International Intellectual Property Initiative Priorities for Funding  
(November 2007 – June 2008)

FUNDING PRIORITIES

Ford Foundation’s International Intellectual Property Initiative (IIPI) considers that IP regimes (IPR) should contribute to freedom and democracy for all countries and societies, by recognizing innovation and the right to access to knowledge and creative activities. IIPI aims to contribute to the development of more balanced IP regimes, which highlight the importance of the public interest, strengthen the public domain, respect the right to development and support the voices of frequently neglected stakeholders.

Therefore, preference in this initiative will be given to proposals that: enhance (support) the potential for dialogue among different sectors and players; build institutional capacity, particularly in the global South; explore the public interest in related issues; strengthen the voice of excluded groups and communities; and encourage pluralistic and participatory governance and decision-making processes.

The initiative will focus on the following thematic grant making priorities:

1. **Knowledge Ecology – Production and Sharing**, with the following objectives:
   - To foster public awareness and critical analysis regarding knowledge regimes and the impact of IP regimes;
   - To enable stakeholders such as authors, artists, academic institutions, indigenous people, students and consumers to deepen their understanding and explore common interests in IP’s related issues and to advocate effectively for their interests in national, regional and international policy arenas;
   - To encourage (re)thinking IP policy alternatives and new business models which can foster and sustain a diverse and vibrant knowledge ecology.

2. **Access to Medicine**, with the following objectives:
   - To improve analytical capacity to understand and/or gather evidence about the relationship between IPR and: innovation; medical research and development; and medicines pricing and distribution;
   - To enable commonly forgotten stakeholders (such as consumers, people with illness, medical workers and students, women’s groups, human rights groups, etc) to deepen their understanding about the intersection of IP and Access to Medicine, promoting a more active participation of these stakeholders in national, regional and international IP policy arenas;
   - To enable developing countries to explore flexibilities within the TRIPs Agreement and to support South-South and/or regional collaborations which enhance innovative ways to promote R&D and access to medicines in the global south.
HOW TO APPLY:

One can apply by sending a Letter of Inquiry, a Proposal (up to 15 pages) and a budget as described below:

(1) **Letter of Inquiry**, listing:
- Proponent’s name (and acronym if commonly used);
- Proponent’s address (and courier address if different);
- Web address, if any;
- Proponent’s main expertise (e.g. research, advocacy, capacity building, etc.);
- Project’s name;
- IIPI’s sub-theme(s) to which the project relates;
- Project’s period;
- Requested amount.

(2) **Proposal**, including at least:
- Brief statement (two or three sentences) of the purpose and nature of the proposed work;
- Links between the project and IP related issues;
- Links between the project and IIPI initiative goals and principles;
- Links between the theme and the proponent’s proposal activities, underlining reasons why the proponent is qualified to undertake the project;
- Brief summary of proposed activities, deliverables and outcomes/impacts;
- Alliances and/or participatory networks in which the proponent is involved;
- Geographic area or country where the work will take place;
- Project’s beneficiaries (information about those who will be helped and are interested in the work, and how the proponent will communicate with them);
- Dissemination/communications strategy for project deliverables and outcomes;
- Project’s chronology;
- Other funders supporting the submitted proposal;
- Amount of funding requested from FF and total cost (estimates are acceptable);
- Whether the proponent institution currently has or is applying for other funding from the Ford Foundation whether for this or other activities. If so, please provide a very brief description of current or requested grants and the name of the Foundation’s responsible Program Officer.

(3) **Budget request** in excel spreadsheet format.
There is no maximum or minimum amount for the application.

Proposals should be sent by email to iipi@fordfound.org no later than June 6th 2008. Assessment will start immediately.

* Please note that, in general, projects implemented in countries where FF is presently not working will not be supported, unless they are submitted as part of a global or regional initiative.