



Economic Development & Planning Economic Development Unit Durban Film Office

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www.durban.gov.za/ www.durbanfilmoffice.co.za

Date: 05 February 2026

CALL FOR SERVICE PROVIDERS: PANELIST SERVICES – DEVELOPMENT FUND EVALUATION

The EThekweni Municipality's Economic Development Unit, through the Durban Film Office Department, invites qualified individuals and service providers to submit applications to be considered for inclusion on the panel for the evaluation of proposals for the Development Fund. This panel will support the evaluation process over a period of one month, from February to March 2026.

Background and Purpose

The Durban Film Office seeks to engage experienced professionals to assist in the assessment of film project proposals submitted for the Development Fund. The selected panelists will be responsible for reviewing project proposals, providing detailed comments, and scoring each submission based on established criteria. Their insights will contribute to the identification of the top projects, which will proceed to interview stages, culminating in the selection of two projects for funding.

Scope of Work and Timeline

Programme	Services	Dates
Micro Budget Film Fund	Phase 1: Review and evaluate 43 film project proposals	16 February 2026 – 27 February 2026
	Phase 2: Provide comments and scores for all 43 proposals	02 March 2026 – 05 March 2026
	Phase 3: Shortlist of 10 projects and conduct interviews	16 March 2026

The second phase will involve participating in interviews where project owners will present their projects and plans. The interviews are scheduled for 16 March 2026, and the Durban Film Office invites panellists to be part of this crucial assessment process.

Eligibility and Requirements

Applicants must meet the following criteria:

- Be a Durban-based individual or service provider only.
- Possess at least **10 years of proven experience** in relevant fields.

Specific expertise includes:

- At least 8 years of proven experience in script writing and development, with a minimum of 5 credits as a published screenwriter.
- Or, a minimum of 8 years in creative producing, with at least 6 credits as an executive producer.
- Or, at least 5 years of experience in accredited skills training in script writing or development.
- Or, a minimum of 8 years in creative production, including budgeting and scheduling.
- Demonstrated professional background in film/TV, including screenwriting, production, or development.
- Deep knowledge of screenwriting structure, narrative, character development, pacing, and genre conventions.
- Industry experience working with production companies, studios, or development teams.
- Strong analytical skills to critically assess scripts for originality, coherence, emotional impact, and marketability.
- Proven experience in film/TV production or development, emphasizing storytelling and project execution.
- Extensive understanding of narrative and genre conventions essential for script development.
- Experience in production budgeting, scheduling, and creative production management.
- Minimum 5 years of experience specifically in creative production or as an executive producer.

Note: Only Durban-based individuals or service providers will be considered.

Application Process

Interested service providers are invited to submit their profiles for consideration. Please email your detailed CV and proof of relevant experience to:

- nosipho.hlophe@durban.gov.za
- Fezile.peko@durban.gov.za

Closing Date for Applications: 20 February 2026 at 11:00 am.

Please note that late submissions will not be considered under any circumstances.