Tajik-Swiss Intellectual Property (TSIP) Project

**Donor agency**
Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO)

**Implementing agency**
Swiss Federal Institute of Intellectual Property (IPI)

**Main project partners**
Ministry of Economic Development and Trade (MoEDT), National Center for Patents and Information (NCPI), Copyright and Related Rights Agency under the Ministry of Culture

**Project duration**
Two years (1 September 2013 – 31 December 2015)

**Project development goals**
- Strengthening intellectual property rights (IPRs) protection in Tajikistan in order to contribute to higher competitiveness, more value added to Tajik products, and a positive impact on Tajikistan's socioeconomic development.
- Adjusting to the international commitments on IP protection after the country's accession to the World Trade Organization (WTO) in 2013.

**Project specific objectives**
- Strengthening the ability of the Government of Tajikistan in policy-making and setting corresponding action plans for IP development.
- Strengthening the ability of the Government of Tajikistan to protect and enforce IPRs.
- Increasing the demand of key IP users to protect and capitalise on their IPRs.

**Main outcomes:**
- Forty Tajik government officials were trained in specialised IP topics in Tajikistan and abroad. One study tour on Public Education and Awareness on IP allowed representatives of the NCPI, the Ministry of Education, Academia, SMEs, and the Chamber of Commerce to familiarise themselves with strategies and best practices used in Switzerland and internationally. This contributed to enabling Tajikistan to better represent its interests in the context of the country's accession to the WTO in 2013.
- Fifty customs officials were trained on IP border issues and the prevention of piracy and counterfeiting. Training was conducted by a Swiss customs expert in Qurghonteppa and Dushanbe in coordination with the Tajik Customs Service. Some participants received an internal promotion due to this training.
- Sixty-five representatives from the private sector were introduced to the basics of IPRs such as trade marks, patents and designs to increase protection of their products and services. Training was conducted by an international expert in Khujand and Dushanbe with the collaboration of the Tajik Chamber of Commerce.
- One-hundred-and-fifty representatives from the music, theatre, audio-visual, publishing and software industries were trained in copyright and related rights. Training was conducted by the Tajik Copyright Agency in the cities of Qurghonteppa, Khorog and Khujand.
- The National Intellectual Property Strategy of Tajikistan was reviewed and commented on, various IP materials published in Tajik, and a public education event on IP organised by NCPI was supported.

**Contact**
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