



Nepali Female
Filmmakers



Gender Films, #DocConnect

TASKOVSKI
FILM #docs connect
TRAINING

**Open call for
female filmmakers**

11 January 2022

Introduction

The British Council in Nepal and Taskovski Film Training's #docs connect are offering an exciting professional development opportunity for filmmakers. In collaboration with Nepali Female Filmmakers and Pame Film and Music Festival we announce placements for training, mentoring and an opportunity to connect with industry leaders in the UK. The opportunity is part of British Council's Gender Film Programme that aims to support women's voice and agency in the film sector. It is supported by the Film Development Board.

Five (5) filmmakers will receive an opportunity to participate in Sheffield Documentary Film Festival (DocFest) 2022 to present their film projects. Selected filmmakers will be preparing with national and international experts ahead of the Festival. Applicants should apply with a film in late development, in production (including post) or a recently completed but unpublished film.

To apply, please fill out the form linked below. The application form requires to upload an update CV and details of your film project. Call and forms is available in Nepali.

Deadline to submit your application is 11:59 PM, Nepal Time, 6 February 2022.

For queries please email arts@britishcouncil.org.np

[Form link](#)

Programme details

Programme includes virtual and/or physical sessions spread across months from February to May 2022. These cover facilitated sessions and one-on-one mentoring as well as a workshop in March 2022. Participating filmmakers are expected to physically attend Sheffield Documentary Film Festival in June 2022*.

Training programme will help strengthen pitching and presentation skills, cover range of professional development topics in mentoring, provide support on project packaging, guidance on developing promotional materials and individualised marketing and distribution strategy for projects. At DocFest participants will be able to network with co-producers, festivals, and film funds in the UK.

Placements will be awarded by a panel of judges based on the application response. Panel will consider applicant background, work experience, strength and relevance of proposed project and purpose for its decision. Short-listed candidates maybe requested for interviews the week of 8 February 2022.

Applicants who successfully show dedication to their craft and work as well as show willingness to contribute further to the development of the Nepali film industry and womxn's role in it, will be prioritised. Those from minority and marginalised backgrounds are encouraged to apply!

**DocFest participation requires a 4-night, 5-day international travel. Travel and programme modality are contingent on favourable Covid-19 conditions.*

Eligibility

Please read the FAQ document before applying. Eligibility conditions are listed below:

- Must be 19 at the time of applying
- Must apply with a non-fiction feature project
- 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 the full programme, including all virtual sessions, a multi-day workshop in March (dates will be confirmed with selected participants), travel to Sheffield DocFest in June 2022 (4 nights, 5 days)
- Candidate should have access to internet for mentoring and virtual sessions

Frequently asked questions

What is the opportunity? How many people will be selected?

We are offering 5 filmmakers the opportunity to develop skills ahead of participating in the next Sheffield Documentary Film Festival, June 2022. Training, mentoring and participation in the Festival is included as part of the placement.

What is Sheffield DocFest?

Sheffield DocFest is the UK's leading documentary festival and one of the world's most influential markets for documentary projects. We champion and present the breadth of documentary form – film, television, immersive and art – in the vibrant city of Sheffield each June. Sheffield DocFest is from 23 to 28 June in 2022.

Is this opportunity for all filmmakers?

This opportunity is for non-fiction feature-length projects and filmmakers (producers, directors) working with documentary films.

What does the placement cover?

Covers costs of participating in a training programme, one-on-one mentoring with experts, international travel, and participation in Sheffield Documentary Film Festival – includes visa costs, round-trip tickets, meals and stipends, and local transportation between London and Sheffield.

What is expected from participants?

Selected participants are committing to participating fully in virtual and/or physical training/mentoring sessions. Sessions maybe short (30 mins) or a few hours (half-day session) and spread across weeks. These will be organised between February to May 2022.

Participation in Sheffield DocFest includes opportunity to present film portfolio and projects to co-producers, festivals, funds. We expect the participant to travel for 4 nights, 5 days to attend DocFest for 4 days.

What do the organisers and partners of the opportunity expect to achieve from the project?

We are hoping to: build capacity, provide platform, and support the voice and agency of women in (documentary) film through this opportunity. Our delegation to Sheffield DocFest will be preparing with experts and receive all the support to make their participation successful. We are

hoping participating delegates create long-term networks and opportunities for their career at Sheffield.

How will the training and mentoring sessions be delivered?

The training and mentoring will be delivered through Zoom. Participants will need to secure their own internet connection to participation in this programme.

Which language will be used for the programme?

The programme involves national and international facilitators. English will be the primary language of instruction, but proficiency is not required. If needed, interpretation support will be provided for those requiring support.

In what stage does my film needs to be?

Films in late stages of development (script and production plan is final but production has not begun), those in production (currently being filmed or in post-production), or those newly completed (but not published) are required.

Can we apply with an existing film? Can we apply with someone else's script?

If the film has not been published but is complete, then yes. If you are already screened your film, you will need to propose a new/original project.

You need to have explicit permission/rights to the script/project to include it in your application.

What should I include in my pitch?

Please make sure to provide the following details in your project pitch:

- Project Title
- Your role in the film (Director/Producer)
- Applicant's short bio (Not more than 250 words)
- Description of Project (not more than 300 words)
- Logline (not more than 50 words)
- Treatment (not more than 500 words)
- A financial plan for the project
- If available, any link/s to accompanying visuals (pictures, videos, trailers etc.)

It says you must be a Nepali citizen. What if I do not have proof of citizenship?

This opportunity is for Nepalis and UK diaspora with Nepali heritage. We understand that there are legal circumstances which affect the ability to receive proof of citizenship. The British Council will consider eligibility on a case-by-case basis and will work with short-listed candidates to account for such issues.

Can we apply as a group?

Yes, but note that participation in DocFest will be restricted to one representative per project. We encourage producer/director duo to apply for this opportunity.

How will be the participants selected? What are the criteria for judgement?

A panel will be reviewing each application form. Decisions will be made based on the inputs provided in the form. Panel will consider background and experience, proposed project (creativity, relevancy) and the applicant's statement of purpose. Successful applicants should be able to demonstrate commitment to their professional development as well as the sector.

How may Covid-19 affect the programme and my participation?

Covid-19 is very much a reality for working professionals. Initial phase of the programme will most likely be fully virtual and not affected by the pandemic. We will monitor the situation in a timely manner to manage our international travel and participation in Sheffield. In case of travel restrictions, participation maybe virtual.

When will I hear if I am successful?

We expect to announce the selected participants by 11 February 2022.