



THE UK GLOBAL SCREEN FUND

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#UKGlobalScreenFund
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Backing UK talent and content worldwide



Funded by
UK Government

THE UK GLOBAL SCREEN FUND

The UK Global Screen Fund (UKGSF) is a £7m per annum fund designed to boost international development, production, distribution and promotional opportunities for the UK's independent screen sector.

The UKGSF targets support across the screen sector, including film, TV, documentary, animation and interactive narrative games content.

Financed by the UK government's Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport, and administered by the BFI, the UKGSF is focused on supporting:

| **International Co-production**

| **International Business Development**

| **International Distribution**

KEY AIMS:

- **growing the revenue and sustainability of UK independent screen businesses by supporting their international activity**
- **enabling industry to grow international partnerships and to develop projects with international appeal for mutual benefit**
- **increasing the reach of UK screen content to international audiences.**

INTERNATIONAL CO-PRODUCTION

Supporting UK producers to work as partners on international co-productions and help create new global projects.

Objective: to support international co-production projects with strong export, international and audience reach potential, which can also show the potential to generate revenues for the UK producer.

Funding in the form of non-recoupable grants of up to £300,000 towards:

- 'minority' feature film co-productions (co-productions where the contribution of at least one of the other co-producing partners is greater than the overall contribution of the UK producer) in any language and any genre, including fiction, animation and documentary, which are co-produced with international partners
- television co-productions (whether 'minority' or 'majority' in nature) in the animation and documentary genres only, in any language, which are co-produced with international partners

We are looking for projects that:

- make persuasive cases for their international audience and market appeal
- are able to show international distribution and revenue potential
- access new markets that the UK production company has not previously engaged with, or strengthen ties with existing markets
- improve reciprocity between the UK and other nations in co-production
- come from teams that can demonstrate a previous successful track record, either at festivals, with awards, viewing figures or box office
- have secured third party financing towards the proposed UK financial contribution to the relevant co-production
- show innovation

ELIGIBILITY:

ALL PRODUCTIONS

- The applicant is a limited Company registered and centrally managed in the UK and in good standing, whose core business is producing independent narrative content for cinema/commercial online release or television broadcast
- The lead UK applicant's company is not a company in which more than 25% of its shares are held directly or indirectly by one or more of the following third parties: a non-UK corporate entity; a television broadcaster/SVOD platform or operator; a company defined as a large company under the Companies Act 2006
- The lead individual UK producer connected to the applicant company can give evidence of demonstrable production experience. This is defined as having a personal on-screen Producer credit on at least one feature project that has had commercial distribution, or broadcast in the UK or internationally*
- The project has secured at least 60% of the overall finance, in addition to any prospective contribution from the UKGSF International Co-Production strand or the UK Tax Relief
- The project has secured or will secure at least one other source of funding on the UK financial share, in addition to any prospective contribution from the UKGSF International Co-production strand and/or the UK Tax Relief
- The project is British qualifying either under the Cultural Test; or one of the UK's official bilateral co-production treaties; or The European Convention on Cinematographic Co-Production
- Principal photography/animation start requirement within 8 months of the closing of the strand's deadline. For documentaries the project has a completion date within 18 months of the closing of the strand's deadline
- The project cannot have started production (excl. docs and animation)
- 10-20% minimum financial and creative contribution
- UKGSF funding cannot represent more than 50% of total UK spend

TV

- For "majority" co-productions, there are at least three broadcasters from three different countries contributing to the finance plan (this can include a broadcaster from the UK)
- For "minority" co-productions, there are at least two broadcasters from two different countries contributing to the finance plan (this can include a broadcaster from the UK)
- VOD platforms can also be included in this total, provided that the VOD platform is not acquiring worldwide rights on a buyout basis
- Animation and Documentary only
- a 'single project' or episodic animation or documentary project, with a minimum aggregate duration of 24 minutes, and is intended for TV/online broadcast
- Theatrical release is allowed subject to the condition that the production must have been intended primarily for the television market and respects the above points

FILM

- Minority Co-productions of all genres

Applications for this strand are now open until 28 September 2023

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*as defined in the Eligible Content section of the guidelines

INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

Supporting UK screen content businesses across film, TV, animation and interactive narrative video games to enhance their international activities.

Objective: to support the development of UK screen content businesses that focus on revenue generation through export and international expansion.

Funding in the form of non-recoupable grants between £50,000 - £200,000 towards:

- internationally-focused transformational business strategies related to independent UK film. Film transformation track strategies to span three to five years.
- business strategies to create, acquire and/or exploit intellectual property (IP), covering all eligible screen sectors (film, TV, documentary, animation and interactive narrative games content), for increased international revenue, audiences and profile. General track strategies to span three years.

We are looking to support companies in achieving measurable results, including:

- developing a strong presence in the international marketplace
- developing quality UK projects aimed specifically at the global marketplace and at global audiences
- creating new international business partnerships and alliances
- developing new international revenue streams and increased private sector investment
- establishing targeted development, production, sales, distribution and marketing strategies which exploit new opportunities in the global digital and online realm

ELIGIBILITY:

- UK-registered company engaged in the creation, exploitation or acquisition of UK screen IP, with at least:
- one credit with UK or international release/ distribution in the last three years, or
- (if the company is less than four years old) a slate of projects in third-party funded development, intended for release in the next three years
- Companies need to be in third year of operations and financially sustainable
- At least two years of accounts filed at Companies House
- Has achieved a minimum of £35,000 gross profit average over a three-year period
- The total award cannot be more than 25% of the applicant company's combined annual turnover across the 3 years of the business plan
- A Micro, Small or Medium size business
- Not more than 25% owned, directly or indirectly, by any of the following:
 - a non-UK corporate entity
 - a TV broadcaster/ SVOD platform or operator
 - a video games publisher
- any large company as defined under the 2006 Companies Act
- At least one director has been a director of the company for more than two years

Applications for this strand are currently closed.

INTERNATIONAL DISTRIBUTION FILM SALES SUPPORT

Supporting UK sales agents to increase their international promotion and sales of live action and animated, fiction and documentary UK feature film projects.

Objective: to support UK sales agents in presenting a UK film to international buyers at international markets with the aim of securing international distribution deals.

Funding in the form of non-recoupable grants up to £25,000 towards:

- design, implementation and/or use of a film-specific virtual screening space for buyers
- promotional and marketing materials to launch the film to international buyers at markets and festivals
- launch costs including: technical, shipping, manufacture of DCPs, subtitling
- PR and publicist costs
- costs of market screenings, whether virtual or physical, festival submissions, and for a loan DCP for festival use
- costs of providing services and creating materials which will be made available for use by international distributors

ELIGIBILITY:

APPLICANT

- Is a limited company registered and centrally managed in the UK whose core business is securing and selling distribution rights to new feature film titles
- Is not a company in which more than 25% of its shares are held, directly or indirectly, by any one or more of the following third parties:
 1. a non UK corporate entity
 2. a TV broadcaster / SVOD platform or operator
 3. any company defined as a large company under the Companies Act of 2006
- Has been appointed as the sales agent selling the international rights for the eligible film
- Has written consent from the lead UK producer of the eligible film approving the submission of the UKGSF application and the proposed budgeted expenditure

FILM

- A production budget of £12,500,000 or less
- A new feature length (minimum 60 mins running time) live action or animation, fiction or documentary film
- Is either complete, in production, or in post-production
- Has been completed in the 12 months prior to the application date or will be completed within 12 months of the application date
- Qualifies as British (Cultural Test, official treaty or European Convention)
- Has not been fully financed by a studio or mini major
- Is not intended for a TV or SVOD premiere

Applications for this strand are currently open and will be assessed on a rolling basis.
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INTERNATIONAL DISTRIBUTION PRINTS AND ADVERTISING (P&A) SUPPORT

Supporting UK films to reach international audiences.

Objective: to support UK producers or UK sales agents in increasing the international circulation, audience size, and box office potential of a UK film.

UK sales agents or UK producers can apply for up to £100,000 to support the theatrical release of a UK film by international distributors across a grouping of international territories, with up to £30,000 available for a single territory within the grouping.

Funding in the form of non-recoupable grants towards:

- Print costs including manufacture of DCPs, film print, print insurance, translation, subtitling/dubbing into local language
- Advertising and Promotion costs related to the release to exhibitors, including posters, trailers, advertising and costs relating to media buying
- PR costs including hiring a local press agency, festival/theatrical premiere costs, press junkets and interviews
- Talent costs including travel, accommodation and appearance fees
- Ancillary costs including shipping, post, courier and freight

ELIGIBILITY:

A grouping must consist of a minimum of four international territories, including at least two from the following list of key territories: ANZ, Benelux, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Latin America, North America, Poland, Scandinavia, South Korea and Spain

APPLICANT:

- UK sales agent or UK lead producer
- No more than 25% owned by a non-UK corporate entity, TV broadcaster/SVOD platform, or large company

DISTRIBUTOR:

- Controls the rights necessary to release the eligible film in cinemas in the territory
- Will directly control the release date, target screens, marketing and promotion of the eligible film in the territory
- Not a mini major, studio, or streaming platform

FILM:

- Production budget under £12.5 million
- 60 minutes or more running time
- Completed no more than 24 months prior to application date, or currently in production or post-production
- Set to have its lead release within 12 months of application date
- Qualifies as British (Cultural Test, official treaty or European Convention)
- Not fully financed by a studio, mini major or streaming platform
- Intended for theatrical release in the relevant territories

Applications for this strand are currently open and will be assessed on a rolling basis.
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INTERNATIONAL DISTRIBUTION FESTIVAL LAUNCH SUPPORT

Supporting the festival launch of UK films in order to enhance their promotion, reach and value internationally.

Objective: to support UK sales agents or UK producers to maximise the festival selection of a UK film through supporting enhanced publicity and/or marketing activity, as well as assisting with the technical and logistical costs involved with a high profile festival launch.

UK sales agents or UK producers can apply for up to £15,000 for a single eligible film.

Funding in the form of non-recoupable grants towards:

- Subtitling costs and/or production costs of subtitled prints or digital cinema packages (DCP) for use at the Eligible Festival
- DCP transport costs
- Contribution to reasonable travel and accommodation costs to the Eligible Festival for key talent essential to the promotion of the Eligible Film (lead cast, director, lead UK producer etc).
- Public Relations activities at the Eligible Festival (including press kits, the appointment of an international or local publicist and associated PR costs)
- Marketing and promotional items specific to the Eligible Film's inclusion at the Eligible Festival, including posters, brochures, flyers, screeners, trade advertisements and digital campaigns

ELIGIBILITY:

- A production budget of £12,500,000 or less
- A new feature length (minimum 60 minutes running time) live action or animation, fiction or documentary film
- Qualifies or is wholly capable of qualifying for certification as a British film under one of the following:
 - the cultural test for British Films
 - one of the UK's official bilateral co-production treaties
 - the European Convention on Cinematographic Co-production
- Not fully financed by a studio, mini major or streaming platform
- Intended for theatrical release
- Invited to have its World, International, North American or European premiere in an official category/competition at an Eligible Festival (see full guidelines)

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