

NETHERLANDS FILM FUND: COVID-19 SUPPORT MEASURES

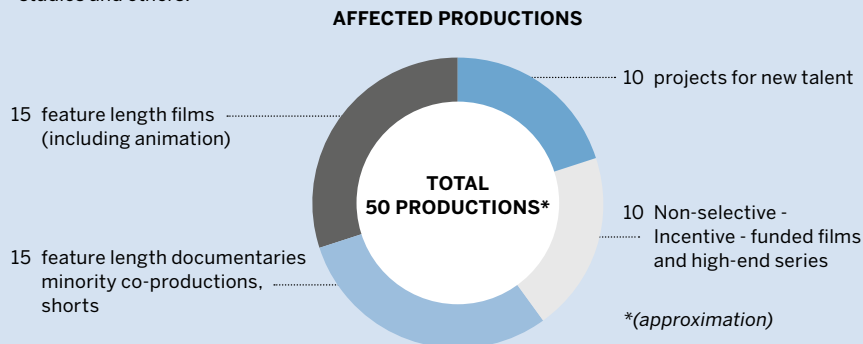


The Covid-19 Pandemic is having a profound impact on all aspects of life, society, commerce and cultural expression, and health-workers all over the world are doing their utmost to cope with the effects of the virus and the increasing number of patients and casualties. Societies and individuals are adapting by acknowledging and accepting the need for social distancing and isolation. The Netherlands Film Fund is similarly adapting its modus operandi, and is focusing on the proactive measures needed to counter the short term effects for the film industry, as well as anticipating the longer term consequences for the broader audiovisual sector in the months and years to come. In addition to the extensive measures undertaken by the Dutch Government to maintain business activity, the Fund has taken immediate action to assist the sector and to minimize further disruption by both relaxing requirements and increasing funding to projects, as well as with other measures. Further action is needed to support the film professionals and their work during this difficult time in order to maintain a vibrant and innovative Dutch film industry.

1. SHORT TERM SUPPORT

EXTRA CONTRIBUTIONS FOR ADDITIONAL (PRE)PRODUCTION COSTS

These refer to postponements, changes or setbacks that have occurred since the outbreak of COVID-19. The costs for the restart of a production are designed to cover the extra expenditure (below the line) on film professionals: crew, cast, film companies, post production, animation studios and others.



INVESTMENT

€ 50.000 to € 100.000 per feature (including animation)
€ 25.000 to € 50.000 per feature length documentaries and other productions

TOTAL € 2,5 – 3,5 MILLION

This short-term emphasis on on-going productions, means that fewer new projects can be supported in the months to come.

2. MID TERM SUPPORT

CONTINUITY AND EMERGENCY RELIEF FUND

To ensure continuity of output from the essential players within the Dutch film industry, and thereby reducing the long-term effects of the COVID-19 crisis, the Film Fund is working on an additional emergency relief fund. This fund would be a hybrid mechanism of relief subsidies and a low-requirement cash-flow facility for financially vulnerable yet vital players such as independent film production companies and film distributors relating to development, (post) production and distribution.

INVESTMENT TOTAL € 5 MILLION

After the first allocation of contributions (repayable when possible), this facility can be recycled to aid other parties in need.

3. INFRASTRUCTURE FOR TALENT & SKILLS

CREATIVE SKILLS & TALENT LAB

The vigorous development of creative skills and talent is even more important during this time of crisis. As the main public audiovisual fund, we are already investing in the start-up phase of an agile, flexible and independent Lab which is demand-driven and which can develop training programmes together with national and international partners for behind-the-camera activities during production and postproduction phases.

CURRENT INVESTMENT FOR START-UP PHASE: € 750.000

An application for structural, 4-year financing directly from government (the so called BIS) has been submitted. The cultural advisory board will advise the government on June 4th 2020.



Loft. Fotograaf: Sofie Van Mieghem - Silbermann

The Forgotten Battle (De Slag om de Schelde)