

## Intellectual Property & Technological Change



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### **Content Sources**

1. Economic Growth Center, Yale University – Center Discussion Paper No. 83
2. Pubget
3. African Centre for Technology Studies (ACTS)
4. Commission on Intellectual Property Rights

#### **Does Intellectual Property Protection Spur Technological Change? by Sunil Kanwar and Robert E. Evenson, Economic Growth Center, Yale University – Center Discussion Paper No. 83, June 2001**

Utilizing cross-country panel data on Research & Development investment, patent protection and other country-specific characteristics spanning the period 1981–1990, this paper addresses the question whether more stringent protection of intellectual property encourages innovation. The paper concludes that intellectual property rights are incentives for spurring innovation.

#### **Bridging the Digital Divide: Booming or Doomed? A Study of Digital Inclusion Projects in Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and Nigeria by Dinusha Mendis**

This paper looks at the concept of the ‘digital divide’ by way of introduction, before moving on to illustrate, through examples drawn from Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and Nigeria, the manner in which steps have been taken to bridge the divide in those countries. While it is important to bridge the digital divide so that everyone can have equal rights to development, education and freedom of expression this paper also questions the further implications which come with it. For example, do stringent intellectual property rights regimes and copyright laws act as a barrier to narrowing the digital divide? Furthermore, even if developing countries manage to overcome these laws, are these laws development-oriented enough to deal with such digital technology? Are the governments of these

countries prepared to create necessary laws to address the issues which arise from digital technology? Do they have the necessary legal infrastructure?

**Intellectual Property Protection in Africa: Statutes of Laws, Research and Policy, Analysis in Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, South Africa and Uganda by George M. Sikoyo, Edwin Nyukuri and Judi W. Wakhungu, 2006**

This study provides a synthesis of a few country reports aimed at identifying and exploring issues affecting the administration and enforcement of Intellectual Property in Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, South Africa and Uganda. It incorporates the views and opinions of the participants to the regional workshop on Intellectual Property held in Nairobi, Kenya in August 2004. The study is divided into five chapters. Chapter one comprises the introduction, background study that studies the problem, justification of the study, methodology, scope and limitations of the study. Chapter two conceptualizes Intellectual Property, putting context from each country. Chapter three provides a synthesis of the findings of the study from the country reports of the case study countries. Chapter four provides an assessment of the basic IP needs in the African continent. Among the recommendations and conclusions based on these countries as well as the wider workshop outcome was that strategic linkage between innovations, Intellectual Property and economic development have not been fully appreciated in these countries and other parts of sub-Saharan Africa.

**Developing Countries and International Intellectual Property Standard-setting by Peter Drahos, Commission on Intellectual Property Rights**

The report examines the extent to which developing countries influence outcomes in the international intellectual property standard-setting process. The report also briefly describes the number of developing countries in the international standard-setting process pre-TRIPS. In preparing this report, more than 500 people were interviewed. The report concludes that developing countries have comparatively little influence and that as developing countries came to be numerically significant in forums such as the World Intellectual Property Organization, by virtue of their number, the United States embarked on a strategy of forum shifting.

**Trademark Law Reform in Nigeria: A Practitioner's Note by Mark Mordi, Journal of Intellectual Property Maiden Edition, 2011**

This paper reviews the provisions of the Nigerian Trade Marks Act of 1985, now part of the Commercial Law in Cap 173 of the Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004. The paper notes areas of major changes or proposals to amend the Act, such as:

- provisions of the Act from a practitioner's point of view,

- new developments in the trademark regime, and
- refinement in legal regimes for trademark registration, opposition proceedings and infringement.

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