

# Swiss-Azeri Project on Intellectual Property Enforcement



## **Donor agency**

Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO)

## **Implementing agencies**

Swiss Federal Institute of Intellectual Property (IPI) and Swiss Cooperation Office for the South Caucasus in Azerbaijan (SCO)

## **Main project partners**

Azeri Copyright Agency; State Agency for Standardization, Metrology, and Patents; State Customs Committee; Ministry of Economic Development of Azerbaijan

## **Project duration**

Two years (1 November 2007 – 31 December 2009)

## **Project development goals**

- Improving the legal framework and governance as a part of the business environment in order to diversify investments to the non-oil sector.
- Privatising major state-owned enterprises.
- Spurring on trade through international integration, in particular accession to WTO.

## **Project-specific objectives**

- Revision of IPR legislation.
- Enforcement of IPR legislation and capacity-building (Customs, Copyright Agency, Industrial Property Agency).
- General public awareness on IP.

## **The main outcomes:**

- The activities conducted increased the basic knowledge of IPR enforcement and dispute resolution among agencies responsible for IPR enforcement and selected groups of IPR users.
- The project contributed to the enlargement of the pool of local specialists in IPR enforcement. Project teaching materials were used for the internal training of the copyright agency, the patent office and customs.
- Public awareness of IPR enforcement among the general population was raised. The importance of IPR was mentioned approximately one-hundred times in the media during the project period. Main local authorities engaged in the field of IPR expressed their interest in the dissemination of IP brochures drafted during the project.
- The reports assessing the national legal framework for gaps and inconsistencies with the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) were submitted to the Government of Azerbaijan and could be taken into further consideration during further phases of the accession process.
- The drafting process and the presentations of these reports triggered discussions among scholars, the government agencies and IP users.

## **Contact**

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