

**FUNDING PROGRAMME FOR INDEPENDENT PRODUCTIONS
OF FICTION FEATURE FILMS
SHORT FILMS
DOCUMENTARIES**

GENERAL TERMS

1. This programme is addressed to independent productions that have not received any other funding from the Cinema funding programmes of the Deputy Ministry of Culture
2. Submitted proposals are examined by the Cinema Advisory Committee that shall then present its recommendation to the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry.
3. The Cinema Advisory Committee examines the applications and makes its recommendations according to the financial capability enabled by the film production fund of each year.
4. The inclusion of a film production in one of the Funds of this Regulation does not imply that the film will automatically receive support from subsequent Funds.
5. The Cinema Advisory Committee accepts proposals from the same film director and producer once every three years.
6. Proposals that have been proven to promote violence, racism, pornography, to insult the religious feelings of people, to commit libel and encourage use of addictive substances will not be accepted.
7. **The funding programme for independent productions falls within the De Minimis programme.**

SPECIFIC TERMS

1. Right to participate in the Funding Programme:
 - The film director must be Cypriot and the production company must be registered in Cyprus.
 - The thematic of the film must be dealing with the Cypriot reality and/or history.
 - 80% of the film shoot must have taken place in Cyprus and be at their final stage.
 - The film must be shot entirely or mainly in one or both the official languages of the Republic of Cyprus.
2. The inclusion of a film production in one of the Funds of this Regulation is not binding for the Ministry, which is therefore not obliged to automatically approve the same production in a different Fund.
3. In all cases, the format of the recommended films must correspond to the formats determined in the relevant programmes of the Cinema Advisory Committee. For digital productions, the following formats shall be accepted: Standard Digital (for Alternative Films), HD, 2K, 4K and, generally, anything related to professional equipment.
4. Applications must meet all the requirements governing the Fund to which the film is submitted and include all necessary documentation.

1. LOW / HIGH BUDGET FICTION FEATURE FILMS

A) Funding for final production stage (Shooting)

An amount up to **€30,000** may be provided in order to cover expenditure deriving from the final stage of the film shoot.

Terms & Conditions and Right to Participate:

See General / Specific Terms of the Funding Programme for Independent Productions (page 1).

Required documentation / material

- The Producer shall fill in and submit 4 hard copies of the application and electronically in form of a PDF file, including the following:
 - Application form
 - Film synopsis
 - Film script
 - Rushes on 4DVD copies, 1Mp4 file on USB and video link (within the application).
 - Financial planning (with evidence attesting the participation of the co-producers and/or the sponsors), Budgeting.
 - Production timeframe (film shoot, post-production, film completion)

Selection Criteria

- Assessment of audiovisual material (**Rushes** of film).
- Aesthetic and dramaturgical adequacy of script, as well as concept originality.
- Approach to directing and performance of actors.
- Value of artistic and technical potential of the film production.
- Adequate technical processing of film (assessment of Rushes submitted).

Participation of the State

- A sum amounting up to **€30,000** may be provided, or 30% of the budget, whichever is smaller.
- A percentage of 70% of the amount shall be given immediately after approval and signature of the relevant contract, whereas the remaining amount shall be provided after submission of expenditure receipts, for expenses made by the Producer, based on the film budget.

- The Ministry, as the Co-producer of the film, shall claim profits from its screenings in Cyprus and abroad, according to its final percentage of participation in the film.
- The inclusion of a production in Fund A' (Funding for final production stage) is not binding for the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sport and Youth, which is therefore not obliged to automatically integrate the same production in Fund B (Funding for post-production stage).

B) Funding for post-production stage

An amount up to **€20,000** may be provided in order to cover expenditure deriving from the post-production stage of the film.

Terms & Conditions and Right to Participate:

See General / Specific Terms of the Funding Programme for Independent Productions (page 1).

Required documentation / Material

- The Producer shall fill in and submit 4 hard copies of the application and electronically in form of a PDF file, including the following:
 - Application form
 - Film synopsis
 - Film script
 - First Cut of the film on 2 DVD copies, 1 Mp4 file on USB and video link (within the application).
 - Financial planning (with evidence attesting the participation of the co-producers and/or the sponsors).
 - Budgeting including expenses related to the post-production stage and the completion of the film.
 - Post-production and completion timeframe.
- In case a film has already been approved for funding in the category "Funding for final production stage (shooting)", the Producer shall only submit the following:
 - Application form
 - Film synopsis
 - First Cut of the film on 2DVD copies, 1Mp4 file on USB and video link (within the application).
 - Budgeting including expenses related to the post-production stage and the completion of the film.
 - Post-production and completion timeframe.

Selection Criteria

- Assessment of the First Cut of the film.
- Aesthetic and dramaturgical adequacy of the film, as well as originality in the implementation of the project.
- Approach to directing and performance of actors.
- Adequate technical processing of film.

Participation of the State

- An amount up to **€20,000** may be provided, or 70% of the post-production budget, whichever is smaller.
- A percentage of 70% of the amount shall be given immediately after approval and signature of the relevant contract, whereas the remaining amount shall be provided after submission of expenditure receipts, for expenses made by the Producer, based on the film budget.
- The Ministry, acting therefore as a Co-producer of the film, shall claim profits from its distribution/screenings in Cyprus and abroad, based on its final percentage of participation in the film.
- The Ministry of Education of Education, Culture, Sport and Youth shall be mentioned in the film credits as the Co-producer of the film.
- The Producer has the obligation to deliver to the State a copy of the completed film in digital format (Master DCP, 2 DVD and one MP4 file). The expenses related to the production of the digital copies shall be included in the initial approved amount.

C) Funding for commercial distribution/promotional purposes

Terms & Conditions and Right to Participate:

See General / Specific Terms of the Funding Programme for Independent Productions (page 1).

Required documentation / material

- The applicant shall fill in and submit the following:
 - (a) Application form (Letter to Cinema Advisory Committee)
 - (b) Film synopsis
 - (c) 2 DVD copies, 1 Mp4 file on USB and video link (within the application), of the completed version of the film.

(d) Budget of promotional and/or screening expenses.

Selection Criteria

- Assessment of completed film.
- Aesthetic and dramaturgical adequacy of film, as well as originality in the implementation of the project.
- Adequate technical processing of film.
- Approach to directing and performance of actors.
- Expected response of audience.

Participation of the State

- An amount up to **€10,000** may be provided, or 70% of the budget related to promotional material, copies and booking expenses for screening venue(s), whichever is smaller.
- An additional sum amounting to **€1,700** may be provided, for covering the expenses of modification of the film credits, which shall include the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sport and Youth, provided that the film has not been funded by other sub funds of the Regulation.

D) Funding for invitations to festivals

Terms & Conditions and Right to Participate:

See General / Specific Terms of the Funding Programme for Independent Productions (page 1).

- In such cases and depending on the festival, a possibility of funding the participation of the film may be examined, in accordance with the corresponding programme of the Cinema Advisory Committee.
- A percentage of 70% of the approved amount shall be given one month prior to the screening, whereas the remaining amount shall be provided after submission of expenditure receipts, based on the approved funding.

2. FUNDING PROGRAMME FOR INDEPENDENT SHORT FILM PRODUCTIONS (up to 15')

A) Funding for post-production stage:

An amount up to **€7,000** may be provided.

Terms & Conditions and Right to Participate:

See General / Specific Terms of the Funding Programme for Independent Productions (page 1).

Required documentation / material

- The Producer shall fill in and submit 4 hard copies of the application and electronically in form of a PDF file, including the following:
 - Application form
 - Film synopsis
 - Film script
 - First Cut of the film on 2 DVD copies, 1Mp4 file on USB and video link (within the application).
 - Financial planning (with evidence attesting the participation of the co-producers and/or the sponsors).
 - Budgeting including expenses related to the post-production stage and completion of the film.
 - Post-production and completion timeframe.

- The Producer has the obligation to deliver to the State a copy of the completed film in digital format (Master DCP, 2 DVD and one MP4 file). The expenses related to the production of digital copies shall be included in the initial approved amount.

Selection Criteria

- Assessment of the First Cut of the film.
- Aesthetic and dramaturgical adequacy of film, as well as originality in the implementation of the project.
- Adequate technical processing of film.
- Approach to directing and performance of actors.

Participation of the State

An amount up to **€7,000** may be provided, or 50% of the post-production cost, whichever is smaller.

B) Funding for participation in film festivals:

A sum amounting up to **€3,500** may be provided.

Terms & Conditions and Right to Participate:

See General / Specific Terms of the Funding Programme for Independent Productions (page 1).

Required documentation / material

- The applicant shall fill in and submit the application for participation in the funding programme, accompanied by the following:
 - 2 DVD copies, 1 Mp4 file on USB and video link (within the application), of the film,
 - festival invitation,
 - budget of festival participation expenses.

Selection Criteria

- Assessment of the completed film.
- Aesthetic and dramaturgical adequacy of film, as well as originality in the implementation of the project.
- Approach to directing and performance of actors.
- Adequate technical processing of film.
- Assessment of the Budget - festival participation expenses. The Committee reserves the right to assess each festival according to its quality.

Participation of the State

- The overall participation of the State for the screening of the film at a festival shall not exceed the amount of **€3,500**. Subsequent participations in festivals shall be examined accordingly.
- A percentage of 70% of the approved sum shall be given at the beginning, whereas the remaining amount shall be provided after submission of expenditure receipts, based on the approved funding.

3. FUNDING PROGRAMME FOR INDEPENDENT DOCUMENTARY PRODUCTIONS (up to 60')

A) Funding for post-production stage

An amount up to **€10,000** may be provided.

Terms & Conditions and Right to Participate:

See General / Specific Terms of the Funding Programme for Independent Productions (page 1).

Required documentation / material

- The Producer shall fill in and submit 4 hard copies of the application and electronically in form of a PDF file, including the following:
 - Application form
 - Film synopsis
 - **First Cut** of the film on 2DVD copies, 1 Mp4 file on USB and video link (within the application).
 - Financial planning (with evidence attesting the participation of the co-producers and/or the sponsors).
 - Production timeframe (Film shoot, post-production, completion etc.).

Selection Criteria

- Assessment of the First Cut of the film.
- Aesthetic adequacy of film, concept originality, social and human interest of project.
- Adequate technical processing of film.
- Artistic and technical potential of the film production.
- Approach to directing and performance of actors (in the case of re-enactments).

Participation of the State

- An amount up to **€10,000** may be provided, or 50% of the post-production cost, whichever is smaller.
- A percentage of 70% of the amount shall be given immediately after approval and signature of the relevant contract, whereas the remaining amount shall be provided after submission of expenditure receipts, for expenses made by the Producer, based on the film budget.
- The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sport and Youth shall be mentioned in the film credits as the Co-producer of the film.

- The Ministry, acting therefore as a Co-producer of the film, shall claim profits from its screenings in Cyprus and abroad, based on its final percentage of participation in the film.

B) Funding for commercial distribution/promotional purposes

An amount up to **€5,000** may be provided for promotional material, copies and booking expenses for screening venue(s).

Terms & Conditions and Right to Participate:

See General / Specific Terms of the Funding Programme for Independent Productions (page 1).

Required documentation / material

- The applicant shall fill in and submit the following:
 - Application form (Letter to Cinema Advisory Committee).
 - Film synopsis.
 - 2 DVD copies, 1 Mp4 file on USB and video link (within the application).
 - Budget of expenses related to promotional material and/or screening of film.

Selection Criteria

- Assessment of completed film.
- Aesthetic adequacy of film, originality in the implementation, social interest of project.
- Approach to directing and performance of actors (in the case of re-enactments).
- Adequate technical processing of film.

Participation of the State

- An amount up to €5,000 may be provided for promotional material, copies and booking expenses for screening venue(s).
- An additional sum amounting to **€1,700** may be provided, for covering the expenses of modification of the film credits, which shall include the Ministry of Education and Culture.
- In case the Producer has already received an amount of money for the post-production stage from the same funding programme, s/he shall not be entitled to the amount of €1,700 corresponding to the modification of the film credits.

D) Funding for invitations to film festivals

- In such cases and depending on the festival, a possibility of funding the participation of the film may be examined, in accordance with the corresponding programme of the Cinema Advisory Committee.

Terms & Conditions and Right to Participate:

See General / Specific Terms of the Funding Programme for Independent Productions (page 1).

Required documentation / material

- The applicant shall fill in and submit the following:
 - Application form for participation in the funding programme (Letter to the Cinema Advisory Committee)
 - Film synopsis
 - 2 DVD copies of the film or 1 Mp4 file on USB and video link
 - Budget of festival participation expenses
 - Official festival invitation to the film

Selection Criteria

- Assessment of the completed film.
- Aesthetic adequacy of film, concept originality and social interest of the project.
- Approach to directing and performance of actors (in case of re-enactments).
- Adequate technical processing of film.

Participation of the State

A percentage of 70% of the approved sum shall be given at the beginning, whereas the remaining amount shall be provided after submission of expenditure receipts, based on the approved funding.