



Europäisches  
Patentamt  
European  
Patent Office  
Office européen  
des brevets



European Institute of  
Innovation & Technology

A body of the European Union



## **INNOVATION AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY**

### **IMPLEMENTING EPO-EIT JOINT ACTIVITIES 2023**

# THE EPO - EIT COLLABORATION 2023

## 4 MAIN ACTIVITIES & 72 ACTIONS IMPLEMENTED

**34**

**EDUCATION &  
TRAINING**

**5**

**BUSINESS  
SUPPORT**

**10**

**TECHNOLOGY  
TRENDS**

**23**

**AWARENESS  
RAISING &  
PROMOTION**

**3**

**TRAININGS +  
14 FOLLOW-UP  
SELF-PACED  
COURSES**

**2**

**BILATERAL  
MEETINGS  
PATLIBS/RIS  
HUBS**

**6**

**EPO ECONOMIC  
STUDIES & PATENT  
INSIGHT REPORTS  
SHARED**

**10**

**EPO EVENTS &  
AWARENESS  
RAISING  
MATERIAL  
PROMOTED**

**13**

**WEBINARS,  
LECTURE SERIES HTB  
FORUM/COURSE +  
EPO TRAINING  
CATALOGUE LARGE  
DIFFUSION**

**5**

**PILOT PHASE  
COUNTRIES  
STARTED,  
BENCHMARK  
RESPECTIVE  
SERVICES**

**2**

**CONSULTATIONS  
ON THE  
OBSERVATORY  
AND ITS BWP**

**13**

**EIT PANELS AND  
WORKING GROUPS  
ATTENDED BY EPO:  
INNOVATION  
BUSINESS  
CREATION  
EDUCATION, HEI,  
IP WG, DTTI**

**4**

**MIPEF  
PRESENTATIONS**

**2**

**KICS INVITED  
TO PATLIBS  
SHAPE THE  
FUTURE  
SESSION**

**INVITATION TO  
THE INAUGURAL  
EVENT OF THE  
OBSERVATORY**

**6**

**MANAGEMENT & COORDINATION  
MEETINGS**

The European Patent Office (EPO) and the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT) established a framework for strengthening their existing partnership and collaboration through a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in 2022. Within this framework, the EPO and the EIT develop and implement specific activities, projects and programmes to support innovators and entrepreneurs across Europe in turning their ideas into products and services; promote a modern intellectual property (IP) culture in Europe; and better protect European businesses' interests.

### **EDUCATION AND TRAINING**

One of the highlights of 2023 includes delivering online IP training sessions by EPO on IP creation, IP valorisation for the EIT Knowledge and Innovation Community (KIC), notably EIT Manufacturing, its partners and beneficiaries in March 2023. The EIT and EPO also strengthened their collaboration by featuring dedicated EPO resources on EIT's Deep Tech Talent website such as the EPO's Deep Tech Finder. The EPO has also presented its new programme, the Modular IP Education Framework (MIPEF), to the EIT Education Panel which is expected to lead to further synergies between the MIPEF programme and EIT's Higher Education Initiative (HEI) focusing on capacity building of the European higher education system.

### **BUSINESS SUPPORT ACTIVITIES**

In 2023, coordinators for the Knowledge Innovation Communities' Regional Innovation Scheme (RIS) activities and the EPO's patent information centres (PATLIB) centres have been discussing ways to enhance collaboration and develop further synergies between these two Europe-wide networks. RIS representatives of KICs have been invited to two PATLIBs' Shaping the Future sessions on the MIPEF; the Deep Tech Finder and the updated IP Score tools.

### **TECHNOLOGY TRENDS AND ECONOMIC STUDIES**

This area of cooperation focused on disseminating relevant technology trends and economic studies among Business Creation and Innovation panels of the EIT Knowledge and Innovation Communities (KICs). Highlighted and disseminated studies included the EPO-IEA (International Energy Agency) study on hydrogen patents for a clean energy future; as well as the EPO patent insight reports on quantum computing; mRNA technologies; and offshore wind energy. KICs were also invited to the launch of new EPO Observatory on Patents and Technology which explores trends and challenges throughout the innovation ecosystem and provides actionable insights for informed decision-making.

### **AWARENESS RAISING AND PROMOTION**

EIT and EPO have shared content and promoted activities to stakeholders and SMEs in a coordinated manner across their communication channels. The events and related material included among others the IP training series on Patent protection for EU funding beneficiaries co-organised with the European IP Helpdesk; events related to the high-growth technology business initiative such as an IP assessment online workshop and business forums on growth financing, build-to-sell and IP strategy and management.