

## Patent Report Template

(Mentoring programme in IPR, patenting and technology offer - MeetIPRhub)

**Company name:**

**Respondent(s) name:**

To assist you in completing your Patenting Report (PR), we have prepared the following document Patent report instructions. Please read them thoroughly. The goal is for you to discover and become able to use the tools available to you (especially the KnowING Hub). There is no need to focus on every single question in this document. Initial questions might seem easy and that is because they are designed for those participants who are yet to encounter the IP topic more in-depth and give the participants the opportunity to address them in a structured manner. Indeed, those who have less IP knowledge might want to focus on the initial questions and leave the rest for later. Others might wish to focus more on the latter ones. However, we do urge you to try to think and write answers to as many questions as you are able.

**NOTE:** Please make sure to always document your progress, i.e., all your steps. The journey itself is as important as the goal – this also allows us to better support you. The invention you are revising through these questions will typically be an existing one, but for the sake of the exercise you can also have a potentially forthcoming invention in mind.

**Question 1:** Shortly describe the problem you are solving and how your invention is solving it (i.e. describe your invention in light of the identified problem).

**Question 2:** Following your description above (in Q1), check whether your invention is patentable. i.e., is it an invention being suitable to patent (is it for any reason excluded from patentability, is it a technical invention)?

**Question 3:** From your description above (in Q1), now think about where the novelty and inventiveness are in your invention. What part of your solution is truly new and inventive?

**Question 4:** Is your invention a process or a product, i.e., is it a process and product invention?

**Question 5:** Now that you have thought about your invention, try to devise your strategy of searching for similar inventions - attempt to perform the initial search – this part is more about the process than the result.

5.1) Focus first on similar inventions covered by patents – find similar patents and describe your journey how you identified them by using the KnowING Hub.

5.2) Which top 5 results in terms of their similarity to your invention did you identify in your first search after you have refined the search? How/why are they important?

5.3) What could your argument be as to why these patents are not problematic in terms of novelty of the potential patent application for your patent? How about in terms of temporal and geographical validity?

**Question 6:** In addition to a patent search for already known solutions, perform a product search and a publication check – starting with the tab “web” on KnowING Hub’s webpage and with the publication search inside the KnowING Hub.

6.1) Which ‘prior art’ did you find? How?

6.2) Did this prior art search change the way you think about your invention and its patentability? Why (not)?

**Question 7:** Who owns the rights on the created invention – you / your employee / someone else?

**Question 8:** Where do you think you should patent – and why? Think about the cost of applying and maintaining the patent – which costs have you considered? If licensing, also think about how you would value the patent in terms of its monetary value.