

WIPO Match: financing innovation to leverage IP for development

Operating completely free of charge through the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), [WIPO Match](#) connects “seekers” and “providers” of technical assistance in diverse fields, where the appropriate use of the intellectual property system is responsible for economic and social development.

A “Match” happens when the interaction between two or more parties results into a “mutual agreement” to collaborate on a specific project.

An example of a successful Match, among others, was a cooperation between African Regional Intellectual Property Office (ARIPO) – the seeker – and Directorate General of Intellectual Property, Ministry of Law and Human Rights of the Republic of Indonesia (DGIP) – the provider. ARIPO expressed a need to develop a database for registration of copyright works. As DGIP had already developed a similar database in the Indonesian language, it was in a position to offer ARIPO, through WIPO Match, a software for the electronic registration of copyright works. This was done on a *pro bono* basis, in a spirit of South-South Cooperation, where both the seeker and the provider expressed explicit mutual interest in joint activities, signing a Memorandum of Understanding.

The platform brings together a worldwide community of members, where seekers may find access to financial resources and technical skills, while providers are able to offer tailored assistance along the lines of expressed needs.

Thus, not only does WIPO Match allow its members to network and promote their organizations, but it also provides mutual benefits to its fast-growing community. To date about 100 members from 37 countries, have registered on WIPO Match, representing different institutions and backgrounds, namely national/regional IP offices, NGOs, IGOs, universities/technology transfer office and private sector).

Thanks to the development of strategic partnerships, WIPO Match has facilitated multiple matches through concrete partnerships with, among others, the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB), the United Nations Office of South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC) and the United Nations Development Economic Social Affairs (UNDESA).

WIPO Match is expected to further expand its coverage through its integration in the UN On-line Platform (OLP) of the Technology Facilitation Mechanism, which aims to facilitate meaningful and sustained capacity building and assistance for development in the area of Science, Technology and Innovation (STI).

As a recognition of driving a fast-track progress in fostering cooperation, the WIPO Match has been featured ‘[Partner of the Month / October 2019](#)’ on the United Nations South-South Galaxy platform which is a global knowledge sharing platform to strengthen the ways countries share their technology, to benefit developing countries.

To learn more about WIPO Match, click [here](#)

To find your own perfect WIPO Match, email: match@wipo.int