

## **Cooperation of the SIPO on the Project *Intellectual Property for Innovations (ip4inno)* under the European Community Sixth Framework Program for Research and Innovation**

Upon invitation by the European Patent Office, the State Intellectual Property Office (SIPO), joined the international consortium in charge of implementing the Project *ip4inno* (acronym of *Intellectual Property for Innovations*) under the Sixth Framework Program (FP6) of the European Union for Research and Innovation.

The main objective of the Project is to strengthen understanding and use of intellectual property in small and medium size enterprises to increase their innovative capacity and competitiveness in accordance with the Lisbon objectives. Project activities are focused on education of the target groups which in the relevant institutions deal with provision of consultant services to small and medium size enterprises (chambers of commerce, technology transfer offices, incubators, etc.). In that way the learning process would be enlarged based on the project accomplishments (materials, seminar modules, «*train the trainers*» etc.) even upon completion of the project, aiming to create a European Innovation System in the EU Member States and in the Candidate Countries.

The Project has been planned in the framework of the New Innovation Policy *PRO INNO Europe* ([www.proinno-europe.eu](http://www.proinno-europe.eu)) initiated by the European Commission DG Enterprise and Industry in order to make it become the central point of analysis and development of the innovation policy in Europe. In the policy structure the Project is within the policy development pillar in the module INNO – *Actions*.

The implementation of the Project *ip4inno* was officially launched on 1 January 2007 and is planned to last for two years until 31 December 2008. The SIPO participates to the Project as a member of the consortium made by institutions and organizations dealing with intellectual property and/or business support to small and medium size companies (national offices of the EU Member States and Candidate Countries, innovation centers, high education and research institutions, etc.). The consortium in charge of project implementation is made of 18 institutions or organizations from 10 countries (from 8 EU MS and from Croatia and Turkey as Candidate Countries), along with the European Patent Office as the 19<sup>th</sup> member of the consortium and the main Project Coordinator. The European Union provides 50% of the Project funds and the remaining 50% of funds are provided by the members of the consortium.

The SIPO participates to the Project as the only member of the consortium from Croatia and will therefore act as country coordinator for certain Project tasks.

An integral part to the Project implementation is also the setting up of a corresponding Internet portal as a Common European Support Mechanism and dissemination of information to all potential end beneficiaries and as an *e*-forum for the partners to the consortium. Additional information about the Project is available at the web site <http://www.proinno-europe.eu/ip4inno.html>.