



VIEWING ROOM (VR) AND WORK-IN-PROGRESS (WIP) LAB 2026 NFDC WAVES Film Bazaar at IFFI

FAQs

Q. Is NFDC Waves Film Bazaar the same as Indian International Film Festival (IFFI)? If my film is selected for NFDC Waves Film Bazaar, will it screen at IFFI?

A. NFDC Waves Film Bazaar is a film market organised by NFDC with the aim to promote South Asian Cinema and film talent to worldwide film professionals. NFDC Waves Film Bazaar is purely a B2B (Business to Business) platform. It is not the same as IFFI which is a B2C (Business to Consumer) platform. NFDC Waves Film Bazaar is a market that showcases films with a focus on international film professionals as well as Indian film professionals. The Waves Film Bazaar at IFFI will be held from November 20-24, 2026 in Goa.

NFDC Waves Film Bazaar is not to be confused with IFFI which is a film festival.

Q. What are the dates of NFDC Waves Film Bazaar?

The NFDC Waves Film Bazaar at IFFI will be held from November 20-24, 2026 in Goa, alongside IFFI.

Q. How do I decide which section to apply to in NFDC Waves Film Bazaar?

A. If you are a filmmaker or an aspiring filmmaker, here is the quick guide to NFDC Waves Film Bazaar at IFFI 2026.

-If you have a film at the development stage and haven't started shooting the film, you may want to apply for the Co-Production Market. The Co-Production Market is open to feature (fiction), and animation (fiction) films.

-If you have a film in rough-cut stage, that is in post-production but not complete, the Work-in-Progress Lab could be an option for you. The lab is designed to help you connect with industry professionals as mentors who will provide feedback on your current cut and help achieve the ideal final cut. It will also involve an editing mentor who will help you pan out the edit plan post the feedback sessions.

-Films that are complete or in post-production stages and are looking for film festivals, film distribution, world sales and gap financing can apply to the Viewing Room.



-You can also attend NFDC Waves Film Bazaar 2026 as a delegate, even if you do not have a project in hand. As a delegate, you can experience the physical film market. If you are an investor, buyer or a producer looking for new projects/films, the Bazaar can be a good avenue for your outlook. Registration for delegates will open shortly.

VIEWING ROOM

Q. What is the Viewing Room at the NFDC Waves Film Bazaar?

A. The objective of the Viewing Room is to present a selection of latest films, complete or in progress, from India and South Asia to festival programmers / world sales agents / buyers / distributors / VOD platforms. The films that are looking for finishing funds, and are in the final stages of production can also apply to Viewing Room. Viewing Room is a restricted zone and hence, film clips (or entire films*) can be viewed only by selected delegates on the computer terminal at Waves Film Bazaar in Goa. The films are stored on our secured server and played on a piracy-free platform.

Q. What are the kinds of films suitable for Viewing Room?

A. Films that have just been completed, that have not yet traveled to festivals abroad, or have done so in a limited way. Films in the post-production stage looking for finishing funds are also eligible to apply. Films looking for distribution deals can also apply. There is no restriction on the completion date of the film. Applicants can also send older films that are still available for distribution. However, films which were finished before 1st January 2026 will not be considered for Waves Film Bazaar Recommends (FBR).

Films looking for sales and distribution deals can also apply.

Q. How do I apply for the Viewing Room and Work-in-Progress Lab?

A. The application process for Viewing Room and Work-in-Progress Lab is an online process and independent of each other. Please visit our [website](#) for more details.

For any queries regarding VR, please contact films@nfdcindia.com.

For any queries regarding WIP Lab, please contact films@nfdcindia.com.

Q. What are the submission deadlines and what are the application fees for all three sections?

CATEGORY	FEES (Fiction)	FEES (Non-Fiction)
Regular Deadline - September 2th-24th, 2026		
Viewing Room (Shorts) Short film is a film of duration below 30 minutes.	INR 6000	INR 5000
Viewing Room (Mid-Length) Mid-length film is a film of duration 30-70 minutes.	INR 7000	INR 6000
Viewing Room (Features) Feature-length film is a film of duration 72 minutes or more.	INR 8000	INR 7000
Work-in-Progress Lab Feature-length films of duration 72 minutes or more are only eligible.	INR 9000	Documentaries Not Accepted
Viewing Room & Work-in-Progress Lab	INR 10000	Documentaries Not Accepted
Late Deadline - September 25th-2nd October, 2026		
Viewing Room (shorts) Short film is a film of duration below 30 minutes.	INR 7000	INR 6000
Viewing Room (mid-length) Mid-length film is a film of duration 30- 70 minutes.	INR 8000	INR 7000
Viewing Room (features) Feature-length film is a film of duration 72 minutes or more.	INR 9000	INR 8000
Work-in-Progress Lab Feature-length film of duration 72 minutes or more are only eligible.	INR 10000	Documentaries Not Accepted
Viewing Room & Work-in-Progress Lab	INR 11000	Documentaries Not Accepted
#Deadline for Entries is Midnight (IST)		
* All fees are non-refundable and non-transferable. Inclusive of all taxes; exclusive of any/all bank charge(s).		

Q. What is the selection process for the Viewing Room?

A. No film that has completed the application is rejected from the Viewing Room. A completed application form along with the mandatory application fee paid before the stipulated deadline, a signed *Undertaking* and the timely submission of the film / film clip will ensure that the film will be showcased in the Viewing Room. However, in specific cases, NFDC Waves Film Bazaar has the right to reject applications if guidelines and regulations are not adhered to and/or submissions are incomplete/ in wrong format/ past due date, or any other reasons specific to the film submitted. The decision of NFDC Waves Film Bazaar is final.

There will be a curated selection of films from the VR library called Waves Film Bazaar Recommends (FBR). Movies that have not yet premiered and were made after 1st January



2026, at any stage of post-production, are eligible for consideration in this section if they submit to the Viewing Room. The FBR section is curated for purposes of highlighting contemporary styles of filmmaking. This curation is made at the sole discretion of the programmer.

Q. What will happen if my Film is not in Waves Film Bazaar Recommends?

A. If your film is not in the Waves Film Bazaar Recommends, it will still be a part of the Film Library section in the Viewing Room, as you have paid the fees. For any film to gain visibility the presence of filmmaker personally networking at the Waves Film Bazaar helps immensely.

Q. If my film is rejected for the Viewing Room, will my application fee be returned?

A. The fee for the Viewing Room is an application fee that is mandatory and shall not be refunded under any circumstances.

Q. In which format will the films be shown to the delegates? What is the exact design of the event?

A. Entire films will be shown in digital format. They will be stored in a remote server owned by NFDC and made available via the secure Viewing Room software. The Viewing Room is modeled on similar platforms available in other film markets across the world. Registered delegates who are given VR Access will be able to login to view the films and a report will be sent to the filmmaker of these viewings.

Q. What steps will be taken to ensure that our film will be free from piracy?

A. Access to films showcased in the Viewing Room will be highly restricted. Only verified and vetted film professionals will be granted VR access by NFDC Waves Film Bazaar to the Viewing Room. This will be based on information provided by the delegate at the time of registration. A filmmaker can also choose who will have access to his/her film. The submitted film files will only be available to the core team and stored on a secure server in an encrypted format. When the film plays, the name of the viewer will appear as a watermark on the film image, hence deterring the viewer from possibly taking a screenshot / recording. In any case, delegates entering the Viewing Room are not allowed to carry any devices having a camera which includes a mobile phone or a tablet. These are the precautions NFDC has taken to avoid potential piracy.

Please note that NFDC Waves Film Bazaar will not be held responsible for any claims arising due to piracy of the film clip or the film. The filmmaker will have to sign an *Undertaking* on submission of the film clip / film to NFDC Waves Film Bazaar 2026. Kindly note that without the minimum requirement of a ten minute film clip, the film will not be eligible for the Viewing Room.



Q. In which format do I need to submit the film?

A. Applicants are not expected to upload their films at the time of application. However, they need to submit a password protected, downloadable preview screener link (Vimeo or Google Drive) of their entire rough-cut or the completed film along with the application form, so that our programmer can view the film. This file will not be shared publicly with anyone and will be for internal reference of the programmer only. Please ensure that the rough-cut link provided in the application form is downloadable and preferably password protected. **If the link is not downloadable, your application will be considered incomplete.**

For Viewing Room, we recommend that a filmmaker submits the entire film which will be shown in the highly restricted and safe environment of Viewing Room to the selected delegates who have access. However, the filmmaker can also choose to submit a film clip i.e at least a minimum of ten minutes of their film. The Viewing Room team will contact the filmmaker in October 2026 requesting them to upload the final film file / film clip onto the Viewing Room server. This uploaded film file will undergo the process of digitalization and encryption, and will be stored in the server. This is the film file that will be viewed by the selected delegates of Waves Film Bazaar 2026. Please refer to the Rules & Regulations to understand the two stage submission process of film files. The filmmaker will have to sign an Undertaking at the time of application.

Q. Can I update my film file in the Viewing Room?

A. The programmer will watch the preview link sent via the application form only once. Please make sure that the link is correct. Regarding film files to be showcased in the Viewing Room, the team shall get in touch with applicants in early October, 2026. If the applicant has a newer film link post the application, kindly inform the team before October 5, 2026. Please note that the team will consider newer cuts only if the newer cut has sufficient changes in the edit. If the difference in duration is of and below 5 minutes, then it will not be considered.

Q. Can I have my film in the Viewing Room but not attend NFDC Waves Film Bazaar 2026?

A. The application fee is only for the submission of the film to VR. If you do not register and are unable to attend Waves Film Bazaar between November 20-24, 2026, you can still choose to have your film in the Viewing Room. The programmer/ sales agent/ distributor/ investor viewing your film/ film clip can get in touch with you via the email provided by you in the application form through the VR software. Alternatively, the email address of the producer will also be printed in



the catalogue. At the end of NFDC Waves Film Bazaar, the applicant will receive a detailed report of how many views the film has had at the Viewing Room and names of the viewers.

Q. Does a submission to the Viewing Room guarantee that my Film will be watched at Waves Film Bazaar?

A. NFDC Waves Film Bazaar does not offer any guarantees with regards to business opportunities for the film. It is a market that showcases the submitted films in the best possible way to attract as many views as possible. However, every applicant should be aware that their film is competing for attention among a large number of films from India and South Asia. Hence, the onus to attract views lies on the Director and the Producer of the film. A well chosen image for the catalogue and a well written synopsis is a great tool to increase curiosity about the film. But the best marketing strategy is to be personally present at Waves Film Bazaar and network for your film.

Q. Who are the festival programmers, world sales agents and financiers visiting the Waves Film Bazaar this year?

A. NFDC Waves Film Bazaar will reach out to top film professionals worldwide, which include film festival directors and programmers from prestigious film festivals, buyers, sales representatives, distributors and investors. While confirmations can only be indicated during the month of September/October, on registering for NFDC Waves Film Bazaar 2026, you shall be given access to the complete list of invitees in your Waves Film Bazaar Account. You will be able to interact and book meetings before NFDC Waves Film Bazaar 2026.

Q. Am I allowed to embed a watermark on the screener?

A. A large watermark on the film image hampers the viewing experience. If at all you wish to add a watermark, please make sure that it is small in size, at the corner of the frame and not across it.

Q. Will I get to present my project at the Bazaar?

A. Yes, the selected films under **Waves Film Bazaar Recommends** get a chance to present their film at the Waves Film Bazaar *Open Pitch* to an audience of industry professionals. The Open Pitch helps them get visibility, recognition and potential collaborators, investors and buyers.

Q. Can I come and access the VR since my film is part of it?



A. No. As mentioned on Waves Film Bazaar website, the Viewing Room is going to be a restricted space. NFDC grants access to registered delegates according to their profiles (VR Access). Only if a delegate registers as a buyer, investor, film festival programmer, sales representative or distributor, they get access to view the films in the Viewing Room. However, the applicant will be able to filter this list even further by deciding for themselves who, from them, gets access to view their film. They can choose to revoke a delegate's access if they wish to. They will be able to access this list on their MyFilmBazaar Account before the Waves Film Bazaar begins, which will enable them to do so. **Please note that even the filmmakers who have submitted their film to VR will not have access to the VR.**

Q. How will I know who has watched my films?

A. At the end of each day, from November 20-24, 2026, the primary contact will receive the report and statistics of your film.

Q. How do I publicize my film?

A. As mentioned above, before Waves Film Bazaar begins, applicants will have access to a list of individuals who have access to VR through their MyFilmBazaar Account. This will allow you to contact delegates and inform them that your film is available in VR.

Q. What is the difference between 'Work-in-Progress Lab' and 'Viewing Room'?

A. Work-in-Progress Lab is a lab designed to help the Director of a film achieve an accomplished final cut of the film. The film is viewed at a rough-cut stage by a panel of international experts who guide the filmmaker towards a final edit. The objective is to view a film from an international perspective and obtain feedback on the same. It is however not incumbent for the Director to implement the feedback that the mentors give. Alternatively, the Viewing Room looks at presenting the latest in South Asian cinema that is seeking film festivals / world sales / distribution / gap financing.



WORK-IN-PROGRESS LAB

Q. Is there a selection process for Work-in-Progress (WIP) Lab?

A. Yes, a maximum of eight (8) feature-length films (fiction) will be selected for Work-in-Progress Lab.

Q. Is the WIP Lab open to Documentary feature films?

A. No. Shorts and mid-length are not eligible for WIP Lab either. However animation (fiction) **films above 72 minutes** are welcome.

Q. I am interested in both the Viewing Room and Work-in-Progress Lab. Can I apply for both the sections and how much is the fee for both?

A. Yes, definitely. But the application form will be separate and the fees will also vary.

Q. Am I allowed to embed a watermark on the screener?

A. A large watermark on the film image hampers the viewing experience. If at all you wish to add a watermark, please make sure that it is small in size, at the corner of the frame and not across it.

Q. What is the structure of the lab?

A. The lab's structure is divided into two. The lab provides a feedback session and editing session. The mentors include feedback mentors and editing mentors. The selected participants spend time with their feedback mentors discussing their projects and with the help of the editing mentors, the selected participants work on their edit during the Bazaar dates i.e November 20-24, 2026 in Goa.

Q. Will I get to present my project at the Bazaar?

A. Yes, the selected participants get a chance to present their film at the Waves Film Bazaar *Open Pitch* to an audience of industry professionals. The Open Pitch helps them get visibility, recognition and potential collaborators, investors and buyers.

Q. Accommodation?

A. We provide accommodation for 2 participants per project to selected project representatives.



Q. I have a rough-cut that is under 72 minutes. Can I apply for WIP Lab?

A. No. The WIP Lab only accepts feature length projects. The rough-cut should be above 72 minutes and should not be double the duration of the intended final cut. Please do not submit a rough assembly of the entire film, nor a trailer.

Generic FAQs for VR and WIP

Q. I received a reference number at the end of my application. What is this?

A. The reference number provided to you is the number of your application. Please save this number for reference to your form and correspondence pertaining to your application.

Q. Will a screening at NFDC Waves Film Bazaar be counted as an official screening / premiere of the film?

A. A screening at NFDC Waves Film Bazaar 2026 is purely a screening for the Industry and is a preview. The information of the film will be included in the market documentation that is given out to all market delegates. As it is a market screening, it is not considered as a premiere of the film and hence, does not affect the chances of the film being selected for World Premiere in international film festivals. The filmmaker cannot claim that the film has premiered at NFDC Waves Film Bazaar even if it is the first screening of the film.

Q. Will NFDC be involved in the deals that happen at Waves Film Bazaar or help to get the funding for our film?

A. NFDC Waves Film Bazaar is a film market open to film professionals from around the world. This platform enables networking between the filmmaker and the prospective investors / financiers / co-producers. The terms at which the filmmaker decides to collaborate with another individual / company will have to be mutually negotiated. NFDC Waves Film Bazaar doesn't involve itself in such negotiations. NFDC as a company does not invest in any film financially at the Bazaar. NFDC Waves Film Bazaar hence invites filmmakers to make use of the platform designed for this purpose without being directly involved in the potential transactions that will take place between a filmmaker and an investor / producer.

For any specific query not covered in the above FAQs and Rules and Regulations kindly write to us at films@nfdcindia.com. You should receive a reply within 48 hours.