

The guiding principles and regulations for Film i Väst's co-producing operations: Feature film

The guiding principles and regulations apply to Film i Väst's Ltd (FiV) co-production of long feature films. Film i Väst is one of Region Västra Götaland's fully owned companies. The Region Västra Götaland's vision with Film i Väst's operations is that it should in a substantial way contribute to establishing itself as a leading film region in Europe. The Region Västra Götaland perceives film as a cultural and artistic form of expression and believes it contributes to the regional development. Film i Väst invests in individual film-projects of high quality.

Guiding principles

Purpose

1. To work for a high artistic quality in film production in Region Västra Götaland.
2. To work for great commercial effects for films that is co-produced by Film i Väst.
3. Through a regional perspective, work for broadening and renewal when it comes to form, content and financing of Swedish films.
4. To contribute to international co-productions and creating international exchange in the field of film production where Europe is prioritised.

Operation and decision-making process

1. FiV should consider the purpose of the operation and furthermore take part in the financing of the feature film production, if intended for distribution in several areas.
2. FiV invests in individual film-projects in accordance with the operation's purpose. The investment amount to a maximum of 20 % of the film's budget. A larger investment share may be relevant in a low-budget film or in films that are considered difficult.
3. Film i Väst must make sure that the public financing on national, regional, and local level in all adds up to a maximum of 50% of a separate film's budget. If the film has a low budget or is regarded as "difficult", the above mentioned investment may amount to a maximum of 70% of the film's budget.
4. FiV's CEO decides which films that should be co-produced. The decisions are reported to the board of FiV.

Rules and regulations

1. In order for a co-production to be possible, parts of the project's production must take place in Region Västra Götaland.

2. FiV can not act as a main producer.

3. FiV acts as a co-producer. An agreement is signed between FiV, other co-producers and the production's main producer. The main producer should have the entire responsibility for the production's economical and artistic direction and should guarantee the production's accomplishment. FiV demands that the main producer can guarantee that the production will be carried through, either by completion bond or similar agreement.

4. The production should be carried through in accordance with the description of the project that is the foundation of FiV's standpoint. Changes must be approved by FiV. FiV must deliver a script approval. If that is not the case, FiV has the right to withdraw from the project and receive reasonable compensation for expenses.

5. FiV can not take part as co-producer in a production when the recording already has begun, if not considerate rights are acquired. Decision about participation on this kind of projects must be based on businesslike grounds.

6. The main producer must be able to present its ability to carry through the production in every aspect. Swedish labour legislation, and in particular cases, collective agreements, must be followed.

7. The application must include two complete manuscripts and a detailed description of the project.

8. Before a decision is made, budget, a financing report, schedule and a distribution plan, must be delivered. A particular document that accounts for the own contribution to the production must be attached.

9. The budget must be set up in accordance with traditional standard format of the film industry in Europe.

Basis for forming a judgement

1. Co-productions are made in films productions that are regarded as artistic and commercially interesting. The film's possibilities to repay the co-production costs must be regarded as well enough. The size of the investment capital is also related to the amount of productions that are made in the region. The production must prior to decision be able to account for regional consumption. FiV can not however demand that a production puts in more effort in Region Västra Götaland than the size of the investment.

2. Films that focus on children and youth should be prioritised.

3. Sex equality and diversity is considered.

4. Extensive assessment is made in regard to the producer's possibilities to carry through the production. The producer of the film must have significant experience of feature film production.

Requirements and routines regarding FiV's co-producing

1. In order for a co-production agreement to be signed, the main producer must have written proof that the entire financing of the projects has been secured, and that the distribution is guaranteed.

Final versions of manuscript, budget, a financing plan, distribution agreement and other agreements that regulates the film's production, distribution and sales, must be delivered to FiV and furthermore be approved by FiV. FiV must particularly approve how the own contributions has been reported. The same goes for technical companies' investments in the project. The regulations and principles that FiV co-producing operations demands, must be approved.

2. The producer must come with suggestions on the co-producing agreement. This should be negotiated at one or several occasions. All co-producers should attend at negotiations. If negotiations takes place somewhere else than in Trollhättan, the production must cover FiV's expenses. The agreement should be signed by all co-producers before FiV's co-producing contribution can be paid.

3. The co-production contribution is normally paid at four separate occasions. When the recording begins, when the recording ends, at the film's premiere, and when the final account is made. It is a requirement for FiV to have received all document and papers that are mentioned in point (1), before any payment is carried out.

FiV's requirements on compensation and co-productions

1. FiV must have a share of the incomes from the very first crown. The ground rule is that FiV should have the same share of the production's income as FiV has contributed with. FiV should have incomes in the same proportion and as frequently as other co-producers have. Support, soft loans, pre-sales, minimum guaranties etcetera, should be counted before the shares are counted. FiV do not approve of negative treatment. If this occurs, FiV has the right to withdraw from the film. FiV may accept a further limit for compensation from the co-production when all rights are transitioned to the main producer. This presumes that the co-producers are unanimous.

2. If FiV's attitude to be involved in a co-production has a strictly business minded ground, FiV should have their share of the incomes from the beginning. FiV should have its share of all incomes in the production.

3. The main producer must count for the film's incomes at least four times per year during the first three years, beginning with the film's premiere. For the two following years, it should be counted twice a year, and from there on, at least once a year. FiV has the right to demand a collection agency to count the film's incomes.

FiV's requirements on following the production

1. FiV shall without asking for it, receive a complete register of all employees in the production. This register should be received at the commencement of the recording and should be updated at the production's end. The list must include the person's residential address and age. The production should also make a list of central suppliers.

2. FiV shall have the possibility to follow the production closely. During the recording, there should be updated reports about how the production is proceeding and about the production's economical status.

3. FiV shall be given the possibility to watch the film at least three times and be able to come with suggestions. These three occasions should take place before the final editing is done. If the screenings are not taking place in Trollhättan, the production should cover FiV's expenses.

Information regarding the marketing of the film

1. When FiV has decided to invest in a production, it becomes official on FiV's homepage, and also by a press release. Here the film's title, production company, co-producers, director, script writer and actors, will be presented. A shorter synopsis should be published. FiV should together with the main producer formulate the synopsis and the press release.
2. FiV shall in consultation with the main producer decide on a strategy for the media relations during the time of the production, which includes a day for the press.
3. FiV owns the right to visit the production together with essential interested parties. FiV shall agree with the main producer how to do this.
4. FiV owns the right to show FiV's studios whenever there is a study tour. The tour should be arranged so that the production will not be bothered and FiV shall inform the production with good notice and together find a suitable arrangement.

Credits

1. FiV shall be given credit as co-producer in the film's pre- and post credits, and in all printed material that presents and markets the film. The captions should be designed in accordance with the business' standard. FiV must approve of the films pre- and post credits.
2. FiV's logotype must be on the film and in all printed material that present and markets the film.
3. FiV's CEO, or some other CEO that has been elected as representative, should be credited as co-producer, alternatively as executive producer. Exceptions from this rule can be made if only the main producer has been credited with name.

Premiere

1. A particular premiere shall be arranged in Region Västra Götaland. FiV decides where the premiere should be. Consultation will take place with the main producer and the distributor regarding suitable date. The production should cover the costs (rent of cinema, travel expenses, accommodation, pre- and post mingle) for the premiere, where the producer, director and main actor must attend.

Following-up and evaluation

1. A particular evaluation of the production's all parts must be made. FiV will take the initiative for this and will notice all involved persons. At this occasion, the final account must be delivered.