IPACST – Intellectual Property Models to accelerate Sustainability Transitions

Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

Increasing global climate, resource and biodiversity challenges coupled with growing social issues raise the need to accelerate sustainability transitions. Sustainability transitions rely on complex, cumulative and open innovation processes typically stretching over long periods of time. Accordingly, a shift to sustainable manufacturing and consumption is only possible as a concerted effort. The role of IP in effective sustainability transitions, however, remains insufficiently understood. Its role needs critical examination on different levels in the light of emerging sustainable, circular and sharing business models. Moreover, comparing legal IP frameworks between more developed and emerging economies can provide valuable learnings on how IP can be used to support sustainability transitions. Given the lack of knowledge and research that brings together both the role of IP and new sustainable business models in sustainability transitions, we invite contributions from the management, sustainability, law and interdisciplinary sciences, with a strong emphasis on innovation.