



CELTIC INTERNATIONAL FUND

BBC ALBA (with funding from MG ALBA), S4C, TG4 and Northern Ireland Screen's Irish Language Broadcast Fund (ILBF) are delighted to announce the second round of the 'Celtic International Fund', a yearly joint-commissioning round between the indigenous Celtic language television broadcasters and funders of Scotland, Wales, Ireland and Northern Ireland

The aim of the 'Celtic International Fund' is to promote co-development and then co-production through Scottish Gaelic, Welsh and Irish, and to encourage a broader European and worldwide internationalisation of productions which are originally conceived in those Celtic languages. The Celtic International Fund hopes to provide film-makers with an opportunity to co-develop and coproduce distinctive, ambitious works to enrich primetime programme schedules, to have a national impact with audiences in the territories of Scotland, Wales, Ireland and Northern Ireland and seek to reach audiences worldwide.

This call-out encompasses three genres, Factual, Formats and Drama. For all projects, we envisage a development phase where funding would be provided to develop ideas but also to develop the co-production framework which must have a production element in Scotland, Wales and either Ireland or Northern Ireland. Feedback from producers regarding genres to be included in ensuing Celtic International Fund call-outs is welcome.

The Celtic International Fund will be administered by a joint commissioning team drawn from the Celtic language broadcasters and funders who are partners in this scheme. Submissions must be made electronically using a single pdf document for ideas and visuals and a single excel document for budgets. The 'lead' company in a co-development project must first register with the TG4 ecommissioning portal <http://update.tg4.ie/ecommm/login.php> and upload their submissions by the relevant submission deadline into the relevant section, 'Celtic Factual 2019', 'Celtic Kids Drama 2019', 'Celtic Kids Living History 2019', 'Celtic Formats Entertainment 2019', 'Celtic Formats Factual 2019', 'Celtic Writers Room 2019'. Initial decisions on submissions will be communicated to the submitting company **within two months** of the relevant submission date.

Development funding will be re-payable if the submission progresses to production, re-payment due on commencement of production. Intellectual Property will reside with the co-developing production companies in a co-sharing manner to be agreed between themselves.

SUBMISSIONS TO THE CELTIC INTERNATIONAL FUND 2019/2020

FACTUAL – DEVELOPMENT OF AMBITIOUS PROJECTS

We welcome factual ideas of high ambition to create substantial popular and critical impact with audiences in Scotland, Wales, Ireland and Northern Ireland and be distributed in worldwide territories.

All genres of factual will be considered, from human interest to sports, music, arts and crime.

We encourage contemporary or historical ideas that have a contemporary relevance and projects that offer continuous unfolding and dramatic narratives rooted in engaging characters.

Factual projects should have the ambition to create noise on primetime TV and reach global audiences (broadcast, theatrical and online) on our respective online services and through distribution.

Projects can be:

- 1) Single hour or feature-length documentaries.
- 2) Factual series of 3 to 6 hours.
- 3) Drama documentaries – singles or series.

Level of development funding available: Up to €18,000 or £16,000.

Who can apply: Production companies who have expertise in working in factual programming in at least one of the relevant Celtic languages and who can identify international partners in one of the other Celtic territories.

What to submit:

- Editorial: Short summary (up to 30 words) and synopsis (up to one A4 page) of the idea, the characters, the unfolding narratives, the tone and how this story will garner attention on primetime TV.
- Development plan to include editorial and business detail on how to bring the project to a standard that will contest substantial global funding.
- The Team: Notes on production strengths in lead company and co-producing company and how this creative and business collaboration will work for this project and beyond.
- Detailed development budget and finance plan.

Format – Factual/ Entertainment

The Celtic International fund is inviting original unscripted factual entertainment or factual format ideas with must see, compelling and surprising content that will appeal to intergenerational audiences across the Celtic nations and beyond.

The ambition is to discover a refreshing, distinctive and authentic format that the Celtic Nations can be proud of and that will be talked about across the three nations. The ideas should show creative ambition and heart that will take us on an emotional journey in some way, be it laughter, tears or surprise yet shouldn't feel overly formulated or forced.

With the aim of developing a value for money format that has the potential to create a successful, adaptable and returnable series which can be produced independently or back to back in all of the Celtic regions and beyond.

Proposals should include:

What to submit: A logline, format treatment and an indication of how the development funds would be used to produce a worthwhile pilot.

The best ideas will be shortlisted and invited to pitch to the three broadcasters in mid-November. One idea will be selected for development funding to create a pilot for delivery by March 2020.

Deadline for submissions: 13th September

Please send your proposals to: **TG4 ecomm**

By submitting your ideas to the email address set out above, you agree to the Terms of Entry set out in the document – Celtic Format Pilot Scheme 2017/2018

CHILDREN'S FACTUAL ENTERTAINMENT (7-13)

The Celtic International fund is inviting original unscripted factual entertainment format for children and young people that could be eligible for development through the Young Audiences Content Fund. This Celtic co-production will be for children aged 7-13 years old and the content will be relevant to all Celtic nations.

As several broadcasters do **not** dub live-action content and subtitles are **not** always accessible to children, the approach will need to be innovative.

The ideas may be based around a fixed-rig, a strong format, or a shared studio set, for example. We are particularly interested in history formats, living history or an adventure show based on our shared Celtic history, myths and landscape. We will consider any period, location or approach. The series will be big, ambitious and engaging enough to compete with the best children's brands available on other platforms.

The format will need to cross linguistic boundaries i.e. **either** that there are separate Irish, Gaelic and Welsh versions of the same series; **or** if the format includes the three indigenous languages, then the multi-lingual approach is truly innovative and works for all nations.

The Young Audiences' Content Fund is now open and the aim is to develop a Celtic brand that is eligible for the fund. More details about the fund can be found here

<https://www.bfi.org.uk/supporting-uk-film/production-development-funding/young-audiences-content-fund>

Programmes – tbc - possibly 8 x 30'

Audience – 7-13

For queries regarding the submission process to the Celtic International Fund, please contact Anna Marie Nic Dhonnacha Anna.Marie.Nic.Dhonnacha@tg4.ie

For broader queries regarding the Celtic International Fund please contact one of the broadcaster/funder executives.

BBC ALBA – Margaret Cameron Margaret.Cameron@mgalba.com

S4C – Non Griffith non.griffith@s4c.cymru

TG4 – Mary Ellen Ní Chualáin maryellen.ni.chualain@tg4.ie

Northern Ireland Screen/ILBF – Áine Walsh Aine@northernirelandscreen.co.uk

For production companies seeking to partner with other companies in the Celtic territories, the 'CMF Connect Directory' is a useful tool <http://www.celticmediafestival.co.uk/connect/directory> and registering with the Directory is a recommended first step.