



Regulations for VdR–Industry Submissions: VDR–Pitching, VdR–Work in Progress, VdR-Rough Cut Lab (6 - 9 April 2025).

1. Presentation

Visions du Réel hosts one of the most important film industry events in Europe, offering a wide range of networking, project and capacity building opportunities for international film professionals, all under the banner of VdR–Industry.

VdR–Industry, which takes place from 6-9 April 2025 in Nyon, Switzerland, selects and promotes unfinished projects throughout the various stages of their production process, offering film teams a platform to present their projects to decision-makers and potential partners.

For every edition, we seek to launch into the world singular and original projects that combine artistic ambition, high visual quality and international potential.

2. VdR–Industry activities

In 2025, VdR–Industry focuses on three major activities for feature film projects in development stage, in editing stage or in finishing stage.

VdR–Pitching

The VdR–Pitching showcase is Visions du Réel’s competitive international co-production and co-financing forum, launching fifteen projects in late development to the international market. The event offers the participants the opportunity to not only pitch their projects to key players, but also discuss their content and form of roundtables and one-to-one meetings to explore which financing and distribution options as well as markets are most organic and relevant to them. The goal is to foster international collaborations to support outstanding film projects addressing an international audience.

VdR–Work in Progress

The VdR–Work in Progress Showcase is an exclusive presentation of projects to film professionals including festival representatives, funders supporting post-production, post-production facilities, sales agents, distributors, TV buyers, and more, followed by curated individual meetings designed to secure new partners to assist in accessing finishing funds and future distribution pathways.

VdR–Rough Cut Lab

The Rough Cut Lab is a competitive lab dedicated to supporting filmmakers during the editing process to find the best creative direction for their films. Four rough cuts are discussed together with the film team alongside tutors (experienced editors and industry professionals) during a multi-day workshop that takes place during the VdR–Industry programme.

3. Conditions for admission

Eligibility Criteria

- Projects should be planned as a feature length film (duration over 60' please note short films, series and interactive projects are not eligible).
- Projects from all over the world can apply.
- Projects must be presenting publicly for the first time at this stage of production at Visions du Réel.
- First-time directors are eligible to apply, particularly if working with an established producer or production company.
- Directors must have completed a minimum of one short film.
- If selected for VdR-Pitching or VdR-Work in Progress, the director as well as the producer are expected to attend the event. In the case of the VdR-Rough Cut Lab, the director as well as the editor are expected to attend.

4. Submission of project

- To apply, a submission form must be completed. An entry fee will be charged to cover the administrative costs of the submission.
- All submission forms must be filled out in English including additional written materials. Audiovisual materials should include English subtitles if in another language.
- Visual materials (such as teaser, selected scenes, rough cut etc.) play a key role in the assessment process as do the director's and producer's note budget summary and financing plan. Video materials must be provided through a downloadable password-protected link (valid until the end of April 2025).
- Incomplete submissions or submissions entered after the deadline may not be accepted. However, Visions du Réel will work hard to ensure that you can submit updated materials up until the time your project is assessed.

Submission Fee

Applicants submitting projects on or before the early deadline of **4 November 2024** will be required to pay a submission fee of **CHF 30** (VAT included).

A submission fee of **CHF 40** (VAT included) will be required for submissions from 5 November to 13 December 2024. Submissions from countries on this list can request a fee waiver at industry@visionsdureel.ch.

Submission deadlines

Early Deadline: 17:00 CET 4 November 2024

Final Deadline: 17:00 CET 13 December 2024

We encourage you to apply as soon as you are ready to increase your chances for selection.

5. Selection of a project

Selection Process

The selection process will take place as a rolling process from November 2024 to February 2025. The Artistic Director and Head of Industry, together with an international selection committee, select the projects for the VdR-Industry activities. The Selection Committee reserves the right to choose the activity in which the project will be presented, according to the project timeline and in discussion with the project holders.

Selection Criteria

The main criteria for selection include:

- The artistic quality of the project including strong directorial vision.
- International potential in terms of production and distribution.
- Financial feasibility.
- The track record of the directors and/or producers.

Visual materials (such as teaser, selected scenes etc.) play a key role in the assessment process as do the director's and producer's statement, budget summary and financing plan.

The Selection Committee reserves the right to choose the activity in which the project will be presented, according to the project timeline and in discussion with the submitter.

To avoid any conflict of interest in the project selection process, members of the selection committee who are decision-makers in the development of a project, or who are perceived to have had a direct or indirect conflict, may not take part in discussions concerning it.

Confirmation of selected projects

The final selected and unsuccessful projects will be notified no later than mid-February 2025.

6. Participation to VdR–Pitching

Selected projects will be asked to confirm their participation via email acceptance.

Participation Fee

Once confirmed, submitters will be asked to pay a one-off fee of 360 CHF (VAT included) to secure their participation by **Friday 7 March 2025**. The participation fee will be paid via an invoice issued by Visions du Réel at the acceptance of the selection.

It is expected that both the director and producer will attend to present their project in Nyon in person, stay over four days and attend all sessions of the VdR–Pitching. The participation of the director is mandatory.

This fee includes:

- Two Industry accreditations (giving access to all film screenings, talks, masterclasses, pitches and ancillary activities during the Festival). Additional accreditations can be acquired at a reduced rate of CHF 160 per person.
- The pitch preparation (online and in on-site on Sunday 6 April 2025 in Nyon).
- The public pitch, moderated roundtable discussions and pre-arranged individual meetings (in-person and/or online).
- Access to VdR-Industry lunches, happy hours, soirées, and further networking opportunities.
- Access to VdR– Industry Opening Night Party.
- Access to VdR–Industry Awards Ceremony and Closing Night Party.
- Delegate bag and Festival catalogue, as well as further Industry materials.
- Access to the online VdR–Industry services and materials (Who's Who Networking portal, the VdR–Film Market, etc.).

7. Participation to VdR–Work in Progress

Selected projects will be asked to confirm their participation via email acceptance.

Participation Fee

Once confirmed, submitters will be asked to pay a one-off fee of 260 CHF (VAT included) to secure their participation by **Friday 7 March 2025**. The participation fee will be paid via an invoice issued by Visions du Réel at the acceptance of the selection.

It is expected that both the director and producer will attend to present their project in Nyon in person, stay over four days and attend all sessions of the VdR–Work in Progress. The participation of the director is mandatory.

The fee includes:

- Two Industry accreditations (giving access to all film screenings, talks, masterclasses, pitches and ancillary activities during the Festival). Additional accreditations can be acquired at a reduced rate of CHF 160 per person.
- The pitch preparation (online and in on-site on Sunday 6 April 2025 in Nyon)
- The public pitch as well as pre-arranged individual meetings (in-person and/or online).
- Access to VdR-Industry lunches, happy hours, soirées, and further networking opportunities.
- Access to VdR– Industry Opening Night Party
- Access to VdR–Industry Awards Ceremony and Closing Night Party.
- Delegate bag and Festival catalogue, as well as further Industry materials
Access to the online VdR–Industry services and materials (Who's Who Networking portal, the VdR–Film Market, etc.).

8. Participation to VdR–Rough Cut Lab

Selected projects will be asked to confirm their participation via email acceptance.

Participation Fee

Once confirmed, submitters will be asked to pay a one-off fee of 200 CHF (VAT included) to secure their participation by **Friday 7 March 2025**. The participation fee will be paid via an invoice issued by Visions du Réel at the acceptance of the selection.

It is expected that both the director and editor will attend to present their project in Nyon in person, stay over four days and attend all sessions of the VdR–Rough Cut Lab. The participation of the director is mandatory.

The fee includes:

- Two Industry accreditations (giving access to all film screenings, talks, masterclasses, pitches and ancillary activities during the Festival). Additional accreditations can be acquired at a reduced rate of CHF 160 per person.
- Online Induction Session and mentoring session.
- Full participation in the four-day Rough Cut Lab as well as pre-arranged individual meetings (in-person and/or online).
Access to VdR-Industry lunches, happy hours, soirées, and further networking opportunities.
- Access to VdR– Industry Opening Night Party.
- Access to VdR–Industry Awards Ceremony and Closing Night Party.
- Delegate bag and Festival catalogue, as well as further Industry materials.
- Access to the online VdR–Industry services and materials (Who's Who Networking portal, the VdR–Film Market, etc.).

9. Hospitality

Please note, travel, hotel and additional meals must be covered by the project teams however we are glad to assist you with logistics to help ensure a great experience in Nyon.

10. Promotion

In accepting to pitch in the VdR–Pitching showcase, the submitter agrees to include the Visions du Réel laurel in the end credits of the finished film.

The following sentence should also be mentioned in the credits: “[film title] participated in the 2025 VdR-Pitching/Work in Progress/Rough Cut Lab at Visions du Réel”.

If the project wins an award, the following sentence should also be added: “... where it received the [name of the award]”.

The submitter guarantees the rights to use material from the project for promotional purposes by Visions du Réel.

11. Copyright of materials

If selected, the submitter will be provided with a timeline regarding the submission of written and visual materials for publication (web and print), publicity and communications as well as for the activity.

For each selected project, information and material sent for the selection process can be updated any time before their publication (web and print) and for VdR–Industry communication. The selected projects will be published in the VdR–Industry catalogue. This catalogue will be sent by e-mail to the potential partners registered for the event prior to the Festival. During the Festival, a printed copy will be available for VdR–Industry participants. The information about the selected projects will also be published on Visions du Réel website, in a part accessible only for the professionals accredited within VdR–Industry.

The submitter guarantees that they hold all the necessary copyrights to the project submitted, in terms of ideas, images, sounds, etc. In any event, the Submitter warrants that it has obtained the permission of the copyright holders of all copyrighted material included in the submitted project and all submitted film stills related to the project for all purposes for which the material will be used, including screening, promotion, and press publications.

By providing these materials, the submitter gives Visions du Réel the permission to use them at www.visionsdureel.ch and for various promotional purposes of VdR–Industry 2025. The submitter guarantees that Visions du Réel will not be held responsible for any claim from copyright holders in relation to the use of the submitted project by Visions du Réel for the agreed purposes.

The submitter undertakes to indemnify Visions du Réel against all claims of copyright, image right or any similar claim by a third party who claims, rightly or wrongly, to be the owner of an intellectual property right on the submitted project and to take charge of all the amounts to be paid by Visions du Réel in this respect. All these claims are the sole responsibility of the submitter. If it appears that the submitter did not have all the rights related to the project submitted, they will be liable for any additional damages that Visions du Réel may claim. Visions du Réel reserves the right to disqualify any project containing unauthorised inclusion of copyrighted material.

12. Obligations of the participants of the selected projects

The following terms and conditions apply:

- A participation fee will be paid prior to Friday 7 March 2025 to cover administrative costs.
- The selected project will be made available to the VdR–Industry programme free of charge and without compensation to their rights holders.
- The selected project cannot be withdrawn from the VdR-Industry programme after the confirmation of participation by email following the final selection notice.
- In accepting to participate in the VdR–Industry programme, the appropriate project representatives (director, producer, editor) will be available from Sunday 6 April 2025 in Nyon to Wednesday 9 April 2025 inclusive.
- Once the project has been selected, the rightful owner undertakes not to present it, broadcast it or make it available on the Internet before its presentation in the context of VdR–Industry.

13. Conditions for participation

Participation in VdR–Industry implies the unconditional acceptance of all articles set out in these regulations. The Direction of the Festival alone is permitted to grant exemptions from these Regulations and to make exceptions.

The Festival reserves the right to change these Regulations at any time and without notification.

September 2024