



Inclusive intellectual property initiatives

for young people and regional knowledge sharing

Working towards United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 4



Foreword

Young people and the next generation of innovators are the future. While the global intellectual property (IP) system protects and fosters innovation, global IP education and foundational knowledge of how IP protects and fosters innovation across various regions can make the power of IP accessible to everyone.

It is hoped that the Trilateral offices' IP education initiatives for people of all ages, presented here at a glance in this special brochure for the first time, will help to achieve United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 4 (UN SDG 4). In other words, contribute to ensuring inclusive and equitable quality education all around the world and promoting lifelong learning opportunities for all.

The initiatives provide educational material for educators, policymakers, innovators and IP professionals. They cover technology transfer, knowledge sharing and education. They are designed to reach out to where they are most needed, and comprehensively meet the needs of children and young people

when it comes to innovation across Africa, Asia, Europe and North America.

In the spirit of co-operation that is embodied across the Trilateral offices, a growing focus on developing and least developed countries is common to several of the initiatives, which were first presented at the 41st Trilateral Conference on 4 October 2023 at the European Patent Office in Munich. Selected training content and university programmes are eventually to be made available worldwide, a process that is already underway through various certification and career development initiatives in co-operation with universities across the relevant regions.



Technology transfer and knowledge sharing



European Patent Office initiatives

PATLIB

PATLIB is a powerful network of more than 300 patent information centres throughout Europe. In 2022, the PATLIB network engaged in more than 355 000 customer service interactions and provided some 11 000 technology transfer services. The PATLIB 2.0 project has provided learning and support packages to assist PATLIB centres with upskilling their staff and raising awareness of a rapidly changing IP landscape amongst their users.

A new online PATLIB directory is now integrated in the Single Access Portal for EPO members states, helping national offices to improve access for the general public to the PATLIB network. Since 2020, the EPO has hosted 20 online "Shaping the future together" networking sessions for all stakeholders and distributed 58 editions of the PATLIB newsletter.

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KT2A

The Knowledge transfer to Africa (KT2A) initiative was launched in April 2022, achieving a significant social impact. Following a call for interest, 17 PATLIB experts volunteered as trainers and mentors in the areas of technology transfer, commercialisation and IP awareness. The EPO has helped shape individual development plans for 24 African universities. Three major events have taken place to date:

- EPO President António Campinos personally opened the KT2A seminar in Harare, Zimbabwe, 6-7 December 2022, which raised awareness of KT2A among member states of the African Regional Intellectual Property Organization (ARIPO) and other key partners
- Presenting KT2A at Salon Africain de l'Invention et de l'Entreprise Innovante (SAIIT), 24-26 July 2023 in Abidjan, Ivory Coast, a major biennial forum for Francophone Africa's innovators
- Hybrid PATLIB Seminar – KT2A, 5-6 September 2023 in Abuja, Nigeria

Further highlights include initial twinning activities for the exchange of professional experience and expertise between PATLIB centres and universities in Africa, held in summer 2023.

HTB

The EPO has established a high-growth technology business (HTB) initiative in co-operation with the Licensing Executives Society International (LESI) and nearly 20 supporting organisations. This programme aims to encourage, educate and train business decision-makers in the deep-tech field to engage with IP and create value with their technologies. HTB highlights include five EPO activities, seven EPO lead co-operations, five third-party training activities, one podcast and several case studies related to SMEs, technology transfer and high-tech businesses.

The EPO has helped shape individual development plans for 24 African universities



Technology transfer initiatives

The PATLIB 2.0 project has boosted the role of the PATLIB network as a key player in IP valorisation and technology transfer. This is reflected in various ways, including in the recent Memorandum of Understanding between the EPO and the Association of Scientific and Technology Transfer Professionals (ASTP). Further synergies have taken shape through the strengthening of co-operation with the European Innovation Council and with the European Institute for Innovation and Technology (EIT), especially with regard to the EIT Knowledge and Innovation Communities (KICs).

The PATLIB network also actively shares best practices with the EU Knowledge Valorisation Platform. Further, the EPO has become an observer organisation in the Technology Transfer Offices Circle (TTO Circle) co-ordinated by the European Commission's Joint Research Centre and will become an Alliance of Technology Transfer Professionals (ATTP) course provider.

Reinforced partnerships, validation agreements and capacity building

As part of its co-operation policy with non-member states, the EPO provides comprehensive capacity building programmes for patent examiners. Initiatives range from training that is specific to a given technology field, workshops on EPO practices in search and examination and the use of EPO tools (including ANSERA-based SEARCH and Cooperative Patent Classification) to tailor-made coaching sessions for examiners.

Training is currently carried out in virtual or hybrid format to reach the widest possible audience while remaining sustainable. In addition, the EPO regularly shares best practices and knowledge on quality and performance management. All these efforts aim to ensure the highest standards in the patent granting process, which in turn supports innovators looking to protect their inventions across the world, access new markets and transfer their knowledge and technologies.

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Japan Patent Office initiatives

Thanks to this project, the JPO received **297 patent applications, universities concluded 59 agreements to launch joint research or licensing projects and 9 startups were established**

Dispatching IP strategy designers to universities

In 2019, the JPO initiated a project for dispatching IP strategy designers to universities. Professionals with expert knowledge of IP, startups and business in general, including patent attorneys, representatives of IP divisions in private companies and venture capitalist specialists, visit universities and work with research administrators to identify promising research outcomes that are not yet recognised for their potential as IP. The aim is to design future-oriented IP strategies for universities.

As of March 2023, designers had been dispatched to 37 universities. Thanks to this project, the JPO received 297 patent applications, universities concluded 59 agreements to launch joint research or licensing projects and 9 startups were established. The project also aims to educate university research administrators on identifying potential IP opportunities and enhancing their IP management capabilities. The project was transferred to the National Center for Industrial Property Information and Training (INPIT) in April 2023.

IP ePlat

The JPO and INPIT also run IP ePlat, an initiative that provides online educational materials to support the use of IP. The courses include essential insights into how to establish a university spin-off and support technology transfer at universities.

JPO/IPR Training Course on Academia-Industry Collaboration and Technology Transfer

The JPO offers various training courses as part of its human resource development activities for developing countries. The JPO/IPR Training Course on Academia-Industry Collaboration and Technology Transfer targets officials in IP offices and ministries related to technology development, staff at universities and research institutions, and personnel in charge of IP at private companies in developing countries.

The aim is to teach efficient and effective IP management methods in universities and research institutes. Participants share the current status and challenges of IP policies and strategies in their countries. Through lectures and discussions on IP management, they also deepen their understanding of industry-academia-government collaborations and of technology transfer methods in the private sector. In November 2023, 22 trainees from 18 countries completed the course.



United States Patent and Trademark Office initiatives

Patents-4-Partnerships

The USPTO launched the [Patents-4-Partnerships platform](#) in 2020. This searchable IP marketplace platform aims to connect innovators with potential licensees who can accelerate the development and application of promising technologies. The platform provides a listing of published patents and patent applications voluntarily indicated to be available for licensing by the owners on external public websites or in the USPTO Official Gazette Notices. It also includes known information about the availability of a technology as well as links to sources with licensing information. In addition, the USPTO provisionally proposes a collaboration in which Trilateral offices and industry would work towards the creation of a centralised IP marketplace platform or portal.

This searchable IP marketplace platform aims to connect innovators with potential licensees who can accelerate the development and application of promising technologies

Education and capacity building

The USPTO has a variety of education, outreach and capacity building efforts. These range from short seminars and webinars to long-term national programmes.

Patent and Trademark Resource Centers (PTRCs) make up a nationwide network of public, state and academic libraries that are designated by the USPTO to disseminate patent and trade mark information and to support the diverse IP needs of the public. PTRCs facilitate public access to products and services, offer patent and trade mark training, as well as provide reference assistance and outreach to the public.

Through its Global Intellectual Property Academy ([GIPA](#)), the USPTO hosts training programmes on technology transfer in various countries, including least developed and developing countries. Since 2019, the USPTO has hosted 10 technology transfer programmes, with over 600 attendees from 49 countries, 8 of which were least developed countries.

A designated technology transfer team routinely provides webinars and seminars for US stakeholders to provide background on US mechanisms of technology transfer as well as guidance on negotiating IP licensing and IP sale transactions. These trainings and webinars are now carried out in Thailand, South Africa and India, among other countries. In addition, the USPTO has worked with Thailand, South Africa and other countries in assessing and implementing Bayh-Dole-type laws and regulations and providing technical assistance.

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Further recent highlights include a Memorandum of Understanding with the National Research Development Corporation (NRDC), one of India’s oldest and largest technology transfer organisations. The USPTO also co-hosted a day-long Technology Transfer symposium in New Delhi with the NRDC. Finally, the EPO and USPTO jointly arranged an IP and technology transfer course at the University of Sophia in Bulgaria taking place in the academic year 2023/2024.

The Green Energy Innovation Expo, a USPTO collaboration with the Association of University Technology Managers and the Federal Laboratory Consortium, launched in 2023. The one-day event featured roundtable discussions and seminars, facilitating partnerships between businesses and federal laboratories, universities and private-sector innovators. This included partnerships with government-funded startups across various green energy technologies available for licensing, such as green hydrogen, energy storage and wind energy. Attendees were able to present their innovation portfolios to key industry representatives and form collaborative relationships with other organisations in their field.

As part of the Women’s Entrepreneurship (WE) initiative to help women understand how IP can help secure investment into their businesses, the USPTO has hosted WEWednesday, where a panel of entrepreneurs and experts shared their experiences of bringing their ideas to market through licensing partnerships and technology transfer. In addition, the USPTO provisionally proposes a collaboration in which the Trilateral offices and industry would host international conferences on several topics related to technology transfer.



World Intellectual Property Organization initiatives

Technology and Innovation Centers (TISCs)

Under this WIPO programme, there are now over 1 500 TISCs worldwide. They help connect local innovators and entrepreneurs with technologies by providing access to online patent and non-patent (scientific and technical) resources and IP-related publications, as well as training in database search and assistance in searching and retrieving technology information. Entrepreneurs can also benefit from on-demand searches (novelty, state-of-the-art and infringement); technology and competitor monitoring; basic information on industrial property laws, management and strategy; and technology commercialisation and marketing.

WIPO INSPIRE

WIPO INSPIRE is a global knowledge resource platform for innovation, helping innovators and entrepreneurs make informed decisions throughout the innovation cycle. It provides a unique blend of information and knowledge on patent search, patent analytics, technology transfer and institutional IP policies, combining reference data with expert insights into resources, tools and good practice recommendations.

The platform assists innovators, entrepreneurs, patent professionals and TISCs through its collection of reports on patent databases, as well as the overview it provides of online patent registers, gazettes and legal status-related information from over 200 jurisdictions and patent information collections. Patent analytics, such as Patent Landscape Reports, are also featured on the platform, along with WIPO Technology Trends reports. It also offers eTISC, a social knowledge platform that provides a space for discussions among the TISC community and other IP users.

WIPO INSPIRE is a global knowledge resource platform for innovation, helping innovators and entrepreneurs to make informed decisions

WIPO IP Policy Toolkit

The IP Policy Toolkit helps universities and research institutions deal with key issues such as ownership of IP and rights of use, IP disclosure, IP management, IP commercialisation, incentives for researchers, recording and accounting and conflicts of interest. It provides an IP policy writer checklist and IP policy template for academic and research institutions, as well as guidelines for the customisation of the template.

IP Commercialisation and Knowledge Transfer Toolkit

This IP toolkit is designed to help universities and research institutions with knowledge and technology transfer as well as IP commercialisation. It provides university managers, knowledge transfer officers and researchers with the tools to develop their own entrepreneurial approach to IPR management. It also includes model agreements, an academic intellectual assets map and hypothetical case studies.



Knowledge transfer for universities

WIPO provides legal advice, assistance for setting up structures such as Technology Transfer Office (TTOs) and various free tools, manuals and training materials on knowledge transfer.

WIPO model contracts for academic institutions

In order to support academic institutions in the development and negotiation of technology transfer contracts, WIPO provides model agreements between academic institutions and industry partners.

The platform facilitates direct connections between solution seekers and technology providers

WIPO GREEN

WIPO GREEN is a matchmaking platform for sustainable technologies. Through its sophisticated database, the platform facilitates direct connections between solution seekers and technology providers, promoting technology transfer and innovation. WIPO GREEN is also behind the WIPO flagship digital publication Green Technology Book, which showcases technologies available for climate change adaptation and mitigation. The publication is closely linked to the WIPO GREEN database. Moreover, the database supports WIPO GREEN acceleration projects, which involve on-the-ground technology matchmaking with farmers, businesses, communities and cities. These projects focus on specific sectors, regions and countries for targeted matchmaking.

Young people in focus



European Patent Office initiatives

Modular IP Education Framework (MIPEF)

A quality digital IP education offer can help realise the vision of every university graduate having completed a course on patents. Relying on the infrastructure built by the Pan-European Seal programme (see p.16), MIPEF was developed to reach thousands of students. The MIPEF digital course, “Create – Protect – Innovate: Bringing Ideas to Market”, is based on practical examples and case studies, mainly of European Inventor Award finalists and winners, and principally aims to meet the needs of science and engineering university students.

The course’s modular structure offers two sets (one entry level and one advanced set) of five modules, plus live sessions and interactive forums. The course is designed for integration into university curricula, with the potential to earn 6 ECTS credits. Currently, MIPEF is offered at 22 universities in 11 EPO member states, to over 500 Master’s and PhD students.



Pan-European Seal Young Professional programme

This programme is co-promoted by the EPO and the European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO), together with Europe's national IP offices. The initiative is well-established in Europe as a respected talent development programme, which attracts a growing number of university graduates with backgrounds in science, engineering, business administration, law, international relations, communication, economics and finance.

A network of 141 universities across Europe now support the programme. Since its inception in 2016, more than 1 000 talented graduates have kick-started their careers at the EPO and EUIPO. At the EPO, participants receive on-the-job work experience and professional training to develop their skills and increase their future employability. The programme offers challenging assignments in a range of departments across the EPO's sites in Munich, The Hague, Vienna, Berlin and Brussels.

The EPO, the second-largest intergovernmental organisation in Europe, is passionate about its staff and committed to social responsibility. It therefore offers a supportive multicultural environment for young professionals to embark on the first steps of their careers. Through the Pan-European Seal Young Professionals Programme, the EPO:

- has launched an attractive framework that provides a first employment opportunity for high-achieving graduates;
- continues to grow IP talents and support the development of IP knowledge and expertise across Europe;
- strives to promote a vibrant IP culture in Europe.

For the 2023/24 edition, the EPO has allocated 79 year one young professionals across all business areas. 75% of these recent graduates are women, 44% have engineering and science backgrounds and 22 nationalities are represented in total. Based on participants' performance, they may work at the EPO within the framework of the programme for up to three years altogether. Combining the latest intake with participants who have already progressed to years two and three, there are now a total of over 150 young professionals on the programme at the EPO.

Since the programme's inception in 2016, more than 1 000 talented graduates have kick-started their careers at the EPO and EUIPO

Experts demonstrate how patents protect inventions, including those relating to climate change and global health

Advanced lecture series

In this annual series of four online lectures, experts demonstrate how patents protect inventions, including those relating to climate change and global health. While scientists and university professors are the main target audience, anyone with advanced knowledge of patenting is welcome to attend. The series is currently in its third edition.

Inspiring inventors

This series of online talks features European Inventor Award finalists discussing their inventions. The talks provide a unique opportunity to interact with inventors and learn how to successfully bring an invention to market and contribute to innovation. Though science and technology students are the primary target audience, the series will appeal to everyone with an interest in innovation.

Certification initiative with universities

The EPO works with selected universities to jointly develop training content and programmes, resulting in certificates co-awarded and therefore co-labelled by the EPO and the partner university. It will eventually be possible to earn these certificates worldwide. The first co-operation of this kind was established with the CEIPI in the field of IP management, with the first courses planned to be released in 2024.

Children and young people

To inspire interest in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) among innovators and entrepreneurs, the European Patent Academy has initiated a dedicated programme for children and young people. This programme seeks to enhance awareness, broaden knowledge and cultivate societal transformation through innovation and entrepreneurial skills. In July 2022, the EPO launched its “IP education for kids and youngsters” initiative in collaboration with [European Schools](#), targeting not only children, but also teachers, institutions and policymakers. Specific activities include:

European School Science Symposium

The EPO provides financial support to the event and sends its experts to serve on the jury. Last year, the annual [European School Science Symposium](#) was held in Varese (Italy) in March. The symposium encourages individuals or groups of students, guided by a teacher or mentor, to explore scientific topics of their choosing, typically beyond the scope of their curriculum. Winners from the senior groups advance to represent the European Schools at the European Union Contest for Young Scientists.

Complementary course on sustainability and active citizenship for the network of European Schools

The EPO is in the process of creating a course titled “Sustainability and active citizenship,” which will be integrated into the curricula for students aged 15 to 18.

Becoming an inventor

As part of the activities to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the European Patent Convention, the Academy hosted a workshop on the importance of innovation, inventions and entrepreneurship, as well as the role of patents and the EPO. An e-learning module “Becoming an inventor” was developed to support educators at the high school level in better understanding and presenting this content to their students (15-18 years old).

The Young Inventors Prize

The [Young Inventors Prize](#), originally part of the [European Inventor Award](#), is specifically aimed at young innovators aged 30 and under. It recognises problem-solving initiatives across all technical fields, awarding solutions that contribute to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and have a positive global impact.

European Inventor Network

The European Inventor Network brings together past winners and finalists of the European Inventor Award and Young Inventors Prize. It aims to connect inventors with schools, offer financial support for inventor-led activities and recognise the role of inventors in nurturing creativity.

Established in July 2023, the network has over 200 members, and its efforts have already impacted approximately 3 500 children and young adults in 11 countries, through 24 different activities. Feedback from participating students has been highly positive, particularly on their direct engagement with inventors. The European Inventor Network aims to expand its membership and further increase its impact.

Japan Patent Office initiatives



Students are invited to submit their own inventions and designs

Patent Contest and Design Patent Contest

The JPO holds an annual Patent Contest and a Design Patent Contest in conjunction with the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT), the Japan Patent Attorneys Association (JPAA) and the National Center for Industrial Property Information and Training (INPIT).

Students in high schools, technical colleges, specialised training colleges and universities throughout Japan are invited to submit their own inventions and designs. A jury first selects 30 inventions and 30 designs. Of these, the most outstanding entries receive awards and the winners are eligible for support from JPAA members, including guidance and assistance when preparing their patent applications.

Junior Innovation Fest

The Junior Innovation Fest is an annual event that takes place during school summer vacation. It provides opportunities for children to foster creativity and deepen their understanding of IP. In 2023, the JPO prepared three special space-themed classes, including one on how a planetarium works, enabling kids to have fun while learning. The JPO also hosted five different experiential booths, one of which featured a trademark registration experience. In a follow-up survey, many participants expressed a keen interest in attending the event again.

Initiatives through the WIPO Japan Fund

The JPO supports various WIPO initiatives through Funds-in-Trust Japan Industrial Property Global (FIT Japan IP Global).

A user-friendly resource titled “How to explore ideas” was published to emphasise the importance of creative thinking and the role of IP, using as an example the globally recognised ‘Cup Noodles’ invented by Momofuku Ando. In addition, the manual also helps readers develop their creativity.

A pilot project to support young designers in leveraging IP aims to up-skill young designers to incorporate IP protection and management in their strategy for creative development and the marketing of industrial designs. Meanwhile, the Master’s degree in intellectual property (MIP) is an initiative that integrates economics, science and technology with the aim of cultivating future leaders capable of shaping their nations’ IP policies. Each year, selected students are granted scholarships to study MIP degrees offered jointly by WIPO and African academic institutions, namely Africa University in Zimbabwe and l’Université de Yaoundé II in Cameroon. Up to 12 students are selected per programme. So far, over 250 graduates have received scholarships through FIT Japan IP Global and play an active role in IP policy in their home countries.

JPO/IPR Training Course on Promoting Public Awareness of IP and JPO/IPR Training Course for IP Trainers

The “JPO/IPR Training Course on Promoting Public Awareness of IP” was designed for developing nations. The training course is tailored for individuals engaged in promoting public awareness of IP within IP offices, organisations focused on IP awareness and other related entities. It is all about exploring measures and methods to efficiently and effectively promote public awareness of IP. In August 2023, 21 trainees from 16 countries and 2 organisations completed the course.

The JPO also conducts “JPO/IPR Training Course for IP Trainers” for government officials and university staff involved in education on IP systems. The course aims to cultivate leaders in IP education by enhancing participants’ understanding of effective methods for teaching IP-related topics. Participants learn about the Japanese IP system and examine some typical IP issues. 19 trainees from 13 countries completed the course held between August and September 2023.

It is all about exploring measures and methods to efficiently and effectively promote public awareness of IP

IP Learning School Support Programme for Developing IP Capabilities

The JPO and the INPIT are committed to sharing knowledge and raising awareness about protecting IP and utilising IP rights. This programme targets students in vocational upper secondary schools and technical colleges by partnering with schools and offering them financial support, access to expert advisors and networking opportunities. In 2023, 42 schools were selected for the programme.



United States Patent and Trademark Office initiatives

An opportunity for high school students from communities surrounding the USPTO headquarters and Regional Offices to develop IP awareness and knowledge

Education and outreach

The USPTO's Office of Education provides educational outreach and programming for students, educators, young inventors and innovators of all ages. These include programmes for pre-K, K-12 and college students in all communities, including those in underrepresented areas, as well as outreach initiatives to teachers and parents. Professional development programmes include the free [National Summer Teacher Institute on Innovation, STEM and Intellectual Property](#), as well as the Master Teacher Programme, which uses a train-the-trainer model designed for teacher leaders to empower other teachers across the country.

The Intellectual Property Skills Work-based Learning Programme for high school students offers a paid internship. This provides an opportunity for high school students from communities surrounding the USPTO headquarters and Regional Offices to develop IP awareness and knowledge through practical work experience at USPTO offices. Similarly, the Innovation Internship Programme and other paid internship opportunities provide valuable lessons for community college and university students through real-world experience via paid internships.

The USPTO hosts in-person patent and trademark boot camps to educate diverse populations. In addition, WEWednesday forms part of the Women's Entrepreneurship initiative to help women understand how IP can help secure investment into their businesses. These programmes are held in hybrid and in-person formats.

The [USPTO internship programme](#) provides talented high school seniors and college students with unique opportunities to leverage their innate skills while developing new ones for the twenty-first century.

Partnerships

The USPTO also partners with other organisations to help develop the innovators of the future. Camp Invention, a collaborative initiative with the National Inventor’s Hall of Fame (NIHF), has expanded into a range of educational programmes catering to students from preschool to high school, covering subjects like science, technology, engineering and maths. Last year alone, more than 280 000 children participated in invention education activities through the USPTO’s partnership with summer camps and other innovation programmes.

The USPTO also collaborates with organisations providing experiential and recognition programmes in innovation for students. These include the Society for Science and the Public, FIRST LEGO League, YMCA, National Invention Convention and the Congressional App Challenge.

The USPTO works with multiple organisations to curb the physical and economic harm caused by faulty and dangerous counterfeit products, while also freezing out the criminal enterprises they support. Partners include the US Food and Drug Administration, US Customs and Border Protection, the International Trade Administration (ITA), the US Copyright Office and private sector leaders such as the International Trademark Association (INTA), the National Inventors Hall of Fame (NIHF), film organisation Cinequest and several others. The Go for Real programme is one partnership helping young consumers avoid dangerous fakes.

The USPTO actively serves on the interagency working group (IWG) on STEM as part of the Committee on Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (CoSTEM). The agency plays a key role in crafting the Federal STEM Strategic Plan.

The USPTO works with multiple organisations to curb the physical and economic harm caused by faulty and dangerous counterfeit products

The USPTO offers supplementary resources aimed at nurturing an innovative mindset

Online resources

In addition to outreach and partnership programmes, the USPTO website hosts dedicated pages tailored for youth and educators. The USPTO [kids](#), [students](#) and [educators](#) sections offer supplementary resources aimed at nurturing an innovative mindset. In February 2023, the USPTO launched EquiP HQ, another programme aimed at children and educators. EquiP HQ is an online platform that provides free tools to teach K-12 students real-world invention and IP skills.

The USPTO provisionally proposes a collaboration to develop a Trilateral strategic work plan spanning three to five years. This plan would aim to increase patent system awareness through education, outreach, international conference and resources. In addition, the strategy would aim to promote sustainable development goals through collaborations with IP offices in developing countries on global IP issues, such as technology transfer and knowledge sharing.



World Intellectual Property Organization initiatives

IP4Teachers and summer camp seminars offer group activities, trivia quizzes, out-of-the-box thinking and practical creativity exercises

WIPO Academy IP4Youth&Teachers programme

IP4Youth&Teachers is a demand-driven service for delivering IP education capacity-building to WIPO member states. It aims to accelerate national IP ethical practices and establish the requisite legal knowledge framework and infrastructure to support teachers, policymakers and youth access IP education. The services provided are:

Integration of IP Education in National Curricula Service (Primary, preparatory and secondary)

The service promotes the integration of IP education in national curricula to facilitate exposure to creativity and innovation starting from a formative age. It offers customisable training modules containing age-appropriate teaching tools and methods, gamified content and courses and a model IP education curriculum that WIPO member states can integrate in their national education curricula. WIPO's online courses, face-to-face workshops, seminars

and extracurricular initiatives are tailored to strengthen creativity and inventiveness, safeguard innovation and ethical IP practice and make the IP ecosystem accessible to everyone, everywhere in the digital age.

Customisation Service of IP4Youth and Teacher Training Modules

The Youth Corner offers youth and teachers the option of customisable online self-paced teaching modules. It provides a brief overview of fundamental IP concepts and helps demystify any misconceptions for young audiences. It emphasises that anyone interested in creating, inventing and generating income from creative works can learn how to use IP systems. The Youth Corner invites youth and educators to explore and experiment with practical tools that interactively foster IP knowledge development. Currently presented in Arabic, the English and Spanish versions are under revision.

IP4Youth Innovation Hubs and Summer Camps Service

Participants typically aged 15 upwards, or between 18 and 24, work in small groups to develop creative or innovative solutions to real-life challenges of their choosing. The summer camp seminars, organised jointly with WIPO member states, offer group activities, trivia quizzes, out-of-the-box thinking and practical creativity exercises derived from the theory of inventive problem solving (TRIZ). The participants receive expert support, evaluative feedback and learn to conduct a patent search.

IP4Teachers Training Service

The IP4Teachers programme kick-starts the IP education journey by cultivating dialogue among teachers and educators, curricula setters and IP offices, and by providing access to WIPO Academy's creativity and IP education curricula, methodology and teaching content. The programme is designed for individuals who are already involved in schools, educational and training institutions, ministries of education or IP offices. It offers national, regional and international creativity and IP teacher training seminars on a demand-driven basis, with recent examples completed for Romania, Albania, Egypt, Bahrain, Jordan, Morocco, Syria and Tunisia.

Empowering Youth in STEM: K–12 WIPO Development Agenda Project (ages 5–18)

This 2024 WIPO Academy project aims to equip youth with the skills and mindset necessary to thrive in STEM fields and contribute to global innovation and development. It is focused on a STEM-based IP curriculum development for youth and provides teacher training in four WIPO Member States across the Latin American, Caribbean, Arab, African and Asian regions. The project is supported by the US, Republic of Korea and Canada.

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WIPO IP Youth Ambassadors

This international awards initiative was launched by the WIPO Academy in 2019. The IP Youth Ambassadors initiative targets promising young creators, inventors, innovators and entrepreneurs. Its goal is to promote IP knowledge among youth through creativity and inventiveness. This initiative identifies and celebrates the innovative and inventive accomplishments of young individuals, as well as facilitating valuable networking and peer interaction. To date, WIPO has appointed 15 Youth Ambassadors from seven countries.

WIPO member states and ministries of education fora

The Roundtable Series on International Copyright Education for the Youth (RICE), launched in 2021 and concluded in 2022. Jointly run with the United States Copyright Office (USCO), the series enabled the sharing of experience among government officials, education policymakers and educators from fifteen countries, providing an opportunity to discuss strategies, exchange good and best practices in creativity and IP education, and strengthen collaborative networks among participants across the regions.

The IP Curriculum Hub contains WIPO member states' voluntary contributions in the form of policy papers, IP educational resources, tools, games and materials for all ages. The hub is for teachers, educational professionals, curricula developers, parents and policymakers, whom it invites to share experiences for the benefit of youth-focused communities of teachers, partner institutions, IP experts and IP offices. A vibrant community of interest can be expected to facilitate regular updates, and share good and best experiences with all countries seeking to benefit from similar interests when it comes to developing IP curricula, special initiatives, activities and teaching tools for youth worldwide.



IP eLearning services

The WIPO eLearning Center offers more than 50 online and blended learning courses on IP in over 20 languages, including the six official United Nations languages and Portuguese. The courses cater to a variety of audiences ranging from university students and researchers, to private professionals such as inventors, creators, lawyers, entrepreneurs, scientists, youth and their teachers, as well as managers, policymakers and government officials, judges and diplomats.

This offering, which continues to expand through the development of skills-based assessment and certification services, places a growing emphasis on the use of IP as a tool of business strategy. Courses are also accredited and offered as part of Bachelor’s and Master’s programmes at 20 universities around the world. During the past five years, 455 410 youth participated in WIPO Academy programmes, representing 71% of all WIPO Academy participants, with women making up 54% of the overall total.

Accessible IP eLearning Services for the Visually Impaired and Print Disabled (VIPs)

The WIPO Academy has developed and launched the Accessible Training Portal (ATP), a dedicated platform to provide a learning-friendly and accessible environment for people living with visual impairments and print disabilities. The ATP is designed to be a catalyst for achieving the SDGs by prioritising inclusivity and universal access to IP education. This is achieved through the implementation of W3C Accessibility Standards and compliance with its Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG).

The IP eLearning Center aims to make WIPO’s IP eLearning inclusive, ensuring that VIPs can navigate and benefit from the IP eLearning courses with ease. The General Course on Intellectual Property is currently offered in Arabic, English, French, Portuguese, Russian and Spanish, with the broader ambition being to provide a comprehensive suite of IP and non-IP courses, as well as accommodate WIPO’s Accessible Books Consortium (ABC) course in four languages.

This pioneering service has benefited youth who are VIP by broadening accessible learning in general as well as that concerning IP in particular. Between 2013 and 2024, a total of 4 397 young people between the ages of 16 and 34 participated, making use of materials in the above-mentioned six languages. The majority were women (56%).

The ATP is designed to be a catalyst for achieving the SDGs by prioritising inclusivity and universal access to IP education



Joint Master's programmes

The [WIPO Academy](#) offers joint Master's programmes in IP (including LL.M. programmes), in co-operation with universities and IP offices across the world. The duration of these programmes typically ranges from 12 to 18 months, and the curricula are jointly developed by the WIPO Academy and respective partner institutions.

The WIPO Young Experts Programme (YEP) aims to train the next generation of IP leaders to help build innovation ecosystems worldwide

WIPO summer schools for university students and young professionals

WIPO summer schools offer university students and young professionals an opportunity to acquire deeper knowledge of IP and how it can be used as a tool for sustainable development. They also help learners understand WIPO's role in the provision of global IP services.

All summer schools share a common curriculum, format and duration, with some offering varying degrees of specialisation in certain areas of IP. Participants are exposed to multiple aspects of IP, including the international nature of IP protection and the interface between IP and other disciplines. The programme takes an interdisciplinary, problem-oriented approach through lectures, simulations, group discussions, panel discussions and case studies.

The summer schools are aimed at university students and young professionals with a business and law background. They also cater to government officials whose duties may require them to understand how the international IP system functions and its intersection with other policy areas such as health, climate change and agriculture.

WIPO Young Experts Programme

The WIPO Young Experts Programme (YEP) aims to train the next generation of IP leaders to help build innovation ecosystems worldwide. Over the course of two years, the programme mentors young, talented individuals, equipping them with both theoretical knowledge and practical skills in IP. The goal is for participants to apply their expertise effectively within their respective countries and regions. There are 22 Young Experts working in various sectors within WIPO.