

Swiss-Lao Intellectual Property Project (LIPP)



Donor agency

Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO)

Implementing agencies

Swiss Federal Institute of Intellectual Property (IPI); Department of Intellectual Property (DIP) under the Ministry of Science and Technology of Laos

Main project partners

Department of Intellectual Property (DIP) under the Ministry of Science and Technology of Laos; National Office of Intellectual Property (NOIP) of Vietnam

Project duration

Three years (1 January 2011 – 31 December 2013)

Project development goals

- Contributing to the strengthening of Lao's intellectual property rights (IPRs) system towards compliance with the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS Agreement) in order to facilitate the country's accession to the World Trade Organization (WTO), while considering realistic transition periods the country will benefit from as an LDC.
- Capitalising on expertise that has been built under the Swiss-Vietnamese IPR cooperation project since 2001.
- Enhancing South-to-South cooperation and creating synergies with the cooperation project between Vietnam and Lao PDR.

Project specific objectives

- Assisting in modernising Lao's IPR system.
- Capitalising on the expertise that was built under the Swiss-Vietnamese IP cooperation since 2000.
- Enhancing cooperation between regional partners and creating synergies with the cooperation project between Vietnam and Lao PDR.

The main outcomes:

- The LIPP contributed significantly to the completion of the legal framework in the field of IPR in key areas required by the TRIPS Agreement.
- Key staff members of DIP familiarised themselves with the operation of an IP office specific to their respective functions.
- Awareness of 150 officials outside the core IP administration was raised.
- IP aspects were integrated into business development services.
- Current IP courses at universities were improved and adapted to the specific local context. Awareness on the importance of IPR issues was increased beyond the legal faculties.

Contact

For further information, please contact:

Martin Girsberger
Head of Sustainable Development & International Cooperation
Legal & International Affairs Division
Phone: +41 31 377 72 11
Email: martin.girsberger@ipi.ch