



For the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research Ghana

# INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY PRIMER AND HANDBOOK

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This Intellectual Property Policy handbook, which has been put together by Dr. Rita Abban (Head IP Division, CSIR), is meant to provide easy reading and understanding of Intellectual Property and is useful especially for research scientists and students pursuing courses in intellectual property. It is also meant to support Researchers to understand the recently published CSIR IP Policy.

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# Introduction

The Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) was established by the CSIR Act 1996 Act 521. The mandate of the CSIR is to generate and apply innovative technologies, and efficiently and effectively exploit S&T for socio-economic development in critical areas of agriculture, industry, environment, as well as some aspects of public health and social sciences, and improve the scientific culture of civil society in Ghana. This mandate is executed through thirteen (13) semi-autonomous Research Institutes.

The CSIR's research activities may result in inventions, materials, designs, technology solutions and related intellectual property. The recognition, protection and commercialization of intellectual property rights may become incentives for further research, contribute financial resources for the sustainability of research activities of the CSIR, its institutes, as well as staff and associates.

The CSIR can effectively use the knowledge it generates if it develops its intellectual property system for the disclosure, protection, commercialization and enforcement of intellectual property rights. In this regard the CSIR has developed its intellectual property policy, to implement its intellectual property system. This primer and handbook on the intellectual property is to provide basic information on intellectual property for use of the CSIR Community



A green and white poster for a training session on snail farming. The title is "TRAINING SNAIL FARMING" in large, bold letters. Below the title, it lists two dates: "JULY 31 2020" and "AUGUST 01 2020", with corresponding times. The location is "CSIR HEAD OFFICE" with the address "Opp. Former Chinese Embassy, Agostinho Neto Road, Airport Residential Area, ACCRA". A phone number "0208536112/0248042304" is provided. A small inset image shows several snails. At the bottom, it states "All COVID-19 protocols will be observed".

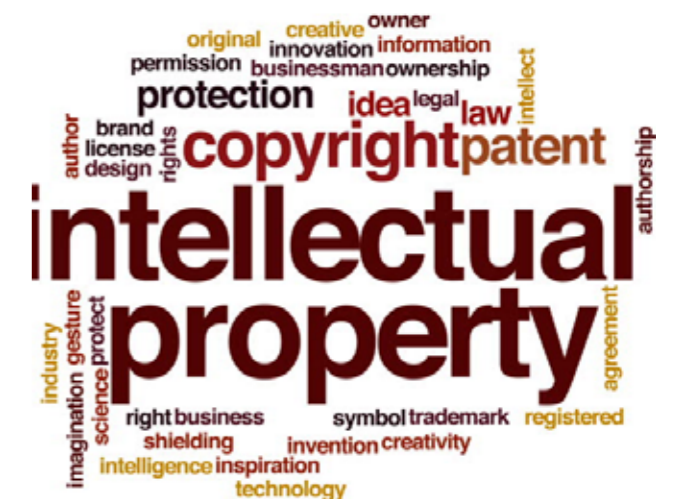
The primer and handbook is an easy to read book which addresses immediate questions, and thoughts on intellectual property. The handbook is not bulky so it is handy to carry along for reference purposes. The handbook is designed as a tool to provide further explanations to the intellectual property policy and expand on concepts and terminologies that people often find confusing. The idea to provide a handbook is to capture explanations in a more meaningful way which cannot appear in the intellectual property policy document. The handbook is in this regard, a supplementary tool to the intellectual property policy.

The handbook is designed in a way to refresh one's knowledge on the basics of intellectual property without being too complicated or technical in approach. Using simple words, the layout is designed to be interactive and appealing through the use of pictures and familiar terms. It is helpful especially for those being introduced to the subject of intellectual property for the first time and also to refresh one's memory of the subject. Both researchers and students will find an advantage in the use of the handbook because it serves as an informative store of relevant information needed to answer pressing questions. For example, it provides answers to important agreements, protocols and conventions that guide the various intellectual properties. It also provides explanations to various intellectual property concepts and how to go about registrations.

Whereas it is termed a handbook, this primer is also an advisory guide. Reading the

Appropriate section will give the reader more insight on, for example, what steps to follow in order not to miss out on registration of intellectual property or determine which route to use in intellectual property registrations.

The handbook has a section on definition of terms which are clustered under subheadings to make their meaning more relevant. For example, what are the terminologies and definitions one could find under commercialization of IP or terminologies which are associated with IP agreements and contracts. These categorizations bring about more concise understanding and clarity to areas sometimes perceived as ambiguous. Without a doubt, after reading this handbook the reader is not likely to make a statement such as "I would like to patent my book".

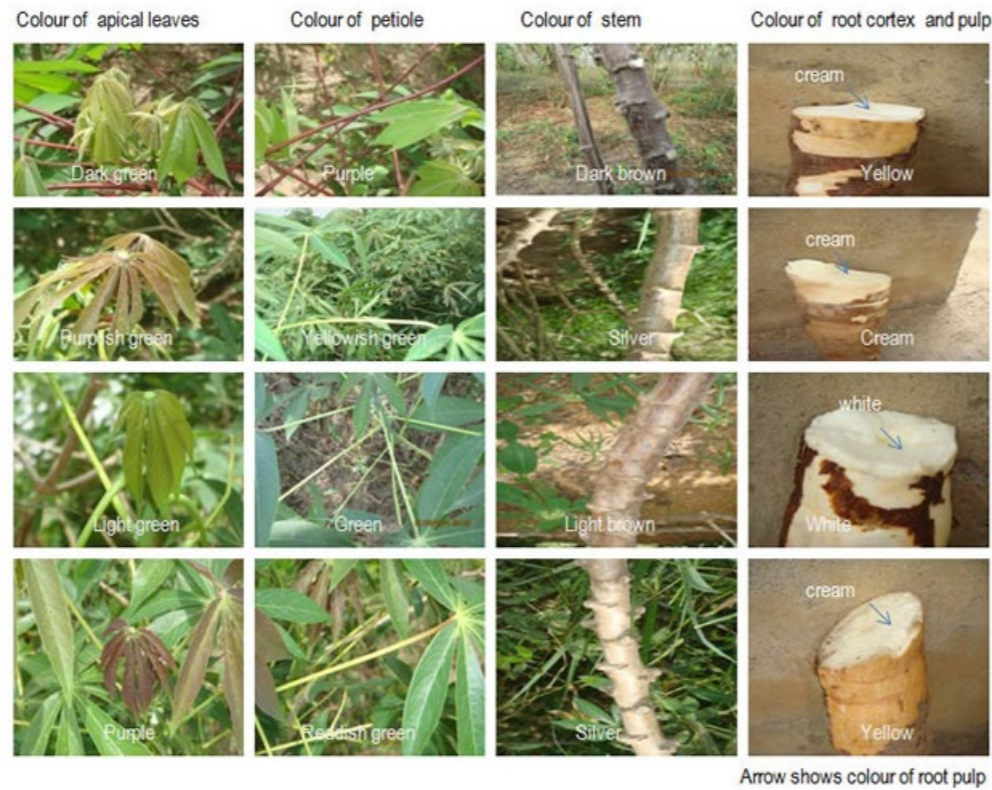




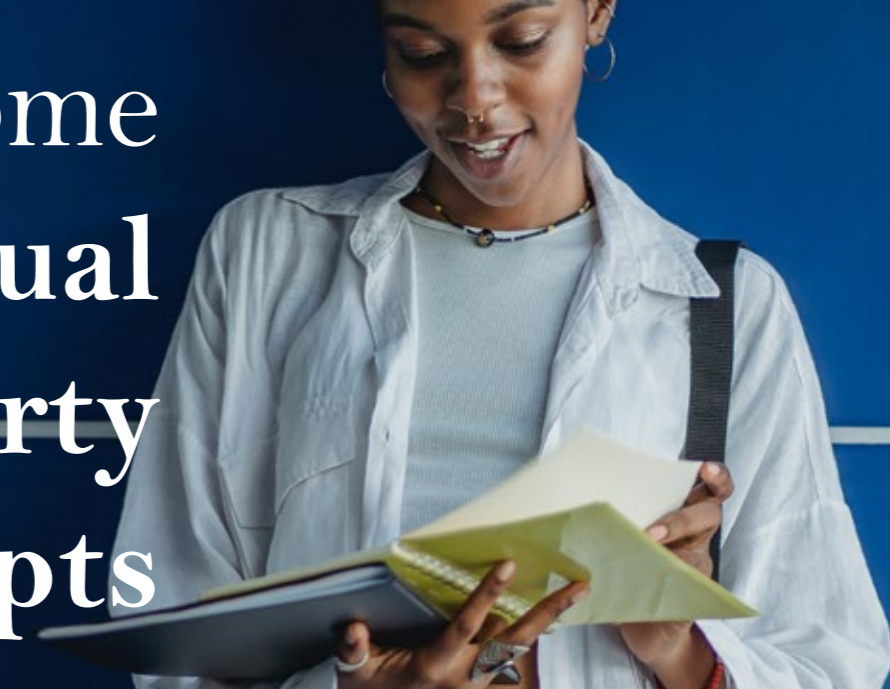
IMPROVED CASSAVA VARIETIES

- Selected morphological descriptors for identification

- **Ampong**  
(Uses: Fufu, Starch, Flour & Gari)
- **Otuhia**  
(Uses: Starch, Flour & Gari)
- **Sika bankye**  
(Uses: High starch, Flour & Gari)
- **Broni bankye**  
(Uses: Starch, Flour & Gari)



# Some Intellectual Property Concepts



## ♦ What is Intellectual Property?

Intellectual property (IP) refers to creations of the mind these are inventions, literary works and symbols, names, images and designs used in commerce. Intellectual Property is the right granted to a person for an intellectual good to include: invention, innovation, creativity, literary or artistic works. An intellectual good is an intangible property, similar to accounting and marketing concepts such as 'goodwill' and 'corporate image'. Intellectual property is also described as a notional property because it is based on ideas. The output or outcome of intellectual property include products, processes, works, goods and services. Intellectual property

forms one of three kinds of property to include: movable, immovable and intellectual property. Immovable property refers to land-based property such as building, plant, and factory. movable property includes, cars, laptops, phones, furniture, and household appliances. While movable and immovable properties are tangible, intellectual property(s) are intangible. Like all other property, intellectual property is protected by laws, regulations and policies. The generation of intellectual property is made possible by a functional Intellectual Property system at the institutional and national levels. There are two main categories; these are industrial property, copyright and related rights, and, sui generis.

	Patent	Trademark	Industrial Designs	Geographical Indications
<b>What is protected</b>	Inventions, ie new technical solutions to technical problems	Registered signs, marks, logos representing goods or services	Forms, ie, the exterior appearance of an object	Goods(mean any natural or agricultural product or any product of handcraft or industry) produced or manufactured, based on unique characteristics of the locations of origin
<b>How does it become protected</b>	Granting of the patent	Registration at the trademark registry	Registration at the industrial designs registry	Registration at the Geographical Indications registry
<b>Duration of Protection</b>	Maximum 20 years	10 years renewable (indefinitely)	5 years renewable up to maximum of 25 years	Indefinitely as long as the conditions for registration exists