

Criteria for Projects under the Innovation, Creativity and Development Acceleration Program (ICDAP)

1. Introduction

The Assemblies of WIPO at its 66th session adopted the Innovation, Creativity and Development Acceleration Program as part of the WIPO Program of Work and Budget for the biennium 2026/27.

The Secretariat was requested, in line with the regular WIPO practices regarding the projects funded by the “**Innovation, Creativity and Development Acceleration Program**”, to:

- i. **Develop criteria for projects** ensuring clear linkages to WIPO’s expected results, focusing on piloting new and innovative ideas and not overlapping with other ongoing projects and initiatives across the Organization;
- ii. **Provide regular updates to Member States on the WIPO website**, including on the status of all projects, activities to be completed under each project, updates on project implementation, and project outcomes;
- iii. **Provide comprehensive reporting** on projects in each WIPO Performance Report.

The key focus of the new Program will be to empower stakeholders to use intellectual property (IP) as a catalyst for social and economic transformation, and drive IP-led innovation, creativity, and development to the next level.

The Program will provide a space to pilot new project ideas and methodologies, with careful consideration to deepening impact and ensuring long-term sustainability and scalability of projects.

This document submits preliminary proposals to implement the Assemblies decision and to operationalize the Program.

2. Proposed criteria for Projects under the Innovation, Creativity and Development Acceleration Program (ICDAP)

Criteria 1: Project requirements

All proposals must be for comprehensive projects, not standalone activities. Each project proposal should include the following elements:

- **Concrete Objectives and Outcomes:** Clearly linked to WIPO’s Expected Results.
- **Beneficiary Identification:** A specified group of beneficiaries/stakeholders.
- **Partner Institution:** A designated partner institution or national focal point.
- **Delivery Methodology:** A detailed implementation strategy with defined milestones and outputs.
- **Measurable KPIs:** Clear and concrete outcome level Key Performance Indicators.
- **Timeline:** A clear schedule for achieving results.
- **Resource Identification:** A detailed listing of personnel and non-personnel resources required for project implementation.

- **Risk Assessment:** Identification of risks for achieving the project outcomes and related mitigation actions.

Note: **Standalone activities such as meetings, trainings, seminars, webinars, or workshops are not eligible unless they are part of a broader project-based proposal.**

Criteria 2: Portfolio diversity

The Program will maintain a diverse portfolio of projects that collectively cover a broad range of IP rights and areas.

- **Multi-IP Proposals:** Projects that integrate multiple types of IP are encouraged, particularly those aimed at building and strengthening innovation and creative ecosystems.
- **Comprehensive Assessment:** The Program will assess balance and representation across all projects collectively to ensure a holistic approach to IP diversity.

Criteria 3: Geographical diversity

The Program should promote geographical diversity by ensuring that not more than one project is implemented in the same Member State. The Program should also strive for geographical balance across all regions.

Criteria 4: Innovation focus

Projects must propose new and innovative initiatives that are not part of WIPO's regular program of work but nevertheless contribute to WIPO's Expected Results. Proposals should be designed as standalone pilots and should not anticipate or rely on multi-phase follow-up projects.

Criteria 5: Project duration

Projects should be designed for completion within a maximum of 12 months within the overall Program period (January 2026 to December 2027). An exceptional extension of up to 6 months may be permitted under specific circumstances.

Criteria 6: Budget consistency

The project budget should align with WIPO practices and correspond to the project's scope and objectives.

Criteria 7: Sustainability and scalability

Projects should incorporate measures to ensure sustainability and potential scalability of the pilot initiative, allowing for consideration of mainstreaming into WIPO's substantive programs upon successful completion.

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Suggested Template for Project Proposal

Suggested title of the project	
Brief description of the project	
Main objective	
Target beneficiaries	
Partner institution / Focal point	

The project proposal can be submitted through the Permanent Mission to ipap@wipo.int.