

**CALL FOR FILMS 2026**  
**RULES**

**Goal**

The African Cinema Festival - Lausanne is an annual event, unique in Switzerland. It offers an original programming of films from the African continent. It strives to promote and disseminate African films, support African filmmakers and raise public awareness, while ensuring that it maintains its features of cultural and convivial entertainment. It is not a film competition.

**Dates**

The 20th edition of the African Film Festival - Lausanne will take place from 13<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> august 2025.

**Deadline**

The registration deadline for films is March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2026.

A registration form must be completed, and a viewing copy of the film sent to the Festival by the deadline.

**Registration fees**

There are no registration fees

**Selection criteria**

The Selection Committee selects the films to be presented at the Festival.

Only films fulfilling the following criteria may be selected and invited:

- Short, medium and feature films, fiction, documentary, animation and experimental.
- Language: films in the original non-French version must be subtitled in French or in English.

**- Have been produced at the earliest in January 2024.**

- The films must fulfil technical professional criteria:

Images of professional technical quality: full HD image format (1920x1080, 25 Progressive, conform to audio levels).

Pay particular attention to the artistic quality of the image, avoiding overexposure, colorimetric errors (white balance) and fuzzy planes (focus errors)

- Not to have been shown on television or broadcast on the internet. We accept all films that have not been released in the cinemas in Switzerland. We do not ask for national, global or international exclusivity.
- Preference will be given to filmmakers and productions of African origin

**Registration and sending films for pre-selection**

- The submission of the films is done exclusively via our form downloadable on our site.
- Viewing support : preference for H.264 links (vimeo ...)

**Please ensure that the link is valid for at least 2 months.**  
**If the link has expired, no reminder will be sent.**

The selection process may extend until the beginning of June, please inform us if some screeners have limited availability. The registration does not guarantee the screening of the film and indicates the acceptance of the present regulation by the producers or their representatives.

**Confirmation of selected films**

A final selection notice (with the projection agreement to be signed and returned) is sent by e-mail to the producer or filmmaker no later than end of may 2026.

**Copy of the film, version and subtitles:**

- If the film is selected, the projection copies must reach us no later than July 20<sup>th</sup> , 2026. This deadline must be strictly respected.

**Projection format:**

- Video Format: ideally an H.264 (example: link vimeo / wetransfer downloadable in 1080p) or a PRORES. BLU RAY support accepted. On a case-by-case basis, the DCP format can be accepted. We cannot project a film on digital beta media.

- Subtitles: original language with French subtitles: “.srt” format.

If the film does not have French subtitles, an “.srt” file of the English subtitles will be required and the translation fees will be deducted from the projection fees.

- Audio Format: 48Khz / 16bit

- Once selected and the agreement on the screening rights signed, no film can be removed from the programme during the event.

**Documentation for selected films**

For each selected film, the material below must be sent after receipt of the selection notice, either by email or Wetransfer:

- At least 3 photos of the film (digital images, 300 DPI, JPG)
- The poster of the film (in .pdf and .jpg)
- A link to the trailer of the film available in streaming (on Vimeo, Youtube, Dailymotion, etc.)
- Posters, flyers and other promotional material

The Festival reserves the right to use this material for the promotion of the film and the Festival.

**Responsibility of the Festival**

The Festival safeguards the projection copy from the time it arrives at the Festival office and until it is reshipped. In the event that a projection copy should be lost or damaged during the Festival, the latter will bear the costs of a new standard copy, according to the rates in force. The Festival agrees to pay the projection fees according to its tariff grid sent during the selection announcement, upon presentation of an invoice.

**Obligations of participants**

The producers confirm that all the image rights of the people filmed have been respected.