

CENT

VILLA FORMOSE IMMERSIVE FRANCE XR PROTOTYPING RESIDENCY

Regulations Call for Applications 2024



Applications are open from Tuesday, May 7th to Sunday, June 23rd, 2024 (11:59pm, GMT+8).

Links:

- Announcement page of CENTQUATRE-PARIS
- Announcement page of TAICCA in Mandarin and in English
- Registration form in English



1. About the France XR Prototyping Residency

1.1 Presentation

CENTQUATRE-PARIS plays a major part in the distribution of immersive works, regularly presenting XR projects and immersive experiences in its programming, and inviting Taiwanese artists (Nemo, biennale internationale des arts numériques d'Île-de-France, Venise VR Expanded as part of the Venice Film Festival...).

CENTQUATRE-PARIS partners with CNC, Taiwan Creative Content Agency (referred as TAICCA), Kaohsiung Film Archive, the French Office in Taipei and Institut Français, to continue "Villa Formose Immersive" in 2024: an exceptional bilateral residency program for immersive creation between France and Taiwan. CENTQUATRE-PARIS, CNC, TAICCA, Kaohsiung Film Archive, the French Office in Taipei and Institut Français hereinafter referred to as "Villa Formose Immersive partners".

As part of the Villa Formose Immersive program, the France XR Prototyping Residency will allow one Taiwanese creator to go to Paris between November and December 2024 for a period of 3 to 7 weeks (depending on the project) to develop the prototype of an immersive experience with the help of French artists and professionals.

The implementation of the program may be subject to change depending on the situation of the borders.

During the France XR Prototyping Residency, the laureate will devote himself / herself to the development of his / her immersive project for which he / she is invited to work in cooperation with French professionals (artists, creators, studios, technical crews, producers, etc.). The program is also intended to help the laureate strengthen his / her international network and skills, and foster a Franco-Taiwanese co-production.

1.2 Purpose

At the end of the residency, the laureate must have developed at least a production-ready prototype that will be showcased or presented at CENTQUATRE-PARIS, as well as a report of his / her work and the evolution of the project during the residency.

1.3 Advantages

The laureate unit and creator will be provided with:

- one round-trip flight ticket Taiwan Paris (economy class);
- a 3 to 7 weeks accommodation in Paris;
- a workspace in Paris;
- a tailored program of workshops, meetings, mentoring and networking sessions with the CENTQUATRE-PARIS team, the French professionals and the local ecosystem to support the laureate throughout the development of the project;
- The provision of XR headsets as well as other equipment on site during

residency¹;

- a grant of 1,400,000 NTD including but not limited to production fee, daily living allowance of 50 EUR/day of the creator in residence, insurances and taxes. Other travels and private expenses are not covered.

Other advantages:

- a conference opportunity and / or pitching session, 1-on-1 meetings, etc. at CENTQUATRE-PARIS;
- a prototype or, if applicable, a more developed work-in-progress or the completed project will be showcased or presented as part of the Open Factory at CENTQUATRE-PARIS at the end of the residency (December 6th and 7th); later at another event organized by TAICCA in 2025 (if applicable);
- accreditation for the 2024 XR Forum and XR Dreamland, as well as a VIP Pass for the Kaohsiung Film Festival (to be arranged with Kaohsiung Film Archive);
- accreditation and pitching opportunity in an industry event organized by TAICCA in 2024 and in 2025;
- potentially take part in the "Formosan Night" event in Paris in 2025, organized by the French Office in Taipei.
- personalized coaching to seek additional French or Taiwanese funding.

2. Eligibility

2.1 Applicants' Profile

- Companies, foundations, associations that have been established or registered in accordance with the laws of the Republic of China (Taiwan), in the artistic and / or cultural field, and with content production capabilities and strategies to enter the international market.
- Each unit is allowed to appoint one representative as the creator, who shall also be the resident if selected.
- The representative must be aged 18 years and over, with Taiwanese nationality, speaking English (and / or French) and with at least a first professional experience in the XR / immersive field.

¹ Provided that the equipment is available and that its use does not interfere with the schedule and activities of the partner's location. The provision of any equipment has to be approved by the partner's location.

2.2 Eligible Projects

- This call for applications is open to all creative and innovative XR or immersive projects (including but not limited to VR, AR, or MR, installation including immersive technologies, hybrid live performance, XR game, immersive exhibition, fulldome film, etc.) integrating at least one type of technology, and with international impact (potentials in fundraising and international market).
- The project must be a Taiwanese production, with at least one Taiwanese creator, one Taiwanese technical director, and preferably one Taiwanese producer in place, and must aim at becoming a Franco-Taiwanese co-production by working with at least one or more French artists / creators / studios during the residency.
- The applied technology could include but not limited to game engines, AR, VR, MR, big data, artificial intelligence, sensing technology, haptics technology, object tracking, virtual world, etc.
- Formats, themes, subjects, and lengths of the project are not restricted, but the project should place cultural creative content at its core and deliver innovative and interactive proposals with technology.

3. Application Process

3.1 About the Call for Applications

Application:

- must be made in English;
- must be made online no later than June 23rd, 2024 (11:59pm, GMT+8);
- Is free of charge.

In addition, please note that:

- each applicant can only submit one project;
- incomplete entries will not be considered;
- there is no time limit to complete the form;
- your answers and data are auto-saved, so you can close and/or return to the form from the same device and browser (excluding private windows).

We strongly advise you not to wait until the last days of the call for applications to submit your project, in order to avoid any technical issues.

3.2 Application Form

We invite you to read carefully what information and documents have to be provided in the presentation file required in the registration form:

- English and Chinese name of the representative (creator);
- English and Chinese name of the application unit;
- a copy of identity card or passport of the representative (creator);
- the registration certificate of establishment or filing documents pursuant to the Republic of China (Taiwan) laws.
- a short biography of the representative (creator) a maximum of 3 pages, PDF format;
- a CV / resume a maximum of 2 pages, PDF format;
- a portfolio of your previous projects a maximum of 10 pages, PDF format;
- a cover letter a maximum of 1 page, PDF format;
- a presentation and a portfolio of the applicant unit a maximum of 2 pages, PDF format;
- a (long) synopsis of your project a maximum of 5 pages, PDF format;
- a literary and artistic note a maximum of 5 pages, PDF format;
- a technical sheet a maximum of 2 pages, PDF format;
- project stills (if any);
- a list with details regarding the names, nationalities and responsibilities of each Taiwanese team member, and the potential French artist(s), creator(s), studio(s) that you wish to connect with for the production of the project. Both Taiwanese and international team members must serve as core members of creative content or technology development (such as director, producer, supervisor, coordinator) – a maximum of 2 pages, PDF format;
- a projected budget and a funding plan (see <u>appendix 1</u> for template) a maximum of 2 pages, PDF format;
- an estimated production schedule including milestone checkpoints between June 2024 and November 2025 – a maximum of 1 page, PDF format;
- a projected work plan for the residency, an expected result of the residency and the showcase plan – a maximum of 2 pages, PDF format;
- an international market strategy and distribution plan: including channel analysis, market positioning, business development strategies and implementation method of the applicant unit; and a production plan, a funding plan for the final version of the project, its international market positioning and its exhibition or performance plan – a maximum of 5 pages, PDF format;
- other documents such as on-working script, moodboard, visual references, etc. can be attached in the annex / appendix.

3.3 Eligibility Restrictions and Funding Exclusions

3.3.1 Applicants restrictions:

Under any of the following circumstances, the applicant cannot submit an application:

- Government agencies, administrative corporations, and foundations established with government agency donations.
- The foundation shall not be one that is established with donations from the Ministry of Culture of Taiwan (MOC) and the independent administrative institution shall not be one that is under the supervision of the MOC.
- Those who have a record of major breach of contract in the implementation of government projects within 3 years, default in payment of taxes, records of refunds by clearing agencies or banks, serious violations of environmental protection, labor or food safety and health laws, or acts on the protection of rights or interests of people with physical and mental disabilities, or gender equality, or criminal code, under which the circumstances have been deemed serious by the central authorities in charge of the target industry.
- The applicant unit or the representative creator has been prosecuted or sentenced for violating relevant laws of the Republic of China (Taiwan).
- A third party claims to any of the Villa Formose Immersive partners or through social media that the applicant company or the representative has infringed upon his or her rights, causing damage to the reputation or credibility of the Villa Formose Immersive partners or the program.

3.3.2 Proposed projects restrictions:

- If a project or a similar project has been awarded grants from TAICCA, the National Culture and Arts Foundation, the Ministry of Culture of Taiwan and its affiliated agencies / institutions or relevant institutions which are subsidized / donated by the Ministry of Culture's budget, the application is not eligible.
- Should The CENTQUATRE-PARIS, the CNC, TAICCA, the Kaohsiung Film Archive or the French Office in Taipei learn that other grants mentioned above have been previously awarded to the content of the project, TAICCA shall, after an investigation, revoke the grant and set a deadline for the returning of such grant.

3.3.3 Grant restrictions:

- The percentage of the grant of the total estimated project cost is not restricted, but considering the quality of the development results, an application having selfraised funds to cooperate will be considered preferentially.
- A total of 1,400,000NTD grant will be awarded to the laureate unit for prototyping the selected project. This grant includes but is not limited to production fee, daily living allowance of 50 EUR/day during the residency for the creator, insurances and taxes.

- For the production fee, any expenditures for the purchasing machinery & equipment & software, renovating, repairing or rental of space, for marketing & promotional activities, are excluded from the grant coverage; however, rental costs of machinery & equipment & software are not subject to this limit.
- The grant will be disbursed in two installments: the first installment will be 70% of the total amount after signing the contract between the laureate unit, CENTQUATRE-PARIS and TAICCA; and the second installment will be 30% of the amount after the required files of the project are approved and the developed work-in-progress of the completed project meet the quality set in the contract. For the avoidance of doubt, if the quality does not meet the agreement, TAICCA has the right to reduce the payment amount.
- The funding schedule and the documents to be submitted will be stipulated separately in the contract.

4. Selection and Undertakings

4.1 Selection Board

The partner teams will analyze all the projects before being submitted to the jury to ensure they meet the eligibility criteria.

All eligible projects will be evaluated by a committee composed of representatives of CENTQUATRE-PARIS, CNC, TAICCA, Kaohsiung Film Archive, the French Office in Taipei and independent professionals.

4.2 Selection Criteria

- Creativity and innovativeness of the project
- Motivation and interest in the residency
- Complete and clear presentation of the project
- Quality of technological design
- Market potential and international impact
- Feasibility
- Financial reliability

4.3 Notification and Official Announcement

The name of the laureate unit will officially be announced at the end of July. Applicants will be notified in advance by e-mail of the selection board's decision concerning their application.

4.4 Guarantees and Advantages for the Laureate

See "1.3 - Advantages".

4.5 Undertakings of the Laureate

A contract mentioning all commitments on both sides shall be signed between the laureate unit, CENTQUATRE-PARIS and TAICCA within two months from the date the result is announced.

4.5.1 During the residency, the laureate commits to:

- take part in a workshop or give a conference as part of the educational or promotional programs organized by CENTQUATRE-PARIS;
- work in cooperation with French XR professionals and execute the production plan;
- present his / her project and progress made during the residency in an event at CENTQUATRE-PARIS;
- communicate on social media on the residency and the evolution of the project tagging the partners (communication kit will be provided).

4.5.2 After the residency, the laureate commits to:

- provide a written report of the prototyping and residency process, including but not limited to explanatory texts, scripts, photos or video footage after the residency, and submit the advanced work-in-progress project file to TAICCA and CENTQUATRE-PARIS (expectations will be detailed in the contract signed with CENTQUATRE-PARIS and TAICCA).
- participate as speaker and share the prototyping residency experience in at most 5 panels, forums, workshops or other related industrial events organized by any of the Villa Formose Immersive partners within 2 years after the residency ends.

4.5.3 Regarding the project, the laureate unit and creator commit o:

- include the mention² and the logos³ in the project credits and promotional materials;
- shall list Taiwan as one of the main presenting countries of the final work;
- present at the end of the residency program:
 - a prototype (if submitted as a concept);
 - o an advanced work-in-progress (if submitted as a prototype);
 - $\circ~$ a completed (or almost completed) version (if submitted as an advanced work-in-progress).

² "This project has been developed during the Villa Formose Immersive - France XR Prototyping Residency."

³ CENTQUATRE-PARIS, the CNC, TAICCA, Kaohsiung VR FILM LAB, the French Office in Taipei and/or any other logo required by the parties mentioned.

- showcase or present the project at CENTQUATRE-PARIS at the end of the residency, and in a cultural technology-related event organized or assigned by TAICCA in 2025;
- not present any previously disclosed materials or works related to this project or workshops before October 2025 unless prior written consent is obtained from TAICCA, in order to make this project publicly available for the first time at the event organized by TAICCA after a work-in-progress version is presented at the CENTQUATRE-PARIS. Notwithstanding the foregoing, TAICCA owns the final rights to decide whether this project shall be showcased in the event. CENTQUATRE-PARIS retains the right to showcase the project in its program in 2025;
- provide Villa Formose Immersive partners with progress statements from the development period to 3 years after the closing of the prototyping project, in order to understand the further implementation status of the project;
- Based on the goal of promoting Taiwan's cultural content industry, the laureate unit and creator must agree to assist all the Villa Formose Immersive partners in preparing and/or executing the related activities, and:
 - agree to permanently authorize the select recommendation platform(s) or the third party respectively specified by the Villa Formose Immersive partners to use including but not limited to reproduce, edit, adapt, public transmission, public broadcast, etc. the project materials such as images, stage photos, posters, texts, sound recording or videos (trailers and film clips) for promotional / educational purpose or to showcasing or presenting the project in their related events;
 - shall provide TAICCA with the completion prototype work provided in accordance with the project and grant to TAICCA, a non-exclusive and free payment license under them, to use for keeping a permanent collection in TAICCA's archives;
 - shall agree that TAICCA may conduct cooperation matchmaking, promotion, or any non-profitable and non-authorize-related matters regarding the completion work provided in accordance with the project.

4.6 Rule by which the Laureate Unit and Creator Shall Abide

- The laureate unit and creator shall not transfer all or part of the eligibility to receive grants, the rights and obligations conferred by the Villa Formose Immersive partners in accordance with this Regulation, and the proposal to any third party;
- After the Villa Formose Immersive program announces the approval of the grant, the laureate unit or creator shall not alter or change any part of the plan (including but not limit to title, format, synopsis, main creative team members) or budget in the approved projects without permission from the Villa Formose Immersive partners;

- The laureate creator will be committed to completing the full residency as agreed. If there is any reason to withdraw from the residency, the laureate should notify the Villa Formose Immersive partners and obtain their approval. During the residency, if the laureate wishes to travel, he/she needs to notify the Villa Formose Immersive partners in advance and follow the residency guidelines as stated in this Regulation and the contract. The laureate should not overlap this residency with other residency programs;
- After the residency dates have been confirmed amongst the laureate creator, CENTQUATRE-PARIS and TAICCA for the accommodation reservation and flight ticket purchase, if the Taiwanese laureate should choose not to benefit from the offered accommodation in Paris, cancel or modify the dates of the flight tickets provided, he / she commits to bear the costs of such changes;
- In case the work provided in accordance with the project is stopped, fails to complete, is overdue, insufficiently developed by the laureate, TAICCA may reduce the amount granted, revoke or nullify their qualifications to receive the grant and both the laureate unit and the creator may not apply for TAICCA's program within 2 years from the day of revocation or nullification;
- The grant awarded pursuant to this Regulation shall be withheld in accordance with the tax laws of the Republic of China (Taiwan). The laureate unit and creator shall pay attention to the amount of taxes payable. If there is a need for tax reduction or exemption, they shall, of their own accord, check all relevant tax reductions and exemption measures;
- The laureate and its team members shall comply with the R.O.C Laws and Regulations. Should the laureate commit the violations of the R.O.C Laws and Regulations, or this Regulation, TAICCA shall revoke or nullify its Grant Qualification for receiving the grant without paying the grant and any other form of indemnity or compensation, and may terminate or cancel the Contract unilaterally without notifying the laureate;
- If the laureate violates the relevant provisions of this Regulation or agreed matters, and TAICCA determines that the circumstances are significant, TAICCA may revoke or invalidate their qualifications to receive the grant, and not pay the grant or any other compensation or indemnification of any kind;
- If TAICCA determines to revoke or nullify the laureate's qualification of the "France XR Prototyping Residency program", the laureate shall then return the received Approved Grant Amount without interest;
- Relevant requirements will be stipulated in the contract.

By registering, you acknowledge that you are the author of the submitted project and / or you are authorized to submit the project by all the other right holders. The Villa Formose Immersive partners cannot be held responsible in any way for any claim, conflict or lawsuit in connection with the registration of the project. In the event that the Villa Formose Immersive partners are / is subject to third-party claims, liabilities, or lawsuits as a result of the infringement of the intellectual property rights, you shall be held liable for such liabilities, and the Villa Formose Immersive partners shall be entitled to claim damages from you.

5. Schedule

- Tuesday, May 7th, 2024: call for applications opens
- Sunday, June 23rd, 2024: call for applications closes (11:59pm, GMT+8)
- July 2024: pre-selection committee with the partners
- End of July, 2024: pitching sessions with the finalists and deliberations
- End of July, 2024: Finalists notification & announcement of the laureate

6. Contact

Feel free to contact us (in English) if you have any further question: <u>villaformoseimmersive@104.fr</u>

Shall there be any controversy in relation to this Regulation or matters not covered in this Regulation, the interpretation of the Villa Formose Immersive 2024 partners shall govern.

CENTQUATRE-PARIS

Organizer

Located in the 19th arrondissement of Paris, the CENTQUATRE is a space for artistic residencies, production and presentation for audiences and artists from all over the world. CENTQUATRE offers access to the full range of contemporary arts, in all disciplines, through programming that is resolutely popular, contemporary and demanding.

CNC

Founding partner, financial partner

Created in 1946 and placed under the authority of the Minister of Culture, the Centre national du cinéma et de l'image animée provides support for the moving image arts. The organization is responsible for financing and regulating the French audiovisual industries.

Taiwan Creative Content Agency (TAICCA)

Founding partner, financial partner

Established in 2019 by the Ministry of Culture, TAICCA promotes the development of creative content in Taiwan (film, music, animation, video game, future content...) by engaging in production, distribution, overseas market expansion, branding, talent cultivation, industrial research and more.

Kaohsiung Film Archive

Founding partner

The Kaohsiung Film Archive is a place dedicated to cinema and image, creator of the Kaohsiung Film Festival (KFF) which aims to discover new directors and to encourage cultural exchanges through short films. Since 2017, through the Kaohsiung VR FILM LAB project's launching, KFA has been presenting and funding immersive XR exhibition and the production of original VR contents.

French Office in Taipei

Founding partner, financial partner

The mission of the French Office in Taipei is to facilitate and promote **exchanges between France** and Taiwan, particularly in the economic, cultural, educational and scientific fields. It comprises a press and communications department, a cooperation and cultural action department, a consular and administrative section, an economic department and a Business France department, under the authority of its director, Mr. Franck Paris.

Institut français

Financial partner

The Institut français is the public establishment in charge of France's cultural action abroad, under the supervision of the Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Culture.

