

MAURITIUS FILM DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Film Grant to support Independent Local Filmmakers/Local Filmmakers Companies under the National Resilience Fund (NRF)

Approved Guidelines - Second Edition

Guidelines

1.0 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 Within the National Resilience Fund established under the Finance and Audit (National Resilience Fund) Regulations 2012, a Film Grant has been established to support Independent Local Filmmakers/Local Filmmakers Companies to develop the local film industry.
- 1.2 The Film Grant is administered and managed by the Mauritius Film Development Corporation with the support of the Economic Development Board.
- 1.3 The Second Edition of the Film Grant has been launched on Monday 30th October 2023 in collaboration with the Economic Development Board.
- 1.4 The main objectives of the grant is to support Independent Local Filmmakers/ Local Filmmakers Companies are as follows:
 - a) To financially support local experienced filmmakers to produce high quality content for feature film and TV serial.
 - b) To promote local production at the level of international film festivals and events.
 - c) To encourage talent development in local film production through the transfer of knowledge and skills by foreign experienced crew.
- 1.5 The economic, social benefits and outcomes of the grant are to produce at least 5 feature films of good broadcast quality suitable for recognition at international film festivals and events.

2.0 CATEGORY OF PROJECTS ELIGIBLE FOR FUNDING

2.1 Only productions of Feature films and TV serials.

3.0 PROJECTS NOT ELIGIBLE UNDER THIS GRANT

3.1 Productions of Feature films and TV serials which have already benefitted from other schemes administered by Government institutions such as the Film Rebate Scheme (FRS), National Arts Fund (NAF) and the Film Assistance Scheme (FAS);

3.2 Projects that have already started prior to the launching of the second call;

3.3 Projects which: -

- (i) erode the moral values of society;
- (ii) promote religious causes;
- (iii) are not intended for public consumption;
- (iv) cause negative effects to Government bodies and public institutions;
- (v) serve to create conflict or misunderstanding in our multicultural society;
- (vi) are related to political activities and/or are of political nature;

4.0 ELIGIBILITY

4.1 Local Independent filmmakers who have produced at least 1 feature film or TV serial in Mauritius.

4.2 Local independent filmmakers who have produced a minimum of 4 short films of duration of 7, 13, 26 and 26+ either fiction or/and animation type cumulating a total length of 90 minutes.

4.3 Local filmmaker companies benefiting from the grant are required to spend at least 80% of grant in the local economy.

5.0 APPLICATION FORM

5.1 The Application Form along with the supporting documents should be submitted to the General Manager of the Mauritius Film Development Corporation, Floreal.

5.2 The Application Form and the Guidelines are available on the website of the Mauritius Film Development Corporation (www.mauritiusfilm.govmu.org).

6.0 DOCUMENTS TO BE SUBMITTED FOR CONSIDERATION

- (i) Copy of National ID Card of the applicant;
- (ii) A synopsis (maximum 300 words) of the project including the beneficial exposure to Mauritius, target audience to be reached, as appropriate;
- (iii) Detailed budget breakdown of production;
- (iv) Proposed start date (including pre-production);
- (v) Expected date of termination
- (vi) Pre-sales agreements if any;
- (vii) Distribution plan, as appropriate;
- (viii) CVs of key team & crew members;
- (ix) Filmography of filmmaker;
- (x) Description of past projects and experience of the key individuals;
- (xi) Other documents to enable assessment of track records;
- (xii) Viable financial plan and details of any third-party financiers including any letters of interest/commitment from those parties;
- (xiii) List of crew members;
- (xiv) A tentative shooting/implementation schedule;
- (xv) Certificate of incorporation and/or Business Registration Number;
- (xvi) Proof of past experience (track record) (to be supported by documentary evidence, viz. press cuttings etc. including names/number of similar works produced); and
- (xvii) Any additional document to support the application may also be submitted.

Notes:

1. Eligible applicants will be called upon to present their project to the Managing Committee of the Film Grant to support Independent Local Filmmakers/Local Filmmakers Companies under the National Resilience Fund.
2. The Managing Committee reserves the right to ask for any missing or any additional information, documents or evidence in the exercise of its evaluation.
3. The decision of Managing Committee shall be irrevocable.

7.0 SUBMISSION OF DOCUMENTS

7.1 The duly filled application form together with all supporting documents, as listed in this Guidelines shall be submitted to the General Manager of the Mauritius Film Development Corporation, Hugh Otter Barry Street, Floreal.

8.0 GRANT PER PROJECT

8.1 Each eligible project will be financed up to a maximum of Rs 2.0 million, depending on the cost of the project.

9.0 GENERAL RULES

- 9.1 Applicants shall be aged 18 years or above.
- 9.2 Applicants shall be citizens of the Republic of Mauritius who have resided in Mauritius for a period of at least 2 continuous years preceding the application date.
- 9.3 Applicants shall be eligible for application of a single project at a time.
- 9.4 Any copyright arising out of any project or part thereof shall be governed by the provisions of the Copyright Act 2014.
- 9.5 The name of the Mauritius Film Development Corporation and the Economic Development Board shall appear as a major partner in all publicity material, printed documents related to the project and credits.
- 9.6 Expenses related to entertainment cost and not related to production of a film or TV serial will not be qualified.
- 9.7 All submissions (documents, photographs, etc.) shall become the property of the Mauritius Film Development Corporation.
- 9.8 All sections of the Application Form shall be duly filled in, where applicable.
- 9.9 Application forms that have not been properly filled in or / and comprising inaccurate information or documents submitted after the deadline, shall not be considered.
- 9.10 The Mauritius Film Development Corporation shall not be liable to indemnify the applicant for expenses or losses incurred, if any, in the course of preparation of an application for financing of a project under these Guidelines.

- 9.11 The Mauritius Film Development Corporation shall neither be liable nor be responsible, and shall not be subject to any claim for compensation, in case the project is not approved or in case of any delay by the Managing Committee of the Film Grant to support Independent Local Filmmakers in conveying approval for a project.
- 9.12 The Mauritius Film Development shall neither be liable nor be responsible, and shall not be subject to any claim for compensation, if, for any reason, the project is not implemented as per these Guidelines, the Application Form submitted and the Agreement entered into between the Mauritius Film Development Corporation and the applicant.
- 9.13 In case there are downward variations in the project value, the grant amount shall be adjusted accordingly.
- 9.14. Applicants will be eligible to benefit from this grant only 3 times in their lifetime as follows:
- (a) 2 years after first grant received; and
 - (b) 3 years after second grant received

10.0 ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

The evaluation by the Managing Committee will be marked on the following criteria: -

10.1 PRE-PRODUCTION PHASE :50%

- a) Synopsis/ script completed
- b) Projects viable
- c) Shooting locations have been identified and calendar established
- d) Applications made and permit obtained from MFDC
- e) Permits from owners of private and public locations obtained
- f) Casting done
- g) Calibers of main casts and experience
- h) Crews and technical teams have been organized
- i) Profile and experience of main technical crew members: Cameraman, Editor etc.
- j) Costumes and props being used
- k) List of film shooting equipment established and available

- l) Financial contribution from producers
- m) Sponsorship contribution
- n) Distribution plan

10.2 PRODUCTION PHASE -25%

- a) Production set
- b) Evaluation of shooting on site to know progress of work
- c) Presentation of works (rush) completed to the Committee on a fortnight basis
- d) Obstacles being encountered on shooting site
- e) Quality of lights
- f) Performance of characters

10.3 POST-PRODUCTION PHASE-25%

- a) Editing works monitored
- b) Color Grading
- c) Graphic works
- d) Voice over
- e) Music and copyrights issue
- f) Subtitles
- g) Duration of film
- h) First Viewing
- i) Second and final viewing
- j) Launching of the film
- k) Marketing/distribution plan

11.0 DISBURSEMENT OF FUNDS

11.1 The grant will be disbursed in three instalments as follows:

- (i) 25% of grant upon award and acceptance of grant on signature of the Agreement at the preproduction phase;
- (ii) 40% of grant at production stage;
- (iii) 35% of grant at post production stage.

Note 1: The applicant should submit a rough cut of the film/TV serial prior to disbursement for post-production.

Note 2: All receipts/invoices/quotations submitted for disbursements shall be in original. ID numbers, BRN and contact details should be clearly shown on receipts/quotations.

11.2 The grants will be disbursed after satisfactory verification by the Managing Committee of the Film Grant to support Independent Local Filmmakers/Local Filmmakers Companies of all submitted claims and evidence. Any improper submission/missing document may delay disbursements.

11.3 The grant will be paid by a crossed cheque on applicant's name or credited into the applicant's company bank account as per application form.

12.0 AGREEMENT

12.1 A Letter of Offer will be issued to the selected applicants and subsequently the successful applicant shall enter into an Agreement with the Mauritius Film Development Corporation.

13.0. LIMITATION OF FUND UNDER THIS GRANT

13.1 This call will be on a FIRST COME FIRST SERVE BASIS as from 30th October 2023.