

CALL FOR ENTRIES

PITCH IT 4TH EDITION

International Pitching Training and Producers Workshop organized by the Filmakademie Baden-Württemberg and the Goethe-Institut.

Who can participate?

This workshop is designed to give an international platform for emerging directors, writers, and producers who are based in the Republic of Croatia, the Czech Republic, Germany, Hungary, the Republic of Serbia, and the Slovak Republic. Each country will be represented within the project.

Up to 10 selected projects (maximum 2 participants per project) in the fields of documentary, fiction, or experimental long format (minimum 60 minutes) film-projects, will get the opportunity to further develop their skills and their stories for the pitching in intense training sessions. At the end of the workshop, they will present their projects to members of international film festivals and film funders during a Pitching Event on the 13th of February 2025 at the Goethe-Institut Berlin during the first day of the 2025 International Film Festival Berlin (Berlinale). This will be followed by one-on-one sessions with industry representatives, during which participants will get the opportunity to connect with producers and distributors, and to work on their future careers in the film industry.

Improve your skills in online and offline trainings!

In the scope of the online- and on-site workshops, participants will improve their knowledge and skills in some of the most relevant topics for young filmmakers, such as production and marketing, green shooting, or diversity management. Furthermore, while pitching training the participants will work to improve their skills in pitching convincingly, effectively- both, online and offline.

In addition to the pitching training, there will be an intensive, 5-day workshop on producing, addressing the questions: how to sell projects to international buyers, how to develop effective packaging strategies for films, and which skills are essential to place films successfully in festivals and on international markets.

Meet the Industry

Part of the workshop will also be a networking event at one of the most prestigious festivals and industry events for coproductions with the focus on Central and Eastern Europe: Cottbus Film Festival & Connecting Cottbus (coco). Participants will not only have the chance to be part of one of the most interesting, emerging film markets on the continent, but will also get the opportunity to speak directly to industry professionals and festival organizers.

Pitching Event live during the International Film Festival Berlin (Berlinale) 2025

The workshop will conclude in 2025, on-site, at the Goethe-Institut Berlin on the first day of the Berlin International Film Festival (Berlinale): Participants will present their projects to a prestigious international jury consisting of experts from film festivals like IDFA, Locarno,

Sundance and Berlinale, Streamers like NETFLIX and successful distributors like BETA Film and Deckert Distribution.

Schedule

Dates	Activity	Location
30. September - 04. October 2024	Producing workshop and Pitching Training	Budapest, Hungary
17 - 19 October 2024	NETWORKING / DAS FILMFEST	Prague, Czech Republic
06 - 08 November 2024	NETWORKING Connecting Cottbus 2024	Cottbus, Germany
02- 06 December 2024	Pitching Training with Sibylle Kurz	Online
19 - 20 January 2025	Pitching Rehearsal and industry Networking in Baden-Württemberg	Stuttgart & Ludwigsburg, Germany
12 - 13 February 2025	Pitch & Rehearsal in Goethe-Institut Berlin	Berlin, Germany

Costs (estimate)

The participants have to cover their individual travel and travel-related costs.

Mentors (Selection)

- Sibylle Kurz (GER): Pitching Training
- Vicky Miha (GR): Festival PR & Marketing
- Dóra Nedeczky (HU): Film Packaging
- Uli Decker (GER) and Rita Bakacs (HU): Who tells whose story?

Criteria for Participation

- Participants must be based in the Republic of Croatia, the Czech Republic, Germany, Hungary, the Republic of Serbia, or the Slovak Republic (resident address is required, citizenship is optional)
- Excellent artistic quality of the project in the respective categories of documentary, fictional or experimental long format (min 60min) film-projects

- No festival appearances before October 2024
- No public market pitch of the project concept before October 2024
- ANY stage of development is eligible
- High school degree preferred
- Filmmakers who have made more than one feature film are not eligible
- You can apply as an individual or in a team of maximum two people

Required documents in English language

- Short CVs of the applicant(s)
- Short description of the project's content and status (max. 300 words excluding blanks / counted in WORD)
- Video introduction about your motivation for participation by at least one team member (max 3:00 min)
- Trailer or teaser of max 2:00 min (only in case of completed films)

Call is open. Deadline: 31st of July 2024

Please send your documents to: pitch-it@filmakademie.de

Please get back to us if you have any questions regarding the application process.

The 4th edition of PITCH_IT is a collaboration between Filmakademie Baden-Württemberg (FABW) and Goethe-Institut funded by the programme „Perspektive Donau“ of the Foundation Baden-Württemberg Stiftung.

Associate Partners:

Filmfestival Cottbus & Connecting Cottbus 2024, Germany

DAS FILMFEST 2024, Czech Republic

MFG Medien- und Filmgesellschaft Baden-Württemberg mbH, Germany