



# COLLABORATIVE SEARCH AND EXAMINATION PROGRAMME

## FACTSHEET

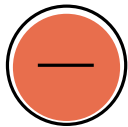
Published March 2023

## What is the Collaborative Search and Examination (CS&E) Programme

A first in ASEAN, the CS&E is a programme between the IP offices of **Singapore** and **Viet Nam** to speed up the patent search and examination process for innovators who wish to file patents in both countries.

This pilot programme will run from **1 March 2023** to **28 February 2025**.

### Features



#### Complimentary CS&E

until 28 February 2025.  
Official patent filing fees still apply.



#### Enhanced Prior Art Search and Examination Results

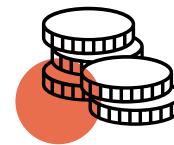
through combined expertise  
from both Offices.

### Benefits



#### Accelerated First Office Action

on the patentability of the invention for informed decision making, enabling innovative enterprises to determine their go-to-market strategy earlier.



#### Deferred Translation and Official Patent Filing Costs

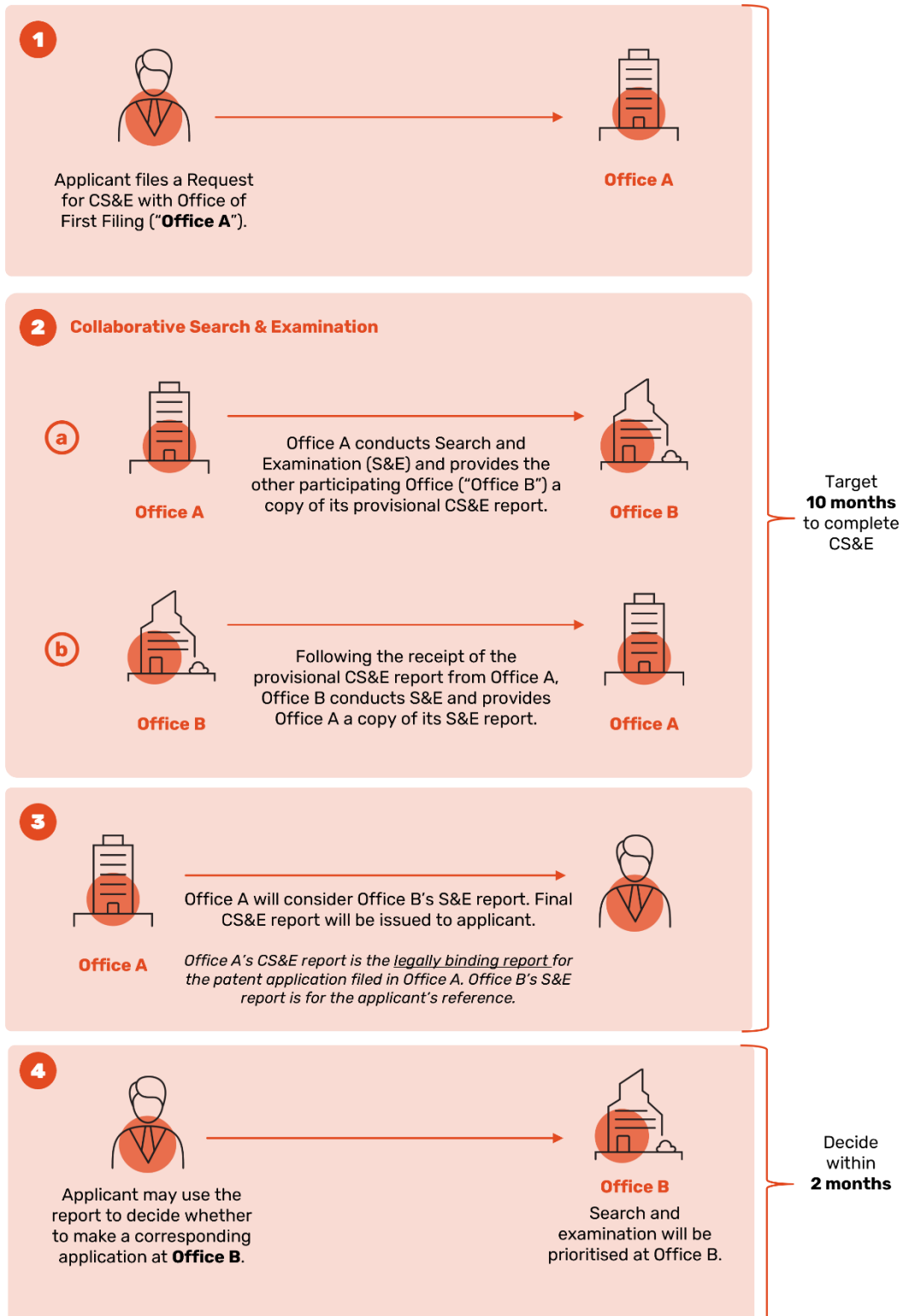
for the second office of filing until the applicant makes a subsequent filing for a claim of right of priority.



#### Prioritised Examination

at the second office of filing if the claims filed in first office of filing sufficiently correspond to the claims referred to in the CS&E report issued by the second office of filing.

## How it works - An overview



## Before you apply

Check that you meet the following criteria:

1. **Type of application:** Application must be first filed in Singapore or Viet Nam, i.e., no priority claim and not a divisional application<sup>1</sup>.
2. **Local representative/address:** Applicant must fulfil the local representative/address for service requirements, as applicable in accordance with the respective national law<sup>2</sup>.
3. **Claims criteria:** Application should contain 20 or fewer claims including three or fewer independent claims.
4. **CS&E volume limit:** The request for CS&E is made within the cap limits. A notification will be published on [IPOS Digital Hub Banner](#) once the monthly cap is reached.
  - **Cap per year:** 20 (combined cap shared by IPOS and IP Viet Nam)
  - **Cap per month:** 2\*
  - **Cap per applicant:** 2 per individual/entity per month

\*Unutilised number will be rolled over to the following month, subject to a maximum cap of 4 per month. The monthly cap resets every first day of the month.

## How to apply

If you meet the above criteria, you can proceed to apply for the CS&E programme.

1. To apply to IPOS as Office A, submit these documents concurrently to IPOS<sup>3</sup>:
    - a. [Request for CS&E](#),
    - b. Request for Grant of Patent (Patents Form 1), and
    - c. Request for Search and Examination Report (Patents Form 11) [In Patents Form 11, please select “CS&E (Collaborative Search & Examination)” under *Request for Acceleration* drop down list].
- \* Documents must be submitted in English<sup>4</sup>.
2. Respond to formalities deficiencies (if applicable): If a formalities deficiencies notification is issued, applicant must respond within two weeks from the receipt of formalities deficiencies notification to remain on the CS&E programme.

---

<sup>1</sup> In the case of IPOS as Office A, application should not be under other acceleration programmes (i.e., SG IP FAST).

<sup>2</sup> In the case of IPOS as Office A, for the purposes of any proceeding before the Registrar, an address for service in Singapore shall be furnished. The applicant may also appoint an advocate and solicitor or any other person to act on his/her behalf and provide an address for service in Singapore (Singapore Patents Rules 31 and 91).

<sup>3</sup> Patent protection is territorial. Patent rights can only be obtained by filing a patent application in the country you wish to obtain a protection.

<sup>4</sup> English will be the operational language for the duration of the pilot programme. For the duration of the pilot, exchanges of all documents between the Offices will be in English or translated in English. English translations will be provided by the relevant Office for the duration of the pilot.

3. Click [here](#) to start the filing process with IPOS as Office A and click [here](#) to start the filing process with IP Viet Nam as Office A. IP Viet Nam also accepts paper filing.

## Official patents filing fees\*

	Filing with IPOS as Office A
Request for Grant of Patent	Patents Form 1 \$170
Request for Search and Examination Report	Patents Form 11 \$2050
Request for Collaborative Search & Examination	No Fee

\* Fees as of 1 March 2023.

## Contact us

For queries on the CS&E programme, please contact:

### IPOS

**Ms HUANG Qinyi**  
Senior Assistant Director  
Registry of Patents  
✉ [huang\\_qinyi@ipos.gov.sg](mailto:huang_qinyi@ipos.gov.sg)

**Ms Debra LONG**  
Manager  
Registry of Patents  
✉ [debra\\_long@ipos.gov.sg](mailto:debra_long@ipos.gov.sg)

### IP Viet Nam

**Mr PHAN Thanh Hai**  
Director  
Patent Examination Centre  
✉ [phanthanhhai@ipvietnam.gov.vn](mailto:phanthanhhai@ipvietnam.gov.vn)