

The FORUM

IDFA, International Documentary Film Festival Amsterdam, November 22 – December 2, 2007

15. The FORUM: November 26 – 28, 2007

Deadline: 1.9.2007

The FORUM is Europe's largest gathering of filmmakers, television commissioning editors and independent documentary producers.

In 1993, it was the first market for international co-financing of documentaries. Since then, the FORUM has expanded and remained a unique opportunity to find financing: more than 90% of all submitted projects end up getting made.

Pitches

In the Main Hall of the Amsterdam Paradiso, for three days, leading independent producers as well as newcomers take turns at **pitching their latest projects to an audience of broadcasters from around the world**. Producers and directors pitch (possibly with the help of slides or video presentations) their projects to an audience of commissioning editors.

Each pitch is supported by the commissioning editor who has agreed in principle to back the project. The pitch can last a maximum of seven minutes and is then followed by an eight-minute question-and-answer session in which the commissioning editors discuss the project with the producer and the broadcaster committed to the film. Two moderators monitor the schedule and stimulate post-pitch discussion to advance financing.

Project criteria for the FORUM:

- Applicants have to be independent production companies
- 85% of all selected projects are from MEDIA Programme member countries
- At least 25% (but not more than 75%) of the financing has to be in place (financing is defined as real, market money and excludes personal investment and investments by other production companies or producers)
- A project needs to have the commitment of at least one broadcaster, film board or film institute

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