

Biodiversity Short Film Contest

Contest Rules | 2025 Edition

This regulation refers to the Biodiversity Short Films Contest, which is part of the International Nature Image Festival (FIIN). The Competition is an initiative organized by the Municipality of Vila Real.

Article 1 (Object)

1 - The main objective of the Short Film contest is to promote the biological natural heritage, namely the natural regions, the ecosystems, the habitats and the species of wild fauna and flora, through the selection and classification of cinematographic works related to this subject. It also aims to promote cinematography of nature and promote its growth and development, as well as launching the debate and reflection of society on the need to knowing, promoting and conserving the biodiversity and the environment.

2 - After the selection and classification of the competing cinematographic works a Biodiversity Short Film Festival will occur as an event integrated in the International Festival of Nature Image (FIIN).

Article 2 (Organizing committee)

1 - The Organizing Committee is composed by members of the Environment Services.

2 - The Organizing Committee is responsible for the management and organization of the Contest and the appointment of the members of the Jury. It is also responsible for verifying the admission criteria set out in Articles 5 and 6 of this Regulation, as well as the acceptance of the works in contest.

3 - It is the competence of the Organizing Committee to select the short films to be screened at the Short Film Festival, which is part of FIIN.

Article 3 (Jury)

- 1 - The Jury of this contest is composed of people of recognized merit in the subjects of the Festival and is composed by a minimum number of 5 (five) elements.
- 2 - It is the competence of the Jury to choose the winning cinematographic work, selected among the works presented for the evaluation.
- 3 - The Jury can decide on the attribution of honourable mention.
- 4 - The jury may decide not to award a prize.

Article 4 (Admission of cinematographic works to the contest)

- 1 - The following works will be accepted:
 - a) Cinematographic works like: animations, documentaries, fiction, experimental films and music videos in digital format;
 - b) Cinematographic works of national and international origin;
 - c) With a duration of between 5 and 28 minutes;
 - d) Works that obey the subject and the objectives defined in the number 1 of the article 1 of this regulation.
- 2 - The cinematographic works to be submitted to the contest can be narrated in any language, but it is mandatory to include subtitling in the English language, except for the works narrated in the Portuguese language.

Article 5 (Registration and submission of cinematographic works)

- 1 - Participation in the Short Film Contest is free of charge.
- 2 - To participate in the Short Film Contest, an electronic registration must be done on the form available on the official website of the Festival (www.fiin.pt), as well as the inclusion of all elements and files requested on this platform.
- 3 - Failure to complete the registration form mentioned in the previous point is a reason for exclusion from the Contest.

4 - The cinematographic works are submitted through the external platforms Festhome, Click for Festivals, Movibeta and FilmFreeway or through platforms with Vimeo and Youtube viewing link.

5 - The submission of the cinematographic works referred to in point 4 of this article presupposes that the necessary authorizations and accesses are indispensable for the visualization of the work (hyperlink and password).

6 - Competitors must provide the necessary authorization for the downloading of archives of the cinematographic works in contest.

7 - It is the responsibility of the competitor all the costs associated with the participation and submission of works in this contest.

8 - The competitors undertake to assign to the organizers the right to exhibit, publish or reproduce part or all of the works, always safeguarding the indication of the author, according to article 40 of the CDADC – Code of Copyright and Rights Related.

9 - The transfer provided for in the previous number involves the possibility of full transmission of the work on public television, at the initiative of the Festival and for its dissemination.

Article 6 (Deadlines)

1 - The deadline for competitors to submit the cinematographic works to the contest runs from February 24, 2025 to June 20, 2025.

2 - The Organizing Committee will inform the producers/directors of the selected films for the contest until August 22, 2025, through the submission platforms.

3 - The lack of notification of selection by the Organizing Committee until the date mentioned in the previous point, determines that the respective film was not selected for the Contest.

4 - Until September 12, 2025, the Organizing Committee of the Contest will communicate through the official website of FIIN (www.fiin.pt), the list of films that will take part of the program of exhibition at the Festival of Short Films that will be held between 13 a 18 of October, 2025.

5 - The public announcement of the winner of the Short Film Contest will take place at the Final Gala of the International Festival of Nature Image (FIIN), on October 17, 2025.

6 - Payment of the prize will be made immediately after receiving the data of the winner, no later than the end of the first month of the following year.

Article 7 (Prizes)

1 - A prize of € 4.000,00 (four thousand euros) will be awarded to the Short Film best classified by the Jury of the Contest.

Article 8 (Publicity)

1 - The competitor (and/or the holder of the display rights of the film at festivals) undertakes to mention FIIN and to use its logo in all publicity and press/promotional material produced after the awarded to the movie.

Article 9 (Final dispositions)

1 - The official languages of FIIN are Portuguese and English.

2 - Participation in the Short Film Contest translates into full acceptance of the terms of this regulation.

3 - The Organizing Committee reserves himself the right to consider and decide on any matter not covered by this regulation.

4 - The decisions of the Organizing Committee and of the Jury are final and irrevocable, and no appeal can be made.

5 - It is forbidden to participate in the contest all members of the Organizing Entities, as well as of the members that are part of the Jury of the Competition.

Vila Real, February 2025