South Africa's IPR from Publicly Financed R&D; Act and NIPMO — A National Mandate for University Technology-Transfer Offices

City Innovation Library · Good practice · South Africa

Quality score: 57/100

Evidence strength: Moderate

Summary

South Africa's 2008 IPR Act made publicly funded universities and science councils run tech-transfer offices under NIPMO. Yearly licences quadrupled and 45 start-ups formed by 2014, but over 88% of revenue went to four institutions.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Evidence of impact / measured results	2/3
Transferability / demonstrated replication	1/3
Scalability	2/3
Sustainability / continuity	2/3
Innovation	1/3
Inclusiveness / equity	2/3
Multi-stakeholder collaboration	2/3

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

C-NAPSE web research — accessed 2026-11-23

National Intellectual Property Management Office (NIPMO), Department of Science and Innovation — accessed 2026-11-23

Mail & Guardian — Findings of South Africa's first national IP and tech-transfer survey (2017) — accessed 2026-11-23

Intellectual Property Watch — Law boosts awareness of patents from research institutions in South Africa (2015) — accessed 2026-11-23

South African Government — IPR from Publicly Financed R&D; Act 51 of 2008 — accessed 2026-11-23

WIPO Lex — Act 51 of 2008 text — accessed 2026-11-23

Cite this — Evidoria. *South Africa's IPR from Publicly Financed R&D; Act and NIPMO — A National Mandate for University Technology-Transfer Offices*. Persistent ID: b95d3965-7b6b-40c8-9e0c-b3f439e1c2f5.