

III

(Notices)

COMMISSION

Growth and audiovisual: i2i audiovisual — 2002

Measures to encourage access to external funding from banks and financial institutions for independent European production companies

Call for proposals DG EAC 29/02

(2002/C 178/07)

I. Introduction

This call for proposals is based on the preparatory action 'Growth and audiovisual: i2i audiovisual' in the EU's general budget for 2002 — preparatory action within the meaning of the Interinstitutional Agreement of 6 May 1999 between the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission on budgetary discipline and improvement of the budgetary procedure (OJ C 172, 18.6.1999, p. 1).

II. Aim

This call for proposals is open to independent European production companies located in the Member States of the European Union.

The support is intended in particular for independent European production companies with bank loans for financing the production of a work (discount) for their projects:

- either from a partner of the EIB group (i2i audiovisual initiative) ⁽¹⁾,
- or from another bank or financial institution. In that case, the project concerned must have received development support (slate funding) under the MEDIA-Plus programme.

Independent European production companies with bank loans for financing the production of a work from a partner institution of the EIB group will be given priority.

The object of the support is to encourage access to external funding from banks and financial institutions for independent European production companies. The aims of the support are, in particular, to:

- reduce the cost of audiovisual insurance taken out for the production of a film or audiovisual work: **Module 1** — support for the item 'insurance' in a production budget,

- reduce the cost of the completion guarantee for the production of a film or audiovisual work: **Module 2** — support for the item 'completion guarantee' in a production budget,
- reduce the cost of bank loans (discount) for the production of a film or audiovisual work: **Module 3** — support for the item 'financing costs' in a production budget.

The 'production of a work' comprises the preparation phase, the production phase and the post-production phase until the delivery of the negative.

III. Funding

The budget earmarked to this call for proposals is EUR 1,1 million.

IV. Applications

The Directorate-General for Education and Culture, Unit C3 — Support for the film and audiovisual industry (MEDIA) is responsible for the implementation of the preparatory action 'Growth and audiovisual: i2i audiovisual'.

Parties wishing to respond to this call for proposals and to receive guidelines for submitting a proposal in order to obtain a financial contribution under the call for proposals 'Growth and audiovisual: i2i audiovisual', should send their application by mail or fax to:

European Commission
Mr Jacques Delmoly (office B100-4/20)
Head of Unit DG EAC/C3
B-1049 Brussels
Fax (32-2) 299 92 14.

The Commission will dispatch the documents within two working days of receipt of the application.

The deadline for the submission of applications to the address above is **20 September 2002**.

⁽¹⁾ The EIB group's partners in the i2i audiovisual initiative are shown on the EIB's website (www.eib.org 'Projects and Loans', 'Innovation 2000 Initiative', 'Audiovisual', 'Progress to date', 'Risk Sharing Global Loans' and 'Global Loan').

V. Processing of the applications

The following procedure will be used for processing the applications:

- receipt, registration and confirmation of receipt by the Commission,
- processing by the Commission,

- evaluation and selection proposal by a panel of experts,
- processing and final decision by the Commission,
- notification of results.

No information will be given before the final decision has been taken.
