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Overview

AIIPITT is a pan-Africa not for profit organization founded in March 2022 with its head-quarters in Kigali-Rwanda.

AIIPITT was created just to bring solutions that reflect on the challenges that African nations are facing in innovation sector including (1) intellectual property education and awareness among creators, researchers and academics (2) research/IP protection and (3) commercialization of public funded technology projects especially in Universities and R&D centers.

Generally, African countries are performing very well in economic growth in different global rankings where countries like Kenya, Rwanda and Ghana keep coming among the best performers but also the startups and SMEs on this continent need to be facilitated to benefit from their innovative works. The most crucial factor is that these startups mostly are established and run by young entrepreneurs which is positive since youth unemployment is a major concern for all African countries.

It is the same way, Universities and R&D centers also need direct technical support that would help them in areas of intellectual property awareness amongst researchers, intellectual property documentation, patent drafting and filling, technology valuation and commercialization of innovations.

AIIPITT Mission and Vision

Mission

Enabling Africa's Innovation Sector through Empowering Intellectual Property, Technology Transfer and Knowledge Commercialization.



Vision

Becoming an African pivot of creators, enablers, protectors.



What we do

We selected four main activities that reflect on the challenges African innovation sector faces for daily basis and those are the following ones:

Intellectual property and technology transfer education and awareness.

Gender diversity and inclusion.

Providing technical support to the Universities, R&D centers and young entrepreneurs in the areas of patent, copyright, etc.

Linking academia and R&D centers with industry sector.

Intellectual property and technology transfer education and awareness:

We designed a 2 days introductory course with a module that help an innovator to examine his/her innovation idea early before starting fixing it. In fact, under this module we cover the following topics:

I. Intellectual Property (IP) Basics:

- 1.1 What is intellectual property?
- 1.2 What is Intellectual Property Protection?
- 1.3 What is prior art?
- 1.4 IP ownership
- 1.5 What is Innovation commercialisation?
- 1.6 Why is innovation commercialisation important?

II. Types of Intellectual Property Protection:

- 2.1 Summary of types of IP protection
- 2.2 Secrets and disclosures
- 2.3 Patents
- 2.4 Trade marks
- 2.5 What is a registered design?
- 2.6 Plant breeders' rights
- 2.7 Copyright
- 2.8 Circuit layouts

III. Innovation Commercialisation:

- 3.1 Who participates in commercialising Universities' IP?
- 3.2 The early commercialisation process
- 3.3 Commercialisation pathways and vehicles
- 3.4 Commercialisation funding for companies
- 3.5 Where to find help with IP management and early commercialisation

Gender diversity and inclusion:

We strive to see both genders considered in the field of creativity and innovation. In particular, we work hard to encourage and support women to be represented with high number in the journey of innovation and creativity.

In short we do the following activities:

- (1) Organising meetings and other events targeting women and girls in science faculties to encourage them to become inventors.
- (2) Availing special support in terms of patent drafting and filling
- (3) Partnering with other organizations that support the philosophy of women in STEM.

Providing technical support to the Universities, R&D centers and young entrepreneurs in the areas of patent, copyright, etc

We provide the technical support to the Universities, R&D Centers, incubation centers and young entrepreneurs. The support covers patent drafting and filing, copyright, IP documentation and filings, technology valuation, and facilitation in commercialization of innovations. In particular, our technical support starts from:

- (1) Teaching the designed introductory IP course
- (2) One on one consultation during ideation and research analysis -

- (3) Patent searching in patent data bases
- (4) Patent drafting while innovator is working on prototype
- (5) Patent filing
- (6) Branding or trademarking of the innovation.

Linking academia and R&D centers with industry sector:

Establishing a linkage between academia and industry is very important because, it facilitate the innovations from Universities and R&D centers to be multiplied and sent to the market. We advise and or act on behalf of the University during identifying prominent innovation stakeholders and guide them through commercialization or licensing process. In fact, We do:

- (1) Intellectual Property Valuation and Audit
- (2) Drafting NDAs and Licensing Agreements
- (3) Intellectual Property Documentation
- (4) Intellectual Property Negotiations and Dealings.

Why is so important to work with us

- (1) AIIPITT is a not for profit oriented organization.
- (2) No waste of resources on the funder's side for the research projects which lack legal validity **i.e.** novelty, inventive steps, usability and money value.
- (3) We act as one stop center for all the innovation projects funded by your program. Thus, we help the harmonization of Intellectual Property documentation (data) which may serve as program's proof of concept.
- (4) We accelerate technology transfer practices and university cooperation among Universities and R&D centers just through acquiring innovation licenses.