



International Legal Affairs Department

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE

The Current Status and Future of Korea's IP-Backed Transactions

Doh-Uk Shin

Director of International Legal Policy Division
Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Korea



Intellectual Property Financing



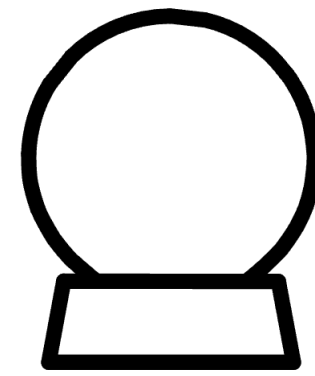
Current Status

What is the current status of IP financing in Korea?



Key Barriers

What barriers prevent IP financing from reaching its full potential?



Our Vision

What is our vision for the future of IP financing?

Current Status of IP Financing in Korea

Korea's Global Success

Global impact of
K-pop and K-drama

Underdeveloped Market

Korea's IP financing mechanisms
remain limited, with most activity
concentrated on patents



Success of Patents

KRW 10 Trillion

Total Patent Financing as of August 2024

Registration-Based System

**Creates legal certainty and
transparency for all stakeholders**

Clear Scope of Rights

**Makes patent assets easier to
assess and transfer**

Reliable Valuation System

**Enables consistent and credible
asset standards**

Legal Measures: Patent Act

Korea's Patent Act provides the statutory framework that enables effective patent-backed financing through clear collateral provisions and portfolio mechanisms

Article 85

Patent Register

(1) The Commissioner of the Korean Intellectual Property Office shall keep the Patent Register at the Korean Intellectual Property Office and shall enter the following matters therein:

1. The grant, transfer, expiration, and reinstatement of patents, restrictions on the disposal of patents, and the extension of patent terms;
2. The grant, preservation, transfer, amendment, and expiration of exclusive or non-exclusive licenses and restrictions on the disposal of exclusive or non-exclusive licenses;
3. The establishment, transfer, amendment, and expiration of pledge rights on a patent or on an exclusive or non-exclusive license and restrictions on the disposal of such pledge rights.

(2) The Patent Register prescribed in paragraph (1) may be fully or partially stored on electronic recording medium, etc.

(3) Except as otherwise provided in paragraphs (1) and (2), matters necessary for the facts to be registered, procedures for registration, etc. shall be prescribed by Presidential Decree.

(4) Specifications and drawings of patented inventions, and other documents specified by Presidential Decree shall be deemed part of the Patent Register.

Article 45

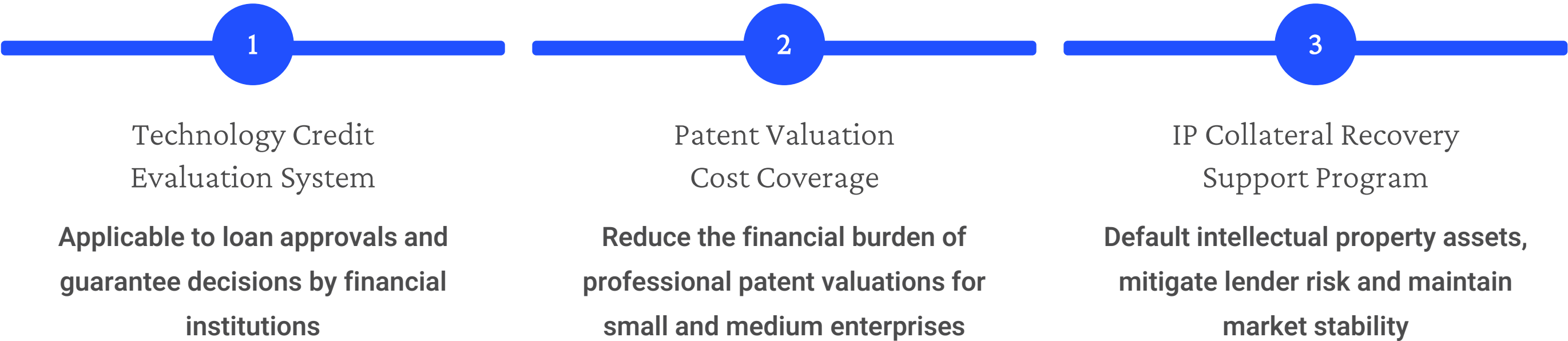
Application for Patent for a Group

(1) Two or more inventions which are so closely linked to each other as to form a single group of inventions in terms of technical idea may be filed in a single patent application.

(2) The standard for determining whether two or more inventions form a single group of inventions under paragraph (1) shall be prescribed by Presidential Decree

Policies: Support Mechanisms

Korean government has implemented support mechanisms to facilitate patent financing and reduce barriers for stakeholders



Barriers to Expanding IP Financing

1

Inadequate Valuation Infrastructure

No standardized and finance-oriented framework exists for assessing copyright value consistently

2

Recovery Risk of IP Collateral

Limited secondary markets and high volatility create uncertainty for lenders seeking collateral liquidation

Path Forward

Overview

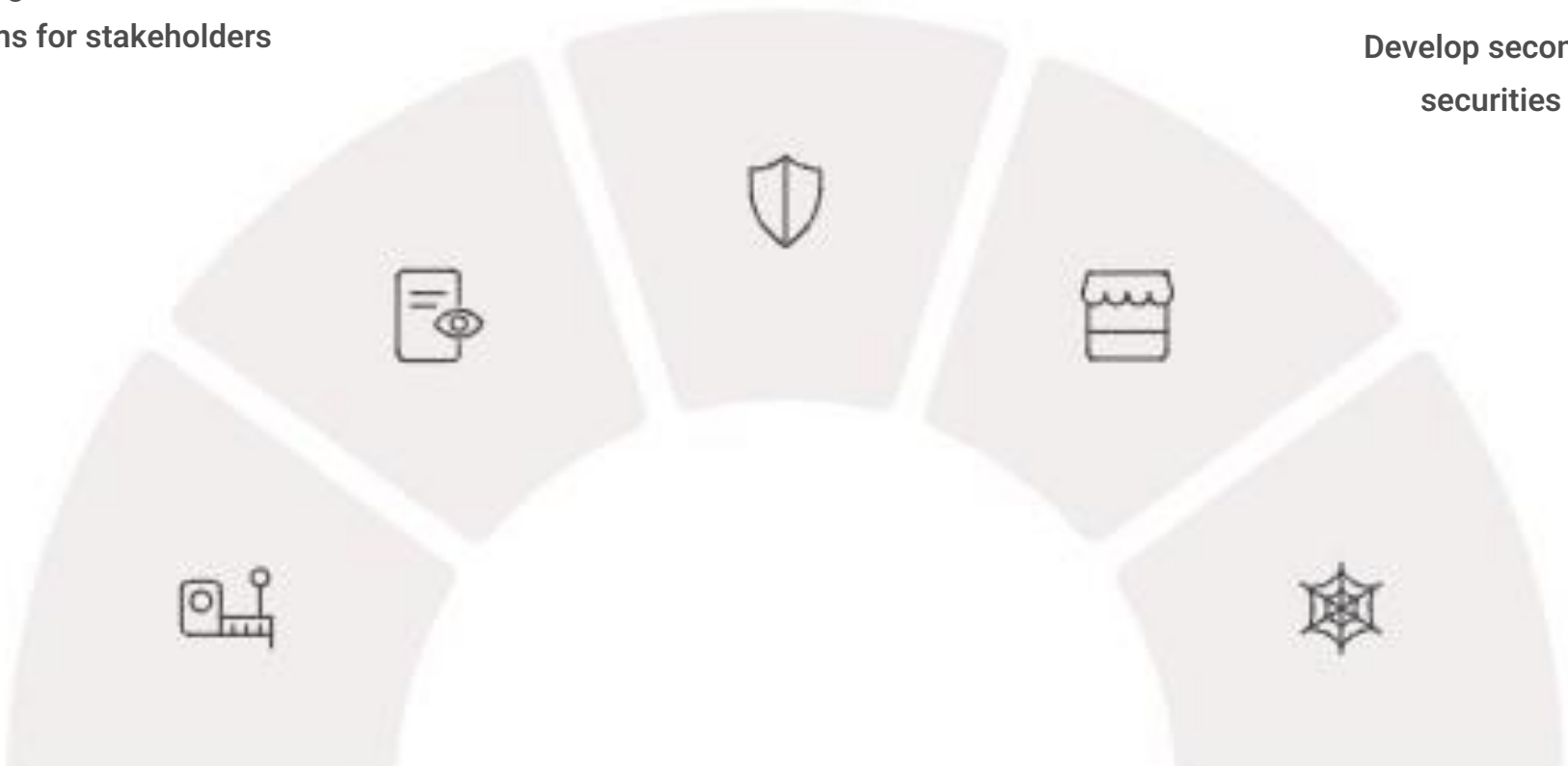
Strengthen Financial Risk
Mitigation Measures
Expand guarantee programs and
collateral recovery mechanisms

Implement Efficient &
Transparent Disclosure System
Build robust registration and
information systems for stakeholders

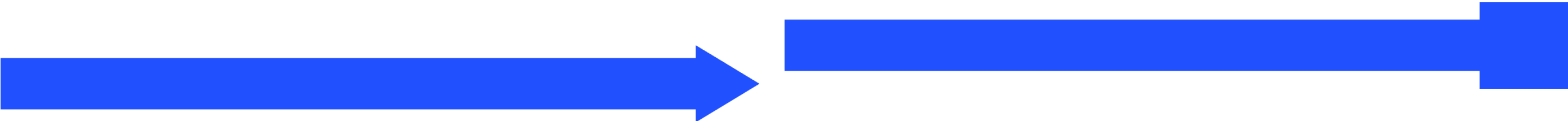
Cultivate IP Securitization Markets
Develop secondary markets for IP-backed
securities and royalty instruments

Expand IP Financing Scope &
Establish Valuation Standards
Create comprehensive frameworks
for diverse IP types beyond patents

Strengthen Alignment with
UNCITRAL Standards
Harmonize domestic laws with
international best practices



1. Expanding Scope and Establishing Valuation Standards



The Framework Act on the
Promotion of Cultural
Industries

Articles 16-2 & 16-3

- Government designates qualified valuation institutions
- Public subsidies cover valuation costs

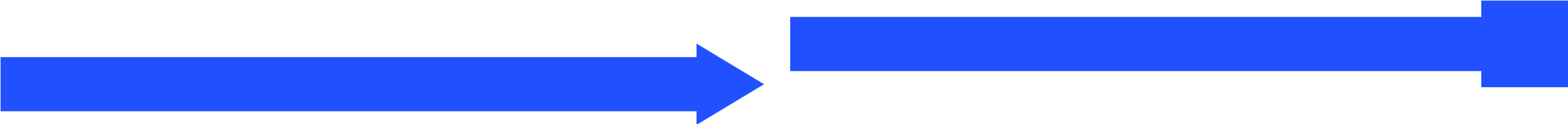
Specialized Models by
Purpose

Collateral Valuation

Investment Assessment

Damage Assessment

2. Implementing Efficient and Transparent Systems



Copyright Act

Article 54

- Provides only basic registration functionality
- Limited ownership information available

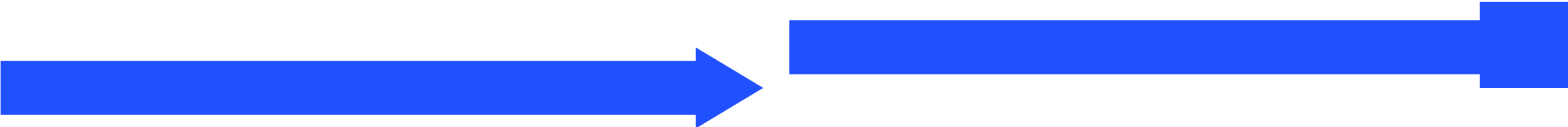
Disclosure Systems

Complete ownership records and transfer history

Public access for due diligence

Real-time update capabilities

3. Strengthening Financial Risk Mitigation Measures



Credit Guarantee Fund

KRW 1 billion

- Current programs serve only small-scale transactions

Expanded Measures

Increase guarantee scope to cover larger transactions

Raise ceiling limits to reflect market needs

Extend Collateral IP Recovery Support Program to copyrights and other non-patent IP

4. Cultivating IP Securitization Markets

Korea's *Musicow* and its success

- 1 — 2016
Musicow founded as Korea's first platform for music copyright royalty certificates
- 2 — Portfolio Growth
Expanded to over 1,500 music copyrights
- 3 — Market Impact
Cumulative transactions reached KRW 40 billion (roughly USD 27 million)

Demonstrates the potential of innovative IP financing models

Musicow shows that structured and transparent securitization can unlock liquidity in copyright markets and create investment opportunities.



5. Strengthening Alignment with UNCITRAL Standards

Portfolio-Based Copyright Collateral

Currently: Each copyright requires individual registration as collateral

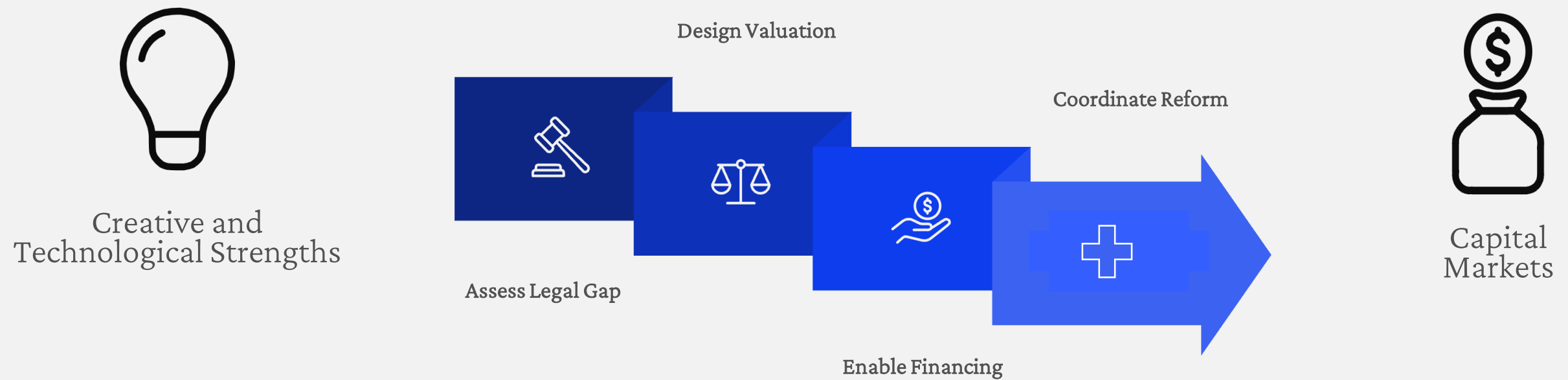
Needed: Ability to group multiple copyrights into a single portfolio (similar to Patent Act's Article 45)

Security Interests in Future Copyrights

Currently: No statutory basis for encumbering copyrights before creation or registration

Needed: Enable financing arrangements secured by anticipated future copyrights

Conclusion



THANK YOU

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE