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University of Alicante (Spain)

Universitat d'Alacant  
Universidad de Alicante

## Partners:



Université Ouaga 2 (Burkina Faso)



Université de Cocody  
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Université de Thiès (Senegal)



Queen Mary and Westfield  
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(United Kingdom)

## Associates:



Organisation Africaine de la Propriété Intellectuelle (Cameroon)



Réseau des organisations  
paysannes et de producteurs  
de l'Afrique de l'Ouest



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## Contact us

### IP4GROWTH Project

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Enhancing Intellectual  
Property Capacities for  
Agricultural Development

<http://www.ip4growth.eu>

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## What is IP4GROWTH?

IP4GROWTH aims to contribute to the agricultural and socio-economic development of West African countries through the enhancement of Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) competences in Intellectual Property management. It intends to raise awareness of the importance of knowledge-based tools, in particular, geographical indications (GIs) for agricultural and rural development. Its purpose is to increase knowledge transfer capacities between Higher Education Institutions and farming communities, agricultural producers and stakeholders of the region, including exploring options for GIs related procedures as a means to improve competitiveness of the agricultural sector in the target countries and region.

This three-year project is financed by the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group (ACP Group) under the Edulink II programme.

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## Why is IP4GROWTH important?

West African countries depend heavily on natural resources. 65% of the region workforce is employed in agricultural activities. IP4GROWTH will address the needs of particularly sensitive and fragile groups, such as women's groups in the rural area and small farmers. It will in particular improve and facilitate the necessary evolution of the members of trade and farmers associations by means of organising training sessions for different populations, which require expertise and funds. It will also adapt capacity building for small farmers in order to improve their skills and allow them to be part of this change and be linked to the regional and international markets.

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## Main activities of the IP4GROWTH project

The activities planned in IP4GROWTH will permit addressing the identified problems affecting West African institutions and farming communities for advanced learning and practice in Intellectual Property management for agricultural and rural development, with the main goal of being able to boost growth.

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### Phase 1 - Capacity Building

- ▶ Conductive needs analysis & market diagnosis
- ▶ Training of HEIs researchers, staff and students
- ▶ Establishment of Info-service (Documents&Helpline point)
- ▶ Dissemination and Networking (dissemination plan & related actions; dialogue with Stakeholders)

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### Phase 2 - Knowledge Transfer to Farming Communities

- ▶ Local actions for farming communities (field visits, workshops-exploring options in geographical indications related procedures).

The Project will not only benefit the entire sector of the West African target countries but it is expected to benefit at least 90 research staff and students through the internal workshops and more through the online course materials and the operation of the Helpline Point in Intellectual Property. Enhancing people's understanding and expertise in the IP field will bring their local communities enduring benefits for development and poverty reduction.

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## IP4GROWTH can be your asset, if you are.....

- ▶ **University researchers, staff and students** who would like to strengthen their competences in the field of IP - GIs.
- ▶ **Farming Communities, Producers and their Associations** who are aware of the importance of IP for agricultural and rural development.
- ▶ **Ministries of Agriculture and Economy**, who desire to promote harmonisation of IP practice and policies at regional level.
- ▶ **Local Development Agencies** and **NGOs** in the field of IP and Agriculture, who desire to widen your professional network and seek co-operation in the region.

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## Duration:

**9th October 2013**

**8th October 2016**

