

CENTRE FOR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY POLICY (CIPP)

Project Overview

Contents

Introduction

Defining CIPP

Organisational Principles and Structure

Initial Organisational Steps

Five-Year Work Plan

Financing

Appendices

Introduction

The Rockefeller Foundation as part of its concern for promoting a fairer course for IP policy in which the needs of the poor and of developing countries are better taken into account in global policy formulation, has fostered the exploration of an initiative to support the emergence of IP policy leaders in developing countries. The new initiative is called the Centre for Intellectual Property Policy (CIPP). This report presents CIPP's goals and work plan.

The role of IP in facilitating the acquisition and the transfer of technology has long been accepted as a precept of economic policy. The WTO Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS Agreement) recognises in its preamble "the underlying policy objectives of national systems for the protection of intellectual property, including developmental and technological objectives" and the "special needs of the least-developed country Members in respect of maximum flexibility in the domestic implementation of laws and regulations in order to enable them to create a sound and viable technological base". The TRIPS Agreement in Article 7 declares that

The protection and enforcement of intellectual property rights should contribute to the promotion of technological innovation and to the transfer and dissemination of technology, to the mutual advantage of producers and users of technological knowledge and in a manner conducive to social and economic welfare, and to a balance of rights and obligations.

In the Doha Conference in November 2001 developing and least-developed countries expressed concern about the failure of the TRIPS IP regime to realise the promise of technology transfer and the commensurate guarantee of social and economic welfare. The Doha negotiating round will address the requirement in Article 71.1 for a general review of the TRIPS Agreement. As Part of this review developing and least-developed country Members, have called upon the signatories of the WTO to “operationalise” the promises contained in Article 7. Additionally, the TRIPS Council is seized under the built-in review provisions in the TRIPS Agreement to consider the revision of the plant varieties, geographical indications and non-violation provisions of the Agreement.

The TRIPS review processes require the development of an IP policy capacity on the part of developing and least-developed Members of the WTO. The development debate and the question of access to new technologies is a complex and multi-dimensional issue in which IP is usually a vital component. In assisting in the construction of IP policy capacity in developing and least-developed countries the CIPP will commensurately facilitate the construction in those countries of a capacity to engage more effectively in technology transfer and the management of IP.

The TRIPS Agreement contains some flexibility both in the formulation and enforcement of IP norms. For example Article 8.1 provides that

Members may, in formulating or amending their law and regulations, adopt measures necessary to protect public health and nutrition, and to promote the public interest in sectors of vital importance to their socio-economic and technological development, provided that such measures are consistent with this Agreement.

The scope of this provision remains to be charted and it counsels a multi-disciplinary approach. Indeed, in addition to law, the formulation of IP policy has now to accommodate considerations of economics and finance, science and technology, ethics and philosophy, medicine, agriculture and culture. IP policies are currently being formulated by international and inter-governmental organizations as diverse as the WTO, WIPO, FAO, WHO, CBD, UNCTAD, UNEP, UNESCO and WHO. Developing and least-developed countries which have to engage with this process have to construct IP policy capacity in the areas of: public health (patenting, confidential information, compulsory licensing, parallel importation); food security (patenting and plant variety protection); agricultural research (access to proprietary enabling technologies, development of IP assets; genomics and bio-informatics, bio-prospecting and access to genetic resources); agricultural trade (patenting, plant variety protection, geographical indications); general trade (trademark protection, piracy and counterfeiting, border control of IP rights); technology transfer (approval of technology transactions, technology packaging, control of restrictive licences, remuneration); the impact of digital technologies (copyright and computer programs, software patenting, communication technologies, domain names, ecommerce, encryption and technological controls, reprographic technologies, electronic rights management); enforcement of IP rights (civil litigation, judicial adjudication, criminal enforcement, alternative dispute resolution, jurisdictional issues); traditional

knowledge and folklore; establishment and management of IPRs (patent examination and searching, registration of rights, compulsory licensing).

In all countries there is a plethora of government ministries and public institutions that have to deal with public policy issues raised by different parts of IP. However, in developing and least-developed countries, experience in the formulation and implementation of IP policy is scanty. Even in developed countries, as Appendix 6 shows, there are only a few specialist academic centres devoted to the study of IP. The CIPP proposes to assist in the construction of IP policy capacity in developing and least-developed countries so that they can engage more effectively in IP dialogues in the various national, regional and international fora.

The focus of the initiative would be not on fostering knowledge on intellectual property as the end, but on advancing approaches to IP that can serve central public policy ends such as fostering innovation, creativity, development, and the public diffusion of knowledge and ideas.

The primary objective of CIPP is to support the emergence of IP policy leaders in developing and least-developed countries committed to poverty reduction, equity and fairness to engage in the (1) design and implementation of appropriate domestic policies; and (2) process of international IP standard-setting.

Defining CIPP

Vision and Values

CIPP, The Centre for Intellectual Property Policy, plans to become an international focus for the construction of intellectual property policy in developing and least-developed countries. CIPP seeks a world in which the creative application of intellectual property rights assists in poverty alleviation, food security and better health in developing and least-developed countries.

CIPP will work to promote an instrumentalist conception of intellectual property rights that is guided by basic human rights values, developmental justice for developing countries and efficient, ecologically sustainable development.

Mission

In order to achieve its objective CIPP will foster a global, self-sustaining network of developing country experts, policymakers and scholars who engage at the national and international level in IP policy debates with an eye to advancing the public policy interests of developing and least-developed countries, and in particular the interests of the poor, ethical considerations and development in those countries. The project's explicit intent is to help develop an approach to training and leadership development that provides an alternative to existing capacity building efforts. The initiative will judge itself according to its ability to affect policy formation. It will not be focused simply on legal understanding and implementation of existing IP laws, but on evaluating them, formulating laws relevant to national and local circumstances and to advancing a range of public policy objectives.

Goals and Methods

The primary goal of CIPP is to help developing countries strengthen or acquire policy expertise and leadership in intellectual property policy. This goal will be achieved in two basic stages. The first stage involves the construction of a self-sustaining global policy network of IP scholars using existing academic centres and infrastructure in developed and developing countries (see Appendix 6 for a survey of existing centres. Note: it is not proposed to use all these centres or to use them all at once). The second stage of the project will see the network begin a series of training and research initiatives relevant to the fulfilment of its goal. When fully operational the network will be a common resource for developing countries. As explained below, CIPP will also achieve its goals by working through and with other centres of excellence. CIPP will facilitate this networking by forming a global IP policy network of mentors, which will interface with regional and national IP policy networks. A College of Mentors will be established as part of CIPP (COM - See Appendix 5).

CIPP has the following goals:

- (i) To facilitate the establishment of regional and national IP policy networks in the South;
- (ii) Identification of the substantive and policy priorities of different regions and potential participants (Appendix 1).
- (iii) To develop criteria to guide a needs assessment, both of potential trainers and beneficiaries, for each of aspect of capacity building in IP policy (See Appendix 3);
- (iv) To develop criteria for use in identifying beneficiaries and mentors, beneficiaries and partners that have a record of commitment to the public interest and the desired commitment to engaging in IP policy debates from a public interest perspective (See Appendices 2 and 4);
- (v) To become an international medium for the effective exchange of information in the rapidly developing IP policy world; and
- (vi) To provide effective mentoring for IP policy experts in the South.

Distinctive contribution of CIIP

Current capacity building efforts in intellectual property focus on technical training, building of legal and judicial expertise or raising capacity to comply with existing international standards (See Appendix 7). Developing countries tend to be policy takers from developed countries or international organizations. The distinctive contribution of the CIIP initiative is that it is a long term strategic planning initiative designed to increase the policy autonomy of developing countries. No such comparable initiative is currently being undertaken elsewhere (See Appendix 7).

Organisational Principles and Structure

Operating Principles

- (i) Independent, not-for-profit entity with a core group of highest quality professionals;
- (ii) Reliance on internal staff with an extensive collaboration with outside groups and individuals;
- (iii) Transparency of operations;
- (iv) Accountability through external evaluation;
- (v) Financial support primarily through grants from donors desiring to further CIPP's mission;

Organisational Components

- (i) Board of Advisors;
- (ii) Steering Group;
- (iii) Director and Deputy Director
- (iv) College of Mentors;
- (v) Regional IP Policy Networks;
- (vi) National IP Policy Networks;
- (vii) A Headquarters initially hosted at Queen Mary Intellectual Property Research Institute, Queen Mary, University of London, which may be complemented by sites in other countries, especially in the developing world.

Initial Organisational Steps

CIPP will seek start-up financial support from the Rockefeller Foundation

Establish the College of Mentors (COM)

The COM is a crucial element of CIPP's operations. The effectiveness of CIPP will be determined to a large extent, by the success with which it can assemble a team of IP policy experts who are prepared to mentor IP policy academics in the South. Representatives from the COM will convene formally on an annual basis in conjunction with a meeting of CIPP's Board of Advisers and a meeting of representatives from the IP networks established in the South.

Establish the Board of Advisers

A Board of Advisers will be established to guide the activities of CIPP. Board members will represent the following constituencies:

- Developing and least-developed countries
- Academic sector
- NGO community
- International and intergovernmental organizations

- Legal and professional IP community
- Donors
- Private sector

Establish a Steering Committee

Establish a steering committee to provide immediate policy guidance to CIPP.

Establish a Core Staff

Professor Michael Blakeney will be seconded to act as the Foundation Director of CIPP. Professor Peter Drahos will be seconded to act as the Foundation Deputy Director. In consultation with the Board of Advisers, the Director and Deputy Director will appoint:

- Director, Administration
- Director, Conferences and Training
- Director, Information Services
- Director, Library Services and Publications
- Administrative Assistant (2)

Beneficiary Identification and System Development

- Settle criteria for the selection of persons for mentoring within CIPP
- Invite at least ten persons annually for mentoring within CIPP
- Develop and implement a system for responding selectively to individual requests for assistance.

Identification of Mentoring Institutions

- Compile a list of institutions (academic, international, national, NGO and private sector) willing to host mentees
- Develop a curriculum for focussed practical training course for mentees

Funding

- Identify sources of funding (scholarships, travel grants, library endowments)

Five-Year Work Plan

Year 1

The first year consists primarily of recruitment of core staff, forming the Board of Advisors, Steering Committee and College of Mentors.

The target for the first formal meeting of the Board of Advisors is mid-2003. The objective of this meeting will be to reach agreement on CIPP priorities and on the implementation of priority projects.

The formation and convening of the College of Mentors will occur in conjunction with the first Board meeting.

A major activity in year 1 is the formation of regional networks of both existing and up-and-coming IP experts/scholars and the identification of persons to be mentored under the project.

Another activity will be the identification of national and international organizations willing to participate in an IP Policy Internships Program (see Appendix 5).

A website will be created for CIPP, from which an electronic IP policy journal will be operated. The website will be linked with other relevant Internet resources. The electronic journal will publish policy papers authored by CIPP mentors and participants.

Another task will be to initiate, at least three IP policy studies on subjects of contemporary significance.

Work will commence to investigate funding sources.

By the end of Year 1, CIPP will have appointed its core staff and have initiated the establishment of corresponding centres in Africa, the Arab region, Asia, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, North America and Oceania.

Year 2

CIPP will commence the placement of at least 10 participants from developing and least-developed countries with mentoring institutions.

CIPP will begin the IP Policy Internships Program.

CIPP participants will also begin to provide IP policy consulting services for interested persons and institutions.

CIPP would also perform a clearing house function for persons and institutions wishing to commission IP policy research.

CIPP will also perform a clearing house function for the acquisition and placement of library contributions.

By the end of Year 2, CIPP will have:

- (i) Launched on-going training programmes and capacity building programmes in IP policy formulation;
- (ii) Created an IP policy consulting service;
- (iii) Established an annual IP policy colloquium;
- (iv) Prepared at least five IP policy studies;
- (v) Established an on-line IP policy journal; and
- (vi) Recruited a nuclear staff and established a roster of mentors and mentoring institutions.

Years 3-5

During these “maturation” years, CIPP would continue to expand and function along the lines that had been developed in the first two years. As it develops a track-record of success, it will be increasingly called upon to provide training and capacity building programmes and consultancy services.

CIPP will have established regional “mirror sites” and fostered the establishment of national associations of IP teachers and researchers in all developing countries and will have commenced that process in least-developed countries.

CIPP will have identified and acquired sources of funding to secure its self-sustainability.

It is expected that CIPP will establish a location in a Southern host country, or in a network of such countries.

Long-term Perspective

CIPP represents an important new IP policy initiative. At the end of three years CIPP, in consultation with its Board of Advisers will arrange for a thorough external review. This review will consider whether the CIPP initiative should be endorsed, modified or discontinued.

Appendix 1

Policy Priorities

(i) Africa

- a. Access to medicines (compulsory licensing and parallel importation)
- b. Geographical indications and agriculture
- c. Access to genetic resources (consent and benefit-sharing)
- d. Traditional knowledge
- e. Folklore protection
- f. Plant variety protection
- g. Technology transfer

(ii) Arab Region

- a. Access to medicines (compulsory licensing and parallel importation)
- b. Enforcement (counterfeiting and piracy)
- c. Trademarks (well-known marks)
- d. Industrial designs (textiles)
- e. Folklore protection
- f. Copyright (CDs, computer programmes)
- g. Technology transfer

(iii) Asia

- a. Access to genetic resources (consent and benefit-sharing)
- b. Traditional knowledge
- c. Folklore protection
- d. Plant variety protection
- e. Technology transfer
- f. Enforcement (counterfeiting and piracy)
- g. Copyright (CDs, computer programmes)
- h. Industrial designs (textiles)
- i. Geographical indications and agriculture
- j. Access to medicines (compulsory licensing and parallel importation)

(iv) South America and the Caribbean

- a. Access to genetic resources (consent and benefit-sharing)
- b. Traditional knowledge
- c. Folklore protection
- d. Plant variety protection

- e. Technology transfer
- f. Enforcement (counterfeiting and piracy)
- g. Geographical indications and agriculture
- h. Access to medicines (compulsory licensing and parallel importation)

Appendix 2

Criteria for selection of individual beneficiaries of the project.

Discussion: The purpose of the project is to create indigenous public interest policy capacities with respect to intellectual property in developing countries. It follows that preference should be given to individuals from developing countries who are resident in those countries and are likely to remain so, or who are resident in a developed country and can provide evidence of plans to return to their respective countries. Potential participants could come from a wide range of disciplines including law, development economics, ethics, public health, agriculture and the environmental sciences.

In order to maximise the possibility that individuals participating in this project will continue to work in the public or civil society sectors on the public policy issues raised by IP, potential participants must demonstrate significant participation in public policy work (not necessarily IP-related) from a public interest perspective. Evidence of pro bono service will also be a relevant criterion of selection. Individuals who move out of public policy work on IP will not continue to receive training as part of the CIPP network.

The identification of suitable individuals for mentoring and training will take place with assistance and suggestions from international NGOs such as Oxfam, MSF and Action Aid that work on IP-policy-related issues and that have networks in developing countries.

Other relevant criteria

Academic

- (i) *Publications*
 - Publications in IP policy field
 - Publications in IP
 - Publications in contiguous fields
 - Publications
- (ii) *Teaching*
 - IP
 - IP-related
 - Commercial Law
 - General

Policy Practice

(i) Research Consultancies

- IP-related
- International
- Government
- NGO
- Academic
- Industry

(ii) Professional Practice

- Legal
- Public Administration
- Industry

Miscellaneous

1. applicant for IP research studentship/fellowship
2. applicant for IP internship
3. nominee of government/NGO/academic institution
4. invited by project administrators.

Appendix 3

(A) Criteria for Assessment of Needs of Potential IP Trainers

(i) University infrastructure

- Source of funds eg student fees, government grants, private endowments, conference and training course fees
- Library and library budget
- access to IT and technical support
- office space
- administrative staff
- secretarial staff
- teaching and research staff
- research travel

(ii) Course development

- faculty or department, within which IP is taught
- nature of students, eg undergraduate, post-graduate, professional (lawyers, government, IP practitioners, industry, scientists, engineers, administrators, academics)
- discipline area, eg law, economics, development studies, government
- available curricula
- teaching materials
- on-line and distance-learning possibilities

(B) Criteria for Assessment of Needs of Beneficiaries of Training

- infrastructural assistance
- course development assistance
- enhancement of substantive knowledge
- training in pedagogy
- training in administration
- access to academic mentors
- access to teaching support
- access to research resources
- access to publishing of research

Appendix 4

Selection Criteria to identify Potential Institutional Mentors (The COM)

Discussion: The College of Mentors is fundamental to the success of this project. In the first year the project will concentrate on networking existing centres of excellence in IP research. The emphasis will be on linking a small number of centres with established international reputations. These networked centres will form the core of the COM which will be built upon in subsequent years. Appendix 6 provides a survey of existing IP academic centres. Not all of these will be included in the first years of the project and some may only be used in limited ways.

The core of the COM will consist of centres that are staffed by IP academics with outstanding research records in IP law and theory, empirical research or policy analysis. In addition membership of the COM will require -

1. a willingness to collaborate on research of interest to developing countries;
and
2. the capacity to play a major role in the mentoring and training of the beneficiaries of the CIPP project.

The identification of suitable academics and experts who could provide guidance and mentorship at the regional level will be a task undertaken in the first year of the five-year work plan. Included in this survey will be academics and experts who have international reputations, but are not part of an IP centre.

Other criteria

(i) *Infrastructure*

- Library facilities
- Computers
- Administrative staff
- IT technical staff
- Office accommodation
- Conference facilities
- Training budget
- Scholarship budget

(ii) *Capacity*

- expertise in IP policy (law, economics, development studies, philosophy, ethics, biology, environmental law, human rights);
- expertise in IP pedagogy (eg face to face, distance-learning, on-line)
- expertise in IP publishing
- network links
- reception of trainees
- duration of training and mentoring offered.

Appendix 5

IP Policy Internships Program

An IP Policy Internships Program (IPIP) will be established as part of the CIPP's program. The core of IPIP will involve the placement of a developing country mentee in a national or international organisation (including non-government organisations) concerned with some part of IP policy development. The period of the internship would have to be negotiated with the relevant organization, but the aim would be to have the internship run for a period of 5 to 10 weeks.

The internship would expose the intern to a working policy environment and help him or her gain a practical understanding of the IP policy process. Each intern would be asked to research and write a report on an aspect of IP policy of relevance to the organization in which the intern was placed.

Organisations that would be asked to participate in IPIP would include international organisations such as the WTO, the FAO, the WHO and the EPO (see Appendix 7 for a list of organizations that might be approached), national organisations such as the trade ministries of developed countries, major national patent offices and international NGOs that have significant policy involvement in IP and development (Oxfam, MSF, World-Wide Fund for Nature, International Cooperation for Development and Solidarity are examples of leading NGO networks in development).

Appendix 6

Academic Centres providing training in Intellectual Property Rights

Australia

Regulatory Institutions Network (RegNet), Australian National University

RegNet consists of a number of centres based in the Research School of Social Sciences including the Centre for Competition and Consumer Policy (CCCP), Centre for Democratic Institutions and the Foundation for Effective Markets and Governance. The CCCP works on the interface between intellectual property and competition law. RegNet scholars work on a wide range of regulatory issues including globalization and the regulation of intellectual property. RegNet trains PhD students.

Asia Pacific Intellectual Property Law Institute – Murdoch University, W.A.

Website under construction

Intellectual Property Research Institute of Australia (IPRIA), University of Melbourne

A national centre for multi-disciplinary research on the law, economics and management of intellectual property. A joint enterprise of the Faculty of Law, the Faculty of Economics and Commerce, and the Melbourne Business School. Established in 2002 with funding from [IP Australia](#). Providing courses including a [Graduate Diploma in Intellectual Property Law](#) and the [Master of Intellectual Property Law](#), doctoral supervision, as well as courses in aspects of business, economics and commerce which relate to IP issues. Training is provided through the respective institutions involved.

University of Western Australia (Centre for Bioscience and the Law)

A centre for research into the legal regulation of agricultural biotechnology and bioethics. Established in 2002 with funding from the West Australian Ministry of Agriculture. This is an enterprise of the Faculty of Law.

Centre for Intellectual Property Research, Griffith University, Brisbane

The Law Faculty of which CIPR is a part offers undergraduate courses in IP. CIPR itself runs a series of seminars.

Australian Centre for Intellectual Property in Agriculture, Australian National University, Canberra

ACIPA commenced operations in 2000 to undertake research in issues relating to intellectual property law, and apply that knowledge to the scientific community and industry and rural bodies, particularly in the agri-food sector. Offers Graduate Diploma in Law/Master of Laws specialising in Intellectual Property Law and Graduate Diploma/Master of Intellectual Property Law.

Great Britain

IP Unit, University of Cambridge

founded 5 years ago within the framework of the Centre for European Legal Studies (CELS). Established to draw together the teachers, students and visitors to the Law Faculty who have interests in aspects of intellectual property law, practice and theory, together with adjacent subjects - biotechnology law, media and entertainment law, information technology law, etc. Offers conferences, seminars and informal groups on IP plus undergraduate and postgraduate courses in IP.

Oxford Intellectual Property Research Centre, Oxford University

founded in 1990 at [St. Peter's College](#) . Aims to facilitate and conduct advanced research into all aspects of Intellectual Property, particularly the proper role of intellectual property in the light of the new technologies, and the involvement of researchers drawn from the law, economics and management faculties in interdisciplinary research. Runs a seminar and lecture programme, and courses in IP are provided through the law faculty.

Queen Mary Intellectual Property Research Institute, University of London

QMIPRI is located within the Centre for Commercial Law Studies (CCLS) at Queen Mary College. CCLS is the focal point in the UK for teaching and research in commercial law. Courses in IP include the [University of London LLM \(IP Grouping\)](#), [MSc in Management of Intellectual Property](#), [Postgraduate Diplomas in Intellectual Property Law](#) and [Certificate in Intellectual Property Law](#). QMIPRI also organises research colloquia on subjects of topical significance such as the application of intellectual property in industry and commerce and the overlap of intellectual property with neighbouring disciplines. These colloquia bring together experts from industry, government, the legal and intellectual property professions and from academia. QMIPRI is a member of the European Intellectual Property Institutes Network (EIPIN) together with CEIPI and the University of Alicante (see below). QMIPRI is also the IP content provider in the IPR Helpdesk, funded by the European Commission.

Shepherd and Wedderburn Centre for Research into Intellectual Property and Technology, University of Edinburgh

established within the Faculty of Law. Courses offered include LLM in Innovation, Technology and the Law, IT and Law Honours, Intellectual Property Honours Course and LLM in Intellectual Property and Information Technology Law.

Centre for Intellectual Property Policy & Management, Bournemouth University

aims to address three key socio-economic aspects of intellectual property: awareness, strategies and regulation. It is supported by the UK Patent Office and The Leverhulme Trust and hosted by The School of Finance & Law, Bournemouth University. Courses offered include MA/ LLM in Intellectual Property Management and MA/LLM in Media Law and Practice (both offered also as Postgraduate Certificates and Diplomas).

Sheffield Institute of Biotechnological Law and Ethics, University of Sheffield

SIBLE is an inter-faculty institute of the University of Sheffield, created in July 1994, as a response to the legal and ethical problems generated by developments in biotechnology. It aims to provide a supportive environment for an MA in Biotechnological Law and Ethics run by the Faculty of Law, for research degrees and other courses on ethical and legal issues of biotechnology.

France

CEIPI, John Monnet University, Strasbourg

CEIPI's goal since its inception has been to train specialists in industrial property law, mainly engineers from the " Grandes Ecoles " and University science graduates (Masters, post-Masters, doctorates), in the professions linked to this branch of law: industrial property attorneys and industrial property specialists in companies. CEIPI also provides training for specialists in trademark law and industrial design law: this is available to engineers and scientists, as well as to lawyers holding a law master's degree, or diplomas which have been declared the equivalent thereof, who wish to embark upon a career in industrial property.

Germany

Institut für Informations-, Telekommunikations-und Medienrecht (ITM), Westfaelische Wilhems-Universitaet, Muenster

ITM offers postgraduate training in IP aspects of IT. It is also the IT/IP content provider in the EC's IPR Helpdesk.

**Max Planck Institute for Intellectual Property, Competition and Tax Law,
Munich,**

This is a research institute within the Max Planck Society For The Promotion Of Science. It undertakes comparative research in the field of national, European and international intellectual and industrial property law. It has not undertaken teaching or legal training, but is considering the introduction of a post-graduate law course..

Belgium

Centre for Intellectual Property Rights (CIR), Leuven, Belgium

established in 1988 as an initiative of the law faculties of the Catholic University of Leuven and the Catholic University of Brussels. The CIR organizes conferences and seminars as a platform for the discussion of current problems relating to intellectual property rights. It also provides courses for students such as a Master of Laws Program - Specialisation in Intellectual Property Law.

Netherlands

Maastricht University

University of Amsterdam

The Institute for Information Law (IViR) is part of the [Faculty of Law](#) of the [University of Amsterdam](#). The Institute employs over 25 qualified [researchers](#) who actively study and report on a [wide range of subjects](#) in the field of information law.

Centre for Intellectual Property Law, Utrecht,

founded in 1986, CIER forms part of the Private Law Section of Utrecht University's Faculty of Law. Provides graduate courses and seminars in IP in English and Dutch.

Spain

University of Alicante

Since 1994, the main aim of the Master of Intellectual Property & Information Society (Magister Lvcentinvs), organized by the University of Alicante, has been to promote and to accomplish specialized education and research in the field of Intellectual Property. Intended for college graduates from different fields the Magister world, mainly Europe and Latin America.

Italy

Intellectual Property Centre, Politecnico do Milano,

offers a 6-month Master on Intellectual Property for graduates from scientific, juridical and economics faculties and focuses on patents and trademarks (held in Verona).

US

Berkeley Center for Law and Technology, The University of California at Berkeley School of Law

its aim is to foster beneficial and ethical advancement of technology by promoting the understanding and guiding the development of intellectual property and related fields of law and policy as they intersect with business, science and technology. It was founded in 1995 and is affiliated with the [Institute of Management, Innovation and Organization](#). Courses range from introductory to advanced (eg. Trademarks, Biotechnology and Chemical Patent Law, Strategic Patent Licensing).

The Berkman Center for Internet & Society at Harvard Law School

a research program founded to explore cyberspace, share in its study, and help pioneer its development. Courses focus on aspects of regulation of the Internet with titles like “Internet & Society: The Technologies and Politics of Control”, “Law, Internet and Society” and “Business and the Internet”.

Center for Intellectual Property in the Digital Environment, University of Maryland University College

provides resources and information for the higher education community in the areas of intellectual property, copyright, and the emerging digital environment. It provides workshops, online training, electronic and print publications and continuous updates on legislative developments.

National Intellectual Property Law Institute, Washington DC

Not part of a University although its President is an Emeritus Professor at George Washington University. NIPLI carries out intellectual property law research and training covering trademarks, patents, copyright, industrial security and computer law.

Information Society Project, Yale University, New Haven CT

A centre for the study of a new age in which telecommunications and intellectual property are central determinants of the structure of society, the development of human culture and democratic legitimacy. ISP is part of Yale Law School. Offers courses like Free Speech in Cyberspace, Theories of Intellectual Property, Communications Law, the Genome and the Law, and International Cyberlaw and Civil Liberties.

Center for Advanced Research and Study on Intellectual Property, University of Washington School of Law, Seattle WA

an independent research and policy development institute focusing on problems in patents and other property ownership rights in high technology. CASRIP aims to 1. improve discussion and exchange of views between professionals of various countries that have major and mature intellectual property systems (eg. Japan, Europe and the United States); 2. offer opportunities for education and training to legal professionals from less developed countries (LDCs), particularly those in Asia. Provides a training program on intellectual property and technology protection for J.D., LL.M., and Ph.D. students at the UW School of Law (some courses may be particularly suitable for students from the developing world eg Internet in the Developing World, Problems In International Health Systems). There is a summer intensive patent seminar program but this is aimed at participants who deal with 'high technology' issues.

Franklin Pierce Law Centre, Concord, New Hampshire

Undergraduate and postgraduate courses in intellectual property as well as summer intensives.

Fordham Law School, New York

International Intellectual Property Institute, Washington

Michigan State University

Washington University, St Louis

Canada

Centre for Innovation Law and Policy, University of Toronto

supports teaching, research and policy analysis in a broad range of areas in which law and policy intersect with innovative activity including intellectual property. Established in the Faculty of Law. Provides financial support to courses taught in the law faculties of a number of Canadian universities (Toronto, Ottawa, Queen's, Western Ontario, York).

Asia

Singapore

National Intellectual Property Academy

India

Centre for Intellectual Property Rights, Research and Advocacy (CIPRA), The National Law School Of India University (NLSIU), Bangalore

established in 1998, it offers a postgraduate diploma in Patents Law at Nalsar, University Of Law, Hyderabad and various Diploma and Certificate Courses on IPR.

China

Intellectual Property Center, China Academy of Social Sciences

The main task of the Center is to participate in the revision of China's intellectual property laws. In addition it carries out national and international research in IP, runs various scholarly events, collects IP-related information and texts and acts as a resource for legislative and judicial activity related to IP in China.

Other

Intellectual Property Law Foundation, Holland

IPL Foundation founded in 1993, lectures firms, professional organizations and universities on IP.

Centre for the New Europe, Brussels

a non-profit, non-partisan research foundation founded in 1993. Forum for discussing the animating ideas and practical implications of European Union policies. Also has offices and staff in Germany and the United Kingdom. Hosts events for policymakers, parliamentarians and journalists and publishes reports and books by its senior fellows and Europe's leading scholars. IP is one of the issues it deals with.

Institute of Intellectual Property, Tokyo

established in June 1989. Research on issues concerning IP, hosting of international symposiums and seminars and other international collaboration. Does not itself undertake teaching or legal training.

Appendix 7

An overview and critique of similar capacity building efforts in the IP arena to help clarify the distinct niche of this initiative

Intergovernmental Organisations

World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)

WIPO runs both a Professional Training Program and a Policy Development Program.

Professional Training Program

Courses are provided in the law, administration and enforcement of intellectual property rights and the use and dissemination of industrial property documentation and information. Both general and specialized levels are catered for. The target group is wide, being professionals from developing countries and certain countries in transition to a market economy working in various areas of IP. This includes, for instance, senior government officials involved in policy-making, IP teachers, management and staff of IP offices, judges, lawyers, police, customs officials, management and staff of semi-governmental and non-governmental offices involved in administering intellectual property rights, creators of IP (eg scientists, authors, composers, performers) and management and staff of small and medium-sized enterprises. However, each course may have its own qualification requirements narrowing that target group. All applications must be submitted through relevant government channels and governments are requested to propose only those persons who are expected to continue their service in the IP field on completion of their training. In addition there are stringent language requirements. Courses vary in length and are held at various locations, from Helsinki to Algiers to Jerusalem to Panama. WIPO bears travel and subsistence expenses.

Policy Development Program

The aim of this program is to promote a deeper understanding of the role of IP protection in social, economic, cultural and technological development and to further strengthen the capacity of policy advisors and other senior officials to make and implement new IP policy. The program consists of Academy Sessions (General and Special) which are aimed at policy-level government advisors and officials, Intensive Courses (three months) and Long-term Fellowships (up to one year), both of which are for tertiary level IP teachers in developing countries. Special Academy Sessions are held annually in selected developing countries, and focus on information sharing and on that country's use and enforcement of intellectual property rights. General Academy Sessions are much more about imparting information and cover a wider range of topics including the enhancement of competitiveness through protection of intellectual property rights and the use of IP in industry and commerce.

United Nations Conference on Trade And Development (UNCTAD)

UNCTAD's aim is to "maximize the trade, investment and development opportunities of developing countries and assist them in their efforts to integrate into the world economy on an equitable basis". It does not provide training courses specifically in IP alone. However, it provides a variety of courses and capacity-building programs which relate to IP.

For example, the Programme on Dispute Settlement deals with dispute settlement in international trade, investment and IP arenas. Workshops of 2-5 days are held in various regional centres. They focus on WTO, ISCID, UNCITRAL and WIPO rules and are aimed at government officials (one third),

academics and practising lawyers (one third) and representatives of business associations (one third) from developing countries. Two-month internships for graduate students under 30 years of age from developing countries are also offered, although without any financial support included.

UNCTAD's Commercial Diplomacy Programme encompasses two related aspects:

- **Training** for trade negotiators of developing countries and economies in transition, particularly on the WTO on-going negotiations from the development perspective. This includes training courses and seminars on international trade issues for policy-makers, government officials, trainers, businessmen and parliamentarians at national and regional levels. Simulations of trade negotiations for negotiators from these countries may also be undertaken; and
- **Capacity-building support** to research and training institutions of developing countries and economies in transition on international trade issues with the focus on the development perspective (the implications for development strategies in the particular country or region of international trade flows and rules). UNCTAD emphasizes the avoidance of duplication of effort by reliance on existing institutions although it does not discount the possibility that the Program will stimulate the establishment of new institutions.

Materials for use in training on 'The TRIPS Agreement: the Developing Countries' Perspective' are available on the UNCTAD website

UNCTAD has also developed a TRAINFORTRADE programme which aims at strengthening training capacities in developing countries, and as a matter of priority in the least developed countries (LDCs), in the field of international trade and trade-related services. Workshops are organized for the principal categories of trainers: ·

- Persons in charge or managers of human resources and training development (two weeks);
- Course developers (four weeks);
- Instructors (one week);
- Distance learning instructors and managers of distance learning centres (one week).

In addition there is a handbook for participants, a guidebook for instructors, audiovisual aids, exercises, and case studies. This training package is exchanged between network member institutions and adapted to local requirements. Distance learning is also available. Cooperation with other international organizations and institutions, working in the field of international trade (eg. WTO) is a priority. The programme is also considering the possibility of concluding partnerships with national higher education institutions in developed countries.

National and regional seminars and training courses are held in the training institutions that are selected to belong to the TRAINFORTRADE network. They often deal with policy issues in the context of trade – for example, a training seminar was held in Benin in February 2001, entitled "The analysis of the effects of international trade policies with a global model". Other topics include competition law, trade and environment and negotiation of international agreements on investment. Specific IP topics are not in evidence though they may arise in the context of trade policy discussions.

World Trade Organisation

The WTO Institute conducts a number of courses of both a specific and general nature. In the latter category, three 12-week trade policy courses per year are held in Geneva in French, English and Spanish. These are directed specifically at officials from developing countries and consist of lectures, presentations, discussions, a workshop on negotiating techniques, simulation exercises on trade negotiations and dispute settlement and personal research projects by participants. Clearly intellectual property rights and the provisions of TRIPs would arise as issues in this forum, but may not be subject to any comprehensive critical analysis.

More specifically, seminars are organised on a national or regional basis to provide general information on the operation of the WTO and the agreements under its auspices. Three-week introductory courses on the WTO were offered to least-developed countries twice in 2002, one in English, one in French.

More narrowly focused seminars and workshops dealing with one particular area of trade policy (such as the TRIPs Agreement) may also be held in Geneva or the capitals, with a duration of 4-5 days. Seminars and workshops of this type are also part of an integrated WTO/UNCTAD/ITC program for least developed countries (LDCs) which was established in 1996.

For all its courses, only candidacies received through official government channels are considered.

To be initiated in principle at the end of 2002, the Institute will also run a Training of Trainers program to be addressed to trainers in developing countries active in training on WTO-related matters. The Institute is also looking to enhance co-operative links between the WTO and academics in developing countries in order to strengthen the capacity of their academic sectors to teach WTO-related topics at universities and other learning institutions.

The WTO also has a website which contains information on all WTO activities and access to the Document Dissemination Facility featuring all official documents. To facilitate access, the WTO provides computer equipment, an internet connection and training for the operation of a WTO Reference Centre within the trade ministry of resource-constrained WTO Members.

World Bank

The World Bank Institute runs a course consisting of three modules which is designed to strengthen the capacity of government officials, the private sector and academic institutions to formulate, analyse and implement sound trade and investment policies and participate in the further development of the multilateral trading system. However the course is mainly targeted at academics who are expected to then go on to teach the materials in their home countries. IPR is one of the issues dealt with in the first module (“key second-generation policy issues that arise in the regulation of trade and investment”) over a period of 3 hours, with optimal intellectual property rights regimes for developing countries being one of the aspects discussed.

The Institute also runs a 'Knowledge for Development' (K4D) Learning program involving four main components, one of which is a course/policy forum designed for policymakers, senior government officials, private sector executives, civil society leaders, academics and media representatives involved in development and implementation of strategies for creation, use and dissemination of knowledge in their country. These courses tend to be focussed regionally. The 'knowledge for development' topic would seem to clearly cover IP – however a policy forum held in March 2001 for Brazil, China and India did not, on its face (see brochure, program on the website) directly address IP issues. Rather it dealt predominantly with issues like IT, the Internet, education and employment.

In its Catalogue of Learning Programs the World Bank lists Globalisation, WTO and the New Trade Agenda as a title. This series of courses and seminars are concerned with communicating how to take advantage of the opportunities provided by global integration, while coping with its potentially adverse effects. The first set of issues is linked to the challenges and opportunities confronting policymakers in the field of trade and foreign investment. The second arises from considerations of asymmetric voice and power in rules-setting for international transactions, whether they relate to trade, investment, finance, environment, health or other considerations. Clearly again there is potential for touching upon IP issues in this context.

World Health Organisation

WHO sponsors and participates in interregional, regional and national awareness meetings on the issue of medicines and trade. It occasionally organizes joint seminars and workshops on aspects of this issue with the WTO. In August 2001 it held, under the auspices of its Department of Essential Drugs and Medicines Policy, the first of what is intended to be a series of workshops aiming to provide information to Member States on TRIPs and implementation of TRIPs safeguards. The workshop was held in Harare for participants from the African Region.

Food and Agriculture Organisation

FAO aims to alleviate poverty and hunger by promoting sustainable agricultural development, improved nutrition and food security. It is therefore particularly interested in biotechnology issues and in the IP area looks at plant varieties, animal breeds, conservation of genetic resources, germplasm maintenance etc. It runs a specific programme for TRIPs and agricultural issues that includes technical and legal assistance to developing countries. The technical co-operation part of the programme does include short-term and practically-oriented training activities but there does not appear to be a policy-focussed equivalent.

United Nations Environmental Program

UNEP works to encourage sustainable development through sound environmental practices. Together with UNCTAD it launched in March 2000 the Capacity Building Task Force on Trade, Environment and Development (CBTF). It is designed as a framework to implement a coordinated set of

participatory activities to respond to capacity-building needs. Its activities include thematic research, country projects, training, policy dialogue and networking. The first training workshops to be delivered within this framework were held in Hanoi and Havana in December 2001. Each workshop covered six of the eight training modules developed to date by UNCTAD in the context of its TRAINFORTRADE programme. These included 'trade and environment in the multilateral trading system' and 'harnessing traditional knowledge for trade and development'. A workshop in Singapore in May 2002 dealt with 'Specific Trade Measures in Multilateral Environmental Agreements and WTO Rules'. Clearly, IP issues within the environment/trade arena would be canvassed at these workshops although it is likely that they are not dealt with in any depth.

South Centre

The South Centre is an intergovernmental organisation of developing countries. It undertakes policy-oriented analytical work on issues of interest to those countries and publishes and disseminates the results of its work. To fulfil its mandate it is open to using the resources of member governments, non-government organisations, research bodies and academic institutions. TRIPs is one of the five regular work programmes of the South Centre. Countries meet regularly at the Centre to discuss how best to address issues within that area. Its latest Bulletin No 43 deals exclusively with the UK Commission on Intellectual Property Rights (CIPR) Report of May 2001 concerning intellectual property rights and development policy. The South Centre has also entered into a joint IP Project with the Centre for International Environmental Law (CIEL), which involves the production of research and reaction papers and the organisation of capacity-building meetings to help developing countries with TRIPs negotiations.

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO)

UNESCO is interested in aspects of IP to do with culture and traditional knowledge. While it participates in a consultation process initiated jointly with WIPO, which includes the organisation of seminars and expert meetings, it does not appear to offer training or mentoring services in this area.

UNESCO's programme on life science and biotechnology also has obvious IP implications. The programme aims at promoting international scientific co-operation in these fields, and bridging the scientific and technological differences existing between developed and developing countries. It also provides the least developed countries with the tools for enhancing the quality of scientific research. No specific IP policy training is, however, offered.

Union for the Protection of Plant Varieties (UPOV)

UPOV administers two international agreements for the protection of plant varieties. The secretariat provides legal, administrative and technical assistance to member states on this issue, including seminars on plant variety protection, but seems to offer no formal training in policy formulation or negotiating skills.

Conference of the Parties on the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)

The COP of the CBD deals with IP related issues like protection of indigenous knowledge relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity as

well as access to genetic resources and benefit sharing. The COP holds various meetings throughout the year including expert workshops related to the above topics, but does not appear to engage in specific training courses for developing countries.

United Nations High Commissioner on Human Rights (UNHCHR)

The UNHCHR has analysed the impact of the TRIPS Agreement on the enjoyment of human rights, particularly the right to health. Under the UNHCHR's auspices, the Committee of Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (a body of independent experts) has also done some work on this issue. No specific IP training is offered.

United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO)

UNIDO is a specialised agency of the UN. It aims to help developing countries and those whose economies are in transition to accelerate their industrial development in a sustainable manner. As a technical co-operation agency, UNIDO designs and implements programmes to support the industrial development efforts of its clients. Whilst UNIDO's work has obvious overlaps with IP issues, it does not have a specific programme on IP and industrial development and offers no training courses in the area. It does have a programme on investment and technology transfer that provides practical capacity-building services (eg by negotiating on behalf of local businesses for improved terms for technology transfer).

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

UNDP is the UN agency responsible for promoting development. Its 2001 Human Development Report looked at how new technologies are affecting developing countries and poor people and in particular at the role played by intellectual property rights. While UNDP deals with many issues which link back to intellectual property rights, such as HIV/AIDS, it does not appear to run specific training programmes on these issues.

Commonwealth Secretariat

A voluntary association of 54 developed and developing countries, the Commonwealth Secretariat provides a range of trade-related capacity-building services for developing country members, including training and expert workshops in various capitals and for representatives in London. The Commonwealth Fund for Technical Co-operation (CFTC) builds the capacity of member governments to manage their own development needs, by organising programmes in such strategic areas as financial management, micro-credit and enterprise development, election management, environment and information technology. IP is not specifically mentioned but clearly there is room here for these issues to be dealt with, at least in passing.

International Telecommunications Union (ITU)

The ITU runs a programme on e-commerce and developing countries that provides advice on legal and regulatory requirements for e-commerce activities including certain aspects of intellectual property rights. The Strategy and Policy Unit organises strategic planning workshops and symposia on a wide range of topics (eg competition policy and telecommunications) and World Telecommunication Policy Forums on specific subjects held every two or three years. No IP-focussed training is offered.

Nation based Organisations

Agency for International Trade Information and Co-operation

AITIC's aim is to assist the less-advantaged countries (LACs) to benefit from the multilateral trading system and to participate more actively in the work of the WTO and other international trade-related organisations. It was established by the Swiss Government but is currently looking at becoming an intergovernmental organisation. It provides advisory services to individual countries and is used as a neutral forum for meetings by LACs to discuss issues, but does not provide formal mentoring or training services.

Commission on Intellectual Property Rights, UK

The UK Government set up CIPR to examine how global rules and practices on IP might better serve the interests of developing nations and their peoples. In September 2002 it issued a Report entitled “Integrating Intellectual Property Rights and Development Policy” which is available on the CIPR website. The Commission disbanded on completion of its report.

Non-Governmental Organisations

The following NGOs have undertaken initiatives which have the effect of building capacity in developing countries to deal with the IP issues that confront those countries:

Quaker United Nations Office

QUNO Geneva initiated a Trade and Intellectual Property work programme to support developing country negotiating capacity to avoid requiring full patent coverage in WTO rules. QUNO has also conducted a two-day seminar to facilitate dialogue between developing and industrialised country negotiators to find an agreement that would accommodate developing country needs to achieve access to genetic resources and to benefit equitably from their commercial use.

International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development

An independent non-profit and non-governmental organisation, ICTSD convenes workshops and other events in many parts of the world to bring together governments, NGOs and academics to discuss issues relating to sustainable development. Particular areas of interest include trade and environment, and TRIPs and the Biodiversity Convention. ICTSD makes a particular effort to include WTO non-resident countries in these events. Jointly with UNCTAD it is undertaking a Capacity Building Project on IPRs and Development, the first products of which are an Inventory of Relevant International Negotiations, Activities and Processes on Intellectual Property (David Vivas Eugui, July 2002) and a Draft Policy Discussion Paper on Intellectual Property Rights and Development.

Together with the Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD), the Bangladesh Environmental Lawyers Association (BELA), and the Quaker United Nations Office in Geneva, ICTSD held a Regional Multi-stakeholder Dialogue on Trade, Intellectual Property and Biological Resources in Bangladesh in April 2002. One of the main objectives of this meeting was to promote a strong analytical capacity with respect to the TRIPs Agreement in general, and legal and scientific aspects of Article 27.3(b) in particular, as well as its relation with CBD, UPOV and IU.

Third World Network

TWN is an independent non-profit international network of organizations and individuals involved in issues relating to development, the Third World and North-South issues. It undertakes research, publishes books and magazines, organizes and participates in seminars and provides a platform representing broadly Southern interests and perspectives at international fora. Its website contains reports and information about TRIPs and other aspects of WTO negotiations.

International Cooperation for Development and Solidarity (CIDSE)

CIDSE consists of 14 Catholic development organisations. CIDSE's Task Group on EU, Trade and Food Security focuses in particular on the question of patenting of life forms under TRIPs and on the Agreement on Agriculture. In February 2000 CIDSE published a position paper entitled 'Biopatenting and the Threat to Food Security: A Christian and Development Perspective' which outlined CIDSE's ethical, developmental and gender concerns with patenting of life forms, and listed a series of policy recommendations for European and international decision-makers. It also developed an Advocacy Manual for use by CIDSE member organisations and their partners in developing advocacy activities around this issue. Finally, in May 2001, CIDSE also produced a briefing on TRIPs. These documents are available on the CIDSE website.

Genetic Resources Action International

GRAIN is an international non-governmental organisation which promotes the sustainable management and use of agricultural biodiversity based on people's control over genetic resources and local knowledge. GRAIN actively monitors, researches and lobbies against pressures that undermine the rights of farmers and other local communities to use, and benefit, from biodiversity. GRAIN has an array of educational material and links to other sites dealing with agricultural and bio-diversity issues on its website.

Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy

IATP is a non-profit research and education organization that aims to create environmentally and economically sustainable communities and regions through sound agriculture and trade policy. The Institute assists public interest organizations in effectively influencing both domestic and international policymaking. Its website is full of useful material about agriculture, health and conservation issues and their IP aspects.

Centre for the Application of Molecular Biology to International Agriculture

CAMBIA is an autonomous, not-for-profit international research organization. It envisions a situation in which “researchers and farmers are empowered with dramatic new technologies to become innovators in developing their own solutions to the challenges they face - solutions for which they feel ownership”. A key aim of CAMBIA IP is to greatly strengthen the in-house capabilities of national programs, small breeding companies and international institutions in order to allow the clients to then incorporate IP-based strategies and knowledge in the development and deployment of their research activities, to foster fair and equitable license arrangements, and to increase the likelihood of achieving a successful commercialisation of research results. The most important resource in this respect is the patent databases CAMBIA makes available online.

OXFAM

Oxfam GB is a development, relief, and campaigning organisation dedicated to finding lasting solutions to poverty and suffering around the world. Through its Cut the Cost campaign, Oxfam has been looking at how countries without production capacity of their own can obtain cheap generic drugs, rather than the high priced branded alternatives produced by the multinational pharmaceutical companies. Oxfam is calling for the WTO to reform TRIPs so that Third World governments have the unambiguous right to obtain the cheapest possible life-saving medicines, without facing the threats of legal challenges or trade sanctions. Oxfam is calling on the pharmaceutical industry to support the reforms. It disseminates information through publications and its website.

Médecins Sans Frontières

MSF is an international humanitarian aid organisation that provides emergency medical assistance to populations in danger in more than 80 countries. MSF also disseminates information through publications, exhibitions, press releases and its website. Like Oxfam, through its Access to Essential Medicines campaign, MSF is pushing to lower the prices of existing medicines, to bring abandoned drugs back into production, to stimulate research and development for diseases that primarily affect the poor, and to overcome other barriers to access.

Others

Apart from those listed above, many other NGOs have an interest in various aspects of intellectual property rights and their implications including, for instance, the Consumer Project on Technology (CPT), Centre for International Environmental Law (CIEL), Science and Technology Program of Harvard University (STPHU), Health Action International, HealthGAP Coalition, Treatment Action Campaign (South Africa), Consumers International,

The Council for Responsible Genetics, environmental organisations like WWF (see its Statement of Principles concerning Indigenous Peoples and Conservation) and development oriented organisations like CARE, World Vision, Save the Children, Association of Protestant Development Agencies in Europe (APRODEV), Red Cross and Plan International. Often useful IP-related material and links are to be found on these organisations' websites.

Many NGOs work together to achieve particular goals. This is the case in relation to the Access to Medicines Campaign, for example, which has involved the Consumer Project on Technology, Essential Action, Médecins Sans Frontières, Oxfam International, Health GAP Coalition, the Third World Network and other organisations in joint projects. Conferences and workshops are often sponsored by more than one NGO: for instance, in November 1999, Health Action International (HAI), Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) and Consumer Project on Technology (CPT) held a meeting entitled "Increasing Access to Essential Drugs in a Globalized Economy - Working towards solutions".

In general

Many of the intergovernmental/national organisations referred to above run training courses, and/or provide materials that can be used for training, specifically targeted at improving the capacity of developing countries to manage their own affairs in a way that is beneficial to their own interests. Many courses are of a general nature (for instance, concerning trade policy or health issues) where IP issues are obviously relevant but may or may not be discussed depending on the course content and/or management. Sometimes IP specific training is provided in the context of a particular issue, for instance, in agriculture (FAO), access to essential medicines (WHO), investment (World Bank) and trade and development (WTO and UNCTAD). These courses are often short-term and many are aimed at officials already working in the field, often diplomats in Geneva and other major world centres. Sometimes they are inaccessible to others in developing countries (for instance, lower level government officials, academics, people affected by particular IP issues) due, not to ineligibility, but to the costs involved (fees, travel etc.).

WIPO's courses are obviously the most IP focussed. Some of the above comments also apply to many of them. The Policy Development Programme is perhaps the most closely allied to what is proposed in our initiative. However, two comments can be made. First, this Programme does not appear to include any mentoring component. Second, the independence of any advice offered or critical analysis made of current global policy directions is likely to be questionable, given the size, membership and functions of WIPO itself.

The emphasis of most of the NGOs referred to above is either on practical assistance to developing countries in dealing with emergencies or ongoing problems, or on research and dissemination of information. Often they will campaign for changes to rules or structures that underpin the problems with which these countries grapple. It would be fair to say, however, that none of these organisations has, on its own, the resources or time to undertake a capacity-building project involving longer-term training and mentoring of developing country citizens in IP policy creation and analysis, such as is proposed here.