



KURDISTAN FILM FUND

Rules & Regulations



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Section 01

Introduction



KURDISTAN FILM FUND

An initiative of Creative Kurdistan, the **Kurdistan Film Fund (KFF)** is a grant initiative dedicated to supporting – through two annual funding cycles – development, production, co-production, post-production and distribution of Kurdish short, medium-length and feature films, as well as TV series in the Kurdistan region of Iraq and around the world.

Its mission is to strengthen the Kurdish film industry ecosystem and to put the spotlight on Kurdish narratives by fostering sustainable growth, encouraging international collaboration, and

supporting the creation of high-quality Kurdish audiovisual works.

The Kurdistan Film Fund also aims to expand Kurdish projects beyond borders through a tailored approach and connection with international opportunities.

The national film fund supports audiovisual projects through both financial grants and tailored professional support designed to strengthen their artistic and production potential and maximize their chances of success.

Our Vision

The Kurdistan Film Fund exists to empower Kurdish filmmakers, strengthen the local audiovisual industry, and connect Kurdish stories with international audiences. We believe cinema creates culture, employment, dialogue and opportunity, while contributing to the long-term development and international visibility of the Kurdistan Region of Iraq.

Our Mission

The Kurdistan Film Fund (KFF), initiated by Creative Kurdistan, is a national grant programme dedicated to supporting the development, production, co-production, post-production and distribution of Kurdish short, medium-length and feature films, as well as TV series through two annual funding cycles.

Its mission is to strengthen the Kurdish film industry by empowering filmmakers, supporting high-quality Kurdish stories, encouraging international collaboration, and increasing the global visibility of Kurdish cinema. Beyond providing financial support, the KFF invests in talent, partnerships and opportunities that contribute to the sustainable growth of the Kurdish audiovisual sector.

Building a Sustainable Ecosystem

The Kurdistan Film Fund believes that a sustainable film industry is built through long-term investment in talent, collaboration and opportunity.

In addition to financial support, the KFF contributes to the professional development of filmmakers through industry sessions, strategic guidance and international partnerships.

Together with Creative Kurdistan and its international partners, the KFF forms part of a broader vision to develop a sustainable audiovisual ecosystem in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq. By creating opportunities for filmmakers to connect with festivals, markets, distributors, sales agents, broadcasters and co-production partners, the KFF supports success of individual projects as well as long-term growth.

Through its distribution support, the KFF also enables producers, directors and creative teams to participate in international festivals and markets, helping them build professional networks, attract future collaborations and expand the international reach of Kurdish cinema.

Section 02

Kurdistan Film Fund Funding Grants

Categories

01 Short and medium-length film

including Fiction, Documentary and Animation
A short film is defined as a single work with a running time of **less than 30 minutes**.
A medium-length film is defined as a single work with a running time of **30 to 59 minutes**.

02 Feature Film

including Fiction, Documentary and Animation
A feature film is defined as a single work with a running time of **more than 60 minutes** intended for an initial theatrical release.

03 TV Series

including Fiction, Documentary and Animation
Open to any of the following formats: one-season series, multi-season series, limited series / mini-series.
With a minimum of **3 episodes** and a running time for each episode of **15 to 60 minutes**.

Funding Film Cycles

01 Development

Only open to feature films and TV series.

02 Production

If the project is a majority Kurdish production initiative and before principal photography starts.
Open to short, medium-length, feature films and TV series.

03 Co-Production

If the project is a minority Kurdish co-production initiative with a significant Kurdish participation and before principal photography starts.
Shooting in the Kurdistan region of Iraq is strongly recommended, as it provides greater eligibility for the KFF and may significantly increase the project’s chances of receiving financial support.
Only open to feature films and TV series.

04 Post-Production

Open to projects that already have a rough cut, have at least completed **70% of principal photography**, and have secured the majority of their financing.
Only open to feature films.

05 Distribution

Only available after completion of post-production and before any festival Premiere, theatrical release or launching of the film distribution and print circulation.
Only open to short, medium-length and feature films.

Application Timelines

Cycle One

Opens on **September 1, 2026**
Closes on **October 16, 2026**

Announcement of supported projects
by mid-January, 2027

Cycle Two

Opens on **March 1, 2027**
Closes on **April 2, 2027**

Announcement of supported projects
by early-July, 2027

Amounts of Funding Grants & Sessions

Cash Amounts

Development	
Fiction and Animation Feature film	up to \$20,000
Documentary Feature film	up to \$10,000
TV Series	up to \$20,000
Production	
Short and Medium-length film	up to \$10,000
Fiction and Animation Feature film	up to \$100,000
Documentary Feature film	up to \$50,000
TV Series	up to \$60,000
Co-production	
Fiction and Animation Feature film	up to \$60,000
Documentary Feature film	up to \$30,000
TV Series	up to \$40,000
Post-production	
Fiction Feature film	up to \$40,000
Animation Feature film	up to \$40,000
Documentary Feature film	up to \$40,000

Distribution

Support available – Based on the film’s P&A (Prints & Advertising)
Market expenses including accreditations, market screenings, advertising
Marketing expenses including poster design, marketing campaign and PR during national or international festival Premieres
Festival expenses including travel expenses to attend national or international festival Premieres (see the attached List of eligible festivals)

Visa procedure – For international travels, the KFF will assist the Kurdish director or producer throughout the visa application process.
Distribution & Festival strategy including tailored consultation to evaluate the film’s festival potential and develop a strategic distribution plan in festivals.
Distribution support aims to increase the international visibility of Kurdish cinema by helping supported projects access major festivals, film markets, sales opportunities and professional networks, while encouraging long-term international circulation.

Collective Sessions

All projects supported in each funding cycle will have access to a series of online group information sessions covering key topics relevant to the project’s development, financing and production. These sessions will take place within a three-month period following the notification of the awarded grant.
Financial support is combined with a tailored professional

guidance, offering each supported project comprehensive support adapted to its stage of development. Grant recipients are expected to actively participate in the dedicated programme of professional sessions, which forms an integral part of the KFF’s support and the conditions of the awarded grant.

Payments of Funding Grants

The grant will be allocated to the producer, except in certain cases duly specified in the present regulations (*)

→ Development Funding

1st transfer of **70%** of total grant upon signature of the grant agreement
of which **30%** is allocated to the director (*)
of which **40%** is allocated to the producer
2nd transfer of **30%** of total grant upon receipt of a satisfactory version of the screenplay
of a complete narrative and financial report on the use of total grant

→ Production Funding

1st transfer of **40%** of total grant upon signature of the grant agreement
2nd transfer of **40%** of total grant on the first day of principal photography (by providing a filming permit)
3rd transfer of **20%** of total grant upon receipt and approval of a complete narrative and financial report on the use of total grant (financial statement will be certified by a statutory auditor or a chartered accountant).

→ Co-Production Funding

(Allocated to the Kurdish production company)
1st transfer of **40%** of total grant upon signature of the grant agreement
2nd transfer of **40%** of total grant on the first day of principal photography (by providing a filming permit)
3rd transfer of **20%** of total grant upon receipt and approval of a complete narrative and financial report on the use of total grant. (financial statement will be certified by a statutory auditor or a chartered accountant)

→ Post-Production Funding (Paid to the Kurdish production)

1st transfer of **70%** of total grant upon signature of the grant agreement
2nd transfer of **30%** of total grant upon submission of a satisfactory version of the film and a complete narrative and financial report on the use of total grant (Financial statement certified by a statutory auditor or a chartered accountant).

→ Distribution Funding

Based on the film's Prints & Advertising (P&A) strategy and subject to the approval of due quotations submitted by the producer or distributor.

Validity of Funding Grants

Development Funding Will be terminated if no revised draft of the screenplay demonstrating a significant development is sent within one year after the notification of the grant.

Production & Co-Production Fundings Will be terminated if principal photography has not begun within two years after the notification of the grant.

If clearly justified, an additional extension of one year may be requested, as an exception, subject to the sole discretion of the KFF.

Post-Production Funding Will be terminated if the first official screening has not taken place within one year after the notification of the grant.

The grant or funding will be terminated if any change of director, producer or any substantial changes to the project's technical, artistic or financial aspects have not been duly reported to the KFF, and formerly approved by the KFF in writing.

Termination requires full repayment, which will be formally requested through a payment notice for the funds received.

Section 03

Eligibility to KFF Funding Grants

Rules & Criteria for all Categories

At Every Stage

- **The Director must be Kurdish or of Kurdish descent:** he/she must be able to demonstrate his/her Kurdish heritage through proof of lineage or any other appropriate evidence of a tangible connection to the Kurdish community or culture.
- **The Producer may be Kurdish, or of Kurdish descent,** or of any nationality, provided that he/she is producing a project directed by a Kurdish director or a director of Kurdish descent who is able to demonstrate his/her Kurdish heritage through proof of lineage or any other appropriate evidence of a tangible connection to the Kurdish community or culture.

Or

- **The Producer may be of any nationality,** provided that he/she is producing a project that demonstrate Kurdish content and highlights a Kurdish narrative or a location in the Kurdistan region of Iraq. Regardless of the nationality of the producer, every supported project must make a demonstrable contribution to the development and international visibility of Kurdish cinema through its creative leadership, narrative, cultural relevance, production activities, or industry impact.

- **A project must have both a Director and a Producer.**
Except for Short and Medium-length films, or Feature films at a Development stage, for which the director may apply without any attached producer.
- **The Producer and the Director must be two different individuals.**
Except for Short and Medium-length films at a Production or Distribution stage, for which the director and producer can be the same individual.
- **All projects** must demonstrate a meaningful connection to Kurdish identity, culture, language, communities, or narratives through the filmmaker, the story, or the project itself. Particular consideration will be given to projects that strongly reflect these above-mentioned cultural criteria.
- Every stage (Development, Production and Post-production) **can take place outside the Kurdistan region of Iraq** if the project has a **meaningful connection** to Kurdish identity, culture, language, communities, or narratives through the filmmaker, the story, or the project itself.
Particular consideration will be given to projects that strongly reflect these above-mentioned cultural criteria.
- Projects are **not eligible for funding** if 100% of the budget is financed by a broadcaster (studio, streaming platform, or TV channel).

At Production and Co-Production Stage

- **A project initiated by a majority Kurdish production** must demonstrate that at least **60%** of its key creative contribution is Kurdish or of Kurdish descent if he/she is able to prove their Kurdish heritage through proof of lineage or any other tangible connection to the Kurdish community or culture.
- **A project initiated by a minority Kurdish co-production** must demonstrate that the director is Kurdish or of Kurdish descent and that the film shows a meaningful connection to Kurdish identity, culture, language, communities, or narratives through the filmmaker, the story, or the project itself.
- **A project initiated by a minority Kurdish co-production** must demonstrate Kurdish content and highlight a Kurdish narrative or a location in the Kurdistan region of Iraq.



Specific Rules & Criteria depending on Category or Stage

At Every Stage

- For **Feature films and TV Series**, the director must have previously directed at least one short film or another significant audiovisual or artistic work that has been publicly exhibited, released, or presented at film festivals, exhibitions, or other recognized cultural venues.
- For **Feature films and TV Series**, the producer must have previously produced at least one short film or another significant audiovisual or artistic work that has been publicly exhibited, released, or presented at film festivals, exhibitions, or other recognized cultural venues.

At Development Stage

- For **Feature films and TV Series** in Development, no minimum level of financing is required at the time of applying.
- However, applicants must have secured and be able to provide **proof of ownership** or the necessary rights to the underlying work or subject matter.
- **If the screenwriter is not the director**, a screenwriting agreement must also be provided.

At Production & Post-Production Stage

- Eligibility requirements differ depending on whether the project is submitted as a majority Kurdish production or a minority Kurdish co-production, particularly regarding Kurdish creative participation, eligible expenditure, financing structure and production commitments.
- The Kurdistan Film Fund will ensure that its minimum Kurdish expenditure requirements **do not conflict** with the spending obligations of other international funding in a way that could compromise the project's financing or successful completion.
- For **Feature films and TV Series in Production**, the project must include a Production or Co-production agreement (Deal Memo or Long Form Agreement, mandatory for the second instalment) between the director and the lead producer.
- The rights to the **screenplay or adaptation** must be held by the lead producer.
- Feature films and TV Series in Production or Post-production must demonstrate a minimum level of direct or indirect expenditure involving Kurdish-based talent companies or service providers.
- Priority and higher levels of support may be given to projects that **generate significant expenditure** within the Kurdistan Region of Iraq.

Specific Rules & Criteria depending on Category or Stage

- For **Documentary Feature films or TV Series** in Development, no more than **20%** of the estimated final edited film may have been shot at the time of application.
- For **Documentary Feature films or TV Series** in Production, no more than **50%** of the estimated final edited film may have been shot at the time of application.
- For **Documentary Feature films** in Post-Production, at least **80%** of the estimated final edited film must have been shot, and a rough cut must be available at the time of application.



Section 04

Application Guidelines

General Submission Rules

- Applicants must be natural persons, of legal age in their country of residence, and in possession of a valid identification document.
- Applications must be submitted in English. Legal documents originally issued in Kurdish, including company registration certificates, contracts and official administrative documents, may be submitted in Kurdish unless the KFF specifically requests a certified English translation.
- Applications must register online through the Kurdistan Film Fund application platform.
- Applications registered outside the official submission period will not be accepted.
- The online registration process includes the filing of information that must be duly completed.
- Each registration must include the submission of a complete application dossier.
- The required materials are detailed below according to the relevant funding stage and category, each of which has its own specific requirements.
- All required documents listed in the application guidelines are mandatory.
- Incomplete applications will automatically be rejected.
- Once the application submission is finalized, it may not be modified or withdrawn.
- If sent after the application cycle deadline, the application will not be accepted.
- Applicants must not be subject to any actual, potential or perceived conflict of interest with the Kurdistan Film Fund or any members of the Jury, of its staff or governing bodies.
- The KFF reserves the right to decide whether an application is complete and eligible for consideration.
- Experts and Jury members evaluate projects based on their artistic vision, overall quality, and production readiness, ensuring that all applicants are considered on an equal basis.
- The Jury will also determine the amount of the awarded grants.
- The Kurdistan Film Fund reserves the right to close the call before the published deadline if an exceptionally high number of applications is received.
- In the event of an unsuccessful application, the KFF will not provide feedback or reason for its decision.

Multiple Submissions & Resubmission

A project progressing from one funding stage to the next must demonstrate clear and tangible progress in its development and implementation.

Number of applications per cycle

- A director may only be attached to only one project application per Funding category or stage and no more than two projects per Application cycle.
- Distribution funding grant is excluded from this limitation.
- As an example:
 - A director can submit a maximum of one Feature film in Development and one Short film in Production.
 - A director can submit a maximum of one Feature film in Production and one Feature film in Post-Production.
 - A producer or co-producer may be attached to no more than three projects per Application cycle.

Number of Funding grants allocated per year

- A director may not receive more than one Funding grant from the Kurdistan Film Fund within the same annual Application cycle (two Application cycles per year).
- Any additional funding may only be awarded once one or more of the previously supported projects have reached a significant new stage of development or completion.
- A producer may not receive more than four Funding grants from the KFF within the same calendar year (two Application cycles per year). Any additional funding may only be awarded once one or more of the previously supported projects have reached completion.

Resubmission

- A project (Film or TV Series) may submit:
 - only one application is allowed per stage. Rejected projects may be resubmitted once, and only upon invitation by the Jury
 - only one application during the Post-Production stage
 - when re-applying, a detailed description of the actual changes (resubmission note) needs to be submitted via the online form and included in the dossier.
- Post-production or Distribution Funding stage are excluded from this obligation.

Required Material

Below is a list of required documents in the application dossier for each Funding Stage and Category.

- To facilitate the evaluation process, applicants are strictly required to present and submit their application materials in the order specified below.
- All required documents **must be submitted in one single PDF file**.

Development Funding

→ Feature film

- Artistic documents
- Cover page including title
- Short and/or long synopsis (20 lines maximum)
- Feature-length film treatment (10 pages minimum) or screenplay
- Director's statement/Artistic note of intent related to the project (2 pages maximum)
- Artistic references: mood board or visual references, aesthetic influences and inspirations (6 pages maximum)
- Producer's note of intention outlining the project's specific needs, necessary works and steps to insure its successful development, and its potential production opportunities within the territory (2 pages maximum)

Creative team

- Director's bio and filmography
- Links to the director's previous audiovisual works
- Screenwriter(s)' bio and filmography (if applicable)
- Producer's bio and filmography (if applicable)
- Links to the producer's previous audiovisual works (if applicable)
- Production company profile (if applicable)

Legal documents

- Director's ID
- Director's proof of lineage or any other appropriate evidence of a tangible connection to the Kurdish community or culture
- Producer's ID (if applicable)
- Producer's proof of lineage or any other appropriate evidence of a tangible connection to the Kurdish community or culture (if applicable)
- Adaptation rights agreement(s) (if applicable)
- Director's agreement (if the director is not the screenwriter) (if applicable)
- Production agreement(s) or signed deal memos may be accepted if final agreements have not yet been executed (if applicable)
- Proof of legal registration of the production company (certificate of incorporation or equivalent official registration document)
- The director bears legal responsibility for the validity and safety of the documents submitted to the Kurdistan Film Fund.
- The KFF reserves the right to take the necessary legal measures against them if the submitted documents are proven to be invalid.

Financial documents

- Development estimated budget (using the official Kurdistan Film Fund Excel budget template)
- For a Documentary Feature film in Development, no more than 20% of the estimated final edited film may have been shot at the time of application.
- For resubmitted projects only > A rewrite note must be included.

→ TV Series

Artistic documents

- Cover page including title
- Logline
- Short and/or long synopsis of the Series season (20 lines maximum)
- Bible including:
 - Series concept
 - Characters
 - Story arches
 - Synopsis of each episode (3 episodes minimum)
 - Director's statement/Artistic note of intent related to the project (2 pages maximum)
 - Artistic references: mood board or visual references, aesthetic influences and inspirations (6 pages maximum)
 - Producer's note of intention outlining the project's specific needs, necessary works and steps to insure its successful development, and its potential production opportunities within the territory (2 pages maximum)

Creative team

- Director's bio and filmography
- Links to the director's previous audiovisual works
- Screenwriter(s)' bio and filmography (if applicable)
- Producer's bio and filmography (if applicable)
- Links to the producer's previous audiovisual works (if applicable)
- Production company profile (if applicable)

Legal documents

- Director's ID
- Director's proof of lineage or any other appropriate evidence of a tangible connection to the Kurdish community or culture
- Producer's ID (if applicable)
- Producer's proof of lineage or any other appropriate evidence of a tangible connection to the Kurdish community or culture (if applicable)
- Adaptation rights agreement(s) (if applicable)
- Director's agreement (if the director is not the screenwriter)
- Production agreement(s) or signed deal memos may be accepted if final agreements have not yet been executed (if applicable)
- Proof of legal registration of the production company (certificate of incorporation or equivalent official registration document)

Financial documents

- Development estimated budget (using the official Kurdistan Film Fund Excel budget template)
- For a Documentary TV Series in Development, no more than 20% of the estimated final edited film may have been shot at the time of application.
- For resubmitted projects only > A rewrite note must be included.



Tell *your* story

KURDISTAN FILM FUND

Production Funding

→ Short, Medium-length or Feature film

Artistic documents

- Cover page including title
- Short and/or long synopsis (20 lines maximum)
- Screenplay
- Director's statement/Artistic note of intent related to the project (2 pages maximum)
- Artistic references: mood board or visual references, aesthetic influences, inspirations and potential scouting (6 pages maximum)
- Cast & Crew list outlining the Kurdish creative talents involved
- Producer's note of intention outlining the project's specific needs, necessary works and steps to insure its successful production, its potential in production and distribution (2 pages maximum)

Creative team

- Director's bio and filmography
- Links to the director's previous audiovisual works
- Screenwriter(s)' bio and filmography (if applicable)
- Producer's bio and filmography
- Links to the producer's previous audiovisual works
- Production company profile (not mandatory for Short and Medium-length film)
- Co-producer's bio and filmography (if applicable)
- Links to the co-producer's previous audiovisual works (if applicable)
- Co-production company profile (if applicable)
- Key creative team's bios and filmographies

Legal documents

- Director's ID
- Director's proof of lineage or any other appropriate evidence of a tangible connection to the Kurdish community or culture
- Producer's ID
- Producer's proof of lineage or any other appropriate evidence of a tangible connection to the Kurdish community or culture (if applicable)
- Adaptation rights agreement(s) (if applicable)
- Director's agreement (if the director is not the screenwriter)
- Production agreement(s)
- Proof of legal registration of the production company (certificate of incorporation or equivalent official registration document)
- Co-production agreement(s) (if applicable)
- Letters of commitment from any partners already involved in the project (e.g. funding, co-producers, broadcasters, distributors, sales, etc.)

Financial documents

- Production timeline
- Financial plan (using the official Kurdistan Film Fund Excel plan template)
- Estimated budget (the official Kurdistan Film Fund Excel budget template).
- Priority and higher levels of support may be given to projects that generate significant expenditure within the Kurdistan region of Iraq.
- For a Documentary Short, Medium-length or Feature film in Production, no more than 50% of the estimated final edited film may have been shot at the time of application.
- For resubmitted projects only > A rewrite note must be included.

→ TV Series

Artistic documents

- Cover page including title
- Logline
- Short and/or long synopsis of the series season (20 lines maximum)
- Bible including:
 - Series concept
 - Characters
 - Story arches
 - Synopsis of each episode (3 episodes minimum)
 - Script of each episode (3 episodes minimum)
 - Director's statement/Artistic note of intent related to the project (2 pages maximum)
 - Artistic references: mood board or visual references, aesthetic influences, inspirations and potential scouting (6 pages maximum)
 - Cast & Crew list outlining the Kurdish creative talents involved
 - Producer's note of intention outlining the project's specific needs, necessary works and steps to insure its successful development, and its potential production opportunities within the territory (2 pages maximum)

Creative team

- Director's bio and filmography
- Links to the director's previous audiovisual works
- Screenwriter(s)' bio and filmography (if applicable)
- Producer's bio and filmography
- Links to the producer's previous audiovisual works
- Production company profile
- Key creative team's bios and filmographies

Legal documents

- Director's ID
- Director's proof of lineage or any other appropriate evidence of a tangible connection to the Kurdish community or culture
- Producer's ID
- Producer's proof of lineage or any other appropriate evidence of a tangible connection to the Kurdish community or culture (if applicable)
- Adaptation rights agreement(s) (if applicable)
- Director's agreement (if the director is not the screenwriter)
- Production agreement(s)
- Proof of legal registration of the production company (certificate of incorporation or equivalent official registration document)
- Co-production agreement(s) (if applicable)
- Letters of commitment from any partners already involved in the project (e.g. funding, co-producers, broadcasters, distributors, sales, etc.)

Financial documents

- Production timeline
- Financial plan (using the official Kurdistan Film Fund Excel plan template)
- Estimated budget (using the official Kurdistan Film Fund Excel budget template).
- Priority and higher levels of support may be given to projects that generate significant expenditure within the Kurdistan region of Iraq.
- For a Documentary TV Series in Production, no more than 50% of the estimated final edited film may have been shot at the time of application.
- For resubmitted projects only > A rewrite note must be included.

Co-Production Funding

→ Feature film

Artistic documents

- Cover page including title
- Short and/or long synopsis (20 lines maximum)
- Screenplay
- Director's statement/Artistic note of intent related to the project (2 pages maximum)
- Artistic references: mood board or visual references, aesthetic influences, inspirations and potential scouting (6 pages maximum)
- Cast & Crew list outlining the Kurdish creative talents involved
- Producer's note of intention outlining the project's specific needs, necessary works and steps to insure its successful production, its potential in production and distribution (2 pages maximum)

Creative team

- Director's bio and filmography
- Links to the director's previous audiovisual works
- Screenwriter(s)' bio and filmography (if applicable)
- Producer's bio and filmography
- Links to the producer's previous audiovisual works
- Production company profile (not mandatory for Short and Medium-length film)
- Co-producer's bio and filmography (if applicable)
- Links to the co-producer's previous audiovisual works (if applicable)
- Co-production company profile (if applicable)
- Key creative team's bios and filmographies

Legal documents

- Director's ID
- Director's proof of lineage or any other appropriate evidence of a tangible connection to the Kurdish community or culture
- Producer's ID
- Producer's proof of lineage or any other appropriate evidence of a tangible connection to the Kurdish community or culture (if applicable)
- Adaptation rights agreement(s) (if applicable)
- Director's agreement (if the director is not the screenwriter)
- Production agreement(s)
- Proof of legal registration of the production company (certificate of incorporation or equivalent official registration document)
- Co-production agreement(s) (if applicable)
- Letters of commitment from any partners already involved in the project (e.g. funding, co-producers, broadcasters, distributors, sales etc.)

Financial documents

- Production timeline
- Financial plan (using the official Kurdistan Film Fund Excel plan template)
- Estimated budget (using the official Kurdistan Film Fund Excel budget template).
- Priority and higher levels of support may be given to projects that generate significant expenditure within the Kurdistan region of Iraq.
- For a Documentary Feature film in Co-production, no more than 50% of the estimated final edited film may have been shot at the time of application.
- For resubmitted projects only > A rewrite note must be included.

→ TV Series

Artistic documents

- Cover page including title
- Logline
- Short and/or long synopsis of the series season (20 lines maximum)
- Bible including:
 - Series concept
 - Characters
 - Story arches
 - Synopsis of each episode (3 episodes minimum)
 - Script of each episode (3 episodes minimum)
 - Director's statement/Artistic note of intent related to the project (2 pages maximum)
 - Artistic references: mood board or visual references, aesthetic influences, inspirations and potential scouting (6 pages maximum)
 - Cast & Crew list outlining the Kurdish creative talents involved
 - Producer's note of intention outlining the project's specific needs, necessary work and steps to ensure its successful development, and its potential production opportunities within the territory (2 pages maximum)

Creative team

- Director's bio and filmography
- Links to the director's previous audiovisual works
- Screenwriter(s)' bio and filmography (if applicable)
- Producer's bio and filmography
- Links to the producer's previous audiovisual works
- Production company profile
- Key creative team's bios and filmographies

Legal documents

- Director's ID
- Director's proof of lineage or any other appropriate evidence of a tangible connection to the Kurdish community or culture
- Producer's ID
- Producer's proof of lineage or any other appropriate evidence of a tangible connection to the Kurdish community or culture (if applicable)
- Adaptation rights agreement(s) (if applicable)
- Director's agreement (if the director is not the screenwriter)
- Production agreement(s)
- Proof of legal registration of the production company (certificate of incorporation or equivalent official registration document)
- Co-production agreement(s) (if applicable)
- Letters of commitment from any partners already involved in the project (e.g. funding, co-producers, broadcasters, distributors, sales, etc.)

Financial documents

- Production timeline
- Financial plan (using the official Kurdistan Film Fund Excel plan template)
- Estimated budget (using the official Kurdistan Film Fund Excel budget template).
- Priority and higher levels of support may be given to projects that generate significant expenditure within the Kurdistan region of Iraq.
- For a Documentary TV Series in Co-production, no more than 50% of the estimated final edited film may have been shot at the time of application.
- For resubmitted projects only > A rewrite note must be included.

Post-Production Funding

→ Feature film

Artistic documents

- Cover page including title
- Short and/or long synopsis (20 lines maximum)
- Screenplay
- Director's statement/Artistic note of intent related to the project (2 pages maximum)
- Producer's note of intention outlining the film's specific needs, necessary works and steps to insure its successful post-production and release (2 pages maximum)

Creative team

- Director's bio and filmography
- Links to the director's previous audiovisual works
- Screenwriter(s)' bio and filmography (if applicable)
- Producer's bio and filmography
- Links to the producer's previous audiovisual works
- Production company profile
- Co-producer's bio and filmography (if applicable)
- Links to the co-producer's previous audiovisual works (if applicable)
- Co-production company profile (if applicable)
- Key creative team's bios and filmographies

Legal documents

- Director's ID
- Director's proof of lineage or any other appropriate evidence of a tangible connection to the Kurdish community or culture

- Producer's ID
- Producer's proof of lineage or any other appropriate evidence of a tangible connection to the Kurdish community or culture (if applicable)
- Signed option or copyright assignment agreement(s)
- Adaptation rights agreement(s) (if applicable)
- Director's agreement (if the director is not the screenwriter)
- Production agreement(s)
- Proof of legal registration of the production company (certificate of incorporation or equivalent official registration document).
- Co-production agreement(s) (if applicable)
- Letter of Guarantee to ensure the protection and non-infringement of Intellectual Property rights.
- Letters of commitment from any partners already involved in the project (e.g. funding, co-producers, broadcasters, distributors, sales etc.)

Financial documents

- Production timeline
- Final financial plan (using the official Kurdistan Film Fund Excel plan template)
- Final budget (using the official Kurdistan Film Fund Excel budget template)
- Film
- Link to a complete rough cut or a selection of scenes (representing a minimum of 50% of the final version of the film) with English subtitles
- For a Documentary Feature film in Post-Production, at least 80% of the estimated final edited film must have been shot, and a rough cut must be available at the time of application.

→ **Short, Medium-length or Feature film**

Artistic documents

- Cover page including title
- Short and/or long synopsis (20 lines maximum)
- Producer's distribution strategy outlining the film's specific needs, necessary works and steps to insure its successful release (2 pages maximum)

Creative team

- Director's bio and filmography
- Links to the director's previous audiovisual works
- Screenwriter(s)' bio and filmography (if applicable)
- Producer's bio and filmography
- Links to the producer's previous audiovisual works
- Production company profile (not mandatory for Short and Medium-length film)
- Co-producer's bio and filmography (if applicable)
- Links to the co-producer's previous audiovisual works (if applicable)
- Co-production company profile (if applicable)
- Key creative team's bios and filmographies

Legal documents

- Director's ID
- Director's proof of lineage or any other appropriate evidence of a tangible connection to the Kurdish community or culture
- Producer's ID
- Producer's proof of lineage or any other appropriate evidence of a tangible connection to the Kurdish community or culture (if applicable)
- Signed option or copyright assignment agreement(s)
- Adaptation rights agreement(s) (if applicable)
- Director's agreement (if the director is not the screenwriter)
- Production agreement(s)
- Proof of legal registration of the production company (certificate of incorporation or equivalent official registration document).
- Co-production agreement(s) (if applicable)
- Letters of commitment from any partners already involved in the project (e.g. funding, co-producers, broadcasters, distributors, sales, etc.)

Financial documents

- Final financial plan (using the official Kurdistan Film Fund plan budget template)
- Final budget (using the official Kurdistan Film Fund Excel budget template)
- Prints & Advertising quotation
- Completed film
- Link to the picture-locked film with English subtitles

Section 05

Evaluation & Selection Process

Eligibility Review of Submissions

Following the submission of the completed online application and all required documents, the Kurdistan Film Fund's staff will conduct an eligibility review to verify that all requirements are duly met.

Projects are also reviewed by at least two professionals with recognized expertise in Kurdish culture, who assess whether the project demonstrates a meaningful connection to Kurdish identity, culture, language, communities, or narratives through the filmmaker, the story, or the project itself.



Evaluation of Submissions

Selection process

- Beyond assessing artistic excellence and production feasibility, the Jury also considers each project's potential contribution to the long-term development, international recognition and sustainability of Kurdish cinema. Eligible projects will be reviewed and assessed by a five-member Jury composed of international film professionals.
- Projects are initially reviewed and independently evaluated by all five members of the Jury, who assess each application according to the Kurdistan Film Fund's evaluation criteria.
- The Jury will evaluate projects based on:
 - Originality & artistic quality
 - Producer's level of commitment
 - Director's previous works (if applicable)
 - Financial feasibility
 - Circulation potential
 - Meaningful connection to Kurdish identity, culture, language, communities, or narratives through the filmmaker, the story, or the project itself.
- A special attention will be given to supporting projects that place a strong emphasis on diversity and gender equality in the above and below-the-line crew.
- Projects will then be discussed and considered during the Jury's plenary session.
- Following the Jury's plenary session, one of the following two decisions may be issued:
 - **APPROVED** > The applicant will be notified of the type and amount of support awarded by the Kurdistan Film Fund, together with the applicable terms and conditions.
 - The same Jury will determine the amount of the awarded funding grant.
 - Supported projects become part of the Kurdistan Film Fund community and are expected to contribute to the long-term visibility and development of Kurdish cinema nationally and internationally.
 - **NOT APPROVED** > Projects that receive a rejection decision cannot be resubmitted for a second evaluation, except in Development stage or Production stage, provided they are accompanied by a memo explaining the necessary changes, modifications, and progress made since the previous submission, unless all members of the Jury unanimously decide otherwise.
 - The Kurdistan Film Fund will not provide feedback or justification regarding projects that receive a rejection decision.
- Any resubmission must be accompanied by a note outlining the due changes, revisions, and progress made since a previous application.

Deliberation & Response Timeline

All applicants will get a status notification
via email following the Jury's decision.

Thank You!

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