



MINISTRY OF ICT & NATIONAL GUIDANCE

A Knowledge and Productive Society driven by ICT & National Ideology

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Ministry of ICT and National Guidance Launches the Uganda ICT Intellectual Property (IP) Guidelines at the National ICT Innovation Hub

Kampala, Uganda – Friday, 14th February 2025—The Ministry of ICT and National Guidance (MoICT&NG), in collaboration with the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) under the UJ-Connect Project, is pleased to announce the launch of the Uganda ICT Intellectual Property (IP) Guidelines.

Developed in partnership with key stakeholders, including JICA, the Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs, Uganda Registration Services Bureau, KTA Advocates, and many others, the ICT IP Guidelines aim to empower Ugandan innovators in the ICT sector by providing them with the knowledge and resources necessary to protect and commercialize their intellectual property.

These guidelines outline MoICT&NG's approach to managing, owning, and commercializing Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) in contracts between contractors and suppliers. They emphasize registering unique product innovations, including software and hardware, with the Uganda Registration Services Bureau (URSB). Furthermore, the guidelines guide managing Intellectual Property Rights for locally developed IT systems, applications, and innovations within the ICT sector.

Key Objectives of the ICT IP Guidelines:

- i) Encourage high-level innovation and inventions of ICT solutions, including those adapted from external sources.
- ii) Enhance adherence to best ICT solutions practices and standards, applicable to both domestically created and adapted solutions.
- iii) Facilitate the use of shared infrastructure and services set up by the ministry to regulate innovations and inventions, encompassing domestic and transferred technologies.
- iv) Safeguard Intellectual Property (IP) rights for innovators and inventors, including those adapting and adopting foreign technologies.
- v) Enable the commercialization of innovations to generate income from exploiting IP in the marketplace.

Applicability:

These guidelines apply to all individuals and entities that develop innovations and applications for the Government of Uganda and the public, either to solve a specific need or following financial support from MoICT&NG, at all stages of the Intellectual Property (IP) Value Chain. This encompasses the entire innovation life cycle, from generation to protection, utilization, and enforcement.

Next Steps:

The Ministry of ICT and National Guidance will physically host dissemination workshops nationwide to further educate stakeholders on the Uganda ICT IP Guidelines.

For more information, please contact:

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