

ADVANCED INTERNATIONAL TRAINING PROGRAMME



ITP: 313b

Intellectual Property for Least Developed Countries

November 15 – December 4, 2020 in Stockholm, Sweden
(or a virtual setting)

Regional follow-up, June 13 – 18, 2021



Welcome

This International Training Programme is specially designed for persons qualified to participate in reform processes of importance on different levels and exercising a position in their home organization with a mandate to introduce change in social, economic, cultural and scientific institutions utilizing Intellectual Property as a tool for development.

As a participant of the Training Programme, you will actively involve yourself to take part in developments related to Intellectual Property for building the national knowledge base and encouraging invention, innovation and creativity. The methodology used in the Training Programme is based on the assumption that your organization wishes to carry out changes and is willing to invest its own resources to achieve these changes.

The Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) offers, as part of its bilateral development assistance, Advanced International Training Programmes of strategic importance to the social and economic development in the participants' countries. This Training Program is conducted and administered jointly by experts, academics and institutions such as the Swedish Intellectual Property Office (PRV) and international Organizations such as the World Intellectual Property Organizations (WIPO) with Sida as the main financier of the Training Programme.

In the short and medium term, the Training Programme will focus on building the requisite skills which will be used for the long-term interests of the LDCs to build and strengthen technical capacity and institutions of change. In doing so, gender balanced participation in the Training Programme is given the highest importance.

The importance of using Intellectual Property rights as a tool to achieve development objectives has increased considerably in recent years and this issue has gained extensive focus particularly in the context of the implementation of considerations related to international Intellectual Property agreements including the TRIPS Agreement. In addition, the use of Intellectual Property for economic growth and development is now a reality with a number of success stories and lessons to be harnessed by other countries. While the issue is important, it is also complex and the repercussions of various solutions are not easy to grasp. Considerable knowledge and experience is therefore necessary in order to fully understand and successfully participate in the international negotiations where the outcome may affect national development considerations. For many Least Developed Countries this poses considerable challenges.

Recognizing this fact, the Government of Sweden through the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency and the Swedish Intellectual Property Office in cooperation with the World Intellectual Property Organization have taken the initiative to organize a Training and Advisory Programme on Intellectual Property for Least Developed Countries.

In this brochure, you will find information on the specific objectives of the Training Program, its contents and structure, and how and when to apply. The application form, which needs to be completed by the individual candidates, is also attached to this Brochure.



Alan AtKisson
DIRECTOR OF PARTNERSHIP
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Sida



Peter Strömbäck
DIRECTOR GENERAL
Swedish Patent and Registration office

Programme objectives

The main objectives and rationale of the Programme are the following:

- To increase the familiarity with the foundational concepts and the different categories of Intellectual Property for the achievement of national development objectives including the strengthening of IP institutions and systems in LDCs.
- To inform about and discuss a number of specific issues, related to development, in the area of Intellectual Property, for example the impact of IP to enable solutions of the Covid-19 pandemic, digitalization, the economic impact of the utilization of trademarks and geographical indications in facilitating growth and competitiveness in product areas of strategic importance for LDCs and the benefits of flourishing creative industries for employment creation.
- To discuss and provide examples of various aspects of international negotiations in the field of Intellectual Property to strengthen capacity and multilateral cooperation.
- To assess the Intellectual Property situation in the participating countries and identify national areas for change based on knowledge and experiences acquired from the Training Programme, as well as discussions among participants on the experiences gained from the implementation of the country projects.

Content

The training in Stockholm or in a virtual setting will be focused on a number of special themes in the area of Intellectual Property, including the following:

- General aspects of Intellectual Property including legal, institutional and management aspects, and its relevance in the context of economic growth and development.
- The role of multilateral and regional institutions in Intellectual Property law formulation, implementation and administration.
- The role of Intellectual Property in key national public policy issues such as agriculture, education, and health and the discussion of implementation issues in the national context.
- Emerging issues in Intellectual Property including those related to biodiversity, environmental protection, and implications of a dynamic and fast paced technological landscape.
- The international trading system, especially the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Law (The TRIPS Agreement).
- The importance of patents as a resource of technical and scientific information for technological capacity building and their role in promoting innovation and invention.
- The role of trademarks, industrial designs, and geographical indications in contributing to economic growth and increasing competitiveness.
- The role of copyright and related rights in cultural and socio-economic development.

OUTPUT

- › **Awareness raising and capacity building in the concepts, theories and application of Intellectual Property for economic growth and development.**
 - › **The latest on the developments in Intellectual Property in the multilateral and regional fora including in WIPO and WTO.**
 - › **Understanding of national Intellectual Property policy making including in key issues of development such as agriculture, education and health.**
- To create networks among the Swedish and international experts and the participants to share experience and knowledge. Participants will also be encouraged to form national networks of stakeholders.

- Intellectual Property and Gender.
- Intellectual Property Law and its enforcement.
- The Intellectual Property system in Sweden as an illustrative example, with study visits to enable participants to witness first hand and garner practical lessons from Swedish organizations and institutions of invention, innovation, creativity and technological capacity building.

TIMETABLE

WHERE:

The Swedish Intellectual Property Office in Stockholm and a regional follow-up. Participants should be aware that the programme may be moved to a virtual setting due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

WHEN:

November 15 – December 4, 2020 in Stockholm, Sweden (or a virtual setting)
Regional follow-up, June 13 – 18, 2021

THE COVID 19- PANDEMIC

Participants should be aware that the programme may be moved to a virtual setting due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The programme will be created to meet the same objective as a physical meeting. Eg. to allow for opportunities to interact, community building and sharing of ideas.

Programme structure

The Training Programme focuses on building technical capacity in the use of the Intellectual Property system to advance and achieve national development objectives, sustained economic growth and technological innovation. A key part of the Training Programme consists of the formulation and implementation of Projects For Change by the participants which aim to promote national innovation, creativity and technological progress through concrete and impact based outcomes.

In particular, participants are encouraged to design their Projects For Change bearing in mind specific national needs and priorities and also to accommodate issues of importance such as technological advancement, and the attainment of higher human resource capacity. These projects can be undertaken either individually or in teams, but the work should be firmly established in the participant's organization. This is in order to secure sustainability and to introduce change in social, economic, cultural and scientific institutions by utilizing Intellectual Property as a tool for development.

THE PROGRAMME AND ITS FOUR PHASES

The first phase is a preparatory phase where the participants should prepare a 3–4 page country report containing an analysis and review of the Intellectual Property System in their own countries including the general legal and policy aspects of the use of copyright, patents, trademarks, industrial designs, geographical indications etc.

The participants shall also identify and receive management approval (including budget approval) for a project of specific interest to the country, preferably with conditions to become or be a part of a national level project. Two weeks prior to arrival in Stockholm, a project outline shall be submitted to the organizers. This Project For Change will also be discussed during the second phase of the Training Programme in Stockholm or in the virtual setting.

The second phase consists of a three-week training in Stockholm or in the virtual setting where information will be provided as a basis for discussion, about the legal, managerial, and practical aspects of Intellectual Property and its socio-economic benefits and development dimensions. The reports prepared by the participants and in particular their Project For Change proposals for introducing change will also be discussed during this phase. Importance will be given to discussions and sharing of experience and knowledge among the participants and the Swedish and international experts on how to improve the use of the national Intellectual Property system to advance national development goals and technological capacity. The discussion will also include substantive guidance by the experts on overcoming obstacles in the implementation of Project For Changes.

The third phase will take place in the participants' home countries where they should implement the Project For Change they have formulated in phase one and discussed with Swedish and international experts during the second phase of the Training Programme. Mentors will be designated for each of the pro-

jects. Support from Swedish and international experts will also be available during this phase.

The fourth phase will consist of a 5 day follow-up meeting where all the participants will share the results and outputs of their Projects For Change including their project implementation experiences and discuss any future project related activities.

THE TRAINING IN STOCKHOLM OR ON-LINE

The training will be carried out through lectures, discussions, practical work, and study visits. Considerable time will be devoted to discussion on the Projects For Change and to the country reports (which are to be prepared at home). If the programme will be in a virtual setting it will allow for many opportunities for interaction, community building and the sharing of ideas and knowledge. The online training will not be done in isolation but through collaboration and interaction not only with fellow participants but also with PRV and WIPO.

There will be many opportunities to contribute to discussion forums and practical exercises, thus ensuring a collaborative and richer learning experience. The Virtual Training Program will include: Seminar sessions and Group Exercises (Zoom), Course material will be uploaded (Dropbox) and Networking (WhatsApp).

THE PROJECT FOR CHANGE

The selected Project For Change should aim to introduce change by utilizing Intellectual Property as a tool for development in the country of the participant, including in the organization from where he/she is nominated from. Participants must make sure to have the support of their home organisation since the financing of the project is the responsibility of the participants and their organisations. The Project For Change has a short, medium and long-term duration and therefore does not have to be finished at the time of the follow-up. However, tangible progress and concrete outputs in the implementation of the Project For Change must be observed.

FOLLOW-UP TRAINING

About six months after the conclusion of the training programme in Stockholm a follow-up training will take place in one of the Least Developed Countries in Africa or Asia.

The follow up training programme will provide a forum for the exchange of views with regard to the concrete outcomes achieved in Project For Change implementation including challenges and future plans for project implementation. Topics addressed in the Stockholm phase of the training (second phase) will also be discussed.

MANAGEMENT AND STAFF

Staff of the Swedish Patent and Registration Office and the World Intellectual Property Organization will be available during the Training Programme in Stockholm to support the participants. Mr. Mats Nordenborg, Senior Legal Adviser and Program Manager, is responsible for the Training Programme.

Admission requirements

INVITED COUNTRIES

The following countries are invited to nominate candidates: Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, Ethiopia, Laos, Malawi, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, Rwanda, Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia.

TARGET GROUP

Only candidates nominated by the appropriate organization and in accordance with national rules will be considered.

TARGET REGION

Least Developed Countries in Africa, Asia.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO APPLY?

The Training Programme is specially designed for senior officials and policy makers from relevant government entities, business and industries, universities and academic institutions, research and development organizations who are involved in issues concerning Intellectual Property at the national level. The number of participants is limited to 27 in order to ensure a close working relationship between participants, lecturers and mentors. Emphasis will be made on the selection of senior officials with experience in areas of transfer of technology and technological capacity building in order to promote cooperation between institutions of higher learning, research institutions, industries, and business to initiate project-based activities on invention and innovation.

PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS

The participants accepted to the Training Programme shall be obliged to participate in all phases of the programme. Substitutes will not be accepted for any phase. Management approval for all participation and project work is mandatory and is to

be confirmed in the application. The participant should have some proficiency in the use of computers (word processing) and access to computers with Internet connection in the home country (for e-mail communications and to be able to use Zoom, Dropbox and WhatsApp). The WIPO general course on Intellectual Property (DL101) or equivalent knowledge is recommended but not a prerequisite. The participant's professional role in his/her home country is more important than formal qualifications.

When applying to the Programme candidates will be asked to prepare a short description of the chosen Project For Change.

LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS

English will be the language of instruction for the Training Programme. Candidates from countries where English is not an official language should do a language test with an official body in the home country, unless other documentation to support for her/his ability can be provided. Proficiency in English shall be certified on the Application form.

HEALTH REQUIREMENTS

Considering the Training Programme consists of international travels and work away from home in a new environment, good health and full working capacity is conditioned. It is therefore recommended that candidates undergo a medical examination before filling in the Medical Statement in the Application form.

COSTS

The Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) will cover all costs related to all programme phases except personal expenses, visa fees or any local airport taxes and departure fees.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Application should be written on the special form attached and include a recent photograph and required information and documents. Please also note that in order to be accepted to the program your proposed Project For Change will be of importance.

When necessary, the application should be approved by the official nominating authority in your country.

Application in original with required signatures and attachments should be submitted to the nearest Swedish Embassy/Consulate. If there is no appropriate Swedish Embassy/Consulate in your country, the application should be submitted directly to Program Secretariat.

Applications submitted after closing date will not be considered.

Closing date for applications:

› **September 1, 2020**

SELECTION PROCESS

Selected candidates will be notified by e-mail. Once selected, the candidate must confirm participation. A letter of Acceptance will be sent out, containing information on participation in the programme and the practical arrangements. Selected candidates shall be aware of the commitment to participate in all phases of the programme.

The Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) offers, as part of its bilateral development assistance, capacity development activities in areas of strategic importance to the social, environmental and economic development in the participating countries. The purpose of the Advanced International Training Programmes is to provide resources and develop knowledge, skills and expertise to organisations with strong legitimacy in relation to target groups, democracy practices etc. in areas given priority in Swedish development cooperation, are based on identified priorities and needs and in which Swedish expertise is in demand.

ORGANIZER

SWEDISH INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY OFFICE **PRV**

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The Swedish Intellectual Property Office has, together with Sida and the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), designed the training programme and is responsible for its management. The Swedish Intellectual Property Office is the national office for registration of Industrial Property Rights such as Patents, Trademarks and Industrial Design as well as responsible for providing information to Industry. The Swedish Patent and Registration Office reports to the Ministry of Enterprise and innovation.

We want a copy of all applications to be sent by email to:
international@prv.se

Please also note that applications by email need to be signed and scanned and sent to us in **one** file in PDF format.
Name the document with your country abbreviation and last name,
ex SE_Nordenborg

PARTNERS

The World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) is the specialised UN agency mandated to promote the effective protection and use of Intellectual Property throughout the world by creating an environment and infrastructure conducive to an enhanced understanding of the contribution of Intellectual Property to human life through economic, social and cultural development, and, in particular, by assisting developing and least developed countries in their capacity building for greater access to, and use of, the Intellectual Property system. WIPO is responsible for the administration of international treaties on Intellectual Property. Its headquarters is located in Geneva, Switzerland.

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