



**INTRODUCTION OF INITIATIVES BY START-UP SUPPORT ORGANIZATIONS
IN AFRICA**

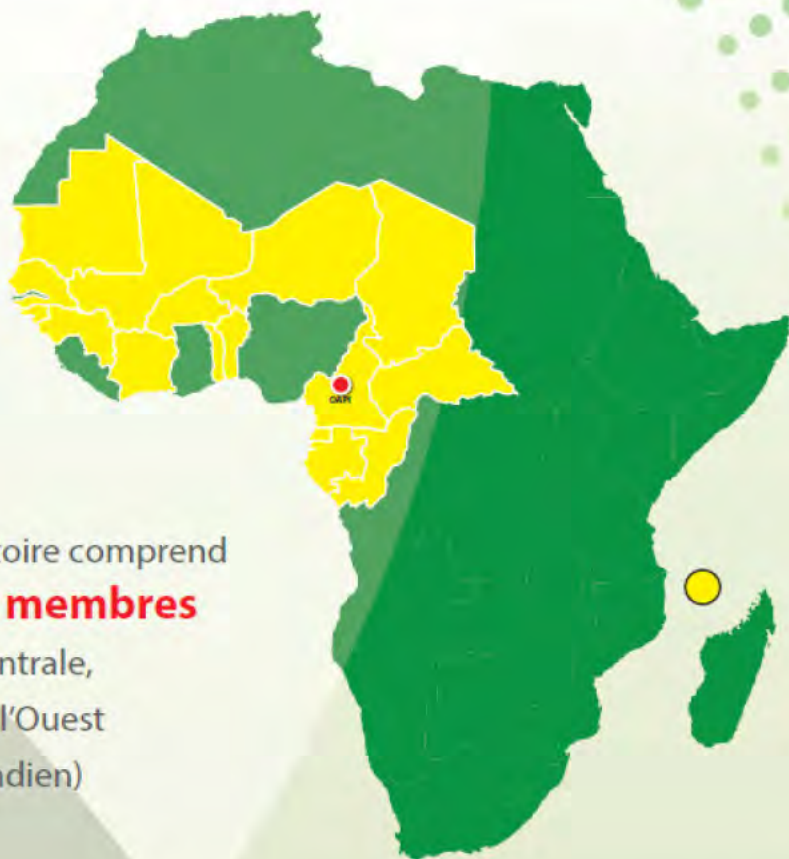
TOKYO 18 FEBRUARY 2020

**PRESENTATION OF THE AFRICAN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY
ORGANIZATION (OAPI)**

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SUMMARY

- ▶ **OAPI PRESENTATION**
- ▶ **OAPI SUPPORT INITIATIVES FOR START-UPS**
- ▶ **OAPI SUPPORT INITIATIVES FOR SMES**



Notre territoire comprend
17 Etats membres
(Afrique centrale,
Afrique de l'Ouest
et Océan Indien)

Bénin, Burkina Faso, Cameroun, Centrafrique, Comores, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, Guinée, Guinée-Bissau, Guinée Equatoriale, Mali, Mauritanie, Niger, Sénégal, Tchad et Togo.

Characteristics of the OAPI system

- Uniform Law ;
- Common Office for the 17 Member States ;
- Centralized procedures ;
- Competence of Courts in Member States in resolving disputes.



**Vision: A modern and efficient
intellectual property Office for
the development of its
Member States**

STRATEGIC PLAN 2018-2022

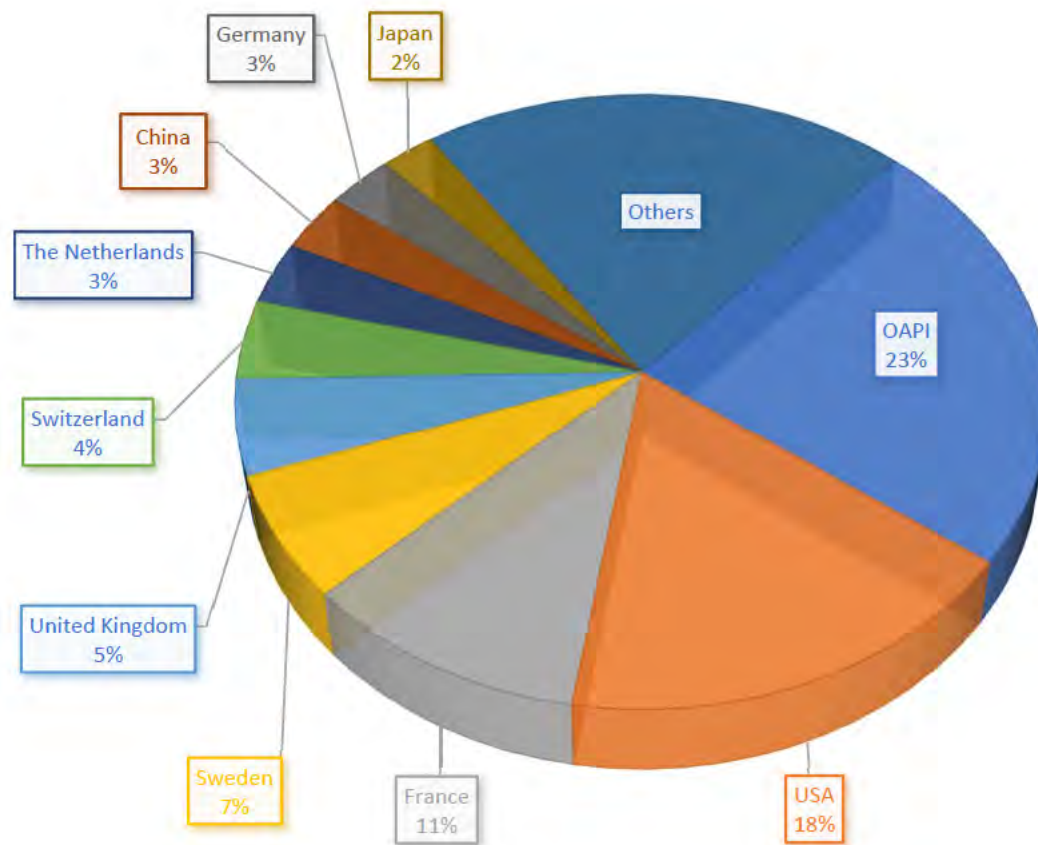
- ▶ **Revive and increase production;**
- ▶ **Upgrade infrastructure ;**
- ▶ **Strengthen human resources ;**
- ▶ **Strengthen governance ;**
- ▶ **Promote the strategic use of IP ;**
- ▶ **Increase the intervention capacity of national liaison structures ;**
- ▶ **Develop cooperation programs ;**
- ▶ **Prepare OAPI for future challenges.**

FILING STATISTICS OF IP TITLES IN OAPI

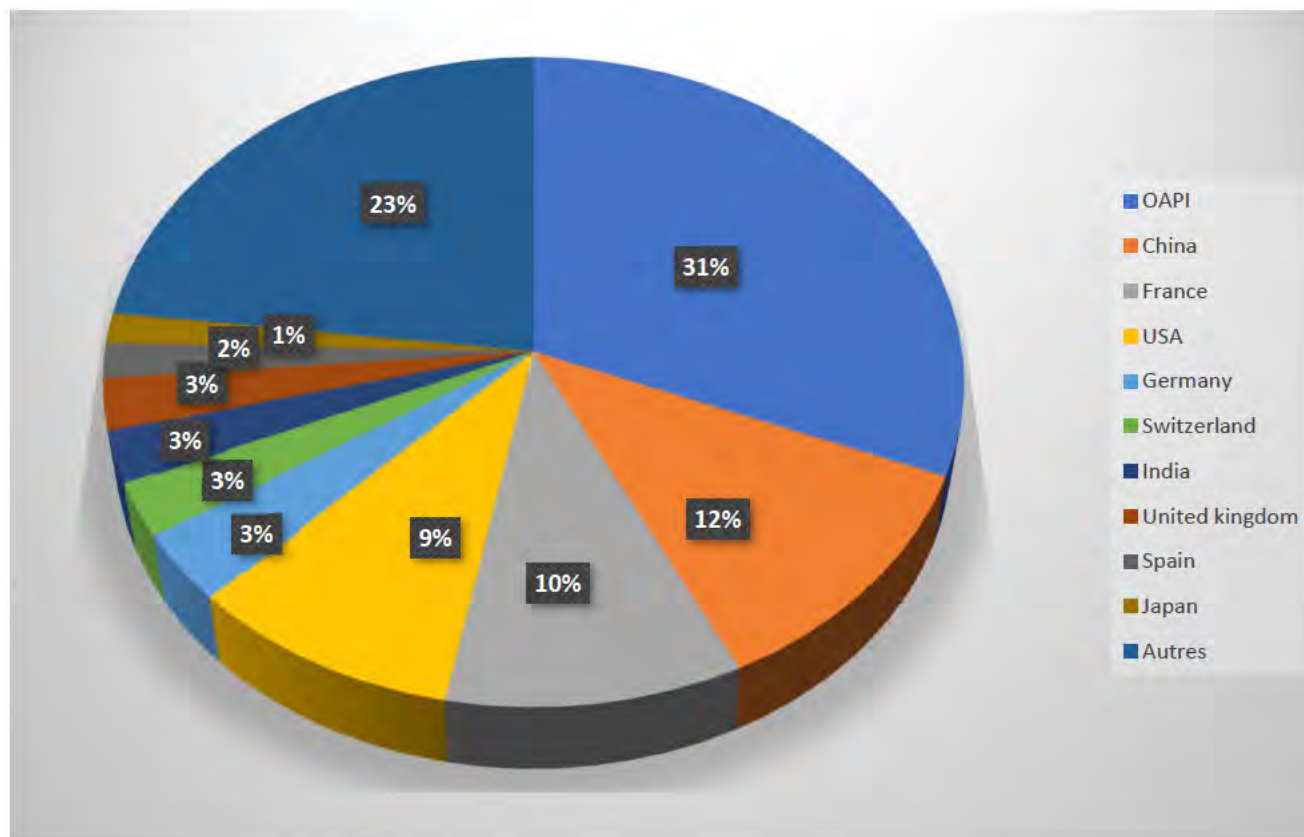
Increase in demand for the main IP titles at OAPI (patents, trademarks and industrial designs).



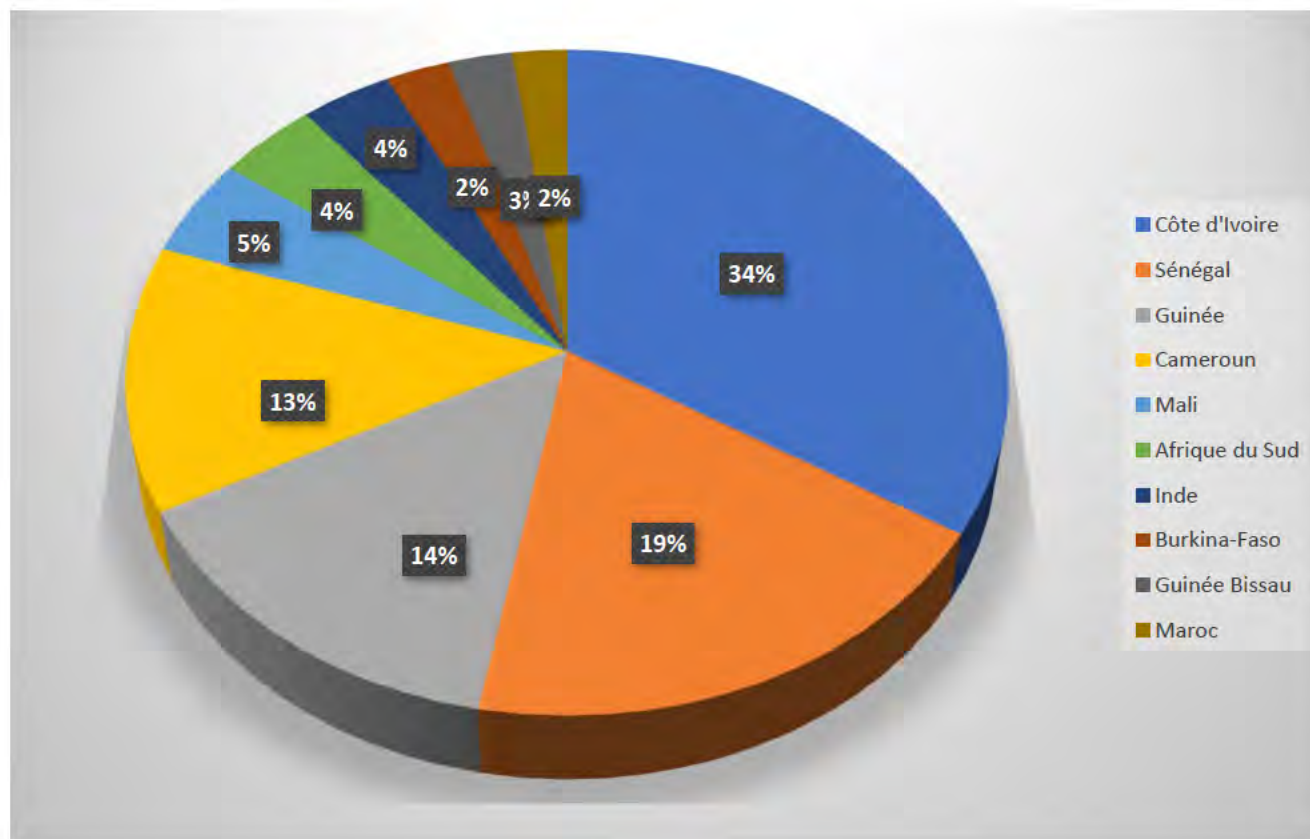
Top 10 patent applications in 2018



Top 10 Trade and service mark applications in 2018



Top 10 industrial design applications in 2018



ADVANTAGES OF THE SYSTEM

- A market potential of close to 135 million consumers, with economies from Countries with good development ambitions;
- Simplified filing procedures in all the Member States;
- Low protection cost;
- Development support projects for Member States, based on the strategic use of IP (GI, PV);
- Intellectual property Academy providing capacity building on IP issues,



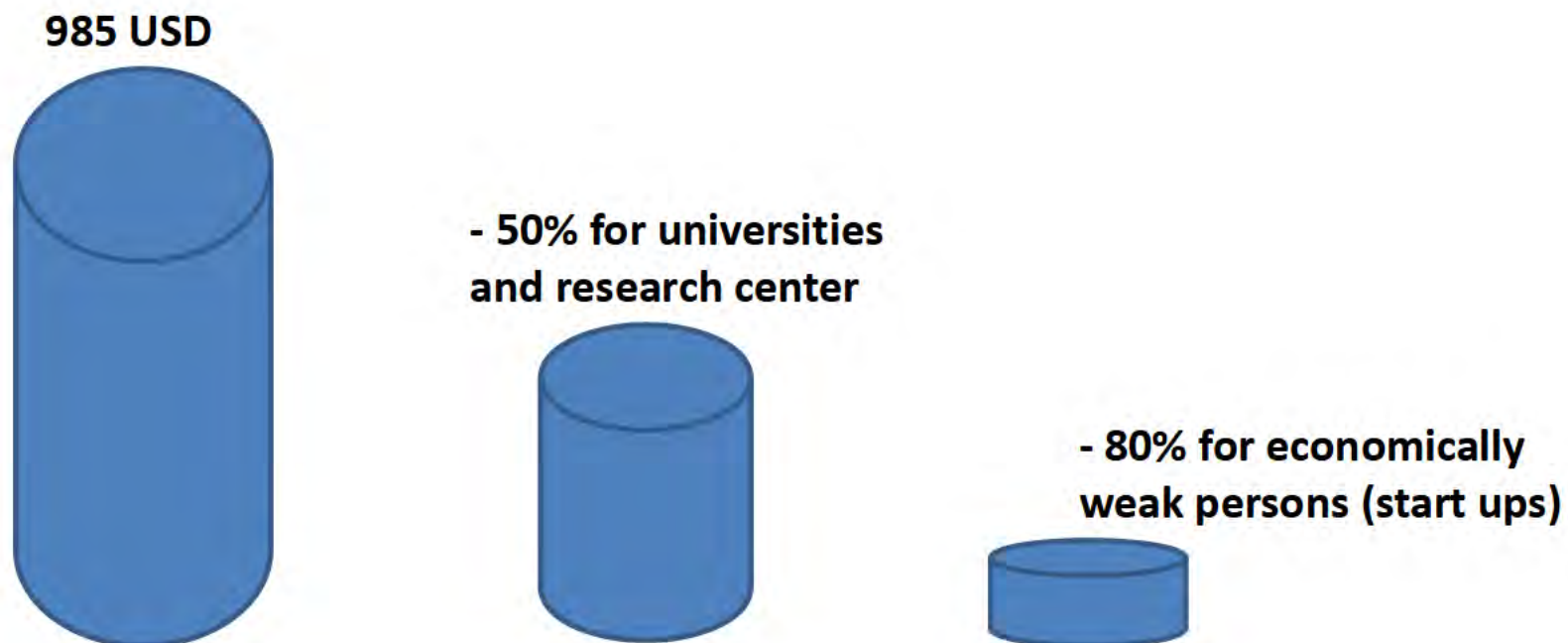
OAPI SUPPORT INITIATIVES FOR START-UPS

Reduction of patent registration costs

Promotion Platforms (régional and international)

Grant for inovators to support patent exploitation

Reduction of patent registration costs





OAPI SUPPORT INITIATIVES FOR START-UPS

Promotion Platforms (régional and international)

African fair for invention and technological innovation. Organized by OAPI every two years, in one of his member states, for the promotion of hundred of innovators or starts up. Thousands of visitors during each edition.



Geneva international fair. OAPI finance the participation of the best innovators to that international fair. 2018 two OAPI innovators won Gold and silver medals and have started their start ups

Grant for inovators to support patent exploitation.

A support fund of around 1 700 000 USD for the promotion of invention and innovation was put in place in 2007 .

That fund supported more than forty innovative projects.

Today the fund is being restructured to be more efficient



OAPI SUPPORT INITIATIVES FOR SMES



Awareness seminars and direct discussions with SMEs in all members states each year.

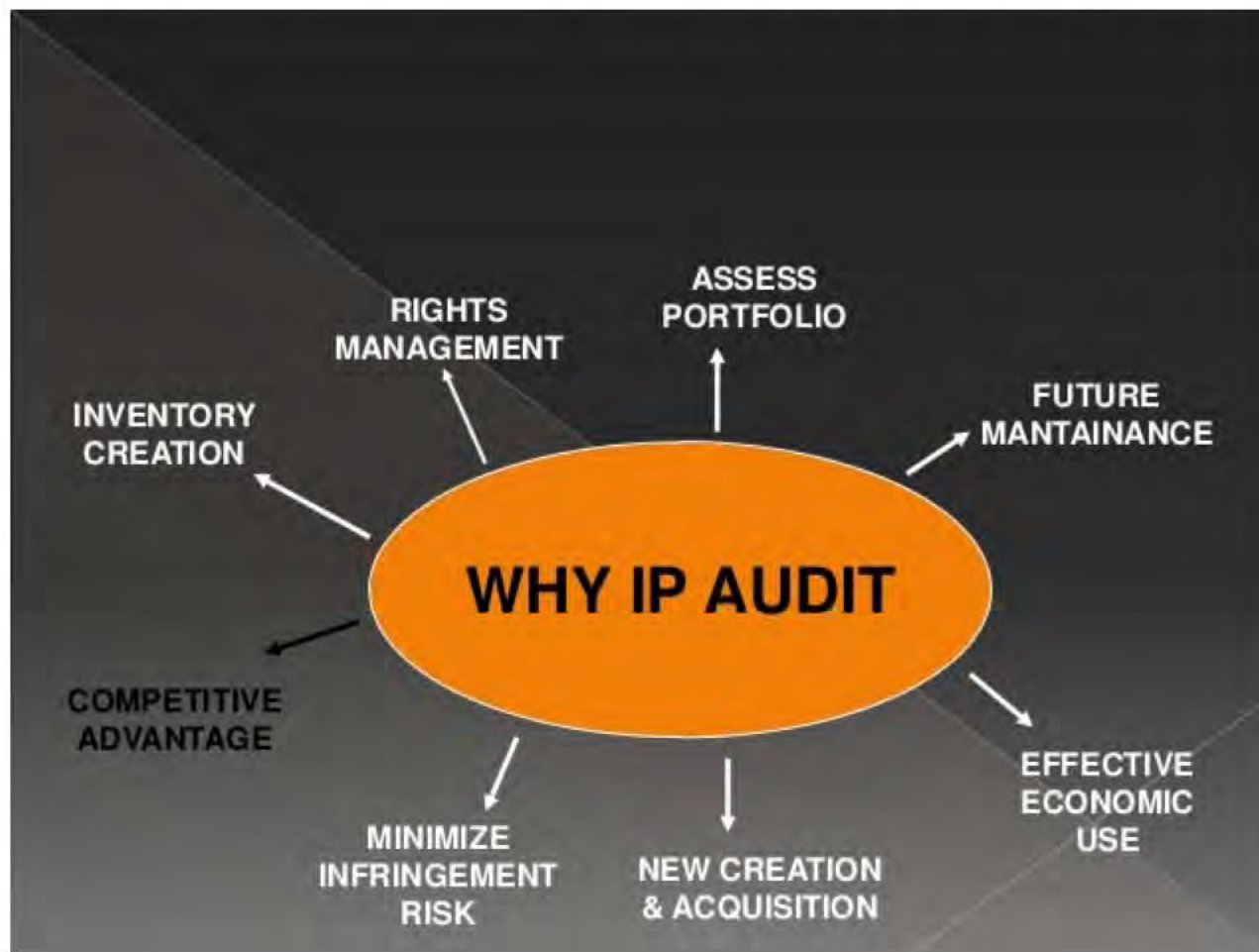
A major continental competition to promote the brands of companies and SMEs, which stand out for the uniqueness of their brand and their market conquest strategy



Three companies are awarded every two years

OAPI SUPPORT INITIATIVES FOR SMES

Support IP Audit for SMES, and propose specific IP training to companies audited.



Around 10 companies every two years and expecting to increase that support with time.

PERSPECTIVES

Capacity building on
development and support of
more IP services for SMES

Establish a joint financing and
supporting mechanism for
innovative enterprises and start
ups

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR KIND
ATTENTION!**



Depuis plus de 50 ans

L'Organisation Africaine de la Propriété Intellectuelle
Apporte son soutien et son expertise aux acteurs économiques

Dans ses 17 Etats membres

www.oapi.int

