



GREENMOTIONS FILM FESTIVAL 2026

NOVEMBER 11th - 15th

The following is an explanation of terms and conditions governing the submission of films to the 2026 edition of the GREENMOTIONS FILM FESTIVAL.

By accepting these Terms and Conditions, the submitting entity confirms that they have obtained consent from all relevant parties, including owners, creators, writers, producers and/or any other authorized representatives of the film. Furthermore, the submitters affirms that they have thoroughly read and understood the submission rules and regulations detailed below:

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I. ELIGIBILITY

NOTE: Participation is open to all. The festival welcomes films produced using any technique, including animation, documentary, drama, experimental or artistic films, and hybrid work, regardless of budget size.

1. SHORT FILM SELECTION:

- Films must have a running time of 20 minutes or less, including credits, unless they fit the special topic of the year (see below).
- Only films completed between 2024 and 2026 are eligible. Films completed before December 31st, 2023, will be automatically disqualified.

2. FEATURE FILM SELECTION:

- Films must have a running time between 20 and 120 minutes, including credits, unless they fit the special topic of the year (see below).
- While a premiere status is not mandatory, it will be considered during the selection process and, if selected, will be highlighted in our communications.
- Only films completed between 2024 and 2026 are eligible. Films completed before December 31st, 2023, will be automatically disqualified.

3. SPECIAL TOPIC 2026: Recognition: Shining a light on the invisible

- Films submitted should have a running time of up to 120 minutes, including credits.
- While a premiere status is not mandatory, it will be considered during the selection process and, if selected, will be highlighted in our communications.
- Only films completed between 2024 and 2026 are eligible. Films completed before December 31st, 2023, will be automatically disqualified.

4. SHORT FILMS SELECTION FOR KIDS

- Films must have a running time of 20 minutes or less, including credits, and be suitable for an audience of children of 4 to 6 years old.
- Only films completed between 2021 and 2026 are eligible. Films completed before December 31st, 2020, will be automatically disqualified.

5. OUR GOAL

Greenmotions e.V. is dedicated to using audiovisual storytelling as a catalyst for dialogue, education, and concrete action toward a fair and sustainable future. The film festival curates and presents films that critically engage with current and future environmental and social challenges.

Films submitted to Greenmotions can focus on following topics (the list is non-exhaustive):

- Food security, sustainable agriculture, and resilient food systems
- Access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy for all
- Economic models that respect planetary boundaries while ensuring decent work and living conditions for all, regardless of class, religion, origin, or gender
- Sustainable consumption and production patterns
- Just and fair approaches to combating climate change and its impacts at local and global levels
- Sustainable use and protection of terrestrial and marine ecosystems
- The development of sustainable, inclusive cities and regions

By submitting a film, applicants acknowledge that Greenmotions e.V. prioritizes works that align with its mission of fostering informed dialogue, empowering audiences to take action, and contributing to collective efforts toward a resilient, inclusive, and sustainable future.

6. RESUBMISSION POLICY:

Films that have been previously submitted to the festival may be resubmitted, provided that they have not yet been featured in the program and were completed after December 31st, 2023 (see above) or after December 31st, 2020 for films for kids.

7. LANGUAGES AND SUBTITLES:

- Films in any language are welcome for the Short, Feature and Special Topic selections. For films in languages other than German or English, German or English subtitles are required.
- If resources allow, we will adapt subtitles to include both German and English. Therefore, providing German and/ or English transcripts is appreciated when subtitles are not available.
- Films for young audiences should be in German or have no dialogue.

II. ENTRY PROCEDURE

1. SUBMISSION DEADLINE:

The deadline for film submissions is April 16, 2026.

2. SUBMISSION PROCESS VIA FILMFREEWAY:

- Access link: <https://filmfreeway.com/Greenmotionsfilmfestival2026>
- During submission, please select only one category for your film:

- Short Film
- Feature Film
- Special topic
- Short films for kids
- A single filmmaker may submit more than one film, but each submission should be made separately.

3. TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS:

- All submitted films must be of high video quality (minimum 1080p HD) and have good audio quality. Please include at least one still image from the film.
- In addition to the screening copy, submitters should provide a trailer, the official poster, and promotional images. All of them can be submitted through filmfreeway.

4. SELECTION NOTIFICATION:

If your film is selected, our team will contact you via email with an official acceptance message, detailed instructions for submitting screening copies, and additional information about the next steps. We strongly recommend regularly checking the email account used for submission.

5. SCREENING COPY SUBMISSION:

If your film is selected:

- Please submit two high-quality digital screening copies: one in **.mov or .mp4** format and, if possible, another in **DCP** format, via a download link.
- If there are issues with digital transfer, a physical copy (Data-DVD, Blu-ray, hard drive, or USB drive) will be required.
- If you have any further questions or troubles submitting your movie, please send us a message as soon as possible to our email address: **films@greenmotions-filmfestival.de**.
- Note that shipping costs for screening copies will not be reimbursed; however, the festival will cover the cost of returning the copy by post.

6. COMPENSATION POLICY:

The Greenmotions Film Festival is a small festival organised by the non-profit association Greenmotions e.V. We do not have employees; almost all of the work is done on a volunteer basis, except for limited tasks that are partly compensated.

Due to modest financial resources, we have limited means for the screening fees. Depending on how successful our fundraising is, we therefore offer a **non-negotiable** flat rate of **up to €150 per feature film (VAT included)** and **up to €50 (VAT included) per short film**. Given our track record, the likelihood of being able to pay these fees is high. **By submitting your film, you agree to this flat rate.**

7. ADDITIONAL SCREENINGS:

In addition to the main festival event, Greenmotions e.V. organises individual film screenings throughout the year. Our objectives are to spread impactful messages widely, to provide recognition to films, the filmmakers and their teams, and to inspire and motivate individuals to take action towards creating a more sustainable world.

By submitting your film for the Greenmotions film festival, please be aware that your film might be considered for additional screening events throughout the year. In that case, we will inform you in advance. The flat rate will not be increased for these additional screenings.

III. FILM EVALUATION AND SELECTION PROCESS

1. EVALUATION AND FILM REVIEWING

- All submitted films will be evaluated based on specific criteria, including appropriate content, maximum duration, etc. Films will be approved or rejected accordingly.
- An independent selection committee, appointed by the association team, will review all submissions for program consideration. Pre-selected films will be announced by mid-July 2026 via email. Please ensure you provide a valid email address and allow emails from the domain: **greenmotions-filmfestival.de**

2. SHORT FILM CATEGORY

- A pre-selection will be submitted to a jury, who is responsible for selecting the winner of the Short Film Award (see below) and determining which films will be screened at the festival.
- The winner of the short film competition will be announced at the award ceremony during the festival.
- Additionally, a selection of short films may be shown, out of competition, at school events for educational purposes.

3. FEATURE FILM CATEGORY

- Feature films will be nominated for an Audience Award (see below).
- The winner will be announced at the award ceremony during the festival.

4. SPECIAL TOPIC CATEGORY

- A pre-selection of 5 to 10 films will be submitted to a jury, which will determine the winner of the category.
- The festival team reserves the right to screen only a part of the nominated films and may also choose to screen other films in this category out of competition.

Filmmakers will be informed if their film is scheduled to be screened in or out of competition.

5. KIDS CATEGORY

- Films selected for the festival program will be nominated for the Kids Award.
- The winner will be announced at the award ceremony during the festival.

IV. PRIZES & AWARDS

We offer four prizes, with a maximum amount of €1.500 each for the winners in the feature film categories and €1.000 each for the winners of the short film category and the kids film category. The exact prize amounts may vary based on the fundraising achieved throughout the year. Two distinct juries, comprising filmmakers, journalists and/ or experts, will select the winners in the short film competitions and the special topic award category. In the other two film categories, the winner is chosen by the audience. Please note that each short or feature film can only participate in one competition category: Audience Award, Special Topic Award, Short Film Awards or Short films for kids Award.

V. VISITING THE FESTIVAL

- the Greenmotions Film Festival exists because we believe in the power of cinema to foster constructive discussions and drive positive change. We highly value engaging discussions with filmmakers and/ or their teams. Therefore, we are happy to invite directors and their teams to join us online after the screening or to attend the festival as our guests.
- Please note that as a small festival organised by a non-profit organisation, we face budget constraints that limit our ability to cover expenses. Hence, we can only offer **partial reimbursement for transportation costs** (up to a maximum of €100 per film), **to filmmakers and their team**. If you need support, please contact us by sending an email to films@greenmotions-filmfestival.de.
- We strive to arrange local private accommodations for festival attendees. Occasionally, we pay for a hotel room. Booking is done by the Greenmotions team. We do not guarantee a refund if the booking was done by someone external to the association. More information about hosting services will be provided individually to successful applicants.
- Given the limited compensation for travel, we also host online Q&A sessions after the screenings to ensure filmmakers have the opportunity to engage with the audience. If the director or producer of the film is unable to attend the festival, the invitation may be extended to another member of the film crew or participants involved in the film.

VI. LIABILITY

1. The sender submitting the film is responsible for ensuring all copyrights are in order.

2. The applicant must have the legal authority to submit the film to the festival and, if selected, to grant permission for its screening.
3. The applicant must have secured all necessary rights for both visual and audio elements of the film. The exhibition of the film must not violate or infringe upon any rights, including, but not limited to, those related to music, images, and content.
4. The applicant warrants that the submitted material does not defame or infringe upon the rights of any individual, living or deceased. The applicant agrees to fully indemnify the Greenmotions Filmfestival against any claims made for such violations of law.
5. The applicant agrees to hold the Greenmotions e.V harmless from and to defend them against all claims, demands, losses, damages, judgements, and liabilities.
6. The film, including all copyrights, remains as a property of the author. Greenmotions e.V. retains the right to use the submitted material for non-commercial purposes, such as publicity, promotion and graphics. In case the footage from the submitted film is used for festival promotion, Greenmotions e.V. will limit this usage to not more than one minute.
7. The festival reserves the right to adjust the prize amount based on its present budget.
8. The applicant must read and accept the regulations and guidelines to participate.
9. Failure to comply with these terms and conditions may result in the disqualification of the submission.
10. In the event of any disagreement regarding the interpretation of the terms and conditions, the interpretation provided by Greenmotions e.V. will be considered authoritative and will take precedence.
11. These regulations are subject to change. In case of any replacement, all participants will be informed by email.
12. This agreement is governed by the laws of the State of Baden-Württemberg, Germany, and applies to agreements that are entirely executed within this jurisdiction.