

# Global Innovation Index 2024



Every year, WIPO's Global Innovation Index ranks the global top-100 Science and Technology (S&T) Clusters. This ranking pinpoints the metropolitan areas that show the most vibrant scientific and inventive activity around the world. This year, for the first time, WIPO is organizing an event dedicated at unveiling the 2024 S&T cluster ranking. The programme will include high-level statements from top performing clusters and an expert panel discussion on what makes innovation thrive in cities.

Please join us for the release of the 2024 ranking, which is organized by WIPO in conjunction with IP Week @ SG 2024 hosted by the Intellectual Property Office of Singapore.

## Top 100 Science and Technology Clusters Global Launch

**In-person**  
**Marina Bay Sands Expo &  
Convention Centre, Singapore**  
**August 27, 2024**  
**3.30 p.m. to 5.00 p.m. (Singapore Standard Time)**

Register [online](#) for onsite participation.  
Follow the live stream [here](#).



**Daren Tang**, Director General, World Intellectual Property Organization

Daren Tang, a national of Singapore, began his six-year mandate as Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) on October 1, 2020. Prior to his appointment as WIPO Director General, he served as Chief Executive of the Intellectual Property Office of Singapore (IPOS), driving the strategic transformation of IPOS in support of Singapore's innovation-based economy. Between 1997 and 2012, before joining IPOS, Daren Tang held different legal positions within the Attorney-General's Chambers and the Ministry of Trade and Industry of Singapore. In 2016, he received the Public Administration Medal from the Prime Minister's Office Singapore for outstanding efficiency and competence in the service of his country. Daren Tang is a graduate of the National University of Singapore (Bachelor of Law, Honors) and the Georgetown University Law Center (Master of Laws, Distinction). He also attended the Advanced Management Program at Harvard Business School. He is fluent in English and Chinese.



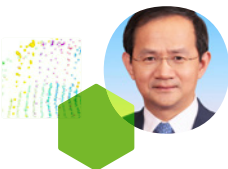
**Sanae Takaichi**, Minister in charge of Economic Security, Minister of State for Science and Technology Policy, Minister of State for Intellectual Property Strategy

Sanae Takaichi was elected for the first time as a member of the House of Representatives in 1993 (currently serving her ninth term). She served as Minister of State (appointed five times), Minister for Internal Affairs and Communications (appointed five times; the longest tenure in history), Chair of the Committee on Rules and Administration of the House of Representative, and Chairperson of the Policy Research Council of the Liberal Democratic Party. Appointed to current position in September 2023.



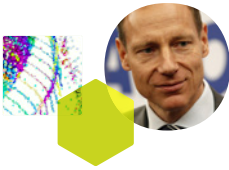
**Edwin Tong SC**, Minister for Culture, Community and Youth, and Second Minister for Law

Edwin Tong SC is Minister for Culture, Community and Youth, and Second Minister for Law. He is also Chairman of the Chinese Community Liaison Group, and Deputy Chairman of the People's Association. At the Ministry of Law, he focuses on the development and promotion of Singapore's legal, dispute resolution and intellectual property (IP) sector. He also handles wide-ranging aspects of law reform, such as the civil and criminal justice system, corporate restructuring and insolvency, and legal aid. For his work in revamping and pushing through milestones in Singapore's copyright and IP law, Mr. Tong was recognised to be amongst the 50 most influential people in IP by Managing IP in 2021 and 2022. Before taking office, Mr Tong spent his entire working life at Allen & Gledhill LLP. In that time, he was concurrently Head of the Restructuring and Corporate Insolvency Department, Co-Head of the Litigation & Dispute Resolution Department, and a member of the Exco. He was widely acknowledged to be a leading lawyer of the Singapore Bar, and was appointed Senior Counsel in 2015. Mr. Tong was educated at St Joseph's Institution, Raffles Junior College and later read law at the National University of Singapore.



**YIN Yong**, Mayor, People's Government of Beijing Municipality

Han ethnicity, was born in August 1969. He holds a doctorate degree in Engineering and is a member of the Communist Party of China (CPC). YIN is currently a member of the 20<sup>th</sup> CPC Central Committee, a deputy to the 14<sup>th</sup> National People's Congress, Deputy Secretary of the CPC Beijing Municipal Committee, Secretary of the Party Leadership Group of the People's Government of Beijing Municipality, and Mayor of Beijing. YIN oversees the overall work of the municipal government and is in charge of planning and auditing.



**Carsten Fink**, Chief Economist, World Intellectual Property Organization

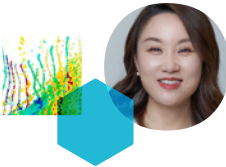
Carsten Fink is the Chief Economist of the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) based in Geneva. Before joining WIPO, he was Professor of International Economics at the University of St.Gallen. He also held the positions of Visiting Professor at the Fondation Nationale des Sciences Politiques (Sciences Po) in Paris and Visiting Senior Fellow at the Group d'Economie Mondiale, a research institute at Sciences Po. Prior to his academic appointments, Mr. Fink worked for more than 10 years at the World Bank. Among other positions, he was a Senior Economist in the International Trade Team of the World Bank Institute, working out of the World Bank's office in Geneva and an Economist in the Trade Division of the World Bank's research department, based in Washington, DC. Mr. Fink's research work – focused on intellectual property, innovation, and international trade – has been published in academic journals and books. He holds a doctorate degree in economics from the University of Heidelberg in Germany and a Master of Science degree in economics from the University of Oregon in the United States.



**Wendi Backler**, Partner and Director, Boston Consulting Group

Wendi Backler is a Partner and Director at the Boston Consulting Group and leads BCG's Intellectual Property (IP) strategy and value creation topic globally, helping clients expand their business and fuel growth through IP, innovation, and technology. Wendi co-founded BCG's Technology Ventures business, aiding clients to commercialize and extract value from their IP and technology assets. For over 20 years, she has advised leading global players on IP, growth, and innovation strategy in industries such as health sciences, high-tech, automotive, energy, and consumer goods. Additionally, Wendi founded and leads BCG's Center for Growth & Innovation Analytics, using proprietary technologies and innovation data to identify growth opportunities,

partnerships, acquisition candidates, and innovation trends. Beyond BCG, she has lectured and written on open innovation and innovation ecosystems, including at MIT and the East West Center.



**Guan Dian**, Co-founder and APAC General Manager, Patsnap

A staunch believer in the power of innovation to make the world a better place, Guan Dian, co-founder and APAC general manager of Patsnap, built the SaaS business in Asia from the ground up to become a leading player in the region. She was instrumental in the fundraising efforts that catapulted Patsnap – now a global leader in AI-powered innovation intelligence – into the unicorn club with a valuation of over US\$1 billion. Championing customer-centric initiatives such as Patsnap Academy, a curriculum for IP and R&D professionals, Guan is also the driving force behind the thriving Patsnap ecosystem that fosters symbiotic relationships with government agencies, educational institutions, and the private sector.



**Emily Tan**, Country Director and Chief Executive, Thales

As Chief Executive and Country Director of Thales in Singapore, Emily Tan leads 2,000 Thales employees working across the Group's diverse businesses including Aerospace, Defence & Security, Digital Identity & Security, while also overseeing Thales' Research, Technology and Innovation initiatives in the country. She drives the company's growth across three sites in Singapore, including the Group's largest multi-module Digital Identity & Security Manufacturing Competence Centre located at Ayer Rajah Crescent, and the Group's largest avionics production and Maintenance, Repair & Overhaul (MRO) facility at Changi North Rise, as well as an Engineering Competence Centre and Digital Factory which employs over 500 digital talents.



**Purushothama Shenoy (Puru)**, Chief Technology Officer, APAC Ecosystem Technical Leader, IBM Technology, IBM APAC

Puru is the APAC Field Chief Technology Officer (CTO) of IBM Ecosystem based out of Singapore and leads IBM Ecosystem Technical sales team in IBM APAC. He is highly regarded as an experienced technical leader especially in the strategic areas of Digital Transformation, Hybrid cloud, Data Analytics, Artificial Intelligence (AI), Hyper automation and security solutions, with over 22+ years of IT experience and having held various leadership roles across India, ASEAN and APAC. Puru holds a patent and is a published author of IBM Red Paper on “Building Telecom Web Services: Back-end Implementations for Network Integration”. Puru has been recognized by Former President of India Dr APJ Abdul Kalam and Former IBM CEO Sam Palmisano, for his technical contribution for an open-source architecture for disaster management system.



Access the  
GII webpage

