



**MAKING SENSE OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY:
HOW CAN IP CONTRIBUTE TO UNLEASHING
POTENTIAL OF AFRICAN INNOVATORS AND
INVENTORS**

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BENEFITS OF IP

- Inception of idea to commercialization



IP BENEFITS

○ Society-

- Meet demands and needs
- Address scientific & technological challenges
- Stimulate inventive & innovative activities & commercialization
- Facilitates the dissemination and use of new technical knowledge
- Promotes fair competition & trade



IP COSTS & RISKS

- Protection & enforcement

- **Protection without registration/ No cost-**
trade secret and copyright but ??

- **Cost of Registration-Patent, Designs, Marks**
etc.

- ✓ Professional service fee

- ✓ Official and administrative fees



IP COSTS & RISKS

○ Cost of enforcement

- ✓ Cost involved in monitoring infringement

- ✓ Cost in taking enforcement action

○ Uncertainty of title & potential to be challenged- cost of defending title



IP COSTS TO SOCIETY

- Administering IP
- Restriction or limit access to & use of IP assets
- Impacts on reverse engineering and imitation
- Increased widening of the scope of protection
- Potential abuse of monopoly rights



COST- BENEFIT TRADEOFF

- Patentability requirement
- Disclosure requirement
- Limitations and exceptions
- Duration of protection
- Safeguards and sanctions



**Thank you very much
for your attention!!
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