

österreichisches
film institut



GREEN FILMING



Catalogue of Criteria of Minimum Ecological Standards for Austrian Cinema Film Productions

ÖFI / ÖFI+

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In Cooperation with Evergreen Prisma/LAFC and VGFCFA /

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1. BASIC CRITERIA

The basic criteria are considered a prerequisite for ensuring sustainable production and are therefore mandatory to comply with and to implement.

1.1 Green Consultant Green Film Consultant

- **MUST specification**

Either an external Green Filming officer or an employee who meets the requirements¹ must be employed. In any case, proof of well-founded, practice-oriented training or further education lasting several days, and up-to-date knowledge must be proven (e.g. further training as a Green Film Consultant of the Evergreen Prisma Academy). The recognition of the training or the proof of training is subject to approval by the funding institutions.

The Green Filming Officer accompanies the respective productions from the very beginning (it is recommended here already during project development), i.e. from pre-production to acceptance. In doing so, they involve the entire film team in the communication.

Their activity relates to compliance with the current Catalogue of Criteria (according to Guideline 6.1.7 of the ÖFI/ÖFI+ Funding Guidelines or that of the UZ76 'Green Producing in Film and Television Directive') and overall to a production method that is as resource-saving and low in CO2 as possible.

1.2 Green Commitment

- **MUST specification**

Upon submission, the "Green Commitment" form must be signed and enclosed with the submission documents. In this declaration, the producer expressly acknowledges the obligation to green filming and must specify the Green Film Consultant* requested for the project as well as the film-specific CO2-calculator expected to be used.

1.3 Producer's Statement

- **MUST specification**

Upon application, the producer must provide a well-founded statement on the planned implementation of green filming in production.

1.4 Calculation / Green Filming

¹ The compliance with the requirements has to be demonstrated with a proof of initial or continuous training of the film creatives regarding the content and the implementation of the existing Ecolabel-Directives or the current version of the Catalogue of Criteria of the Funding Guidelines, either in the course of an initial certification (e.g. by a consultant/examinant), or by the funding institutions and their regulations.

- **MUST specification**

At the time of submission, any additional costs arising from green filming or cost-reducing revenues or savings, if applicable to the project, must be shown separately in the worksheet 'Green Filming Mehrkosten' ('Green Filming Additional Costs') in the calculation of the expected total costs of production. Likewise, a declaration of the individual items of the "Green Filming Additional Costs" must be submitted at the time of application.

1.5 Balancing

- **MUST specification**

After completion of the production, a detailed CO2-TARGET and CO2-ACTUAL balance must be submitted. The data must be recorded with the help of a film-specific CO2-calculator.

For shooting blocks in Austria, the Evergreen Prisma film-specific CO2-calculator is to be used to achieve uniform and comparable data:

https://lafc.greenshooting.at/de_DE/start/

1.6 Final report "Green Report"

- **MUST specification**

After completion of the production, a final report based on the standardized template of the Austrian Film Institute must be submitted. In it, the fulfillment of the requirements is accounted for. A template of the final report "Green Report" will be made available to the production by ÖFI. Further required documents, which are considered proof of implementation, are formulated in the template.

2. MEASURES: Communication and Office

2.1. Communication

● **MUST specification**

1. The production company – in cooperation with the Green Film Consultant* - communicates the green film project in advance during planning discussions with staff and at management level, as well as during the warm-up phase. In addition, the environment standards and green filming measures shall be announced to the entire film team, especially the actors and partner companies in the areas of energy supply, catering, accommodation, equipment rental, etc.

○ **TARGET specification**

2. Through daily communication, for example Dispos, the team is constantly reminded of green issues. This can happen in particular through communication on daily goals, savings, consumption etc., which convey information to the team on the current status and motivate them.

○ **TARGET specification**

3. Environmental activities and green filming measures are also communicated externally, e.g., via websites or in press releases.

2.2 Paper and supplies

● **MUST specification**

1. All printed material and documents relevant to the film are prepared according to the principle of minimal resource consumption: minimal print run, small print format, double-sided copies, etc.

If paper is used, paper with an ISO Type I Ecolabel or verifiably 100% recycled paper must be used.

Exception: In the case of props and proven technical necessity of 100% color fastness in the creative process.

Sanitary paper carries an ISO Type I Ecolabel or are verifiably made of 100% recycled paper.

Cleaning agents carry an ISO Type I Ecolabel or are listed in the 'ökorein' (www.oekorein.at) database.

○ **TARGET specification**

2. The use of paper documents should be avoided in favor of digital use.

3. MEASURES: Mobility

Air travel causes very high greenhouse gas emissions. The train is usually the most environmentally friendly means of transport. The strategic planning of the locations avoids unnecessary transport routes and saves time. A variety of measures are available to achieve massive savings.

3.1. Travels

○ TARGET specification

1. To minimize travel activities, local crew members are to be preferred.

○ TARGET specification

2. Where possible, the train and/or public transport should be used. Air travel should be avoided and replaced with train travel.

3.2. Air Travels

● MUST specification

The production company does not commission domestic or international air travel if a train journey is alternatively possible and can be scheduled. Flights under 500 km are not permitted. All CO₂ emissions caused by unavoidable flights must be offset.

3.3. Cars

● MUST specification

1. The production company uses CO₂-reduced vehicles with low soot and nitrogen oxide emissions. Such are e-cars (if possible, using green electricity), CNG-vehicles (if possible, using bio-CNG) as well as hybrid vehicles (classic hybrid vehicles and plug-in hybrids, with plug-in hybrids being used in e-mode only, if possible).
'Material tourism' abroad must be avoided as a matter of urgency.

● MUST specification

The production company offsets the entire CO₂ emissions caused by mobility.

3.4. Trucks (including (small) vans, minibuses)

● MUST specification

1. Where diesel vehicles are used, they must preferably comply with the EURO VI emissions standard or have an alternative drive with gas, electric or hydrogen, fuel

cell or hybrid drive, provided these are available in Austria. If there is no availability, only vehicles from EURO-V emission standard or higher are to be used.

(Truck – gross vehicle weight >3.5 tons)

'Material tourism' abroad is to be avoided as a matter of principle.

- **MUST specification**

2. The production company offsets the entire CO2 emissions caused by mobility.

4. MEASURES: Accommodation

Hotel accommodation causes high greenhouse gas emissions. Compared to overnight stays in apartments or holiday homes, they cause higher average greenhouse gas emission per night and person. For the sustainable accommodation of cast and crew, it is helpful to sensitize the entire team at an early stage and to also include stipulations on sustainable accommodation in the employment contracts.

- **MUST specification**

1. The production company informs all accommodation facilities about the environmental standards of the film production at the time of inquiry.

- **TARGET specification**

2. Overnight stays should be booked in apartments or holiday homes. If these are not available, attention should be paid to designated environmental measures or to a publicly environmentally relevant award or certification.

Hotels which offer at least the following measures are considered 'hotels with proven environmental measures': green electricity, energy-saving measures for heating and air conditioning, water-saving measures and waste separation.

5. MEASURES: Catering

When it comes to catering, the focus is on the topics of sustainability, environmental compatibility, origin, conservation of resources and quality.

The production of meat in particular accounts for a significant proportion of global CO2 emissions.

- **MUST specification**

1. A written agreement must be drawn up between the production company and the catering service provider, in which the MUST and TARGET criteria shall be established and therefore deemed to be agreed upon.

- **MUST specification**

2. Disposable tableware (plates, cutlery, cups, etc.) and disposable bottles may not be provided by the catering during the entire production. No portion machines with disposable single portion packaging are used for coffee or tea, in the case of drinks, only reusable containers or large containers must be used. Tap water, if available in drinking quality, must be offered.

- **MUST specification**

3. In the case of external catering, the food on offer must be purely vegetarian at least one day per week.

- **TARGET specification**

4. Concerning food, it should be ensured that regional, seasonal and/or organically produced food and drinks are used.

- **TARGET specification**

5. The consumption of meat should be reduced as much as possible during the film production or replaced by a purely vegetarian offer.

- **TARGET specification**

6. Needs-based food distribution is intended to prevent food from being thrown away. However, any food waste that occurs is disposed of properly and in an environmentally friendly manner.

6. MEASURES: Energy and technology

Switching to certified green electricity is one of the fastest and easiest ways to drastically reduce CO2 emissions. Switching off unused devices and using energy-saving devices is necessary, this should be communicated to the team accordingly. The standby mode must be switched off in any case, unless absolutely necessary.

6.1. Green Power/electricity

● **MUST specification**

1. If a technically suitable power connection to the public grid is available and use is possible, the power to supply the set and base must be drawn from the public grid and not from generators. It is important to ensure that green electricity is used.

○ **TARGET specification**

2. If possible, 100% of the electricity needs of the production company should be covered by renewable energy sources in accordance with the criteria of the Austrian Ecolabel Guideline UZ46 'Green Electricity' or at least it must be proven that it is 100% green electricity with Austrian certificates of origin.

○ **TARGET specification**

3. If possible, 100% of the electricity requirement for all temporarily used premises should be covered by renewable energy sources in accordance with the criteria of the Austrian Ecolabel Guideline UZ46 'Green Electricity' or at least it must be proven that it is 100% green electricity with Austrian certificates of origin.

6.2. Generators

Diesel generators are responsible for high greenhouse gas emissions. Therefore, the electricity must be obtained from a grid connection and not from diesel generators whenever possible.

A conscious and responsible handling, also by means of resource-saving use, should be planned in advance.

As in Austria mainly diesel generators are currently used for film productions, since there are hardly any alternative systems available to cover demand, planning, for example through the power grid management system, is essential.

○ **TARGET specification**

1. In the case of diesel generators, it is important to pay attention which emissions standard applies. Therefore, preference should be given to diesel generators that at least meet Stage-III A standards.

○ **TARGET specification**

2. Gas generators, hybrid generators, mobile electricity storage systems with green electricity and solar generators should always be given preference over diesel generators.

6.3. Rechargeable Batteries

● **MUST specification**

Disposable batteries may not be used throughout production, neither on set nor in the production offices and studios. Instead, rechargeable batteries must be used. These should be recyclable if possible. An exception are mini batteries for in-ear pieces.

6.4. Lighting

On average, the lighting in the studio and on location causes high power consumption and thus corresponding greenhouse gas emissions. Due to technological progress and correct use of technical devices in this department, the total power consumption of a production can be significantly reduced.

○ **TARGET specification**

1. The use of energy-saving floodlights (LED, HMI, fluorescent tubes, etc.) is preferable to Tungsten ("bulb") floodlights.

Alternative lighting concepts, for example with reflector systems, should be considered whenever possible. Likewise, "available light" should be used as much as possible. The complete lighting lists are to be submitted.

○ **TARGET specification**

2. Consumables should be used as sparingly and resource-friendly as possible. For example: reuse of colored foils.

7. MEASURES: Art Departments

There are numerous opportunities for real change in the furnishing creative trades. This requires early planning and appropriate communication.

7.1. Materials – Production Design and Set Construction

- **MUST specification**

1. If new wood and new wood-based materials are used, they must come from sustainably managed forests and be marked with the FSC seal.

- **MUST specification**

2. Materials and substances that pollute the environment during their production, processing or disposal, such as formaldehyde, PVC, solvent-based paints, polystyrene, isocyanates and brominated flame retardants (BFR) may not be used. Exceptions must be justified in the final report.

- **TARGET specification**

3. Set structures, decorative objects and materials should be used several times in the sense of the circular economy. This can be done, for example, through warehousing, loan-rental or second-hand use. To protect natural resources, the materials used should be selected, used and reduced accordingly when building sets and decorative objects.

- **TARGET specification**

4. Different basic materials should be combined in such a way that they can be easily separated from one another during disposal and can therefore be reused or returned for targeted recycling.

7.2. Costumes and Makeup

- **TARGET specification**

1. Costumes should be used several times in the spirit of the circular economy. This can be done, for example, by maintaining a depository, renting it out or using it second-hand.

Where appropriate, performers should be given the opportunity to wear their own clothing in front of the camera.

The purchase of fast fashion and discounter clothing should be avoided.

- **MUST specification**

2. At least three cosmetic products with an ISO Type I eco-label or another organic or natural cosmetics certification are regularly used in the makeup department, such as Austria Bio Guarantee, COSMEBIO, "BDIH kontrollierte Naturkosmetik", Ecocert, EZA, IMO control, NaTrue Biokosmetik, CCPB, Demeter.

Makeup products without microplastics should be used.

8. MEASURES: Waste management

Sustainable waste management includes the avoidance, reuse, recycling, other recovery, and disposal of waste.

8.1 Communication

- **MUST specification**

Measures to avoid and separate waste must be communicated to the entire team, for example by posting information on the set and in the office.

8.2 Waste Separation

- **MUST specification**

Waste must be separated in such a way that it can be treated separately by municipal or private waste disposal facilities. Wood, metal, paper and cardboard, construction waste, glass, packaging, organic waste, and residual waste must be collected separately. Hazardous waste, electronic devices, toner, and color cartridges must be collected separately and disposed of in an appropriate manner.

This applies to every production site, including on-location, in all studios and in all offices used.

8.3 Sewage on Location

- **MUST specification**

The production company ensures that there is no direct discharge of wastewater into bodies of water. Wastewater disposal complies with legislation and must be officially checked and approved. If there is no access to toilet facilities with a sewer connection at the film location, it must be proven that the mobile toilet facilities are regularly maintained and cleaned during production and that the contents are properly disposed of.