

World Intellectual Property Organization

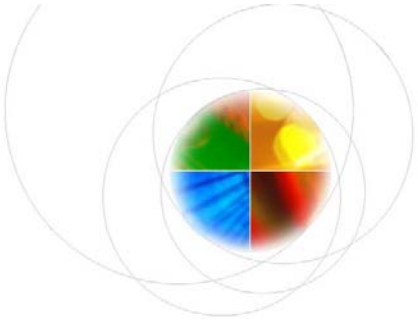
WIPO

Industrial Property Automation System (IPAS)

**Suva, Fiji
March 2006**

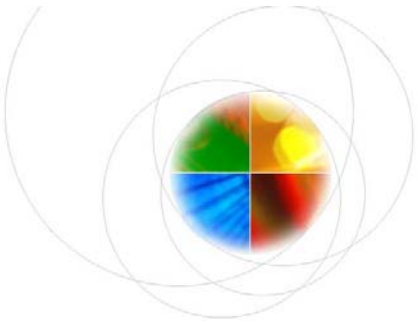


Inayet Syed
Director, IP Office Services Support Division
syed@wipo.int



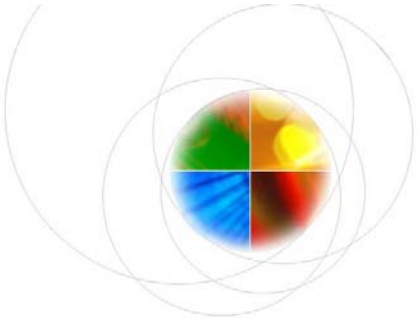
World Intellectual Property Organization

- **Overview of WIPO Automation Assistance**
- **Industrial Property Automation System (IPAS)**
- **WIPO's Offer to Requesting IP Offices**
- **Demonstration of IPAS**



Overview of WIPO Automation Assistance

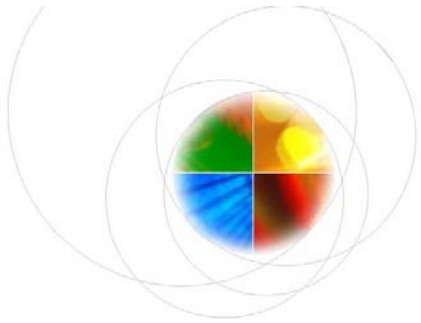
- **Scope & Nature of Services**
- **Potential Recipient Countries**
- **Assistance Strategy**
- **Typical Scenario for Assistance**
- **Potential Impact & Benefits to IPOs**
- **Role of a modern IP Office**
- **Statistics**



Scope of Modernization Services

- **Assistance to IP Offices in developing countries, least developed countries and countries in transition**
 - for streamlining & automation of IP processing
 - for creation of national IP databases of patents, trademarks, designs
- **Assistance to Collective Management Organizations (CMOs) for copyright and related rights**
 - for creation of national databases of musical works
 - for distribution of royalties to rights owners

Modernization assistance activities are within the framework of cooperation for development policies of WIPO



Potential Recipient Countries

45 countries in the African region

33 countries in the LAC region

19 countries in the Arab States region

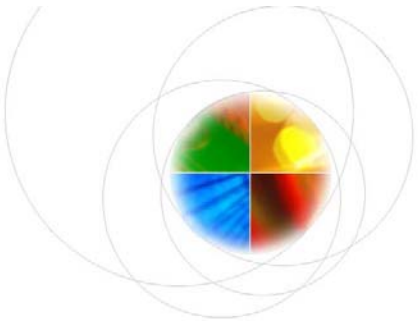
41 countries in the ASPAC region

31 countries in transition

169 countries in total, of which,

150 are potential recipients of modernization assistance

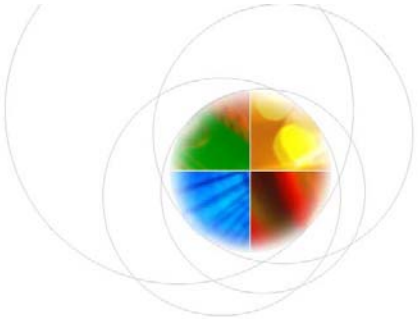
(includes all 49 LDCs)



Nature of Modernization Assistance

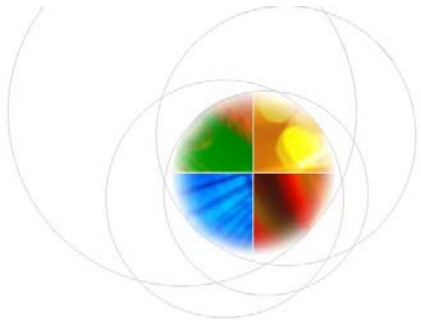
- **Covers all aspects of modernization of business and admin processes of IP Institutions (e.g. IPOs, CMOs):**
 - Technical oversight, advice and guidance
 - Needs analysis & simplification of business procedures
 - Customized automation solution
 - IT infrastructure upgrade
 - Establishment of databases of national IP titles and works (trademarks, patents, designs & musical works and rights owners)
 - Training
 - Technical support

Division Staff : Headquarters-based + region-based experts



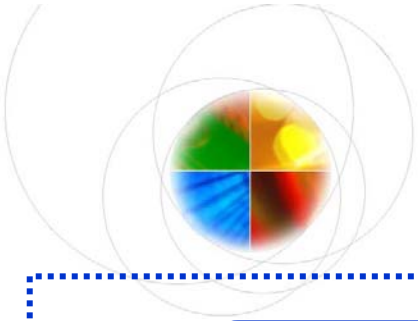
Strategies for Assistance

- **Global approach: leveraging WIPO's collective experience in automation assistance across regions**
- **Long term view (deployment and beyond . . .)**
- **Re-use of tested automation solutions and best practices (minimize deployment time and cost)**
- **“Lego” building block approach for customization of software modules to national IP legislation and specific Office needs**
- **Compliance with international standards and interfaces with WIPO Systems**

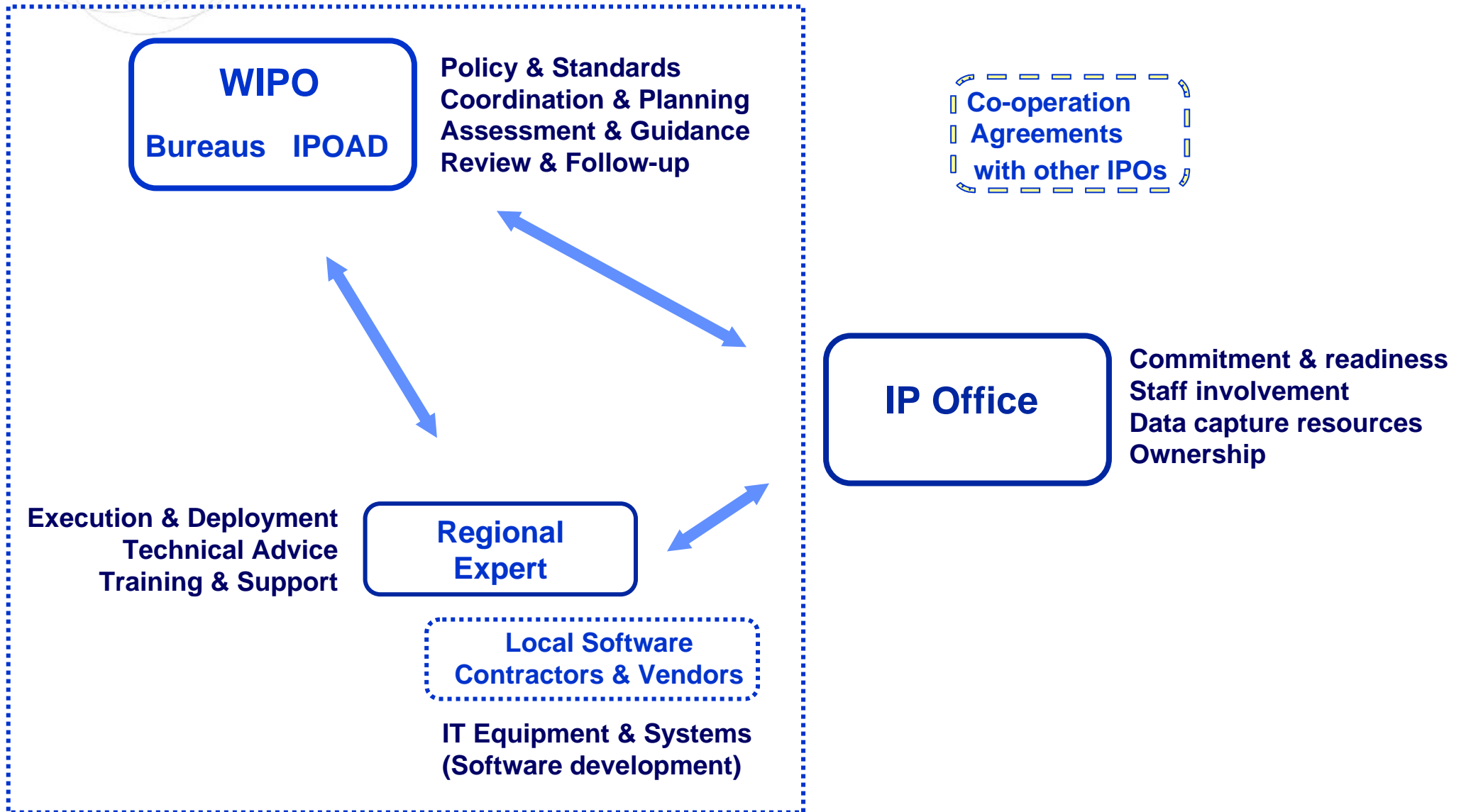


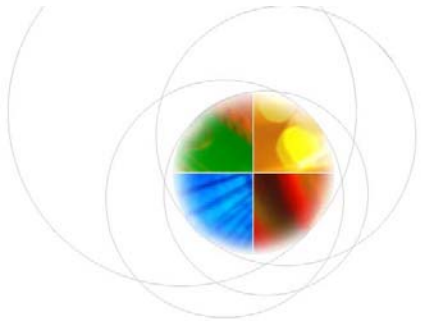
Strategies for Automation Assistance

- **Comprehensive automation solution:**
 - **IT infrastructure**
 - **Customized IP business & admin software**
 - **Database of IP Titles (Patents, Trademarks, Designs)**
 - **Training & Support**
- **Emphasis on IPO involvement, commitment & ownership**
- **Focus on IPO capacity building**
- **Close monitoring and follow up after deployment**
- **Post deployment evaluation to assess the impact of automation**



Automation Assistance - Typical Scenario





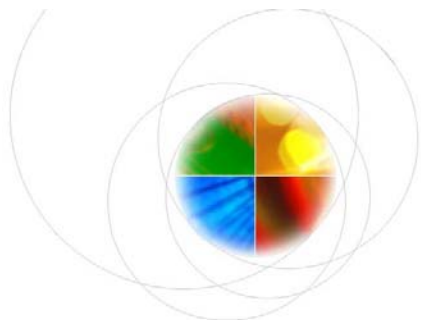
Online Automation Support

**IPO Services Support
Web Site**

**Online Services
(authorized access)**



- **Software upload & distribution**
- **Documentation upload & distribution**
- **Technical support repository**
- **IPO contact details - direct update**
- **Annual Technical Reports (ATRs)**
- **.....**



Benefits of an Automated IP Office ... internal, national, global

IP Office

Accurate IP data
Faster, better search & exam.
Publication generation **1**
Backlog reduction
National IP archive database

Interface to WIPO & other systems
Effective use of WIPOnet Services
Participation in Int'l IP systems



WIPO

Regional
IPOs

IP Offices

Enable e-Services
Faster response to clients queries
- application status
- search requests **2**
On time publications
IP info dissemination
Access to national IP collections

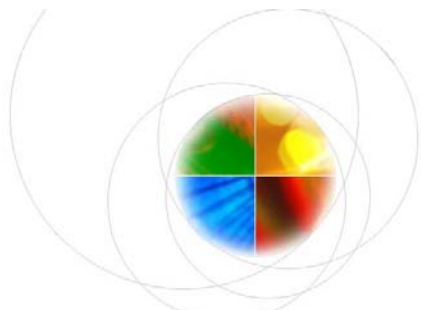
Agents

Applicants

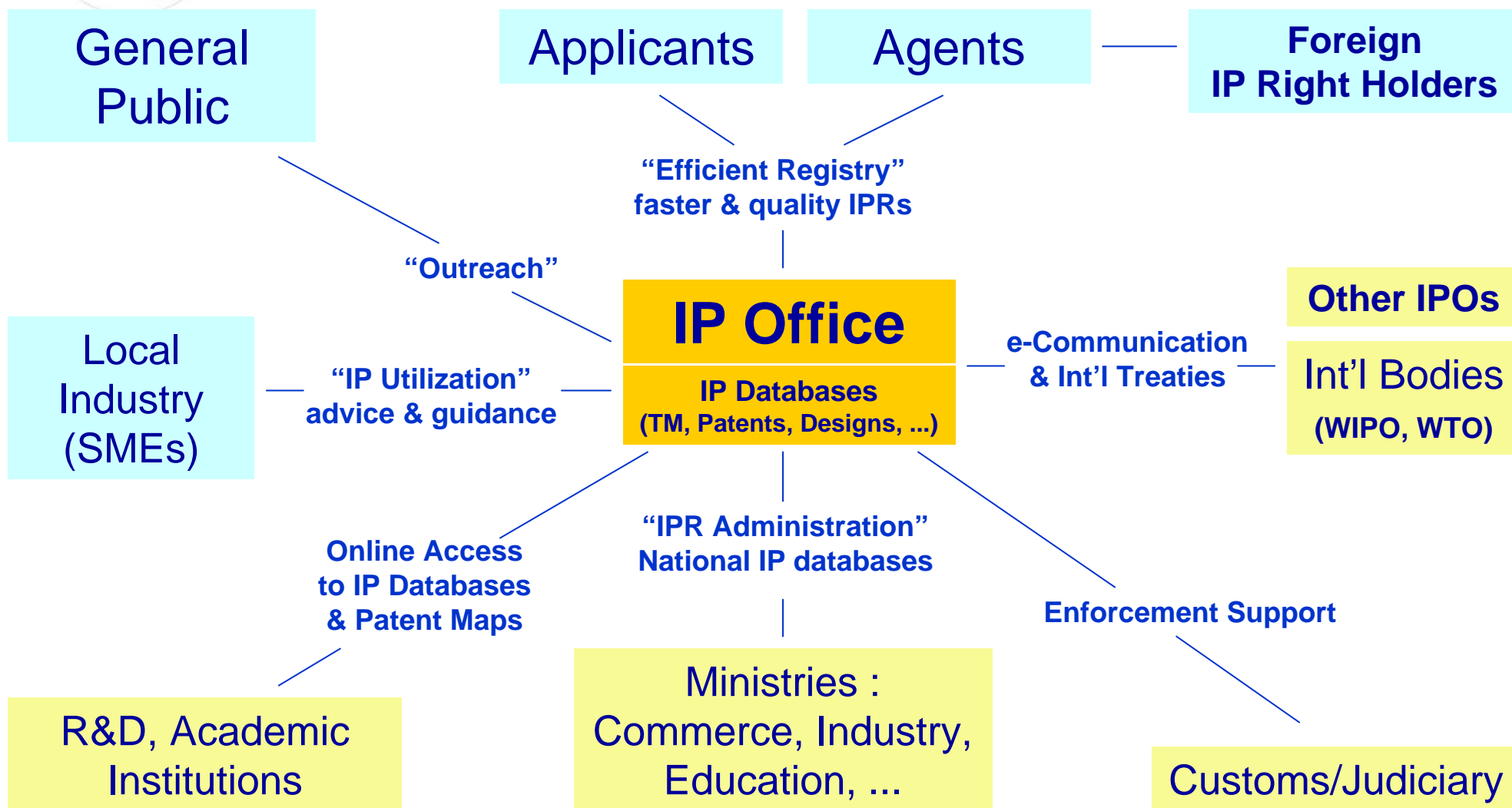
IP Community

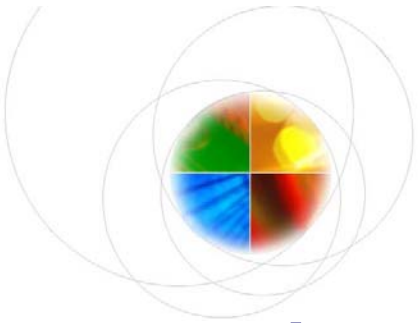
Public





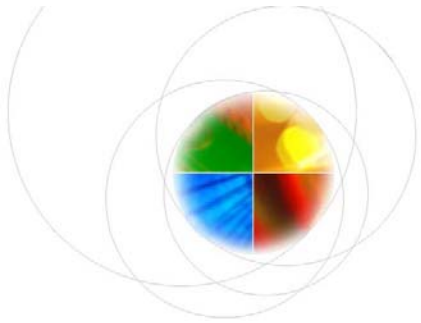
Evolving Role of a Modern IP Office





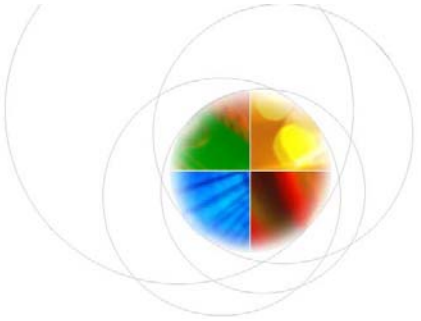
Deliverables and Challenges

- **Deliverables:**
 - **Appropriate automation solutions**
 - **Reduced deployment time & cost**
 - **Capacity building of IP Office staff**
 - **System enhancements, upgrades & technical support**
- **Challenges faced by IP Offices:**
 - **Limited resources for initial data capture from paper files**
 - **Difficulty in transition to automated procedures**
 - **Lack of technical skills, expertise & resources for sustainability**



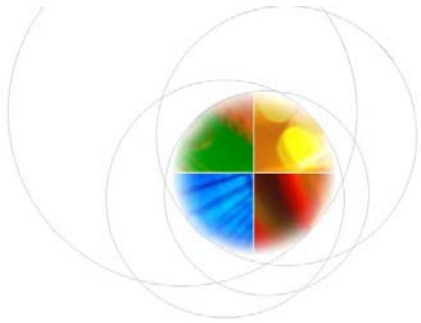
IPAS Deployment Statistics

- **WIPO IPAS is operational in 29 IP Offices across regions (Latin America & Caribbean, Countries in Transition, Asia Pacific, Africa)**
- **Currently there are about 10 IP Offices in the pipeline in different stages of planning and preparation for IPAS deployment**



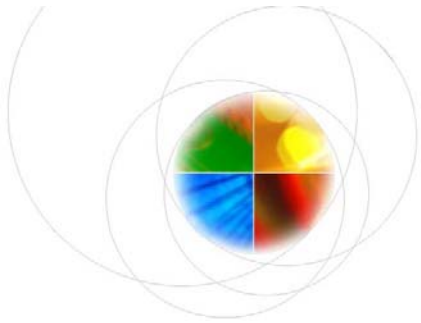
World Intellectual Property Organization

WIPO
Industrial Property Automation System
(IPAS)



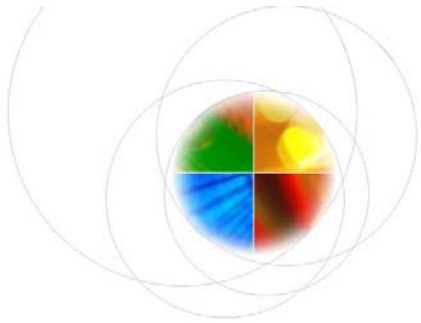
WIPO IPAS: **Industrial Property Automation System** **(Patents, Trademarks & Designs)**

- **A collection of tried and proven modules developed over the past few years by WIPO and owned by WIPO**
- **Covers end-to-end processing of IP applications throughout their life-cycle including: formality checking, search & examination, office documents and notifications, printing of certificates, publication, etc.**
- **Designed for flexibility to adapt to an IPO's specific needs**
- **IPAS can scale up or down in terms of IPO size, functionality, workflow complexity, number of registered IP titles, volume of transactions**



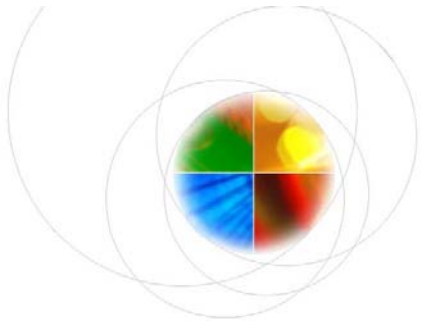
WIPO IPAS: **Industrial Property Automation System** **(Patents, Trademarks & Designs)**

- **Data capture at source**
 - **generation of application number, date & time stamp**
 - **data validation**
 - **acknowledgement receipts**
 - **daily input logs**
 - **data capture process and numbering controls**
- **Data capture module for agents**
 - **bibliographic data**
 - **print forms required by IP Office (with numbering)**
 - **generate biblio / image file with reference to form number**
- **Recording of payments received**



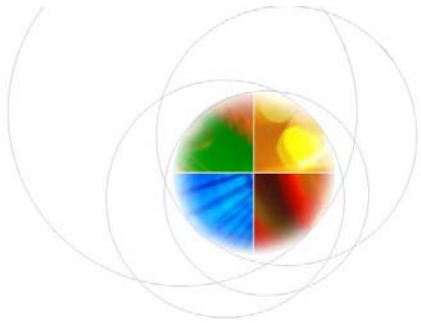
WIPO IPAS: **Industrial Property Automation System** **(Patents, Trademarks & Designs)**

- **Automation of Formality Checking**
 - **Checklist of supporting documents, highlighting available/missing documents**
 - **Automatic setting of legal deadlines for pending documents from agents/applicants**
 - **Follow-up on pending documents using alert/notification systems**
 - **Control flow/processing of application based on availability of documents**



WIPO IPAS: **Industrial Property Automation System** **(Patents, Trademarks & Designs)**

- **Search Modules**
 - **bibliographic and full-text search**
 - **search by international classifications (IPC, etc.)**
 - **phonetic search module for trademarks**
 - **preliminary search**
 - **new application search (within a range for later analysis)**
 - **search reports for legal/management processing**
 - **logo searches for visual analysis (Vienna classification)**
 - **extensive search criteria and operators**

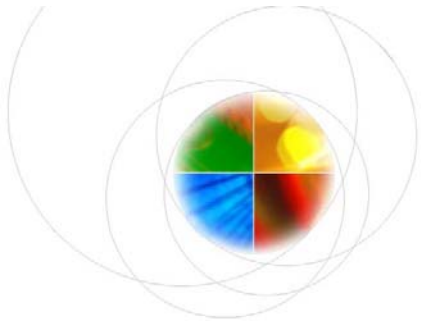


WIPO IPAS:

Industrial Property Automation System

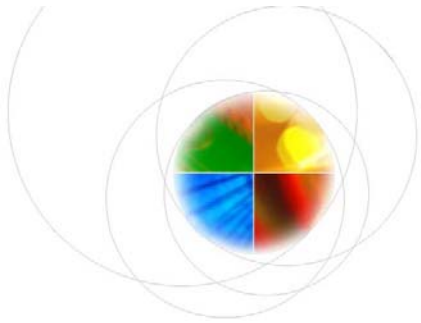
(Patents, Trademarks & Designs)

- **Workflow module**
 - extensive customization features for different workflow processes
 - definition of any actions and statuses needed by Office
 - tracing of actions carried out at each stage for each application and user document received
 - official documents generated mostly as part of workflow
- **Automation of business & legal workflow**
 - control document flow across/within departments based on file actions
 - file access based on processing stage and authorized staff
 - real-time processing of applications
 - highlights bottlenecks in business flow and helps in close monitoring
 - reduces physical file movement (a step towards paper-less office)
- **File tracking to facilitate physical file location (printed lists and logs)**



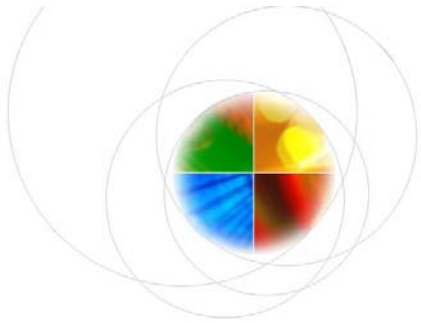
WIPO IPAS: **Industrial Property Automation System** **(Patents, Trademarks & Designs)**

- **Automation of Publications**
 - **generation of journal/gazette directly from database**
 - **configured to include specific gazette sections & formats**
 - **generation of all standard letters to agents/applicants from pre-defined templates with mail-merge features**
 - **generation of certificates**
- **File grouping by various criteria for examiners for performing batch actions (setting a status, marking an action, etc.)**



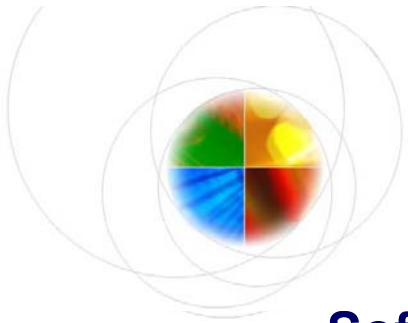
WIPO IPAS: **Industrial Property Automation System** **(Patents, Trademarks & Designs)**

- **Admin history for each file including all actions performed on the original application**
- **Change of ownership automatically changes the owner in the database for all effected files**
- **Access authorization module (user role definition)**
 - **application screen access**
 - **update access control for each entity (add, modify, delete)**
 - **permission for admin action types**
 - **every database change is logged with user and time-stamp with before & after values**



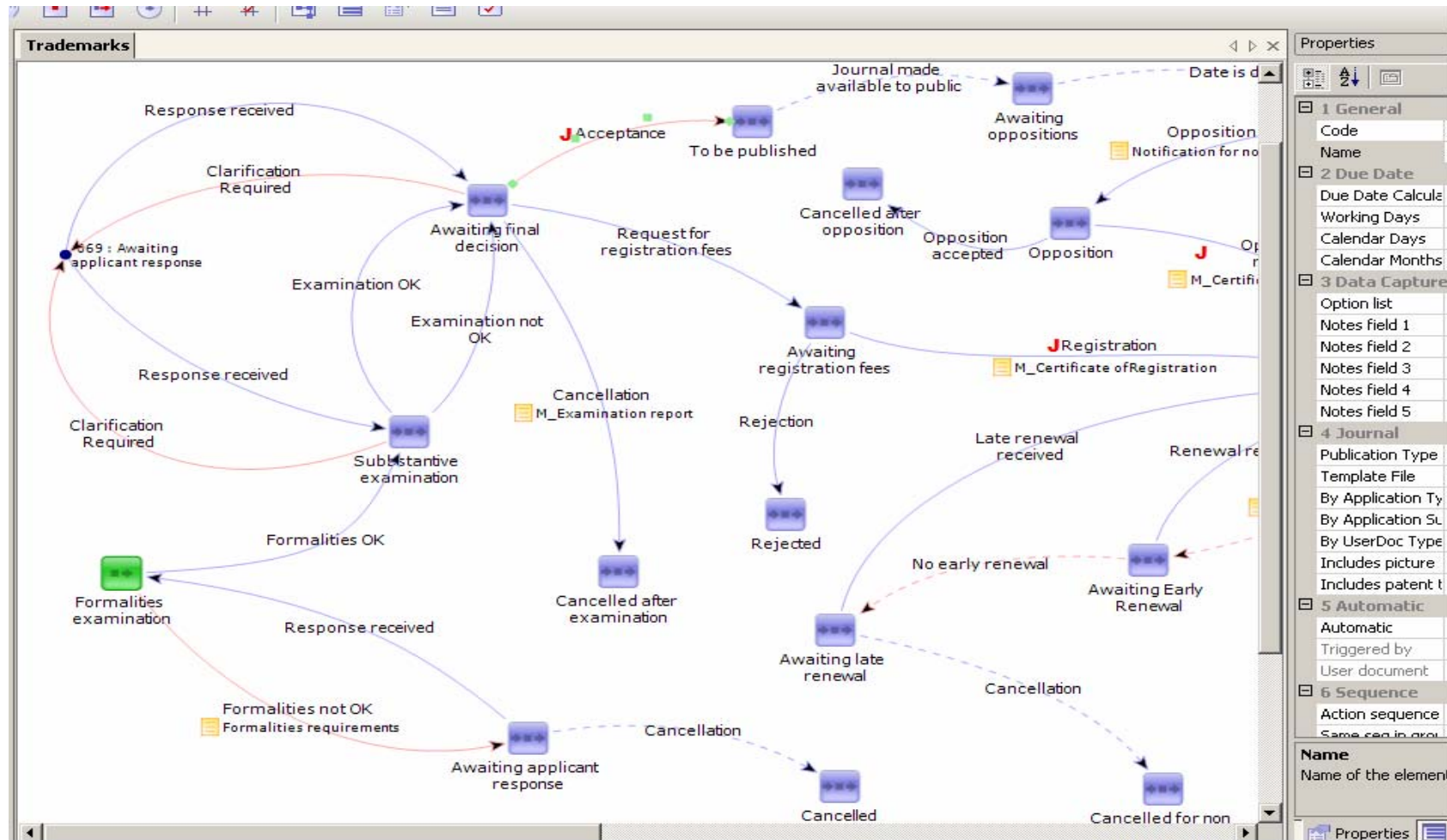
WIPO IPAS: Industrial Property Automation System (Patents, Trademarks & Designs)

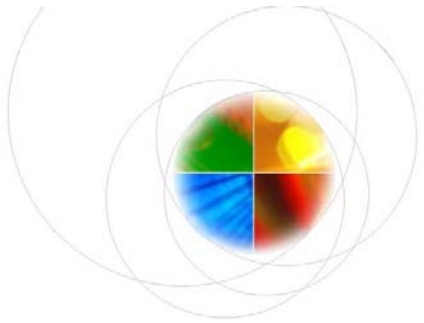
- **Tool for data capture/migration of data into IPAS database**
- **Data import of Article 6ter into IPAS database**
- **Data import of the medical generic names, etc.**
(CD compiled by World Health Organization, WHO)
- **Statistics module**
 - **generation of official statistics required by WIPO**
 - **productivity related by function, actions, time, user, ...**
 - **Aging processes (time in particular status for files)**



IPAS: Flexible & Rapid Customization

Software Customization Graphic Tool (no programming)

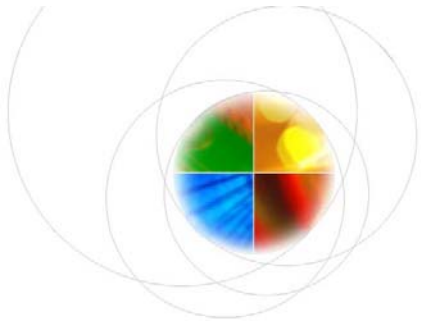




WIPO IPAS: Industrial Property Automation System

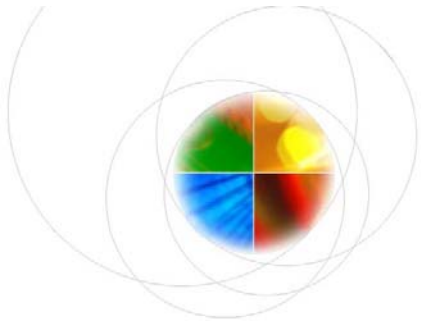
IPAS Product Development, Maintenance & Support

- **IPAS is continually improved and enhanced:**
 - **focus on customer-oriented services (e-services)**
 - **value added services**
 - **new functionality based on IPO feedback**
 - **appropriate new technologies & Open Source components**
- **New releases of IPAS distributed to IPOs via Internet**



WIPO IPAS: Recent Value Added Services

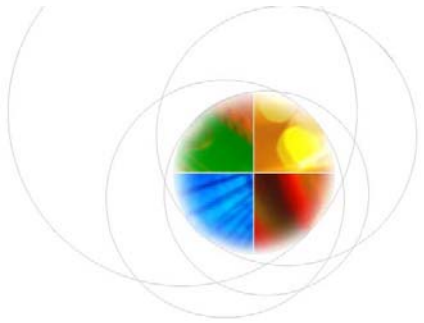
- **Graphical customization interface**
- **Non-Latin Character support**
- **Madrid Module: automatic processing of electronic notifications into an IPO's IPAS database**
- **Internet Publishing module for IP databases**
- **Agents Module for preparing national trademark applications**
- **Support for the open source MaxDB database**
- **Support for non-Gregorian calendars**



WIPO IPAS: Industrial Property Automation System

Madrid Module

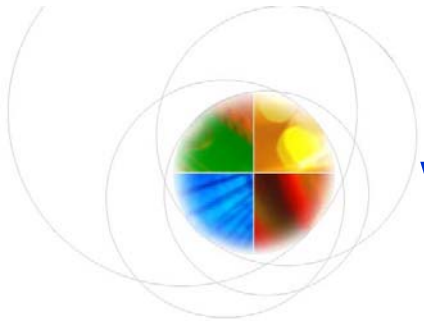
- **Module Functionality**
 - electronic exchange of data using WIPO standards
 - downloads the designated Madrid files from the WIPO site
 - files downloaded include all those that are newer than the last one processed
 - updates IPO's database
 - compliance with Madrid standards for electronic exchange and storage of data



WIPO IPAS: Industrial Property Automation System

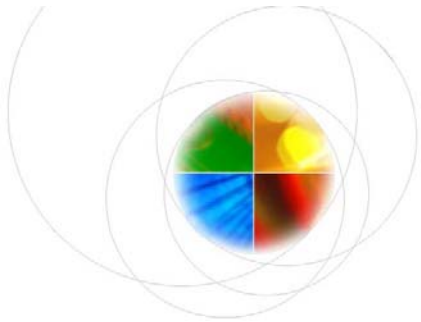
Future Direction of IPAS Enhancements

- **e-Services**
- **Paperless functionality**



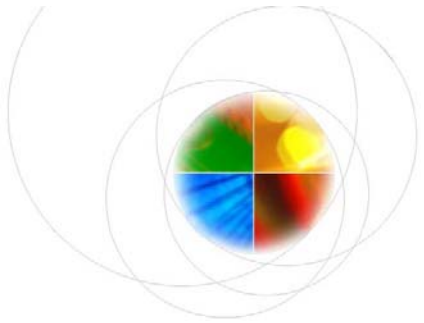
World Intellectual Property Organization

WIPO's Offer to Requesting IP Offices



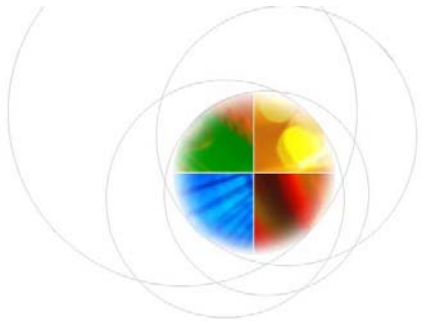
WIPO's Offer to Requesting IP Offices

- **Technical advice and guidance on int'l IP systems & standards**
- **Upgrade of IT infrastructure**
- **WIPO-owned IPAS Software for Trademarks, Patents & Ind. Designs**
- **Customization of IPAS to specific requirements of the IP Office**
- **Database management software (e.g. Oracle, MaxDB)**
- **On-site training of staff on use of IPAS (at deployment and after)**
- **Knowledge transfer of IPAS to IPO technical staff**
- **Problem-reporting and technical support structure**
- **Close post-deployment monitoring and follow-up in the initial months**
- **Evaluation and impact assessment after one year of using IPAS**
- **Free upgrades of WIPO software which is continually improved and enhanced with new features and value-added service**



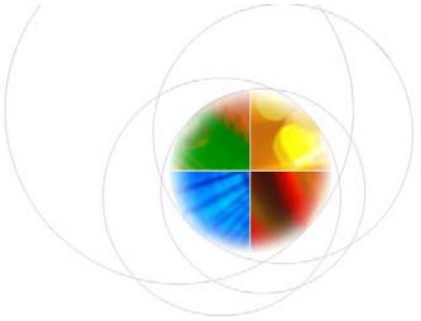
IPAS Customization Aspects

- **IPAS is customized to specific IPO requirements:**
 - **National IP legislation**
 - **Type of IP Titles (Patents, Trademarks, Design, etc.) including their sub-types and applicable IP legislation**
 - **Detailed workflow control with actions & statuses for each incoming IP form (new applications, renewals, assignments, amendments, etc.)**
 - **Time-periods and deadlines for various types of actions**
 - **Each form of official correspondence from IPO to applicants, agents, attorneys**
 - **Publication of certificates, gazettes & journals**
 - **Language requirements, if any**
 - **Data migration where needed**



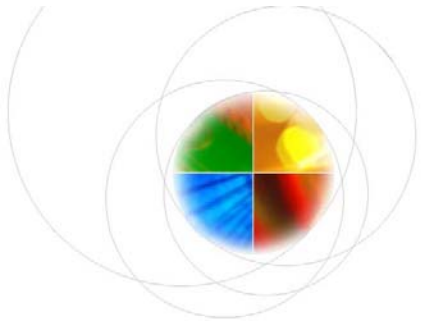
IP Office Contribution

- **Contribution expected from the recipient IP Office**
 - **Data capture of paper files (trademarks, patents, designs) and/or assist in data migration into IPAS database**
 - **Internet connectivity (increasingly essential)**
 - **Website for e-services (leverage IPAS e-functionality)**
 - **Transition management from manual to automated procedures**
 - **In-house IT staff for system operation and 1st-level support**
 - **Training on basic computer skills of IP Office staff**
 - **Budget to maintain and operate the automation system**



WIPO Presentation to IPO Pakistan

Demonstration of IPAS



Thank you