



LAZIO CINEMA INTERNATIONAL

Attraction Cinema Productions - Notice 2017

10 million Euro

POR FESR Lazio 2014-2020 Theme 3 – Competitiveness

Allocation: €10 million, of which €5 million for the first window and €5 million for the second window

Applications accepted: from 16 January 2018 (first window) and from 4 July 2018 (second window)

Objectives

The intervention is intended to sustain investments in Audiovisual Co-productions that involve joint participation by both Lazio and foreign industry, an international distribution of the products and creation of works that enhance the international visibility of tourist destinations in Lazio.

The Funds

The contribution under this Notice is €5 million for each of two 'windows' (two separate and successive application periods), the first opens on 16 January 2018 and the second window will open on 4 July 2018.

The funding will be granted to admissible applications following their order of presentation. Some 50% of the resources are reserved for co-productions seen to be of 'Regional Interest' or 'Particular Regional Interest'. The subsidy is a sinking fund allocated for expenses considered admissible, incurred by the beneficiaries in creating a co-production.

Target beneficiaries

The target group is SMEs already enrolled in the Italian Trade Register or an equivalent register of an EU Member State; they are Independent Producers operating primarily in the sector of 'Film, video and television programme production' (ATECO 2007 code 59.11).

The beneficiary may be a single firm or else a business combination of several beneficiaries for the same co-production, provided that they share production costs through a Co-production Agreement and hold the rights to exploit the work at least for Italy.

The beneficiaries, at the latest by the request of the first payment, must have a fiscal residence in Italy and an operational headquarters in Lazio. They must also demonstrate an adequate administrative, financial and operational capacity. For this purpose the sum of the Production Value (average of the last three years) of the Applicant and the Foreign Producers (covering over 10% of the production costs) and the Associate Producer (covering over 15% of the Production Costs) must be equal or above the overall production cost.

Eligible Works

The aim of the intervention is to sustain Co-productions, understood as follows:

- 'Cinema Co-productions': those recognised by the Ministry of Heritage, Cultural Activities and Tourism (MIBACT) as Works of Cinema produced through an international partnership pursuant to article 4 of the Prime Ministerial Decree (DPCM) of 11 July 2017 (or in virtue of equivalent earlier prevailing legislation where applicable), and accordingly in which one or more Italian firms have a participation quota covering production costs and the relative share of ownership rights of no less than 20%, with the exception of lower percentages foreseen in specific international agreements. Furthermore, the share of the ownership rights for the Italian firm(s) must in all cases include exploitation rights for the territory of Italy. In the case of works of cinema that are the object of grants subject to conditions, the participation in production costs by the foreign producer(s) must be at least 10%, once again with the exception of lower percentages foreseen in specific international agreements.
- 'Other Audiovisual Co-productions': Audiovisual Works that are not cinematographic, recognised as Italian pursuant to article 2 of the DPCM of 11 July 2017 where one or more 'Foreign Producers' contribute at least 20% of the resources to cover production costs or otherwise arising from economic exploitation in markets outside Italy, or else recognised as Italian in virtue of article 4 of the DPCM of 11 July 2017. In this second case, to enable the grant subject to conditions, the above-mentioned coverage of costs by one or more Foreign Producers must be at least equal to 10% or, if relevant, to any lower rate foreseen by international agreements.

In both cases, the Foreign Producer(s) and the Applicant(s) must not be mutually connected by relations of control and/or common management and/or relations of any other nature, with the exception of links inherent to creation of the Work itself or any Audiovisual Works co-produced in the past.

Requirements for eligibility

Eligible co-productions are based on a Co-Production Contract. At the time of application, at least one Letter of Intent must be available, signed by the Beneficiary(ies) and at least one Foreign Producer who, together, ensure coverage of at least 40% of the production costs, including the share of any Associate Producers, and also:

- if the Cinematographic Co-productions are Films, the production costs foreseen are equal to at least €1,500,000, €750,000 for first and second works and €400 per minute for documentaries;
- if the Other Audiovisual Co-productions are narratives or scenic fiction, the length is equal to or longer than 90 minutes, with a production cost equal to at least €400 per minute;
- if the Other Audiovisual Co-productions are of a different nature than as described above, the length is equal to or longer than 40 minutes, with a production cost equal to at least €400 per minute.

At the time of application the co-productions must have already submitted a request to the MIBACT regarding 'cultural eligibility' as understood by the laws on State aid (presently to be requested under the terms and methods stipulated by the Ministerial Degree – DM - of 7 May 2009 the 'Film producer's tax credit decree' or the DM of 5 February 2015 on tax credits for other audiovisual works).

Co-productions also excluded are those that, at the finalisation time of the GeCoWEB Application Form, have already started filming (or production in the case of animated works) and those that have already contracted more than 25% of the Production Costs.

Admissible expenses

Admissible expenses are the shares of the Industrial Cost incurred by the Beneficiary(ies) for the co-production net of coverage by any Associate Producers or otherwise covered by other firms against participation in the economic and financial results of the Work. Expenses relating to production costs are eligible in proportion to the ratio between the days spent shooting in Lazio and total days of shooting, or else of production in the case of animations. As an alternative to these criteria, costs are eligible for the share incurred for residents and/or firms with operational headquarters in Lazio. Indirect costs are eligible on a flat-rate basis up to 7.5% of staff costs under the level retained as admissible. The costs incurred by the beneficiary for promotion and distribution for the Italian market are eligible within the maximum limit of 10% of the eligible production cost; additionally the amount accumulated with the costs for production and distribution for foreign markets cannot exceed 25% of the eligible production cost.

The admissible expenses must be incurred after submission of the application, with the exception of Preparation Costs which can be considered up to a maximum of 5% of the admitted production costs.

So-called 'over the line' expenses and staff costs in the 'Production' Cost Item cannot, individually, exceed 25% of the permitted production cost.

The Cost Item 'Insurance, guarantees and other costs directly imputable, including costs for sworn documents' cannot exceed 7.5% of the eligible production cost.

The producer fee and interest payments are not eligible.

The contribution

The amount of the contribution cannot exceed 25% of the Admissible Expenses, or else 35% in the case of co-productions where the Foreign Producer receives financing from at least one other EU Member State.

Evaluation procedure

A technical evaluation Commission will be responsible for evaluation, thus attributing points on the basis of the following criteria:

- the project's technical quality and originality;
- resume or 'track record' of the key people involved (director, screenwriter, authors, producers and distributors);
- financial coverage of the production costs;
- spending in the regional territory in relation to the production's total expenses;
- direct/indirect economic return for the sector and for Lazio;
- project's capacity to promote awareness of the territory of Lazio, its history, culture and traditions, beyond the Rome Metropolitan Area, in order to stimulate the competitiveness of regional areas less well known and recognisable by the broad public.

Application process

Applications for funding must be presented exclusively on-line by completing the Form available on the **GeCoWEB** platform, accessible at the specific page on www.lazioinnova.it.

The website to compile the form online will be open, for the **first window** starting at **12:00 p.m.** on **16 November 2017**.

Applications for the **second window** will open at **12:00 p.m.** on **30 May 2018**.

After the form has been completed online, the system will generate an Application file that must be sent via **PEC** certified email to Lazio Innova starting from **16 January 2018**, and in any case **within 90 days after finalisation of the on-line form**. The Application Presentation Date is the date the file was sent via PEC. The selection process will be follow the first-in, first-financed procedure whereby funds are granted in the order of receipt of the Application Files (PEC sending date) .

Information

For further information visit the site www.lazioeuropa.it

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