

Indigenous Knowledge Forum

Indigenous knowledge and biodiversity: comparative studies between Australia and other countries



Newsletter August 2013

It has been a while since we published a newsletter but in the meantime the IKF organising committee has been quietly working away at following up on the initiatives commenced at last year's forum. Here is an update on what has been happening.

Publications

Papers from last year's forum have started to be published in Intellectual Property Forum. The papers published so far are:

1. **N.P. Stoianoff**, *Navigating the Landscape of Indigenous Knowledge – A Legal Perspective*, Intellectual Property Forum Issue 90, 7 September 2012, 23-40.
2. **C. Sexton with N. P. Stoianoff**, *Editorial – Intellectual Property Law and Indigenous Traditional Knowledge*, Intellectual Property Forum Issue 92, March 2013, 2-8.
3. **P. Adjei & N.P. Stoianoff**, *The World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) and the Intergovernmental Committee: Developments on Traditional Knowledge and Cultural Expressions*, Intellectual Property Forum Issue 92, March 2013, 37-48.
4. **R. Joshi & J. Chelliah**, *Sharing the Benefits of Commercialisation of Traditional Knowledge: What are the Key Success Factors?*, Intellectual Property Forum Issue 93, June 2013, 60-66.

Links to these papers are available on the Forum website and additional papers will be published in upcoming issues of the journal.

Forum in India

The organising committee has been working with TERI University in India towards running a second forum in late 2013 to extend the comparative analysis of experiences with protecting Indigenous knowledge, access and benefit sharing. This forum will focus on experiences from nations of south Asia and the Pacific. TERI University is taking the lead

with organising the event and we will let you know as soon as we have confirmed dates for the forum and a draft program.

Advisory Board

We welcome Dr Frances (Aunty Fran) Bodkin and Ms Patricia Adjei to the IKF Advisory Board. Their experience and perspectives are an invaluable addition to the strength of this group that will play a significant role in our ongoing work.

Workshops

A number of participants from last year's forum volunteered to participate in drafting and consultation relating to a proposed regime to address the needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples with respect to access to and benefit sharing in relation to Indigenous knowledge.

Those workshops are yet to be convened because we are working on securing funding so they can happen and the work preceding and arising from them can take place. We have been given the opportunity to proceed to round 2 of one funding process and are actively negotiating potential funding from other sources.

An important preliminary piece of work that we are preparing to undertake with the assistance of some of this funding is the collection of details of existing regimes and their outcomes to inform both the drafting and consultation phases of this work.

Upcoming events

On 10 and 11 August as part of National Science week Macquarie University, the Redfern Community Centre, the City of Sydney and Aboriginal elders and communities from around Australia will be sharing knowledge, skills, ideas and enthusiasm for science and the community at the Redfern Community Centre. The event will include a seminar series and family fun day. Professor Natalie Stoianoff and Dr (Aunty Fran) Bodkin will both be speaking at the event.

Further information is available at:

<http://www.scienceweek.net.au/the-indigenous-science-experience-the-redfern-community-centre/>