



WIPO Sub-Regional Workshop on Patent Policy and its Legislative Implementation

Topic 1: WIPO's Technical Cooperation within Caribbean Countries - Legislative Assistance

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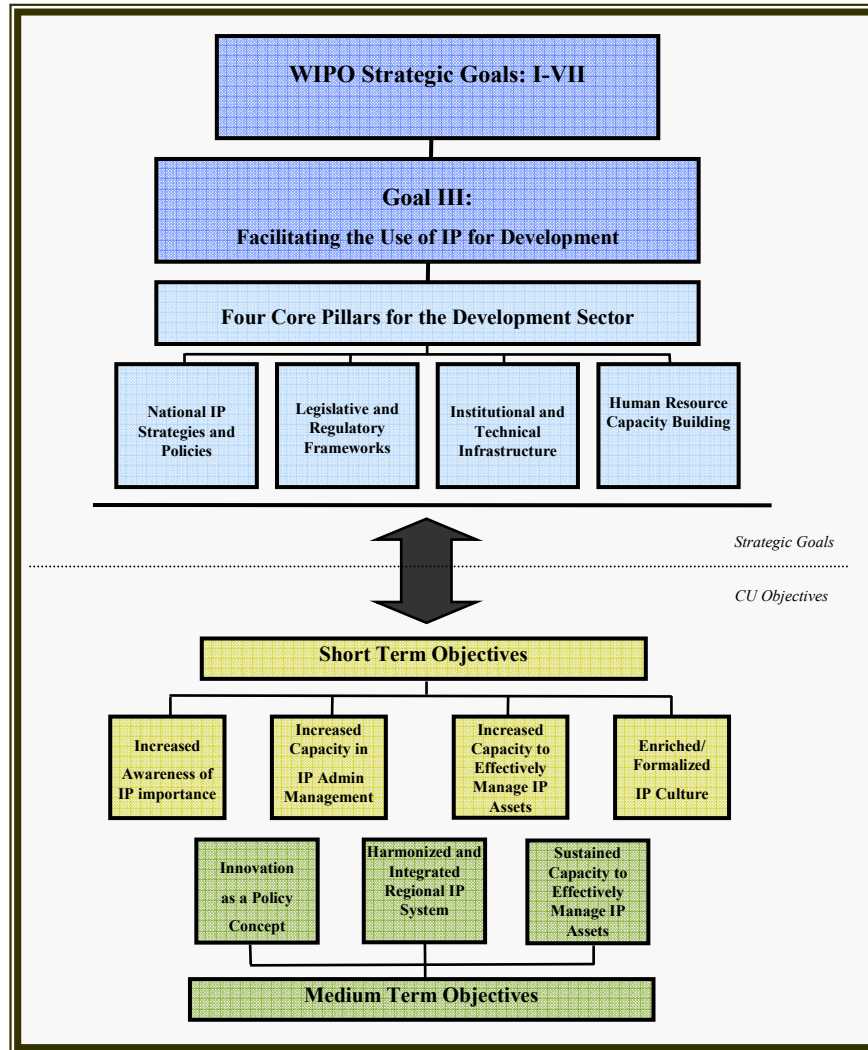
April 10 and 11, 2013

Project History

WIPO-Caribbean Cooperation for Development Project

- Agreement concluded in 2003
- Provides the framework for WIPO's technical assistance program in the Caribbean Region, serving 14 CARICOM States who are Member States of WIPO
- The Caribbean Unit was established as a unit within WIPO's Regional Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean, in order to streamline technical assistance activities, and cater to the unique needs and priorities of the Region.

Framework for Strategic Objectives



- Project within the context of WIPO's Strategic Goals
 - *Most importantly, the Four Core Pillars of the Development Sector (Strategic Goal III)*

- The Caribbean Unit has also conceptualized its own internal Objectives: Short Term and Medium Term

Pillar I: National IP Strategies and Policies

Relevant CU Objective: *Innovation as a Policy Concept (Medium Term)*

- Aim: To use WIPO's assistance through the Project to develop, implement and manage IP Policies and Strategies at the National Level for each Member State in the Region
- Current methodology involves the execution of a National IP Audit in the Member State
 - this allows for the identification of specific resources (expertise, strategic sectors, products and services) with a significant IP component, which the Member State can leverage as part of its overall development strategy
 - Member States should note that success of National Strategies depend on the extent to which IP Policy is integrated into Government's overall National Policy Framework

Highlights:

- IP Audits currently underway in St. Kitts and Nevis, and Trinidad and Tobago.
- National Strategy was developed for Barbados prior to formation of the Caribbean Unit
- Audit soon to be launched in Grenada
- Requests received from Antigua and Barbuda and Jamaica and are currently being processed

Other Member States are encouraged to submit requests for technical assistance in the execution of IP Audits and the development of National Policies and Strategies

Pillar II: Legislative and Regulatory Framework

Relevant CU Objectives: *Increased Capacity in IP Admin Management (Short Term)*
Increased Capacity to Effectively Manage IP Assets (Short Term)
Harmonized and Integrated Regional IP System (Medium Term)

- Aim : To use develop and update the legislation and regulation of Member States in the Region

- Relevant Considerations (National Level):
 - WTO-TRIPS Compliance (*and leveraging flexibilities therein*)
 - Implementation of the EC-CARIFORUM EPA
 - Member States' obligations under other bilateral trade agreements
 - Member States' status with regards to various WIPO administered treaties

- Relevant Projects (Regional Level):
 - Regional Patent Administration
 - Project for the Establishment of a Regional Framework for TKGRF

Performance: *14 activities (7 beneficiary Member States) between June 2010 and November 2012*

Member States are encouraged to leverage WIPO's technical assistance in reviewing and updating legislative frameworks

Pillar III: IP Institutional and Technical Infrastructure

Relevant CU Objective: *Increased Capacity in IP Admin Management (Short Term)*

- Aim : To use develop IT systems at national offices, and move towards fully automated and modernized systems for industrial property administration
 - Eventual deployment of the IPAS (Industrial Property Automation System) in all national offices
 - The establishment (and proper staffing) of dedicated national offices where such do not yet currently exist
- WIPO notes Member State's concerns regarding IPAS implementation and modernization activities
 - This has been identified as a top priority in going forward with the Cooperation Project
 - Demand for automation activities will likely increase in light of Member States anticipated accession to the PCT, Madrid Protocol and Hague Agreement.

Performance: *12 activities (22 beneficiaries in total from 8 Caribbean Member States) between June 2010 and November 2012*

Pillar IV: Human and Professional Capacity Building

Relevant CU Objective: *Increased Awareness of IP Importance (Short Term)*
Enriched/Formalized IP Culture (Short Term)
Sustained Capacity to Effectively Manage IP Assets (Medium Term)

- Aim : To develop skill and expertise in all IP related fields and to further outreach and educational activities to increase IP awareness

- Promotion of a regional network of skilled IP professionals
- Capacity must be developed not only within national offices and the public sector, but also within the private sector and civil society

Highlights:

- The Region has had significant success in building capacity through horizontal cooperation
- Notable progress has been made in outreach activities to SMEs and R&D institutions
- Certain Member States exploring the possibility of Start-up IP Academies

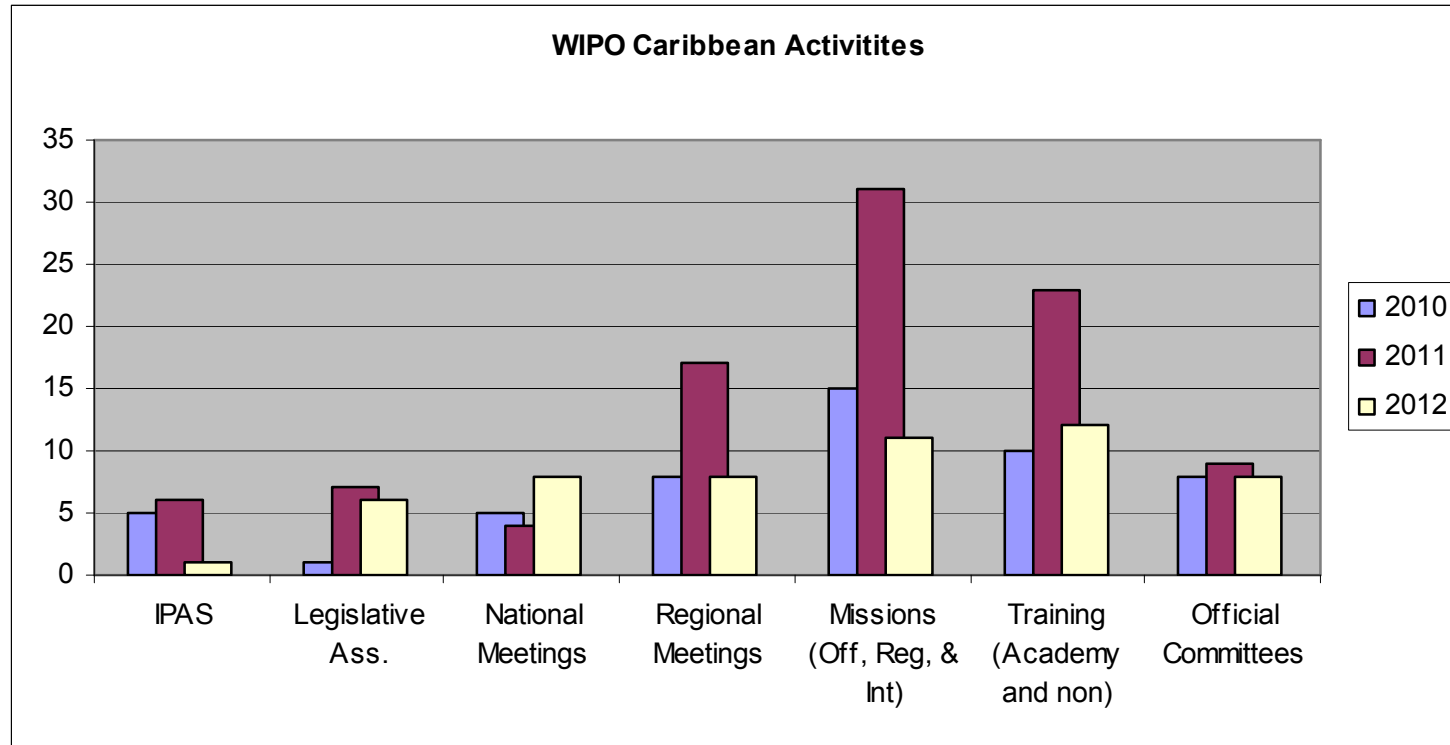
Performance: 32 non-WIPO Academy activities (44 beneficiaries in total from 12 Caribbean Member States)

11 WIPO-Academy activities (14 beneficiaries in total from 6 Caribbean Member States)

between June 2010 and November 2012

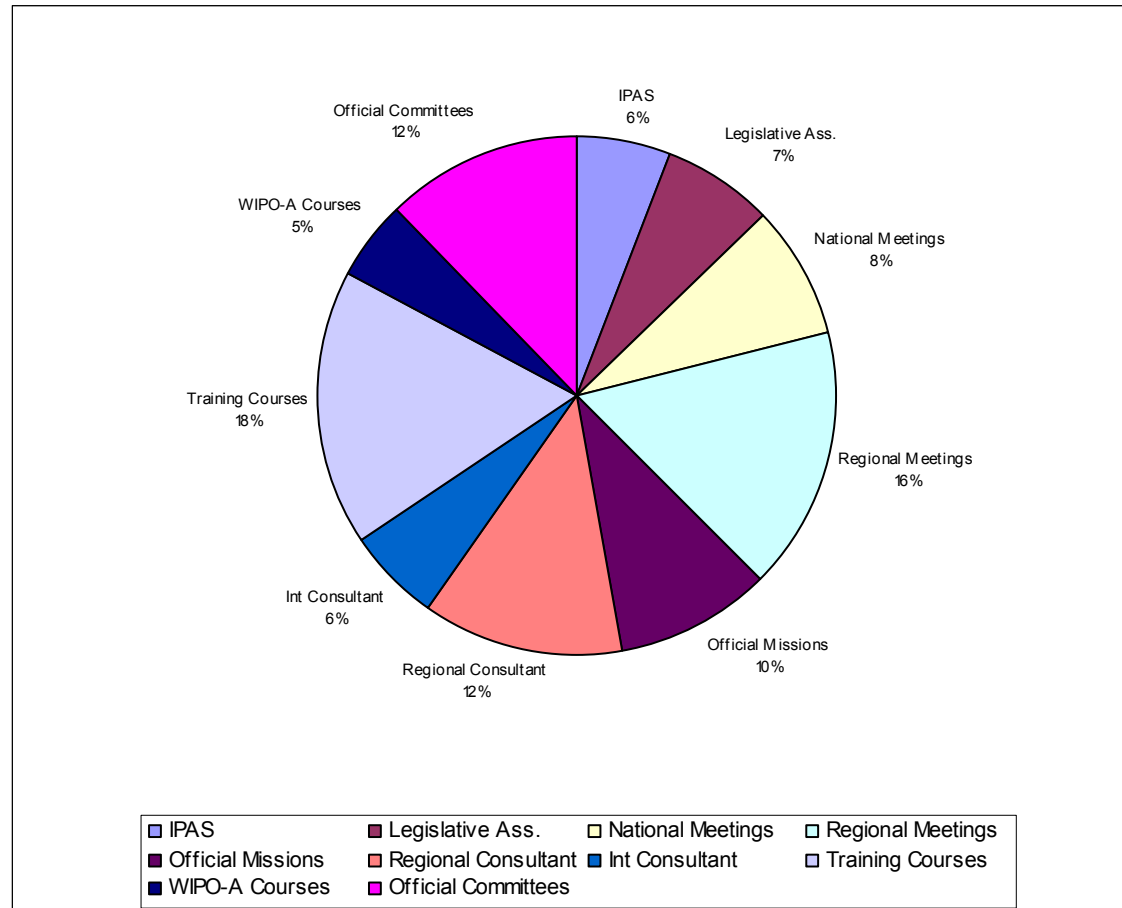
Overview of Regional Activities

June 2010 – November 2012



Overview of Regional Activities (2)

June 2010 – November 2012



Legislative Advice

- Comments on Existing laws
 - Request from Member States
 - WIPO provides comments taking into consideration multilateral environments and commitments

- Providing Consultant to Draft laws
 - Request from Member States
 - WIPO engages consultant to draft model based on regional practices
 - Draft provided to country for consideration
 - Draft reviewed by Member

- Providing Assistance and advice in the Implementation of obligations and national legislation
 - Workshops like this one
 - Internal drafting of Regulations based on existing laws
 - Promotional activities re accession to WIPO Treaties
 - Projects on TK and RPA
 - EPA workshop meeting
 - Other possible activities

[End]

■ Thank you for you attention