

A better IPR service with KIPO

KIPO provides the world's fastest IP examination service with reliable quality

Creative and high value-added IP is at the heart of the creative economy. With IP a driving force for our future development, KIPO is innovating even today.



The first metal printing types



14.8months

Patent examination period

World-Class Examination Services

We aim to provide world-class examination services by improving the overall examination system, increasing examination manpower and building a more advanced third-generation KIPOnet system (KIPOnet III).

The average first action pendency periods are as follows:

- Patents and utility models: 18.5 months in 2010 > 16.8 months in 2011 > 14.8 months in 2012
- Trademarks: 10.6 months in 2010 > 10 months in 2011 > 8.9 months in 2012
- Designs: 10 months in 2010 > 10 months in 2011 > 8.8 months in 2011

We offer customized examination services for applicants with our three-track patent and utility model examination system and our two-track trademark and design examination system.

We continuously strive to deliver IP services of the highest quality. We will continue to provide high-quality examination and trial services by building the capacity of examiners and trial judges, enhancing examination reviews and expanding the outsourcing of prior art searches.

The quality of our examination processes has been recognized internationally. The number of international search reports received by KIPO totaled 27,442 in 2012, a 1.1 percent rise from 27,139 in 2011.

「Jikji Simche Yojeol is a Korean Buddhist book whose title can be translated as the Anthology of Great Buddhist Priests' Zen Teachings. It was printed with movable metal type, **the first metal printing method invented in the world, which brought an innovative change to the systematic delivery of culture and learning.** Jikji was published in 1377 and listed in UNESCO's Memory of the World Program in 2001. The book pre-dates the Gutenberg Bible printed in Germany in the 1450s.」



A higher IP competitiveness

Korea is an IP powerhouse with the world's number one patent competitiveness

KIPO is creating a competitive IP system that will allow the results of your precious ideas to come to fruition and create wealth and opportunities.



Geojunggi



No.1

In the world for patent applications
per GDP/R&D expenditure

IP Competitiveness

IPR applications

In 2012, the total number of applications for industrial property rights in Korea increased for the second consecutive year reaching 396,996, a 7% growth from 371,116 in 2011. A new record for the number of applications was set in 2012 as a result of future-oriented investment by companies dominating new technologies and brands.

Patent application competitiveness

According to the World IP Indicator unveiled by WIPO in December 2012, Korea ranked first in terms of the number of resident patent applications per GDP or R&D investment.

PCT

Korea increased its number of PCT applications by 13.4 percent from 10,447 in 2011 to 11,848 in 2012, accounting for 6.1 percent of all PCT applications and the 5th largest amount by country of origin.

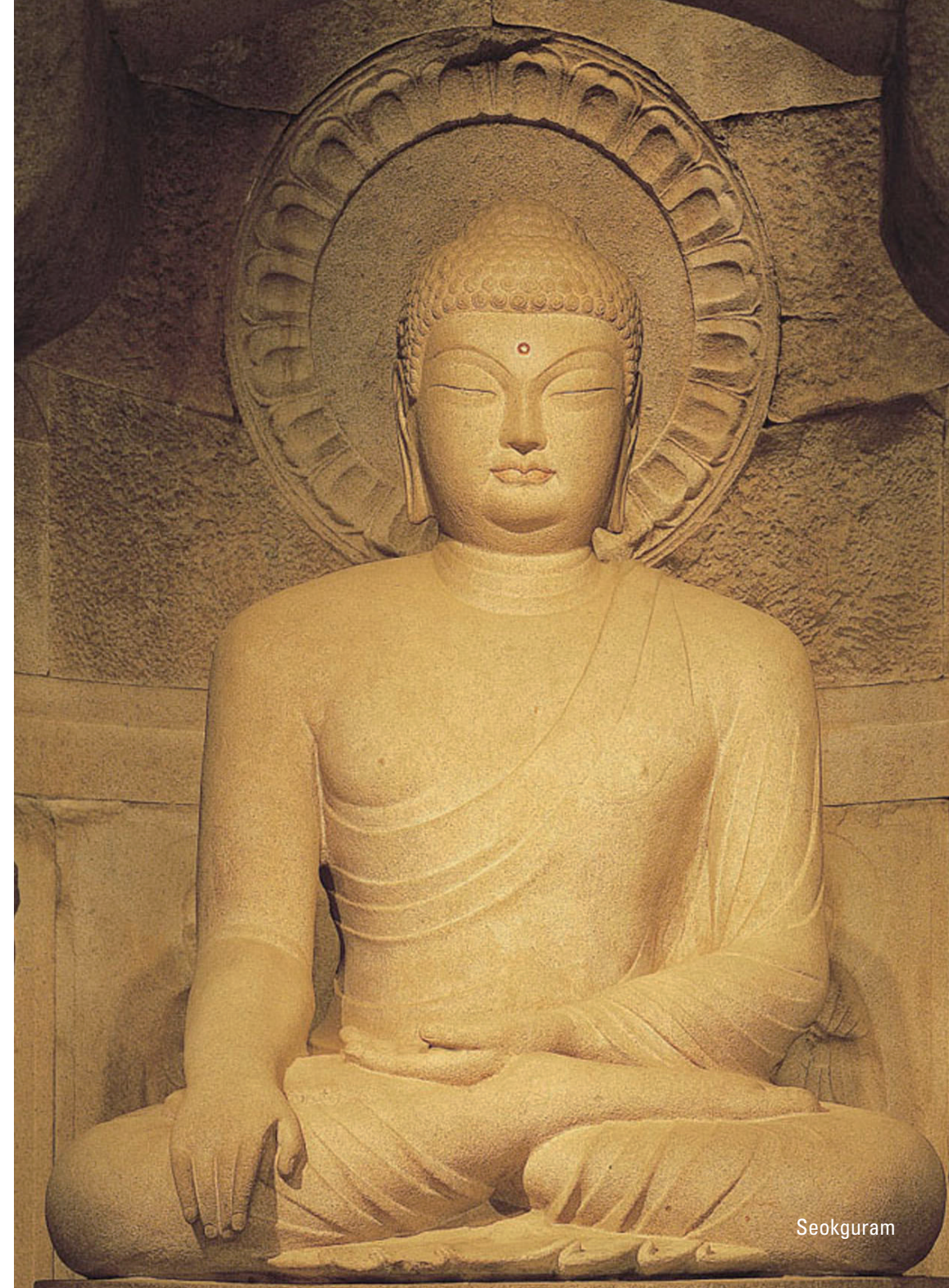
Hwaseong Fortress, which was listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1997, was constructed under Jeongjo, the 22nd king of the Joseon Dynasty (1392-1910). Hwaseong Fortress was **a highly advanced fortress** compared to others of the period due to its combination of commercial and military functions. In addition, it was constructed at high speed over a two-year period using a **Geojunggi, an innovative type of construction equipment** at the time.



A better creation of value beyond national borders

KIPO spreads the value of IP with developing and developed countries for true harmonization

By actively participating in international cooperation and sharing our experiences, we are constantly contributing to the advancement of IP systems worldwide.



Seokguram



14 Countries

Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH)

9 IP Sharing Projects

Worldwide IP Collaboration

In addition to strengthening our partnership with the world's leading intellectual property offices through the IP5, we also joined the TM5 partnership in the trademark and design field.

In an effort to expand relations with developing countries, we utilize Official Development Assistance (ODA) funds to support the development of IP office automation systems in those countries.

We are continuously reinforcing our capacity for bilateral cooperation by opening the Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) and Patent Cooperation Treaty-Patent Prosecution Highway (PCT-PPH) with new countries.

- PPH countries: 2 in 2008 > 9 in 2011 > 14 in 2013 (current)
- PCT-PPH countries: 1 in 2011 > 3 in 2013 (current)

Furthermore, we are training and dispatching workers with appropriate technologies to developing and least developed countries. Examples of our past endeavors include distributing technologies for making charcoal from sugarcane and developing a brand for dried mango in Chad in 2010. In 2011, we developed household water purifiers in Cambodia. Last year, we developed a cooking stove to improve kitchen facilities in low-income houses in Guatemala and improved insulation and construction methods using earthen bricks for various types of housing in Nepal.

The pictures of Seokguram and Bulguksa are from the Cultural Heritage Administration of Korea.



Seokguram and Bulguksa, considered two of the greatest cultural masterpieces in Asia, were designated as **the first UNESCO World Heritage Sites in Korea** in 1995 in **acknowledgement of the global reach of their universal values**. This opened the door for promoting Korea as a hub for cultural heritage and tourism.