



INTERNATIONAL
FESTIVAL
LILLE
HAUTS-DE-FRANCE

MARCH 23>25 2027

REGULATIONS

CO-PRO PITCHING SESSIONS SÉRIES MANIA FORUM

In this document, the masculine form is used solely for ease of reading.

PRESENTATION OF THE CO-PRO PITCHING SESSIONS SÉRIES MANIA FORUM

The Co-Pro Pitching Sessions is an event exclusively dedicated to the creation and financing of TV series.

The Co-Pro Pitching Sessions take place during the Séries Mania Forum, part of the Séries Mania Festival, which will take place this year from 23 to 25 March 2027 at Lille Grand Palais and online on the Séries Mania Digital Forum.

Representatives of the 15 selected projects will be present in Lille to pitch their project to an audience made up of key industry decision-makers (producers, broadcasters, financiers, etc.) during the Séries Mania Forum.

A maximum prize of €50,000 will be awarded to the best project selected by a jury made up of audiovisual industry professionals.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- Projects must be **submitted by a legal entity, production or distribution company. Applications submitted by individuals will not be accepted.**
- The same organisation may submit a **maximum of 2 projects** to the selection committee.
- The application must concern a **fiction series project**. Documentary or animation series projects are not eligible.
- Projects must not have already been **selected and presented at a previous edition of the Co-Pro Pitching Sessions or as part of another international market or event** (including, but not limited to: MIPCOM, MIA, Content London, Content Americas, Berlinale, Göteborg Drama Days, etc.).
- Projects submitted (but not selected) for a previous edition of the Co-Pro Pitching Sessions may be submitted again if **significant work** has been carried out in the meantime (to be justified in the application form).

- The series format must consist of a **minimum of three episodes per season**.
- Each episode of the proposed series must have a running time of **26 minutes or more**.
- Producers must **hold the rights to the original work** if the project is an adaptation.
- Projects that have **benefited from training** (for example EAVE, ACE, Torino Film Lab, MidPoint, Serial Eyes, etc.) but have not been presented to professionals at a festival or market are eligible.
- Projects must not be financed by an entity or government subject to international sanctions imposed by the European Union or the United Nations due to political crises involving human rights violations or terrorist activities. The list of persons, groups and entities subject to European Union sanctions is available here: [Download \(Europa - PDF\)](#)
United Nations Security Council decisions are available here: [Download \(582.97 KB - PDF\)](#)

IMPORTANT

Submitting a project constitutes full and unconditional acceptance of these regulations and an undertaking to comply with them.

The project holder undertakes to always provide accurate information and to communicate in good faith any information requested by Séries Mania.

Only the 15 projects selected at the end of the selection process will be presented at the Co-Pro Pitching Sessions of the Séries Mania Forum. Submitting a project does not in any way constitute an automatic right to participate in this event.

In the event of cancellation of the Séries Mania Festival or the Séries Mania Forum 2027, the registration or selection of the project will automatically be cancelled. Project holders will be free to submit their project to another international market or event or to submit their project again for a future edition of the Co-Pro Pitching Sessions, provided they meet the eligibility requirements and, in the latter case, without any guarantee that their project will be selected again.

In the event that the Séries Mania Festival or the Séries Mania Forum 2027 is postponed, the registration or selection will automatically be postponed to the new session. Project holders selected as of the date of the postponement decision will be contacted and informed of the new date. They will have 3 days from the date of this notification to indicate their availability for the new dates. In the absence of a response within this timeframe or in the event of unavailability, the selection of their project will become null and void. Project holders may submit their project again for a future edition of the Co-Pro Pitching Sessions, but without any guarantee that their project will be selected again.

Should the selection process not yet have taken place on the date of the postponement decision, the registration process will continue normally for the new dates, with project holders undertaking to ensure that representatives are present at the preparation meetings, rehearsals and Co-Pro Pitching Sessions.

In all cases, Séries Mania shall not be held liable.

Documents submitted as part of the application will remain strictly confidential and will not be published.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Project registration is **free of charge and is carried out exclusively via the application form on the Festiciné website, on the dates and according to the schedule specified on the website. No application submitted by email, post or any other means will be considered.**

Applications are submitted at the applicants' own expense. Séries Mania Forum will not reimburse any costs (translation, postage, graphic design, etc.) incurred in submitting a project.

A separate application must be submitted for each project, with a maximum of two projects per organisation.

To register a project, applicants must first create an account, then complete an application form and provide the requested supporting documents.

Mandatory fields are identified by an asterisk. If a mandatory field is left unanswered, the project will not be considered.

The following documents must be submitted before the deadline:

- **A project presentation document (10 pages) following the template provided by Séries Mania.** This document must include the following information: logline, synopsis, character presentation, and narrative arcs, episode synopses (if available), presentation of the series' arena and tone, creator's and producer's statements of intent, as well as an overall financing plan for the project (template also provided by Séries Mania). Please comply with the following document format: A4, Calibri, 12 pt, 1.15 line spacing, minimum 2 cm margins on the sides.
- **Filmographies and biographies of the project's creative team.**

And, if available:

- A selection of photos / moodboard / visuals from the project;
- Letter of interest or broadcaster's development agreement (if applicable).

Only applications written **in English** will be accepted so that all submitted materials can be reviewed by our international selection committee.

Applications that do not comply with these regulations or are incomplete as of the application deadline, i.e. **Tuesday 30 November 2026 at 11:59 p.m. (CET), will not be considered.**

SELECTION PROCESS FOR PROJECTS TO BE PRESENTED AT THE 2027 CO-PRO PITCHING SESSIONS

Pre-selection

Projects are pre-selected at the sole discretion of a reading committee made up of several pairs of professionals from the audiovisual industry.

All applicants will be informed of the result of the pre-selection by email within the following days.

Sélection

Projects are selected by the Séries Mania Festival team (including Laurence Herszberg, Frédéric Lavigne and Francesco Capurro) and a qualified committee renewed each year, which together form the selection committee.

For the final stage of the process, a shortlist of approximately 30 projects will be selected. Project holders will be contacted for a short online video interview, which will be conducted in English. The interview will be conducted with the 2 or 3 (maximum) representatives who wish to present their project on stage.

Among the project selection criteria, particular consideration will be given (without being mandatory) to:

- Support from a television channel in the country of origin and/or support from an international distributor (this commitment must be substantiated by an official document: letter of interest, development agreement, etc.);
- The company's experience in series production and/or the financing of international co-productions;
- Geographical diversity and genre diversity (comedy, drama, thriller, etc.) of the projects.

Projects are selected following deliberation by the selection committee, and no appeal may be made against the committee's final decision.

The final official selection will be announced to candidates by email by the organisers in mid-February 2027.

COMMITMENTS OF SELECTED PROJECT HOLDERS

Selected project holders undertake to comply with the following requirements. Failing this, Séries Mania may terminate their selection for the Co-Pro Pitching Sessions, in which case the presentation of their project at the Co-Pro Pitching Sessions may notably not take place.

Project financing

Project holders undertake to ensure that their project is not financed, directly or indirectly, by an entity or government subject to international sanctions imposed by the European Union or the United Nations due to political crises involving human rights violations or terrorist activities. This undertaking remains in force until the end of the Co-Pro Pitching Sessions for

selected project holders, and until the project's broadcast for the project holder receiving the Best Project Award.

Participation in preparation meetings, rehearsals and the Co-Pro Pitching Sessions

The presentation of each project at the Co-Pro Pitching Sessions may last a maximum of 7 minutes. The Séries Mania Forum recommends a 6'30-minute format, consisting of 5 minutes of speaking time and a 1'30-minute video teaser. The presentation must be given in English.

This presentation must be prepared in advance with the Séries Mania Forum pitch coach according to the following arrangements:

- As soon as the selection is announced, representatives of each project must participate in a first collective introductory meeting held by videoconference with the Séries Mania Forum team, including the coordinator and the pitch coach. The date of this meeting will be indicated in the selection announcement email.
- Representatives of the projects must then attend two (minimum) online coaching sessions, supplemented by editorial follow-up – pitch text and teaser – conducted by email.
- A collective rehearsal of all selected projects will be organised online during the week preceding the event. Participation in this session is mandatory for all representatives.

At least one representative of each selected project, with a maximum of 3 people (producer, screenwriter), must then be present in Lille from 22 to 25 March 2027 in order to:

- Participate on 22 March 2027 in a dress rehearsal at Lille Grand Palais, which will be conducted in two groups, and in technical tests
- Present their project during the Co-Pro Pitching Sessions: Séries Mania recommends that two 2 people be present on stage, with 3 being possible.

Representatives may then, if they wish, participate in individual meetings.

Each project holder is responsible for ensuring that at least one representative is present in Lille for the rehearsals and Co-Pro Pitching Sessions and, for this purpose, must ensure, where applicable, compliance with the requirements for entry into French territory, including the need to obtain a visa. Séries Mania does not cover any visa application procedures for representatives.

Submission of audiovisual files by 16 March 2027

Project representatives must provide the Séries Mania Forum teams, no later than Tuesday 16 March 2027, with all files to be used during the Co-Pro Pitching Sessions (photo and video files grouped in a PowerPoint file + separate video files), strictly complying with the technical specifications provided by the Séries Mania Forum teams. The files will be launched by the venue's technical control room. It is not possible to use a personal computer on stage.

The Séries Mania Forum reserves the right to refuse any material submitted after the deadline or that does not comply with the technical specifications provided. In such a case, the presentation of the project at the Co-Pro Pitching Sessions may not take place.

Communication by SÉRIES MANIA

Once the selection has been made, selected project holders undertake to provide a visual for the series in development and authorise Séries Mania to reproduce it, as well as the following information: name of the production company and names of the authors, for reproduction and distribution on Séries Mania Forum communication materials (website, catalogues, flyers, etc.) worldwide and for an unlimited period of time.

Project holders are informed and accept that the list of selected projects, including the project title, country of origin, name of the production company and associated broadcaster or distributor, may be communicated and published in the press and on the Séries Mania website and its dedicated Séries Mania+ platform, and, where applicable, in a printed guide to the Séries Mania Forum intended for accredited participants and certain professional journalists.

The pitch sessions will be filmed and made available on the digital platform operated by Séries Mania and reserved for accredited Séries Mania Forum participants for a period of one year. Project holders are responsible, vis-à-vis Séries Mania, for obtaining the authorisations from their representatives regarding the recording and distribution of their image and voice for this purpose.

Communication by the project holders

Selected project holders may publicly announce their selection after the official announcement made by the Séries Mania Forum.

Project holders undertake not to make public, between the time their project is selected and the presentation of the project at the Co-Pro Pitching Sessions, any new information concerning the progress of their project and its financing (co-production deal, distributor or broadcaster/platform).

Project holders undertake not to pitch their project as part of another international market or event between the submission of the project and the end of the Co-Pro Pitching Sessions.

Presentation content

Project holders are solely responsible for the content and presentation of their project during the Co-Pro Pitching Sessions. They undertake not to infringe the rights of third parties, including copyright, neighbouring rights or personality rights, and are responsible for obtaining the relevant authorisations in advance. They undertake to ensure that the presentation of their project contains no content contrary to law, including, but not limited to, racist, sexist, homophobic, revisionist, defamatory or insulting content, or content infringing on the right to privacy of third parties.

CONFIDENTIALITY

Project holders undertake to maintain the strictest confidentiality regarding other projects of which they become aware during the preparation and rehearsals. This does not apply to information that is already public at the time of preparation and rehearsals, or that is disclosed during the Co-Pro Pitching Sessions, from the time of such disclosure.

Cost coverage

Séries Mania will cover, for each selected project, 1 accreditation per representative present, up to a maximum of two, for the 3 days of the Séries Mania Forum. The general terms and conditions of sale for accreditations, available on the Festiciné website, will be sent for acceptance prior to the issuance of the accreditations.

If a representative of a selected project has already purchased an accreditation for the Séries Mania Forum, this accreditation may be refunded or transferred to a member of their project team.

Two other members of the team of each selected project may benefit from an "early bird" rate when purchasing an accreditation.

Any costs (transportation, accommodation, etc.) incurred to attend the meetings, rehearsals and Co-Pro Pitching Sessions shall be borne by the project holders and will not be reimbursed by Séries Mania.

SELECTION PROCESS FOR THE BEST PROJECT

Submitting a project constitutes an application for the Best Project Award.

The best project will be selected by a jury composed of professionals representative of the audiovisual industry from among the projects presented during the Co-Pro Pitching Sessions.

This jury, composed of international audiovisual professionals, will attend all project presentations and will meet at the end of the Co-Pro Pitching Sessions, on the same day, to deliberate. The jury's decision shall be final and no appeal may be made against it.

The name of the Best Project winner will be announced during an award ceremony held on the evening of the Co-Pro Pitching Sessions.

A convention will be signed between Séries Mania and the winner following the designation of the winner.

NATURE AND AMOUNT OF THE SUPPORT AWARDED TO THE BEST PROJECT

Development support of up to €50,000 (fifty thousand euros) will be awarded to the winner of the Best Project Award.

This support will be paid to the project-holding company as follows:

- 30% of the amount, i.e. €15,000 (fifteen thousand euros), immediately following the end of the 2027 edition of the Séries Mania Forum;

- 20% of the amount, i.e. €10,000 (ten thousand euros), upon presentation, before 23 March 2029, of a **partnership agreement signed with a television channel or platform, or any other audiovisual broadcaster**, concerning the development, pre-purchase, co-production, distribution or financing of the project;
- A maximum of 50% of the amount, i.e. a maximum of €25,000 (twenty-five thousand euros), upon presentation of proof of payment for expenses **related to the production of the project** incurred during the two years following the day of the pitch, i.e. presentation of the supporting documents no later than 23 March 2029.

Eligible expenses may include, without limitation, translation costs, travel and location scouting expenses, authors' remuneration, documentary research costs, consultancy services, legal fees, as well as any other expense directly related to the pre-production or production of the project. SÉRIES MANIA reserves the right to request any additional document enabling it to verify the reality, nature and eligibility of the expenses submitted before proceeding with the payment of all or part of the remaining 50% of the financial support.

CONSIDERATION FOR THE SUPPORT AND BENEFICIARY'S COMMITMENTS

The prize beneficiary undertakes to use the entirety of the financial support exclusively to cover direct costs related to the pre-production or production of the project, including translation costs, travel and location scouting expenses, screenwriters' fees, artistic, editorial or legal services.

Séries Mania may terminate this support in the event of non-compliance by the beneficiary with any of their commitments and, in particular, if it appears that the project's financing comes directly or indirectly from an entity or government subject to international sanctions imposed by the European Union or the United Nations.

In the event of termination due to non-compliance with the intended use of the funds or due to financing coming directly or indirectly from an entity or government subject to international sanctions imposed by the European Union or the United Nations, Séries Mania may request repayment of the amounts paid.

The prize beneficiary is responsible for complying with the tax provisions applicable to them.

PERSONAL DATA PROTECTION

The Association Festival International des Séries Lille / Hauts-de-France (Séries Mania), as data controller, carries out several personal data processing operations in connection with the Co-Pro Pitching Sessions event. Its representative is Ms Anne Bouverot, President. For any questions, the Association may be contacted:

-by email: pitchingsessions@seriesmania.com

-by telephone: +33 (0)3 62 26 35 90

-by post: Association Festival International des Séries de Lille – Hauts-de-France 17, place Pierre-Mendès-France 59800 Lille.

These processing operations are carried out for the following purposes:

- management of the organisation of the Co-Pro Pitching Sessions event, including the management of registrations and each stage of the selection and preparation of the pitches, as well as communication before and during the event for information purposes,
- conclusion and performance of the agreement with the winner of the Best Project Award.

These processing operations are based on the performance of these regulations and on the formation and performance of the agreement that will be concluded with the winner. This data is intended for authorised Séries Mania staff, its subcontractors and jury members.

The data is retained as follows: For the management of the organisation of the event: 1 year from the end of the final stage of the project's participation, in the active database; for the conclusion and performance of the agreement, for the duration of the agreement in the active database. Retention in the active database will be followed by an intermediate archiving phase until the expiry of the limitation periods applicable to the commitments undertaken by participants in connection with their participation.

The persons concerned have the right to access, rectify and erase their data, the right to restrict the processing of their data, the right to object to the processing of their data, the right to data portability and the right to determine what happens to their data after death, in relation to all data concerning them. These rights may be exercised by writing to pitchingsessions@seriesmania.com and enclosing a copy of a signed identity document. The persons concerned also have the right to lodge a complaint with a supervisory authority.

APPLICABLE LAW

These regulations and the agreement that will be concluded with the winner of the Best Project Award are governed by French law. Any dispute shall fall under the jurisdiction of the French courts.