

Academy of Scientific Research and Technology
Egyptian Patent Office (EGPO)



*Global INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY (IP)
INFRASTRUCTURE FOR PROMOTION OF
INNOVATION*

*(WIPO-JPO)
JAPAN-TOKYO*

March 1-2 , 2010

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Egyptian Patent Office

(EGYPT)

1

**Evolving Role of IP Offices in Policy Formulation,
IP Administration, and coordination with
stakeholders involved in the Innovation
Process**

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2

Agenda

- **The Egyptian Patent Office (EGPO), Role and functions**
- **Development of the Egyptian Patent Office :**
 - 1- Developing the EGPO**
 - 2- Developing the human Resources**
 - 3- Enhancing the office Procedures**
- **Development outcomes.**
- **Research , invention and innovation value.**
- **Patents as a source of information and a driver of innovation.**
- **Information from patents-innovation and market strategy .**
- **Innovation support and IP Management.**
- **The cooperation between the EGPO & EPO for supporting innovation .**
- **The Role of innovation in Economic Development .**
- **The cooperation work plan between EGPO & WIPO .**
- **The development plan for the EGPO .**

NAGWA, March, 1-2 ,2010

3

The Egyptian Patent Office (EGPO)

- The EGPO established in 1951.
- The EGPO is one of the major organs of the Academy of Scientific Research & Technology, which is a component of the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research .
- The EGPO is a source of transferring technological knowledge by achieving the following objectives :
 - Protecting the Egyptian innovations according to the Egyptian law for protection of Intellectual Property .
 - Encouraging the researchers in the Universities and Research Centers to register their inventions .
 - Promoting the scientific research.

4

The Egyptian Patent Office (EGPO)

EGPO is divided into (12) departments , these departments include :

- Receiving Office
- Documentation, Registration and Publication
- Technical Examination
- Legal Examination
- Technical & Electronic Services for Patents
- Information Technology (IT)
- The library of the Egyptian Patent Office
- Monitoring and Quality Control

5

The Egyptian Patent Office (EGPO)

- Regional Training Center
- Technical Information and Technology
- Financial & Administration
- PCT Unit
- Egypt ,represented by the Egyptian Patent Office EGPO, is a member in the following treaties and conventions :
 - Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property (1951)
 - Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) (2003)
 - International Patent Classification (IPC) (1975)
 - TRIPS (1995)
 - Egypt is also a member in WIPO since its establishment (1975)

6

The Egyptian Patent Office (EGPO)

- Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) :

- As per Presidential Decree enacted in March 2003 , Egypt has acceded to the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) , which entered into force in 6/9/2003 .
- **Finally**, in September 2009, our office became a searching authority and International Preliminary Examination Authority according to the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) , it stands the fifteenth office in the world and the first in the Arab and African regions to enjoy such authority .

The development of the Egyptian Patent Office (EGPO)

1- Developing the EGPO :

- Modernizing the EGPO completely .
- Creating new departments .
- Automating the filing procedures .
- Establishing basic communicating services for local and international communities such as the EGPO website .

The development of the Egyptian Patent Office (EGPO)

2- Developing the Human Resources :

- Organizing training courses and attending local and International conferences.
- Hiring appropriate staff based on their capabilities and job description in the new departments .
- Increasing the number of technical examiners, (115 examiner)

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11

The development of the Egyptian Patent Office (EGPO)

3- Enhancing the office Procedures :

- Developing paper work flow :
 - designing some novel forms
 - modifying the files flow
- Merging the electronic work flow with the paper workflow to be capable of automating the procedures.
- Automating the document cycle :
 - files are transferred automatically among different departments .
 - saving documents using the automatic archive system .

12

The development of the Egyptian Patent Office (EGPO)

- Applying concept of electronic input / output to improve security measures and monitoring the files .
- Liabilities of staff are specified according to input applications .
- Saving documents cycle on the data base.

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13

Development outcomes

1- Facilitate office procedures in :

* Searching

* Examination

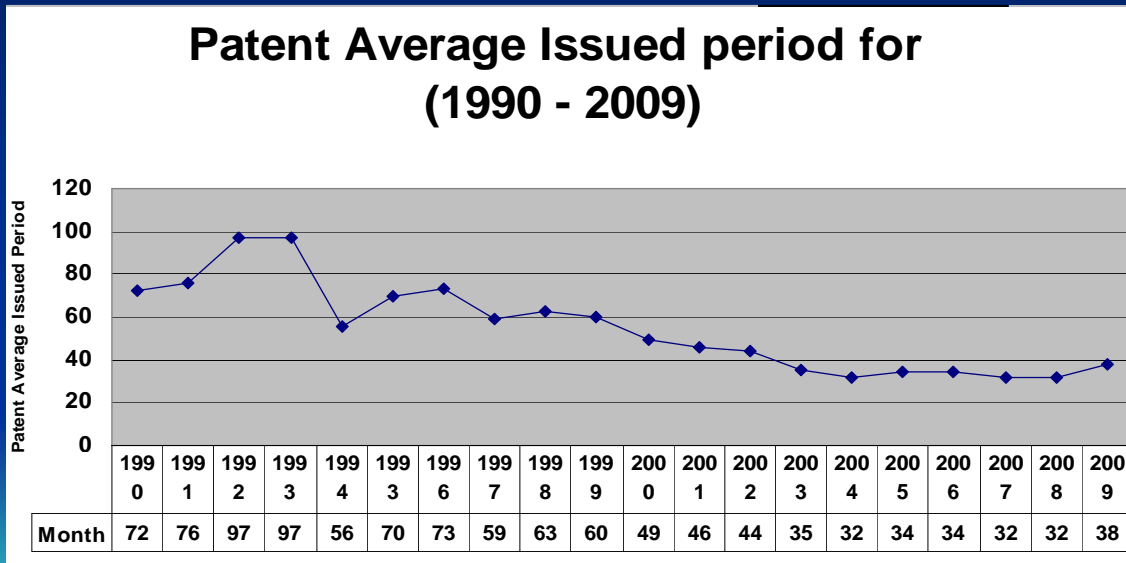
* Legal Procedures

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14

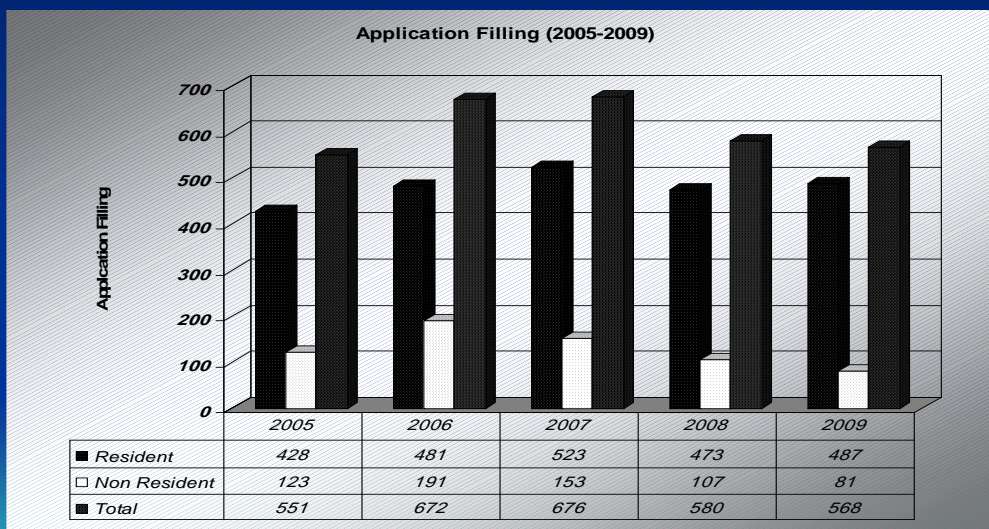
Development outcomes

2- Decreasing the granting issued patent period .



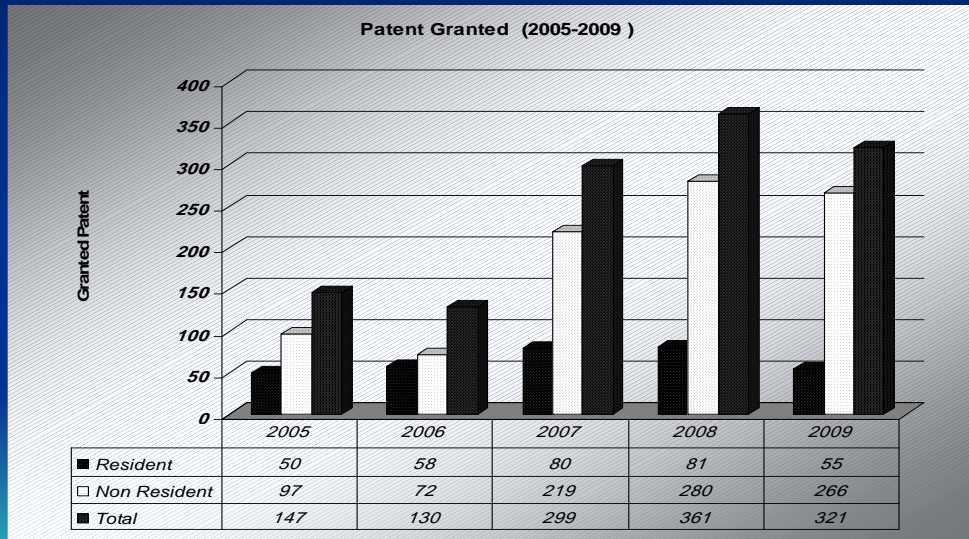
Development outcomes

3- Increasing the number of filed applications



Development outcomes

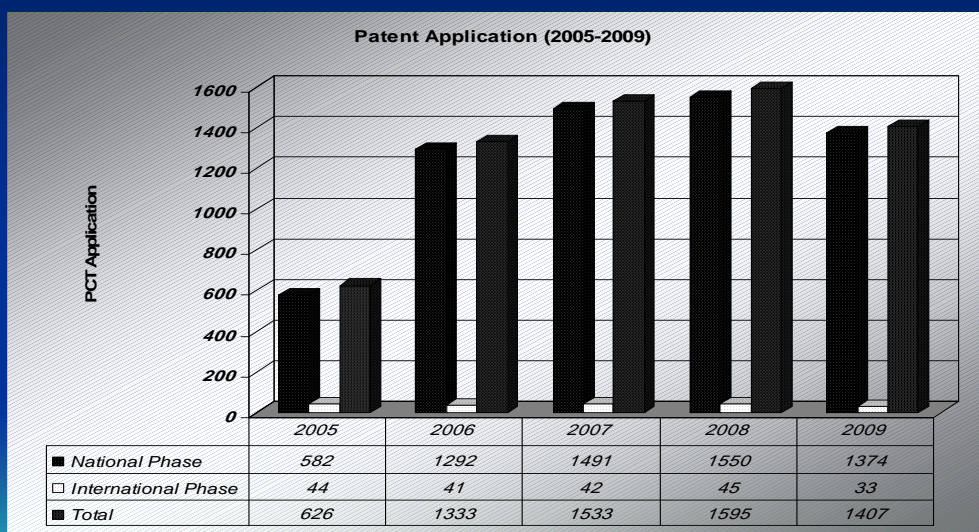
4- Increasing the number of granted patents



17

Development outcomes

5- Increasing the number of PCT filed applications



18

Development outcomes

6- Assistance for Arab Countries:

EGPO has an active program for cooperation with Arab countries , including Sending consultants and experts to the patent offices in Arab Countries .

7- Establishing the Regional Training Center :

The Regional Training Center in the EGPO continues receiving trainees from Arab countries such as Syria , Oman , Iraq , Yemen , Palestine, Sudan.....etc

19

Development outcomes

8- Establishing EGPO focal points :

- Establishing a network of (24) focal points affiliated to the EGPO in universities, research centers and the library of Alexandria , considered to be a strong link between the EGPO and scientific researches and industrial sector .
- After establishing the focal points network , the Egyptian applications are increased from 30% to 48% .

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20

Research, invention and innovation value

There is wide spread understanding that innovation needs to be considered as an integral goal of research work.

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21

Patents as a source of information and a driver of innovation

- Patent system is considered a legal tool to support innovation .
- Applicants must fully disclose their inventions to protect them .
- Patent applications and granted patents when published, will allow everyone to benefit from the information they contain .
- The publication allows researchers to build on patented inventions and come up with even better technical solutions.
- The comprehensive technical description of inventions encourages companies to be more innovative and promote new technologies .
- Patents are driving force for promoting innovation growth and competitiveness .

22

Patents as a source of information and a driver of innovation

- Patents provide incentives to individuals by offering them material reward for their marketable inventions, these incentives encourage innovation.
- Knowledge and innovation are the two main elements of the competitiveness in any market .
- So , a strong IP is a driving force for stimulating Research, development and innovation investment and facilitating the transfer of knowledge from laboratory to market .

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23

Information from patents-Innovation and market strategy

Patents help us to :

- Maintaining our market position .
- Increasing our market share .
- Introducing new products .
- Locating new business partners .
- Avoiding duplication of research in industry and universities .
- Improving technology.
- Avoiding waste of human and financial resources .
- Providing motivation for employees .
- Bringing together inventors and investors .
- Promoting creativity and innovation .

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24

Information from patents-Innovation and market strategy

Patents help us to :

- Developing a prognosis of innovation strengths and technological trends .
- Minimizing gaps and disparities in technology and address improvements .
- Recovering Research and Development investments and safeguard the results .

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25

Innovation support and IP management

We support innovation through :

- Establishing Sciences and Technology Development Committee.
- Participating in exhibitions inside and outside Egypt.
- Helping inventors in marketing their inventions .
- Promoting the creativity , research and innovations .
- Organizing lectures for young researchers at different Egyptian universities regarding “ the importance of (IP) in the Scientific Research ”.

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26

The cooperation between the EGPO & EPO for supporting innovation

The Research Development & Innovation (RDI) program :

- It is a program of the Ministry of Higher Education & Scientific Research , funded by the European Union (EU) .
- This program funds a number of projects by the EU - Egypt Innovation Fund (EEIF) .
- The (EEIF) is a main component of the (RDI) program aiming to support the innovation cycle from research to business application, through providing competitive grants .
- Last February (RDI) organized the Euro-Med innovation marketplace to help inventors for marketing their inventions .

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27

The role of innovation in economic development

- The greatest source of knowledge in the world exist within patents .
- There is a lot more for a business to do with patent system than simply acquire patent rights ; patents help in attracting investment , finding customers and reducing research costs .

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28

The cooperation work plan between EGPO & WIPO

- Data validation of patents database project.
- Automation of reception project .
- Monitoring system development project .
- EGPO Focal points Net. Automation project .
- PCT ROAD project .
- PCT Application Download project .
- Electronic submission of granted patents project.

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29

The development plan for the EGPO

- **Supporting innovation :**
 - Establishing the Invention and Innovation Development Agency .
 - Participating in exhibitions .
 - Helping inventors in marketing their inventions .
 - Magnifying research and innovation value .
 - Cooperating with the Research , Development and Innovation (RDI) program, which is funded by the European Union (EU) to support innovation and promote entrepreneurship .

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30

The development plan for the EGPO

- **Supporting SMEs:**

- Providing the needed reports :

EGPO provides a service for SMEs ; as it provides investors with the needed search reports on all technologies in patent available in Egypt or abroad, as well as providing market researches that helps in selecting the best and cheapest technology for different industries .

- Marketing the applicable inventions .
- Promoting the creativity and innovation .
- Encouraging and supporting the inventors .

The development plan for the EGPO

- **General awareness of IP:**

We will do our best to increase the awareness of IP through :

- Establishing new focal points .
- Offering more focused approach to (IP) education.
- Arranging training programs for :
 - * Inventors
 - * Journalists
 - * Investors
 - * Patent attorney
- Developing media programs and journal reports on IPRs .

The development plan for the EGPO

- **Judicial system:**

- The procedures of legal examination :

- according to Paris Convention, the examiners start the procedures of examining the application after one year from the date of filing the application, and remains confidential during this period .

- The Egyptian law for the protection of intellectual property is the law No. 82/2002 (www.egypo.gov.eg)

- The Appeal committee:

- according to the article No. 36 and No. 37 from the EG law for the protection of Intellectual Property, the applicant can present his appeal first to the appeal committee and in case of not getting his right, he can go to the specialized court.

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33

Vision (1)

- The students in schools and universities must learn “how to catch-up with the knowledge wave “?”
- Supporting and consolidating the role of universities and educational institutions in creating and disseminating IP culture in Egypt .
- Raising awareness activities in the field of IP (it leads to find new customers for professional searches) .
- Raising the awareness of SMEs and developing it.
- IP offices guide inventors towards different technology fields that market needs .

34

Vision (2)

- EGPO work flow will be transferred to full automation .
- EGPO plays an efficient role in spreading awareness about the importance of IP through focal points .
- EGPO plays an important role as a regional training center for all Arab and African countries .
- Establishing Disaster Recovery Unit.
- Electronic payment .

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35



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NAGWA, March, 1-2,2010

36



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Thank You