



La Biennale di Venezia /
83rd Venice International Film Festival /
The figures of the 15th Venice Production Bridge /
3 thousand accredited attendees including Industry Gold, Industry Trade,
and Industry Professional

This year, the 15th edition of the Venice Production Bridge took place from September 3 to September 9, 2026, as part of the 83rd Venice International Film Festival of La Biennale di Venezia.

A well-established and specialized meeting point for all film industry professionals, the 15th Venice Production Bridge reached a total of 3 thousand accredited attendees (including 1,371 Industry Gold, 808 Industry Trade, and 809 Industry Professional) across the Industry Gold, Industry Trade, and Industry Professional categories.

VENICE GAP- FINANCING MARKET (September 4 - 6)

The Venice Gap-Financing Market celebrated its 13th edition in 2026.

For this edition 371 projects were submitted to the pre-selection of the Venice Gap-Financing Market (331 in 2025) directed by 413 filmmakers, including 142 by female directors, 11 by non-binary directors and 260 by male directors. 51 projects directed by 59 filmmakers were selected, out of these 37 Fiction and Documentary and 14 Immersive projects. Out of these 23 by female directors and 36 by male directors.

The 51 Fiction, Documentary and Immersive projects, plus 11 Biennale College Immersive and 3 Biennale College Cinema (fiction) projects, including the projects selected for the VPB Focus on Greece, supported by EKKOMED - Hellenic Film and Audiovisual Centre, and the VPB Focus on Switzerland supported by SWISS FILMS, were presented across 3 days and 1402 one-to-one meetings have been organized.

BOOK ADAPTATION RIGHTS MARKET (September 4 - 6)

The Book Adaptation Rights Market celebrated its 11th edition in 2026. 30 publishing houses and literary agencies participated in this edition. More than 527 one-to-one meetings were organized with producers for the adaptation from page to the screen of literary rights. In addition to this, the panel *"Stories Across Platforms: Crossover Strategies Between Books, Audio and Film"* took place on Saturday, September 5th at the Excelsior Hotel, Spazio Incontri.

FINAL CUT IN VENICE (September 6 - 8)

The **Venice Production Bridge** has organized the 14th edition of its programme, **Final Cut in Venice** (September 6 – 8), the workshop to support films in post-production from Africa and Arab countries (Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Palestine, Syria and Yemen).

83 projects directed by 87 filmmakers were submitted (25 by female directors and 62 by male directors), **out of which 6 projects were selected** (2 by female directors and 4 by male directors).

Between the 6th and 8th September, 6 works in progress were presented in the Sala Pasinetti (Palazzo del Cinema), followed by a Q&A, while on 8 September a total of **40 one-to-one meetings** were organized between the project teams and potential financiers.

For the 10th year, **La Biennale di Venezia** gives **La Biennale di Venezia Prize** (€ 10.000) to support the Best Film in post-production.

The jury, composed of **Tareq Al-Ibrahim** (MBC), **Mariette Rissenbeek** (Producer) and **Tamara Tatishvili** (Hubert Bals Fund - IFFR) has awarded the film in post-production:

MADI MAKAMBU by **Machérie Ekwa Bahango** (Congo Dr, France, Belgium)

“The award goes to a project that invites us to follow a genuine and electrifying young female protagonist trying to navigate violence and social injustice that is her unchosen reality. By a strong and ambitious choice of mixing genres, this film offers unexpected twist and empowers voices of others. This project is a promising proposal and we feel that this award will further support finding missing finance & strengthen artistic voices emerging from Africa”

The supporters' jury of the 14th edition of Final Cut in Venice has decided to give their awards to the following films in post-production:

OCCUPATIONAL HAZARDS (AL IHTILAL WA AL HAL) by **Bassel Ghandour** (Jordan, Qatar, United Kingdom, Saudi Arabia, Palestine)

Has been supported by:

- **Studio A Fabrica** (Ajaccio) is offering € 15.000 for the sound mixing of a feature length film (up to 12 days of work, sound mixer not included).
- **Sub-Ti Ltd** (London) is offering up to € 7.500 for the creation of the DCP master with Italian or English subtitles.
- **Sub-Ti Access Srl** (Turin) is offering up to € 7.500 for the accessible contents of the film for audiences with sensory disabilities: subtitles for the deaf and hearing-impaired and audio description for the blind and visually impaired, including audio subtitles in voiceover, in Italian or English (the subtitles and the audio-described soundtrack for the DCP will be provided).
- **Rai Cinema** is offering € 5.000 for a first negotiation right for the acquisition of Free TV exploitation rights in the Italian territory and obligation to mention “in collaboration with Rai Cinema S.p.a.” in the credits of the work.
- **M74 srl** (Rome) is offering up to € 10.000 for digital visual effects “2D Comp”

MADI MAKAMBU by **Machérie Ekwa Bahango** (Congo Dr, France, Belgium)

Has been supported by:

- **Oticons** is offering tailored film music services to one of the films, in the form of either music consulting, and/or music supervision and/or the production of an original score by one of our represented film composers. These services, valued at up to €10.000, will encompass all relevant

processes, such as spotting sessions, composition, mock-ups and final production (for original score), or expert support in music licensing and supervision (if applicable).

- **MAD Solutions** is offering for a feature-length fiction film, a MG of minimum \$10.000, or for a feature-length documentary film, a MG of minimum \$3.000 in marketing, advertising, and distribution worldwide, for an Arabic project (with the exception of projects already under MAD Solutions' responsibility).

- **Mnemonic** is providing full access to its secure cloud-based platform to manage, preserve, share and distributing the digital assets of the winning film, to a value of € 10.000.

- **Red Sea Fund** (Red Sea Film Foundation) is offering € 5.000.

PLAGUE (BALAA) by Youssef Chebbi (Tunisia, France, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Slovenia)

Has been supported by:

- **Laser Film** (Rome) is offering € 15.000 for the colour correction of a feature-length film for up to 50 hours of work (technician included).

- **The Festival International du Film d'Amiens** is offering its participation in the production costs of a DCP (€ 2.500).

A QUARTER TO THURSDAY (JEUDI MOINS LE QUART) by **Sofia Djama** (France, Belgium, Algeria)

Has been supported by:

- **Titra Film** (Paris) is offering up to € 5.000 for colour-grading; up to € 3.000 for the production of a DCP master, or the creation of i-Tunes, Google or Netflix files; up to € 2.000 for French or English subtitles (translation not included).

- **El Gouna Film Festival** is awarding \$ 5.000 to an Arab project offered and an invitation to participate in the industry platform CineGouna;

MEHAL SEFARI by **Abraham Gezahagne** (Ethiopia, Canada, Germany, Netherlands, Norway, Saudi Arabia)

Has been supported by:

- **The Cinémathèque Afrique of the Institut français** (Paris) awards the "Coup de cœur de la Cinémathèque Afrique" Prize. The prize consists in the acquisition of the non-commercial and non-exclusive broadcasting rights for 5 years for a value of € 4.000 – € 6.000 depending on the genre and length of the film and the number of available territories.

- **The Festival International du Film de Fribourg** is offering its participation in the production costs of a DCP (€ 2.500).

ELDORADO, THE TASTE OF THE SOUTH (ELDORADO, LE GOÛT DU SUD) by **Alaa Eddine Aljem** (Morocco, France, Italy, Norway)

Has been supported by:

- **The Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie** (OIF) is offering € 5.000 as a refund for post-production services – delivered by companies based in one of the countries eligible to the OIF Supporting Fund (Benin, Burundi, Cameroon, Cabo Verde, Chad, Comoros, Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Equatorial Guinea, Ivory Coast, Lebanon, Madagascar, Morocco, Mauritius, Mauritania, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Rwanda, São Tomé and Príncipe, Senegal, Seychelles, Togo, and Tunisia) – of a feature-length film directed by a filmmaker from one of the OIF Supporting Fund countries and produced or co-produced by a company based in one of the OIF Supporting Fund countries.

MEET THE STREAMERS (September 6 - 7)

6 European and international streaming platforms participated in the market, **taking 171 one-to-one meetings** to offer their services to accredited (Gold or Trade pass-holders) international distributors, rights holders and AV professionals.

VPB LOCATIONS MARKET (September 7 - 8)

The **VPB Locations Market** launched in 2026. This new project included **15 film commissions and studios** from around the world, helping producers and location managers to find not only the best destinations but also the best combination of rebates and financial incentives.

For this first edition of the VPB Locations Market, **152 one-to-one meetings** took place on **September 7 and 8**.

Moreover, the Venice Production Bridge organised a dedicated panel, "*What's New in Film Commission Incentives*", on **September 7**, at the Hotel Excelsior, Spazio Incontri.

PANELS AND EVENTS

A total of **75 panels and events** have been held, of which **54 on the Venice Lido** and **21 on the Venice Immersive Island**.

This includes the **4 Meet the Creators** sessions held on the Venice Immersive Island, supported by: **Agog: The Immersive Media Institute, Netherlands Film Fonds and SEE NL; Medienboard Berlin-Brandenburg; SWISS FILMS**.

VPB MARKET SCREENINGS

A total of **50 VPB Market Screenings** took place this year. Per programme section there were: **10** screenings of films selected for *Venezia 83*, **3 OPEN - Out of Competition**, **5 Orizzonti**, **1 Venice Spotlight**, **2 Giornate degli Autori**, **1 Settimana della Critica**, **6 Final Cut in Venice**, **22** screenings of films *not in the official selection*.

INDUSTRY CONSULTANCY MEETINGS (September 5-7)

For the fourth year, filmmakers participating in the **Venice Production Bridge** once again had the opportunity to book a personal Industry consultancy meeting with the esteemed consultant of international co-productions, **Katriel Schory**.

Between the 5th and 7th of September, **40 individual meetings** were arranged between producers and directors with Katriel Schory. In addition to this a special masterclass was held for a group of selected emerging producers.

VPB WEBSITE

From 23 July to 9 September:

4.526 users accessed the website, of which **2.178 Industry registered delegates** had access to the restricted areas of the website.

Overall, the website had **12.790 sessions** and **82.423 page views**.

NOTABLE DECISION MAKERS ATTENDING THE VPB

The VPB has once again welcomed a considerable number of key Industry players and decision makers in order to cover all the initiatives. The professionals who participated in the one-to-one meetings of the Venice Gap-Financing Market, Book Adaptation Rights Market, Final Cut in Venice, Meet the Streamers and VPB Market screenings were producers, distributors, financiers, institutions, broadcasters, sales agents, VR/XR -Immersive experts from distinguished companies such as A24, Academy Two, Ad Vitam, Adler Entertainment, Adok Films, Amazon MGM Studios, Apple, Arte France, Atlas V, Autlook Filmsales, BE TV, Banijay Studios International Holding, Bayerischer Rundfunk, BIM Distribuzione, BFI Distribution, BIM, BTeam Pictures, Canada Media Fund, Carlotta Films, Cattleya, CBS, Cercamon, Charades, Cherry Pickers Film Distribution, Ciné Canal Group, Cinéart, Cinecittà, CinemaLeap, Cinephil, Coproduction Office, Curzon Artificial Eye, DCM Film Distribution, Diaphana, Eagle Pictures, Elle Driver, Epicentre, Fandango, Film Movement, Film4, Films Boutique, Focus Features, Fremantle Media, Gaumont, Goodfellas, Gutek Film, Hanway Films, Haut et Court, Google, HBO Max, Heretic, I Wonder, Indiana Production, Iconoclast, Imagine Film Distribution, Indigo Films, Intramovies, Kinology, Latido, Le Pacte, Leone Film Group, Leonine Distribution, Lemming Film, Les Films du Losange, Lucky Red, Lumière, Madman Entertainment, Luxbox, Medusa Film, Mediaset Group, Medusa, Memento Distribution, MK2, Minerva Pictures, MUBI, NBCUniversal International Ltd, New Europe Film Sales, Nordisk Film Productions, Notorious Pictures, Palace Films, Palomar, Pathé Films, Picturehouse Entertainment, Piper Film, Playtime, Pyramide International, Q Department/ Mach, Rai Cinema, Rapid Eye Movies, Razor Film Produktion, RT Features, Searchlight Pictures, September Film, Sky Italia, Sony, Strand Releasing, StudioCanal, StudioCanal UK, Studio Hamburg Production Group, Teodora, The Match Factory, Tempesta, The Walt Disney Company Italia, True Colours, TrustNordisk, Under the Milky Way, Vision Distribution, Vive Arts, Warner Bros. Discovery, Weltkino Filmverleih, Wild Bunch Germany, Wildside, X Verleih, ZDF German Television.

These were joined by representatives from major festivals, markets and institutions, such as Agog – The Immersive Media Institute, Austrian Films, Arri, Barbican Centre, Berlinale – Berlin International Film Festival, British Film Institute, Cannes Film Festival, Czech Audiovisual Fund, Danish Film Institute, Doha Film Institute, DOK Leipzig, Edinburgh International Film Festival, EKKOMED - Hellenic Film and Audiovisual Center S.A, El Gouna Film Festival, Eurimages, European Producers Club, EYE Filmmuseum, Festival International du Film de Marrakech, Film Fund Luxembourg, Film I Väst, Film Fest Hamburg, Film und Medienstiftung NRW, Filmfonds Wien, German Films, IFFR - International Film Festival Rotterdam, Internationale Münchner Filmwochen, Istanbul International Film Festival, Karlovy Vary International Film Festival, Les Arcs European Film Festival, Locarno Film Festival, Marché du Film Cannes, Luxembourg Film Fund, Medienboard Berlin Brandenburg, MOIN Film Fund Hamburg, Netherlands Film Fund, Norwegian Film Institute, PHI Centre, Red Sea Film Foundation, Red Sea International Film Festival, San Sebastian Film Festival, Sundance Institute, SXSW, Swiss Films, Sydney Film Festival, The Gotham Film & Media Institute, Thessaloniki Film Festival, Tribeca Film Festival, Unifrance, Viennale, Zagreb Film Festival, amongst many others.

Ufficio Stampa La Biennale di Venezia

Tel. +39 041 5218 - 857/859

www.labiennale.org

Facebook La Biennale di Venezia

X @la_Biennale

Instagram @labiennale

YouTube BiennaleChannel