



NFDC Waves Film Bazaar 2026

Work In Progress Lab

NOVEMBER 20-24, 2026

TABLE OF CONTENTS

COMMON GUIDELINES

WORK-IN-PROGRESS LAB GUIDELINES

APPLICATION FORM GUIDELINES

Following are the rules and regulations pertaining to the Work-in-Progress Lab at NFDC Waves Film Bazaar 2026

COMMON GUIDELINES

1. The Work-in-Progress Lab will be held physically in Goa as part of NFDC Waves Film Bazaar 2026.
2. The WIP Lab stands for Work-In-Process Lab, while VR refers to the Viewing Room.
3. This application form is only for submitting the film to WIP Lab. This form should not be confused with delegate registration for Waves Film Bazaar. On successful completion of this application, you will be guided on how to register further as a delegate by the Waves Film Bazaar team.
4. Only films from India and South Asia are eligible, i.e. a large part of the film photography should be based in India / South Asia. Else, the Director or at least one of the Co-Producers of the film should be from India / South Asia. In case of any confusion, Please write to films@nfdcindia.com for clarification.
5. For NFDC Waves Film Bazaar 2026,
 - (a) Feature-length film is a film of duration above 72 minutes
 - (b) Mid-length film is a film of duration above 30 minutes and below 70 minutes.
 - (c) Short film is a film of duration below 30 minutes.



NFDC
cinemas of india

*Note - The duration of the film is calculated till the end of the last shot.

6. If you are not sure of which programme to apply for i.e the WIP Lab or VR, kindly click [here](#) to refer to the guideline and benefits document.

7. The application fees are in Indian Rupees (INR) and non-refundable.

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).		

8. The film to be submitted in the rough-cut, should contain hard-coded English subtitles, wherever applicable. What is a rough cut?

9. A rough cut can be defined as the first edited version of a film, which may include unfinished visual effects and a temporary musical score. Rough edit and assembly cut are also terms that can be used to refer to this initial cut. All of the main pieces have been assembled in sequential order, but it may not contain all of the finer details, such



NFDC
cinemas of india

as finished CGI, DI, fully sound, color grading, sound and other similar aspects.

10. A filmmaker cannot use the logo of NFDC Waves Film Bazaar in their film or promotional material without permission of NFDC. A film in NFDC Waves Film Bazaar does not indicate that NFDC endorses the film in any way.

11. NFDC Waves Film Bazaar is only a platform to present films. The programmer is not bound to give the filmmakers personal feedback on their submitted films. Only the films selected for the WIP Lab will receive feedback from the mentors. NFDC Waves Film Bazaar also does not provide individual guidance regarding festival strategy.

12. Once the application procedure is complete, NFDC Waves Film Bazaar may ask for additional project information, if needed. Kindly ensure that the Primary Contact Person is available to respond to emails promptly. Primary Contact Person is the person who fills the application form, i.e., the applicant and will be the one point of contact till the end of Waves Film Bazaar.

Work-In-Progress Lab Guidelines

What is the Work-In-Progress Lab?

Work-in-Progress Lab is a closed door lab / workshop. It is not a platform to showcase films. Viewing Room is the only platform at Waves Film Bazaar to showcase complete/ incomplete films. From this edition onward, Work-In-Progress Lab and Viewing Room will have separate application forms. If you're seeking creative and technical feedback as well as mentorship for your rough cuts, we encourage you to apply for the WIP Lab. If the applicant is seeking visibility, finishing funds, distribution or film festivals, kindly apply for the Viewing Room separately. The VR submission will be independent of the WIP Lab's application process.

1. WIP Lab is open for Feature-Length fiction films (above 72 minutes) which are not yet complete, i.e., their edit is not locked. - Mid-length films (30-70 mins.) and short films (under 30 mins.) cannot apply for this section.

- Completed films are not eligible for the WIP Lab.

The film to be submitted should be in its rough-cut stage or just before final edit. All or a large part of the principal photography must be complete. The film should not have



NFDC
cinemas of india

begun with their post production processes like DI or final sound design.

2. Please ensure that the submitted rough cut for selection is of minimum duration of 72 minutes. Please submit the best possible cut of the film for consideration as the cut will be watched only once by the programmer for selection purposes. The rough-cut should not be double the intended final duration of the film. Please do not submit a rough assembly of the entire film, nor a trailer.

3. 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. This is required for the selection process and for viewing purposes only.

4. A maximum of 8 feature-length fiction films will be selected for the WIP Lab. The decision of NFDC Waves Film Bazaar will be final.

5. A film which has applied to the WIP Lab can still choose to apply in the Viewing Room. If the applicant is seeking visibility, finishing funds, distribution or film festivals for the film. We highly recommend this.

6. If the applicant has a newer rough cut of the film 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.

7. The WIP Lab requires the presence of both the Director and the Editor of the film. If you intend to apply for the WIP Lab, please ensure there is a director and an editor who will be available for the entire duration of the Lab, which is going to take place physically, and will be able to travel to Goa on the dates of Waves Film Bazaar. Please mention the Editor's filmography in the application form.

8. The WIP Lab will be held in physical format in Goa. The Director and the Editor of the selected films will be provided free registration to NFDC Waves Film Bazaar 2026 to attend the WIP Lab. In case, the Director cannot attend the sessions of the WIP Lab, the film will be disqualified and another film will be selected in its place. In case, the film has multiple directors and editors associated with the film, a maximum of 4 team members (director, co-director, editor and co-editor) will be allowed to participate in the lab.

9. In the above case, the co-directors and co-editors can attend the lab at their own cost



pertaining to accreditation and accommodation.

10. The Producer of the film cannot attend the WIP Lab in place of the Director and the editor of the film cannot attend in the absence of the Director. Both the Director and the editor of the film will have to be present.

11. The WIP Lab will be conducted in English. Hence, the film team will need to be suitably proficient in English. If the team does not feel comfortable with English, kindly inform the WIP Lab team beforehand so that we can make necessary arrangements.

12. WIP Lab will take place in the month of November but the exact dates of the Lab will be informed the selected participants.

13. The WIP Lab participants are expected to attend NFDC Waves Film Bazaar 2026 for the entire duration (November 20-24, 2026).

APPLICATION FORM

This is a form that can be filled in stages and kindly make sure that you click on the '?' icon in the application form wherever it appears for the specific instructions related to the field. The form need not be filled in one go. You can save the information by clicking the button 'Save Work and Finish Later' at the bottom of the application form.

1. The WIP Lab application form stands true only for WIP Lab. In case the applicant would like to put their film in VR, kindly apply to the Viewing Room for the same.

2. The email address and phone number provided by the Primary Contact Person in the first stage of the application form shall be regarded as the single-point contact address between NFDC Waves Film Bazaar and the applicant. Kindly ensure that the Primary Contact Person is easily reachable until the end of NFDC Waves Film Bazaar 2026.

3. The contact details of the first producer mentioned on the application form will be published in our catalogue. Hence, please ensure that this belongs to the Rights Holder of the film who would be able to respond to potential future queries by international film Professionals.



NFDC
cinemas of india

4. Word limits are to be adhered to wherever mentioned in the application form. NFDC Waves Film Bazaar reserves the right to shorten and/or edit the text for the purpose of publication of film information in the NFDC Waves Film Bazaar Catalogue.
5. Completed applications need to be submitted by the prescribed deadline. NFDC Waves Film Bazaar will not take responsibility for the exclusion of projects if complete information is not supplied by the above-mentioned date.
6. The filmmakers are required to submit at least three film-stills and one director's photograph along with the application form. These should be three images from the film and not production/ working stills. NFDC Waves Film Bazaar reserves the right to crop the images as per design requirements.
7. Application will be accepted only upon payment of the mandatory application fee.
8. By submitting the application form for Work-In-Progress Lab the applicant hereby certifies, with regards to all third parties involved, that he/she has read and understood the rules and regulations listed, that he/she is legally authorized to submit the film for Work-In-Progress Lab and that the information given by the applicant is true and correct.

The applicant indemnifies Waves Film Bazaar and NFDC against any claims to the contrary.

For any clarification, please write to films@nfdcindia.com.

Kindly read the FAQs and the Undertaking before filling the form.

If the filmmaker has any specific query not covered in all the three documents, kindly send an email to films@nfdcindia.com with the original title of the film as the subject of the email. Thank you for your kind attention and all the best for your application!