







Financial incentives as a tool for improving the V4 innovation ecosystem and enhancing IP protection

NATIONAL REPORT – POLAND

Justyna Ożegalska-Trybalska

Project conference, September 25, 2023 (online)

Visegrad Fund

The project is co-financed by the Governments of Czechia, Hungary, Poland and Slovakia through Visegrad Grants from International Visegrad Fund. The mission of the fund is to advance ideas for sustainable regional cooperation in Central Europe.

Country characteristic (IP protection, innovation indicators)

Poland is an Emerging Innovator with performance at 60.5% of the EU average

Poland	Performance relative to EU in 2022	Performance change 2015-2022	change	
PCT patent applications	38.1	1.9	1.1	
Trademark applications	89.0	18.5	8.0	
Design applications	141.0	1.1	4.9	

1. PATENT APPLICATIONS AND GRANTED PATENTS

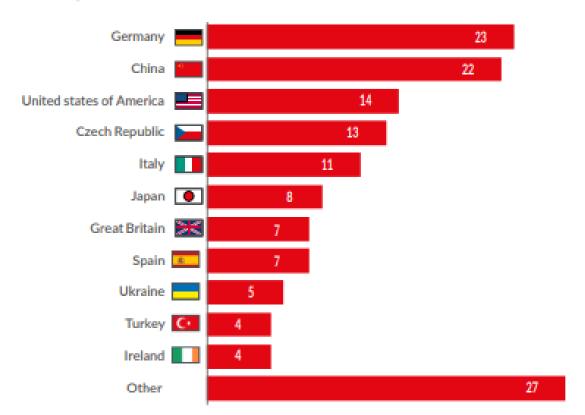
1.1. Domestic and foreign patent applications broken down by the procedure

Procedura	Domestic / Foreign	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
DOMESTIC PROCEDURE		4269	3946	4058	3430	3284
	domestic	4203	3877	4006	3375	3233
	foreign	66	69	52	55	51
PCT		53	53	40	58	39
	domestic	2	10	4	2	7
	foreign	51	43	36	56	32
Total		4322	3999	4098	3488	3323

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Country characteristic – co-operation with V4 countries

Patent and utility model applications filed in Poland in 2022 by foreign entities broken down by the country



^{*} by the seat of the first applicant

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POLISH INNOVATION AND R&D ECOSYSTEM

INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK

- The Ministry of Development Funds and Regional Policy
- The Ministry of Education and Science
- The National Centre for Research and Development (NCBR)
- The National Science Centre (NCN)
- The Polish Agency for Enterprise Development (PARP)
- Patent Office of the Republic of Poland

LEGAL FRAMEWORK

- Act of 30 May 2008 on certain forms of support for innovative activities (OJ.2022.2474)
- Act of of 28 April 2022 on the rules for the implementation of tasks financed from European funds in the financial perspective 2021-2027

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PROGRAMS AND INITIATIVES FOCUSED ON IPR FINANCING AND SUPPORT

NATIONAL (5 direct, 1 indirect fiancing), including

- SMART Path FENG.01.01-IP.01-002/23
- 2.3.2 Technology Credit
- Incubator of innovativeness 4.0

LOCAL (5), including

- Voucher for innovations, Voucher for a patent (Lublin Region), Voucher for consultancy
- Grant program for R&D work of science institutions (Podkarpackie region)

INSTITUTIONAL (1), including

Program Titanium supporting international patent applications

EU

SME Fund

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BEST PRACTICES

Decentralisation of funds for financing IP protection

- available for companies and universities in less industrialised regions of Poland
- distributed at an institutional level

Support for the prospective applicants at the stage of building IP strategy helping in applying for optimal form of IP protection

Combined forms of support (free consultancy support for the preparation of formal protection applications + financing of administrative fees + financing of protection maintenance)

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PROBLEMS/BARRIERS

- transparency of programs v. exaggerated requirements for obtaining support from EU-funded programmes for micro companies and SMEs
- (low) competitiveness of national programmes in relation to EU programmes (SME Fund)
- low competitiveness of IP protection support services in programmes where IP-related services and costs are one of many possible eligible costs
- lack of complete data on the number of funded projects, allowing monitoring of the success of projects and their impact on the number of industrial property applications

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RECOMMENDATIONS

- centralised management of support programmes /centralised information base on currently available support programmes at national, local level
- centralisation of forms of support one-stop-shop programmes for indirect (consultation on IP strategy) and direct forms of support (funding of applications)
- actions aimed at enhancing cooperation in the area of IP protection in the VF region

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Final conclusions & recommendations

Justyna Ożegalska-Trybalska

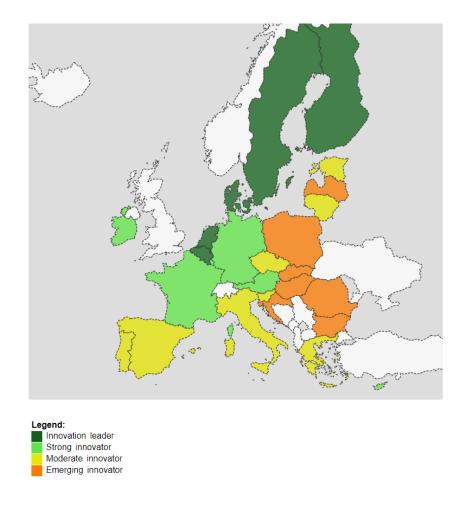
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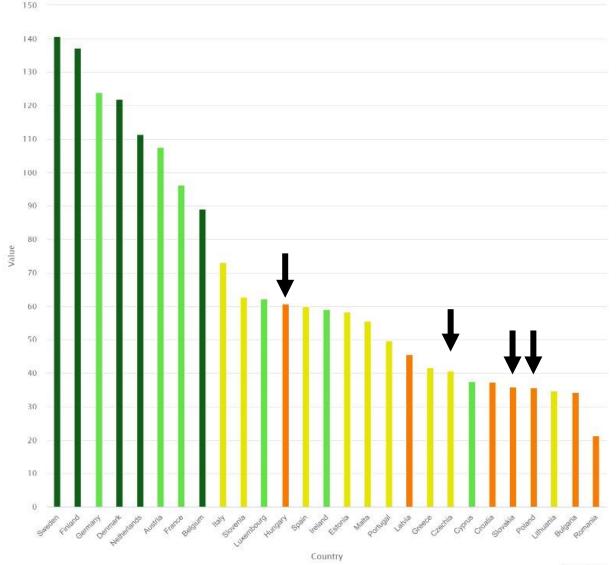
V4 REGION CHARACTERISTIC



Source: European innovation scoreboard 2022

3.3.1 PCT patent applications (Regional)





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V4 REGION TRENDS IN PATENTING (historical)

PATENT APPLICATIONS

the total number of applications per country and per million inhabitants; the application is divided equally among all inventors and subsequently among their countries of residence

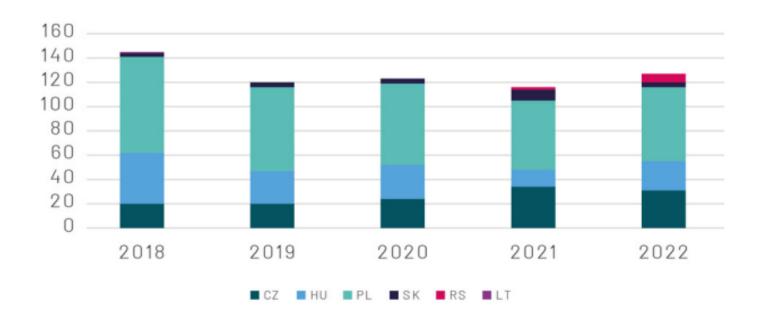


Source: Visegrád Group Countries. Selected Indicators of the 2030 agenda for sustainable development, Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic 2019, s. 48

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V4 REGION TRENDS IN PATENTING VIA VPI (2018-2022)

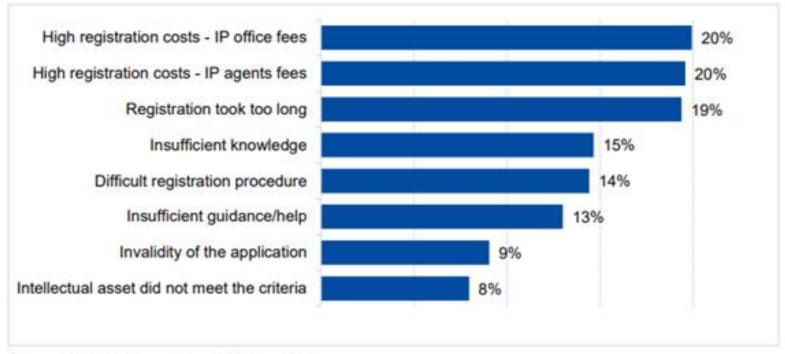
Number of international applications by country of origin (2018-2022)



Source: VPI statistics

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BARRIERS IN OBTAINING FORMAL IP RIGHTS



Base: SMEs that have registered IPRs (n = 4 278).

Question: Q11. What difficulties did you experience when registering an Intellectual Property Right?

Source: 2022 Intellectual Property SME scoreboard, EUIPO, s.66

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	PROGRAME/SUPPORT SCHEME	FORM OF SUPPORT	PERIOD	TYPE OF FINACING	FORM OF SUPPORT	TYPE OF IP	BENEFICIARIES			
	POLAND									
1	SMART Path- FENG.01.01-IP.01-002/23	direct/indirect national	recent	public	non-refundable (grant)	all (obtaining & management)	large companies			
2	2.3.2 Technology Credit	direct, national	recent	public	non-refundable (grant)	all (obtaining & defence)	micro, SMEs			
3	Incubator of innovativeness 4.0	direct, national	recent	public	non-refundable (grant)	all	universities			
4	Program Titanium supporting international patent applications	direct, institutional	recent	public	non-refundable (grant)	patents	universities			
5	Patent Plus	direct, national	historical	public	non-refundable (grant)	patents	SMEs, universities			
6	Protection of intellectual property	direct/indirect local	historical	public	non-refundable (grant)	all	micro, SMEs			
7	Measure 3.2: Support for implementation of the results of R&D works Sub-action 3.2.2: Credit for technological innovations	direct, institutional	historical	public	non-refundable (grant)	all	SMEs			
8	Measure 1.5 Voucher for innovations (Lublin Region)	direct, local	historical	public	non-refundable (voucher)	patents, utility models	micro, SMEs (smart specializations)			
9	Measure 1.5 Voucher for a patent (Lublin Region)	direct, local	historical	public	non-refundable (voucher)	patents	SMEs from the region			
10	3.5 Voucher for consultancy (Lublin Region)	direct, local	historical	public	non-refundable (voucher)	all	SMEs from the region			
11	Grant program for R&D work of science institutions (Podkarpackie region)	direct, local	historical	public	non-refundable (grant)	all (national)	universities			
12	Intellectual Property in your company	indirect, national	historical		Free IP related services	all	micro, SMEs			

13 direct, national

The Country for the Future (4th call)

Support of activities fostering the domestic

and international protection of intellectual

14	Technological incubation (1st call)	direct, national	recent	public	non-refundable	all	start-ups
					(grant)		
15	Operational Programme Technologies and	direct, national	recent	public	non-refundable	all	SMEs
	Application for Competitiveness				(grant)		
16	TREND (10 th call)	direct, national	recent	public	non-refundable	patents, utility	SMEs, universities
					(grant)	models,	
						industrial	
						designs	
17	National Centre of Competence (2 nd call)	direct, national	recent	public	non-refundable	patent, utility	SMEs, universities
					(grant)	model,	(targeted profile)
						industrial design	
18	ZÉTA (4th call)	direct, national	historical	public	non-refundable	patent, utility	SMEs, universities
					(grant)	model,	(international
						industrial design	research projects)
						maastriai acsigii	research projects)
		HUNGARY				madatrar design	research projects)
		HUNGARY				madstrar design	research projects)
19	Stimulating business research, development	HUNGARY Direct, national	recent	Public	non-refundable	all	micro, SMEs,
19	Stimulating business research, development and innovation (GINOP PLUSZ-2.1.1-21)		recent	Public	non-refundable (grant)	all (national &	
	and innovation (GINOP PLUSZ-2.1.1-21)	Direct, national	recent		(grant)	all (national & international)	micro, SMEs, universities
19			recent	Public		all (national &	micro, SMEs,
20	and innovation (GINOP PLUSZ-2.1.1-21) Support for market-driven RDI projects 2021- 1.1.3-PIACI KFI	Direct, national Direct, national		public	(grant) non-refundable (grant)	all (national & international) all	micro, SMEs, universities SME, universities
	and innovation (GINOP PLUSZ-2.1.1-21) Support for market-driven RDI projects 2021-	Direct, national Direct, national Direct,			(grant) non-refundable	all (national & international)	micro, SMEs, universities
20	and innovation (GINOP PLUSZ-2.1.1-21) Support for market-driven RDI projects 2021- 1.1.3-PIACI KFI University of Debrecen Innovation Fund	Direct, national Direct, national Direct, institutional	recent	public public	(grant) non-refundable (grant) non-refundable (grant)	all (national & international) all	micro, SMEs, universities SME, universities university
20	and innovation (GINOP PLUSZ-2.1.1-21) Support for market-driven RDI projects 2021- 1.1.3-PIACI KFI University of Debrecen Innovation Fund Support of activities fostering the domestic	Direct, national Direct, national Direct,	recent	public	(grant) non-refundable (grant) non-refundable	all (national & international) all all all, national,	micro, SMEs, universities SME, universities
20	and innovation (GINOP PLUSZ-2.1.1-21) Support for market-driven RDI projects 2021- 1.1.3-PIACI KFI University of Debrecen Innovation Fund Support of activities fostering the domestic and international protection of intellectual	Direct, national Direct, national Direct, institutional	recent	public public	(grant) non-refundable (grant) non-refundable (grant)	all (national & international) all	micro, SMEs, universities SME, universities university
20	and innovation (GINOP PLUSZ-2.1.1-21) Support for market-driven RDI projects 2021- 1.1.3-PIACI KFI University of Debrecen Innovation Fund Support of activities fostering the domestic	Direct, national Direct, national Direct, institutional	recent	public public	(grant) non-refundable (grant) non-refundable (grant) non-refundable	all (national & international) all all all, national,	micro, SMEs, universities SME, universities university

historical

public

direct, national

recent

public

non-refundable

(grant)

non-refundable

(grant)

all

all

SMEs

(new

technologies)

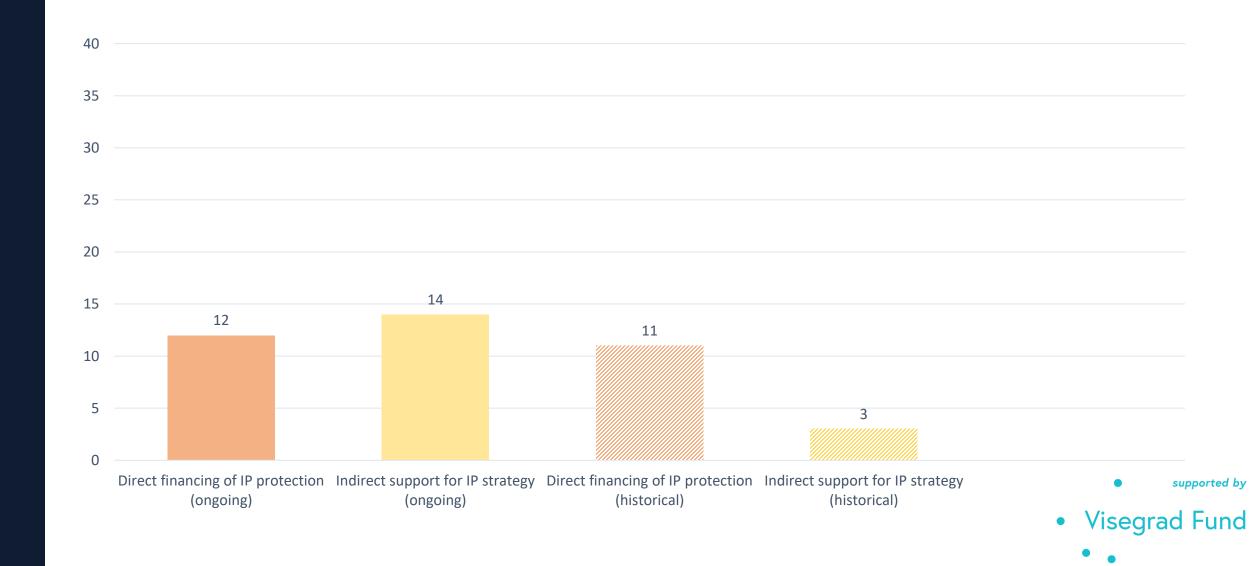
universities

	property to facilitate industrial utilization (2021-1.1.1-IPARJOG)						
24	Thematic Excellence Programme TKP2021	Direct, national	historical	public	non-refundable (grant)	all	universities
25	IP pre-diagnosis (IP Scan) service by the Hungarian Intellectual Property Office (HIPO)	Indirect, national	historical	public	free IP related services	all	SMEs
	Trungarian intellectual Property Office (I'll O)	national			3ervices		
26	Hungarian Startup University Program (HSUP)	Indirect,	historical	public	free IP related	all	universities
		national			services		
		SLOVAKIA					
27	Support for the cooperation of business	direct, national	recent	public	non-refundable	(obtaining &	SMEs/other
	entities and scientific and research				(grant)	management)	
	institutions – innovation vouchers						
28	Patent Fund by the National Technology	direct, national	recent	public	micro-loan	all	universities
	Transfer Centre of the Slovak Republic						
29	University Technology Transfer Offices	direct/indirect	variable	Public/	non-refundable	all	universities
				private	(grant)/ free IP		
					related services		
30	Expert support services by the National	Indirect,	recent	public	free IP related	all	universities/
	Technology Transfer Centre of the Slovak	national			services		research
	Republic		_		5 10 1 1		institutions
31	National Business Centre (NPC)	Indirect,	recent	public	free IP related	all	start-ups/
32	Prediagnostics of IP and Patent/State-of-	national Indirect,	recent	public	services free IP related	natants	companies
32	the-Art Searches	national	recent	public	services	patents	SMEs, universities
33	FIT – Innovation and Technology Fund	Indirect,	recent	public	free IP related	all	SMSs
		national		,	services		
34	National Holding Fund	Indirect,	recent	public	free IP related	all	all applicants
		national		_	services		
35	Innolab	indirect, local	recent	public	free IP related	all	all applicants
					services		

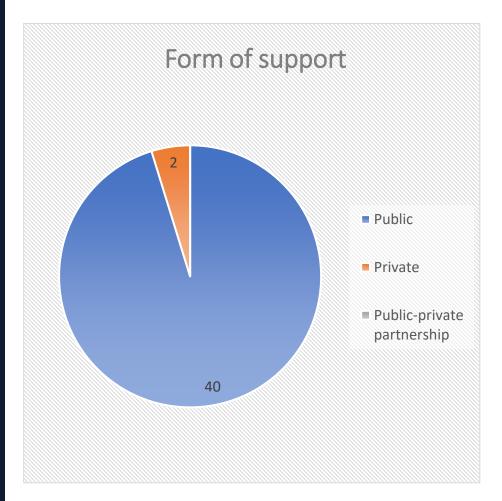
	indirect, local	recent	public	free IP related	all	SMEs
Region				services		
Innovation Centre	indirect, local	recent	public	free IP related	All	all applicants
				services		
s & Innovation Centre Bratislava	Indirect, local	recent	public	free IP related	All	all applicants
				services		
entific, s.r.o.	Indirect, local	recent	public	free IP related	All	all applicants
				services		
<u>(b</u> - University Incubator	Indirect	recent	public	free IP related	All	students,
	institutional			services		research
CHNICOM – University Science park	Indirect	recent	public	free IP related	All	universities/
	institutional			services		research
						institutions
Š – Technology and Innovation Park	Indirect	recent	public	free IP related	All	universities
l Jozef <u>Šafárik</u> University in <u>Košice</u>	institutional			services		
ě	s & Innovation Centre Bratislava entific, s.r.o. b - University Incubator CHNICOM – University Science park	s & Innovation Centre Bratislava Indirect, local entific, s.r.o. Indirect, local b - University Incubator Indirect institutional CHNICOM – University Science park Indirect institutional 5 – Technology and Innovation Park Indirect	s & Innovation Centre Bratislava Indirect, local recent entific, s.r.o. Indirect, local recent b - University Incubator Indirect recent institutional CHNICOM – University Science park Indirect institutional 6 – Technology and Innovation Park Indirect recent	s & Innovation Centre Bratislava Indirect, local recent public entific, s.r.o. Indirect, local recent public b - University Incubator Indirect recent public CHNICOM – University Science park Indirect recent public institutional recent public institutional recent public	s & Innovation Centre Bratislava Indirect, local Indirect, local Indirect, local Indirect, local Indirect Indirect Indirect Indirect Institutional Indirect Indirect	s & Innovation Centre Bratislava Indirect, local Indirect, local Indirect, local Indirect I

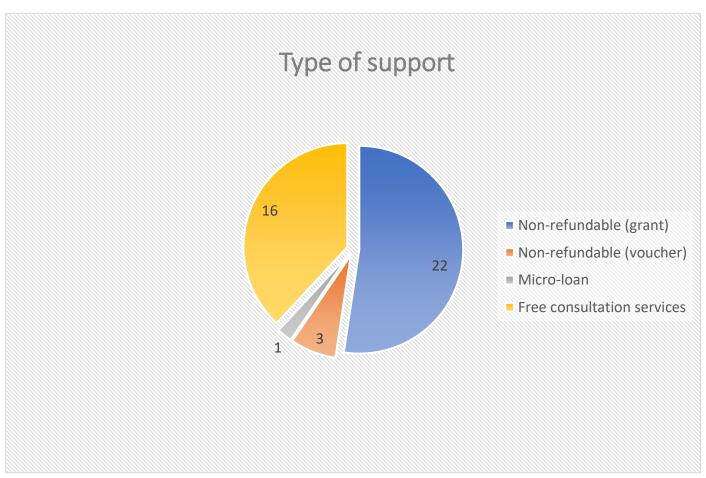
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DIRECT (INDIRECT)/ONGOING (HISTORICAL) PROGRAMMES SUPPORTING IP PROTECTION IN V4



SOURCE AND FORM OF FINANCING

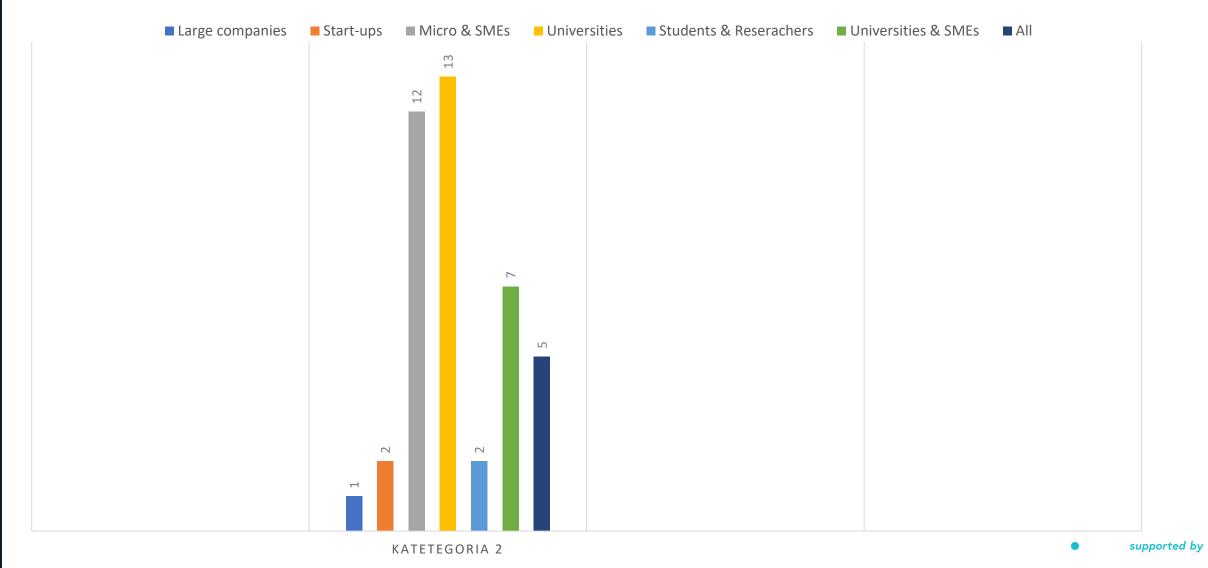




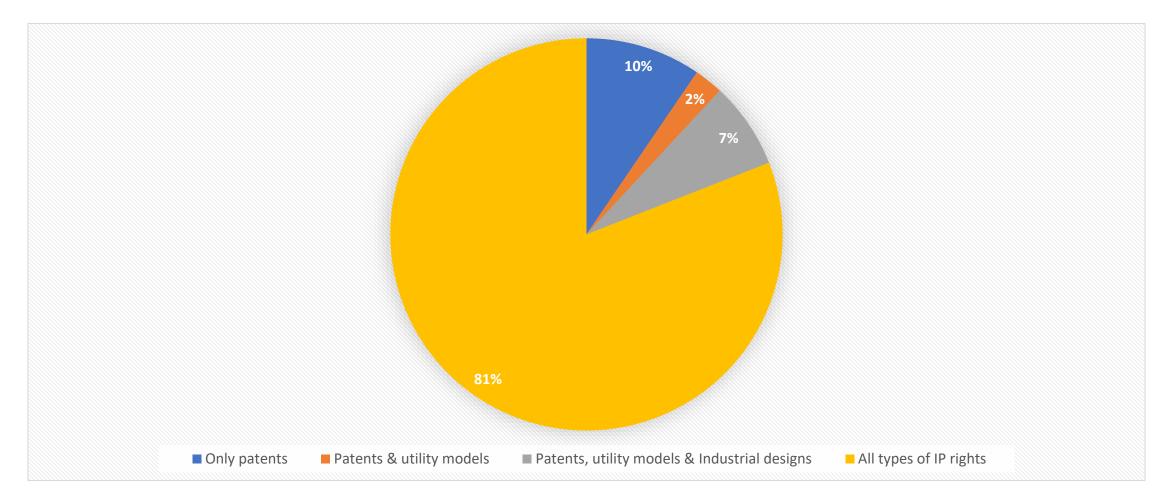
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BENEFICIARIES



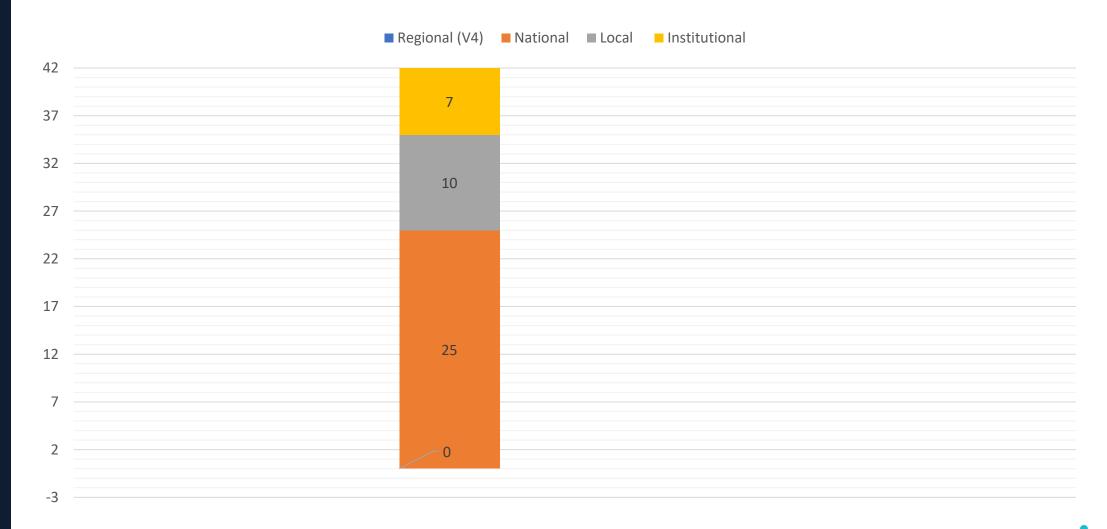
IP SUPPORTED



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PROGRAMME OUTREACH



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IDENTIFIED PROBLEMS/BARRIERS

NATIONAL LEVEL

- Formalities involved in obtaining IP support
- Lack of forms of financing other than public support
- Lack of a central management/contact point for applicants
- Lack of central data base of supporting programmes/data related to supported projects

REGIONAL LEVEL

- Support at national level limited only for entities having seat within a country
- Support for IP protection not explicitly included among priority areas of activities in the Presidency Programmes of V4
- Lack of existing regional support programmes for 4V
- Existence of 'competing' funding schemes for IP protection at EU level

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IDENTIFIED BEST PRACTICES

Local and institutional programmes directly aimed at obtaining IP rights financed from internal resources, e.g.

Titanium programme supporting international patent applications, University of Gdańsk, Poland

Targeted support for projects related to emerging technologies, e.g.

the Country for the Future, Czechia

Indirect consultancy services ("IP Scans") provided by national patent offices, e.g.

IP in your company, the Patent Office of the Republic of Poland
IP pre-diagnosis (IP Scan) service by the Hungarian Intellectual Property Office

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RECOMMENDATIONS

Divergence of financing sources and forms of supporting

- Increase of funding from national sources
- Increase of the share of private and institutional funding
- Development of private/public-private partnerships financing schemes
- Tax incentives

IP protection as a priority areas for future Presidency Programmes of V4

Support for the activities of the Visegrad Patent Institute

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RECOMMENDATIONS

Establishment of regional financing scheme to support the activities of the Visegrad Patent Institute

"VPI Voucher" for VPI services, e.g. new the International-Type Search (ITS) service available via

- National programmes
- Regional programs/projects
- Visegrad Fund
- Special fund supporting IP protection in VF

IP support tools focused on start-ups

- Simplified procedures
- Accessibility at local level

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