Provision of Green Data and Analysis by the IP Office

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for Sustainable Technology

IP Offices can support green innovators by providing them with data and studies to inform their R&D and commercialization strategies. IP Offices may publish patent landscapes, research reports, analyses regarding trends, and data sets. The information generated may be used by entrepreneurs, just as it can be used by the IP Offices themselves for instance to identify leading actors in different fields of technology. Identification of leading innovators in each field can support the execution of targeted green projects in priority sectors.

In addition, IP Offices can work with their peers in other countries on joint reports relating to regional or international trends in sectors of particular interest to the region. The information in the reports can inform national and regional policy initiatives in areas such as agriculture, waste management, and mining.

Some IP Offices are working with WIPO to conduct national and regional surveys. Such surveys enable them to, first, identify priority areas where green innovation and investments could best advance the countries' overall sustainability goals. Second, the surveys can be used to identify key users and providers of technology solutions in the priority technology areas. This exercise supports matchmaking and related programs.

Landscape reports and other analysis with a green focus can be produced by IP Offices for specific stakeholders, such as public research institutes. These can be published upon request or they can be generated by the IP Offices as part of their own research, communication, or awareness-raising activities.

Further, some IP Offices produce reports on green innovation topics to inform the public and feed into relevant public policy discussions. Others do so as a form of support for SMEs, innovators, and other stakeholders working in specific areas of green technology. For example, one IP Office publishes patent landscape reports each year, with a different technology focus related to sustainability, in order to inform public sector researchers about white space. Past topics have included smart agriculture, recycling of plastics, and environmental technologies. Another IP Office also produces landscapes and other reports presenting trends in green technology innovation.

Finally, IP Offices are deploying national surveys of innovators to get a sense of what they know about IPRs and how effectively they use these tools. Surveys, even if technology-agnostic, can provide important information about green entrepreneurs in cases where the sector is well represented among the respondents.

Intended impact
These programs aim to provide information, data, and analysis that can be used by innovators, researchers, and policymakers to better target their efforts in relation to green technology innovation. The programs leverage the data and analytic tools held by IP Offices.

Beneficiaries
The beneficiaries differ depending on the project and may range from the public to SMEs, from public sector researchers to partner IP Offices.

Considerations for implementation
- This type of initiative leverages existing tools already available to and used by IP Offices; it requires additional human resources to develop, edit, and disseminate the analysis.
- IP Offices wishing to enact this program should establish channels for communicating analysis and data with those who can benefit from it. They should also find ways to ensure the products (data, analysis) match the interests and needs of stakeholders.