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TISCs
Report
2024

Building skills to support innovation

WIPO

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Foreword

Technology and Innovation Support Centers (TISCs) in developing countries, least developed countries and transition countries play a key role in enabling local innovators to reach their innovation potential.

Typically located in patent offices, universities, research centers, and science and technology parks, TISCs enable researchers and inventors to get local support in accessing and using technological information from more than 150 million published patent documents and scores of scientific and technical publications. In recent years, many TISCs have started developing additional innovation support services in patent analytics, technology transfer, intellectual property (IP) management and commercialization to adapt to the needs of innovators.

Created and managed by the IP for Innovators Department (IPID) in the WIPO IP and Innovation Ecosystems Sector, the TISC program supports WIPO's mission to help member states develop their IP and innovation ecosystems and to support researchers and innovators in using the IP system for innovation promotion and economic growth.

With the vision to evolve continuously and adapt to the needs and challenges of innovators, the program also strives to expand its portfolio of resources to support TISCs in building their capacities to meet the demands of the innovators they serve. Examples of the resources that will gradually be added and offered to TISCs include support for patent drafting, technology transfer, IP commercialization and valuation, and advice on how to use IP as collateral to secure financing.

Key developments

In 2024, the global Technology and Innovation Support Center (TISC) network grew significantly, expanding from 1,494 centers in 2023 to 1,667 centers across 93 countries. This expansion reflects the growing recognition of the value TISCs bring to innovation ecosystems, as demonstrated by a record 2.25 million inquiries from researchers, inventors, and entrepreneurs. The increase in intellectual property (IP) filings supported by TISCs further highlights their crucial role in helping innovators generate value from IP.

To support TISC coordinators in managing national projects more efficiently and enhancing operational effectiveness, the TISC Project and Performance Management Platform (TPPM) was optimized in 2024 and made available network-wide. The platform fosters collaboration between countries and WIPO, enabling real-time tracking of TISC projects globally. By offering timely insights, it ensures targeted assistance, capacity-building and support, allowing TISC networks to operate more efficiently and maximize their impact.

TISCs continued to expand the scope of their services to meet rising demand and further enhance innovation support, placing greater emphasis on areas such as technology transfer, IP commercialization and new product development. In 2024, several new tools and learning resources were introduced to help TISCs deliver high-quality, value-added services. Among these is a new game-based learning resource, "Patent Quest: Navigating Innovation Horizons," developed in collaboration with the Norwegian firm, House of Knowledge. This interactive patent analytics training was piloted in South Africa and subsequently used in other countries, offering a more experiential and engaging approach to capacity-building.

A new partnership with the International Trademark Association (INTA) was also established to develop training materials focused on trademark and industrial design searches, with the objective to enable TISCs to broaden their service offering and better support brand and design development efforts.

New publications were also produced. The Toolkit on New Product Development and Inventions in the Public Domain, launched in December 2024, is designed to guide systematic decision-making throughout the product development process. Building on the WIPO guides on identifying and using inventions in the public domain, the toolkit includes practical tools, videos, datasets and step-by-step instructions to help researchers and entrepreneurs bring new products and services to the market.

The third edition of the WIPO Technology Trends reports, focusing on the future of transportation, was also released, alongside three new patent landscape reports on Sustainable Development Goals-related technologies, generative artificial intelligence (GenAI) and agrifood innovation. These resources provide empirical insights that TISCs can draw upon when advising innovators and policymakers. Additionally, a new Arabic version of the WIPO Patent Drafting Manual was released, joining the existing English, French, and Spanish editions as a valuable reference for patent drafting.

To improve access to innovation finance, a new series of "Hands-on IP Finance" guides is also in development. The first guide, Securing Loans with Your IP Assets, was launched in December

2024. It includes templates and checklists to help innovators articulate IP value and engage with lenders, investors and financial institutions.

Regional cooperation among TISCs also continued to play an important role in 2024, with formal regional networks established in Africa, the Arab region, Asia and the Pacific, and Latin America and the Caribbean. In Southeast Asia, TISC representatives from the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) member states explored opportunities to reinforce their regional approach to developing sustainable TISC networks, which resulted in a breakthrough in discussions to establish a governance mechanism for TISC activities in the region.

To strengthen regional innovation ecosystems, new IP policy models were developed for institutions in Africa and ASEAN, with mentorship-based implementation support provided to eight institutions in Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic and Thailand. A third model is currently being developed for Latin America and the Caribbean.

The Institutional IP Policies Database also underwent a comprehensive upgrade, including a migration to a modern content management system. With enhanced performance and usability, the database now includes updated content from 1,500 policy documents across 718 institutions, offering a more robust and accessible reference resource.

Finally, to support the professional development of TISC staff and enhance the standardization of TISC services across the global network, a new TISC Staff Certification Program was developed in partnership with the WIPO Academy. The program aims to establish a curriculum-based professional certification focused on building the core competencies required for effective TISC operations. The certification is structured around two levels: Foundation and Specialization, with specialization areas such as patentability and novelty search. In 2024, the first pilot session of the TISC Foundation Certificate Course was launched, with 48 participants from six countries (China, Kenya, Madagascar, Peru, Philippines and Saudi Arabia). At the end of the pilot run, 36 participants successfully completed the course and are now officially recognized as "Certified TISC Staff" (see the Special Feature of this report for more on this new program).

TISC network developments

TISCs provide a diverse range of services to researchers, inventors and entrepreneurs, supporting them at different stages in the innovation cycle – from assistance with using patent databases and performing patent searches to advice on IP management and commercialization.

Figure 1. Number of TISCs providing different types of services

Access to patent and scientific and technical databases	456	575	750	896	1,136	1,287	1,415	1,494	1,667
Assistance and advice in using databases	438	554	660	896	1,136	1,285	1,415	1,494	1,666
Search – State of the art	214	276	344	424	553	644	737	767	916
Search – Novelty, patentability	224	260	302	370	533	633	759	853	932
Search – Freedom to operate, clearance	181	208	239	300	392	477	577	598	725
Search – Validity	178	280	235	291	373	449	542	608	656
Assistance and advice on IP management – Licensing, technology transfer	176	263	310	376	532	620	709	793	871
Assistance and advice on IP management – Commercialization	96	149	225	306	474	580	678	771	850
Assistance and advice on IP management – Patent drafting, prosecution	115	149	185	240	395	480	553	651	709
Analytics – Patent Landscape Reports (PLRs) or related services			23	48	121	194	268	351	398

Source: Directory of Technology and Innovation Support Centers, 2024

Since the TISC program was launched in 2009, 93 countries, of which 30 are least developed countries[1], have signed service-level agreements (SLAs) with WIPO to develop national TISC networks. Four regional networks have also been formally established among the member states of the African Regional Intellectual Property Organization (ARIPO), ASEAN, countries in Central America and the Dominican Republic (CATI-CARD) and certain countries in the Arab region. A fifth network among member states of the African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI) is also in the pipeline.

In 2024, the global TISC network continued to grow, with 1,667 TISCs in 93 countries.

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1   Bhutan graduated out of the category of least developed countries (LDCs) in December 2023 and Sao Tome and Principe graduated in December 2024. Both have therefore been removed from the total LDC count.

Figure 2. Number of TISCs and growth over time
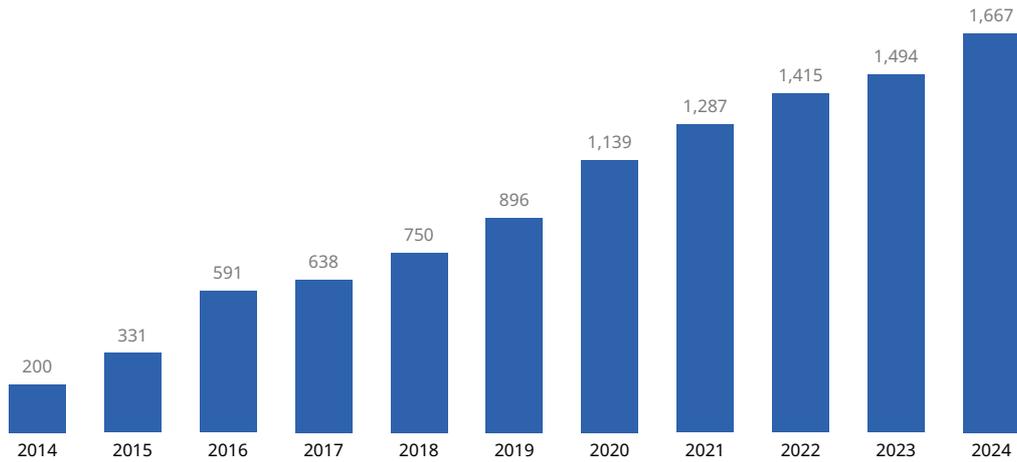
Source: Directory of Technology and Innovation Support Centers, 2024

Because sustainability and the impact of national TISC networks is critical to their continuous development, maturity levels have been defined to reflect each national network's development status and the level of services it provides. These levels also provide insights into future development requirements to increase impact, as follows:

– **Maturity level 1**: Countries that have signed an SLA with WIPO, have signed institutional agreements at a national level between the TISC national focal point and TISC host institutions, and which report at least annually on national TISC activities
– **Maturity level 2**: Countries that meet maturity level 1 standards and which provide basic patent information searches, e.g., state-of-the-art patent searches
– **Maturity level 3**: Countries that meet maturity level 2 standards and which provide value-added IP services, e.g., patent analytics and drafting Patent Landscape Reports (PLRs)

Ultimately, TISCs are financially and technically self-supporting institutions to which WIPO provides advice on demand.

Out of the total of 93 TISC national networks, 52 were considered to be sustainable national networks at the end of 2024, with six networks at maturity level 1, 32 networks at maturity level 2 and 14 networks at maturity level 3.

Figure 3. TISC networks by maturity level
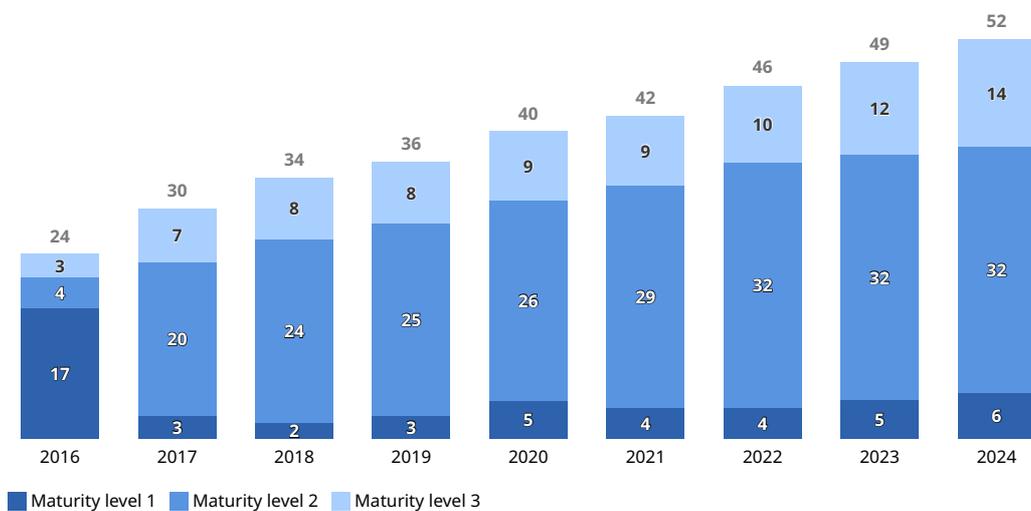
Source: WIPO IPID, 2024

Continued increase in demand for TISC services

The worldwide growth of TISC networks and their increasing maturity and sustainability continued to be accompanied by a surge in demand for TISC services from local researchers, inventors and entrepreneurs, who are the main beneficiaries of TISC support.

Following the annual end-of-year survey completed by TISCs around the world, TISCs received over 2.25 million inquiries in 2024.

Figure 4. Number of inquiries received by TISCs
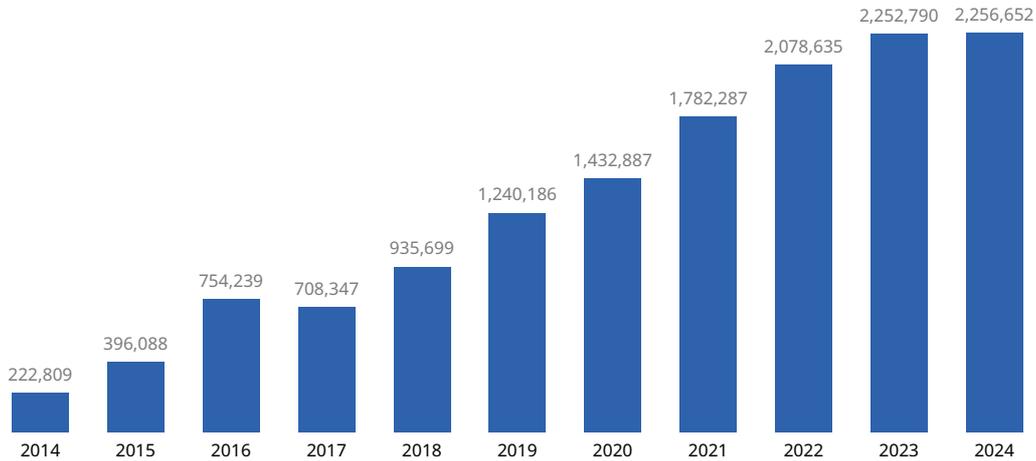
Source: Questionnaire on Progress and Needs Assessment, December 2024

In **Algeria**, 11 new TISCs were launched in universities and research centers across the country, including in Aflou, Algiers, Constantine, Mostaganem and Tlemcen.

In **Argentina**, a new TISC was established in the *Comisión de Investigaciones Científicas* of the Buenos Aires Province, bringing the total number of active TISCs in the network to 35. One additional TISC is in the process of renewing its membership.

In **Belarus**, TISCs responded to around 4,000 requests for technology and innovation support services in 2024, and the TISC at the National Center for Intellectual Property (NCIP) took part in events promoting IP, including a seminar on "Facilitating entrepreneurship for innovative support of regions" and a student competition at the National Children's Technopark, at which it also provided advice to emerging researchers, inventors, and entrepreneurs.

In **Botswana**, important efforts were taken to reinvigorate and bolster the network. Out of 13 potential new institutions that were contacted in 2024, five formally joined the network: the Botswana Accountancy College, the National Agricultural Research and Development Institute, Ba Isago University, the New Era College of Arts, Science and Technology, and the Human Resource Development Council.

In **Cambodia**, the Department of Intellectual Property, serving as the focal point of the national TISC network, expanded the network by signing an agreement with the National Institute of Science, Technology and Innovation and engaging with other potential candidates. To promote knowledge sharing and networking, a dedicated virtual platform was launched for TISCs, featuring learning resources and information on training events.

In **Chile**, the TISC network expanded significantly, with seven new universities selected to establish centers in eight additional regions. The network now has a presence in 11 regions and 13 host institutions. In total, TISCs provided 2,190 services in 2024. The TISC hosted in the National Institute of Industrial Property (INAPI), which is focal point of the network, also produced 13 technology trends reports covering a wide range of technological fields and two reports on patents that fell into the public domain in 2024.

In **China**, the TISC network expanded significantly with the identification of 101 new prospective host institutions. Combined with those already in operation, the network will include 202 TISCs established across 32 provincial-level administrative regions, including the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (SAR), surpassing the national target of 200 TISCs set for the end of 2025. By the end of 2024, TISCs had also established more than 200 IP service platforms and databases, which collectively recorded over 700 million visits.

In **Colombia**, TISCs responded to 12,194 inquiries (the majority – 67 percent – about trademarks) from 6,321 users, among which 57 percent were entrepreneurs. They also conducted 616 patent and industrial design searches for 506 researchers and entrepreneurs.

In **Costa Rica**, TISCs responded to 23,258 inquiries (over 40 percent of them by phone and the rest divided almost equally between in-person and email inquiries). The majority (around 87 percent) concerned trademarks, followed by copyright (around 10 percent), industrial designs, patents and utility models (around three percent).

In **Côte d'Ivoire**, the national TISC network grew to encompass 21 TISCs, including the newly created TISCs in the professional, industrial and technical schools in Abidjan-Cocody, Abidjan-Treichville, Bouaké, Ferké, Grand-Lahou, Jacqueville, Man, Odienné and Yopougon, as well as the Société Ivoirienne de Technologie Tropicale.

In **Cuba**, TISCs responded to over 3,000 inquiries, most of which concerned trademark-related issues, and provided assistance with 1,337 IP rights applications (96 percent of them also related to trademarks).

In the **Dominican Republic**, TISCs responded to 797 inquiries, a 25-percent increase from 2023. Universidad Católica Nordestana also joined the network in 2024, bringing the total number of TISCs in the Dominican Republic to six.

In **Egypt**, TISCs received an average of 900 visits per month, representing a 12.5-percent increase compared to 2023. With 56 TISCs in the network, this translates to approximately 600,000 consultations conducted in 2024.

In **El Salvador**, a 17-percent increase was reported in the number of services provided by TISCs, with 1,795 services provided in 2024 compared to 1,534 in 2023.

In **Ethiopia**, five new TISCs were established in universities and in research and development institutions throughout the country, bringing the total number of TISCs in the national TISC network to 71.

In the **Gambia**, the Industrial Property Office, focal point of the national TISC network, signed an agreement with the Intellectual Property Association to enhance IP awareness across the country, and a fourth TISC was established.

In **Kazakhstan**, the first wave of TISCs focused on institutions with strong research capabilities, primarily universities. By the end of 2024, the network had expanded to include technical universities and innovation hubs such as the International Green Technologies and Investment Projects Center and the Science and Technological Initiatives "Samgau" Foundation.

With 13 new institutions joining, the total number of TISCs in Kazakhstan reached 37, significantly broadening the network's geographic and sectoral coverage. To support this growth, a new division was established by the IP Office (Qazpatent) to centralize management of the expanding TISC network and ensure effective coordination of patent research and innovation support services at the national level.

In **Kenya**, a new TISC committee was established within the Kenya Industrial Property Institute to help manage and revitalize the TISC network. This led to the addition of two new TISCs: one at the Konza Technopolis Development Authority and another at the African Centre for Technology Studies. By the end of 2024, the network had grown to 18 TISCs, with five more in the pipeline.

In **Kyrgyzstan**, two new TISCs were established: one at the Kyrgyz State Technical University named after I. Razzakov and one at Batken State University. This brings the total number of TISCs in the network to 27.

In the first nine months of 2024, TISCs in Kyrgyzstan provided 445 consultations on the national IP legislation and IP application filing and 409 services related to patent and non-patent information access. They also supported the filing of seven patent applications, five utility models and one industrial design.

Three TISCs won the "Best TISC" award for the quantity and quality of their innovation support services: the TISCs at Osh Technological University named after M.M. Adyshev, Kyrgyz Russian Slavic University, and Osh Regional Library.

In the **Lao People's Democratic Republic**, the first TISC was officially established in September at the National University of Laos, with two more expected to join in 2025.

In **Malaysia**, two new institutions joined the network, bringing the total number of TISCs in the network to 25.

In **Mongolia**, the national TISC network expanded from 17 to 19 centers. TISCs responded to over 1,300 service requests, including state-of-the-art and patentability searches, advice and support in drafting and filing patents, trademarks, industrial design, copyright applications, and advice and support in concluding licensing agreements. They carried out more than 800 patent searches.

In **Nigeria**, two new TISCs were established in the Federal University of Technology, Owerri, and the Federal University of Technology Minna. Four additional agreements were signed with the University of Ibadan, the Federal University of Petroleum Resources, Abubakar Tafawa Balewa University and University of Port Harcourt to establish TISCs.

In **Pakistan**, TISCs received approximately five percent more inquiries per month compared to 2023, averaging over 500 inquiries each month. The most common queries received were related to IP guidance for filing patent applications, followed by inquiries about patent searches.

In **Palestine**, TISCs provided students and innovators with support in carrying out patent searches and filing patent applications as well as supporting the development of 20 technology projects related to food and agriculture, health, and renewable energy, including projects in the framework of an innovation program with four Palestinian universities.

In **Peru**, a four-percent increase was recorded in the number of inquiries received by TISCs and the number of services provided, from 13,158 in 2023 to 13,707 in 2024. The network comprises 49 TISCs established in 21 of Peru's 25 regions.

In the **Russian Federation**, the national TISC network grew to encompass 190 TISCs in eight federal districts and 71 regions across the country, with nine new TISC host institution agreements being signed and 10 TISC host institution agreements being extended. TISCs responded to over 125,000 requests for access to patent databases and scientific and technical databases, over 40,000 requests for assistance in using patent databases and scientific and technical databases, and over 2,600 requests for advice on licensing.

In **Saudi Arabia**, seven new TISCs were established in 2024, bringing the total number of TISCs in the network to 71 and expanding coverage to all administrative regions. Applications for new memberships surged by 54 percent, reflecting growing interest in the network's services. The number of inquiries received by TISCs also saw a significant increase, rising by 31.4 percent compared to 2023, with a total of 550 inquiries.

In **South Africa**, 10 institutions signed agreements with the National Intellectual Property Management Office (NIPMO) to be members of the TISC network. Nine additional institutions expressed their interest and are expected to sign agreements with NIPMO in 2025.

The TISC network of **Tajikistan** coordinated by the National Center for Patents and Information grew significantly in 2024, with 25 TISCs established in universities and research centers across the country, bringing the total number of TISCs in the network to 26.

In **Uganda**, four new TISCs were established at the Uganda Technical College, Comboni College-Lira, Dr. Obote College-Lira and the Centre of Innovation and Technology Transfer at Mbarara University of Science and Technology, bringing the network to a total of 37 members.

The TISC network in **Ukraine** grew from 30 centers in 2023 to 46 in 2024. Regional TISCs responded to over 1,000 inquiries.

In **Uzbekistan**, nine new TISCs were established. TISCs handled a wide range of inquiries, including 2,660 inquiries on IP protection, 671 on using patent information and 494 on IP licensing and technology transfer agreements.

In **Viet Nam**, the TISC network continued to grow, expanding from 50 to 58 members, including 52 universities and research institutes, and six enterprises.

TISCs as catalysts for filing patent and other IP rights applications

Many TISC networks reported a steady growth in patent applications filed with the support of TISCs. This was the result of the increased number and quality of services provided to local researchers and innovators, and demonstrates how IP creates value and promotes innovation.

In **Algeria**, the TISC hosted at the Algerian National Institute of Industrial Property (INAPI), as the focal point of the national TISC network, provided support for drafting over 150 patent applications and for filing over 600 patent, trademark and industrial design applications. Nationwide, 847 patent applications were filed with support from TISCs, representing 79 percent of the 1,083 total applications filed in the country. This number was up by over 3,400 percent compared to 2018.

In **Botswana**, the TISCs hosted at the Botswana International University of Science and Technology (BIUST), the Botswana College of Engineering Technology, and the University of Botswana have played a key role in supporting innovators across the country. These centers regularly conduct patent searches, particularly prior art searches. Notably, BIUST has reported that its TISC's assistance has contributed to the successful granting of three patents.

In **China**, TISCs supported over 31,000 high-value patents and facilitated more than 14,000 technology transfers and IP transactions. Notable individual achievements included the TISC at Zhengzhou Jinshui District National Intellectual Property and Creative Industry Pilot Park, which drove enterprise innovation through patent commercialization, resulting in 33 patent licensing agreements, 65 patent product registrations (i.e., products incorporating one or more valid patents recorded by the China National Intellectual Property Administration), 12 academic patent transfers, and 21 patent-backed financing deals.

The TISC at Ourchem Information Consulting Co. Ltd. developed a digital IP platform for the Guangzhou Development Zone, featuring eight sector-specific databases, supporting over 1,000 institutional users, serving 742 high-tech firms, and enabling over 8 billion yuan in patent-backed financing.

In **Colombia**, TISCs identified 496 inventions eligible for patent or industrial design protection and provided assistance to the filing of 2,676 IP rights applications. Out of these, 87 percent of them (2,326) concerned trademark registrations, 10 percent (268) industrial designs and three percent (82) patent applications.

In **Ecuador**, 30 IP rights applications were filed through TISCs compared to 14 in 2023, including 10 patents, 10 utility models and 10 industrial designs.

In **El Salvador**, 522 IP rights applications were filed through TISCs, including 292 trademarks, 146 copyrights and 94 patents.

In **Kazakhstan**, TISCs have contributed to a 15-percent increase in national patent applications and enhanced the quality of filings. A consistent rise in inventive activity was recorded nationwide, with Almaty and Astana achieving the highest inventive activity coefficients. Positive trends were observed in 90 percent of the country's regions, including Shymkent, Karaganda and Pavlodar, reflecting greater engagement from regional innovators.

A notable increase in commercialization agreements was also reported in 2024, underscoring the growing importance of IP as a strategic asset in Kazakhstan's innovation economy and highlighting the TISC network's role in driving these developments.

In **Pakistan**, 480 resident patent applications were filed in 2024, with nearly half of them (211) filed through TISCs, along with 58 design applications that were also facilitated by TISCs.

In **Peru**, 916 patent applications were filed in 2024 through TISCs.

In the **Philippines**, TISCs achieved an all-time high record of 2,257 IP filings, including 439 patents, 651 utility models, 346 industrial designs, 150 trademark registrations and 671 copyright registrations. TISCs accounted for 42.83 percent of total resident IP filings, underscoring their significant contribution to the country's innovation ecosystem. Among the different IP rights, they contributed the most to patents (54.4 percent), followed by utility models (44.44 percent) and industrial designs (32 percent).

In the **Russian Federation**, over 6,200 patent applications were filed by TISC host institutions or with support from TISCs, and nearly 10,000 computer programs, databases and trademarks were protected by TISC host institutions or with support from TISCs. In addition, over 1,300 projects based on patents were launched with support from TISCs, for a total value exceeding 791 million Russian rubles.

In **Uganda**, the establishment of TISCs has led to first-time filings for IP protection on the national register, an important milestone in expanding access to the IP system. Notably, applications have been received by the Uganda Registration Services Bureau from TISCs established in secondary schools, highlighting the initiative's broad and inclusive impact.

Increased awareness of IP commercialization in Uganda has also resulted in the successful commercialization of several utility models filed through TISCs. Significantly, 37 percent of patent applications and 21 percent of utility model applications filed in 2024 originated from TISC host institutions, demonstrating their growing role in fostering innovation and IP activity nationwide.

In **Uzbekistan**, TISCs conducted 1,609 patent searches, assisted with 2,661 IP filings and supported the conclusion of 92 IP license agreements.

In **Zimbabwe**, 35 patents were filed through TISCs, highlighting their continued pivotal role in strengthening the country's innovation ecosystem.

Expanding the depth and range of innovation support services

To help inventors and entrepreneurs better exploit their innovation potential and create value from the IP they generate, TISCs around the world also continued to expand the range of services they offer to accompany inventors on their journey from idea to market.

In **Argentina**, TISCs increasingly supported local innovators and entrepreneurs in transferring their technologies, including through assistance with IP valuation and the drafting of technology transfer agreements. For example, one TISC played a key role in several initiatives: assisting the university in negotiating a patent transfer agreement with a hospital, facilitating a software transfer and royalty payment agreement between an oil industry supplier and a software developer, and supporting the drafting of a confidentiality agreement between a company and the university. Another TISC introduced a new fee-waiver policy to encourage innovators with limited resources to file for IP protection.

In **Colombia**, TISCs provided over 2,000 services to micro, small and medium-sized enterprises and significantly supported entrepreneurs nationwide, with over 70 percent of users who benefited from TISC support in 2024 being located outside the capital.

In **Côte d'Ivoire**, TISCs organized a two-week national roving seminar for invention and technical innovation clubs established at universities and other higher-education institutions, focusing on the use of patent information and inventions in the public domain to support research, development and prototyping. The seminar took place in numerous cities around the country.

In the **Democratic Republic of the Congo**, a framework agreement was signed to establish the "Master Class du Génie Congolais" program, valued at USD 120 million. The program aims to promote scientific and technological development through the effective use and protection of IP and to generate 1,000 innovative enterprises over the next five year

In **Egypt**, TISC staff actively contributed to developing institutional IP policies at their host institutions to better support IP management and commercialization efforts. By the end of 2024, 30 institutions had formulated an IP policy.

In **Mongolia**, the Intellectual Property Office of Mongolia, as the national TISC focal point, organized 14 training activities, attended by over 1,100 participants, to develop the knowledge and skills of TISC staff in the country.

In the **Philippines**, a new "Palladium" cluster was introduced to recognize high-performing TISCs based on the volume and types of services provided, particularly their efforts in patent filing and IP commercialization. This elite category is for TISCs that have maintained "Platinum" status for five consecutive years or have secured at least one granted Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) application. Six of the 96 TISCs have earned this distinction: Ateneo de Manila University, Caraga State University, Central Mindanao University, De La Salle University, Samar State University and University of the Philippines Manila.

In 2024, TISCs generated 20.6 million Philippine pesos (approximately USD 356,277) in income from commercialized IP, with 70 IP rights successfully commercialized, including 25 utility models, 13 patents, 13 trademarks and five industrial designs. Licensing accounted for over 91 percent of commercialization, with direct sales and spin-offs as alternative approaches.

Additionally, six Philippines TISC staff are now registered pro bono agents under the WIPO Inventor Assistance Program, reinforcing the network's commitment to supporting underserved innovators. A notable success came from Dr. Armando Reosura, Manager of the TISC at Carlos Hilado Memorial State University, who successfully helped a beneficiary of the Inventor Assistance Program (IAP) secure a patent grant.

In the **Russian Federation**, TISCs expanded their service offering to include patent analytics and IP management with support from the Federal Service for Intellectual Property (Rospatent) and the Federal Institute for Industrial Property. They also launched new activities to support youth and enterprises, including in cooperation with startup and business accelerators.

In **South Africa**, training on IP commercialization and technology transfer has empowered TISCs to apply these skills and offer new services to local researchers and innovators, reinforcing the value of the TISC initiative in driving innovation and economic growth.

In **Sri Lanka**, universities revised their IP policies to better support commercialization, marking a significant step toward institutionalizing IP management and promoting technology transfer and entrepreneurship. Several TISCs established within universities also launched structured programs to build IP commercialization capacities, including a new course on IP management for startups and a "GAP Filling Grant Scheme" for researchers, aimed at developing market-ready products from research outputs, funded through university budgets.

In **Thailand**, the Department of Intellectual Property, as the national focal point of the TISC network, partnered with three TISCs to produce patent landscape reports on high-impact technological fields including 3D electrospinning for biomaterials (Suranaree University of

Technology), low-temperature plasma nitriding for tool steel hardening (Mahasarakham University) and innovations in the agricultural and food industries (Thaksin University).

King Mongkut's Institute of Technology Ladkrabang, one of Thailand's 10 TISCs, also launched a new partnership with 65 leading Thai organizations under the theme "Connecting the Dots: Integrating Knowledge for Innovators." The initiative aims to enhance the technical and entrepreneurial skills of researchers and innovators across Thailand.

In the **United Republic of Tanzania**, TISCs made significant strides in promoting innovation and strengthening IP management nationwide. Through targeted capacity-building initiatives, they trained over 200 innovators, researchers and entrepreneurs; facilitated 24 patent filings, of which six were granted; and supported five technology transfer projects that led to commercialization. TISCs also facilitated four key collaborations focused on technology transfer, innovation and joint ventures, reinforcing their role as a central driver of IP commercialization in the country.

Training and awareness-raising: supporting local innovators

In addition to expanding their innovation support services for local users, TISCs continued to dedicate significant resources to self-development and awareness-raising activities, indicating increased levels of sustainability and maturity.

In **Argentina**, TISC staff members continued to enhance their knowledge and skills to provide innovation support services to their users. Thirty-nine staff members completed distance learning courses offered by the WIPO Academy. Additionally, more than 60 participants attended a workshop organized by WIPO and INAPI to strengthen the capacity of TISCs in managing and commercializing IP assets generated in universities.

In **Belarus**, the NCIP, as the national TISC focal point, organized training seminars on IP and information technology, patent search and analytics, and patent document search on the Internet (jointly with the National Library of Belarus) to develop the capabilities of TISCs in the country.

In **Cameroon**, the Directorate of Technological Development and Industrial Property under the Ministry of Mines, Industry and Technological Development, as the focal point of the TISC network, organized 12 awareness-raising activities across the country in various universities, technical schools and government institutions. The ministry also supported three TISCs by providing new prototyping equipment and training on its use, aiming to strengthen the research and innovation capacities of these institutions.

In **Chile**, 93 TISC staff members participated in training activities to strengthen their knowledge and skills, including WIPO Academy distance learning courses and a dedicated TISC workshop organized by INAPI on patent analytics and technology monitoring.

In **China**, TISCs organized over 15,000 promotional and awareness-raising activities and delivered IP training to more than 750,000 participants nationwide. Six hundred and sixty-five TISC staff members also participated in WIPO distance learning courses and over 1,000 attended specialized TISC training programs.

In **Costa Rica**, TISCs organized and participated in 138 capacity-building activities, with the TISCs hosted by the Registro Nacional (the focal point of the national network) and the University of Costa Rica being the most active (50 and 55 activities, respectively), followed by the Costa Rica Institute of Technology (26 activities).

In the **Democratic Republic of the Congo**, a TISC relaunch seminar brought together over 250 participants, including representatives from more than 70 national institutions and four government ministers. Among the attendees were over 100 inventors, collectively presenting 140 new inventions and innovations demonstrating inventive activity.

In **Egypt**, a new successful mentorship program was established, where experienced TISC staff support new recruits, with mentors trained and guided by members of the National Intellectual Property Academy.

In **Ethiopia**, nearly 800 participants from 20 institutions attended training seminars and workshops organized by the national TISC network. A week-long workshop on IP for small and medium-sized enterprises, universities, research institutions and policymakers also reached around 150 participants – including representatives from the Prime Minister's Office, government ministries and agencies, and parliament – enhancing their awareness and knowledge of IP management and valuation. Additionally, eight TISC host institutions received training and support in developing institutional IP policies, with two already ratifying these policies in 2024.

In **Honduras**, the Institute of Intellectual Property, as the focal point of the national TISC network, organized 14 seminars and workshops to help individual TISCs develop their infrastructure and capabilities, and to strengthen their delivery of innovation support services. TISCs across Honduras also implemented initiatives to raise awareness of IP nationwide and to equip researchers and innovators with the skills needed to navigate the IP system effectively.

In **Jordan**, TISCs focused on developing their capacity to deliver services while also strengthening connections within the TISC network. By the end of 2024, 90 percent of TISC staff had successfully completed WIPO's General Course on Intellectual Property (DL-101), and 10 to 15 percent had also completed the advanced courses on patents and patent information search (DL-301 and DL-318).

In **Kazakhstan**, over 50 seminars, workshops and webinars were held in 2024, training more than 150 participants in patent search techniques, patent filing, and IP commercialization strategies. Additionally, 28 TISC staff members completed WIPO distance learning courses, enhancing human-resource capacity across the network.

Kazakhstan also hosted two regional meetings for TISCs and techno-parks, reinforcing cooperation and networking across the region. Furthermore, four TISC coordinators participated in government-led educational programs in Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan, strengthening cross-border collaboration and knowledge-sharing in Central Asia.

In **Kenya**, newly established and prospective TISCs received targeted training to equip them with the knowledge and tools needed to effectively support local innovators in navigating the IP system.

In the **Lao People's Democratic Republic**, the first TISC training on patent information and patent searches was held in March in Vientiane, alongside the WIPO-ASEAN Regional TISC Network Meeting hosted by the Department of Intellectual Property, as the focal point of the national TISC network. To support TISC staff in enhancing their IP knowledge and patent search skills, selected TISC learning resources were also translated into Lao and made accessible to them.

In **Lesotho**, the Registrar General's Office, the focal point of the national TISC network, conducted field visits to each TISC host institution to assess their training needs and assist in developing customized training plans aimed at strengthening their capacity to deliver innovation support services.

In **Madagascar**, the Scientific and Technical Documentation and Information Centre, as the focal point of the TISC network, organized numerous awareness-raising events and training sessions on patent information and patent searches, reaching over 200 participants. Additionally, eight TISC staff members participated in the pilot run of the WIPO TISC Staff Foundation Certification program. All successfully completed the course and passed the final exam, earning the designation of "Certified TISC Staff."

In **Malaysia**, a series of training and outreach initiatives were organized for TISCs and their users. The focus was principally on IP management, commercialization and IP valuation.

In **Morocco**, 782 members of the TISC network participated in advanced distance learning courses offered by the WIPO Academy to enhance their knowledge and skills. Over half of them completed advanced courses on patents, patent drafting and patent information search. The Moroccan Industrial and Commercial Property Office, the network's focal point, also organized several knowledge- and experience-sharing activities for TISC coordinators.

Four TISCs in Morocco joined the European Patent Office "Knowledge Transfer to Africa" initiative, which aims to foster collaboration between patent information (PATLIB) centers and African universities. As part of this initiative, the Université Sultan Moulay Slimane signed a twinning agreement with the Université de Mons in Belgium, aimed at exchanging best practices in technology transfer.

In **Pakistan**, the Intellectual Property Office, as the national TISC focal point, organized over 45 capacity-building sessions in collaboration with TISCs for researchers and startups across these institutions.

In **Palestine**, the Intellectual Property Department of the Ministry of National Economy, as the focal point of the TISC network, provided training to TISC staff on search tools and technology analysis, and organized two public workshops on IP and technology.

As the national focal point for the TISC network in the **Philippines**, the Intellectual Property Office of the Philippines (IPOPHL) remains committed to enhancing the capabilities of TISC staff to deliver high-quality IP services. In 2024, IPOPHL conducted 51 capacity-building activities focused on patent searches, patent drafting, IP commercialization and technology transfer. Additionally, 81 TISC staff enrolled in WIPO Academy distance learning courses, completing a total of 112 courses. TISCs also organized 919 IP awareness activities, 207 patent search trainings, 125 patent drafting trainings, and produced 1,450 patent search reports.

In **Saudi Arabia**, a new program was launched to enhance the TISC network's sustainability, improve TISC performance and support knowledge transfer. In 2024, the "Nomo program" delivered 38 hours of training to 986 trainees, helping to upskill local IP professionals. A partnership with King Fahd University of Petroleum and Minerals also created new opportunities to strengthen TISC knowledge and capacities in IP fundamentals, IP valuation and IP commercialization, with 60 hours of training provided to more than 90 trainees.

In **Sri Lanka**, of the 28 TISCs established, a few stand out for their active role in promoting innovation and IP awareness. These centers regularly organize events, offer technical assistance and provide training to support inventors. In 2024, TISCs at the Sri Lanka Inventors Commission, the National Science Foundation, the National Innovation Agency and the universities of Kelaniya, Moratuwa and Jaffna reported conducting 62 IP awareness programs, supporting 17 patent applications and carrying out over 70 prior art searches.

In **Tajikistan**, the National Center for Patents and Information, the focal point of the TISC network, conducted 48 IP awareness-raising and capacity-building activities, reaching over 7,000 participants. TISC staff also continued to enhance their knowledge and skills to ensure high-quality services.

In **Ukraine**, TISCs actively promoted IP and innovation by organizing or participating in more than 180 events, including workshops, forums and innovation competitions, with average attendance ranging from 35 to 60 participants. Efforts to raise awareness of TISC services and IP were further enhanced through expanded social media outreach.

Additionally, TISCs in Ukraine held over 100 working meetings with companies, public organizations and international partners to advance joint programs, scale innovations and develop shared IP-related resources. Promotion of WIPO's Access to Specialized Patent Information (ASPI) and Access to Research for Development and Innovation (ARDI) programs was also a key focus.

In **Viet Nam**, several training and capacity-building activities were organized to enhance the skills of TISC staff, researchers and entrepreneurs. These included two workshops on patent protection and patent information searching, and one workshop on research commercialization.

In total, these activities reached over 550 participants. Additionally, two study tours were arranged for TISC staff: one to South Korea on IP management and another to China on innovation and IP protection.

Regional initiatives scale up worldwide impact and reach

Regional cooperation has been important in strengthening national TISC networks and increasing their impact and reach. Initiatives facilitating the exchange of experiences and best practices to help TISC networks become more efficient and deliver targeted services have continued to flourish globally. Regional TISC networks have been formally established in Africa, the Arab region, Asia and the Pacific, and Latin America and the Caribbean.

In Africa, TISC network focal points from member states of ARIPO met in Harare, Zimbabwe, in June 2024, to discuss and share experiences in the effective management of their TISC networks, promote the effective integration of TISC networks into national innovation ecosystems and foster regional cooperation through the further development of the ARIPO Regional TISC Action Plan.

In the Arab region, WIPO coordinates a regional TISC network in collaboration with the League of Arab States across 12 jurisdictions: Algeria, Djibouti, Egypt, Jordan, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, the Syrian Arab Republic and Tunisia. TISC focal points engage at a regional level to exchange experiences and offer mutual support in project management and capacity building. In 2024, over 20 TISC representatives from the region participated in a virtual meeting organized by the league in October to share experiences in the development of their networks.

In Latin America and the Caribbean, a regional meeting was held in May in San José, Costa Rica, as part of WIPO's project aimed at creating a model institutional IP policy for universities and research and development institutions in the CATI-CARD regional TISC network. The main objectives of the meeting were to exchange information on the progress of the project, to showcase a preliminary model of a regional IP policy and to provide specialized training on IP management for TISCs in universities. The meeting provided an excellent opportunity to advance the project and to strengthen the TISC network in the region.

In November, CATI-CARD members further met online to provide comprehensive feedback on the first complete draft of the regional IP policy model which will be officially delivered in 2025.

In Southeast Asia, representatives from national TISC networks of ASEAN member states met in Vientiane, Lao People's Democratic Republic, in March 2024 to strengthen the development of the ASEAN Regional TISC Network and foster an exchange of experiences and best practices in developing effective and sustainable TISC networks.

The main focus of the meeting was on how to select, build and maintain the engagement of TISC host institutions. Attendees also discussed opportunities for cooperation activities within the region, including a joint program between Malaysia and Indonesia to strengthen cross-border IP protection and commercialization, and facilitate market access of goods and services from both countries. Opportunities to align TISC activities with the ASEAN IP Rights Action Plan were also further explored, leading to a breakthrough in discussions to establish a governance mechanism for TISC activities within ASEAN.

WIPO Regional Meeting on Strengthening the ASEAN Regional TISC Network, Vientiane, Lao People's Democratic Republic, March 21–22, 2024. Photo: WIPO

In Central Asia, while no formal regional network has been established, national TISC networks meet annually to share experiences and best practices. TISC focal points and host institution representatives met in December in Astana, Kazakhstan, to discuss opportunities for regional collaboration to build sustainable TISC networks in the region. For the first time, techno-parks also participated in the dialogue. Their involvement opens new avenues for collaboration in the region, ensuring that TISC innovation support services seamlessly integrate with techno-park activities, creating a vibrant, interconnected innovation ecosystem that supports local researchers, inventors and entrepreneurs from idea to market.

WIPO resources supporting TISCs

As TISC networks expand and provide more services to local innovators, WIPO continues to support them with knowledge and learning resources as well as effective management resources.

WIPO has developed a range of initiatives and resources to empower TISCs. These include public–private partnerships to facilitate access to technological information; the WIPO INSPIRE open digital knowledge center, which provides researchers and innovators with access to a unique blend of information and knowledge in the area of IP and innovation, in particular on patent databases, patent registers, patent analytics, technology transfer and institutional IP policies; and dedicated training activities and publications in these areas.

To support TISCs in building their capacities to meet the evolving demands of the innovators they serve, additional resources are gradually being offered to TISCs on patent drafting, IP commercialization, IP valuation and IP financing.

Digital platforms and tools for accessing information and knowledge and effective TISC management

Access to Specialized Patent Information (ASPI)

The ASPI program supports academic and research institutions in developing countries by offering free or affordable access to premium patent databases. This initiative, facilitated through a unique public–private partnership with leading commercial database providers, allows researchers to access and analyze patent data using advanced tools.

Participation of academic and research institutions in the ASPI program further fosters innovation and sustainable development. By bridging the knowledge gap in developing countries, ASPI encourages the use of high-quality technical information contained in patent databases to support the development of innovation ecosystems.

A significant portion of the institutions currently registered with ASPI includes universities and national patent offices in eligible countries. Following steady growth in interest in the program, there has been a notable increase in the registration rate in recent years.

Figure 5. Number of institutions registered to participate in ASPI

73	87	95	107	131	140	151	163	169	185	201
2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
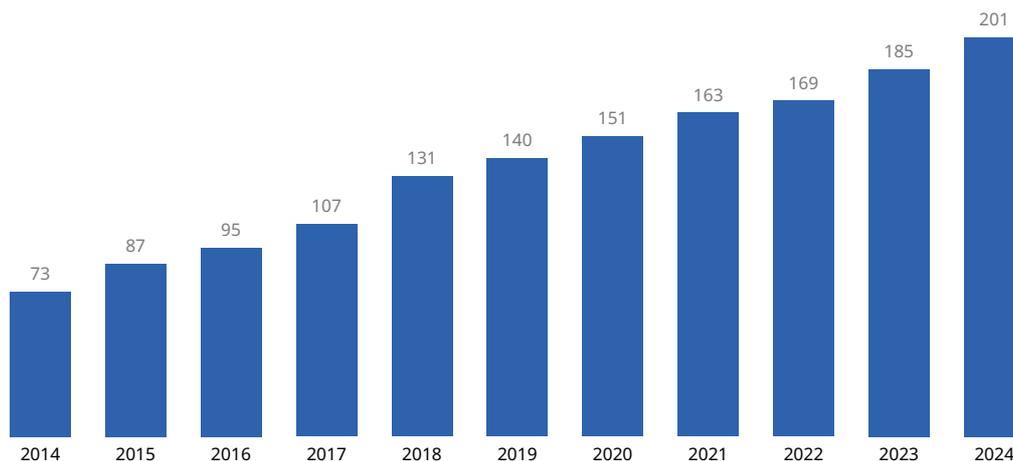
Source: ASPI database

Access to Research for Development and Innovation (ARDI)

Coordinated by WIPO in partnership with the publishing industry, the ARDI program enhances access to scientific and technical research in developing countries. By offering free or low-cost access to up to 30,000 peer-reviewed journals, books and publications, ARDI enables researchers to access the latest scientific and technical knowledge, develop solutions to technical challenges and drive innovation.

ARDI is a key partner of Research4Life, a collaborative initiative involving five United Nations agencies (World Health Organization, Food and Agriculture Organization, UN Environment Programme, WIPO and the International Labour Organization), leading academic institutions such as Cornell and Yale universities, and over 200 publishing partners. Through Research4Life, nearly 12,000 institutions across 120 countries have access to over 234,000 resources in areas like health, food and agriculture, applied and environmental sciences, law and social sciences. ARDI provides access for institutions to scientific and technical content resources that strengthens developing countries' participation in the global knowledge economy, equipping researchers to create impactful solutions for local and global challenges.

"Without Research4Life, many would be unable to access the critical information needed to advance their work and remain relevant in academia. The Research4Life program has been a game-changer for Malawian researchers."

Felix Chisoni, *Librarian, Kamuzu University of Health Sciences, Malawi*

The increasing availability of open-access publications across various sources and platforms has coincided with a significant rise in ARDI logins in recent years, reflecting a growing demand for access. However, while there was a consistent growth in the availability of open-access publications through different sources and platforms, this has resulted in a noticeable fluctuation in the number of institutions participating in ARDI in recent years.

Figure 6. Number of institutions participating in ARDI
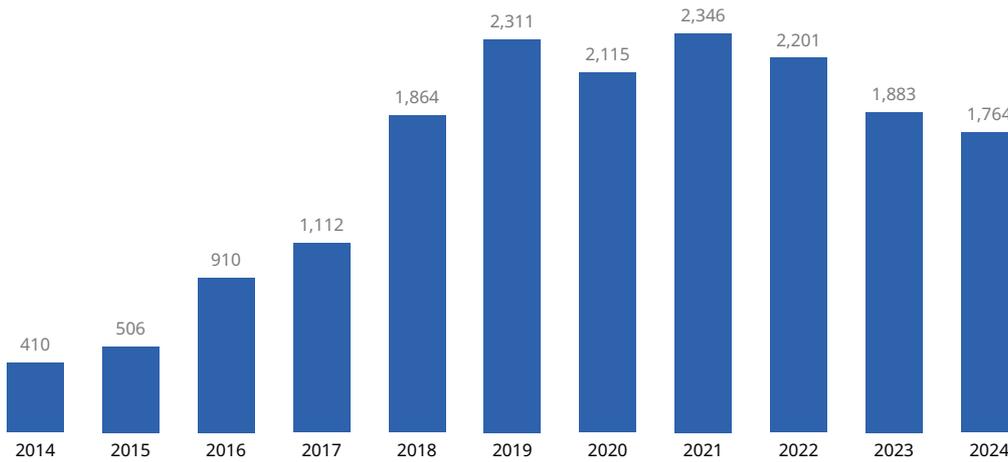
Source: Research4Life

WIPO INSPIRE

WIPO INSPIRE assists innovators, entrepreneurs, patent professionals, and TISCs in their innovation support activities. It is a global knowledge source, an all-in-one platform, designed to support every stage of the innovation journey. The platform provides a range of resources, training materials, and opportunities to stay updated on the latest IP and innovation trends and best practices.

As a comprehensive hub for IP and innovation data, it seamlessly integrates insights on patent databases, registers, analytics, technology transfer and institutional IP policies. With analytics tools, users can track trends, uncover opportunities and make informed, data-driven decisions. Whether conducting research or staying ahead of industry developments, WIPO INSPIRE empowers innovators with the knowledge and tools they need to succeed.

In 2024, over 90,000 users accessed WIPO INSPIRE, demonstrating its growing role as an essential resource for turning ideas into reality and making a meaningful impact.

Figure 7. WIPO INSPIRE use
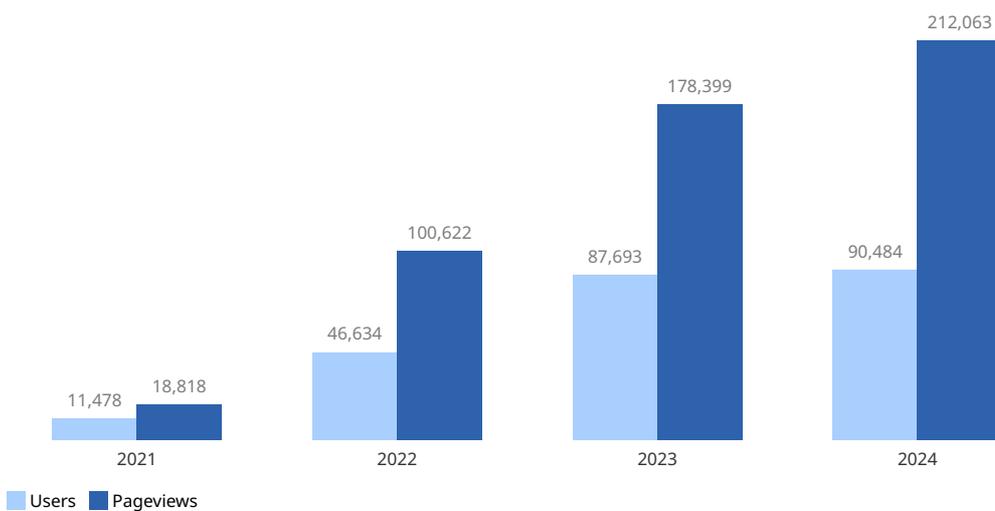
Source: WIPO Web Analytics

Figure 8. Top 10 countries by number of visitors to WIPO INSPIRE in 2024

Country	Visitors
US	10,112
India	9,478
Russian Federation	4,643
China	3,821
Germany	3,562
UK	2,727
Guatemala	2,425
France	2,084
Nigeria	1,810
Japan	1,797
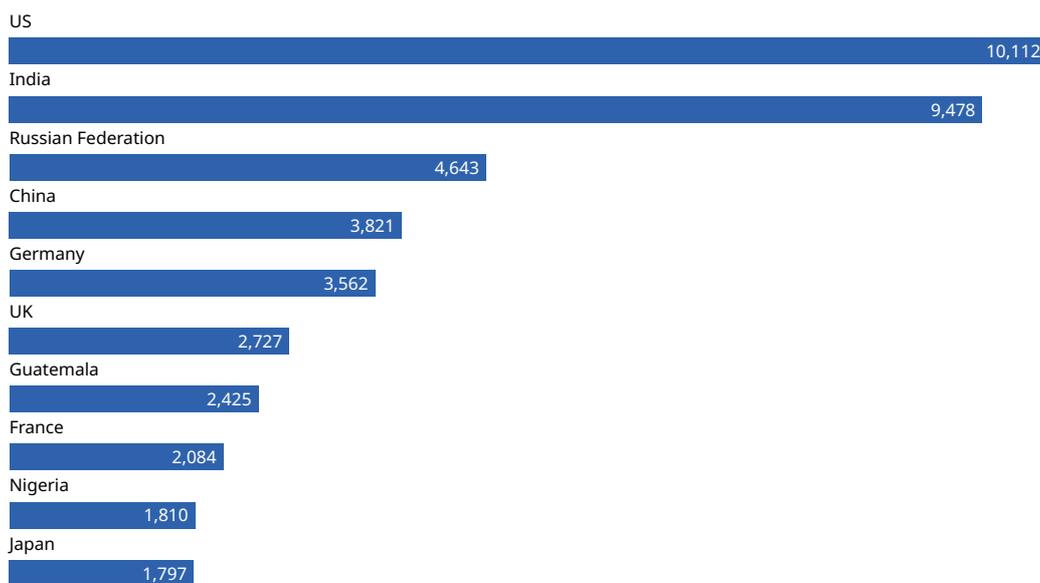
Source: WIPO Web Analytics

– **Patent database reports**

The Patent Database Reports Portal within WIPO INSPIRE is the ultimate guide to navigating the world of patent databases. This powerful resource delivers clear, unbiased insights to help users choose the most appropriate database for specific needs. With 50 in-depth reports covering national and commercial databases, the portal attracted almost 44,000 users in 2024, each leveraging its expert analysis to sharpen their patent strategies and stay ahead of the competition.

– **Patent registers**

The Patent Register Portal in WIPO INSPIRE is a dynamic gateway to global patent legal status information, connecting users to key online registers and gazettes across more than 200 jurisdictions. Designed for patent professionals, businesses, and researchers, it features an interactive search and in-depth jurisdiction files with information on where and how to access legal status data, as well as search tips. In 2024 alone, over 10,000 users accessed the portal to acquire this information.

– **IP analytics**

WIPO INSPIRE also offers a reference point for access to IP analytics resources, in particular PLRs and WIPO Technology Trends reports, which track the development of technologies through the analysis of IP data on innovation activities that help inform policy discussions, strategic research planning and technology transfer.

Through the platform, users can access 21 PLRs prepared by WIPO and over 270 PLRs prepared by other organizations, as well as the Technology Trends reports on AI and assistive technology, which were downloaded more than 326,000 times between 2019 and the end of December 2024.

– **Technology transfer and institutional IP policies**

The Knowledge and Technology Transfer webpage, accessible via WIPO INSPIRE, serves as a central resource for information on knowledge and technology transfer and institutional IP policies. It provides access to WIPO's Institutional IP Policies Database, with links to existing IP and related policies from universities and research institutions worldwide, such as policies on consulting, copyright, conflicts of interest, software, open access and spin-offs.

In 2024, the Institutional IP Policies Database underwent a major upgrade, including migration to a modern content management system to improve stability and scalability. The search function is now faster and more intuitive, and the content has been extensively reviewed and refined. One thousand five hundred policy documents from 718 institutions were updated to ensure accuracy and relevance. The database also features expanded content, making it a more comprehensive resource. These enhancements have led to notable improvements in user engagement: downloads surged by 321percent to 121,238, unique visitors increased by 118 percent to 97,242, and total pageviews reached 126,552 in 2024.

"This database is indispensable for developing IP policies. It's an excellent resource, offering contract templates, confidentiality agreements and other key information for effective IP management. I frequently use it to identify emerging IP trends in academia and promote IP policy importance."

José Luis Solleiro, *National Autonomous University of Mexico*

– **eTISC**

Through WIPO INSPIRE, users can access eTISC, a virtual knowledge-sharing platform designed to provide a dedicated space for the TISC community and IP professionals to collaborate and exchange knowledge and ideas.

Key features of the platform include:

– "Ask the Expert" sessions, offering the chance to interact with specialists in areas such as patent information and technology transfer;
– Group and forum discussions for sharing knowledge and experiences; and
– News and events that keep users informed on the latest developments in IP.

The thematic webinar series and "Ask the Expert" sessions continued in 2024, focusing on the theme of IP financing and how IP assets can be used to secure loans. Spanning over eight months, the sessions covered the following topics:

– What attracts investors and financial institutions to invest in IP assets;
– IP financing policies;
– Risks associated with IP financing; and
– The future of IP financing for economic growth.

These webinars attracted a wide range of participants, including IP professionals, researchers, students and entrepreneurs.

In 2024, the eTISC platform received 8,331 unique visitors, who continue to gain from its latest updates on TISC-related activities, news and articles.

Figure 9. eTISC use
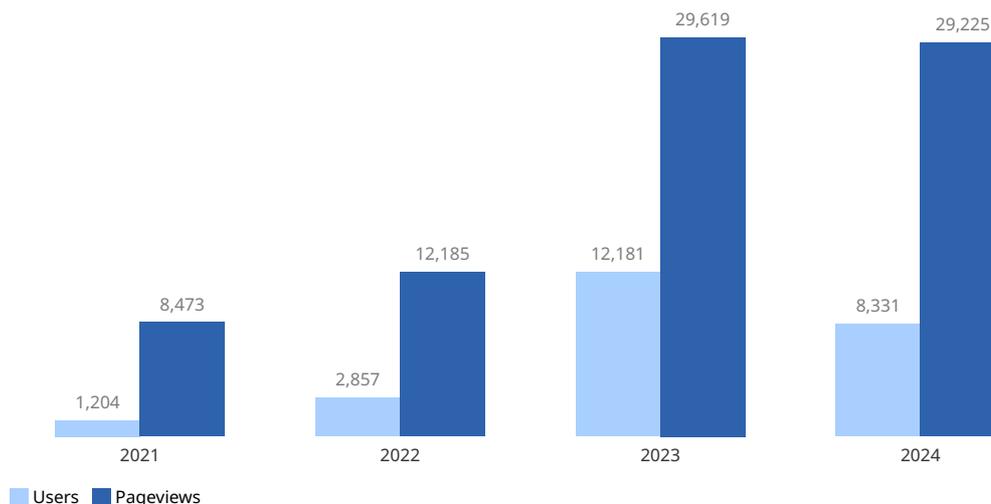
Source: WIPO Web Analytics

Inventor Assistance Program (IAP)

The IAP helps inventors and small businesses with limited resources turn their innovations into commercial assets by matching selected beneficiaries with volunteer patent specialists who guide them through the patent system at no cost. The program supports IAP beneficiaries in securing patent protection both domestically and in selected jurisdictions.

Local TISCs play a key role in promoting the IAP and in providing additional services in many participating countries. For example, in Colombia, the IP office collaborates closely with TISCs to promote the program in the country's regions. In Morocco, TISC focal points volunteer their patent drafting services for IAP beneficiaries. In the Philippines, TISCs are considered part of the IAP, offering legal advice, prior art searches, and patent drafting services to inventors.

IP and innovation collaboration

Preliminary activities to create a compilation of effective institutional policy frameworks and good practices for innovation collaboration and to develop associated reference and training materials were launched within the framework of the Development Agenda Project on IP and Innovation Collaboration as a Foundation for Technology Transfer and Bringing Research Output to Market. Four pilot countries were selected to participate in these activities, namely Colombia, Philippines, Rwanda, and Saudi Arabia.

Arbitration and mediation

The WIPO Arbitration and Mediation Center provides time- and cost-efficient alternative dispute resolution options, including mediation, arbitration, expedited arbitration, and expert determination, to help private parties settle domestic or cross-border commercial disputes. TISCs receive a 50 percent reduction in registration and administration fees for the Center's alternative dispute resolution services, offering a cost-effective alternative to court litigation for resolving IP and technology disputes.

TISC Project and Performance Management Platform (TPPM)

TPPM is designed to reinforce the global TISC network by gathering and analyzing performance data to effectively monitor and manage national projects. The platform helps national TISC coordinators follow up on their projects efficiently while simplifying coordination, evaluation and reporting processes.

The platform fosters greater collaboration between countries and WIPO, facilitating seamless tracking of TISC initiatives globally. By offering real-time insights, it ensures timely support,

capacity-building and targeted assistance, enabling TISC networks to operate more effectively and maximize their impact.

TPPM has undergone a comprehensive review and optimization in 2024 and is now available for all TISC networks. WIPO provides guidance to national TISC coordinators in the development of their projects in TPPM and trains them in the use of the platform.

Training to expand knowledge and skills

To increase the capacities, knowledge and skills within TISCs, WIPO provides training through onsite and online workshops, WIPO Academy distance learning courses and specialized learning resources on patent searches, including state-of-the-art, novelty and freedom-to-operate searches, patent analytics and technology transfer.

In the area of technology transfer, IP management and IP commercialization, training programs focus on the development of human capital regarding pillars of the innovation ecosystem, such as institutional IP policies, the establishment and management of technology transfer structures, and capacity building in IP marketing, licensing and valuation.

TISC Staff Certification Program

To increase the standardization of TISC operations, raise the quality of services across TISCs and improve career development pathways for TISC staff, a WIPO TISC Staff Certification Program, which aims to establish a curriculum-based professional certification for TISC staff, was developed by the IP for Innovators Department (IPID) in collaboration with the WIPO Academy. The first pilot session of the TISC Foundation Certificate Course course was launched with 48 participants from six countries (China, Kenya, Madagascar, Peru, Philippines and Saudi Arabia).

This course includes two phases: a distance learning phase, which focuses on the fundamentals of IP and an introduction to TISC services, and a series of instructor-led training seminars that focus on developing the foundational skills for building TISC core competencies, such as patent searching and the use of patent search databases.

At the end of the pilot run, with a passing rate of 75 percent, 36 TISC staff members successfully completed the Foundation Certification course and are now officially recognized as "Certified TISC Staff."

National and regional training for TISCs

In 2024, 21 workshops were held for national TISC networks to help develop the technical skills needed to provide high-quality innovation support services to local innovators. Additionally, six regional meetings were organized for TISC networks in ARIPO member states, ASEAN member states, select networks in the Arab region, CATI-CARD and the Central Asian Republics.

Figure 10. Number of national and regional conferences organized for TISCs

National seminars/conferences
- 2014: 15
- 2015: 35
- 2016: 24
- 2017: 33
- 2018: 26
- 2019: 32
- 2020: 14
- 2021: 24
- 2022: 23
- 2023: 21
- 2024: 21

Regional conferences
- 2014: 2
- 2015: 8
- 2016: 4
- 2017: 3
- 2018: 3
- 2019: 3
- 2020: 4
- 2021: 3
- 2022: 3
- 2023: 5
- 2024: 6

■ National seminars/conferences ■ Regional conferences
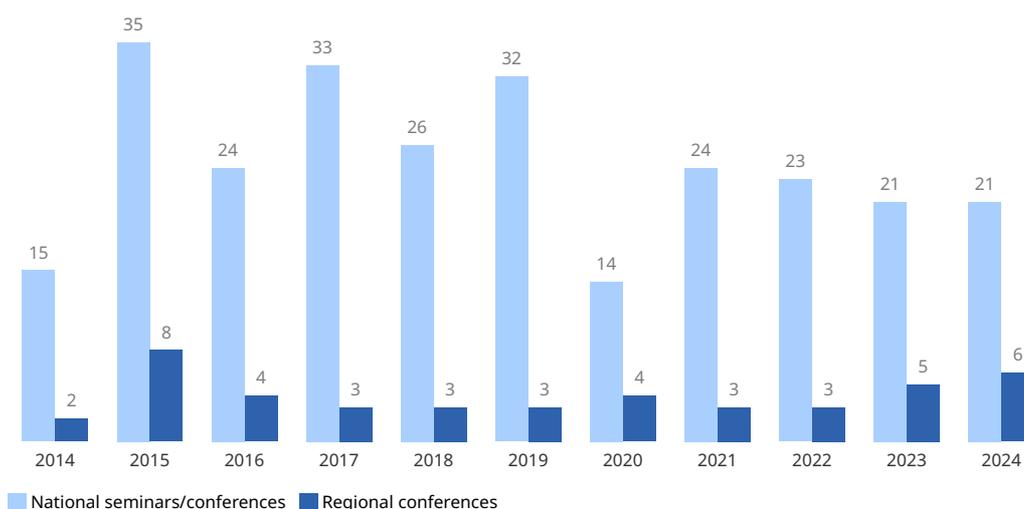
Source: WIPO IPID, 2024

IP analytics training

To help TISCs enhance their patent analytics skills, several dedicated training programs were held. These included a seminar for TISCs in Latin America, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; a seminar on IP analytics and innovation in the ASEAN region, held in Bangkok, Thailand; and a dedicated session on patent analytics as part of the online TISC Regional Meeting for the Arab Region.

More broadly, as IP continues to shape global innovation landscapes, it is important that WIPO stays ahead of evolving educational trends and modernizes the way in which it delivers training. Traditional training methods, while effective, often struggle to fully engage participants, particularly when explaining complex subjects such as patent analytics. To bridge this gap, there is a growing need for more interactive, experiential learning approaches that enhance knowledge retention and practical application.

Recognizing this, WIPO took an innovative step forward by incorporating game-based learning into its patent analytics training programs. The first-ever game-based learning on patent analytics, "Patent Quest: Navigating Innovation Horizons", was launched in 2024. This was developed in partnership with a Norwegian company, House of Knowledge, as a serious game for training in patent analytics.

Serious games are educational or training games that are designed with a primary purpose other than pure entertainment. They are created to teach specific concepts skills, or knowledge while maintaining the intrinsic motivation and engagement that games often provide, and make learning more enjoyable, interactive and effective.

The new WIPO "Patent Quest: Navigating Innovation Horizons" board game introduces patent analytics and the development of patent landscape reports in a fun and accessible way. Following its launch in Africa, this new approach to learning and training in patent analytics has been successfully rolled out as part of training events in Latin America and Asia. A representative of a Chilean TISC commented "Patent analytics is a complex topic, but with the Patent Quest game, learning about it becomes fun, in an engaging and immersive experience".

"Patent Quest: Navigating Innovation Horizons" board game in Pretoria, South Africa, January 23–25, 2024
Photo: WIPO

New trademark and industrial design searches training materials

WIPO has established a partnership with the International Trademark Association to develop reference guides and training materials on trademark and industrial design search, enabling TISCs to expand their service offering into these areas and support entrepreneurs and designers to build trusted brands and gain value from their designs.

Patent drafting training

Transforming inventions into well-crafted patent applications requires a combination of knowledge and skills that can only be acquired through a comprehensive hands-on experience. Learning from experienced practitioners, the International Patent Drafting Training Program enhances patent drafting skills to secure the best available protection for inventions.

The program, now in its fourth year, has been developed by WIPO in cooperation with the International Federation of Intellectual Property Attorneys. More than 100 participants from over 50 countries have benefited from the course (including several TISC staff, who are among the program's targeted audience) and other WIPO drafting training offers. The program is currently conducted in English and will also be offered in Spanish as of 2026.

Countries can officially recognize the program, integrating it within their local qualification and training for patent professions, through a Memorandum of Understanding. This gives local participants an extra benefit for joining the program.

Technology transfer and IP commercialization training

To help TISCs strengthen their ability to meet the evolving needs of innovators, additional training on knowledge and technology transfer and IP commercialization is being gradually introduced. This includes training on IP management, IP marketing and commercialization strategies, technology licensing, IP valuation and IP financing, as well as institutional IP policies.

In the ASEAN region, three national training seminars based on the new ASEAN IP Valuation Toolkit were organized to improve the valuation capacity in the region: one each in Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines, reaching a total of 450 professionals. The seminars offered an

opportunity to gain insights and knowledge on IP valuation from both local and international experts. Participants engaged in hands-on exercises, group discussions and case study analyses. This practical approach provided participants with concrete and actionable skills.

To enhance IP commercialization capacities in Central Asia and the wider Eurasian region and strengthen synergies between TISCs and techno-parks, a joint regional training was organized with the Eurasian Patent Organization in Astana, Kazakhstan, in December. As the fourth in a series of trainings aimed at enhancing the capacity of techno-parks and promoting effective IP commercialization and technology transfer, the meeting opened new avenues for collaboration and highlighted the significant potential for better integrating TISC services into techno-park activities and for creating a unique integrated innovation ecosystem in the region capable of addressing critical development needs.

In Latin America, TISCs in Argentina received training on IP management and commercialization, which included the following topics: patent drafting, structure and negotiation of technology licenses, proof of concept methodologies, and institutional IP policies. TISCs in Guatemala also benefited from virtual introductory training on key concepts in technology transfer.

In response to the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, specific resources and training initiatives were also developed to enhance awareness and comprehension of the intricate interplay between global health, access to medical technologies, innovation, technology transfer and trade. The focus on life sciences has been a direct result of WIPO's continuous efforts to deliver customized, targeted and impact-driven support to address country-specific needs and priorities during the post-pandemic period, to harness the potential of IP as a tool that not only addresses the consequences of such a pandemic but also meets the most urgent healthcare needs worldwide.

In this context, TISC staff and other representatives from institutions involved in IP and technology transfer from four Eastern African countries (Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda and the United Republic of Tanzania) attended a WIPO East African Regional Conference in June 2024 in Kampala, Uganda, on skills development and capacity building in support of life sciences innovation.

The conference provided a platform for knowledge sharing, networking and capacity-building, and addressed the unique challenges and opportunities faced by the East African region in the context of life sciences innovation and IP management and technology transfer in this field. The following topics were explored:

– Fundamental knowledge and abilities related to IP and technology transfer within the life sciences field;
– Databases and strategies for performing searches for chemical compounds and biological sequences;
– Patent disclose requirements in the life sciences field;
– Management and licensing strategies for genetic-resources-based IP; and
– IP policies relevant to the life sciences.

WIPO African Regional Conference in Support of Accelerated Life Sciences Innovation – Skills Development and Capacity-Building, Kampala, Uganda, June 11–12, 2024 Photo: Courtesy of the Uganda Registration Services Bureau

In 2024, a new flexible program aimed at deep-tech innovators and ventures looking to bring early-stage technologies from laboratory to market was also launched. The program, entitled "Scale Up Your IP" and currently in its pilot phase, is delivered in collaboration with university incubators and techno-parks, providing a set of IP commercialization modules, handouts and exercises that can complement services offered to their resident ventures and spin-offs.

The objective is to equip them with the ability to embed IP strategies into their commercialization plan at an early stage, facilitating cost-effective decisions that will accelerate their growth. When synergies in objectives align, the program will be offered to a selected number of TISCs whose organizations have similar audiences from research-and-development intensive innovation ecosystems.

Training on institutional IP policies

For more than 10 years, WIPO has provided dedicated support to universities and research institutions in developing institutional policies for effective IP management and knowledge and technology transfer. The IP Policies for Universities and Research Institutions initiative has three main components:

1. The WIPO Policy Toolkit;
2. National and regional customized versions of the toolkit; and
3. Project-based coaching and technical assistance to individual institutions for developing tailored IP policies.

– **WIPO IP Policy Toolkit**

The toolkit serves as a starting point to help academic and research institutions address key issues such as ownership of IP and rights of use of IP, IP disclosure, management, commercialization, incentives for researchers, record-keeping, accounting and conflicts of interest. The toolkit includes an IP Policy Writer's Checklist, an IP Policy Template for Academic and Research Institutions, and Guidelines for Customizing the Template.

– **National and regional models**

National and regional institutional IP policy models integrate local laws, regulations and practices, and are tailored to the country or region's socioeconomic context. They aim to facilitate policy adoption at the institutional level and promote harmonization across institutions at the national or regional level to enable more effective academic–industry collaboration.

National IP policy models have been developed for 11 countries so far, with more in progress. At the regional level, an ASEAN Institutional IP Policy Model was developed in 2023 through a WIPO project in collaboration with the ASEAN Secretariat and supported by the Japan Industrial Property Global Funds-In-Trust. Building on this, in 2024, WIPO provided mentorship-based support to eight institutions from Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic and Thailand to help implement the model at the institutional level.

A third regional model is currently under development for Latin America and the Caribbean. In May 2024, universities and research institutions from the Central America and the Dominican Republic (CATI-CARD) regional TISC network convened in San José, Costa Rica, to begin drafting a model regional institutional IP policy.

WIPO Regional Meeting of Experts on the Development of a Regional Model IP Institutional Policy for Universities and R&D Institutions for the Countries of the Regional CATI-CARD TISC network, San José, Cosa Rica, May 29–30, 2024 Photo: Courtesy of the National Registry of Costa Rica

– **Support to individual institutions**

Tailored assistance is also provided to individual institutions. In 2024, WIPO supported the development of customized institutional IP policies for universities and research institutions in El Salvador and Rwanda.

WIPO Academy distance learning courses for TISCs

To strengthen the capacities of TISCs, WIPO offers distance learning courses through the WIPO Academy, providing accessible training in areas such as patent searches, patent analytics and technology transfer.

The e-Tutorial on Using Patent Information, which was launched in 2020 as a distance learning course (DL-177) through the WIPO Academy platform, is a self-paced course specifically developed for TISCs comprising three learning modules: patent basics, patent search and retrieval, and patent analysis. It is currently available on the WIPO Academy platform in English, French, Russian and Spanish.

Figure 11. e-Tutorial registrations from TISC staff, by language

Russian 9%
Spanish 12%
English 49%
French 30%
Total: 170
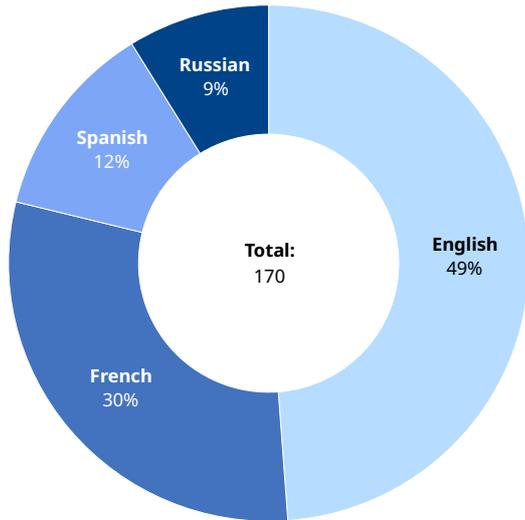
Source: WIPO Academy, 2024

In 2024, a total of 3,661 TISC staff enhanced their expertise through distance learning courses offered by the WIPO Academy, including those in advanced specialized fields, as shown in Figure 12.

A significant share of participation continued to focus on patent-related courses, reflecting the ongoing need for TISC staff to provide high-level support to local researchers, inventors and entrepreneurs navigating the patent system. But there was also strong engagement in advanced training on trademarks, industrial designs, copyright and related rights, and IP management, indicating a growing demand for broader IP knowledge. Overall, 68 percent of TISC participation was in advanced courses, while 32 percent was in general courses. The gender distribution among participants was 53 percent female and 47 percent male (see Figure 13).

Figure 12. TISC staff participation in advanced courses of the WIPO Academy, by course

Course	Value
DL301 Patents	553
DL318 Patent Information Search	350
DL201 Copyright and Related Rights	326
DL320 Patent Drafting	306
DL302 Trademarks, Industrial Designs and Geographical Indications	230
DL203 IP, Traditional Knowledge and Traditional Cultural Expressions	185
DL170 Essentials of Patents	134
DL317 Arbitration and Mediation	77
DL450 IP Management	74
DL730 IP and Exports	67
DL511 Software Licensing	49
DL503 Collective Management of Copyright and Related Rights for Collective Management Organizations	20
DL502 Collective Management of Copyright and Related Rights for Rights Holders	17
DL501 Collective Management of Copyright and Related Rights for Legal Practitioners	16
DL303 Madrid System	14
DL304 Hague System	14
DL506 Collective Management of Copyright and Related Rights for Policy Makers	13
DL701 Access to Medical Technologies and Innovation	8
DL427 IP and Genetic Resources	7

Source: WIPO Academy, 2024

Figure 13. TISC staff participation in WIPO Academy training, by gender

Male 47%

Female 53%
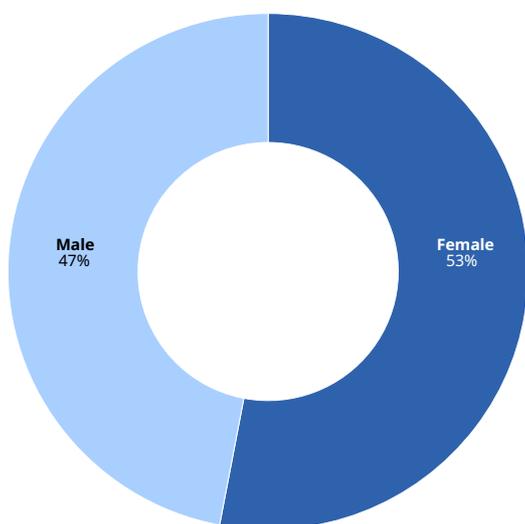
Source: WIPO Academy, 2024

Publications to support training and reinforce learning

Training is supported by publications developed for TISCs to reinforce learning. These publications are key reference sources on a range of subject areas such as patent documentation and databases, patent searches, patent analytics, patent drafting, technology transfer, IP management and commercialization. They are available in multiple languages.

The WIPO Guide to Using Patent Information (re-published in 2022) and the Understanding Industrial Property booklet are essential reference materials for TISCs, helping them reinforce their knowledge and supporting them in providing services, such as assisting with using patent databases and conducting patent searches.

In 2024, the Toolkit on New Product Development and Inventions in the Public Domain was published. Complementing the WIPO guides Identifying Inventions in the Public Domain and Using Inventions in the Public Domain, the toolkit supports systematic decision-making in the development of new products and services based on inventions in the public domain. It includes a set of practical tools to help researchers, inventors and entrepreneurs make informed decisions during each stage in the new product development process and successfully bring their products and services to the market. To support self-learning, the toolkit builds on a mix of digital materials including videos, step-by-step instructions and examples with completed datasets.

"These tools are crucial for effectively managing and commercializing technologies. They will not only help streamline the commercialization process but also ensure that the innovations generated within the region align with market demands and provide tangible benefits."

Ms. Angeline Baldapan-Elegio, *Director, Innovation and Technology Support Office, Bohol Island State University, Bohol, Philippines*

IP analytics publications

The WIPO Technology Trends reports are flagship publications that track technology trends through the analysis of patent and other data to provide empirical evidence on innovation in specific fields. The resulting knowledge helps business leaders, researchers and policymakers in their decision-making. The first report in the series was published in 2019 and focuses on trends in AI. The second report, published in 2021, was the first large-scale overview and analysis of patenting and technology trends in the field of assistive technology, and provides information about the state of play in technologies that assist people living with physical or cognitive impairments. The WIPO Technology Trends reports on AI and assistive technologies were together downloaded more than 326,000 times between 2019 and the end of December 2024.

The third report in the WIPO Technology Trends series, developed and prepared throughout 2024 and published at the start of 2025, focused on the Future of Transportation. By investigating the latest transportation patenting trends, the report identifies the most innovative countries, companies and institutions using a data-driven approach, combining traditional patent searches with AI-powered topic extraction.

Patent Landscape Reports (PLRs) prepared by WIPO over the years have covered topics of particular relevance to developing countries such as public health, food security, climate change and the environment. In 2024, three new PLRs were published – on Sustainable Development Goal-related patents, generative AI and agrifood technologies.

The PLR mapping global patents to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), published in April 2024, provides invaluable insights into patent trends aligned with the SDGs and the state of technology development across these goals.

The PLR on generative AI, published in July 2024, looks at this cutting-edge technology, which is poised to disrupt various economic, social and cultural sectors, and which extends far beyond simple human-like text generation using chatbots.

Finally, published in September 2024, the PLR on agrifood provides a comprehensive and up-to-date look at the latest patent trends in agritech and foodtech, including patents relating to the innovation and technological advancements in a number of case studies across the sector.

In addition to these WIPO reports, WIPO also maintains a database providing access to over 270 PLRs prepared by other organizations.

Several learning resources and tools to help build capacity and develop the patent analytics skills of researchers and innovators in developing countries have also been developed by WIPO over the years. Methodological guidelines for preparing PLRs have been formalized in the WIPO Guidelines for Preparing Patent Landscape Reports, WIPO Manual on Open Source Tools for Patent Analytics and the WIPO Patent Analytics Handbook, with the latter two being revised and updated in recent years.

Technology transfer and IP commercialization publications

Several publications are available to support learning about knowledge and technology transfer and IP commercialization, including the Successful Technology Licensing manual and Incentives in Technology Transfer: A guide to encourage, recognize and reward researchers and professionals. The latter was launched to help universities develop innovative incentive programs for academic researchers, encouraging their participation in technology transfer and knowledge exchange activities.

To further support training on IP in life sciences and enhance understanding of the complex interplay between global health, access to medical technologies, innovation, technology transfer and trade, new practical guides are in development. These include resources on patent searches in biotechnology, disclosure requirements and the protection of pharmaceutical and biotechnology-related inventions. Practical guides and booklets on technology transfer and IP valuation in biotechnology and pharmaceuticals are also in the pipeline.

The WIPO Patent Drafting Manual helps inventors and their advisors acquire the technical skills needed to prepare and file well-drafted patent applications. Covering both theory and practice, the manual takes the user through the process of preparing, drafting, filing, amending and prosecuting patent applications. The drafting of both claims and descriptions are explained in detail, with tips and illustrations. In 2024, the manual was published in Arabic, in addition to English, French and Spanish.

The "Hands-on IP Finance" series of guides are another resource to help creators, innovators and businesses unlock the full potential of their IP assets for finance. By focusing on key IP assets such as software, technology, brands and creative works, these guides empower IP owners to articulate their value to potential lenders, financiers and investors. The series provides both strategic insights and practical templates, equipping IP owners with the tools they need to leverage their assets for securing finance and raising capital.

The first guide, Securing Loans with Your IP Assets, was launched in December 2024. It facilitates discussions between IP owners and lenders, providing insights into the lending process. The guide includes practical checklists and templates to help businesses and IP owners negotiate financing arrangements, maximize the value of their intangible assets and facilitate favorable financing terms.

Special Feature:
Certified to serve - the professionalization of the TISC Network

A global competency-based certification program is transforming the way Technology and Innovation Support Centers (TISCs) serve their communities – providing a systematic way for TISC staff to develop and gain recognition for their knowledge and skills. The TISC Staff Certification Program offers IP professionals a clear pathway for gaining essential skill sets and competencies to provide innovation support services, certified by experts in TISC training and management.

> "This certification program will bring some level of confidence and get people attracted to the idea of becoming an IP professional. Things will not be done the way they have been done before. This one is going to be a game-changer."

Eng. Benson Kamau Kariuki, *Certified TISC Staff, Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology (JKUAT), Kenya*

Strategic fit: a WIPO-branded solution for a WIPO-built network

The TISC Staff Certification Program is structured in two levels: a Foundation level aligned with the core services expected to be delivered by all TISCs and Specialization levels corresponding to different additional services that may be delivered by TISCs according to the specific context of each TISC or national TISC network.

TISC staff aspiring to be certified in these levels are required to complete two training components based on a blended learning approach: a self-paced, distance learning course with expert-produced content and instructor-led training seminars with interactive peer learning. They must successfully complete assessments after each training component as well as a summative assessment. TISC staff completing these requirements receive a certificate verifiable digitally on the WIPO website using a QR code, recognizing them as "Certified TISC Staff" (for those passing the Foundation level) or as "Certified TISC Specialists" in a designated knowledge area (for those passing Specialization levels).

Training and assessment components are designed around a structured TISC competency framework adapted to the specific context in which TISCs operate and the knowledge and skills required to effectively deliver high-quality services. TISC competencies represent technical knowledge and demonstrable skills required to fulfill the responsibilities assigned to TISC staff and underpin the content included in the distance learning courses and instructor-led training seminars, and validated in the assessments.

Three audiences, one standard: a program with triple impact

The TISC Staff Certification Program offers a range of benefits:

For **TISC staff**, it offers a structured professional development path that affirms their expertise and opens doors to future opportunities.

For **TISC host institutions**, it provides a standard for recruitment and onboarding, professionalizes internal operations, and promotes retention and development of highly skilled TISC staff.

For **TISC clients**, it signals service excellence – reliable, knowledgeable support with verifiable competencies.

"Successfully passing the rigorous certification exam and becoming a certified TISC staff member is a great honor. It represents not only a personal achievement but also a commitment to upholding the highest standards in the services we offer. I see this certification as a responsibility – a pledge to continuously improve the quality of our work within the organization and to ensure that the community receives the top-tier services they deserve."
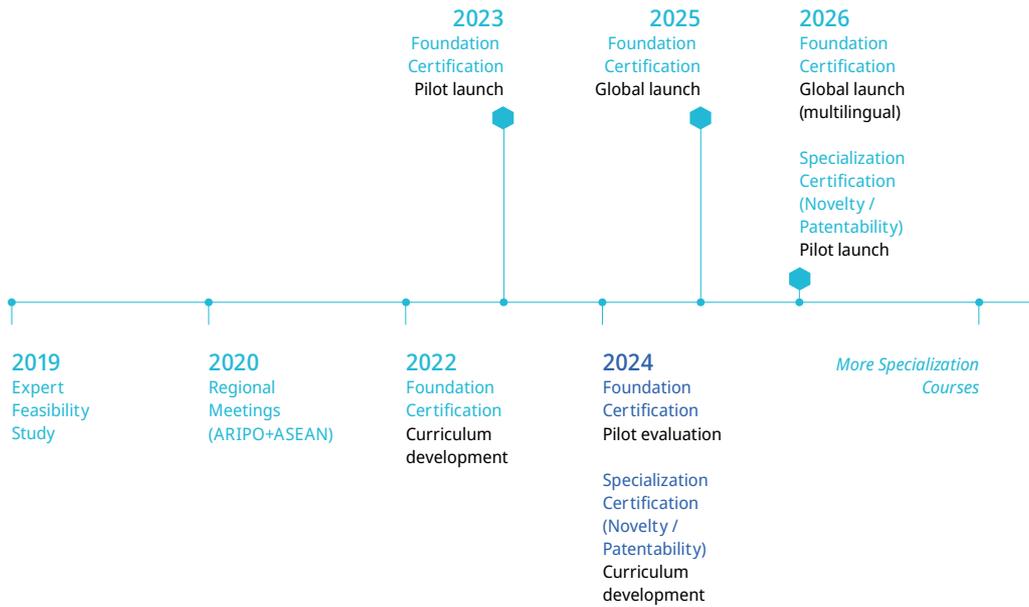
Mr. Frenz Rian Gal, *Certified TISC Staff, Guimaras State*

From blueprint to breakthrough: the TISC Staff Certification pilot launch

TISC Staff Certification was launched on a pilot basis in late 2023 and implemented in 2024 together with the national TISC networks of China, Kenya, Madagascar, Peru, Philippines and Saudi Arabia, building on the results of an expert feasibility study carried out in 2019, stakeholder consultations held in 2020, and an extensive process of curriculum, content and infrastructure development completed in 2022.

The pilot was initially carried out for the Foundation level and provided an opportunity to test training and assessment components and infrastructure for TISC Staff Certification with national TISC focal points and TISC staff, enabling these to be better adapted to the situation and needs of their intended audience.

TISC Staff Certification Program Development timeline

2023	2025	2026
Foundation Certification	Foundation Certification	Foundation Certification
Pilot launch	Global launch	Global launch (multilingual)
		Specialization Certification (Novelty / Patentability)
		Pilot launch

2019	2020	2022	2024	More Specialization Courses
Expert Feasibility Study	Regional Meetings (ARIPO+ASEAN)	Foundation Certification	Foundation Certification	
		Curriculum development	Pilot evaluation	
			Specialization Certification (Novelty / Patentability)	
			Curriculum development	

The pilot led to a number of important infrastructure innovations including:

Member States Ed-Tech Services (MSES) – TISC module: This module provides the certification team with a centralized online interface for administering registered TISC host institutions and TISC focal points facilitating program rollout, enrollment processes and customer service.

Streamlined registration with one-click nomination: A new digital pathway enables national TISC focal points to nominate eligible participants through a single authorization action, minimizing administrative burden and accelerating program access.

National TISC focal points were closely involved in the design, development and testing of training and assessment components and infrastructure, and feedback from TISC staff was collected to ensure that TISC Staff Certification is optimized to their situation and needs.

"It's a very well-thought-out course that touches on the very function (of) a TISC staff. It should be a recommendation that institutions can think of ensuring that when they put staff in the TISC they try to get them to first go through this course. It will give them (the TISC staff) the skills and the knowledge to be able to serve effectively. They should take it as soon as possible because it will make the whole difference. My main objectives were to get the knowledge and skills that I need to carry out my duties at the TISC office. Were they met? They were surpassed!"

Dr. Zipporah Muthui, *Certified TISC Staff, Chuka University, Kenya*

Proof of concept, powerfully delivered

The results of the pilot demonstrated the importance and effectiveness of TISC Staff Certification as a program as well as the high level of competency already achieved by many TISC staff. Participants expressed a high level of satisfaction with respect to the course structure and design, course content (including its practical relevance to their daily work), trainers and learning platform, and noted the success of the learning components in developing their knowledge and skills thought provoking.

Pilot participation:

81.25%
completion rate

75%
overall passing rate

36
Certified TISC Staff

Pilot feedback:

4.5/5
course content

4.5/5
course structure

4.6/5
course relevance

Next steps: global launch, specialization tracks, multimedia content, and infrastructure development

With the success of the pilot run in 2024, the WIPO TISC Staff Certification Program transitioned from a long-standing ambition into a professionalized standard, setting the stage for its global rollout in 2025 and adaptation into additional UN languages in 2026.

The first TISC Specialization Certification in Patentability/Novelty Search is in the development pipeline, designed to deepen the search skills of those who already hold the Foundation credential. Other specialization tracks, such as State-of-the-Art Search, Freedom to Operate (FTO) Search and Patent Analytics, are under consultation and will evolve with TISC needs and demands, and in alignment with the TISC competency framework.

A series of modular video tutorials in bite-sized chapters will be produced to reinforce the blended learning approach integrated into TISC Staff Certification. These tutorials will serve as complementary resources to the live training seminars, extending access to quality instruction even in bandwidth-constrained environments.

New infrastructure is under development to reinforce standardized testing and scale future certification offerings. This infrastructure includes a questions databank and competency-based assessment generation module, powering future automated, randomized assessments based on the TISC competency framework and aimed at assuring program integrity, scalability and sustainability.

Looking ahead

WIPO's support for TISCs will continue to evolve and respond to local needs. New resources being developed to reinforce and expand the capabilities of TISCs will help create and strengthen innovation ecosystems, encouraging innovators to use IP for business growth and bring their innovations to market.

Looking ahead, the following activities are foreseen:

Patent search, patent drafting and IP analytics:

– Global launch of the TISC Foundation Certificate Course including infrastructure development and multimedia content
– Development of the TISC Specialization Certificate Course in Patentability/Novelty Search
– Publication of practical guides on patent searches in biotechnology, disclosure requirements, and the protection of inventions related to pharmaceuticals and biotechnology
– Launch of a distance learning course introducing patent analytics
– Launch of more advanced game-based learning through a new edition of the "Patent Quest" board game, designed to engage experienced participants in patent analytics through interactive, knowledge-sharing gameplay
– Publication of new patent landscape reports, in areas such as occupational health and safety technologies
– Launch of new training packages on trademark and industrial design searches to enable TISCs to expand their service offering into these areas
– Launch of the International Patent Drafting Training Program in Spanish

Technology transfer, institutional IP policies and IP commercialization:

– Implementation of mentorship-based support to assist selected universities and public research institutions in the ASEAN region to develop or upgrade their institutional IP policies based on the ASEAN Institutional IP Policy Model
– Continued implementation of a capacity-building program on IP valuation for the ASEAN region based on the ASEAN IP Valuation Toolkit
– Publication of a general guide to IP valuation and booklets on IP valuation in biotechnology and pharma, and IP valuation of spin-offs
– Publication of a biotech technology transfer primer and development of a distance learning course on the subject
– Publication of a WIPO Policy Template for Use of Copyrighted Works at Universities and Public Research Institutions
– Development of a new "Institutional Capability Framework" initiative to help research institutions conduct a deep diagnostic of their innovation productivity, across pertinent dimensions and indicators, and determine what resources they need to develop world-class capabilities

Digital platforms and tools:

– Continued improvements to the eTISC platform to enhance user-friendliness, interactivity, knowledge sharing and networking. This entails introducing new functionalities such as multimedia upload, follow and share options, machine translation and optimizing existing features through platform redesign.
– Redesign of the Patent Register Portal to ensure seamless accessibility, intuitive navigation and alignment with the recently updated appearance of the WIPO website. This endeavor involves a thorough overhaul of the portal's interface, functionality and user experience to meet modern standards.
– Expansion of the Inventor Assistance Program to offer IP commercialization support in addition to patent drafting and prosecution services

TISC program milestones

2009
– Launch of TISC project
– Launch of ARDI

2010
– Launch of ASPI
– Conclusion of first SLAs to implement a TISC network

2011
– ARDI joins Research4Life partnership
– Publication of the first WIPO PLR

2012
– Launch of interactive e-tutorial on patent information and search
– Inauguration of eTISC platform

2013
– First TISC ASEAN Regional Meeting
– First Ask the Expert session on eTISC

2014
– TISC and PLR projects become regular WIPO activities
– First use of open-source tools in a WIPO PLR

2015
– Publication of Guidelines for Preparing Patent Landscape Reports

2016
– Launch of Development Agenda Project on the Public Domain
– Launch of the Inventor Assistance Program (IAP)
– Launch of TISC training on patent analytics
– Online publication of WIPO Manual on Open Source Tools for Patent Analytics

2017
– First TISCs start providing patent analytical services
– Approval of new Development Agenda Project on Technology Transfer and IP Management

2018
– First workshops on guides for identifying and using information in the public domain
– Launch of the Patent Register Portal

2019
– Launch of WIPO Technology Trends 2019: Artificial Intelligence
– First training courses on technology transfer and IP management based on a new methodology for targeting training

2020
– 1,000 TISCs established worldwide
– Launch of WIPO INSPIRE
– Publication of guides on identifying and using inventions in the public domain
– Launch of redesigned eTISC platform
– Launch of e-tutorial as a certified WIPO Academy distance learning course

– Completion of Development Agenda Project on Intellectual Property Management and Technology Transfer

2021

– First online Global TISC Conference
– Integration of specialized technology transfer resources into the TISC program
– New WIPO INSPIRE platform integrating the Patent Register Portal and eTISC
– Comprehensive review and update of the Patent Register Portal
– Development of new tools to support the management of national TISC networks
– Launch of WIPO Technology Trends 2021: Assistive Technology
– Update of the Manual on Open Source Tools for Patent Analytics

2022

– Launch of the TPPM platform
– Development of a new package of resources on knowledge and technology transfer for sustainable economic recovery after pandemics
– Launch of PLRs on COVID-19 vaccines and therapeutics and on hydrogen fuel cells in transportation
– New IP and technology transfer webpage
– Establishment of a Baltic States TTO Network and signing of Memorandum of Understanding with WIPO

2023

– Launch of a pioneering on-the-job training program for technology transfer professionals in the SADC region
– Launch of a TISC staff certification scheme
– Establishment of a Patent Analytics Community of Practice
– Publication of PLRs on COVID-19-related vaccines and therapeutics, and graphite and ilmenite and their related applications
– Launch of new WIPO patent analytics website
– Development of an ASEAN regional IP policy model and an IP valuation toolkit
– Publication of the guide Incentives in Technology Transfer: A guide to encourage, recognize and reward researchers and professionals

2024

– Roll-out of pilot TISC Staff Certification Program
– Launch of game-based learning in patent analytics through the new WIPO "Patent Quest: Navigating Innovation Horizons" board game
– Publication of patent landscape reports on SDG-related patents, Generative AI, and Agrifood
– Launch of Toolkit on New Product Development and Inventions in the Public Domain
– Revamp of the WIPO Institutional IP Policies Database
– Publication of first 'Hands-on IP Finance' guide: Securing Loans with Your IP Assets

Useful links

WIPO Technology and Innovation Support Centers
https://www.wipo.int/en/web/tisc

WIPO Directory of Technology and Innovation Support Centers
https://www.wipo.int/tisc/en/search

WIPO eTISC
https://etisc.wipo.int

TISC Project and Performance Management (TPPM) Platform
https://tppm.wipo.int

WIPO INSPIRE
https://inspire.wipo.int

Access to Specialized Patent Information (ASPI) program
https://www.wipo.int/aspi

Access to Research for Development and Innovation (ARDI) program
https://www.wipo.int/ardi

WIPO Academy Distance Learning Courses
https://www.wipo.int/academy/en/courses/distance_learning

TISC Staff Certification Program
https://welc.wipo.int/tisc/

TISC Webinars
https://www.wipo.int/meetings/en/topic.jsp?group_id=327

Knowledge and Technology Transfer
https://www.wipo.int/technology-transfer

IP Policies for Universities and Research Institutions
https://www.wipo.int/en/web/technology-transfer/ip-policies

Institutional IP Policies Database
https://www.wipo.int/en/web/technology-transfer/institutional-ip-policies-database

Patent Analytics
https://www.wipo.int/web/patent-analytics

WIPO Technology Trends
https://www.wipo.int/web/technology-trends

Explore patent analytics reports by technology
https://www.wipo.int/web/patent-analytics/index#technology

WIPO Patent Drafting Training Program
https://www.wipo.int/en/web/patent-drafting

Inventor Assistance Program
https://www.wipo.int/iap

Scale Up Your IP Program
https://www.wipo.int/web/ip-commercialization/scale-up-your-ip

Time- and Cost-Efficient Alternative Dispute Resolution of R&D and Technology Transfer Disputes for TISCs
https://www.wipo.int/amc/en/center/tisc

Intellectual Property Finance
https://www.wipo.int/en/web/ip-financing

To download the full report and access previous editions of the report visit:
https://www.wipo.int/publications/en/series/index.jsp?id=238

This annual report of Technology and Innovation Support Centers (TISCs) highlights the main developments and milestones in 2024, with a focus on how TISCs in 93 countries continued to expand their services to meet the needs of local innovators, and how WIPO supports them with new resources.

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