



The WIPO Program on Technology and Innovation Support Centers (TISCs)

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The TISC Project/Program

WIPO Development Agenda adopted in September 2007, please see Recommendation 8, the basis of the TISC Project/Program

The objective is to *reduce the technical and scientific knowledge gap between Developing Countries and Least-Developed Countries and industrialized countries* members of WIPO

Therefore, WIPO establishes TISCs in its member states in order to reach the above-mentioned goal

TISC Resources: A. 100 Million Technologies

- *Described in patent documents and generally classified as follows :*
 - **SECTION A — HUMAN NECESSITIES** (agriculture, foodstuffs, pharmaceuticals, cosmetics, tobacco, etc.)
 - **SECTION B — PERFORMING OPERATIONS; TRANSPORTING** (vehicles, boats, airplanes, roads, houses, machine tools, grinding, polishing, hand tools, hand cutting tools, etc.)
 - **SECTION C — CHEMISTRY; METALLURGY** (treatment of water, waste water, glass, mineral or slag wool, cements, concrete, artificial stone, ceramics, refractories, fertilizers, petroleum, gas, sugar industries, etc.)
 - **SECTION D — TEXTILES; PAPER** (natural or artificial threads, spinning, weaving, ropes, paper-making, treatment of textile, lace-making, knitting, sewing, etc.)
 - **SECTION E — FIXED CONSTRUCTIONS** (building, construction of roads, railways or bridges, hydraulic engineering, foundations, soil-shifting, water supply, locks, keys, window or door, etc.)
 - **SECTION F — MECHANICAL ENGINEERING; LIGHTING; HEATING; WEAPONS; BLASTING**
 - **SECTION G — PHYSICS**
 - **SECTION H — ELECTRICITY**

Where to find Patent Information?

PATENTSCOPE

www.wipo.int/patentscope/search/en

**SEE ALSO NATIONAL AND REGIONAL
DATABASES (ESPACENET, USPTO, ETC.)**

B. About 85 000 Scientific Publications

■ HINARI (WHO)



■ AGORA (FAO)



■ OARE (UNEP)



■ ARDI (WIPO)



C. WIPO Publications

- Upon request, a TISC network can receive free-of-charge any WIPO publication

D. Social Forum: powered by WIPO

- Communication tool to facilitate exchange between TISCs and participants
- Launched in November 2012 (currently more than 1600 participants from more than 100 countries; 45% of participants are Africans)

- Main features:
 - ▶ discussion forums
 - ▶ e-groups
 - ▶ webinars
 - ▶ e-tutorial
 - ▶ helpdesk and more

How To Reduce the Knowledge Gap?

- **The ANSWER is in the Patentability Conditions:**
 - **NOVELTY**: In a country, Research Centers, Laboratories, Inventors/Innovators, Universities have the mission to bring **NEW** ideas and concepts
 - **INVENTIVE STEP**: Persons skilled in the art = Training of Human Resources (Factories, Workshops, Technical Schools, Fab Labs, etc.)
 - **INDUSTRIAL APPLICATION**: Manufacturing Capacity (Industries) and Commercialization (SMEs, etc.) = MARKET
- **IN A COUNTRY, ALWAYS LINK THE THREE KINDS OF STAKEHOLDERS TO WORK AS A TEAM TO REDUCE THE KNOWLEDGE GAP!!!!**

Role of the National TISC Network

- *A Digital Library:* The local TISC will manage an on-line collection of over 100 million technologies and more than 85 000 scientific publications and distribute them to **all local users and create/encourage links between them** (R&D centers, universities, technical schools, factories, fab labs, industries, SMEs, etc.)
- *A Business Support Provider:* The local TISC will help stakeholders link with local or foreign partners, draft business plan, file patents or other IPRs, assess the patentability of inventions, find financial assistance (e.g. from the local government or abroad), etc.
- *A Training Center:* The local TISC will provide training to individuals and groups *on searching technologies and scientific publications in specialized databases*

-TISC as a Digital Library

Physical Library



Digital Library



-TISC Possible Locations

- Ministries of a Government
- Industrial/Intellectual Property Offices
- Scientific Information Centers
- Libraries
- Research Centers
- Fab Labs
- Science and Technology Parks
- Chambers of commerce
- Universities/Institutions of Higher Education
- Specialized Training Schools or Colleges
- Technology, Innovation and/or Business Incubators
- Inventors' associations, etc.

-TISC Networks

- *National Network*

- Central Focal Point: Ministry of Trade and Industry (just as an example)

- Peripheral Focal Points: Institutions coordinated by the Ministry

- *Regional Network*

- Designated National Institutions of the region coordinated by WIPO

- *WIPO Network*

- WIPO and other organizations in the world

WIPO Support

- While a member state is requested to ONLY provide *staff and facilities*, WIPO's support will be the following:
 - Facilitating access to databases
 - Providing training of trainers and of local users
 - Supporting awareness-raising activities
 - Organizing sub-regional and regional conferences as experience-sharing platforms
 - Providing Distance Learning Courses (WIPO Academy)
 - Providing IP materials
 - Providing other resources (mentioned above)

Conclusion

- Through the TISC Project, technical and scientific gaps between industrialized countries and DCs as well as LDCs *have already been reduced in theory* since the latter countries, in particular Malawi, have gained free access to more than 100 million technologies in all fields, and to more than 85 000 scientific publications
- In this regard, TISC places African countries on more equal footing (at least as regards access to technical and scientific information) with industrialized and emerging countries
- Through the TISC Project/Program, African countries *will not need to reinvent the wheel* in that they will ONLY use and adapt existing technical solutions **to solve local problems**; this will enable them, little by little, to reduce in practice the knowledge gap between them and industrialized countries and to ensure **their effective takeoff in all fields** (technical, scientific, economic, social, etc.)



...their effective takeoff...



...and their landing on their national objective regardless of turbulence zones crossed



Thank you for your attention!

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