

The Incheon Free Economic Zone  
IFEZ was designated as an area of 132.9km<sup>2</sup>.  
In August 2003 over Songdo, Yeongjong, and Cheongna, including Incheon International Airport.  
It serves as the hub for the government's strategy of making Northeast Asia's economic central.

# Global IP Cooperation



50	Multilateral Cooperation and FTA
52	Sharing IP
54	International Cooperation
56	International IT Cooperation
57	International Seminars and Training Courses



# Multilateral Cooperation and FTA



## 01 | Multilateral meetings at WIPO

At the 54<sup>th</sup> WIPO General Assembly held in Geneva, Switzerland, the KIPO Commissioner delivered his General Statement introducing the previous year's major achievements, such as the vitalization of IP-based financing,



and the enhancement of the customer-oriented and collective examination systems. Furthermore, he introduced a new government policy called "Open Government 3.0," which enables the public to easily access and utilize government information, such as IP documents or works owned, created, or commissioned by the government, in order to create new values.

On September 23, during the WIPO General Assembly, we hosted a ceremony commemorating the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Korea Funds-in-Trust (FIT) at WIPO. Along with the ceremony, we held an exhibition to show our major achievements through the Korea FIT.

In addition, in March 2014, we

deposited our instrument of accession to the Geneva Act (1999) of the Hague Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Industrial Designs (Hague system). And, since the following July, we implemented the Hague system to contribute to the early establishment of the system as a route for acquiring international design rights.

Meanwhile, we participated in working group meetings to expand global IP services like the PCT, Madrid, and Hague systems. We also participated in WIPO standing committees—such as the Standing Committee on the Law of Patents (SCP); the Standing Committee on the Law of Trademarks, Industrial Designs, and Geographical Indications (SCT); and the Committee on WIPO Standards (CWS)—to discuss global IP norm settings. Furthermore, we participated in permanent WIPO committees—including the Program and Budget Committee (PBC), the Committee on Development and Intellectual Property (CDIP), the Intergovernmental Committee (IGC), and the Advisory Committee on Enforcement (ACE)—to discuss the WIPO budget, WIPO development agendas, genetic resource protection, and technical assistance and coordination in the field of enforcement.

## 02 | APEC Intellectual Property Rights Experts Group (IPEG)

We have been constructively involved in IPR discussions under the APEC Intellectual Property Rights Experts' Group (IPEG).

In July of 2014, we held a conference entitled "APEC-KIPO International Conference on Appropriate Technology (AT), Strategic IP Utilization for Sustainable Development" to help prepare strategies for AT development through IP. Out of the 21 APEC member economies, 11 economies actively participated as participants, and 5 economies (the United States, Australia, Mexico, the Philippines, and Korea) contributed as speakers. Throughout the conference, we shared the practical advantages of IP utilization and how it can lead to a better lifestyle. In addition, by sharing different perspectives and participating in group activities, participants discovered a heightened sense of motivation in increasing the development of IP within their own economies.

We co-proposed the "Initiative to facilitate the exploitation of IPRs and innovation in SMES" with Mexico at the 38th IPEG meeting in February 2014 with the support of the United

States, Vietnam, and Indonesia, and the proposal was adopted at the meeting. The initiative was intended to foster SME innovation through IPRs, resulting in increased contributions by SMEs in regard to vitalizing commerce and investment among the APEC member economies. It is divided into the following: conducting survey questionnaires to share policies (in effect from 2014–2015) supporting SMEs; undergoing research with APEC funds to produce a manual (2016–2017) on the policies; and utilizing the APEC network to provide consultations (to take place in 2017) to member economies in need of them.

## 03 | FTA negotiations on IP

Korea's first free trade agreement (FTA) was signed with Chile (effective as of April 1, 2004), and since then, further FTAs have been agreed upon with Singapore (effective as of March 2, 2006), EFTA<sup>4</sup> (effective as of September 1, 2006), ASEAN<sup>5</sup> (effective as of June 1, 2007), the United States (effective as of March 15, 2012), the European Union (effective as of July 1, 2011), Peru (effective as of August 1, 2011), and Turkey (effective as of May 1, 2013). In conjunction with India, Korea

signed a Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA)<sup>6</sup>, which came into effect on January 1, 2010. In addition, FTAs signed with Australia (effective as of December 12, 2014) and Canada (effective as of January 1, 2015) came into effect, and FTAs with four other countries are scheduled to come into effect: Colombia (ready for ratification), China (Signed on June 1, 2015), New Zealand (signed on March 23, 2015), and Vietnam (signed on May 5, 2015).

As of now, Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP)<sup>7</sup> and Korea-China-Japan FTAs are under negotiation.

By signing FTAs with the European Union and the United States, Korea has already reached a high level of IPR protection, surpassing that of World Trade Organization (WTO) TRIPS<sup>8</sup>. Korea is expected to instigate future major FTA negotiations under the government's FTA diversification policy.

<sup>4</sup> European Free Trade Association; consists of Switzerland, Lichtenstein, Norway, and Iceland

<sup>5</sup> Association of Southeast Asian Nations; consists of Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Brunei, Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, and Vietnam

<sup>6</sup> Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement; As a terminology adopted to emphasize the comprehensiveness of overall economic relations, such as goods trade, services trade, investment, and economic cooperation, it actually has the same nature as an FTA.

<sup>7</sup> The Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) is a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) scheme for the 10 ASEAN Member States and six other countries (Korea, China, Japan, India, Australia, and New Zealand).



# Sharing IP

## 01 | Appropriate technology

Appropriate technology refers to technology tailored to the environmental, cultural, and socioeconomic factors of a particular region. Mainly developed to improve the quality of life for low-income households, it is more cost-effective, efficient, and easier to implement and maintain than cutting-edge technologies. That is, it is technology with a low usage value in developed countries but highly usable in less developed countries. We have provided appropriate technology to key national allies via technological information obtained from patent documents.

In 2011, to improve the quality of drinking water in Kon Trei, Cambodia, we developed a water purifier using a simple design and structure that does not require expensive maintenance or electricity for power. We also



expanded cooperation with two NGOs—Good Neighbors and Habitat for Humanity of Korea—to spread the benefits of the project, and both organizations advanced and supplied further appropriate technology throughout 2012.

In 2012, in collaboration with Good Neighbors, we developed a stove to improve home cooking facilities for low-income groups in Guatemala. In addition, with the help of Habitat for Humanity of Korea, we improved the insulation of bamboo houses in Nepal.

In 2013, we developed an oil extractor and provided it to farms in Anao, which is located in the Tarlac province in the Philippines. We also developed and provided bicycle-operated water pumps to Pinu in Papua New Guinea.

In 2014, we selected appropriate technology based on high-demand technologies discovered as a result of WIPO's appropriate technology competitions (supported by the Korea FIT), and we developed a decentralized waste water treatment system in Vietnam, as well as a beehive honey extractor and corresponding manual in Ghana.

## 02 | Brand development project

Although high-quality locally-farmed goods and other various specialties can often be found in less developed countries, because of a lack of

attention to brand development, the majority of producers do not receive the benefits of a proper marketing campaign. To resolve this problem, we, in collaboration with APEC in 2011 and 2012, supported brand acquisition through the "One Village One Brand Project."

In 2012, we helped communities acquire trademarks within their native Cambodia. After carrying out a demand survey, Cambodia's Ministry of Commerce requested a brand-support project that would raise the quality of and add value to its farmed goods. We helped them develop brands for red rice and longan, a tropical fruit native to Southeast Asia, in addition to helping them secure the appropriate trademark rights.

In 2013, we developed a grain brand called "Quinoa" in Bolivia, in addition to a certified local brand in Tarlac, Philippines. In Tarlac, we also held a "One Village One Brand" seminar to share insights with regard to brand development and good examples of IP utilization.

In 2014, we integrated appropriate technology and brand development for



a product in Ghana in order to develop and certify a brand for bee farms. In Myanmar, we developed the brand "Diamond Mango" at the request of the Myanmar Fruit, Flower, and Vegetable Producers and Exporters Association, and held a One Village One Brand seminar for government officials and business representatives to develop strategy of brand utilization.

## 03 | Korea Fund-in-Trust (FIT) projects

Since 2004, we have contributed around 8.1 million Swiss francs for the continued operation of the Korea FIT at WIPO. The main objectives of the projects are that build the capacities of various IP offices, increase IP awareness, and improve quality of life among the populations of less developed countries.

Over the past 10 years, the Korea FIT has made major achievements in enhancing socio-economic development, building capacities for IP offices, and increasing public awareness on IP in the less developing countries. It has also contributed to the dissemination and wide use of PCT-ROAD, an electronic PCT application system, and IP PANORAMA among WIPO member countries. Projects such as IT consulting and establishment of IP centers have provided KIPO with an opportunity to promote its advanced information technologies to the international community.

Under the goal of enhancing socio-economic development, annual

appropriate technology competitions have been held in eight nations since 2011. In 2014, AT competitions were held in Vietnam and Mongolia. In Vietnam, about 500 special guests, including the Deputy Prime Minister of Vietnam, participated in the award ceremony.

Also, the ROK-FIT has performed 2 workshops, study visits from Myanmar, and 4 expert missions—Myanmar, the Philippines, Brunei, and Thailand—for supporting the capacity building of national IP Offices. The workshops mainly focus on the training of patent and trademark examiners, useage of IP information, promotion of innovation, and technology transfers. The study visits provided IP Offices officials with opportunities to learn about advanced IP systems and policies. Expert missions delivered IP administration consultation and tailored training for IP officials according to the demands of receiving countries.

With the aim of increasing public awareness on IP, WIPO and KIPO agreed to jointly develop educational multimedia materials to familiarize children with the basic elements of IP. To appeal to the younger generation, an animation was created featuring "Pororo," a penguin-like character known around the world. In 2014, dubbed versions were produced in two languages, French and Spanish, to help children easily grasp the concepts of creativity and IP.

## 04 | Development of IP education contents

In 2006, in collaboration with WIPO's SMEs Division, we developed an English e-learning program called IP PANORAMA, which tackles IP issues from a business perspective. As of now, it is available in 24 different languages, including 6 UN official languages. We have utilized IP PANORAMA for online and offline international IP training for WIPO member states. Since 2010, we have offered the Advanced International Certificate Course (AICC) with WIPO and the Korea Advanced Institute of





# International Cooperation

Science and Technology (KAIST). In 2014, 709 people from 89 different countries participated in the online course, as well as, during the past 5 years, more than 3,500 people from WIPO member states.

In 2014, with WIPO Academy, we also developed the IP education e-learning content IP IGNITE, an audio-visually enhanced version of WIPO's Distance Learning-101 (DL-101). Within its 12 modules, IP IGNITE covers everything from basic IP fundamentals to advanced information on international IP laws and WIPO-administered treaties. Its easy-to-understand storytelling methods and flash animation make the study of IP more enjoyable. IP IGNITE was inspired by student feedback regarding DL-101, which has been made available to Korean universities ever since 2005. We held its official launch during the 15th WIPO CDIP meeting in April 2015.

## 01 | Bilateral cooperation

Throughout 2014, we remained actively involved in bilateral cooperation and held over 30 bilateral meetings with foreign IPR agencies.

We held a Heads meeting between the IP offices of Korea and the United States, during which we agreed to expand and enhance cooperation through the pilot Cooperative Patent Classification (CPC) project, expert exchanges,

and an annual meeting of information system experts.

During our regular bilateral meeting with the State Intellectual Property Office (SIPO) of China, we agreed to dispatch IP experts, expand the scope of joint prior art searches, regularly hold presiding administrative judges' meetings between the two countries, and mutually cooperate for CPC.

With the Trademark Office of the State Administration for Industry and Commerce (SAIC) of China, we decided to regularly hold meetings between our two trademark offices to expand our base for cooperation.

With Japan, we enhanced our bilateral IP cooperation relations by holding experts' meetings for each IP field, such as trademarks, designs, training, and trials. In conjunction with the EPO, we approved a work plan for bilateral cooperation in 2014–2015 for the systemic pursuit of cooperative projects between our two IP offices. We strove to dutifully complete existing cooperative projects, such as ones pertaining to patent classification, data exchanges, and examination.

With the Office of Harmonization for the Internal Market (OHIM) of Europe, we signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on the exchange of design data and the provision of Korea's data to the OHIM's design search engine Designview in order to enable design searches in Korean.

Since June 2014, we have provided patent examination services in



proxy for the United Arab Emirates, and we signed an MOU with Saudi Arabia that designated us as the organization carrying out its international searches under the PCT.

With regard to Patent Prosecution Highways (PPHs), we participated in the IP5 PPH and the global PPH, wherein we were joined by 13 other countries, expanding the number of countries with which Korea has established PPHs, from 14 in 2013 to 21 in 2014. Unlike previous

PPHs that were based on bilateral agreements, global and multilateral PPHs have largely improved user convenience by making it possible to submit a PPH application to several countries with just one request form.

## 02 | IP5 framework

With examination backlog becoming a global issue because of the rapid increase in patent applications, the EPO, the JPO, KIPO, the SIPO, and the USPTO took time in the IP5 Heads Meeting held in Jeju, Korea, in 2008, to reach an agreement for the joint undertaking of 10 fundamental work-sharing projects. We have since implemented the said projects through three IP5 Working Groups.

At the 2012 IP5 Heads Meeting held in Corsica, France, we discussed the need for a realignment of the IP5, as five years had passed since the launch of the IP5 framework in 2007. As a result, we formed the

Patent Harmonization Expert Panel as a platform for discussing the harmonization of patent systems, and we also implemented the Global Dossier Task Force, which aims to develop the Global Dossier, an IT platform that provides patent information to various IP offices via a single channel. The IP5 Patent Information Policy was adopted at the 2013 IP5 Heads Meeting held in Cupertino, California, allowing for patent information produced or collected by the IP5 to be readily provided at low-cost to IP5 offices or third-party patent offices, thereby streamlining prior art searches among the IP5 offices. Furthermore, we agreed upon a basic plan for developing the Global Dossier, and upon a new IP5 cooperation mechanism for enacting and amending international patent classifications.

In addition, at the 2014 IP5 Heads Meeting held in Busan, Korea, we agreed that each IP office is to publicly disclose patent examination status updates from their respective countries via the One Portal Dossier (OPD)<sup>9</sup>.



<sup>9</sup> OPD provides the public with access to patent examination progress information from the IP5.

<sup>10</sup> TM5 is an international trademark cooperation framework for the five leading trademark offices (Europe, Japan, Korea, China and the United States).



We also confirmed the following three priority tasks to enhance patent system harmonization: (1) the citation of prior art, (2) written description/sufficiency of disclosure, and (3) unity of invention. We then designated certain IP offices to be responsible for coordinating efforts on each task.

## 03 | TM5 framework

In May and December of 2014, we participated in the TM5<sup>10</sup> meeting. It was officially launched in May 2012 as a cooperative effort for harmonizing various trademark systems. At the TM5 meeting, the five offices discussed enhancing applicant convenience and improving trademark system harmonization via 11 cooperative projects. We have been leading the "Project of comparing and analyzing examination results" for common applications submitted to the five offices, and the

## International IT Cooperation

“TM5 Website project.” In May 2014, we successfully launched the official TM5 website (www.tmfive.org), which enables viewers to quickly understand each country’s system and statistics, as well as detailed content regarding TM5 cooperative projects.

### 04 | ID5 framework

At 2014’s annual TM5 meeting held in Japan, member states agreed to have a separate agenda—starting in 2015—for design issues, and to establish the Industrial Design Forum 5 (ID5)<sup>11</sup>, in accordance with Japan’s proposal. The five offices plan to continue discussing the establishment of the ID5 framework, led by the United States as the chairing country of the 2015 TM5 annual meeting.

### 01 | IT-related bilateral cooperation

Throughout 2014, we engaged in bilateral cooperation for the exchange and utilization of IP information with the IP offices of major countries.

In July and December 2014, we signed MOUs with Germany and Japan, respectively, for data

exchanges. In September of the same year, we signed an MOU for design data exchanges with the OHIM. As a result, we are exchanging data with other IP offices so they can be used for searches, examinations, and public services, thereby further increasing the utilization of IP information.

In addition, we held a bilateral and trilateral IT Experts’ Meetings with Japan and China in September 2014 to foster close cooperation among the three Northeast Asian countries on various IT issues.

In December, we participated in the KIPO-EPO working-level meeting and agreed to exchange new data, such as traditional knowledge and legal status databases, while also discussing more efficient tools for data exchange between the two offices. Furthermore, in September and November 2014, we signed MOUs with WIPO on design data and PCT data exchanges, respectively, pursuant to the Hague system.

### 02 | IP5 IT cooperation

In May 2014, we held the IP5 Working Group 2 in order to resolve such IT issues as the Global Dossier (GD)<sup>12</sup>, One Portal Dossier (OPD), machine translation, common documentation datasets, and the

dissemination of patent information. In particular, we focused on the IP5’s proposed future direction for the Global Dossier.

In addition, we developed an OPD system, along with a corresponding website, and launched it in April 2015 to provide public OPD services previously limited to examiners. As a result, Koreans can now simultaneously check their examination progress at all IP5 Offices. This allows them to more quickly and effectively respond to changes in examination status.

In addition, we presented our research on measures for building a hybrid machine translation service for enhanced dissemination of IP5 patent information to the public.

### 03 | Assisting IP automation in less developed countries

We have been using Official Development Assistance (ODA) funds to expand our partnerships with less developed countries and support them in automatizing their office systems.



## International Seminars and Training Courses



In May 2014, we conducted a feasibility study on developing an office automation system in Cambodia. This study led to the December signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Cambodia’s Ministry of Commerce for cooperation in the development of their new system.

In addition, in April 2015, we completed development on an office automation system for the African Regional Industrial Property

Organization (ARIPO) and helped them to implement a paperless office environment.

In April 2014, we agreed on a cooperation roadmap for developing an office automation system in the United Arab Emirates (UAE). In June 2014, we began researching the feasibility of this system, and offered consultations on the development process. In September 2014, we signed an MOU with the UAE for cooperation in developing their office automation



system, which will be based on Korea’s KIPOnet system model.

In 2014, the International Intellectual Property Training Institute (IIPTI) cooperated with WIPO and the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) to hold international seminars and provide 11 IP training courses to 144 foreigners, including ones customized to the patent examiners of Saudi Arabia, in addition to patent and trademark examiners from Indonesia, Cambodia, and Malaysia. Furthermore, in 2015, we plan to diversify our training program to meet the increasing demand for customized IP training in Middle Eastern and African countries.

\* GCCPO: Patent office of the cooperation council for the Arab of the Gulf

Category	Course	Main Content	Dates	No. of participants
WIPO courses	WIPO Course on Patent Laws and Examination	Working-level training on Korea’s patent system and examination	March 5 – 13	16
	WIPO Course on Trademark Laws and Examination	Working-level training on Korea’s trademark system and examination	April 23 – 30	19
	WIPO IP Summer School	IPR education for college students and young professionals	July 14 – 25	29
	WIPO Asia-Pacific Seminar	Joint research on measures for IPR development in the Asia-Pacific (Intellectual Property as a Policy Tool for Development)	October 21 – 23	16
KOICA courses	KOICA IP System Course	Understanding Korea’s IPR policies and visiting industries	June 12 – July 2	16
	KOICA Creative Invention Course	Education on creative invention policies	July 10 – 30	13
	KOICA–Azerbaijan IP System Course	Working-level training on Korea’s patent system and examination	September 14 – 27	8
	Course for Saudi Arabian Patent Examiners	Introducing Korea’s Patent Act and examination system	March 25 – April 4	10
	Course for Zambian Patent Examiners	Introducing Korea’s Patent Act and examination system	June 23 – 27	5
	Course for GCCPO (Middle East) Patent Examiners	Introducing Korea’s Patent Act and examination system	November 11 – 14	7
	IP5 Joint Training Course for Patent Examiners	Introducing Korea’s Patent Act and examination system	November 4 – 7	5
Total	11 courses			144

Schedule for international training courses in 2014

<sup>11</sup> ID5 is an international design cooperation framework for the five leading design offices (Korea, the United States, Europe, Japan, and China).

<sup>12</sup> Global Dossier presented a new user-centric perspective to the IP5 Cooperation for 2013-2017.