 1. What do the available IP tools offer in South Africa?
 2. Which are the most commonly used tools?
 3. What obligations do you have towards other IPRs?
- At the international level
 1. What is being discussed in the various international fora?
 2. How do IP tools work?
 3. What rights and obligations do you have?

We Need Your Help!!

- The proposed trainings will be updated →How?
- Who wants to attend any of the trainings?
- What topics are of interest to you?

Thank you for your attendance!

- Questions?
- Comments?

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