



FOR OFFICE USE ONLY	
Application received on: ____/____/2026	Application Reference Number: SSS____/26/____

# SCREEN SUPPORT SCHEME STRAND 3:

## SHORT FILM

### APPLICATION FORM

Name of Applicant

Title of Application

Date of Application submission

Total Amount Requested

(Maximum amount that can be requested under this Fund is Euro 35,000. Applicants may request up to 100% of the project expenditure)

Reference Number

Project Title

\_\_\_\_\_

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## 1. GENERAL INFORMATION

### 1.1 Project type

Tick where applicable

- Fiction
- Animation
- Documentary

### 1.2 The proposal must satisfy at least TWO of the following:

Tick where applicable:

- Producer/s is a Maltese citizen or holds a permanent residence status in Malta
- Writer/s is a Maltese citizen or holds a permanent residence status in Malta
- Director/s is a Maltese citizen or holds a permanent residence status in Malta

### 1.3 Cultural Test

Download the form that needs to be filled in by clicking [here](#)

Fill it in

+ upload the Cultural Test.

### 1.4 It is being confirmed that the independent audiovisual entity is a Small-Medium Enterprise

### 1.5 Project Description Summary

Provide a summary of the project description in not more than 150 words. Should the proposal be awarded funding, this description will be featured on Arts Council Malta's website.

### 1.6 Did you ever benefit from public funds?

Yes

No

### 1.7 If yes, kindly specify the name/s and dates of the funds awarded in the past three years.

### 1.8 Optional Documentation

+ Add files

## 2. TIME FRAME

2.1 Provide details regarding the key milestones and timeframes to fulfil project.

Start Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

(Eligible timeframe  
Fiction and Animation: 26/06/2026 – 26/06/2029  
Documentary: 26/06/2026 - 26/06/2031)

End Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Step 1: _____ From: ____/____/____ to ____/____/____ Description:  
Step 2: _____ From: ____/____/____ to ____/____/____ Description:  (Add steps as required)

Optional Documentation: + Add files
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#### 4. Criteria

##### Criterion 1: Concept (45 marks)

This criterion considers the quality, strength and originality of the concept and script/treatment and the potential to reach both national and international audiences. The following points will be assessed:

- Concept and script/treatment show originality (theme, perspective, visual approach) (This should also include evidence of how the proposal considers the principles within the Right to Culture – Resource Kit and the Charter for the Status of the Artist as in Section 1 of the guidelines and regulations); (15 marks)
- Vision and style; (15 marks)
- Strong proposal with potential to reach both national and international audiences; (10 marks)
- The plans beyond the implementation of this proposal. (5 marks)

##### Criterion 2: Project Management (15 marks)

This criterion considers the level of commitment and preparation prior to the proposal as well as the proposed plan to deliver and achieve the aims targeted. The following points will be assessed:

- The relevant experience of the creative team (including at international level); (5 marks)
- The production capacity and willingness to successfully produce the proposed work; (5 marks)
- Financial and legal reputation of the creative team. (5 marks)

##### Criterion 3: Audience Engagement and Circulation Potential (25 marks)

This criterion considers the engagement and the development of established and new audiences. Engagement refers to the role, the nature of involvement, and the experience offered to the audience.

Circulation potential refers to potential for festival participation (and recognition) and international distribution, as well as the potential to stimulate interest from co-producers, festivals, markets, sales agents, distributors and/or broadcasters/platforms. The following points will be assessed:

- Define the target audiences and explain how these audiences will be reached. Provide an outline of the marketing, PR, and communications plan as deemed relevant to the proposed programme/s of activities. Explain the reasons for the chosen methods. (10 marks)
- Screening, Festival and Market potential; the level of distribution in different territories Letter(s) of interest from distributors and other industry players. (10 marks)
- Letter(s) of interest or signed contracts for co-development or co-production, if available. (5 marks).

##### Criterion 4: Budget and Financing plan (15 marks)

This criterion considers the quality and viability (industry standard) of the budget and the financing plan (where applicable). The following points will be assessed:

- Provide a clear budget breakdown including expenses directly related to the proposed work. (8 marks)
- Provide a financing plan (overall quality and viability of the financing strategy; level of confirmed financing - evidenced by signed agreements and/or letters of intent). (7 marks) =

### Mandatory Documentation:

- A complete chain of title;
- A declaration of honour in which the applicant confirms that the information provided is true and accurate;
- A copy of the Maltese VAT certificate of registration;
- The most recent good standing certificate of registration – This document is renewed annually by the Malta Business Registry and is proof of compliance;
- Copy of applicant (or applicant's majority shareholder or director)'s Maltese ID card, Maltese residence permit, Maltese citizenship certificate or Maltese passport;
- Bio notes of key contributors to the project;
- A declaration that the applicant does not qualify as an undertaking in difficulty as defined in these guidelines;
- Creative project package:
  - i. Logline
  - ii. Synopsis
  - iii. Script (advanced draft) / treatment in the case of creative documentary
  - iv. Writers' statement of intent (maximum 1 page)
  - v. Director's notes (maximum 1 page)
  - vi. Brief description of target audience and intended strategy at the end of the process (festival and market strategy etc.) (maximum 1 page)
  - vii. a teaser, trailer, sequence of research material (maximum 7 minutes) or at least photos to demonstrate main characters (if applicable), intended visual approach, style and tone in the case of creative documentary projects.
  - viii. Animation Pack (which includes drawings that can demonstrate intended visual approach and style to be taken; character design (including characters in pose or action) and, if available, Animation Bible for animation projects;
  - ix. Series Bible (A 10-15page document designed for the project, including logline, synopsis, project overview (budget/format/genre), world/tone/setting info, character and episode outlines, any pertinent team info) in the case of series;
- Budget (summary top sheet and detailed - clearly indicating the net amount and the VAT amount);
- Financing plan (if budget exceeds maximum funding of €35,000);
- Shooting schedule (work plan in case of documentaries/animation);
- Applications with a co-production agreement in place will only be considered if the applicant can provide the duly signed co-production agreement or deal-memo. The agreement or deal-memo should include industry standard clauses including, amongst other things, clauses which regulate the sharing of rights and the creative input of each producer;
- An audio or audiovisual file not exceeding 5 minutes in which the applicant provides a short description, a rationale and/or motivation for submitting this proposal.

### Optional documentation (if available):

- A copy of a document issued by the Office of the Commissioner for Revenue showing that the applicant is a taxpayer in Malta
- Letter(s) of intent, deal-memos or agreements from financing partners and buyers;
- Co-development and/or co-production agreement(s), deal-memos or letter(s) of interest;
- Previous works;
- Producer's statement; Brief Description of the characters; storyboard; mood board.

+ Add files



Income

Total amount requested from fund  
Add Other sources of financing

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I declare that I will abide by the conditions outlined in the guidelines and regulations.

TEMPLATE