

Innovation Monopolies are **STARVING** Our Planet...

An Invitation to a New Table

Should production of clean water, cereal grains, renewable energy, and clean air belong to the whole world or only to a few? Do patents actually create an incentive to solve the challenges facing humanity, or are they being used to perpetuate the power of incumbents to restrict the availability of creative alternatives? “Inventing a cleaner future: Climate change and the opportunities for IP” is the topic at today’s European Patent Forum 2008 in Ljubljana, Slovenia. While patent purveyors continue to portray IP as an economic stimulus, their own economic incentive to issue patents – most of which are merely defensive – has compromised the integrity of the system. Aligning ethical capital to borderless innovation networks will rescue the orphan knowledge contained in abandoned patents, together with those in the public domain, and will serve as the stimulus humanity needs to address our greatest challenges.

- By 2007, over 1,200 patents on **hydrogen powered vehicles** were abandoned without commercialization and we’re still burning fossil fuels;
- In 2005, abandoned and disallowed patents outnumbered new patent applications for **fuel cell technology**;
- Platform **wind power** and **water purification** technologies entered the public domain at a rate of 200% over new R&D and patent filings in 2002; and,
- Independent patent invalidation petitions are succeeding at a record rate including core **rice production** proprietary claims.

Lack of IP transparency has **COST** critical **global healthcare delivery** - including HIV-AIDS and cancer patients - **access to medicine**; cost the **investment markets** billions of euros; cost **SMEs** access to money, markets, and competitive advantage; creates up to 65% waste in **government procurement**; and, precludes **emerging markets** from equitable international trade. Why add **climate** to this list of casualties?

What if...

We can accurately assess adoption and obsolescence risk?

We can link innovators to the problems they actually solved?

We can create “Freedom to Operate & Innovate” that’s really free?

We can efficiently align ethical finance to the world’s best innovations?

We can provide capital from Grassroots to Global?

What if one delegate has the courage to think in a new way?

We Can.

