Annex 1. Patent search as part of literature review

Literature review is indispensable for confirming the **novelty of your research**.

✓ **Search academic papers** for confirming that prior articles do not cover the issue that you are going to discuss. Use of Google Scholar is recommended.

✓ Check existing technologies through **patent search,** in order to avoid using time and resources for developing the same technology that others have already invented.

How to search patents?

Visit US PTO Website:

https://www.uspto.gov/patents-application-process/search-patents

Go to "Quick Search"

> **Searching Full Text Patents (Since 1976)**
>
> Customize a search on all or a selected group of
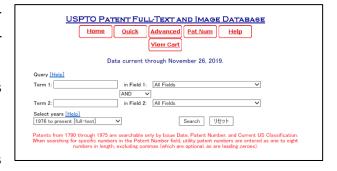>
> - Quick Search
> - Advanced Search
> - Patent Number Search

Put your "research key words" for searching patent applications of similar technologies.
(Add more key words, if the result shows too many)

Repeat until the result shows 10 or less and check each application.

Analyze results

◆ If you find a similar technology, reconsider your research plan.

◆ If you cannot uncover any similar technology, start your research.