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Introduction

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As the owner of the global patent database PATENTSCOPE, WIPO launched in 2010 a powerful online tool: the IPC Green Inventory. This tool is designed for searching and retrieving patent documents related to green technology from around the world in order to contribute to the accessibility of patent information about green technologies. With a few simple clicks, the IPC Green Inventory can give direct access to the latest patent information about technologies in a number of fields including alternative energy production, energy conservation, transportation, waste management, and agriculture and forestry.

Understanding the IPC Green Inventory

To assist in the retrieval of information relevant to specific fields of technology, including green technologies, patent information is organized according to classification schemes such as the International Patent Classification (IPC) developed by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and used by over 100 patent offices worldwide.

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Using the IPC Green Inventory

The IPC Green Inventory contains some 200 topics that are directly relevant to green technologies, organized into seven major subject areas. Each topic is linked with the most relevant IPC symbols, chosen by experts from all WIPO Member States.

To display the topics under each subject heading, click on the plus (+) sign, which will open a list of topics under that particular heading. Similarly, subtopics under each topic can be accessed by clicking the plus (+) sign next to the relevant topic. The lists can be collapsed again by clicking on the minus (−) sign.
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Thus, the IPC Green Inventory will help businesses, universities, and research institutions avoid duplicating R&D efforts, identify potential partners, and uncover technologies to be licensed and exploited.

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