



WAVES Film Bazaar Unveils Co-Production Market 2025

22 feature films and 5 documentaries from 8 countries showcase a diverse array of 19 languages.

3 Projects to be Featured Under NFDC's Handpicked Focused Projects

WAVES Film Bazaar brings out the official selection of feature projects and documentaries for the Co-Production Market, set to take place from November 20 to 24, 2025, at the Marriott Resort in Goa.

For the 19th edition, Waves Film Bazaar presents 22 feature projects that embody a pan-global narrative. The Co-Production Market features a compelling selection of projects from India, France, UK, Canada, USA, Russia, Philippines and Singapore. This diverse lineup includes stories in languages such as Hindi, Urdu, Bengali, Manipuri, Tangkhul, Nepali, Malayalam, Haryanvi, English, Gujarati, Ladakhi, Konkani, Kannada, Marathi, Punjabi, Kashmiri, Russian, Sanskrit and Odia. Selected filmmakers will have the opportunity to pitch their projects to International and Indian producers, distributors, festival programmers, financiers, and sales agents during the Open Pitch session. The pitch lays the groundwork for further one to one meetings and explores potential future collaborations.

This year's Co-Production Market lineup presents a thoughtful balance between emerging voices and seasoned industry veterans, featuring acclaimed filmmakers and creators such as Kiran Rao, Vikramaditya Motwane, Shakun Batra, Devashish Makhija, Ira Dubey, Sarita Patil, Shaunak Sen and BAFTA award-winning Director Ben Crichton among others.

Waves Film Bazaar proudly announces its partnership with the Asia TV Forum & Market (ATF). The Co-Production Market Feature will include a project titled "Gloria" as part of the project cross-exchange initiative.

Three projects will be included as part of the Co-Production Market Feature under NFDC's Handpicked Focused Projects. The projects featured in this section are "*Shamed*", "*Smash*" and "*Tiger in the Lion Den*."

This year we also have an addition in the form of Documentaries to the Co-Production Market lineup. For this edition, we present 5 remarkable documentary projects, across different genres including but not limited to Arts, Music and Culture, Environment, Sustainability, Education, Women's Movement, Gender and Sexuality, Anthropology, and Others.

Co-Production Market Feature Projects

1 - Ulta (Madam) | India, France, Canada | Hindi

Logline - A domestic worker in a gated community discovers a door to a parallel universe where the rich serve the poor, when her actions there begin to affect real life, she must face the consequences of her power.

Director - Paromita Dhar : Paromita Dhar is a filmmaker and cinematographer with a degree in Film and Video from the University of Technology, Sydney, and a Master's Diploma in Film from Sydney Film School. She shot the award-winning documentary Behind the Tin Sheets on construction workers in Bangalore, Birha (Busan and IDFA 2018), and That Cloud Never Left (Rotterdam 2019). While living in Madrid, she directed In Between, a film about Bangladeshi immigrants, which screened internationally. Her debut feature script received the Hubert Bals Fund for development in 2019. Paromita's work explores themes of migration, labor, and belonging through an intimate, observational lens.

Producer - Hyash Tanmoy : Hyash Tanmoy a producer and moving image practitioner whose transdisciplinary work explores speculative resilience, political reimagination, and socio-cultural inquiry. Rooted in South Asia, they produce hybrid works spanning fiction, creative documentary, post-cinematic narratives, and simulation-based environments that blur boundaries between form and meaning. Their projects range from short experimental essays to long-term research installations and feature films. Hyash builds future-facing cinema ecosystems in politically marginalised and ecologically fragile regions where storytelling must navigate crisis and resistance. Recognised by Berlinale Talents, Locarno Industry Academy, Kyoto Filmmaker's Lab, Ars Electronica, and Climate Story Lab-South Asia, they are developing a post-network archive infrastructure.

2 - Those Who Flew | India | Hindi, Urdu, Bengali

Logline - In Calcutta experiencing gradual climate change, a despondent drunk gains the power of flight and embarks on a dangerous quest to find his missing wife – all with help of a wily old revolutionary.

Director - Soumyak Kanti De Biswas : Kanti's work as playwright and director has been produced by the British Council, National Theatre Studio London, RADA, National Theatre Scotland, HOME Manchester and Theatre Royal Plymouth. He was the lead actor in Tasher Desh (Netflix) and Madly Bangali (Amazon Prime). An Inlaks

scholar with a Master's from Royal College of Art London, Kanti returned to India in 2016 to write and produce Cat Sticks (MUBI), winner of Jury Prize at Slamdance 2019. He then wrote and directed The Daughter (JioCinema) starring Naseeruddin Shah, premiering at MAMI and Palm Springs 2022.

Producer - Ira Dubey : Ira Dubey majored in theatre studies at Yale University, returning to India in 2004 to pursue acting professionally. She's performed in over a dozen productions with Primetime Theatre Co., including "30 Days in September," "Wedding Album" (300+ shows worldwide), and the acclaimed one-woman show "9 Parts of Desire." Her film credits include "Aisha," "M Cream," "Shehjar," and "Dear Zindagi." Dubey received Filmfare nominations for "Bin Bulaye" (2019) and "Potluck" (2022), and appeared in "Ba Ba Black Sheep," "Whack Girls," "Scoop," and "Freedom At Midnight." In 2022, she produced and starred in "The Daughter" with Naseeruddin Shah, launching Lila Naatak Company.

3 - Khei-Hea (Night & Day) | India | Poula/Manipuri/Nepali/English

Logline - In a village ruled by fear and superstition, a traditional healer accused of witchcraft fights to protect his family's honor, while his pregnant, shunned granddaughter struggles to take control of her future.

Director - Ashok Veilou : Ashok Veilou, an award-winning indigenous filmmaker from Manipur, earned a postgraduate degree in Direction & Screenplay Writing from the Satyajit Ray Film & Television Institute (SRFTI), Kolkata. Veilous films explore real-life narratives, human rights, and social issues deeply rooted in tribal communities. His acclaimed shorts, Tou-Tai (Seed) and Look at the Sky, have won multiple honors, including two Golden Royal Tiger Awards at the Kolkata International Film Festival and Best Short Film at IDSFFK. In 2023, he represented India at Cannes and received the Young Tribal Achiever Award (2022) and Award of Excellence (2019).

Producer - Shaunak Sur & Prateek Bagi : Raging Films is an Indian production company specialising in international co-productions and line production across fiction, documentary and hybrid forms. Recent work includes Mother, which opened Venice Orizzonti 2025, with five projects in development. Led by SRFTI alumni Prateek Bagi and Shaunak Sur, their producing experience includes premieres at Berlinale, Busan and Raindance, plus National Awards.

Producer - Alexander Leo Pou : SRFTI Kolkata alumnus in Producing for Film and Television, has shaped his career through roles at NFDC as Film Facilitation Officer (Eastern Region) and Deputy Manager, Indian Film Production. He also served as the

Director of the Manipur State Film & Television Institute. Pou has involved in many acclaimed films productions in various capacity.

4 - The Manager | India | Malayalam

Logline - A stressed-out Kerala bank manager accidentally transfers a crore to an overseas account and, under crushing workplace targets and family demands, plunges into a web of fraud and deceit to claw it back before his life and career collapse.

Director - Sandeep Sreelekha : Sandeep Sreelekha is a filmmaker from Kerala whose work spans fiction and documentary, often exploring labour, sustainability, and the human cost of corporate greed. He was Creative Director of Angammal, which won Best Film at the New York Indian Film Festival 2025 and was officially selected for MAMI and IFFK 2024. In 2025, he was awarded the Video Consortium Fellowship for Documentary Filmmaking, one of 16 Asian filmmakers chosen for its Story Solutions Project, under which he is directing Street by Street, a character-driven documentary on street vendors in Delhi. Sandeep began making short films in 2009, winning early recognition with the short Hitch Hikers and States of Mind. After completing his Master's at TISS, he shot and directed Kadakbai, acclaimed for its cinematography. He was the Associate Director on Gramavrikshathile Kuyil, a period biopic by national award winning director KP Kumaran.

Producer - Anuj Tyagi & Vipin Radhakrishnan :

Anuj Tyagi : Anuj Tyagi is an acclaimed Indian Film Director and Producer known for his impactful contributions to cinema. He gained recognition as Co-Director of the critically lauded feature "The Last Colour," which won Best Feature Film at the Dallas International Film Festival and screened at prestigious festivals including New York, Palm Springs, and Indie Meme. Anuj began his journey assisting Dr. Nila Madhab Panda on the award-winning "I Am Kalam" and has worked on films like "Jalpari," "Kaun Kitne Pani Mein," and the National Award-winning "Kadvi Hawa." A 2010 Film Production and Technology graduate from Sri Aurobindo Center for Arts & Communication, he has also directed acclaimed documentaries and his solo directorial debut "Bishwa" has been celebrated internationally.

Vipin Radhakrishnan : based in Lyon, France, is a filmmaker and Co-founder of EKA Cinemas with over 12 years in the industry. An architect turned storyteller, he began as a screenwriter with the acclaimed Malayalam feature Mosayile Kuthirameenukal (2014), which earned recognition for its inventive narrative. He made his directorial debut with Ave Maria (2018), premiering at the International Film Festival of Kerala before travelling widely across global festivals; the film continues to reach new

audiences on Amazon Prime. His latest Tamil feature Angammal (2024) premiered at IFFK and MAMI to strong reviews and went on to win Best Indie Film at the Indian Film Festival of Melbourne 2025 and Best Film at the New York Indian Film Festival 2025. Lauded by critics and audiences alike, Angammal has firmly placed Vipin on the global festival map and is set for theatrical release in late 2025.

5 - What Remains Unsaid | India | Haryanvi, Hindi, English

Logline - A journalist returns to her ancestral Haryana village to investigate an honour killing, confronting buried memories of her father and a fractured past. As her report becomes a spectacle, the question is, has she exposed a crime or committed one?

Director - Kallol Mukherjee : Kallol Mukherjee is a Mumbai-based filmmaker from Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh. A film institute dropout, he has directed and written across independent and commercial projects. His films have screened at major festivals, with three premieres at IDSFFK (2022–24). His short fiction The Unowned House won First Prize from the Ministry of Culture, Government of India, while his documentary Mic Drop has screened at over twenty international festivals, including DIFF, IFFSA Toronto, and Rome IDF. He has also worked as an Associate and Second Unit Director with Applause Entertainment and in10 media. Kallol is currently in post with his feature documentary and developing his feature fiction.

Producer - Devashish Makhija has written, directed and produced 'Joram' (Filmfare awards for Best Film Critics, Best Story), and 'Bhonsle' (National Film Award); and made the internationally acclaimed 'Aji'. His films have competed and won at the international film festivals of Rotterdam, Busan, Sydney, Chicago, Goteborg, Beaune, Black Nights, Mooov, Glasgow, Edinburgh, Durban, Tampere, APSA, Barcelona, Singapore amongst many others.

Producer - Harsh Grover and Aditya Grover, founders of Uncombed Buddha Films, Jabalpur. We support independent filmmakers and bring regional stories to the world. Our productions include Nasir, Nirvana Inn, Rapture, Mic Drop, Peepal Tree, and Ghode Ko Jalebi, all acclaimed at international festivals, winning awards and reaching global audiences.

6 - Kanda (No Onions) | India | Gujarati, Hindi

Logline - In a devout Gujarati family, a pregnant daughter-in-law's inexplicable craving for onions and other foods forbidden in her faith, awakens a primal side in her.

This threatens the household's order, pushing them to desperate attempts to "purify" her.

Director - Aarti Neharsh : Aarti is a writer-director from Ahmedabad, residing in Mumbai. She pursued Liberal Arts at FLAME University with a major in Film and TV. She directed her debut short - The Song we Sang in 2020. The film traveled festivals internationally bagging Audience Choice Awards at IFFLA(Indian Film-Festival of Los Angeles) and DIFF (Dharamshala International Film-Festival). It also won Best International Short at Kashish International Queer Film-Festival and got a Special Jury Mention at the London Film-Festival.

She has directed commercials for national and international brands and was featured in the Top 10 Ad Directors of 2024 by IMPACT Magazine.

Producer - Shakun Batra & Dimpy Agrawal

Jouska Films, Founded by acclaimed filmmaker **Shakun Batra** (Kapoor & Sons, Gehraiyaan), Jouska Films champions emotionally resonant, craft-driven storytelling. It has produced the Netflix series Searching for Sheela, and has a growing focus on bold, inventive Indian voices for global audiences. With No Onions, Jouska continues building bridges between emerging storytellers and world cinema.

Gubbara Entertainment, Founded by **Dimpy Agrawal**, former Netflix India producer (Qala, Monica O My Darling), Gubbara champions bold South Asian stories with cultural depth. With a \$1M development fund and acclaimed projects like Shadowbox (Berlin IFF), Gubbara nurtures original voices. No Onions embodies its vision of heartfelt, globally resonant storytelling.

7 - Kakthet (Idiot) | India, France | Ladakhi

Logline - When a Ladakhi government school's survival depends on the success of its only Class 10 student – a mischievous exam flunker – his teachers must find a way of making him pass his exams, despite his resistance.

Director - Stenzin Tankong : Born in 1990, Stenzin Tankong is a director and scriptwriter from Ladakh. A film and television graduate from the Symbiosis Centre of Media and Communication, he has been making films for eight years, and his aim is to bring the stories of his people and culture onto the world platform. His previous two short films – Sekool and Last Days of Summer – had successful festival screenings, including at the International Film Festival of Rotterdam, Clermont-Ferrand International Short Film Festival and Dharamshala International Film Festival.

Producer - Ritu Sarin : Ritu Sarin is a Dharamshala-based producer and director. She has been making films for over 30 years. Her work includes award-winning documentaries and two feature films. Her documentary, *The Sun Behind the Clouds*, won the Vaclav Havel Award at One World Film Festival. Her debut feature, *Dreaming Lhasa*, was executive produced by Jeremy Thomas and Richard Gere, and premiered at Toronto International Film Festival. Her second feature, *The Sweet Requiem*, also premiered at TIFF, and her short film, *A Little Cloud*, premiered at the 2024 Busan International Film Festival. She is the founder-director of Dharamshala International Film Festival.

8 - A Death Foretold | India | Hindi

Logline - Neeraj plans to leave advertising and shoot his first film. He decides to cast Raju, a hair collector. But as the initial enthusiasm subsides, both must follow the path where the money leads them.

Director - Kislay Kislay : Kislay is an accomplished Indian filmmaker whose debut feature, *'Just Like That'* premiered in the New Currents section of the Busan International Film Festival, where it received a Special Mention. The film went on to win the Critics' Choice and Best Actress awards at the Mumbai Film Festival (MAMI) and the Grand Jury Prize at the Vesoul International Festival of Asian Cinema. He was recently selected as an emerging talent by the BAFTA Breakthrough India Programme. Kislay also wrote the screenplay for the critically acclaimed Netflix film *Soni*. He is an alumnus of the Film and Television Institute of India, Pune.

Producer - Tribeny Rai : Tribeny Rai is the founder of Dalley Khorsani Productions which produced *Shape of Momo*, which premiered at the Busan and San Sebastián Film Festivals 2025, winning two awards. The project won Best Project at the Work-in-Progress Lab, NFDC Film Bazaar and earlier the company produced a television series for Doordarshan. It is dedicated to supporting independent and art-house cinema.

Producer - Himanshu Kohli and Neha Malik : produced *Shape of Momo* and *Just Like That*, which received a Special Mention in the New Currents section at the Busan International Film Festival. Reflecting their commitment to fostering strong festival-driven cinema.

9 - Tyres will be Deflated | India | Hindi

Logline - A conflict-averse Malayali college professor in Delhi is pushed to his breaking point over a bitter parking dispute with his powerful neighbour — unleashing a chain of darkly comic retributions that spiral into absurdity, destruction, and ultimately, his own downfall.

Director - Rohan Ranganathan : Rohan Ranganathan is a Mumbai-based independent filmmaker with over ten years of experience in conceptualizing, writing and directing audio visual content. He was the Associate Director of Shaunak Sen's 2023 Academy nominated documentary 'All That Breathes'. The film earned nominations at the BAFTAs and DGAs while picking up awards at Cannes, Sundance and BFI London. Rohan was the Creative Producer of the show by Pallavi Paul titled THE WIND IN YOUR BODY IS JUST VISITING, YOUR BREATH WILL SOON BE THUNDER and presented by SAVVY Contemporary in 2022. He worked as an Assistant Director on the documentary film, Cities of Sleep (2015) which premiered at Dok Leipzig and won seven international awards. Rohan is currently directing his first documentary, I Dream of Villainy, which has received a grant from the Catapult Film Fund. Rohan has created digital content for agencies like J. Walter Thompson and Dentsu.

Producer - Shaunak Sen is an Academy award nominated filmmaker and scholar based in Delhi. His film, 'All That Breathes', received nominations at the 2023 Academy and BAFTA awards. The film won awards at Cannes, Sundance, BFI London, the APSA Screen Awards, IDA, Cinema Eye and 24 other film festivals. Cities of Sleep (2016), his first feature-length documentary, was shown at various major international film festivals and won 6 international awards. Shaunak recently produced the fiction feature Shadowbox (Drs. Tanushree Das and Saumyananda Sahi), which premiered at Berlin in 2025.

Producer - Aman Mann : Aman Mann is an Academy Award nominated film producer based in New Delhi, India. In 2020, Aman established Kiterabbit Films, together with Shaunak Sen. Their first feature length production, 'All That Breathes' is the only film ever to receive the Grand Jury Prize at the Sundance Film Festival and Best Documentary at the Cannes Film Festival, in addition to a Peabody award (along with over 25 other international awards). The film received Academy Award and BAFTA nominations for Documentary Feature. Aman recently produced the fiction feature Shadowbox (Drs. Tanushree Das and Saumyananda Sahi) which premiered at Berlinale in 2025. Aman is currently developing films that have received grants from Catapult, IDFA, Doc Society and Busan's Asian Cinema Fund.

10 - Mayapuri (City of Illusions) | India | Hindi

Logline - When a mislabeled nuclear device is mistakenly auctioned to Delhi's Mayapuri metal scrapyards, a young mechanic and his cat become its first victims—forcing his partner and his employer to fight grief and corruption in pursuit of justice.

Director - Aranya Sahay : Aranya Sahay is an Indian filmmaker based in Mumbai and a graduate in Direction from the Film and Television Institute of India, Pune. His debut feature, *Humans in the Loop*, has won the Grand Jury Award at IFFLA 2025, Best Film at BIFFes 2025 and the Chicago Asian Film Festival, Best Debut Film at NYIFF 2025, and the FIPRESCI Award for Best Feature Film. The film also received the Sloan Distribution Grant for its U.S. theatrical release and was recently acquired by Netflix. His earlier projects include *Songs for Babasaheb* and *Saaya*, the latter selected as a Film Bazaar Recommended project in 2021. Aranya has previously worked with Imtiaz Ali and Patrick Graham

Producer - Mathivanan Rajendran : Mathivanan Rajendran is an Indian actor, producer, and media entrepreneur based in Chennai. An alumnus of Virginia Tech, he is the founder of Stray Factory and co-founder of Rascalas, platforms that nurture South Indian and independent storytelling. His productions include *Nasir* (NETPAC Award, IFFR 2020), *Nirvana Inn*, and *Humans in the Loop* (2024). A BAFTA Breakthrough India honoree, Mathivanan's work bridges theatre, digital media, and cinema. He continues to champion bold, socially resonant films and trans-media projects across South Asia.

11 - Puthenkacheri (Secretariat) | India, Canada | Malayalam

Logline - A lonely woman struggling on the margins of society, finds hope when her letters to the Chief Minister spark small miracles. Imagining him as her secret companion, she blossoms until his sudden death shatters her fragile fantasy.

Director - Rajesh K : K. Rajesh is a filmmaker, editor, and educator with over two decades of experience in cinema and media. An alumnus of the Film & Television Institute of India, Pune (2004), he has worked across feature films, documentaries, ads, and socially relevant campaigns. His debut feature *Chor Chor Super Chor* (2013) was screened at international festivals in Stuttgart, Chicago, and Melbourne, while his documentary *Shahabad Express* (2015) and script *Vivash* (winner of the Hubert Bals Award, IFF Rotterdam) further highlight his creative range. Rajesh has directed acclaimed ads for Philips, Nestlé, and the Government of India, with *Sooraj ki Gullak* winning Silver at the FLAME Awards 2014. In 2016, he

founded the Children's Film Academy, bringing Cinémathèque Française's global program Le Cinéma, cent ans de jeunesse to India.

Producer - James Joseph Valiyakulathil : James Joseph Valiyakulathil, is a Canadian filmmaker whose career bridges continents and cultures. A graduate of FTII Pune with a specialization in film editing, he spent a decade in Mumbai shaping award-winning feature films and documentaries that traveled to festivals like Busan and Rotterdam. With a strong foundation in editing, he transitioned into directing and producing, founding Kadha Films, a banner dedicated to bold, human-centered storytelling. His films have earned international recognition, winning multiple awards and screening at prestigious festivals worldwide. James's latest work, *Threads*, is currently in post-production, while his upcoming Malayalam feature "Parcel" is in pre-production. Known for his precise visual style and deeply empathetic narratives, James continues to craft stories that resonate universally, grounded in realism yet charged with emotional depth.

Producer - Ved Prakash Kataria : Ved Prakash Kataria, primarily a businessman with a keen interest in cinema, founded Katson Motion Pictures in 2013. Since its inception, the company has produced a feature film, a feature-length documentary, several short films, and public service campaigns. In recent years, the production house has focused on advertisements and architectural films.

12 - Sajdaa | India | Hindi

Logline - In a small Uttar Pradesh town, kind-hearted and naïve Taimur keeps his infertility a secret from his wife. When she conceives another man's child, his anguish pushes him to a breaking point, leading to tragedy.

Director - Mohammad Gani : M. Gani, also known as Mohammad Ganif, is a distinguished theatre director and filmmaker from Mathura, U.P. With a career spanning over three decades, he has explored documentaries, fiction, and short films, focusing on themes of class, identity, and women's issues. His recent Hindi feature, *Matto Ki Saikil* (Matto's Cycle), premiered to critical acclaim at the Busan International Film Festival in 2020 and marked filmmaker Prakash Jha's acting debut in a leading role. Gani's cinematic journey began with the short film *Gubbare*, which premiered at the International Film Festival of Kerala and is now on Amazon MX Player. He also worked as director of photography for the acclaimed documentary *Muzaffarnagar Baaqi Hai*, available on Netflix..

Producer - Sanjay Gulati : Founder of Crawling Angel Films (CAF), Sanjay Gulati is one of the strongest advocates of Indian independent cinema. He aims to craft films that

resonate universally while celebrating the diverse and vibrant tapestry of the Indian subcontinent. Guided by his passion for authentic storytelling, CAF has produced several acclaimed films, including *Girls Will Be Girls* (Sundance 2024, Prime Video), *The Shepherdess and the Seven Songs* (Berlinale 2020), *Nimtooh* (Rotterdam 2020), and *Ashwathama* (Busan 2017). CAF's upcoming slate includes upcoming projects by acclaimed filmmakers Kanwal Sethi and Hansal Mehta.

13 - Teacher's Pet | India, USA | English

Logline - At an all girls Catholic boarding school in India, a know-it-all Rinky's School Captain dreams are threatened when she must compete against her former best friend in an election.

Director -Sindhu Sreenivasa Murthy : Sindhu Sreenivasa Murthy is a director from Bengaluru, India. A 2024 BAFTA Breakthrough Fellow, she directed the critically successful film "Aachar and Co.," which was released theatrically in 2023. The film enjoyed a strong month-long theatrical run across Karnataka before being acquired by Amazon Prime Video for streaming. It also secured satellite broadcasting rights with leading regional networks in Malayalam and Kannada languages. Sindhu previously directed and narrated "Jeevalahari," a pandemic-shot documentary series for Doordarshan. Currently, she is in post production on her next Kannada feature, "13 Days" by Suitable Pictures.

Producer - Aishwarya Sonar is a producer working between the US-India intersection creating stories rooted in humanity and joy. A Film Independent fellow and alum of Film London, Film Bazaar, and Tasveer labs, she previously worked with Priyanka Chopra's Purple Pebble Pictures. She draws inspiration from the women around her, reflected in the stories at her company, Lambe Log.

Producer - Shuchi Dwivedi is a writer/producer and American Film Institute graduate. Winner of IFFLA Pitch competition 2024 for TEACHER'S PET, also shortlisted for Cannes W Scripted competition, Cinevesture International Market and Tasveer Producers Lab 2025. Working on India-US intersection, she uses laughter as antidote to fear, imagining braver worlds.

Producer - Vikramaditya Motwane : is a writer, director and producer (unfortunately not always in that order). His directorial debut *Udaan* was selected to compete in the 'Un Certain Regard' category at the 2010 Cannes Film Festival. He's since directed *Lootera* (2013), *Trapped* (2016) and *Bhavesh Joshi Superhero* (2018), *CTRL* (2024). He has also produced several films, including *Queen* (2014) and *Udta Punjab* (2016) and most recently *EP'ed*, *Shadowbox*, which premiered at Berlinale. In addition, Motwane has served as creator and director on India's first Netflix original, *Sacred Games* (2018–

2019), Jubilee (2025, amazon prime), and Black Warrant (2025, netflix). As a co-founder at Andolan Films in Mumbai, India, his goal is to support indie cinema and emerging voices.

14 - 7 to 7 | India | Gujarati, Hindi

Logline - A pleasant relationship unfolds when an ageing textile worker is unable to sleep because of the body odour left behind by his teen colleague, who is bothered by nightmares.

Director - Nemil Shah : Nemil (b. 1999, Jamnagar) is an artist and filmmaker working across film, video installation, and performance. Fascinated by the senses, his works explore life's basic elements—water, food, and sleep—through multi-sensory experiences. His short Dal Bhat won the National Film Award and was also an official Oscar entry. His video-odour installation 9 to 3 premiered at Jogja NETPAC, and his Super 8mm film The Nose Picker featured at the Thailand Biennale. His debut feature 7 to 7 received the Busan's Asian Cinema Fund. He continually wishes to expand the language and reach of contemporary art.

Producer - Nemil Shah & Rajesh Shah :

Nemil Shah (b. 1999, Jamnagar) is an artist and filmmaker exploring multi-sensory experiences of life's basics through film, video installation, and performance. His works include Dal Bhat, The Nose Picker, 9 to 3, and 7 to 7, blending international perspectives with experimental storytelling.

Rajesh Shah is a National Award winning producer known for his sharp eye and calm precision. He has produced acclaimed works such as Dal Bhat, The Nose Picker, and the upcoming feature 7 to 7. Balancing creativity with practical execution, he anchors ambitious independent films with quiet confidence and care.

15 - Katachua (The Quill) | India | Bengali, Hindi

Logline - Winter, Jharkhand. Men of different age groups and ethnicities are killed in suspicious circumstances with holes in their bodies. Nandana, a freelance journalist and Tara, a trafficking survivor tribal girl, look for rays of light in the thick dark mist.

Director - Sankhajit Biswas has studied Editing in Satyajit Ray Film & Television Institute and participated in Berlin Talent Campus 2010. His edited films are screened and awarded at Berlin, Toronto, Rotterdam, London, Moscow, IDFA, Goteborg, DokLeipzig, Busan, Hong Kong, Shanghai, Asia Pacific Screen Awards, etc. Many of these films won National Awards of India.

He turned to direction with the documentary 'Dui Dhuranir Golpo' / 'In-between Days' (2012) which was screened at CPH:DOX, Yamagata and other festivals. It won Best Documentary Award at Kolkata International Film Festival 2014.

Sankhajit is currently teaching at SRFTI and developing his first feature 'Katachua'.

Producer - Swaralipi Lipi : Swaralipi started her career as an actress in Bengali television and received popularity. However, dissatisfied with the quality of content that she was being offered, she decided to leave television. In 2012, she established Abar Baithak coffee shop, one of Kolkata's first theme cafes - now a popular outlet that offers cultural space for Bengali intellectuals. Recently she established her first film production house Abar Baithak Chhobighar, in order to produce women led and women's story based content. Her first venture is 'Katachua' based on eminent Bengali writer Bani Basu's short story of the same title.

16 - Shadow Hill : Of Spirits and Men | India | Konkani, English , Hindi

Logline - In a sleepy Goan village, two men embark on a search for a loved one lost in an avalanche, only to stumble upon eccentric tales, buried secrets, and unlikely friendships in a whimsical, darkly funny tale of adventure.

Director - Bosco Bhandarkar : A little note about myself. I always was a bit of a day dreamer. At school, I remember dragging a red plastic school bag to my corner desk and looking outside the class windows. The report card at the end of the semester was proof of my attention within it. A perfect zero. I carried this habit (I call it one) towards movies. I enjoy watching movies, especially the films made by filmmakers who have school bags filled with empathy. I have been directing commercials for most of my life, selling things and stuff, making a living. I always loved the visual world where I could reach into many years of watching movies, art and life around and try to paint a picture of my own. I strongly want to tell a story which brings about a smile at the end of watching it.

Producer - Kiran Rao & Tanaji Dasgupta

Kindling Pictures is a film production company founded by Kiran Rao in 2022, in partnership with Tanaji Dasgupta, with the aim to create and develop stories that kindle a spark in our society, and ignite new conversations in new directions.

Laapataa Ladies (Lost Ladies), directed by Kiran Rao, is the first film for the company.

17 - Pushpavati (The Flowered One) | India | Kannada

Logline - On a heritage tour, a 12-year-old girl—daughter of migrant construction workers—experiences her first menstruation at a revered mutt. An accompanying teacher, nearing-retirement must protect her dignity amid cultural taboos, bureaucratic pressure, and personal inexperience to complete the journey

Director - Manoj Kumar V : Manoj Kumar V is a techie turned filmmaker from Bangalore, India, whose storytelling is inspired by the raw realities of rural Karnataka. Blending the structured mindset of his technology background with a passion for authentic narratives, Manoj creates films that reflect truth, emotion, and cultural depth. His short film Paduvarahalli (2018) won the Karnataka State Best Short Film Award and was later featured in the acclaimed Kannada anthology Kathasangama (2019), earning praise for its sensitivity and realism. To sharpen his craft, he pursued a scriptwriting course in San Francisco, USA, gaining global exposure while strengthening his storytelling fundamentals. Influenced by masters like Steven Spielberg and Martin Scorsese, Manoj's work explores human complexities, moral dilemmas, and the unseen struggles of everyday life. Aspiring to create drama films that spark empathy and reflection, he envisions building a body of work defined by emotional depth, cultural authenticity, and timeless human relevance.

Producer - Nithin Krishnamurthy : Nithin Krishnamurthy is a key figure in Kannada cinema, and also leading Gulmohar Films Pvt. Ltd. Known for his debut blockbuster Kannada film "Hostel Hudugaru Bekagiddare" released in 2023. Previously, he headed On-Air Promotions at ZEE Kannada, creating award-winning promos. His marketing strategies, blending humor and intelligence, have greatly influenced the television industry. At Gulmohar Films, he has elevated the production house's creativity and excellence, making it renowned for both cinematic brilliance and innovative marketing. His work continues to shape the entertainment world, with audiences eagerly awaiting his future projects.

18 - Swarnapuchhri | India | Hindi, Marathi, Kashmiri

Logline - In a remote Koli fishing-village threatened with displacement by an upcoming nuclear power plant, when a young fisherboy disappears after his brief liaison with a security guard of the power- plant, his mother turns to the sea's ancient secrets for answers.

Director - Ritwik Goswami : Ritwik Goswami is a Mumbai-based filmmaker, whose debut feature-in-development, *Swarnapuchhri*, won at the West Meets East Screenplay Lab at the Dhaka International Film Festival 2023. A graduate of the Film and Television Institute of India, his work draws from lived experience and engages with themes of gender, class, and sexuality, centering marginalized voices across fiction and nonfiction. His music video 'Pishdaramad' has screened at queer film festivals, while his documentary 'Life of a Wave' captures the lives of Koli fisherwomen in coastal Maharashtra. His short-film script 'Like Fire, Like Wind' was a finalist at HKIFF's Asian Short Film Fund 2025.

Producer - Nidhi Salian : Nidhi Girish Salian is an Indian producer and creative director with over a decade of experience in non-fiction and hybrid storytelling. A former lawyer, she develops stories at the intersection of policy, culture, and lived experience. Her recent credits include 'Indian Predator: Murder in a Courtroom' (Netflix, VICE Studios), 'Rainbow Rishta' (Prime Video; GLAAD-nominated), and 'Yo Yo Honey Singh: Famous' (Netflix, Sikhya). In 2025, she moved into fiction with 'Machhli', a comedy feature now in post-production. With deep experience across all stages of filmmaking, she specialises in lean, high-accountability productions - assembling focused crews, safeguarding editorial integrity, and ensuring legally sound delivery.

NFDC's Handpicked Focused Projects

19. Shamed | India | Hindi,Punjabi,English

Logline - When Sarbjit, a British-Punjabi housewife, decides to expose her family's complicity in her sister-in-law Surjit's 'honor killing', she must break through a wall of silence and shame to get justice, securing Britain's first bodiless murder conviction.

Director - Diksha Jyoti Routray : Diksha Routray is a multi-hyphenate with a decade-long career spanning advertising, filmmaking, and production. As a creative producer, she has worked on acclaimed films like *Andhadhun* (2018) and *Merry Christmas* (2024) and has led numerous other films and series for Matchbox Shots over the years. Diksha began her journey by assisting Sriram Raghavan on *Badlapur* before directing two short films, *The Ideal Bride* and *Red Velvet*. *Red Velvet* earned nominations at the Indian Film Festival of Melbourne and the Filmfare Awards, solidifying her reputation as a compelling writer-director of women-centric narratives.

Producer - Sarita Patil : With 31 years across feature films, television, and digital platforms, Sarita Patil has shaped content in Hindi, English, and regional languages. She held leadership positions at major production houses, most recently as Vice President at Viacom18 Motion Pictures. An alumna of INSEAD, Sarita co-founded Matchbox Shots, a boutique production company based in Mumbai. Her recent filmography includes *All India Rank* (Closing film, IFFR 2023), *Three of Us* (Official selection, IFFI 2022), and the critically acclaimed series *Scoop* (2023, Netflix), *IC814: The Kandahar Hijack* (2024, Netflix) and *Khauf* (2025, Amazon Prime Video)

20. SMASH | Russia, India | Russian, English, Hindi

Logline - Olga was a reserve player in the Russian badminton team for years. She gets a chance to play at a tournament in India. Will she be able to overcome herself, her past and make history in the birthplace of badminton?

Director - Maxim Kuznetsov : Maksim Kuznetsov is a distinctive genre filmmaker. He graduated from the renowned class at the Higher Courses for Scriptwriters and Directors (VKSR), studying under Vladimir Khotinenko, Vladimir Fenchenko and Pavel Finn. The premiere of Maksim's graduation film "I Have a Brother" took place in the competition program of the prestigious Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival. The film was awarded at numerous international and Russian festivals, receiving awards for Best Film, Screenplay, Cinematography, and Acting.

In 2024, Maxim's debut thriller "The Truth" was released, starring Kuzma Kotreliev, Kirill Kyaro, Mikhail Troynik, and Alexandra Drozdova. The festival premiere took place in the competition program of the most important Russian debut film festival Koroche in Kaliningrad.

Producer - Ekatrina Golubeva-Poldi : Ekaterina Golubeva-Poldi is the producer, CEO and founder of SMENA Film Company. In September 2020, her producer's debut, a full-length feature comedy "Russian Spleen", directed by Alexey Kamynin, entered a competition of a major Russian film festival "Kinotavr". The world premiere of the film was held in November 2019 in the competition of Tallinn Black Nights film festival (PÖFF). In the fall of 2020 "Russian Spleen" was released commercially in Russia and in summer 2021 - internationally, by HBO Go. In 2024, Smena released Maxim Kuznetsov's psychological thriller "The Truth".

21. Tiger in the Lion Den (Freedom friends)- India,United Kingdom | India, UK | English

Logline - This epic cinematic journey into an untold historical narrative promises to resonate deeply with audiences, set amidst the gripping events of Indian independence struggle under India league from London

Director - R Sarath - R.Sarath is an Indian film director and script writer working primarily in the Malayalam film industry.He is rated as one of the internationally reputed film makers from india His films went on to win numerous awards including the best film in the state and Indira Gandhi national award for the best first film of a director He has won 3 international awards for his feature films ..Sarath's films are noted for weaving in pertinent social issues to the narrative and have often been screened at multiple international film festivals . There are ten films in his credit which include India Chinese co production and India- German co production.He has also directed many award winning documentaries and critically acclaimed short films .He was awarded both junior and senior fellow ship from Cultural ministry of India

Producer - Jolly Lonappan : Mr Jolly Lonappan a noted Entrepreneur is a national award winning producer and he has 4 films in his credit

Partnership Project with the Asia TV Forum & Market (ATF)

22. Gloria - Philippines, Singapore | English

Logline - When a naive Filipina's catering business is ruined after a night of passion with a deceitful Singaporean investor, she takes a job as a live-in butler on an exclusive cruise. Shocked to find the investor and his scheming wife as her assigned guests, the two women plot revenge—but things quickly spiral out of control.

Director - Alaric Tay : An International Emmy nominated series Performer, Alaric is the Executive Producer of Singapore's first wide release zombie flick, Zombiepura; which sold in over nine territories across Asia, and is currently streaming on Disney+. He also served as Co-Producer on SeNT - HBO Asia's first original comedy series.

Producer - Derek Judge, Rex Lopez & Alaric Tay :

Derek Judge : In 2009, Derek attended a screenwriting course, following which he devised and successfully pitched the concept to Mediacorp for Point of Entry, which ran for four series. He then wrote episodes for Point of Entry, Silver Lining, Incredible Tales, In Cold Blood, for Mediacorp, and The Paranormal Zone, for Syfy.

Rex Lopez : Began as an art-based creative in the advertising industry and rose from the ranks as a Creative Director for some multinational advertising agencies. Co-founder of Psyops8 and BlackOps Studios Asia, he now heads ideation and strategy focused on creating and producing content for the local and global market and Platforms.

Alaric Tay : An International Emmy nominated series Performer, Alaric is the Executive Producer of Singapore's first wide release zombie flick, Zombiepura; which sold in over nine territories across Asia, and is currently streaming on Disney+. He also served as Co-Producer on SeNT - HBO Asia's first original comedy series.

Co-Production Market Documentary Projects

1 - Colours of the Sea (Colours of the Sea) | India | Malayalam

Logline - On Kochi's fragile coast, three fishermen confront eroding shores and fading livelihoods. Yet each Sunday, they ascend the stage of Chavittu Nadakam, transforming into kings and warriors, reclaiming resilience and dignity through performance as the sea encroaches on their world.

Director - Jeffin Thomas : Jeffin Thomas is a filmmaker based in Kochi. An engineering graduate, he later pursued a Diploma in Direction and Screenplay Writing from the K. R. Narayanan National Institute of Visual Science and Arts, Kerala. He has directed short films and documentaries, and worked as Assistant Director in Malayalam feature films, a television program producer, and a freelance editor. His earlier work includes documenting the lives of traditional coir workers of Kerala. Colours of the Sea marks his debut feature-length documentary as both director and producer, reflecting his deep engagement with coastal life and culture.

Producer - Sanju Surendran : Sanju Surendran is an award-winning Indian filmmaker and producer, and an alumnus of the Film and Television Institute of India, Pune. His documentary Kapila, on the Kutiyattam theatre tradition, won the National Award and received a Special Mention at Visions du Réel, Switzerland. His debut feature Aedan – Garden of Desire earned the Rajat Chakoram for Best Debut Director, the FIPRESCI Award, and four Kerala State Film Awards. He is the founder of Sanju Surendran Films which co-produced Aedan and If on a Winter's Night which premiered at 30th Busan International Film Festival.

2 - Devi (Goddess) | India | Odia

Logline - A powerful journey into the life of Pragyan Rout, a Pala Artist and three other women artists from small remote villages in India struggling between tradition, modernity, and society limitations.

Director - Pranab Kumar Aich : Pranab Aich is an internationally recognized documentary photographer and filmmaker from Odisha, India. He has filmed more than 100 social issue campaign short documentaries pan India in his career span over 15 years. Winner of the Sony World Photography Award Cannes 2009, his short documentaries have been showcased at more than 50 film festivals globally which

includes prestigious forums like Durban International Film Festival 2022-Africa, IFF Ekotop 2016- Bratislava, DocuTIFF 2016-Tirana, BJIFF 2016 - China to name a few. Recently, his debut feature film Nanda Master'nka Chatasali has been included in World's Oldest Documentary film festival DOK LEIPZIG's Germany 40 market exclusives 2024. He has also been selected to Asia's largest film festival Platform Busan 2024, South Korea as an emerging filmmaker. In 2024, he received Odisha State Film Awards for his 2 short documentaries Manayun and Torch.

A member of Screen Writers Association, Western India Film Producers Association and Indian Documentary Producers Association.

Producer - Pranab Kumar Aich : Pranab Aich is an internationally recognized documentary filmmaker. He has been producing documentaries, social ads and short films pan India under his banner Studiowaala. With multiple award-winning documentaries projects City's Step Child, Manayun-My Wonderland, Nanda Master'nka Chatasali in his kit, he is well versed with film festivals, film market and different nuances of distribution for documentaries.

A member of Screen Writers Association, Western India Film Producers Association and Indian Documentary Producers Association.

3 - Nupi Keithel (Women Market) | India | Manipuri

Logline - In Imphal, at the historical Nupi Keithel or all Women Market, three generations of women rise every morning before dawn, carrying the weight of survival, culture, and resistance: everyday vendors that become extraordinary when injustice threatens the future of Manipur.

Director - Haobam Paban Kumar : Haobam Paban Kumar is a celebrated Indian filmmaker from Manipur. He first gained recognition for his powerful documentaries, with AFSPA 1958 winning the Swarna Kamal for the best documentary at the 56th National Film Award and A Cry in the Dark screening at Toronto International Film Festival and MoMA New York. After a decade in non-fiction, he transitioned to features. His critically acclaimed film Loktak Lairembee (Lady of the Lake) premiered at Berlin, Busan, Hong Kong etc cementing his status as a vital voice bringing stories from Northeast India to a global audience.

Producer - : Haobam Paban Kumar, Ajit Yumnam & Rajesh Puthanpurayil :

Haobam Paban Kumar : A prominent Indian filmmaker, he first gained recognition for his powerful documentaries - AFSPA 1958, A Cry in the Dark, Floating Life, Mr India etc.

Ajit Yumnam: An acclaimed Manipuri filmmaker, producer, and writer. Ajit has directed and co-produced several significant feature films, including "Eikhoisibu Kanano," "4/11," and "Sunita."

Rajesh Puthanpurayil: A Kochi-based filmmaker and cultural enthusiast, organizes and hosts film festivals & educational cum cultural events in Kerala. His debut short film 'Made In' earned several international awards.

4 - Simhastha Kumbh (A Drop of Nectar) | India | Hindi, Sanskrit

Logline - Amidst the vast gathering of the Nashik Kumbh, this documentary reinterprets an ancient ritual through a humanist lens, tracing humanity's timeless search for meaning, relevance, and social transformation within the currents of tradition and progress.

Director - Amitabha Singh : Amitabha Singh is an internationally acclaimed Director of Photography in India having a vast body of work. A 1994 alumnus of the Film and Television Institute of India, his work has been leading the change as the content creation has evolved in India over the past two decades. Known for "Panchayat"; 'Khosla Ka Ghosla', 'Chillar Party' and 'The Good Road' - a feature film that made its mark in the Oscars. A graduate in Computer Sciences, Amitabha is learning to play the flute.

Producer - Amitabha Singh : Founded by Indian filmmaker Amitabha Singh, Docutales India is a documentary film production company dedicated to telling culturally rich, socially resonant, and visually compelling stories from India and beyond. The company specializes in creating films that explore human experiences, heritage, and contemporary social issues through a poetic and humanist lens.

Docutales India is committed to cinematic storytelling that balances aesthetic excellence with intellectual depth, ensuring each project resonates with audiences both locally and globally. By combining immersive cinematography, thoughtful

narrative structures, and meticulous research, the company brings authenticity and nuance to every story.

Past and ongoing projects reflect a commitment to celebrating cultural traditions, exploring social transformations, and highlighting universal human themes. With a focus on festival-quality content, international collaborations, and socially meaningful cinema, Docutales India continues to position itself as a leading voice in documentary filmmaking, bridging India's rich narratives with global audiences.

5 - The Maharaja and Me (The Maharaja and Me) | India, United Kingdom| English, Hindi

Logline - Two middle-aged friends, one English, one Indian, set out across northern India to trace their family histories. Along the way, they deepen their friendship, encounter unexpected cultural connections, and open a dialogue about heritage, identity, and belonging.

Director - Ben Crichton : Ben Crichton is a BAFTA award winning Producer, Director, and self shooter with more than twelve years of experience creating factual programming for Disney+, National Geographic, BBC, Channel 4, Channel 5, A&E, and PBS. Skilled at building trust and securing access, he has filmed with police services, hospitals, the military, and in remote regions worldwide. His work explores cultural and social themes through powerful visuals and storytelling. Alongside broadcast work, he produces digital and branded content for History Hit, the Saudi Ministry of Culture, and others. Fluent in Spanish and Italian, he brings a global perspective to every project.

Producer - : Karl Hillbrick & Sue Graham:

Karl Hillbrick : Karl Hillbrick, founder of Infilmpact, has produced *Our Colors Never Fade*, directed by Jim McSherry and executive produced by Emmy Award winner Artem Lysak, *Nadija*, which premiered in the European Parliament by invitation, and the award-winning French short *Le Cœur du Pélican*. Karl develops globally relevant, cross-cultural narratives.

Sue Graham - Sue Graham is Creative Producer and storyteller with a background in history and cultural heritage. She co-created *The Maharaja and Me* and leads its creative development with Ben Crichton and Karl Hillbrick. Sue specialises in projects

that blend personal narrative with historical discovery, connecting audiences across cultures and generations.

ABOUT WAVES FILM BAZAAR

Waves Film Bazaar - Waves Film Bazaar (WFB) earlier known as Film Bazaar is held annually in Goa alongside the International Film Festival of India. Since its inception in 2007, it has been focusing on discovering, supporting and showcasing South Asian films and talent in filmmaking, production and distribution; the Bazaar also facilitates the sales of world cinema in the South Asian region. The market aims at facilitating the sales of world cinema in the region. The market is a converging point for South Asian and international filmmakers and film producers, sales agents, and festival programmers for potential creative and financial collaboration. Over the course of 5 days, the Film Market focuses on discovering, supporting, and showcasing South Asian content and talent in filmmaking, production, and distribution. For more information, visit www.films.wavesbazaar.com

ABOUT NFDC

Incorporated in the year 1975, National Film Development Corporation Limited (NFDC) was formed by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India, with the primary objective of promoting Indian cinema and showcasing it across the world. With financial support extended to over 300 films in 21 regional languages, NFDC has helped facilitate an ecosystem to support the development, financing, and distribution of independent films across the country. These films have won numerous international and national accolades. Film Bazaar, the co-production initiative of NFDC has been an integral part of this process.