

Talent Accelerator Programme (TAP) – Feature Film Call-for-Proposals (CFP) Brief

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TAP – Feature Film CFP Brief

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Objective of TAP

The Talent Accelerator Programme (TAP) builds on IMDA's earlier sectoral development efforts by strengthening the capabilities of Singapore media talent—particularly Creative Producers, Scriptwriters and Directors—across both film and television, to develop a sustainable pipeline of high-quality, globally marketable Made-with-Singapore stories. Supporting talent across the full value chain—from story development to production and distribution—TAP strengthens core capabilities in storytelling, pitching and deal structuring, while creating regional and global co-production pathways by enabling Singapore talent to pitch directly and engage with buyers, commissioners and sales agents through IMDA-driven platforms.

1.2 Available Content Grants:

The available **Content Grants** (for Feature Films of at least 70 minutes) are as follows:

- a. **First Features:** Projects with a new SG talent (Producer and/or Director) paired with veteran producers.
- b. **Asia Co-productions:** Projects with SG Co-producer and regional/Asian producer, with ambition and plans to reach Asian territories (in at least 3 countries, 1 of which must be outside the Southeast Asia (SEA) region¹).
- c. **Global Co-productions:** Projects with SG Co-producer + global producer (may also include SEA producers), with ambitions and plans to reach the world (at least 4 countries, 1 of which must be mainland China / North America / Europe), recognition and impact, and be of a scale and scope that is larger than Asia Co-production projects.

1.3 Submission Conditions

- a. You may submit your proposed project ("Project") for only ONE of the above categories.
- b. IMDA does not provide retrospective funding for projects that have begun production, or projects that have been completed, at the point of formal funding application.
- c. IMDA's decision for grants awarded is final, and no appeal will be entertained.

¹ SEA region refers to Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand, Timor Leste, Vietnam, including Singapore.

2 ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

2.1 Eligibility Criteria

- a. Companies must meet **all** the following requirements:
 - i. Be a Singapore-registered company.
 - ii. Adopt the Tripartite Standards for Procurement of Services (TAFEP) for Media Freelancers.
- b. Companies and project teams must meet eligibility criteria **specific** to each type of film project as well, as listed in 2.2.

2.2 Specific Eligibility Criteria

- a. **For First Features only**
 - i. For a project applying under **First Feature**, the following additional² criteria also applies:

First Feature
The Company should have produced media content that has been publicly screened, minimally: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least three short films, OR • At least three episodes of broadcast/OTT series.
This must be the first feature film project of the new Director or the new Producer (i.e. first feature film project credited as “Director” and “Producer”).
The new Director or new Producer must be attached to a veteran Producer (as a “Producer” or “Executive Producer” in the project) who has been credited in at least 2 long-form content projects ³ (feature film/episodic series) that have been publicly screened (not self-published).
The new Director and/or new Producer must be credited as a “Director”/ “Producer” in the following content which has been publicly screened (not self-published): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least three short films, OR • At least three episodes of a broadcast/OTT series.
The new Director and new Producer must be Singapore Citizens/Permanent Residents (SC/PR).

- b. **For Asia Co-productions only**
 - i. For a project applying under **Asia Co-production**, the following additional criteria also applies:

² Supporting documents, including screen grabs or web links as evidence, are to be presented as a list as part of the proposal. If the Director is not directly employed by your company, a back-to-back agreement between your company and the Director will be required upon Project approval, with a copy to be submitted to IMDA.

³ Long-form projects refer to feature films of at least 70 minutes in length and/or episodic series, where the Company is the main production company.

<p>Asia Co-production</p> <p>The Company should have produced media content that has been publicly screened, minimally:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 long-form content projects (feature film/episodic series).
<p>This is for projects with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SC/PR Co-producer(s), • Regional/Asian producer(s), • Distributed to at least 3 countries, 1 of which must be outside the Southeast Asia (SEA) region.
<p>Singapore Co-producer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Project must have an SC/PR Co-producer from or engaged by⁴ the Company. • This Singapore Co-producer must be credited as a "Producer" or "Co-producer" in at least 2 long-form content projects (feature film/episodic series) that have been publicly screened (not self-published).
<p>Asian Co-producer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Project must have a Co-producer of Asian nationality⁵ (excluding Singapore). • This Asian Co-producer must be from or engaged by⁶ a company registered in an Asian country (excluding Singapore). • This Asian Co-producer must be credited as a "Producer" or "Co-producer" in at least 2 long-form content projects (feature film/episodic series) that have been publicly screened (not self-published).
<p>Director:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Project must have a Director of Asian nationality (including Singapore⁷). • This Director must be credited as a "Director" in at least 2 long-form content projects (feature film/episodic series) which have been publicly screened (not self-published).
<p>Project Financing Structure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You must also show documentary proof of commitment (ideally fully executed co-production agreements, minimally letters of intent) from partners who contribute financially to the Project, with ambition and plans for minimally regional reach.

⁴ If the Singapore Producer is not directly employed by your company, a back-to-back agreement between your company and the Singapore Producer will be required upon Project approval, with a copy to be submitted to IMDA.

⁵ Includes both citizenship and permanent resident.

⁶ Should the Project be approved, the Applicant will be required to sign a back-to-back agreement with the Asian Co-producer, and submit a copy to IMDA.

⁷ This provision is extended only to the Director of an Asia Co-production project.

c. For Global Co-productions only

- i. For projects applying under **Global Co-production**, the following additional criteria also applies:

Global Co-production
The Company should have produced media content that has been publicly screened, minimally: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 long-form content projects (feature film/episodic series).
This is for projects with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SC/PR Co-producer(s), • Global producer(s) from outside Asia, • Distributed to at least 4 countries, 1 of which must be mainland China / North America / Europe).
Singapore Co-producer: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Project must have an SC/PR Co-producer from or engaged by⁸ your company. • This Singapore Co-producer must have "Producer" or "Co-producer" credits in at least 4 long-form content projects (feature film/episodic series) that have been publicly screened (not self-published).
Global Co-producer: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Project must have a Co-producer of a nationality⁹ outside Asia. • This Global Co-producer must be from or engaged by¹⁰ a company registered in a country outside Asia. • This Global Co-producer must be credited as a "Producer" or "Co-producer" credits in at least 4 long-form content projects (feature film/episodic series) that have been publicly screened (not self-published).
Director: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Project's Director can be from Singapore¹¹. • This Director must be credited as a "Director" in at least 4 long-form content projects (feature film/episodic series) the following content which has been publicly screened (not self-published).
Project Financing Structure <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You must show documentary proof of commitment from partners (ideally fully executed co-production agreements, minimally letters of intent) who contribute financially to the Project, with ambition and plans for wide global reach.

⁸ If the Singapore Producer is not directly employed by your company, you will be required to sign a back-to-back agreement with the Singapore Producer upon Project approval, and submit a copy to IMDA.

⁹ Includes both citizenship and permanent resident.

¹⁰ Upon Project approval, the Applicant will be required to sign a back-to-back agreement with the Global Co-producer and submit a copy to IMDA.

¹¹ This provision is extended only to the Director of a Global Co-production project.

2.3 Funding

a. The following funding quantum and talent KPIs will apply:

Type of Grant	Funding Quantum	Minimum Talent KPIs
First Features	Up to SGD \$300,000* per project.	10 SC/PR media talents working on the project, including 3 talents (minimum 1 each) from Directing, Producing, Screenwriting departments.
Asia Co-productions	Up to SGD \$600,000* or 50% of qualifying expenses (QE) for SMEs/30% for non-SMEs, whichever is lower. (Note: Minimum QE will be a project KPI)	20 SG media talents working on the project, including 6 talents (minimum 1 each) from Directing, Producing, Screenwriting departments.
Global Co-productions	Up to SGD \$1,200,000* or 50% of qualifying expenses for SMEs/30% for non-SMEs, whichever is lower. (Note: Minimum QE will be a project KPI)	40 SG media talents working on the project, including 12 talents (minimum 1 each) from Directing, Producing, Screenwriting departments.

*The final grant amount will be determined based on the qualifying expenses, and the number of SG media talents engaged in the Project, which will be Project KPIs.

b. Cost Categories for Qualifying Expenses

Please note the following qualifying expenses categories – Only for Asia Co-production and Global Co-production:

- i. Manpower specific for the Project:
 - Founder / Shareholder fees of Company are allowed, subject to IMDA's assessment.
- ii. Equipment (Hardware and Software), for only the following:
 - Purchase of storage media for the Project.
 - Rental of equipment for the Project.
- iii. Intellectual Property.
- iv. Professional Services specific for the Project:
 - Please note local F&B and ground transportation are not supportable.
- v. Others:
 - Specific for the Project, subject to IMDA's assessment.

3 CALL-FOR-PROPOSALS (CFP) PROCESS (STAGE 1)

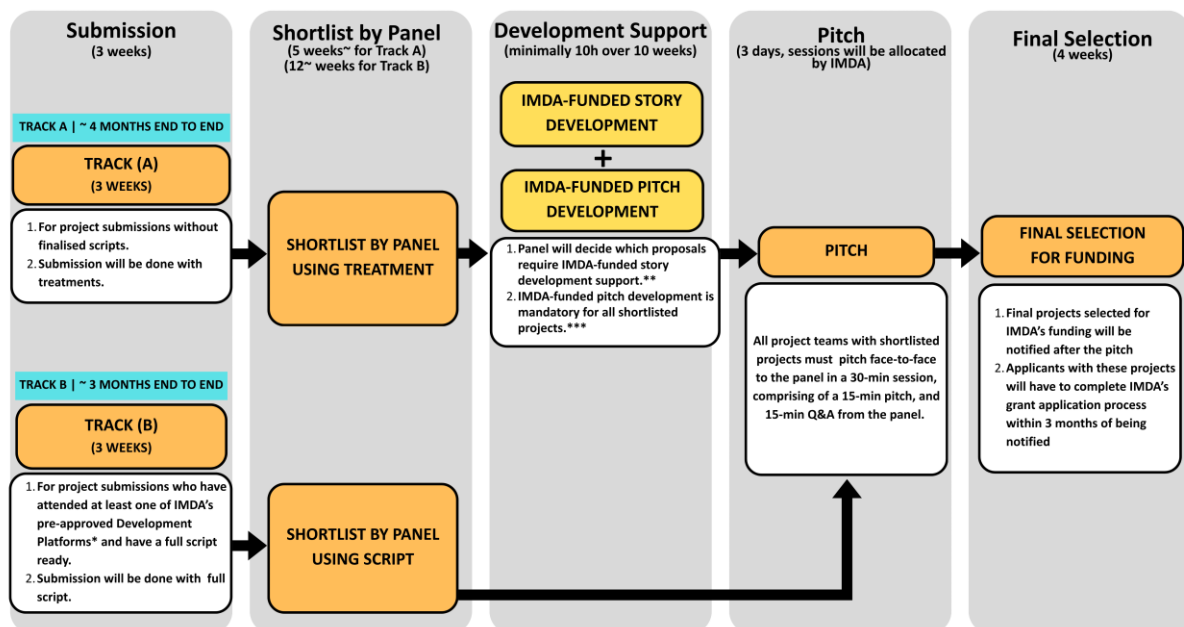
3.1 Frequency

There will be two Feature Film Call-for-Proposals (CFP) per year.

3.2 Application Tracks

Each film CFP will have 2 tracks (Track A and Track B), with the process taking approximately 4 months from the time the call opens to notification on whether your project has been selected to apply for IMDA's film grant. The process is illustrated in Diagram 1 below.

Diagram 1:



* Refer to Annex B

** Story Development is mandatory for all shortlisted projects under the First Features category.

*** Exceptions apply for projects that demonstrate at least 80% secured financing for the Project through executed agreements with investment/financing/co-production partners (not simply a Letter of Intent).

3.3 Submission Track A

a. What is Track A and who is it for?

Track A is for submissions without finalised scripts. Submissions will be done using the treatment instead.

b. Timeline for Track A

After the CFP submission window closes, treatments will be reviewed, scored, and ranked by an external panel of assessors. Shortlisted projects will be informed and invited to attend IMDA-funded Development Support (Story and Pitching, see para 3.3.c below), before the Final Pitch (see para 3.5 below).

c. **IMDA-funded Development Support (Mentorship)**

All shortlisted projects will undergo Pitch Development (minimally 10 hours over 10 weeks), with the panel determining which projects will additionally require Story Development support.

- i. Please note that all projects submitted under First Feature must go through both Story Development and Pitch Development training.
- ii. The time commitment and cadence to be decided with assigned mentors.
- iii. Full attendance at all sessions is compulsory, and failure to attend any session will result in the shortlisted project being withdrawn from the CFP.
- iv. One Singaporean Producer and Singaporean talent from the screenwriting department must attend both Story Development (if identified by the assessment panel) and Pitch Development training.

d. **Shortlisted projects (excluding First Feature) that fulfill all the following criteria will be exempted from training:**

- i. Must demonstrate 80% secured financing for the Project through executed agreements with investment/financing/co-production partners (no Letter of Intent).

3.4 Submission Track B

a. **What is Track B?**

Track B is for project submissions who have attended at least one of IMDA's **pre-approved Development Platforms** (see **Annex B**) and have a developed script ready. Submission will be done using the developed script.

b. **Timeline for Track B**

After the call closes, scripts will be reviewed, scored and ranked by an external panel of assessors. Shortlisted projects will be informed and invited for the **Final Pitch** (see para 3.5 below).

3.5 Final Pitch

- a. Each shortlisted project from Track A and Track B is required to be pitched to the panel of assessors in a 30-minute session, comprising a 15-minute pitch and a 15-minute Q&A with the panel.
- b. The project team, including the Singapore Producer, Director and international Co-producers (where relevant), should be present for the pitch.
- c. Session to be allocated by IMDA, over a period of 3 days.

3.6 Notification of Selection

If your project is selected by the assessment panel, to apply for IMDA's grant after the Final Pitch, you will be invited to make a formal application. The complete application needs to be made within 3 months from the official notification date.

3.7 How to submit for a CFP

You must submit the complete proposal (including all required documents listed in **Annex A**) via FormSG by the deadline stipulated for each submission window. Please refer to IMDA's website for the relevant CFP dates and FormSG submission link. Late submissions and/or submissions without all the required documents will NOT be considered for shortlisting.

3.8 Assessment Criteria

Proposals will be assessed on the following criteria, including but not limited to:

- a. Company and Project Team's Track Record.
- b. Market Reach and Distribution Strategy.
- c. Travelability (Strength of Concept/Audience Targeting).
- d. Feasibility and Readiness of Business Proposal.

FORMAL GRANT APPLICATION (STAGE 2)

3.9 Timeline for Formal Application

The project team must make a formal funding application submission via Business Grants Portal-Grant Management System (BGP-GMS) or email after the Notification of Selection, within 3 months from date of notification.

3.10 Application Requirements

The prevailing published CFP Brief is to be referenced for the formal application.

3.11 Required Documents

Selected projects will be informed of the required documents to be submitted as part of the formal application.

3.12 Additional Information

- a. Submitted materials will not be returned.
- b. IMDA reserves the right to request for additional supporting documents to be submitted as part of the application at CFP (Stage 1) / Formal Grant Application (Stage 2), as deemed necessary for assessment of the Project.
- c. If your application is approved, a Letter of Offer will be issued via BGP-GMS or email. The Company will need to formally accept the Letter of Offer through BGP-GMS or email, before any milestone claim can be made.

4 PROJECT KPIS

4.1 Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)

The KPIs for a Project are:

- a. Number of SG media talents* who worked on/participated in the Project (Singapore Citizens/Permanent Residents). Please refer to para 2.3(i) for the minimum number of talents required for each grant.
- b. Qualifying expenses for the Asia Co-production/Global Co-production Project (see para 2.3(b)).

If the KPIs are not met, a penalty will be imposed with a corresponding reduction in grant amount. This could also lead to grant termination.

**List of SG media talents that will be considered:*

Above-the-Line	Below-the-Line
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Executive Producer • Producer • Director • Director of Photography / Cinematographer • Script Consultant / Scriptwriter / Story & Screenplay • Key Cast 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Art Director, Casting Director, Stunt Director, Head Editor, Visual Effects Supervisor, Post-production Supervisor • Assistant Director, Assistant / Associate Producer, Production Manager / Co-ordinator, Line Producer, Script Supervisor / Continuity, Editor, Post-production Producer / Post Producer, Intimacy Co-ordinator • Production Designer, Costume Designer, Wardrobe Stylist, Special Effects Make-up Artist, Set Designer, Music Composer, Musician, Sound Editor, Audio Engineer, Re-recording Mixer, Animation Artist, Visual Effects Artists, Colourist • Data Wranglers, Digital Imaging Technician, Technical Advisor, Camera Operator, Camera Assistant, Gaffer, Grip, Best Boy, Grip, Sound Crew, DMX Lighting Technician, Studio Technician • Virtual Production (VP) related roles such as VP Supervisor, Technical Director, VP Engineer, LED Engineer, System Engineer, VP Technical Assistant, Real-time 3D Engine Operator, Real-time 3D Artists
<p>Note: Other roles equivalent to the above listed roles can also be considered, with IMDA's approval.</p>	

4.2 Information Disclosure Requirements

In addition, by submitting to the CFP, and if selected for support under the grant, the Company is required to disclose the following information:

- a. Within CFP submission and Formal Grant Application to IMDA – Financial performance of the last 3 long-form projects of the Company, including but not limited to:

- i. Financing, IP ownership, and recoupment structure
- ii. Sales agent and distributors engaged
- iii. Countries released and respective box office,
- iv. Sales to broadcasters and/or streaming platforms
- v. Nominations and awards at prestigious festival/award platforms
- b. Pre-release – Any pre-sales, sponsorships, and investments and financing
- c. After completion and release – Any nominations or awards, box office, sales and revenue info, theatrical release deals, and deals with broadcast/streaming platforms
- d. Number and names of companies and partners that worked on your project
- e. Any press releases or marketing/promotional info

4.3 Consequences of Non-disclosure

For the avoidance of doubt, failure and/or refusal to disclose the required information at the relevant stage will result in the following:

- a. **At CFP/Formal Grant Application stages:** The CFP submission/Formal Grant Application will be deemed incomplete and will not be considered for funding.
- b. **After the Letter of Offer has been signed and accepted:** Disbursement of current and subsequent milestones will be withheld until the information is provided. Continued failure and/or refusal to disclose information will result in project termination and/or clawback(s).

4.4 Survival of Conditions

Please note that for projects awarded a grant, the conditions outlined in 4.2 and 4.3 shall survive termination of the Letter of Offer, and the release of the completed Project.

5 ENQUIRIES

If you have any enquiries, please submit your enquiry via an online form [here](#).

ANNEX A
Documents required to be submitted for Feature Film CFP (Stage 1)

Applicant Company Information	Business Information	Creative Information
1. ACRA Business Profile 2. Supporting document for adopter of the Tripartite Standards (TS Media Freelancers)	1. Profile and track record of company (to include supporting documents ¹² for Track Record), including financial performance of last 3 long-form content projects per 4.2 to 4.4 of CFP Brief (if less than 3 long-form projects produced to-date, to still provide info on the 1-2 projects). 2. Profile, track record and nationality of key personnel (to include supporting document ¹³ for track record; for Asia Co-production – to include declaration and supporting eligibility documents). 3. List of proposed or confirmed cast and crew with nationality. 4. List of proposed or confirmed Singapore media SMEs. 5. Country/countries of shoot. 6. Production schedule covering pre-production through to final delivery. 7. Project budget with topline breakdown to cost categories (e.g. main talents, post-production, etc.) indicating local and foreign costs – Note: Detailed line-by-line breakdown required for Asia Co-production, Global Co-production. 8. IP rights and financing structure, listing sources of funding, quantum and percentage (to include proof of confirmed financing ¹⁴) – Note: Proof of full financing (excluding IMDA's grant) required for Global Co-production. 9. Marketing and distribution Plan. (Strongly advised to also include evidence of interest/commitment from exhibitors / distributors / sales agents). 10. Sales projection and justification (with historical data of past projects / examples of similar projects) for domestic and international territories [Optional for First Feature] .	1. Project cover page: title, genre, language, runtime, shooting format, setting, target audience/age group. 2. Logline and short synopsis. 3. Director's and Producer(s)' statement and vision. 4. Character bible for narrative feature films, or research for documentaries. 5. Story treatment in English (1-2 pages, also applies to documentaries) [Mandatory for Tracks A and B] . 6. Full script in intended language and/or English translation [Optional for Track A, mandatory for Track B] . 7. Production plan to execute creative concept, in particular, challenging scenes and sequences. 8. Optional: visual guides, mock-ups, mood boards, URL to trailers / teasers.

¹² Proof of track record such as screenshot of credits, media articles, letter from broadcaster, etc.

¹³ Proof of track record for relevant key roles (e.g. producer, Asia producer, director) such as screenshot of credits, media articles, letter from broadcaster/online platform, invitation / notification of festival selection, etc.

¹⁴ Examples of proof of financing includes latest bank statements showing funds in production account, long-form agreement or deal memos from financiers. Do note that "Letter of Intent" is acceptable as proof of interest, but not as proof of confirmed financing.

Pre-approved Development Platforms for CFP Track B

Project Labs	Project Development Platforms
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Berlinale Talents (Script Station, Doc Station, etc.) 2. CPH DOX:LAB 3. IDFA DocLab Academy 4. Locarno Filmmakers Academy 5. NAFF (Network of Asian Fantastic Films) Fantastic Film School 6. Rotterdam Lab 7. Sam Spiegel International Film Lab (Jerusalem) 8. Sundance Institute (e.g. Screenwriters Lab) 9. Taipei Golden Horse Film Academy (金马电影学院) 10. TorinoFilmLab (excluding TFL Extended) 11. ACE Producers Network (different European cities) 12. Cannes Film Festival, Cinema de Demain: THE LAB (France) 13. Docs by the Sea (Indonesia) 14. Film London Programmes, including Labs and Production Finance Market (PFM) 15. Malaysian Development Lab for Fiction Feature Films (mylab) (different Southeast Asian cities) 16. Ties that Bind/European Audiovisual Entrepreneurs (different European cities) 17. Series Mania Institute (different European cities) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Asian Project Market (Busan) 2. Berlinale Co-production Market 3. Berlinale Talents (Talents Project Market) 4. Cannes Cinefondation's L'Atelier 5. CineMart (Rotterdam) 6. Hong Kong Filmart Asia Film Financing Forum (HAF) 7. Taipei Golden Horse Film Project Promotion (金马创投会议) 8. Focus Asia All Genres Market (Udine, Italy) 9. NAFF Project Market (BIFAN+) (Bucheon, Korea) 10. Taiwan Creative Content Fest (TCCF)