

**The national Fund for the
support of audiovisual
production**

ANNUAL REPORT 1999

The law of 21st December 1998 on the restructuring of the audiovisual production sector (*Law modifying and reorganising the amended law of 13th December 1988 introducing a special temporary fiscal regime for certificates of audiovisual investment and the law of 11th April 1990 creating a national Fund for the support of audiovisual production*) has entrusted the Fund with the ***implementing of overall government policy in matters of support for audiovisual production.***

Thus the Fund is notably in charge of the management of selective financial aid (direct aid on advances on receipts), the audiovisual investment certificates scheme (indirect aid), European initiatives such as “Eurimages” and any other action concerned with supporting audiovisual production, namely promotion and development of the sector, the compiling of statistics for the sector, the negotiation and implementation of co-production agreements and the granting of certificates of nationality.

The Fund, a national institution, is ***under the joint protection*** of the ministers having the audiovisual sector and culture within their range of responsibilities.

During the current year, the administrative Council has had to take decisions on some 80 applications for support. Its decisions were taken on the basis of the opinion of a Reading Panel (artistic quality) and an Economic and Financial Analysis Committee (financial aspects).

1) Audiovisual Investment Certificates

The law lays down that companies wishing to enjoy the benefits of the audiovisual investment certificate scheme must be approved by the Government. 12 production companies were thus approved in 1999 (Annexe).

21 projects for audiovisual works were passed for the audiovisual investment certificate scheme and 12 were already produced in 1999. The total amount of audiovisual investment certificates issued in 1999 came to **610,951,302** LUF.

List of audiovisual works produced in 1999:

CINEMA:

LA CHAMBRE OBSCURE
SHADOW OF THE VAMPIRE
FALLING THROUGH
THE NEW ADVENTURES OF PINOCCHIO

GROSSE GEFUEHLE
UNE LIAISON PORNOGRAPHIQUE
LES GENS QUI S'AIMENT

DELUX PRODUCTIONS
DELUX PRODUCTIONS
DELUX PRODUCTION
THE CAROUSEL PICTURE
COMPANY
MONIPOLY PRODUCTIONS
SAMSA FILM
SAMSA FILM

ANIMATION:

CLIFF HANGER (1999 expenditure)
FLIGHT SQUAD

NEURONES LUXEMBOURG
NEURONES LUXEMBOURG

DOCUMENTARIES:

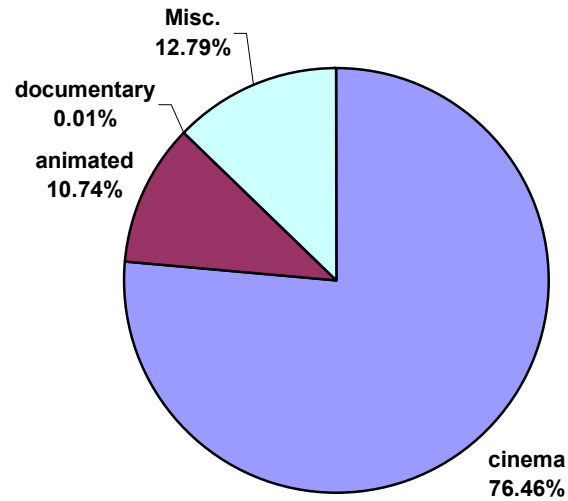
PORTRAITS D'ARTISTES (1999 expenditure)

SAMSA FILM

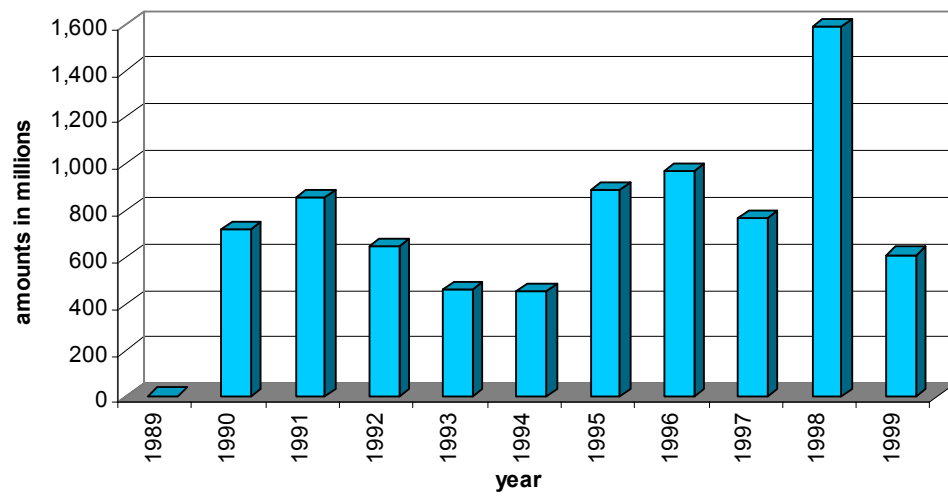
MISCELLANEOUS:

TELESPARKS

Split of audiovisual investment certificates in relation to the types of works produced



Pattern of the total amounts for audiovisual investment certificates issued per year in LUF



2) Selective financial aid

By selective financial aid is meant aid in the form of advances on receipts. There are three categories of aid:

- 1) aid on writing and/or development
- 2) aid on production
- 3) aid on distribution.

In 1999, selective financial aid granted came in total to **65,105,196 LUF**. **5.070.196 LUF** was given for aid on writing and development, **56,315,000 LUF** for aid on production and **3,720,000 LUF** for aid on distribution.

AID ON DEVELOPMENT

COMPANY	PROJECTS	GRANT
NI-FILM	PLEASE INSERT COIN	600,000
SAMSA FILM	BYE BYE BLACKBIRD (ROMANCE)	800,000
ONIRIA PICTURES	LE LANGAGE DES FLEURS	2,470,196
SAMSA FILM	BYE BYE BLACKBIRD (ROMANCE)	1,200,000
<i>SUB TOTAL</i>		<i>5,070,196</i>

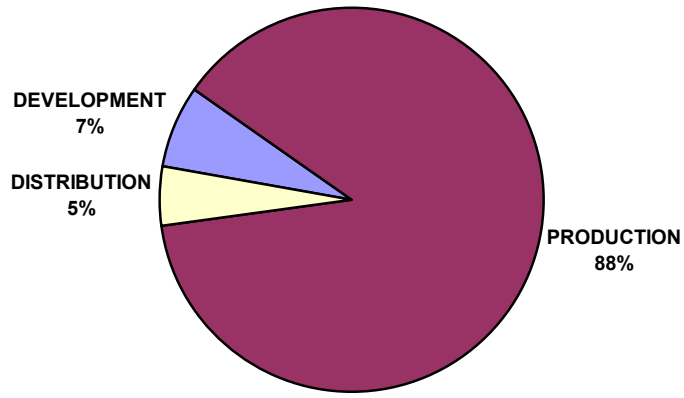
AID ON PRODUCTION

COMPANY	PROJECTS	GRANT
MINOTAURUS	DAS KLEID DER LANDSCHAFT	3,800,000
SAMSA FILM	UNE LIAISON PORNOGRAPHIQUE	7,000,000
TARANTULA LUXEMBOURG	LA VIE RÊVÉE	2,200,000
SAMSA FILM	LE BAL DES PANTINS	12,000,000
RATTLESNAKE PICTURES	ELECTRIC THEATRE	4,155,000
SAMSA FILM	LE TROISIEME ŒIL	3,000,000
SAMSA FILM	DIS POURQUOI, DIS COMMENT	9,000,000
TARANTULA LUXEMBOURG	LES MESURES DU RECTANGLE	2,960,000
SAMSA FILM	VERROUILLAGE CENTRAL	3,500,000
TARANTULA LUXEMBOURG	ONE DANCE, ONE SONG	2,500,000
	AUF DER SUCHE NACH DEM	
MONIPOLY PRODUCTIONS	MAGISCHEN RIFF	800,000
SAMSA FILM	CEUX QUI SONT ALLES EN ESPAGNE	5,400,000
<i>SUB TOTAL</i>		<i>56,315,000</i>

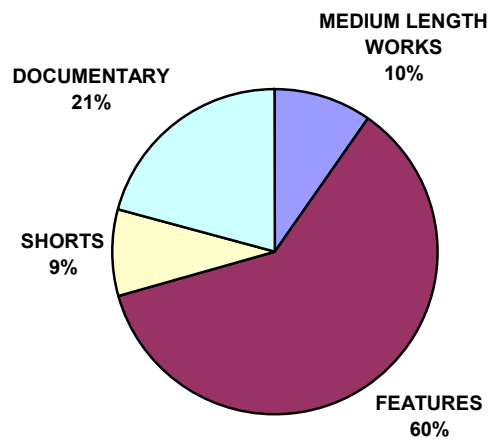
AID ON DISTRIBUTION

COMPANY	PROJECTS	GRANT
SAMSA FILM	FRAGILE	220,000
SAMSA FILM	UNE LIAISON PORNOGRAPHIQUE	900,000
SAMSA FILM	JAIME	1,700,000
LYNX PRODUCTIONS	ROCKIN' WARRIORS	600,000
VIDEOPRESS	LORENZ IM LAND DER LÜGNER	300,000
<i>SUB TOTAL</i>		<i>3,720,000</i>
TOTAL SELECTIVE FINANCIAL AID		73,105,196

Selective financial aid granted in 1999



Selective financial aid on production granted in relation to the types of works produced



3) Subsidies and miscellaneous commissions

The Fund granted subsidies to festivals, events, organisations and students' works in addition to commissioning productions. This came to a total of 6,630,385 LUF.

BENEFICIARIES	ACTIONS	GRANTS
LËTZEBUERGER STUDENTECLUB WIEN	FILMFESTIVAL LUXEMBURGER KURZFILME	86,380
CINENYGMA	MANIFESTATION	150,000
SAARLANDISCHES FILMBÜRO	SAARLORLUX FILM- UND VIDEOFESTIVAL	206,255
SAMSA FILM	AM CONGO	5,000,000
UELZECHTKANAL	HAUT FOURNEAU	300,000
	FRAIS INTERVIEW I.M. PEI	18,579
IVANA CEKOVIC	PROMENADE LIBRE AUTOUR DE LA PORTE FERMEE	200,000
SANDMAN PRODUCTIONS	APEMAN	174,300
BERYL KOLTZ	EXPIRATIONS	250,000
ULPA	SUBSIDE DE FONCTIONNEMENT	100,000
ULPA	NEWSLETTER	144,871
TOTAL		6,630,385

4) Promotional activities of the Fund

The Fund has an infrastructure and financial resources in line with the aims of promoting Luxembourg as a location for audiovisual production.

Since May 1999, the National Fund for the support of audiovisual production is a member of the European Film Promotion (EFP), an initiative of the MEDIA programme, a European film promotional body. As a member of the EFP, the Fund has, in the field of international film festivals, been involved in several activities at them, always with the aim of promoting native production.

To provide a framework for national productions selected, the Fund has taken part in numerous international festivals and markets.

In this context mention should be made of the Prize for female interpretation awarded to the actress Nathalie Baye for her role in the Luxembourg co-production “Une liaison pornographique” at the International Film Festival in Venice, as well as the Special Jury Prize awarded at the San Sebastian Festival to the Luxembourg production “Jaime”.

The various awards won at international festivals by Luxembourg productions or co-productions are the signs of a national film sector in full expansion. Indeed, the local industry today comprises more than 20 very active production companies, service providers and specialist equipment and properties hiring companies. There are also about ten studios offering production, animation and post-production facilities. About 600 people currently work in this sector which is constantly expanding.

A promotional film, highlighting the excellent facilities the country offers for production, is in the development stage.

PROMOTION SUBSIDIES

COMPANY	ACTION	GRANT
SAMSA FILM	PROMOTION "JAIME"	75,000
SAMSA FILM	PROMOTION "POURQUOI SE MARIER LE JOUR DE LA FIN DU MONDE"	42,428
MONIPOLY PRODUCTIONS	PARTICIPATION AU FESTIVAL DE LOCARNO	150,000
Yves BROES	PARTICIPATION AU FESTIVAL DE BILBAO	51,088
PROGRAMME 15 x 15	FRAIS DE COPIES "TROUBLEMAKER"	429,869
SAMSA FILM	PARTICIPATION AU FESTIVAL DE SHENYANG	210,000
TOTAL		958,385

5) Participation of the Fund in Eurimages

Eurimages is the Council of Europe Fund for aid on co-production, distribution and exploitation of European cinematographic works. Set up in 1989 on the basis of a Partial Agreement, it currently brings together 26 member states (Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and Turkey).

Its aim is to promote European cinema by stimulating the production and circulation of works and fostering co-operation between professionals.

Eurimages is run by a management committee. The national fund for the support of audiovisual production is a member of this committee. Luxembourg is represented by Monsieur Joy Hoffmann.

The current President of Eurimages is Sig. Gianni Massaro (Italy). The executive secretary, Mme Mireille PAULUS-LEVY, comes from Luxembourg.

In 1999, Eurimages had a budget of 131,000,000 FRF, of which 11,720,000 FRF went on running costs.

Member states pay a statutory annual subscription, the amount of which is, however, voluntary and based on the Council of Europe scale. This system for making contributions, which is pretty well free of restrictions, is currently subject to reform. The contribution from Luxembourg in 1999 came to 500,000 FRF. The Fund decided to increase it in 2000 to 600,000 FRF.

Of the 131 applications for aid on co-production submitted, 72 projects were supported to the tune of 117,634,000 FRF. 6,586,000 FRF have been repaid.

The network of cinemas, managed together with "Europa Cinemas", has 29 cinemas spread across countries not covered by the MEDIA programme (Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Switzerland and Turkey). Aid granted to cinemas came to 3,900,000 FRF.

198 films distributed by a distributor in a country without access to the MEDIA programme, or originally from one those countries, have been supported.

Luxembourg draws undeniable benefit from the Fund and practically all Luxembourg co-productions seek support from Eurimages.

The following aid, amounting to a total of 1,476,000 FRF, was granted to Luxembourg co-productions:

LA CHAMBRE OBSCURE (Delux Productions) April 1999 (Budget: 22,892,965 FRF) aid: 2,300,000 FRF of which 20% = 460,000 FRF for the Luxembourg co-producer

Co-producing countries: Blue Films (France 70%), PFA FILMS (Italy 10%)

Director: Marie-Christine Questerbert

LE BAL DES PANTINS (Samsa Film) September 1999 (Budget: 13,220,000 FRF)

Aid: 1,300,000 FRF of which 35% = 455,000 FRF for the Luxembourg co-producer

Co-producing countries: Alice in Wonderland (Belgium 55%), FADO Filmes (Portugal 10%)

Director: Herman van Eyken

LE TROISIEME ŒIL (Samsa Film) September 1999 (Budget: 5,757,561 FRF) aid:

500,000 FRF of which 21% = 105,000 FF for the Luxembourg co-producer

Co-producing countries: SAGA Film (Belgium 58%), REZO Films (France 20%)

Director: Christophe Fraipont

AUF DER SUCHE NACH DEM MAGISCHEN RIFF (Monipoly Productions)

September 1999 (Budget: 1,953,193 FRF) aid: 200,000 FRF of which 10% = 20,000 FRF for the Luxembourg co-producer

Co-producing countries: Tiger TV (Germany 70%), FAMA Film (Switzerland 20%)

Director: Elke Bauer

VILLA DES ROSES (Samsa Film) November 1999 (Budget: 23,139,605 FRF) aid:

1,850,000 FRF of which 16% = 296,000 FRF for the Luxembourg co-producer

Co-producing countries: FAVOURITE Films (Belgium 61%), ISABELLA Films (Netherlands 22%)

Director: Frank Van Passel

ALIAS, ALIAS (Delux Productions) November 1999 (Budget: 23,410,379 FRF) aid:

1,400,000 FRF of which 10% = 140,000 FRF for the Luxembourg co-producer

Co-producing countries: Blue Films (France 70%), AT Productions (Belgium 20%)

Director: Ahmed Bouchaala

Annexe 1 : List of approved companies

DELUX PRODUCTIONS S.A.
M. Jimmy DE BRABANT
2, rue Nicolas Bové
L-1253 LUXEMBOURG

Tel.: (352) 25 42 82-1
Fax: (352) 44 06 40
e-mail : delux@pt.lu

IRIS PRODUCTIONS S.A.
M. Nicolas STEIL
223, Val Ste Croix
L-1371 LUXEMBOURG

Tel.: (352) 44 29 93
Fax: (352) 44 20 16
e-mail : iris@pt.lu

MELUSINE PRODUCTIONS S.A.
M. Stéphan ROELANTS
30, rue des Bruyères
L-1274 LUXEMBOURG

Tel.: (352) 40 13 20 304
Fax: (352) 40 13 20 308
e-mail : s.roelants@studio352.lu

MONIPOLY PRODUCTIONS s.à r.l.
M. Paul THILTGES
23, Val Fleuri
L-1526 LUXEMBOURG

Tel.: (352) 25 03 93-1
Fax: (352) 25 03 94
e-mail : paul.thiltges@vo.lu

NEUROPLANET LUXEMBOURG S.A.
M. Paul HANNEQUART
4, rte de Longwy
L-4830 RODANGE

Tel.: (352) 65 15 15-1
Fax: (352) 65 16 16
e-mail: info@neuroplanet.lu

ONIRIA PICTURES S.A.
M. Thierry SCHIEL
Mme Sophia KOLOKOURI
59, côte d'Eich
L-1450 LUXEMBOURG

Tel.: (352) 26 43 41-1
Fax: (352) 26 43 17 42
e-mail : oniria_pictures@hotmail.com

RED LION s.à.r.l.
M. Frank FEITLER
M. Pol CRUCHTEN
5, rue CM Spoo
L-2546 LUXEMBOURG

Tel. : (352) 48 61 08
Fax : (352) 48 83 57
e-mail : red.lion@pt.lu

SAMSA FILM s.à r.l.
M. Jani THILTGES
M. Claude WARINGO
238C, rte de Luxembourg
L-8077 BERTRANGE

Tel.: (352) 45 19 60-1
Fax: (352) 44 24 29
e-mail : samsa.film@filmnet.lu

STUDIO 352 S.A.
M. Stéphan ROELANTS
30, rue des Bruyères
L-1274 LUXEMBOURG

Tel.: (352) 40 13 20 304
Fax: (352) 40 13 20 308
e-mail : s.roelants@studio352.lu

TARANTULA Luxembourg s.à r.l.
M. Donato ROTUNNO
M. Eddy LUYCKX
83, rue de Hollerich
L-1741 LUXEMBOURG

Tel.: (352) 26 49 611
Fax: (352) 26 49 6120
e-mail : email@tarantula.lu

TELESPARKS S.A.
M. Luc WAGNER
45, bd Pierre Frieden
L-1543 LUXEMBOURG

Tel.: (352) 421 421
Fax: (352) 421 42 7009
e-mail: luc_wagner@clt-ufa.com

THE CAROUSEL PICTURE COMPANY S.A.
M. Romain SCHROEDER
M. Tom REEVE
45, rue de la Montagne
L-5380 UEBERSYREN

Tel.: (352) 35 00 23
Fax: (352) 35 05 02
e-mail : romain@carousel.lu

Annexe 2 : Organisational chart

Composition of the Administrative Council of the Fund:

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL					
Jean-Paul ZENS (President)	Minister of State	5, rue Large	L-1917 LUXEMBOURG	Tel. : 478 2160	Fax : 47 56 62
Jean BACK	C.N.A.	5, rte de Zoufftgen	L-3402 DUDELANGE	52 24 24 1	52 06 55
Alain BELLOT	Ministry of Finance	3, rue de la Congrégation	L-2931 LUXEMBOURG	478 2646	47 52 41
Guy DOCKENDORF (Vice-President)	Ministry of Culture	20, Montée de la Pétrusse	L-2273 LUXEMBOURG	478 6610	40 24 27
Patrick GILLEN	IGF, Ministry for the Budget	3, rue de la Congrégation	L-1352 LUXEMBOURG	478 2753	478 2673
Pierre RAUCHS	Ministry for the Economy	19-21, bd Royal	L-2014 LUXEMBOURG	478 4172	22 16 07
Henri ROANNE- ROSENBLATT (Most senior member)	Independent Expert	8, rue de l'Etang	B-1315 SART- RISBART	32-10- 88 15 23	32-10- 88 15 21
Jacques WOLTER	Tax Office	45, bd Roosevelt	L-2450 LUXEMBOURG	40 800 2211	47 33 29
Fernand WAGENER (Secretary)	National Fund for the support of audiovisual production	5, rue Large	L-1917 LUXEMBOURG	478 2169	22 09 63
Guy DALEIDEN (Director)	National Fund for the support of audiovisual production	5, rue Large	L-1917 LUXEMBOURG	478 2162	22 09 63

The Administrative Council is assisted by two committees, namely:

The **Reading Panel** analysing submissions in terms of their artistic and cultural quality

READING PANBL					
Claude BERTEMES	Municipal Cinémathèque	10, rue E. Ruppert	L-2453 LUXEMBOURG	Tel : 4796 2346	Fax : 40 75 19
Bob KRIEPS	SACEM	46, rue Goethe	L-1637 LUXEMBOURG	47 55 59	48 02 76
Jean-Louis SCHEFFEN (President)	TELECRAN	2, rue Christophe Plantin	L-2988 LUXEMBOURG	49 93 504	49 93 590
Karin SCHOCK-WEILER		Schraudolph strasse, 2 – Rückgebäude	D-80799 MÜNCHEN	49-171-23 44 506 (GSM)	49-89-950 71 211
Fabienne TSAI	WARNER FRANCE PRODUCTIONS	67, avenue de Wagram	F-75017 PARIS	33-1-40 16 12 20	33-1-47 63 45 15
Françoise POOS (Secretary)	MEDIA Desk Luxembourg	5, rue Large	L-1917 LUXEMBOURG	478 2170	46 74 95

The **Economic and Financial Analysis Committee**

ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL ANALYSIS COMMITTEE					
Guy DALEIDEN (President)	National Fund for the support of audiovisual production	5, rue Large	L-1917 LUXEMBOURG	Tel : 478 2162	Fax : 22 09 63
Tom COENE	ACCountants Team	28, rue St. Quentin	B-1000 BRUXELLES	32-2-282 07 07	32-2-230 89 36
Alexandra GUARDA-RAUCHS	Ministry of the Economy	19-21, bd Royal	L-2449 LUXEMBOURG	478 4181	22 16 07
Norbert LAPORTE	National Fund for the support of audiovisual production	5, rue Large	L-1917 LUXEMBOURG	478 2173	22 09 63
Fernand WAGENER	National Fund for the support of audiovisual production	5, rue Large	L-1917 LUXEMBOURG	478 2169	22 09 63
Marc WARKEN (secrétaire)	National Fund for the support of audiovisual production	5, rue Large	L-1917 LUXEMBOURG	478 2168	22 09 63

Day-to-day management and secretariat are provided by the **Fund's Administrative staff:**

FONSPA, administrative staff					
Guy DALEIDEN	Director	5, rue Large	L-1917 LUXEMBOURG	Tel : 478 2162	Fax 22 09 63
Nathalie DONDELINGER	Promotion	5, rue Large	L-1917 LUXEMBOURG	478 2179	22 09 63
Christiane KLEIN	Secretariat	5, rue Large	L-1917 LUXEMBOURG	478 2165	22 09 63
Norbert LAPORTE	Accounts Dept.	5, rue Large	L-1917 LUXEMBOURG	478 2173	22 09 63
Fernand WAGENER	Management : selective financial aid + audiovisual investment certificates	5, rue Large	L-1917 LUXEMBOURG	478 2169	22 09 63
Marc WARKEN	Management : selective financial aid + audiovisual investment certificates	5, rue Large	L-1917 LUXEMBOURG	478 2168	22 09 63