



CALL FOR ENTRIES  
**4th DUBAI FILM CONNECTION CO-PRODUCTION MARKET**  
(Financing Forum – Scripts in development: Feature-length narrative / documentary)  
**December 13-17, 2010**  
**DUBAI, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES**  
[www.dubaifilmfest.com](http://www.dubaifilmfest.com)

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**DEADLINE: August 8, 2010**

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#### **BACKGROUND**

Launched in 2004, the Dubai International Film Festival (DIFF) celebrates the excellence in Arab and international cinema. In 2007, the DIFF launched a co-production market - the Dubai Film Connection (DFC) as part of its ongoing commitment to filmmakers of Arab nationality or Arab origin. The producer attached to a project can be of any nationality or origin.

In the three years since its inception, 46 projects in development (both fiction and documentary) and 6 projects in production have been presented to an annual guest list of more than 80 international film industry professionals from over 20 countries. In addition, the combined value of the DFC awards now stands at more than US\$100,000.

In just three years, 50% of the projects presented have been realised. Nine films are currently in production or post-production and 10 former DFC films are now completed, including *Amreeka*, directed by Cherien Dabis (coproduction USA-Canada-Kuwait), which was selected at Sundance Film Festival and at the Director's Fortnight-Cannes in 2009.

#### **DFC AWARDS**

- The **Dubai International Film Festival (DFF)** will present three awards of **US \$ 25,000** to three projects selected by an international jury;
- The **Desert Door DIFF Work in Progress Award** of **US\$ 25 000** will be given to a project that has finished shooting and needs financial assistance to complete;
- The **Film Clinic DIFF Award** of **US\$ 10,000** will be offered to a debut feature film;

- **The Bahrain Film Production Company DIFF Development Award of US\$ 10,000** will be presented to a DFC project that is in its early stages of production and is ready to be presented to potential industry partners;
- **ARTE** will present the *International Relations ARTE Prize* of **€ 6,000** - to a filmmaker for exceptional originality, writing style and motivation.
- The producers of the winning projects will be awarded registration for the prestigious **Producers Network** at the **Festival de Cannes** in **2011**.

#### **THE FILM CONNECTION PROGRAM INCLUDES**

- Three-day schedule of one-to-one meetings between the 15 selected director/producer teams and key industry professionals from the fields of production, sales, distribution, funding and broadcasting;
- A personalized schedule organized by the DFC;
- Program of networking events and industry panels;
- Project Dossier detailing the selected projects available on the festival website and circulated to all industry professionals in advance of the DFC;
- A team of industry experts are available for consultation to help participants have a productive experience;
- Viewing library containing previous films of directors selected for the DFC.

#### **SELECTION CRITERIA**

- Directors must be of Arab nationality or origin - shall mean people from one or more of the following countries: Algeria, Bahrain, Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates and Yemen;
- Directors must have previous directing experience – short films or features or tv dramas;
- The project must have a producer. The producer can be of any nationality;
- The project must be either a fiction feature length films intended for theatrical distribution or a “creative feature length documentary”. (creative in this instance shall mean that the documentary expresses the personal vision of the director);
- The project in development must be at an advanced stage i.e. ready to be presented and discussed with potential partners. A full draft script and a financial plan will be required as part of the selection process;
- All materials must be submitted in English.

#### **SELECTION PROCESS**

Following the deadline an international team of experts will evaluate the submissions and select a total of 15 projects. The final selection will be completed by the end of October and selected filmmakers will be contacted by a DFC representative.

#### **HOW TO APPLY**

- Applicants must provide the following:
- A completed **online application form**
- Synopsis of 1- 2 pages
- Script for fiction features/full treatment for documentary features
- Director’s motivation/visual concept
- Director’s biography
- Producer’s biography

- Company profile
- Budget outline
- Finance plan
- 4 copies of a DVD containing sample/s of the director's previous work
- 4 copies of a DVD with the rough cut or edited sequences of at least 20 minutes (for works-in-progress)

Incomplete applications will not be considered.

There is no entry fee.

**Project entry is in two steps:**

- Fill out the online application form and attach requested documents by **August 8, 2010**;
- Send all the additional materials in hard copy including the 4 DVDs by courier to:

Dubai Film Connection  
Dubai International Film Festival, Dubai Media City  
Bldg. 2 (CNN), First Floor, P.O. Box 502600, Dubai, UAE  
Telephone: +971 4 3676710

Please mention "without commercial value", "for cultural purposes only" and "no value" or not more than "10 US\$" on the package.

All shipping costs are the responsibility of the applicant.

Submitted materials cannot be returned.

**INFORMATION**

For any question, please contact [dubaifilmconnection@tecom.ae](mailto:dubaifilmconnection@tecom.ae)

or

Céline Pelletier

TELEFILM CANADA

T: 1-800-567-0890 or 514-283-6363 (ext. 2086)

[pelletc@telefilm.gc.ca](mailto:pelletc@telefilm.gc.ca)