

**Gender short film grant**

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# **Call for pitch/script**

**Guideline document**

7 December 2020

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# Gender short film grant: Call for pitch/script

British Council and the [Film Development Board](#) are supporting [Taskovski Films](#), UK and [Pame Film and Music Festival](#) to co-produce three short films on gender issues. Grants include placement in a capacity building workshop where the grantees further develop their pitches/scripts and professional knowledge on film production and distribution, among other topics. Grantees will have access to additional support throughout filmmaking through a network of UK and Nepali mentors. Grant outputs need to be realised within a 6-month period (by June 2021). Grant amounts will vary, minimum support will be NPR 4,00,000.

Films that raise awareness of gender-based topics through women/girl's stories, those concerning narratives of gender minorities and which extend women/girls voice and agency in topical areas will be prioritized for the grants.

Interested applicants should read below and fill out the linked form (digitally) to submit their script/pitches for assessment by an international panel. Submission deadline is **6 PM Nepal Standard Time, 28 December 2020**.

For any queries and help with the application form: [arts@britishcouncil.org.np](mailto:arts@britishcouncil.org.np); or call 9851249785

## Taskovski Films

Taskovski Films Ltd, with head office London, is a company that integrates production, sales, professional film business training and film & art residencies. It believes film has transformative power to inspire change and is passionate about discovering new and established talent storytellers that spark social change; surprise and engage audiences across the globe. Taskovski Films takes on innovative, playful and risky forms of filmmaking and authorial stories in fields of arts and culture, history, society, politics and environment, while still maintaining high standards when it comes to production value, content and form. Taskovski Catalogue includes: Who will be Gurkhas by Kesang Tseten; IDFA 2020 winner Radiograph of a family by Firouzeh Ksohrovani, Academy Award-nominated Olmo and the Seagull by Petra Costa; European Academy winners Helena Trestikova, Audrius Stonies, as well as multi-award winning films like The Seasons in Quincy, four portraits of John Berger. It has worked with Academy Award-winners actors Tilda Swinton and Javier Bardem. About Pame Film and Music Festival

## Pame Film and Music Festival

Pame Festival is a cultural event focusing on various aspects of art and culture. Programmes including film screenings, talk programmes and workshops are organized throughout the calendar year.

## Nepal Film Development Board

Film Development Board (FDB) was established by the Government of Nepal on 30 June 2000 with the mission of fostering interest in the development and promotion of the motion picture

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sector in Nepal. In 2020, the Film Development Board launched the Storybank, an initiative to collate and support promising scripts with national and international import.

## **British Council**

Since 1934, the British Council has created friendly knowledge and understanding between the people of the UK and the wider world. Our work in the arts has been central to this mission for more than 60 years in Nepal, seeking new ways of connecting with and understanding each other through creativity.

Our work in arts creates new relationships between artists, organisations and audiences to develop stronger creative sectors around the world. We help artists to break new ground, support creativity and innovation, increase capacity by building skills to support livelihoods and cultural enterprise, extend safe spaces for creative exchange and contribute to research and policy.

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## Grant Details

There are three grants awards available from the British Council which include financial award of 4,00,000 NPR (this is the minimum amount); a workshop with Taskovski Films with UK and international experts, mentoring from UK and Nepali mentors throughout the production period, on-ground production support from Pame Film and Music Festival's parent company Mediaport. Finally, additional financial support post release to cover any costs of participation in national and international events will also be considered on an individual basis.

## Eligibility

- Open to all ages 18 and above
- Only open to short films, no longer than 20 minutes in length
- Must be a Nepali or UK diaspora with Nepali heritage
- Submitted script/pitch needs to be original and/or the applicant should have film rights on the submitted script if the author is a second person
- Must have experience making films; any professional engagement in filmmaking should be highlighted in the application with links to digital screeners.
- Must be able to commit to a multi-day workshop in January (dates to be confirmed after grant awards) and 6-month production schedule
- Candidate should have access to internet for the capacity building/mentoring and equipment necessary for the shoot and post-production needs of their film should be manageable within the grant amount and the final output produced by June, 2021
- Grants are open to both fiction and non-fiction films; films already in development will be considered if the grant amount is able to cover its completion and release

## Assessment

An international panel comprising of representative from each institution working on this co-production will be appraising the submission. They will be asking the following questions in their judgement:

### **Feasibility: can the proposed film be realized within 6 months with the resources/support being offered?**

- **Content:** does the script/pitch sufficiently cover the objectives i.e.. to either raise awareness of a gender-based issue, and/or to extend the voice and agency of women/girls; does the authorship/plot feel authentic.
- **Creativity:** does the script/pitch treat its subject-matter with craft of filmmaking and storytelling?

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## **Application Form**

The application consists of a digital form. The form will require you to submit:

- Contact details
- Script/pitch
- Portfolio (a visual document including images, text and linked media that cover your filmmaking journey with key achievements and milestones)
- Online screener links for past work
- Questions about past achievements, commitment to the grant program and a statement of purpose.

## **Intellectual Property**

The authorship and ownership of the film shall belong jointly to the filmmaker and the co-producers which will be recorded in writing. British Council shall retain limited rights to screen the film non-commercially with its Women of the World Festivals and other relevant events which may include engagements delivered by partners.

All screenings with the British Council shall be planned with the co-producers and the filmmaker(s).