

Classification



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with reinforcement provided by the plastic net

Cooperative Patent Classification (CPC)

Next steps

- CPC will enter into force on 1 January 2013
- Quality assurance will be put in place
- CPC will be used by EPO and USPTO
- EPO and USPTO classification practices will be harmonised
- Joint CPC revisions will take place as of 1 April 2013
- CPC will be available for use by other IP offices and the public (EPOQUE, Espacenet, EAST, WEST)

Anticipated CPC benefits

- More comprehensive patent document search using single classification system
 - Improves access to more prior art document collections
 - Permits search of multiple language document collection
 - Increases harmonisation
- Collaborative maintenance of CPC
 - EPO and USPTO will undertake revision projects jointly
 - Frequent updates and revisions, normally on a monthly basis

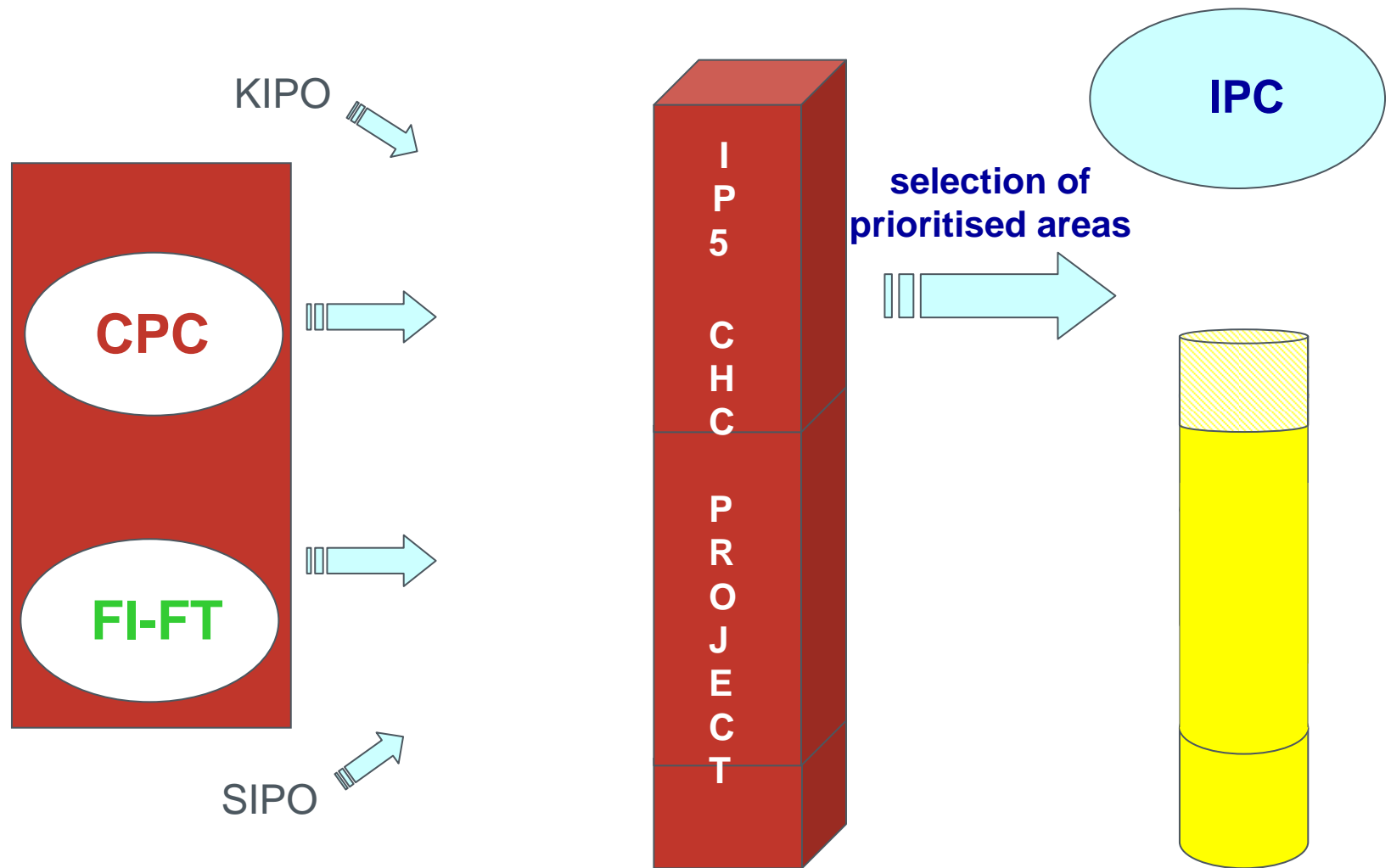
Support to users

- A CPC information website was launched on 25 October 2011 under the following URL: www.cpcinfo.org , comprising:
 - Presentations about CPC
 - CPC launch scheme (available October 2012)
 - CPC definitions (available from October 2012)
 - FAQ section
 - Calendar of events
- E-learning modules will be created and made available in Q4 2012
- Seminars and Workshops will be organised in 2012
 - Users' workshop held on 23 March 2012, Vienna, Austria
 - USPTO Users' day to be held on 10 July 2012, Alexandria, USA
 - EPOPIC 6-8 November, Hamburg, Germany

At IP5 level: Common Hybrid Classification

- 6 pilot projects completed until end of 2011 and 11 in progress since
- Revised mandate currently in discussion
 - ECLA/USPC references replaced by CPC
 - Prioritise areas in certain fast moving technical fields originating from countries not classifying in a refined scheme (China, Korea)

Launch CHC projects in prioritised areas for improving IPC



Thank you for your
attention!