



# EUIPN TOOLS IMPLEMENTATION EXPERIENCE - UGANDA

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AfriPI, project funded by the European Union and implemented by the European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO)

## Outline

- 1. Overview of all EUIPN Tools**
- 2. TM class**
- 3. DS class**
- 4. Front office**
- 5. Uganda experience and challenges**
- 6. Next steps**

## Overview of all available tools

### Search tools

- Trademark view
- Design View

### Classification tools

- Trademark class
- Design class

### IP Services and Quality

- Front office e-filing

## About TM Class

- **Uganda joined TM class on 3 August, 2020.**
- **TM class is an online tool that helps users correctly classify goods and services when filing a trade mark**
- **The biggest available source of classification terms – it contains the databases of 95 participating trade mark offices in one common platform**
- **Fully multilingual**

## Benefits of TM class

### Benefits for Users

- **Classification lists of Goods and Services from participating IP offices**
- **Identify and pre-validate the proper classification and goods and services before filing**
- **TMclass is free of charge and available 24/7**

### Benefits for IP Offices

- **Working tool for trade mark examiners. Verification of list of Goods and Services**
- **Trade mark classification available online to the global public**

## About DS Class

- **Uganda joined DS class on 3 August, 2020.**
- **Design class is a set of user-friendly features that can help users find product indications in a Harmonised database (HDBPI) that best match the goods to which a design applies.**
- **The Harmonised product indications database follows the same structure of classes and subclasses as the Locarno Classification.**
- **Tree structure to facilitate users and examiners to find the correct product indication(s).**
- **Available in 30 languages**



## DS Class benefits

### Benefits for Users

- **Classification lists of Product Indications from 42 participating IP offices**
- **Identify and pre-validate the proper classification of Product Indications before filing**
- **Design Class is free of charge and available 24/7**

### Benefits for IP Offices

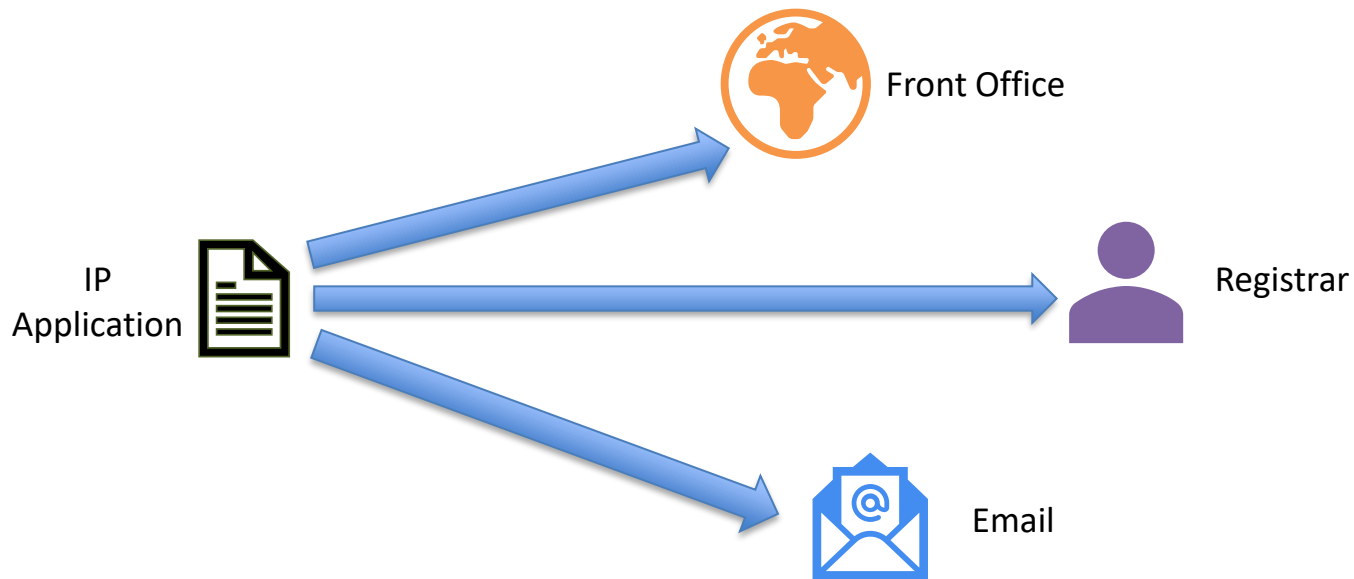
- **Working tool for designs examiners. Verification of list of Product Indications**
- **Designs classification tool available online to the global public**
- **Efficiency in dissemination and sharing of information on IP matters**

## About Front office e-filing

- **Highly configurable, with sections and fields adaptable to the needs of each Office**
- **Pre-defined e-filing forms: trade mark application, design application, renewal, transfer of ownership, opposition... plus, the possibility of easily creating new ones**
- **Interfaces available to connect to different platforms including: applicants and representatives databases; payment platforms; classification; and products indications**
- **Fast, easy and efficient**



## USE CASE: UG Acceptable IP filing routes (2022)



## The online filing process

- The applicant visits the URSB website eservices section and selects “Trademark Application”
- The applicant has an option to select G&S using HDB
- Proof of payment is attached
- On submission, the applicant gets a confirmation receipt
- Shortly after an examiner has looked through their application, the application is pushed to IPAS and an official filing number is printed and shared by email



### Apply for a trade mark online



- 1 It is recommended to generate an assessment from URA portal and have a record of your PRN before starting the process.
- 2 When applying for your trade mark, you will need to provide a list of the goods and/or services on which you intend to use your trade mark.
- 3 Ensure you have access to your email and an active Phone number.
- 4 You can save your application at any time during the process.



Start application

## Front Office benefits

- Eliminates paper filing
- Accessible 24/7
- The use of Harmonized classification database greatly improves efficiency for examiners because the applicants use a pre-validated list of extended terms
- Source code and updated documentation is available free of charge
- The office can customize the solution to its needs

Select Goods and

phones

Remember you are entering the terms.

Term

VoIP phones

Satellite phones

Internet phones

Digital phones

Video phones

Smart phones

VOIP phones


9 VoIP p

Valid: "Term

Not validate

Please check  
"An Examiner  
delayed."

Validation n  
required, regi


**Uganda Registration Services Bureau - IP Office**

### Application for a Trade Mark

File received by User: URSB IP online vye  
 Original filing date: 2022-04-06T18:05:48.0  
 System reception date: 2022-04-25T11:09:34  
 Trademark Application number: 1027/2022/118


#### Confirmation of Application for a Trade Mark

Your application for a trade mark has been successfully filed with URSB. Thank you for choosing the trade mark.

Application details	
Provisional application ID	EFLUG202200000010
Nature of Application	Local
Part of Registrar	PART A
Filing date	4/6/22
Filing time	18:09

**NOTE:**  
The filing number issued is a temporary tracking number for this application. An official application number will be issued shortly and shared by e-mail. Please use the official number when sending correspondence regarding this application.

Applicant(s)	
Applicant type:	Individual(s)
Name:	KEDI KEDI
Postal address:	KAMPALA Uganda
Telephone Number:	42647478
Email address:	@yahoo.com

Mark	
Mark type:	Name and Logo
Representation of mark:	
Word Element(s) of the Mark:	TESTED

Goods & Services	
Class	List of Goods & services
4	TEST3
23	TEST1
45	TEST2

Fee(s)			
Search Fee	Type	Amount	Reference
Application Fee	UGX 25,000	232732320	
	UGX 50,000	3333263235	

Signature	
First Name and Surname	Capacity of the signatory
KEDI KEDI	Applicant

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## Front Office benefits cont...

- Improves data quality
- Builds internal capacity of the office
- Provides a simple user interface
- The source code is open source with a community of 20+ IP Offices that share updates and improvements to the source code
- Data capture and EDMS uploads are automated

META

Name and Logo

Please enter your mark

Add attachments 

Add files

Unsupported file type

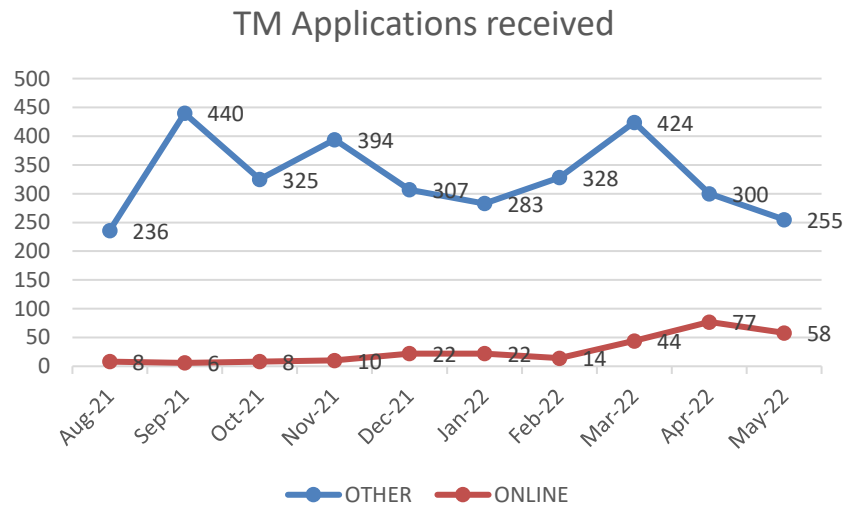
Trade mark \*

**JPEG**  
Standard file type used to represent the mark(s) you are applying for. The maximum individual file size cannot exceed 2MB and should conform the following standards:

- Maximum image size: 17cm x 24cm or 2008 x 2835 pixels
- Minimum display resolution: 800 x 600 pixels
- Maximum: 300 DPI
- RGB colour type

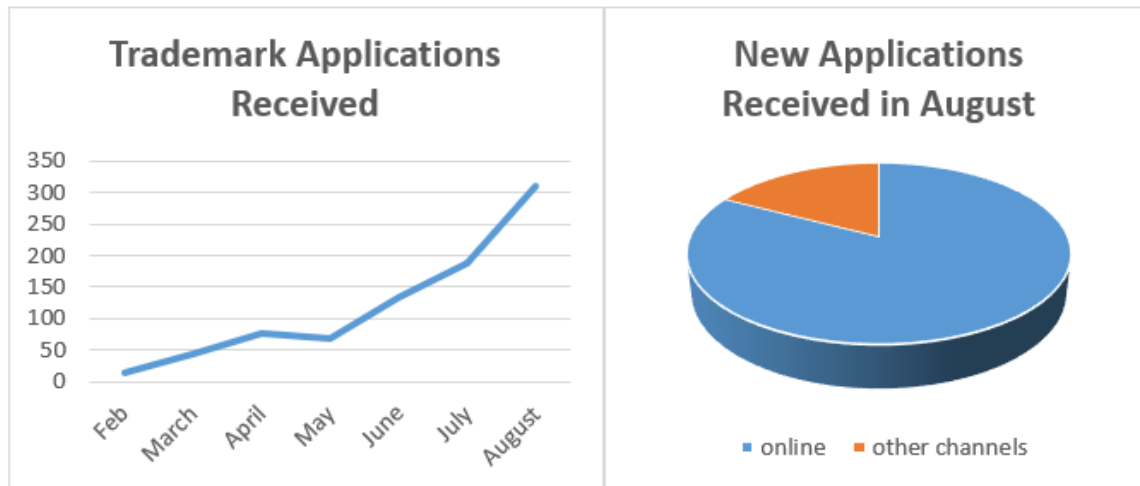
## Current status of Front office - UG

- Front office deployed on 26<sup>th</sup> October 2021
- Capability to verify terms online
- DS e-services (renewals, oppositions, ...) undergoing development
- All TM applications and renewals are strictly made only.



## Current status of Front office – UG cont...

- In a few months, manual filings were dropping to a near-zero



## Challenges faced in Uganda

- **Steep learning curve**
- **Slow adoption of the new online system especially by the law firms.**

## Cost implication

- **All development software and source code provided free**
- **AfrIPI provides an expert to help with the implementation, free of charge for the African IPOs**
- **Other optional licensed versions of development software may be purchased if needed for instance premium IDE versions (Intellij) and document processing libraries**



## Acquisition of the tools

- **An office can request AfriPI for a more detailed/ technical presentation of the tools. AfriPI will assist the office conduct a feasibility analysis.**
- **An office can integrate with any tool(s) of choice. All tools are free.**
- **Classification tools will require the least effort to integrate.**
- **Search tools will require the office to share their data with the EUIPO Trademark and Design View servers.**
- **Front office e-filing will require the office to sign a license agreement, after which the source code will be shared.**



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[www.afripi.org](http://www.afripi.org)