

## **6) SUPPORT TO INTERNATIONAL CO-PRODUCTION FUNDS (CALL EACEA 26/2018)**

### **1. INTRODUCTION – BACKGROUND**

See Part A.

### **2. OBJECTIVES – THEMES – PRIORITIES**

#### **2.1 Objectives**

Within the field of reinforcing the audiovisual sector's capacity, one of the priorities of the MEDIA Sub-programme shall be to:

- increase the capacity of audiovisual operators to develop European audiovisual works with a potential to circulate in the Union and beyond and to facilitate European and international co-production, including with television broadcasters.

The MEDIA Sub-programme shall provide support for:

- activities helping European and international co-production partners to come together and/or providing indirect support for audiovisual works co-produced by international co-production funds based in a country participating in the Programme.

The priorities are therefore to co-finance activities helping European and international co-production partners to meet and/or provide indirect support for audiovisual works co-produced with the objective to

- Support international co-production funds based in a country participating in the MEDIA Sub-programme in order to facilitate the production and the circulation of culturally diverse international co-productions of film projects in the following categories: animation, creative documentary and fiction;
- Open-up access to international co-production funds for productions from all countries participating in the MEDIA Sub-programme and encourage companies to internationally co-produce works with high creative/artistic value and cultural diversity and with wide cross-border exploitation potential, able to reach audiences worldwide.

#### **Expected results:**

For the period 2019-2020:

- Strengthening the cooperation between European and international operators
- The support of 5 international co-production funds that support some 35-40 projects

#### **2.2. Targeted projects**

The targeted operators are international co-production funds based in a country participating in the MEDIA Sub-programme, having as their main activity the support of international co-productions and having been active in the field for at least 12 months so that they can demonstrate a track record of successful co-productions.

Those funds will support activities aiming at:

- facilitating international co-production
- strengthening circulation and distribution of audiovisual works supported at the production stage.

Within the meaning of these guidelines, "international co-production" is considered a co-production between a company based in a country participating to the Creative Europe MEDIA programme and a company based in a non-European country.

### **3. TIMETABLE**

<b>Stages</b>	<b>Date and time or indicative period</b>
Deadline for submitting applications	06 March 2019 - 12:00 (noon, Brussels Time)
Evaluation period	March April 2019
Information to applicants	May 2019
Signature of grant agreement	June/July 2019
Starting date of the action	01 September 2019
Duration of the action / period of eligibility of costs	46 months

### **4. BUDGET AVAILABLE**

The total budget earmarked for the co-financing of projects is estimated at EUR 2.750.000.

The financial contribution of the Union cannot exceed 80% of the total eligible costs of the action.

The maximum contribution per selected applicants under these guidelines is EUR 700.000.

### **5. ADMISSIBILITY REQUIREMENTS**

See Part A.

### **6. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

Applications which comply with the following criteria will be subject of an in-depth evaluation.

#### **6.1 Eligible applicants**

In addition to the criteria mentioned in Part A, the additional criteria shall apply:

Applicant must have a co-production fund that has been legally constituted and active for at least 12 months before the deadline for the submission of the application, having as its main activity the support of international co-productions.

Legally constituted fund means a Fund which is founded by a legal act compliant with the relevant legislation.

Within the meaning of these guidelines, "international co-production" is considered a co-production between a company based in a country participating to the Creative Europe MEDIA programme and a company based in a non-European country.

## **6.2 Eligible activities**

The eligible activities of a co-production fund including the provision of financial support to eligible third parties for eligible projects conforming to the following criteria:

- Production of feature films, animations and documentaries of a minimum length of 60 minutes intended primarily for cinema release.
- Implementation of concrete distribution strategy aiming at the better circulation of the supported works. The film shall be distributed in at least 3 territories out of which at least one country participating in MEDIA Sub-programme and at least one Third country.

Projects supported by funds should comply with the following:

- Projects must be submitted by audiovisual entities established in one of the countries participating in the MEDIA Sub-programme and owned directly or by majority participation, by nationals from such countries.
- Projects must be co-produced with at least one producer from a country which is participating neither in the MEDIA Sub-programme nor member of Eurimages.
- The share of the co-producer(s) coming from countries participating in the MEDIA sub-programme must amount to a minimum of 20%. Under no circumstances the share of the co-producer(s) coming from countries participating in the MEDIA sub-programme can exceed 70%.
- No other eligibility criteria can be proposed by the funds, except when related to the definition of lists of third party countries. The funding of projects cannot in any way be limited to operators of the country in which the coproduction fund is based.
- The maximum amount of funding per project is EUR 60,000 for production,
- The maximum amount of funding per project is EUR 60,000 for distribution.
- The funding agreement offered by the fund can only be concluded with an entity from a country participating in the MEDIA Sub-programme. The funding does not need to be spent in Europe.

In the opening and closing credits of the funded film, as well as in all promotional and advertising material, the Creative Europe MEDIA support is to be named.

The recipient of MEDIA co-production fund funding agrees to give the European Union certain non-commercial rights which will be stipulated in detail in the funding agreement.

The guidelines to third parties must contain the above information as well as any other necessary element in order to avoid the exercise of discretion by the beneficiary in determining the final grant to third parties. Upon selection, these guidelines will be attached to the agreement.

The following audiovisual projects are ineligible:

- live recordings, TV games, talk shows, reality shows or educational, teaching and 'how-to' programmes;
- documentaries promoting tourism, "making-of", reports, animal reportages, news programmes and "docu-soaps";
- projects including pornographic or racist material or advocating violence;
- works of a promotional nature;

- institutional productions to promote a specific organisation or its activities.

The action must start on 01/09/2019 and end on 30/06/2023. The duration of the action is 46 months. The selection process of the projects supported by the fund must be completed at the latest before the 31/12/2021 in order to finalize the support within the period of the action.

However, if after the signing of the agreement and the start of the action it becomes impossible for the beneficiary, for fully justified reasons beyond its control, to complete the action within the scheduled period, an extension to the eligibility period may be granted. A maximum extension of 6 additional months will be granted, if requested before the deadline specified in the agreement. The maximum duration will then be 52 months.

## **7. EXCLUSION CRITERIA**

### **7.1 Exclusion from participation**

**See Part A.**

### **7.2 Rejection from the award procedure**

**See Part A.**

### **7.3 Supporting documents**

**See Part A.**

## **8. SELECTION CRITERIA**

**See Part A.**

### **8.1 Financial capacity**

**See Part A.**

### **8.2 Operational capacity**

In addition to the rules described in the part A, the following specific rules shall apply:

Applicants applying for a grant above EUR 60.000 must provide the following supporting documents:

- a summary of the activities of the applicant over the last two years;
- description of the profile of the people primarily responsible for managing and implementing the operation.

## 9. AWARD CRITERIA

Eligible applications by funds will be assessed on the basis of the following criteria.

	<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Definitions</b>	<b>Max. points</b>
1	Relevance and European added value	This criterion evaluates the added value compared to current activities of European co-production funds; the strategies to ensure the geographical coverage of the European and International dimension and the capacity to attract culturally diverse international co-productions; the strategy of the fund to facilitate the distribution of projects.	40
2	Quality of the content and activities	This criterion evaluates the adequacy of the methodology to the objectives including the overall strategies of the fund, the target group, selection and follow-up methods, the feasibility, and cost efficiency.	30
3	Dissemination of project results, impact and sustainability	This criterion evaluates the impact on the promotion and circulation of co-productions and the audiences to be reached.	25
4	Organisation of the project team	This criterion assesses the distribution of the roles and responsibilities of the team in relation to the appropriateness of the decision making process with regards to applicants for funding.	5

Detailed description of the award criteria and breakdown of points

### **Relevance and European added value (40 points)**

This criterion evaluates the added value compared to current activities of European co-production funds; the strategies to ensure the geographical coverage of the European and International dimension and the capacity to attract culturally diverse international co-productions; the strategy of the fund to facilitate the distribution of projects.

This criterion will take into account:

- The added value compared to current activities of the co-production fund (**10 points**);
- The geographical coverage: European and international dimension and strategy to attract culturally diverse (gender, nationality) international co-productions (**20 points**)
- The strategy of the co-production fund to facilitate the distribution/circulation of selected projects (**10 points**).

### **Quality of the content and activities (30 points)**

This criterion evaluates the adequacy of the methodology to the objectives including the overall strategies of the fund, the target group, selection and follow-up methods, the feasibility, and cost efficiency.

This criterion will take into account:

- The quality and coherence of the strategies implemented to reach the target group and to facilitate international co-production and/or for strengthening their circulation including synergies with other funds (**15 points**);

- The quality of the methodology related to the selection, including award criteria and selection board components, and the follow-up of the projects supported by the co-production fund (**10 points**);
- The cost-efficiency of the action (**5 points**).

### **Dissemination of project results, impact and sustainability (25 points)**

This criterion evaluates the impact on the promotion and circulation of co-productions and the audiences to be reached.

This criterion will take into account:

- The impact on the competitiveness of the co-production fund to attract international talents, including strategies for promoting the funding opportunities (**10 points**);
- The strategies to assess the impact on the promotion, distribution and potential audience of co-productions supported by the fund (**15 points**).

### **Organisation of the project team (5 points)**

This criterion assesses the distribution of the roles and responsibilities of the team in relation to the appropriateness of the decision making process with regards to applicants for funding.

This criterion will take into account:

- the coherence and complementarity's of the team including tasks division and decision making process (**5 points**).

## **10. LEGAL COMMITMENTS**

**See Part A.**

## **11. FINANCIAL PROVISIONS**

### **11.1 General Principles**

- a) Non-cumulative award

**See Part A.**

- b) Non-retroactivity

**See Part A.**

- c) Co-financing

**See Part A.**

- d) Balanced budget

**See Part A.**

- e) Implementation contracts/subcontracting

**See Part A.**

f) Financial support to third parties

The applications may envisage provision of financial support to third parties in accordance with the criteria defined in section 6.2 of the present Guidelines. In such case the applications must include:

- an exhaustive list of the types of activities for which a third party may receive financial support;
- the definition of the persons or categories of persons which may receive financial support;
- the criteria for awarding financial support;
- the maximum amount to be granted to each third party and the criteria for determining it.

The amount of financial support per third party must not exceed EUR 60,000.

## **11.2 Funding forms**

In relation to the options described in Part A, the International Co-production Funds scheme applies the grants financed through reimbursement of eligible costs in combination with flat rate covering overheads. In addition to the rules described in Part A, the following specific rules shall apply:

### **Maximum amount requested**

The EU grant is limited to a maximum co-financing rate of 80% of eligible costs.

➤ **Eligible costs (See Part A)**

In addition to the rules described in Part A, the following specific rules shall apply:

#### Eligible direct costs:

The eligible direct costs for the action are those costs which, **with due regard for the conditions of eligibility set out above**, are identifiable as specific costs directly linked to the performance of the action and which can therefore be booked to it directly, such as:

- third party's production of feature films, animations and documentaries of a minimum length of 60 minutes intended primarily for cinema release;
- implementation of concrete distribution strategy aiming at the better circulation of the supported third party's works. The film should be distributed in at least 3 territories out of which at least one participating in the MEDIA Sub-programme and at least one third country. Please note that no distribution support can be awarded to an entity established outside the countries participating in the MEDIA sub-programme (see section 6.1).
- other costs related to the implementation of the action such as personnel costs, promotion costs or expert costs for the selection committees. These costs shall be limited to 15% of the total eligible costs.

➤ **Ineligible costs (in addition to the ineligible costs specified in Part A)**

In addition to the ineligible costs specified in Part A, the following costs shall not be eligible:

- Travel and subsistence of staff

➤ **Calculation of the final grant amount – Supporting documents**

**See Part A.**

**11.3 Payment arrangements**

In addition to the rules described in Part A, the following specific rules shall apply:

A pre-financing payment corresponding to 10% of the grant amount will be transferred to the beneficiary within 30 days of the date when the last of the two parties signs the agreement, provided all requested guarantees have been received.

A second pre-financing payment of 60% of the grant amount will be made within 60 days of receipt by the Agency of the progress report on the action's implementation. This second pre-financing payment shall not be made until at least 70% of the previous pre-financing payment has been used up. Where the consumption of the previous pre-financing is less than 70%, the amount of the new pre-financing payment shall be reduced by the unused amounts of the previous pre-financing.

**11.4 Pre-financing guarantee**

**See Part A.**

**12. PUBLICITY**

**12.1 By the beneficiaries**

**See Part A.**

**12.2 By the Agency and/or the Commission**

**See Part A.**

**12.3 Communication and dissemination**

**See Part A.**

**13. DATA PROTECTION**

**See Part A.**

**14. PROCEDURE FOR THE SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS**

**14.1 Publication**

The call for proposals is being published on the Internet site of the Agency at the following address:  
[https://eacea.ec.europa.eu/creative-europe/funding/international-coproduction-funds-2019\\_en](https://eacea.ec.europa.eu/creative-europe/funding/international-coproduction-funds-2019_en)

**14.2 Registration in the Participant Portal**

**See Part A.**



### **14.3 Submission of the grant application**

See Part A.

### **14.4 Rules applicable**

See Part A.

### **14.5 Contacts**

For any further information please contact your Creative Europe desk:  
[http://ec.europa.eu/culture/creative-europe/creative-europe-desks\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/culture/creative-europe/creative-europe-desks_en.htm)

Contact within the Agency: [EACEA-MEDIA-COPROD-FUNDS@ec.europa.eu](mailto:EACEA-MEDIA-COPROD-FUNDS@ec.europa.eu)

If you encounter a technical problem in relation to the e-Form, please ensure that you contact the HelpDesk well in advance of the deadline for submission: [eacea-helpdesk@ec.europa.eu](mailto:eacea-helpdesk@ec.europa.eu)

#### **Annexes:**

All the annexes are available on the EACEA/MEDIA website: [https://eacea.ec.europa.eu/creative-europe/funding/international-coproduction-funds-2019\\_en](https://eacea.ec.europa.eu/creative-europe/funding/international-coproduction-funds-2019_en)

#### **Annexes to be included in the application form:**

- Annex 1: Application Form / Detailed description of the action  
(The Application form on the standard template must be attached to the E-Form)
- Annex 2 – Declaration on applicant's honour  
(The declaration on the applicant's honour must be attached to the E-Form)
- Annex 3 – Detailed budget and sources of financing  
(The Budget Form on the standard template must be attached to the E-Form)

#### **Additional annexes published with the call:**

Expert Guide

Sample of Grant Agreement