Developing Capacity for Innovation and IP

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In 2025, MOIP strengthened human resource development as part of a broader effort to foster creativity and build the practical IP capabilities needed in a rapidly changing innovation environment. Through the International Intellectual Property Training Institute (IIPTI) and other domestic and international capacity-building initiatives, MOIP expanded specialized training in emerging technologies, invention education, IP valuation and finance, and IP administration, while broadening access to digital and inclusive learning. Together, these efforts helped build a broader and more capable talent base equipped to create, protect, utilize, and commercialize IP.

01 *The 2025 IP Education and Training Plan*

The IIPTI, MOIP's specialized institution for IP education and professional training, set out its "2025 Intellectual Property Education and Training Plan" around four priorities: (1) strengthening the education infrastructure needed to support technology-driven innovation; (2) providing customized training for diverse participants across the IP ecosystem; (3) expanding digital education for IP talent development; and (4) strategically advancing international IP education and capacity-building.

First, IIPTI expanded IP education for businesses and universities through specialized online and in-person training tailored to the needs of technology startups and other enterprises. Partnerships with IP-focused universities in nine regions also supported programs for faculty members, students, and businesses, strengthening regional innovation and industry–academia cooperation.

Second, IIPTI broadened customized training across the IP ecosystem, including advanced practical courses for SME R&D personnel and specialized programs for IP valuation professionals. It also expanded invention education for teachers, including AI-based programs and training for special education teachers, while enhancing emerging-technology courses for patent examiners through classroom instruction and industry visits.

Third, IIPTI strengthened digital education through the National Intellectual Property Education Portal, or IP Academy. In 2025, the portal offered 421 e-learning contents, including eight newly developed courses, for businesses, students, and the general public. IIPTI also expanded inclusive programs, including sign-language-based invention education for students at schools for the deaf and online training for instructors delivering invention education through after-school programs for elementary school students.

Fourth, IIPTI expanded international IP education for Korean businesses operating overseas, foreign companies in Korea, and IP professionals from developing countries. Training activities were extended to Viet Nam and Thailand, while region-specific capacity-building programs for Southeast Asia, the Middle East, and Latin America were tailored to identified training needs, helping participants gain more relevant and practical IP knowledge.

Under the 2025 plan, IIPTI set targets to deliver 213 in-person courses to approximately 40,000 participants and 421 e-learning courses to approximately 500,000 learners.

This portfolio of domestic and international programs was designed to broaden access to IP education, strengthen the practical capabilities of businesses and IP professionals, and enhance the expertise needed to maintain high-quality patent examination services. Further details of the 2025 Intellectual Property Education and Training Plan are available on the IIPTI website at iipti.moip.go.kr.

02 *Invention Education in Elementary Schools*

The role of invention education has also grown as creative problem-solving and innovation have become increasingly important in preparing students for the future. Against this backdrop, MOIP promoted the expansion of invention education in elementary schools as part of its broader efforts to cultivate the next generation of creative and IP-literate talent.

At the second Social Affairs Ministers' Meeting, MOIP presented the "Plan for Expanding Invention Education in Elementary Schools," which set out the policy direction and priority measures for integrating invention education more effectively into the elementary school curriculum and expanding access nationwide. Building on the introduction of invention-related content into the national curriculum, the plan called for a broader range of age-appropriate learning opportunities through school-directed curriculum hours, creative experiential activities, and after-school programs.

MOIP also strengthened the human and institutional foundations needed to support wider implementation. Training for teachers and private-sector invention instructors was expanded, together with measures to improve the quality and safety of instruction. After-school invention classes are expected to increase substantially, from nine to 129, providing more students with opportunities to engage in hands-on invention activities.

At the institutional level, MOIP enhanced coordination between regional invention education support centers and local invention education centers and moved to designate an Invention Education Development Institute responsible for research, program development, and policy support. These measures are intended to support a more systematic response to curriculum reform, digital transformation, and changing educational needs. Together, they are helping to establish a sustainable foundation for expanding invention and creativity education and nurturing the next generation of innovators.

03 *Special Education Teachers in Invention Education*

As part of its broader efforts to foster IP talent through inclusive education, MOIP expanded invention education for students who may face barriers to accessing invention education, including students with disabilities. The initiative combined professional development for teachers with the development of more accessible and tailored learning content to better support invention education in special education settings.

In cooperation with the National Institute of Special Education, IIPTI provided professional development training for teachers from special schools and special education support centers across Korea. The program focused on practical content that could be readily applied in the classroom, including the fundamentals of invention education in special education settings, hands-on making and prototyping activities, and guidance on preparing students for invention competitions.

MOIP also held a consultation meeting with special education teachers to inform the development of more

accessible and tailored invention education programs. Participants shared current practices in special schools and classes and provided practical feedback on curricula and educational content under development. Their recommendations on e-learning delivery, assistive devices for in-person instruction, and hands-on teaching materials will help future programs better reflect the needs of both students and educators.

04 *IP Leadership among Women Scientists*

To strengthen international IP capacity-building for women scientists, MOIP continued its cooperation with the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) through the 2025 Korea–WIPO–UNESCO Intellectual Property Leadership Program for Women Scientists.

Bringing together women scientists from Korea and abroad, the 2025 program focused on the practical use of IP throughout the research and commercialization process. Through case studies, expert lectures, and mentoring by patent attorneys, participants explored the role of IP across the R&D cycle, strategies for creating value from research outcomes, and practical approaches to protecting and commercializing scientific achievements.

Participants also visited industry and research institutions, including the Electronics and Telecommunications Research Institute and the Korea Research Institute of Bioscience and Biotechnology, gaining first-hand insight into how research outcomes are applied and commercialized. At a forum held at the Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology, they exchanged experiences and good practices in research and IP with Korean faculty members and students and expanded professional networks among women scientists and IP practitioners.

05 *Korea-WIPO Master Class on IP Valuation and Finance*

In November, MOIP and the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) jointly launched the Korea–WIPO Master Class on IP Valuation and Finance, a specialized online training course supported through the WIPO Funds-in-Trust Korea. Drawing on Korea's policy and practical experience in IP valuation and finance, the course was designed to build professional capacity while promoting knowledge exchange and professional networks among practitioners in developing WIPO Member States.

The program brought together professionals working in IP policy, law, research and development, and finance from more than 40 countries. Policymakers and experts from the public, nonprofit, and private sectors presented comprehensive approaches to IP valuation and IP-backed financing, helping participants understand how IP can be assessed and utilized as an economic and financial asset to support investment, financing, and business growth.

The curriculum combined foundational concepts with

practical applications. It covered the fundamentals of IP finance; key approaches to technology valuation; patent information analysis methodologies; IP-backed lending and securitization; strategies for generating returns from IP and attracting investment; global IP finance and value-creation models; and Korean practices in technology transfer and commercialization.

As the first international training course introduced following MOIP's elevation to ministry status, the Master Class broadened the scope of MOIP's international IP education activities into the growing fields of IP valuation and finance. By sharing Korea's experience and practical expertise, the program also helped strengthen professional capacity and foster knowledge exchange and cooperation among participating countries.

06 *Supporting the Establishment of Timor-Leste's IP Office*

Responding to Timor-Leste's request, MOIP and WIPO began supporting the establishment of the country's first IP office. The initiative represents an important step in building the foundation for the effective administration and protection of IP rights. Drawing on Korea's experience in building and operating an effective IP system, the cooperation is helping Timor-Leste build the institutional and professional capacity needed to operate an effective IP system and support innovation and economic development.

As part of the project, IIPTI provided training for officials from Timor-Leste's Ministry of Trade and Industry involved in preparations for the new office. The training covered the full process of setting up and operating an IP office, from defining its vision and organizational structure to developing procedures for the filing, examination, and registration of patents, trademarks, and designs. It links institutional planning with practical aspects of day-to-day IP administration, giving participants a broader understanding of the systems and expertise required to operate a national IP office. Follow-up cooperation is expected to include support for detailed implementation planning and the training of IP examiners.

The project marked the first use of the WIPO Funds-in-Trust Korea to support the establishment and operation of an IP office in another country. This broadened the scope of the fund's capacity-building activities from education and training to more comprehensive institutional development. By bringing together Korea's administrative expertise and WIPO's international cooperation framework, the initiative helped lay the foundation for a reliable and accessible IP system in Timor-Leste while creating a new model for sharing Korea's IP administration experience with partner countries.

Training Curriculum

Category	Course
Theory & Advanced Topics	① Understanding IP Finance
	② Introduction to Technology Valuation
	③ IP Information Analysis Methodologies
	④ Global IP Finance and Value Creation
Application & Practice	① In-Depth Analysis of IP-Backed Lending and Securitization Structures
	② IP Monetization Strategies and Investment
	③ Practical IP Licensing Negotiation and Contracting
	④ Strategies and Practices for Successful Technology Transfer I (University Technology Commercialization)
	⑤ Strategies and Practices for Successful Technology Transfer II (Research Institute Technology Transfer)