

Intellectual Property, Technology Transfer and Commercialization

Faculty and Students Seminar Programme

Date: 9th April, 2025

Venue: Daystar
University, Kenya



Weak intellectual property regimes undermine knowledge and technology transfer between universities and research institutes with other stakeholders, particularly the private sector. To address this, most universities and public research institutes have established institutional intellectual property (IP) policies; created technology transfer offices (TTOs), intellectual property management offices (IPMOs) and commercialization divisions to facilitate knowledge and technology exchange. While the IP policies exist in some universities and research institutes (and non-existent in others), the TTOs and IPMOs are mostly under-resourced and under-staffed. The levels of IP awareness and support to researchers are equally weak in most of our universities.

As part of its approach to promoting public – private partnerships (PPPs) for research and innovation, the Scinnovent Centre has teamed up with the Directorate of Research, Innovation, Commercialization and Enterprise (DRICE) of Daystar University to offer this sensitization seminar to the staff and students. The seminar will be titled “*Intellectual Property, Technology Transfer and Commercialization.*” The focus of the seminar centres primarily on enhancing the awareness and capacity of Daystar staff and students on the role of IP in their academic and professional undertakings; the relevance of their creativity and intellectual pursuits to socio-economic development and introduce them to aspects of technology transfer; knowledge exchange and commercialization pathways.

Why Attend?

This hybrid sensitization seminar is designed for faculty and students to deepen their understanding of Intellectual Property (IP), its role in research and innovation, and pathways to commercialization. Whether you are developing new ideas, conducting research, or preparing to take innovations to market, this seminar is for you.

Key Benefits of Attending:

Certification of Participation: All attendees who participate in this session and the two upcoming sessions will be awarded an official certificate upon completion.

Networking Opportunities: Engage with IP experts, researchers, and innovators.
Knowledge empowerment – Learn how to identify, protect, and commercialize your intellectual property

Institutional Support Awareness: Understand the roles of IPMO, TTO, and policy frameworks that protect and support your work.

Hybrid Convenience: Join in person or virtually, from wherever you are.

For proper planning and smooth coordination, **all participants are kindly requested to register in advance.**

Registration link:

<https://forms.office.com/r/8wK9ZPWQzE>

Special Treat for Physical Attendees:

4 O'clock Tea will be served to all those attending physically



Intellectual Property, Technology Transfer and Commercialization

Program Mover: Dr. Pamela Juma, Deputy Director DRICE

Session 1: Context, Definitions and Interpretations

- 14:00 - 14:10 **Brief Devotion**
Rev. Miano Weche, University Chaplain
- 14:10 - 14:15 **Opening remarks and overview**
Dr. Caroline Ayuya Muaka, Lead, Institutional Working Group, KeNIA
- 14:15 - 14:25 **Strategic Outlook:**
Prof. Laban P. Ayiro, FCS, PhD, ss.
Vice Chancellor, Daystar University
- 14:25 - 15:00 **Research, Innovation and IP Management: Setting the context, making the connections,**
Dr. Maurice Bolo, The Scinnovent Centre
- Key issues include:**
- Where are the entry points for IP in the research – innovation continuum?
 - How does IP facilitate or hinder each stage in the process?
 - What do we miss if we don't pay attention to IP management in the whole continuum?

Session 2: IP Policy and Strategies for Research and Innovation

- 15:00 - 15:30 **Institutional IP Policies and Strategies and related tools for managing IP**
Prof. Moni Wekesa, Daystar University
- Who owns intellectual property rights under different circumstances/ scenarios? How are the benefits accessed and shared?
 - How do these IP ownership and benefit sharing arrangements align or conflict with institutional IP policies?
 - Where is the place of the researcher/innovator/student? What are their rights and responsibilities?

Session 3: IP identification, Registration and Protection

- 15:30 - 16:00 **The role of IPMO/TTO offices,**
Mr. Sylvance Sange, The Scinnovent Centre
- Key issues include:**
- Institutional support for IP registration and protection
 - Do-it-yourself (DIY) tools and approaches

Session 4: Technology transfer and commercialization

- 16:00 - 16:30 **Technology Licensing and other commercialization pathways**
Dr. Maurice Bolo, The Scinnovent Centre
- What are the existing technology transfer and commercialization pathways?
 - Which ones have been applied in Kenyan settings and what are the outcomes? What are the best practices?
- 16:30 - 16:45 **Closing Remarks:**
- Dr. Kennedy Ongaro, Ag Director DRICE
 - Prof. Samuel Muriithi, DVC ARSA
 - Prayer: Rev. Miano Weche
- 16: 45 **Tea & Departure:** Phillipe Tinega



Prof. Laban P. Ayiro, FCS, PhD, ss

Vice Chancellor, Daystar University

BEd (McGill); MSc (Kenyatta University); MA (United States International University, Africa); PhD (Kenyatta University), MEd (Witwatersrand); Post-Doctoral Research, Senior Fulbright Scholar (University of Texas A&M, USA).

Vice Chair, The Kenya Network of Entrepreneurial Institutions Leaders (KNEIL)



Dr. Maurice Bolo, PhD

Maurice Bolo holds a PhD in Science, Technology and Innovation Policy from The Open University in Milton Keynes, United Kingdom, and over 20 years' work experience in research management; capacity development; public policy and strategy development. He has written and published widely on innovation, entrepreneurship, policy, partnerships, regulations and governance of technology and innovation.

Dr. Bolo, is a Visiting Research Fellow in the Department of Policy and Practice (DPP) of the Open University (UK) and a Research Associate at the Innogen Institute (Edinburgh, Scotland). He has a vast international consultancy experience having consulted for national and international organizations

both in the public and private spheres including government agencies, development organizations such as the World bank and U.N agencies.

Dr. Bolo is the Founding Director of the Kenya-based Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) Policy think-tank – The Scinnovent Centre (www.scinnovent.org). Prior to joining the Centre in February 2012, He worked with the African Technology Policy Studies Network (ATPS) Network and the African Centre for Technology Studies (ACTS). He presently leads a regional project on Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs), Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs) and Commercialization of Research under the Science Granting Councils Initiative (SGCI, www.sgci africa.org) where he's coordinating research projects in 17 African countries.



Prof. Dr. Dr. Moni Wekesa, PhD

Prof. Moni Wekesa is a distinguished academic with multiple advanced degrees. After earning a First Class Honours in Education from the University of Nairobi, he obtained master's and doctorate degrees in Sports Medicine from Germany, followed by master's and doctorate degrees in Law from the University of Nairobi.

His career encompasses teaching Sports Medicine across African universities and serving as Regional Manager for Special Olympics Africa. He has held significant positions in football administration, including Secretary General of the Kenya Football Federation. He was founding Dean of law schools at Mount Kenya University and Daystar University.

Prof. Wekesa has served on numerous international committees, including World Athletics and the International Weightlifting Federation. He has extensive experience in sports law and anti-doping initiatives. With over 100 publications and international presentations, he currently teaches Constitutional Law, Cyberspace Law, and Intellectual Property Law at Daystar University while supervising graduate research



Mr. Sylvance Sange LL.B, MIP, B. Sc.

Mr. Sange is an experienced intellectual property specialist with over 30 years of expertise in the field. He holds bachelor's degrees in both Physics and Law from the University of Nairobi, along with a Master's degree in Intellectual Property from the University of New Hampshire, Franklin Pierce School of Law, USA. Additionally, he trained as a Research Scholar in Analytical Chemistry at Clemson University, USA, further enhancing his technical knowledge and research capabilities.

Throughout his career, Mr. Sange has held several key leadership roles in the intellectual property field. He served as the managing director and registrar of trademarks at the Kenya Industrial Property Institute (KIPI), where he made significant contributions to the intellectual property frameworks in Kenya. Prior to this, he worked for over 22 years at KIPI, including tenures as deputy managing director in charge of technical services, trade mark examiner, and patent examiner where he played an instrumental role in advancing the institution's mission.

Mr. Sange has also shared his expertise on intellectual property as a speaker at numerous local and international forums. He has presented at national institutions such as the Law Society of Kenya (LSK), the Kenya School of Law (KSL), and Kenya's National Defense College (NDC), among others.



Dr. Caroline Ayuya Muaka, PhD

Director, Research, Innovation, Commercialization, and Entrepreneurship (DRICE)

BA in Education (Université Espoir d'Afrique), MA Counseling Psychology (Daystar University), PhD in Clinical Psychology (Daystar University), Advanced Training in Doctoral Supervision (Stellenbosch University, South Africa).

Institutional Working Group Member, the Kenya Innovation Agency