

FRANCE

PARIS, SUSTAINABLE SETS

On June 27th, Bruno Julliard, Deputy Mayor in charge of culture, and **Christian Vivès**, Director of Paris **ERDF**, signed the charter for filming in Paris according to which the use of temporary electric connections is encouraged and made easier. This permits film crews to restrict the use of generators, thus reducing sound and environmental disturbance. The **City of Paris** and **ERDF** thus aim to facilitate the reception of film crews and preserve the quality of life of Parisians, while reducing the city's environmental footprint.

ERDF, a public service company in charge of supplying electricity to 95% of the French metropolitan territory, has teamed up with the City for the success of the Climate Plan.

Paris, capital of cinema, hosts more 950 film shoots in 6,000 different locations every year. In a difficult economic context, the City of Paris remains committed to fostering film shoots that generate jobs and economic benefits. The City of Paris and **ERDF** are thus contributing to the prestige and attractiveness of France on an international level.

Professionals can log on to the www.parisfilm.fr website that is regularly updated to help them prepare their shoots in the French capital. In the "Energy" tab now available, you will find all the details about the procedure.

EU, TRIP GETS THE GREEN LIGHT

The European Commission has just approved the improvements to France's **TRIP** (tax rebate for international productions), the very changes that were voted in by the French Parliament in December 2012. The rebate cap soars from €4M to €10M, and accommodation expenses in France will now be eligible for the 20% tax discount.

Almost as if on purpose, this happened on exactly the same day as the "Despicable Me 2" US release (picture): after huge starts in both the UK and France, the hilarious Chris Renaud and Pierre Coffin animated sequel to the world hit "DM1" skyrocketed at the US B.O. taking \$35M on its first day (Wednesday July 3rd).

Produced by Illumination / Universal and entirely made in France at IMG (Illumination Mac Guff), "DM2" benefitted from the French **TRIP**, as did "DM1" and "Dr Seuss' The Lorax".

"The European Commission kept us waiting for a bit but it is very good news", comments **Film France's** CEO **Patrick Lamassoure**. "This much higher cap will help us to lure complete shoots, which might also be interested in the Studios de Paris sound stages for example. And the accommodation expenses will make a difference to the projects which come with large foreign crews and stay in hotels in Paris or all over France."

The latest **TRIP** winners are Eleanor Coppola's first feature "Bonjour Anne" and the short animated films "Minions series" which will be released next year alongside the "Despicable Me" spin off "The Minions".

CROATIA

SEASON FOUR

In Croatia, preparations are underway for the shooting of season 4 of **HBO's** highly popular TV series "Game of Thrones". Based on the novels "A Song of Ice and Fire" written by George R.R. Martin, the series was filmed on various locations in Europe, including Croatia. The beautiful coastal city of Dubrovnik was used in season two and three for the King's Landing – the capital of the Seven Kingdoms and one of the most important locations in the series - and the city of Qarth, which is visited by Daenerys Targaryen (played by Emilia Clarke).

Encouraged by the successful collaboration with the local production company **Embassy Films**, the financial benefit of the newly introduced production incentive program and the variety of locations, the produc-

ers have decided to extend the shoot in Croatia, adding locations in and around Split to Season 4. According to **Embassy Films**, filming in Croatia will take place between the months of August and September.

CZECH REPUBLIC

PRAGUE/INTERNATIONAL SETS

The Ridley Scott-produced **Child 44**, directed by Daniel Espinosa and produced by **Scott Free Productions**, **Prague's Stilling Films**, **Summit Entertainment** and **Worldview Entertainment**, started its 75-day shoot in June. Featuring a stellar cast including Tom Hardy, Gary Oldman, and Noomi Rapace, the story is set in the Soviet Union during the Stalin era, where a disgraced Soviet military police officer investigates a series of child murders.

Another important international production starting in June in Prague is season three of the papal period drama **The Borgias**. Shooting on the 12 x 60' series is expected to continue for 133 days over the course of ten months. **Film United** (co-founded by Star Wars producer **Rick McCallum**) is behind the series, with Michael Schwarz producing.

The eight-episode Danish TV series **1864**, the most expensive TV project in Danish history, began filming in April and will end its 69-day shoot in mid-July. Danish director/writer Ole Bornedal adapted Tom Buk-Swienty's best-selling novel "Slagtebænk Dybbøl" about one of the most important events in Danish history, the 1864 battle of Dybbøl. The project is produced by Denmark's **Miso Film** and **Sirena Film** is the Czech co-producer. **1864** was among a number of projects to receive support from the **Czech Film Industry Support Program**.

A WORKSHOP FOR GROWTH

Regional producers and representatives from a dozen regions and organizations around the Czech Republic met during the Finale Plzen for a Workshop organized by the **Czech Film Commission**. Its aim was to help the developing film offices understand the needs of filmmakers and the benefits film production can bring to a region. The Czech Republic, which has a strong national and international film industry centered in Prague, has seen slower growth in regional film production. The first regional film commissions began opening in 2012, in regions such as Ostrava and Jeseniky, and began working with the European Film Award winner Alois Nebel who has two new films starting production there. Eight film offices have now been established which are prepared to help both domestic and foreign film producers.

SPAIN

FROM ISRAEL TO ARTAJONA

Bezeq, a big telecom company, has selected Artajona, in Navarra, to develop its new advertising campaign. During the shooting, the San Fermin Running of the Bulls is reproduced with live and docile bulls reflecting as much as possible a real pack, more than 20 runners with experience in running the bulls and wearing red and white clothes, and strong security measures in accordance with the event.

Artajona, where international shootings such as Richard Lester's "Robin



and Marian” took place in 1976, became a big set on 27th June. The **Navarra Film Commission** assessed and collaborated on the production requirements with **Mendips Corporation**, provider of this service in Spain.

LITHUANIA

FILM INDUSTRY INCENTIVES

The Lithuanian Parliament has passed new corporate tax-incentive legislation for the film industry. The tax incentive is modeled on current legislation in Hungary, and pledges twenty per cent tax relief for films shot or produced in Lithuania.

The tax incentive is distributed according to several stipulations. Films must meet at least two of five cultural criteria, at least eighty percent of expenses must be incurred in Lithuania, and the total production budget has to meet or exceed 150,000LTL.

“This incentive is vitally important to our film industry,” says **Arturas Zuokas**, mayor of the capital Vilnius. “The tax amendment will encourage the greatest filmmakers in Hollywood and Europe to choose Vilnius and Lithuania for shooting, bringing tax revenue and new jobs with them. This incentive will benefit not just the film industry, but the entire country.”

“We have highly competent film professionals, unique landscapes, architecture and all the seasons of the year,” says **Pazikaite**. “However, the absence of tax incentives has caused us to lose projects worth millions because their creators decided to take them elsewhere. I am very pleased that this situation has now changed and that Vilnius is once again in the running as a cost-effective location with highly educated and skilled human resources.”

Producers expect that this incentive will lead to a 300% increase in the number of films made in Lithuania in 2014.

ITALY

PIEMONTE SHOOTING AWARD

In 2013 the **Film Commission Torino Piemonte** (FCTP) and the **Torino FilmLab** (TFL) teamed up to launch a new award aimed at projects to be entirely or partially filmed in the Piedmont region. Projects from all TFL programs and every year of participation can compete for this award through a call for applications that will be open until October 15th, 2013. The winner of the **Piemonte Shooting Award**, which will receive special financial support from the Film Commission for the portion of the film shot in the region, will be announced during the 6th **TorinoFilmLab** Meeting Event in November 2013.

PORTUGAL

LISBOA FILM COMMISSION

Launched at the end of 2012, the **Lisboa Film Commission** (LFC) was specifically designed to reduce bureaucracy, streamline the production process and promote Lisbon, both nationally and internationally, as a preferred and competitive film destination for films and commercial productions. Acting both as a facilitator and a partner, productions (nationally and internationally) of cultural or municipal interest may obtain support/incentives such as: exemption of public space occupation taxes; exemption of parking taxes; exemption of special noise licenses; permits and exemption of fees for filming in municipal premises and other logistical support. Financial support may also be granted. The feature film “Balupu” (a co-production between **Cinemate**, a Portuguese production company and **Prasad Vara Potluri**, an Indian production company) and the TV series “Ein Sommer in...” (a co-production between **ClaimSuccess**, a Portuguese production company and **ZDF**, a German TV channel) were recently shot in Lisbon. The first broadcast of “Ein Sommer in...” had an audience of nearly 7 million viewers. The Lisboa Film Commission took part for the first time at The Marché du Film, Cannes Film Festival 2013, where it developed an important network of contacts and links with different film commissions (European and international), film institutions and other organizations (AFCI and EUFCN).

ITALIAN LOCATIONS

SARDINIA/A HOSPITALITY FUND

“L'Arbitro” by Paolo Zucca will open Venice Days: the movie, produced by Classic and distributed by **Lucky Red**, has received support from the **Fondazione Sardegna Film Commission** and a contribution from the Autonomous Regional Government of Sardinia.

The latest film by Bonifacio Angius, “Perfidia”, shot entirely in Sassari and produced by **Movie Factory** of Rome, is currently in the editing stage. September 16th is the deadline for presenting applications to the new **Hospitality Fund** of the Fondazione Sardegna Film Commission: there will be two calls for a total value of 300,000 Euros. The first call is for drama features, TV movies, TV series and TV formats which involve a period of filming in Sardinia of no less than 3 weeks. The second call is dedicated to documentary feature films. The funding will cover the costs sustained on the island for: accommodation (hotels, residences, apartment rentals); board (restaurants, catering, hampers), transport to/from the region and transport within the region (including the hire of vehicles/boats).

TRENTINO/TWO MOVIES IN VENICE

While two movies filmed in Trentino (in collaboration with the **Trentino Film Commission**), “La prima neve” by Andrea Segre and “Piccola Patria” by Alessandro Rossetto, are in competition in the Orizzonti section at the 70th edition of the Venice International Film Festival, two TV productions were also set in Trentino this summer. “La donna velata” (provisional title), the new TV series directed by Carmine Elia and produced by **Lux Vide** for **Raifiction** in collaboration with the Trentino Film Commission, **Trentino Turismo e Promozione** and the **Comune di Trento**, and “Era santo era uomo”, a movie directed by Andrea Porporati, realized by Guido, Nicola and Marco De Angelis’ **De Angelis Media** in collaboration with Rai Fiction, the Trentino Film Commission and Trentino Turismo e Promozione.



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