Research Areas

Data-Sharing Enabler

At a Glance

- Status: Active Consortium
- Year Launched: 2011
- Initiating Organization: Bio Ventures for Global Health
- Initiator Type: Third-party organization
- Location: International

Abstract

WIPO Re:Search catalyzes the development of medical products for neglected tropical diseases, malaria, and tuberculosis through innovative research partnerships and knowledge sharing.

Mission

WIPO Re:Search provides access to intellectual property, including pharmaceutical compounds, technologies, and — most importantly — know-how and data available for research and development for neglected tropical diseases (NTDs), tuberculosis, and malaria.

By providing a searchable, public database of available intellectual property assets and resources, WIPO Re:Search facilitates new partnerships to support organizations that conduct research, ultimately improving the lives of those most in need.
Consortium History

Recognizing the need for more progress in neglected disease research, WIPO Re:Search was formed in 2011 through the efforts of several of the world’s leading pharmaceutical companies, the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), and BIO Ventures for Global Health (BVGH).

WIPO Re:Search was founded on the belief that the sharing of intellectual property and know-how developed by these companies, along with other providers, can be a driving force for innovation in the search for new products to treat NTDs, malaria, and tuberculosis.

Structure & Governance

Membership in the consortium is open to those that agree in writing to guiding principles. The consortium is composed of a membership, a secretariat, and a Governance Committee.

Members includes providers, users, and supporters, and each may define itself as a member by indicating its commitment to the guiding principles via the relevant facility on the WIPO Re:Search website or in writing to the secretariat (Global Challenges Division, WIPO, 34 chemin des Colombettes, 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland; re_search@wipo.int), providing suitable personal or corporate identification and contact details. Specifically:

? “Providers” are members that contribute intellectual property, materials, or services to WIPO Re:Search for license or use.

? “Users” are members that have entered into license agreements with providers to use intellectual property and/or materials and/or services made available through WIPO Re:Search in accordance with, and in furtherance of, the principles and objectives.

? “Supporters” are members that encourage the facilitation of research and development of products for NTDs. Supporters may voluntarily offer to provide support, services, or assistance of any kind to the consortium or its members in order to facilitate achievement of the principles and objectives. WIPO and the partnership hub administrator shall, if requested by a supporter, consider publishing on the website of the consortium details of the availability of such support, services, and assistance.

Any member may withdraw from the consortium by giving notice via the relevant facility on the consortium’s website or in writing to the secretariat. Any withdrawals shall not lead to the termination of licensing agreements executed as a result of participation in the consortium unless so provided in such agreement.
The secretariat will be financed and administered by WIPO and shall provide the following services, among others, in coordination with the partnership hub administrator:

- Promote the sharing of information on available intellectual property, materials, or services for licensing through the creation, development, and operations of a database and website
- Liaise with the World Health Organization (WHO), which provides technical advice to WIPO on NTD research challenges and opportunities
- Organize annual or biennial meeting of members
- Develop, with members and others, a range of specific supporting activities to facilitate licensing, including offering model licensing clauses, and support capacity-building activities, in particular by building on and expanding WIPO’s existing and numerous activities in these areas
- Encourage policy dialogue among members and other interested parties, with a particular focus on supporting the Partnership Hub
- Facilitate the establishment of a Partnership Hub for the consortium, administered by the partnership hub administrator, to provide the following services, among others, as mutually agreed by those providers participating in the Partnership Hub, in coordination with WIPO:
  
  i. create opportunities for members and other interested parties, such as potential users, to learn about available licensing and research collaboration opportunities, networking possibilities, and funding options
  ii. recruit users to the consortium by identifying potential research and product development organizations and introducing them to the assets of WIPO Re:Search
  iii. facilitate the discussions between providers and potential licensees leading to research projects

The Governance Committee is composed of the members. In addition to the annual or biennial meeting, the Secretariat shall, as required, organize meetings of the Governance Committee by teleconference. Over time, should a consensus of the providers and users deem it necessary, a Steering Committee may be established to ensure the efficient oversight of the consortium’s activities. WIPO, WHO, and/or the partnership hub administrator may participate as observers in the meetings of the Governance Committee and the Steering Committee and provide technical advice within their respective areas of expertise.

The principal duties and responsibilities of the Governance Committee shall include inputs on and guidance of the general activities and operations of WIPO Re:Search, including its effectiveness at realizing its stated aims. The Governance Committee has no powers in regard to financing of WIPO
Where proposed changes to the principles and objectives significantly affect WIPO’s or the partnership hub administrator’s interests, the respective organization’s approval will be required prior to their adoption.

All decisions on individual collaborative and supporting activities will be made solely by the parties involved in the transactional activity, and any resulting agreements are the sole responsibility of the licensing partners. Any changes to the consortium’s guiding principles will not affect already executed licensing agreements unless so provided in such agreements.

In addition to WIPO’s financing of the secretariat function as set out above, it is recognized that the activities of the consortium may require direct disbursement of funds to support the partnership hub administrator or for other matters.

**Financing**

The financial contributors of WIPO Re:Search include Alnylam Pharmaceuticals, Eisai, GlaxoSmithKline, Merck KGaA, MDS, Novartis, Pfizer, and Sanofi.

**Data Sharing**

The WIPO Re:Search database provides information on the intellectual property (IP) assets available for licensing from WIPO Re:Search. These IP assets include compounds, enabling technologies, know-how, and more. The database facilitates the collaborations that help to fight NTDs, malaria, and tuberculosis.

The database goes beyond patents and patent rights, although they form a substantial part of the catalog. IP providers are also encouraged to provide the following:

Screening or hits data
Impact/Accomplishment

WIPO Re:Search puts a range of supporting services related to capacity building, knowledge transfer, and access to innovation information at the disposal of its members and developing countries.

WIPO provides general and detailed information about all aspects of the IP system, including IP and technology databases, information about patents, and access to specialized patent information.

WIPO provides training courses that help developing country research and development (R&D) institutions obtain maximum benefit from their IP:
- Practical aspects of IP management in developing country R&D institutions
- Technology transfer and related agreements
- Setting up technology management offices in R&D institutions

Collaboration and partnerships are central to WIPO’s efforts to develop new drugs, vaccines, and diagnostics to help the more than 1 billion people suffering from NTDs, malaria, and tuberculosis. These collaborations are an important stepping stone in the research process, and the consortium’s ambition is that they will eventually result in new treatments, vaccines, and cures.

To date, 90 various collaboration agreements under the terms of WIPO Re:Search have been

Links/Social Media Feed

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