

# Terms & Conditions

of the MegaCities-ShortDocs Film Festival



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\* No purchase is necessary to enter or win the contest.

\* Entering the contest means that you agree to the following Terms & Conditions.

## I. THE ORGANISATION

MegaCities-ShortDocs (from now on called MC-SD) is a French non-governmental organisation with its headquarter in Paris and representatives worldwide. Since 2014, we have collected inspiring ShortDocs from all over the world with the aim to raise awareness on urban challenges and encourage knowledge circulation and action.

### Contacts

Email: [contact@megacities-shortdocs.org](mailto:contact@megacities-shortdocs.org)

Whatsapp, Signal, WeChat: +33 7 87 05 66 78

## II. HOW TO ENTER THE CONTEST

- **Register through our website** | To enter the contest, you have to fill in the [registration form online](#) you can find on our [website](#). We would like to bring your attention to the fact that this is a **mandatory** step. In addition, we recommend you do so as soon as you decide to participate in the contest, for it will allow us to reach out for any updates and closely follow you and your ShortDoc.
- **Upload your ShortDoc on the [shortfilmdepot](#)** platform | After having registered on our website (NB: uploading your ShortDoc shortfilmdepot is not sufficient), you can proceed to upload your ShortDoc (and other attachments if needed) on shortfilmdepot following this [tutorial](#). You must upload your ShortDoc **before January 15th 2024**, midnight French time.

**N.B.:** you should use the same contact (first name, last name and email) to both register on shortfilmdepot and our website. If the ShortDoc is produced by a team, registration must be made by only one representative of the group - the other ones must appear in the closing credits of the ShortDoc. It follows that in the case the ShortDoc produced by the team is awarded, only the representative will be invited to Paris for the Award Ceremony.

### III. KEY DATES

- **January 15th 2024** : Deadline to register on our [website](#) and to upload your ShortDoc on [shortfilmdepot.com](#).
- **January 15th to February 15th : Jury pre-selection**  
The festival team, composed of documentary filmmakers, journalists, and staff from the non-profit and SSE sectors, selects the 50 films that will be presented to the jury.
- **February 15th to March 15th : Jury Final Selection**  
A professional and international jury selects the 15 films that will be screened at the ceremony, as well as the winners of the festival awards.
- **May 22nd 2024 Paris Award Ceremony**  
The awards for the MegaCities-ShortDocs Festival will be delivered at the Paris Award Ceremony on May 22nd 2024. Multiple screenings across the world will occur throughout the rest of the year.
- **May 24th 2024 Megacities Shortdocs at the Cannes Film Festival**  
The winners of the "Best ShortDoc" and "Best Student ShortDoc" awards, as well as the winner of the "Greater Paris Metropolis recognition", are invited to the Cannes Film Festival. Their films will be screened as part of the 9th Positive Cinema Week. The "Best ShortDoc" winner is going up the steps.

### IV. AWARDS, PRIZES & RECOGNITIONS

By entering our contest, you will be eligible for:

**Three awards** | When selected for an award, in addition to the given reward, you will be granted a **roundtrip flight ticket**<sup>1</sup> between your city and Paris to participate at the Festival Award Ceremony in May 2024. The awards you can be eligible for are as follows :

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<sup>1</sup> We would like to bring your attention on the fact that the feasibility of the Festival (and therefore the trip) **depends on sanitary conditions**. The roundtrip flight ticket allowance depends on the departure location, with a **maximum allowance of 1100€**. The tickets will be bought in order for you to arrive one day before the ceremony and leave two days after it.

- “The Best ShortDoc”, in partnership with Positive Cinema Week, under the auspices of the Cannes Film Festival goes to the best film of the edition shot in an urban environment, with a reward of 1 000 € and an invitation to the Cannes Film Festival (transport and accommodation).
- “The Best MegaCities-ShortDoc” goes to the most inspiring ShortDoc of the edition shot in a megacity, with a reward of 1 000€.
- “The Best Student” goes to the best ShortDoc made by a student<sup>2</sup>, with a reward of 1 000€, and an invitation to the Cannes Film Festival (transport and accommodation).

**The Special Prizes from our Partners** | Each of the following prizes amount to 1 000€ ; they are respectively given to:

- “The Greater Paris Metropolis Prize”, to the ShortDoc maker behind the best ShortDoc shot in Paris and/or its metropolitan area (Métropole du Grand Paris), with an invitation to the Cannes Film Festival (transport and accommodation).
- “The 15 Minute City Prize”, in partnership with the Chaire ETI - Paris La Sorbonne, to the ShortDoc maker behind the ShortDoc which best presents the 15 minute city concept<sup>3</sup>. See Appendix 1 for more info.
- “The Social Entrepreneurship and Innovation Prize”, supported by Eelisa Rewards a film that promotes impact entrepreneurship and/or ethics and technology, as well as offering a special focus or vision on gender and inclusion, cooperation and building bridges between STEM areas and the humanities and arts.

Moreover, we announce that the 30 most inspiring ShortDocs of each edition will be involved in our new **Mini-series Program**. We are considering co-producing the series with **regional channels** and eventually a **global streaming platform** - with generated net revenues shared 50/50 between MC-SD and the ShortDoc makers.

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<sup>2</sup> If you are a student you must provide us with a **valid student card/certificate** to prove your status.

<sup>3</sup> The ShortDoc maker who applies to *the 15 Minute City Prize* agrees to let their ShortDocs be **uploaded on the platform Proximedia**, to present existing initiatives that showcase the concept of the "Happy Proximity" in cities.

## V. THE SHORTDOC

**Framework** | The spirit of MC-SD's contest is to address urban challenges. It encourages filmmakers to present a positive initiative or denounce an unacceptable situation in their metropolitan context. Our goal is to raise awareness on the potential and relatability of one docu-story for it can inspire a chain of changes worldwide. We want our ShortDocs to involve and encourage other individuals, associations, businesses, and governments to set in motion initiatives for a society which values a greater respect for the environment and solidarity among citizens.

The ShortDocs submitted to the contest should focus on both or one of the following:

- a **social-impact initiative**, defined as an action which answers individual basic needs and fosters cohesion amongst communities or groups;
- an **environmental-impact initiative**, defined as an action directly linked with the preservation of our planet and its resources.

A ShortDoc might also denounce an **unacceptable situation**, to draw people's attention to a specific challenge which must be addressed.

As a means of inspiration, we encourage you to closely review the [17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals \(SDGs\)](#), in their challenges and solutions. We remind you that these topics are often interdependent, and you can present many together.

We recommend focusing on solutions which include viable initiatives in terms of durability, inclusivity and equity.

**Location** | The ShortDoc must be shot **in an urban environment**. In the past, we only accepted films shot in a "megacity" which is defined by the UN as any urban agglomeration having over 10 million inhabitants. Therefore, we have a long list of inspiring and impactful ShortDocs shot in cities like Paris, New York, Los Angeles, São Paulo, Rio de Janeiro, Al-Qahirah (Cairo), Lagos, Delhi, Jakarta, Tokyo, Beijing, Shanghai, and many more. From now on, we are ready to welcome in the MC-SD Festival **any city**.

**Length** | The ShortDoc must be a maximum of **4.00 minutes long**. For a better quality, we recommend 4K or **Full HD format** (1920×1080) encoded in **h264** (.mov, .mp4). The ShortDoc **title** must appear at some point during the **first 20 seconds** on the screen.

**Subtitles** | The ShortDoc must be uploaded with subtitles in English.

**Thumbnail** | The ShortDoc thumbnail must be uploaded with a high-quality (JPG picture format 1600×1200) and must well represent your film and topic. This picture might be used and published for general public release.

**Closing Credits** | Closing credits must appear within the 4 minutes of the ShortDoc. They should include the ShortDoc maker's name, year of production, participants, stakeholders and location. Here you can also include the "initiative holder" presented in the ShortDoc, if any. If you provide statistics, data, quotes in your ShortDoc make sure to **check the source** and reference it in the closing credits.

**Submission** | When uploading your ShortDoc on the shortfilmdepot platform, the ShortDoc title (30 characters maximum) must be written in the appropriate field as well as its description (less than 300 characters) - which will be considered in the final evaluation. We would like to remind you that:

- both registration on our website and submission of the ShortDoc on shortfilmdepot must be made **before January 15th, 2024, at midnight French time**. You can watch this [tutorial](#);
- the ShortDoc Maker who registers on the shortfilmdepot platform must be the same person who first registered on our website. If the ShortDoc was produced by a team, there must be only one representative for the group.

Be aware that uploading one ShortDoc on shortfilmdepot will cost you one "stamp" (which is shortfilmdepot's means of payment) of 1.50€. Under special circumstances, you may apply for reimbursement. You must explain to us the reason behind your claim, and attach the shortfilmdepot invoice. The claim must be made before January 15th, 2024. The MC-SD Team will evaluate your case and, if deemed right, we will send you the money back through Western Union Money Transfer.

## VI. WINNERS SELECTION

Please be aware that a ShortDoc sent after the deadline will not be accepted, unless a deadline extension is officially given by MC-SD.

### Jury selection criteria

- **Quality: esthetics of the production and clarity of the message**

This criterion includes technical choices about the image and the sound, as well as the creativity and the vision behind the theme selected.

➤ **The power of the proposal and its transferability**

The ShortDocs will be evaluated in their ability to clearly show the impact of the problem and/or the solution represented in the video. They should also encourage reflections on how the chosen social and/or environmental initiative can contribute to universal challenges.

➤ **Respect of the right format**

Formats (image, title, description, subtitles, credits, etc.) must be consistent and coherent with the given instruction. Please notice that this is not a minor detail, but an evaluation object.

## VIII. GENERAL CONDITIONS

MC-SD Administration has the right to modify the given Terms & Condition information anytime, if deemed necessary. In case of updates, the new information will be posted on our website and the ShortDoc makers who registered through our website will be notified by email. This is also why we highly encourage you to register as soon as possible, even if you still do not have a clear idea of the documentary you want to realise.

By accepting the prize, the winner acknowledges that MC-SD neither made, nor is in any manner responsible or liable for any warranty, representation or guarantee, express or implied in fact or in law relative to the prize or to any portion thereof.

If for any reason, the promotion is not capable of running as planned, including any suspected evidence of tampering or technological corruption or if any portion of the contest is compromised by a virus, bugs, fraud, strikes, terrorists acts, criminal acts of third parties, an insufficient number of qualified entries, or any other causes beyond MC-SD control which in MC-SD sole opinion, corrupts, threatens or impairs the administration, security, fairness, integrity, or proper conduct of the promotion, MC-SD reserves the right to cancel, terminate, modify or suspend the contest at their sole discretion.

## IX. DATA PROTECTION

Any information collected by entering the contest will be used by MC-SD only in accord with these official contest rules. The data subject has the right to access its collected data. In addition, they also have the right to rectify, delete and oppose the processing of their data about if based on legitimate grounds, pursuant to the conditions stipulated by law no. 78-17 of the 6th of January 1978 [January 1978, modified in 2004 on computer information, files and civil liberties]. To exercise this right, contact the MC-SD staff by email.

## X. GUARANTEES

Participants declare that their ShortDoc does not violate the rights of any third parties or does not promote content that are of a violent, pornographic or libelous nature - more specifically, racist, xenophobic, pedophile, unhealthy content. No encouragement of criminal offence, war or crimes against humanity will be tolerated. In addition, each submitted ShortDoc should not encourage the consumption of cigarettes, alcohol drinks, drugs or any other prohibited products.

Participants declare that their ShortDoc does not infringe from an industrial or intellectual property right or copyright (an original work, a brand or a logo) nor mention any content subject to copyright and intellectual property rights (trademarks, photos, logos and banners) without the prior approval of the owner. Participants certify that they have obtained all the publicity right to any persons who could be identified in the video.

Participants declare that they hold all the copyrights, intellectual property rights and all the authorizations required for the film to participate in the MC-SD competition and for all other rights granted to MC-SD under the terms of the present regulations. Consequently, participants guarantee MC-SD against any claims, demands, suits, and actions taken by possible third parties on any grounds whatsoever, including, but not limited to, libel, defamation and invasion of privacy. Participants undertake to guarantee, compensate and hold harmless MC-SD against any expenses, in particular, expenses and fees related to court proceedings, and direct or indirect damage, as well as any sentences imposed on MC-SD or payment resulting from a settlement signed with the plaintiff. In addition, participants are reminded that failure to hold the rights and authorizations required for the film to participate in the MC-SD competition and



for all other rights granted to MC-SD as referred to in the present article, may result in the application of criminal and civil penalties as provided by the law.

In general, participants declare that their ShortDoc complies with any current legislation and regulations in effect.

*If the MC-SD team identifies a non-compliance with these conditions, the concerned ShortDoc will be disqualified from the contest. This decision belongs to the MC-SD judgement and if, unfortunately, the ShortDoc will be disqualified, MC-SD's team is committed to explain the non-compliance reason to the ShortDoc Maker.*

## XI. BROADCASTING

Participants give MC-SD the permission to reproduce and broadcast clips of the selected films presented in the Festival on terrestrial, digital, cable, satellite and ADSL television channels, on Internet sites, mobile telephony or by any other communication network. A film could be displayed in the given format or only a part of it, with the closing credits, with or without subtitles, dubbed or with audio description. They can only be used as part of stories covering the Festival, TV or Web programs and interviews and/or promotional trailers or advertising for the Festival current or future editions and for MC-SD's official partners supporting social and/or environmental causes. Permission to use these clips is granted once for all, starting on the date of submission of the film.

As already mentioned above, in the case of the Mini-series, the NGO will **expressly** request the filmmakers if they want to be part of it.

## XII. MISCELLANEOUS CONDITIONS

The online registration to the MegaCities-ShortDocs Film Festival implies acceptance of these terms and conditions. Failure to comply might result in disqualification from the contest. The contest is subject to all country and local-city laws and regulations.

## XIII. APPLICABLE LAW AND JURISDICTION

These Terms & Conditions are governed by and construed in accordance with French law. The French courts shall have jurisdiction.

Paris, April 15th 2023

The MegaCities-ShortDocs Team

# Appendix 1 - Prizes

## ➤ 15 Minute City Prize

Living in a city often means having to deal with certain dysfunctions, such as long commutes, noisy streets and under-utilised spaces. The **15 minute City Prize** aims at addressing urban challenges by encouraging debates on the need to rethink city design and living spaces. Also called the “City of Proximity”, the 15 Minute City is a model in which the daily necessities can be accomplished by either walking or cycling from residents’ homes, in just 15 minutes. It is a different way of living, of consuming, of working, of getting access to healthcare services, education and culture. It is a new way of being in the city. As a result, quality of life, social inclusion and wellbeing improve, while transportation costs, nuisances, GHG emissions and stress decrease. This concept has nowadays spread around the world: the 15-minute city is at the heart of debates and reflections on today and tomorrow’s urban planning. In particular, we wish to bring attention to:

- new ideas concerning housing (shared, solidarity, etc) and co-working initiatives;
- new approaches to healthcare (health centres that bring together several specialists, data transmission systems, etc.), to school and education in general (opening schools on weekends, decarbonized school transport, school assistance.), to meal delivery services for vulnerable people, to cultural and sport activities;
- innovation in terms of transportation (logistic platforms, mutualisation of transport, car sharing, bikes).