



**COUNCIL FOR SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL
RESEARCH - GHANA**

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY POLICY

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Acknowledgements

The development of an Intellectual Property Policy for the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) has spanned several phases. These eventually led to the establishment of an Intellectual Property Office (CSIR IP Office) in 2012 under the West Africa Agricultural Productivity Programme (WAAPP) and the inauguration of institutional IP sub-committees in 2014. The IP policy was first drafted by Lawyer K. Ofosu Tenkorang (CSIR IP Office). Subsequent revisions to the draft IP policy was made by Dr. Rita Abban (CSIR IP Office), with inputs from the institutes and management. More recently, it involved a review and update of the Draft IP Policy with technical assistance from the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO).

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Prof. Victor Agyeman

Director-General, CSIR

THE COUNCIL FOR SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY POLICY

1. PREAMBLE

The Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) was established by National Liberation Council Decree 293 of October 10, 1968 and re-established in its present form by CSIR Act 521 of November 26, 1996 to promote, encourage and regulate research and the application of science and technology in development. The mission of the CSIR is to become the force for accelerated social and economic development for Ghana through examining, exploring and creating science and technology catalysts for public and private wealth creation. The CSIR is mandated to perform the following functions among others:

- a. To pursue the implementation of government policies on scientific research and development;
- b. To advise the Minister on scientific and technological advances likely to be of importance to national development;
- c. To encourage in the national interest scientific and industrial research of importance for development of agriculture, health, medicine, environment, technology and other service sectors and to this end to encourage close linkages with the productive sectors of the country;
- d. To co-ordinate all aspects of scientific research in the country and to ensure that the Council, the research institutes of the Council and other organizations engaged in research in Ghana, co-ordinate and operate in their research efforts;
- e. To encourage and promote the commercialization of research results;
- f. To undertake or collaborate in the collation, publication and dissemination of the result of research and other useful technical information.

2. PURPOSE OF IP POLICY

To realize its mandate, the CSIR has developed this Intellectual Property (IP) Policy to regulate and encourage creativity as well as to protect and disseminate the results of the CSIR's research activities in diverse fields of Intellectual Property for the benefit of the public. It is hoped that the creation and development of Intellectual Property at the CSIR would encourage new business ventures through licensing, technology transfer and commercialization.

3. OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the Policy are as follows:

- (a) To protect the rights of the CSIR, its innovators, inventors, research sponsors and the public;
- (b) To optimize the environment and incentives for research and for the creation of new IP;