



RULES & REGULATIONS

THE SERIES MANIA FORUM CO-PRO PITCHING SESSIONS

INTRODUCTION

The Co-Pro Pitching Sessions take place at the Series Mania Forum in the form of a presentation of 15 TV series in development by their producer(s) and/or writer(s).

Series Mania Forum runs from March 24-26, 2026 in Lille, France, and online on the Series Mania Digital Forum.

On March 24, the selected projects will be presented by their producers before an audience of audiovisual industry execs. After the pitching session, the project representative will also meet interested partners during a day dedicated to individual meetings.

The projects must be submitted in accordance with the rules below, and within the specified dates.

The registration for the presentation of a project implies the unconditional acceptance of the present regulations and, in case of selection of the project, the commitment of the presence of a representative at the event from March 24-27, 2026 which includes the mandatory rehearsal sessions on March 23, the day before the event.

ELIGIBILITY

Selection criteria

- **Projects can only be submitted by companies** (production, distribution). Applications from individuals, such as writers, **will not be accepted**.
- The project must be for a **fiction series** (drama, comedy ...). Documentary or animation series projects will not be considered.
- **Companies can submit up to two projects.**
- **Projects selected for another market or festival** (non-exhaustive list: MIPCOM, MIA, Content London, Content Americas, Berlinale, Göteborg Drama Days...) **cannot be accepted**.

- Projects submitted (but not selected) in previous calls for projects can be presented again **if significant work has been done** (to be detailed in the submission form).
- The format of the series must be a **minimum of three episodes**.
- The length of each episode must **be a minimum of 26 minutes**.
- Adaptations of previous TV shows will not be considered. Season 2 of existing series will not be considered.
- Producers must **hold the rights to the original work** if the project is a literary or podcast adaptation.
- Projects that have received previous training (EAVE, ACE, Torino Film Lab, MidPoint, Serial Eyes etc...) **but have not been presented at a festival or market** are eligible.

While not compulsory, we will take into consideration:

- The support of a TV channel in the country of origin, or the support of an international distributor, with proof provided in the form of an official document such as a letter of interest or development contract ;
- The experience of the company in the production of TV series or the financing of international co-productions.
- We are also keen to ensure a selection that represents a wide diversity of geographical locations and genres.

The selection committee

Projects will be selected by a committee from Series Mania, made up of Laurence Herszberg, Frédéric Lavigne, and Francesco Capurro and a team of qualified readers that is revised every year.

Projects will be selected after obtaining a majority vote from the selection committee, and no discussion will be entered into following the committee's final decision.

PROJECT REGISTRATION

Project submissions must respond to the selection criteria and the application must include the documents specified below.

Submission of projects is **free**.

To qualify for submission for pre-selection, TV series projects must be submitted online on our website using the submission link provided. **No submission by email, post, or any other means will be accepted.**

The following documents are required for any submissions, and must be supplied before the closing date:

- **A pitch document (10 pages maximum) following the template provided by Series Mania.** This document should include the following elements: logline, synopsis, presentation of the characters and narrative arcs, short episodic synopsis, presentation of the world and tone of the series, author's & producer's note and a global financing plan (template also provided by Series Mania). *Please use the following format: A4, Calibri, 12 pt, 1.15 line spacing, margins of min. 2.0 cm on the sides.*
- **Filmographies and biographies of the creative team.**

And if available:

- A few photos/moodboard/visuals/illustrations of the project;
- Letter of interest or development contract with a broadcaster (if applicable)

Submissions will only be accepted in English so all submitted material can be read by our international selection committee.

Incomplete submissions will not be considered. Please note that you will receive a confirmation email as soon as you successfully submit your project to the platform.

Series Mania Forum will not be responsible for any costs (translation, postage, graphic design, etc.) incurred for submission.

The closing date for submissions is **Monday, December 1st, 2025 until 11.59 pm (CET).**

Please note that a short list of candidates will be contacted for a short video interview in English as we reach the final stage of the selection process. The interview will take place with the two project's representatives that will go on stage. The official selection will be announced via email to candidates **by mid February 2026.**

Representatives of projects that are not selected may request to attend the Series Mania Forum. Submission of a project does not automatically grant the applicant with the right to participate in the event. A selected company who has already purchased their accreditation may have it refunded or transferred to a member of their team.

THE BEST PROJECT PRIZE AWARD

A development grant of **€50,000 (fifty thousand euros)** will be awarded to what is judged to be the best project, as chosen by an independent jury made up of TV industry executives.

The jury will watch all the project presentations and will meet at the end of the session to decide upon the winner, which will be chosen by majority vote. The jury's decision is final, and no discussion will be entered.

The grant will be given to the production company whose project is selected in three steps:

- 30% or €15,000 (fifteen thousand euros) at the end of the 2026 edition of Series Mania Forum.
- 20% or €10,000 (ten thousand euros) upon presentation of a **partnership agreement signed with a television channel or a platform** ;
- 50% or €25,000 (twenty-five thousand euros) upon presentation of supporting documents for **expenses related to the project going into production** (shooting) within two years from the pitch date, i.e. March 24, 2026.

The amount of the prize money may be modified between now and the prize-giving, without notice.

The representatives of the awarded project will also be interviewed about their experience at the 2026 Series Mania Forum and will participate in a photo session. The Best Project Prize winner must mention the prize from the 2026 Series Mania Forum, as well as the festival logo in its credits (generic, promotional material...).

PARTICIPATION OF SELECTED PROJECTS

For each selected project, at least one representative (producer, writer – we recommend 2 persons on stage, 3 maximum) must be in Lille from March 23-26 to take part in rehearsals, to present the project during the Co-Pro Pitching Sessions and participate in individual meetings.

The presentation pitch will last a maximum of 7 minutes. We recommend 6'30 minutes pitches, divided into a 5' oral presentation and a 1'30 teaser. We require all presentations to be in English. The pitching sessions take place at Lille Grand Palais.

Preparatory coaching

The selected projects must prepare their presentation of Lille with the pitch coach of the Series Mania Forum.

- As soon as the selection is announced, the representatives of each project will be invited to an introductory meeting with the Series Mania Forum team. Date and other details on this meeting will be given in the official selection letter.
- A minimum of two remote coaching sessions will be scheduled and editorial follow-ups will be ensured by email. Project representatives must make themselves available on the dates agreed with the coach.
- An online rehearsal session will be organized a few days before the event. Participation in this session is mandatory for all participants.
- On March 23, a rehearsal and technical tests will take place at Lille Grand Palais, which the project representatives must attend.

Delivery date

The project representatives must provide the Series Mania Forum teams with all the material that could be used during the Co-Pro Pitching Sessions (photo and video files grouped in a PowerPoint file + separated video files) by **Tuesday, March 17, 2026** at the latest, and must strictly respect the technical specifications provided by the Series Mania Forum teams. The venue's technical team will handle the launch of all files. Personal computers may not be used on stage under any circumstances. The Series Mania Forum reserves the right to refuse any element submitted after the deadline or that does not comply with the technical specifications provided.

Fees

The festival will cover:

- Accreditation for two representatives;
- Two other members of the team will be eligible for an "early bird" rate.

The festival will not cover travel costs nor accommodation expenses.

CONFIDENTIALITY AND MARKETING

Documents supplied with project submissions are strictly confidential and are not for publication.

The representatives of selected projects must supply information for Series Mania Forum marketing purposes, such as the website, catalogs, and flyers. The pitching sessions will be recorded and made available to all registered professionals on the Series Mania Forum digital platform.

A list of selected projects, which will include the title of the project, country of origin, production company, and associated TV channel or distributor, may be used for marketing purposes and published in the press and on Series Mania's catalog, website and dedicated platform Series Mania+.

Between the time of their selection and their official pitch at the Series Mania Forum, the selected projects undertake not to publicly reveal any new information concerning their financing (coproduction deal, deal with a broadcaster, etc...).