

Technical Assistance in the Field of Intellectual Property Rights



Donor agency

Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO)

Implementing agency

Swiss Federal Institute of Intellectual Property (IPI)

Main project partners

Serbian Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development (MESTD), Serbian Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management (MAFWM), Serbian agricultural producers and relevant Serbian stakeholders

Project duration

3 years (September 2009 – December 2012)

Project development goals:

The project covered two main fields of intellectual property protection. First, it assisted the Serbian Government in establishing an efficient system for the protection of geographical indications (GIs) to contribute to the economic success of genuine Serbian products. Second, it supported Serbia in the improvement of its compliance with the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) in order to accede to the World Trade Organization (WTO).

Project specific objectives

Objectives regarding GI protection:

- Contribute to the establishment of an effective and efficient legal and institutional framework for GI protection;
- Enable producers to register their GIs;
- GI producers achieve a higher marketing capacity and are able to better enforce their intellectual property rights (IPRs) at the national and international level; and
- Establishment of a certification body for GI certification and control.

Objectives regarding Serbia's accession to and compliance with the TRIPS Agreement:

- Development of a consistent IP policy through legislative and administrative diagnostic analysis;
- Support the legislative and regulatory modernization of IPRs, provide expert advice on TRIPS compliance, and support intra-governmental cooperation for WTO/TRIPS compliance and participation;
- Strengthen Serbia's understanding and negotiation capacity in the area of international IP protection; and
- Raise the general public's awareness on the effects of TRIPS accession.

The main outcomes:

- Capacity building workshops on GIs were held in Belgrade and four Serbian representatives participated in InterGI training in Switzerland;
- Formulation of guidelines for the Serbian Intellectual Property Office and MAFWN regarding the new GI law;
- Training of the Serbian Accreditation Body's (ATS) assessors;
- Support developing a GI marketing strategy for selected producers and a brochure on GI protection in Serbia;
- Diagnostic study regarding the compliance of the Serbian IPR legislation with the TRIPS Agreement was undertaken; and
- Training for Serbian government representatives on the TRIPS/WTO system.

Contact

For further information, please contact:

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