



SOUTH-EAST ASIA IPR SME HELPDESK

IPR protection in Environmental and Water Technologies in Singapore and the Philippines

Wastewater treatment
Plastic recycling
Air purification
Biomass/biogas technologies

Geothermal power generation
Green energy technology
Carbon services
Solar power

Singapore: Facts and Opportunities

1.76 bn. of plastic bags and bottles disposed of annually



Plastic recycling / Reusable eco-friendly products

Water conservation and recycling equipment market to grow 10–15% per year



Wastewater treatment / Drinking water purification

Environmental & water sector contributed EUR 1.4 bn. to GDP (2015)



Biomass technologies / Greentech / Geothermal power generation



2.7 m. tonnes of plastic waste annually



9 m. people lack access to safe water



Total Suspended Particulates (TSP) 90 µg/Ncm



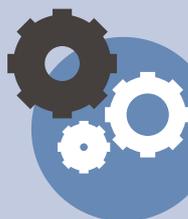
Eco-friendly products / Plastic recycling



Waste water treatment / Drinking water purification



Air purification Green technologies



The IP legislation system in Singapore and the Philippines



“First-to-file” system:

the first party to file an Intellectual Property Right (IPR) in the country’s jurisdiction will own that right once the application is granted.

Visit the IP factsheet of the two countries for details:
<https://www.southeastasia-iprhelpdesk.eu/en/content/singapore-factsheet>
<https://www.southeastasia-iprhelpdesk.eu/en/content/philippines-factsheet>

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Internal Market,
Industry,
Entrepreneurship
and SMEs



Trade marks

A trade mark is an **distinctive sign** that allows consumers to distinguish goods or services. Both countries are members of the **Madrid System**, which enables international trade mark applications to be filed



Singapore:

3D marks, hologram and smell/sound marks can be registered, but trademarks based on taste can not.

The Philippines:

3D marks and colour marks can be registered, but other unconventional trade marks can not.



Patents

Invention patents (requiring novelty, inventive steps and industrial application): protected for 20 years from filing date in both countries.

Utility model patents (not requiring inventive steps): protected for 7 years from filing date (non renewable in the Philippines but not available in Singapore).



Both countries are contracting parties to the **Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT)** which enables a single international patent application to be filed



Designs

Industrial designs protect **the appearance of products**. In both countries, industrial designs are protected for an initial period of **5 years**, which is extendable for two 5-year periods, up to a maximum of 15 years from the filing date



Singapore is a contracting state in the **Hague System**, which can make it easier for foreign businesses to obtain industrial designs in Singapore.

The Philippines is not a contracting state in the Hague System.



Copyrights

Copyrights protect **literary, artistic** and **scientific** works, performances, phonograms, video recording broadcasts, **software and data collections**. Copyright subsists automatically for original work: **registration is not required**.



Singapore has no system for voluntary copyright registration.

Copyright can be registered in **The Philippines**.



Trade secrets

Trade secrets are **information** obtained from financial or intellectual investment activities which have not been disclosed and are relevant to business.



Singapore: Trade secrets are protected under Singaporean law. As most confidential information tends to be stored in computers, EU SMEs may also protect trade secrets with the **Singapore Misuse of Computer Act**. This way is often cheaper, and more effective.

The Philippines: Currently there is no law that defines trade secrets in the Philippines, however the IP Code includes "protection of undisclosed information" as one of the IPRs.

Where to get help?

The South-East Asia IPR SME Helpdesk provides free information and services in the form of jargon-free first-line confidential advice on intellectual property (IP) and related issues, plus training materials and online resources.



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