TASTE OF THE TROPICS TWO INITIATIVE

GUIDELINES

BACKGROUND:

A. Taste OF THE TROPICS (the “Initiative”) is providing a funded opportunity for the selected participants (‘Participants’) to produce a program, with the intention of that program being broadcast by SBS Food.

B. With support from Screen Queensland, Screenworks will allocate $35k of funding for each selected Participant to produce a 22-26 minute broadcast television program – which is intended to be one episode in a series titled “Taste of the Tropics”.

C. The Participant and their project will be supported through key stakeholder approval stages by an independent Supervising Producer, representatives from Screen Queensland, Screenworks, and SBS Food, and post-production professionals at a Queensland-based post-production house.

D. This Initiative is made possible with funding from Screen Queensland.

INITIATIVE PURPOSE:

The purpose of the Taste of the Tropics Initiative is to provide each of the selected Participants with support to produce a high-quality program of unscripted TV, with the intention of that program being broadcast on SBS Food as a series episode. These Guidelines are to serve as a guide for how the Participant, Screenworks and the project partner (Screen Queensland) will work together to make this Program, with consultative input from the associate broadcaster, SBS. Mutual understanding and open communication between all parties will contribute significantly to the ability of everyone to deliver on their commitments and the success of the Initiative and its outcomes.

INITIATIVE STRUCTURE:

1. Screen Queensland and Screenworks will call out for applications from suitably experienced filmmakers living and working in Tropical Far North and North Queensland that are available and able to deliver high-quality unscripted episodes suitable for SBS Food broadcast within the proposed schedule.
2. Each Participant will be allocated a budget of $35K (ex. GST) to produce their program episode. This funding will be provided as a grant from Screenworks, and Screenworks will enter into a written agreement with the successful Participants to specify the terms of the funding and deliverables required in order to receive payments.
3. Each selected Participant will be expected to work in collaboration with the key stakeholders, and all projects selected for production will be subject to editorial guidelines and feedback provided by Screenworks, Screen Queensland, SBS Food and an independent Supervising Producer.
4. Each Participant will work with an independent Supervising Producer to research their story and develop their shooting scripts, crew and budgets before they are greenlit for production by the Initiative stakeholders.

5. All Participants will be required to adhere to the approved shooting scripts during production and to obtain edit script sign off from their Supervising Producer before they start editing.
6. Edits will be considered picture-locked when approval has been received from all stakeholders.
7. A professional Brisbane-based posthouse will work remotely with the Participants' picture-locked episodes to grade, online, soundmix and add supers to them before mastering out to broadcast standards.

GENERAL:

1. The successful Participants will be required to credit Screenworks, Screen Queensland, SBS Food and the Supervising producer in their project.
2. A licence agreement will be entered into by the successful participants with SBS FOOD, Screenworks and Screen Queensland having relevant rights to showcase the project as required.
3. All projects must be produced and post-produced entirely in QLD and have a maximum Australian Classification of MA 15+
4. The Initiative partners intend to promote this project through multiple channels including promotion via press releases and on social media channels. Each selected Participant will be expected to support and cooperate with this to ensure that it is able to achieve the project promotion objectives as set out in the contract.
5. This Initiative is part of Screen Queensland's North Queensland Regional Program delivered by Screenworks. Applicant information and personal information will be shared with Screen Queensland to assist with the delivery of future projects.

ELIGIBILITY:

To be eligible to apply for the Taste in the Tropics Initiative, all applicants must be;

- a current Screenworks member, if you're not a member yet, you can join here.
- an Australian citizen or permanent resident, aged 18 or over who can demonstrate they have been living in North/ Far North Queensland or the surrounding region for a minimum period of 6 months prior to submitting their application (check geographical definitions on the Screen Queensland map here).
- have an active ABN and be able to provide certificates of currency for public liability insurance (min. $10 million) and WorkCover Queensland policy.
- a producer, director or writer who has at least two 'eligible credits' in their respective role. An 'eligible credit' is content over 10 minutes that has:
    - been broadcast by a recognised Commissioning Platform or channel,
    - or commissioned and paid for by a commercial third party,
    - or had a commercial theatrical release, or been invited to screen at a film festival in Australia.
- able to include at least one key creative from an underrepresented background if the application is from a team.
- able to demonstrate their access to the characters and/or story in their application.
- able to demonstrate that they have the right to tell this story and have the correct consultants in place (and evidenced by including them in their budget as line items if required).
- available to take part in the Taste of the Tropics Initiative to these key deadlines (subject to change) before applying:
    - May 2025 - August 2025: Script development & meetings
    - September 2025: Production
    - November 2025 - February 2026: Edits & Postproduction
    - From March 2026: Broadcast

The project that is the subject of the application must:

- be factual content detailing stories and/or characters from the Tropical Far North or North Queensland region suitable for broadcast on SBS Food under the series title ‘Taste of the Tropics’
- be under 26 mins in length.
- meet the SBS Charter. We recommend applicants familiarise themselves with this section of the SBS website before applying.
- not be advertorial and not be intended primarily as advertising or marketing material.

ASSESSMENTS:

1. Screenworks will manage the online application process and check initial applications for eligibility.
2. All applications will be assessed by a panel including representatives from Screenworks, Screen Queensland, SBS Food as well as industry specialists as required, against the following criteria:
    - The strength and distinctiveness of the subject and their story.
    - The quality of materials submitted.
    - The viability of the proposal with respect to the budget and scale of the proposed treatment.
    - The skills, achievements, experience and track record of the applicant(s) and the quality of their previous work.
    - The potential of the project to contribute to a robust screen industry in regional Queensland.
    - how it fits with SBS commissioning guidelines and the SBS charter.
3. Other factors, including availability of funds, diversity of slate and the diversity of the team, may also influence the assessment panel’s decisions.
4. Shortlisted applicants may be interviewed.
5. Decisions on applications are final. Screenworks will advise applicants in writing of the outcome of their application within 21 days of the application closing deadline.
6. Screenworks acknowledges and appreciates the effort that goes into applications but will not be able to provide individual feedback on each application.

CONTACT DETAILS:

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