

A glowing blue brain is positioned on a green circuit board. Above it, a dark blue platform with the letters 'AI' in a glowing yellow font is suspended. A thin white line connects the platform to the brain. The background is a dark, blurred circuit board with various components and labels like 'TD1' and '61216' visible.

AI

Innovation

KIPO fosters IP Innovation through fast services with reliable quality.

Creative ideas have the power to change the world. KIPO continues to provide timely, accurate, and innovative IP examination services to ensure that ideas are adequately protected as IPR.

Premium Examination Services

KIPO continually aims to provide high-quality, customer-oriented, and fast examination services by raising the quality of IP administration, improving examination systems, and reducing first office action pendency.

In 2023, the average first office action pendency was 16.1 months for patents and utility models, 13.1 months for trademarks, and 4.0 months for industrial designs.

To provide timely registration of rights and accommodate the IP strategies of our users, patent and utility model examinations have three tracks: regular examination, accelerated examination, and customer-deferred examination. Trademark and industrial design examinations have two tracks: regular examination and accelerated examination.

◀ AI Technology

A new future using AI technology is coming.

Competitiveness

KIPO increases its IP competitiveness by maintaining the highest number of resident patent applications per both GDP and population.

In this era of creative economies, IPRs are the core of competent business strategies. KIPO is dedicated to establishing a competitive and rewarding IP system by transforming novel ideas into strong IPRs.

IP Competitiveness

Top Global Ranking

According to WIPO's World IP Indicator unveiled in 2023, the ROK ranks 1st worldwide for having the highest number of national patent and PCT patent applications per PPP\$ GDP.

IPR Applications

In 2023, we received a preliminary total of 587,526 applications for patents, utility models, industrial designs, and trademarks. Out of that number, 78,125 applications were filed by non-residents.

PCT Applications

The number of PCT applications from the ROK has continually grown every year. We have the 4th largest amount of PCT applications by country of origin. There were 22,166 PCT applications in total for 2023 which is a 1.1% increase from 2022. The Korean language is also the 4th most commonly used language as an official PCT publication language (source: WIPO IP Statistics Data Center).

◀ Starfield Library (Suwon)

An innovative library with an open-concept design, featuring towering bookshelves and a diverse collection of over 50,000 books.



Harmonization

KIPO collaborates with key national allies to create a global community that appropriately values and rewards inventions.

Cooperation is fundamental to creating an environment where IPRs are promptly acquired and firmly protected for stakeholders. KIPO engages in activities that advance the global IP systems as it works to increase the value of IP.

Worldwide IP Collaboration

Global Cooperation Forums

Taking on the role as one of the world's leading IP offices, KIPO engages in cooperation forums with other leading IP offices that contribute to harmonizing global IP systems, such as the IP5 for patents, the TM5 for trademarks, and the ID5 for industrial designs.

Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) with 38 Countries & Regions

KIPO works with countries and regions around the world under the PPH for reducing the time and costs required to obtain patent rights overseas. As of 2023, the PPH has been implemented with 38 countries and regions.

- PPH participants: Australia, Austria, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Denmark, EAPO, EPO, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Israel, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, NPI, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Spain, Sweden, TIPO, UK, USA, Vietnam and Visegrad Patent Institute

87 IP-Sharing Projects

KIPO implements IP-Sharing projects to share our gained knowledge of rapid development and to help bridge the IP divide among developed and developing countries. These projects aim to help create cost efficient and sustainable appropriate technology and brand development for improving the quality of life and income of local communities.

Funds-In-Trust (FIT) KIPO

Jointly undertaken in collaboration between KIPO and WIPO, the FIT KIPO is applied towards projects that support developing countries and strengthen the global IP system through economic, social, and cultural development. For the continued operation of the FIT KIPO, Korea has contributed about 14.9 million Swiss francs in total since 2004.

◀ Songdo International City (Incheon)

The landscape beautifully blends traditional Korean hanok architecture with modern urban structures, creating a unique and harmonious atmosphere.