MEASURING SUSTAINABLE PRODUCTION IN EUROPE

A preparatory project by the European Audiovisual Observatory

OBSERVATORY MISSION



- **Public service organisation**. Part of the Council of Europe in Strasbourg.
- **Mission:** to collect and distribute reliable and neutral information about the audiovisual industries in Europe to support policy makers and other stakeholders in their decision making
- Primarily funded by direct contributions from 40 member states and the European Union
- Make (almost all) our data available for free through reports, databases, conferences, etc.

www.obs.coe.int

Purpose and scope of the OBS project

THE TASK

- **Current lack of data** on carbon footprint and other sustainability issues in the film and audiovisual sector
- Observatory has been asked by its member states, the European Commission and industry stakeholders – to provide data on sustainability in the AV industry at national and European level to – inter alia – support policy decision making
- **Current project (2022) to prepare** data collection for 2023

(Limited) Scope

Focus on sustainable production as first step

Focus on macro data at national and pan-European level, because ...

OBS ROLE IN SUSTAINABILITY DATA COLLECTION

Primary need

"Operational" data

- ... to understand impact and further improve practices at production / initiative level
- ... no need for harmonisation
- ... basis of all data collection

"Macro" data

- ... to monitor development at aggregate national level
- ... limited number of key indicators
- ... derived from operational data
- ... based on common reference methodology



Collected and used by various sustainability initiatives, e.g.

- Calculators (e.g. ecoprod, albert)
- Labels (e.g. Green Film)
- Film funds
- Broadcasters / Streamers

OBS focus / added value

- ... Harmonisation across different stakeholders
- ... Collation of data



- 1. Collect annual title-by-title lists of films receiving green certification from labels
- 2. Collect annual title-by title lists of films receiving green support from film funds

3. Collect annual project-by-project carbon emissions data from calculators

+ some metadata (e.g. genre, country, budget)

That means, we could ...

... measure sustainable prod. volume as follows:

RQ1: How many films and AV works have been produced in in a sustainable manner in Europe in a given year? Main indicator

Complementary indicators

Nr of film and AV works that obtain a green certification

- In principle, all genres (incl. AV works)
- Source: Green labels / certification programmes

Nr of film and AV works publicly funded

- Actually primarily addressing public sustainability support
- Primarily theatrical films
- Source: National and regional film funds

Nr of film and AV works completing a carbon calculation with a public calculator

- To be tested, whether that is a meaningful indicator
- In principle, all genres (incl. AV works)
- Source: Calculators

... and address carbon footprint as follows:



volume for other genres than theatrical films and TV fiction

... and output results could look like this

Pan-European avg carbon footprint by department

Genre types (tbd)	2023	2024	2025
Theatrical fiction films	84.5	74.3	69.5
Theatrical feature documentaries	82.8	72.8	68.1
Theatrical animation films	81.2	71.4	66.7
TV fiction films	79.5	69.9	65.4-
TV series episodes	77.9	68.5	64.1
	76.4	67.2	62.8
Total carbon footprint	80.4	70.7	66.1

Avg carbon footprint **by budget**

Budget bandwidth	2023	2024	2025
< 100 000	67.8	60.6	54.8
100 kto 500 k	81.4	72.7	65.7
500 k to 1 mio	97.7	87.3	78.9
1 mio to 3 mio	117.2	104.7	94.7
3 mio to 10 mio	140.7	125.7	113.6
Total carbon footprint	101.0	90.2	81.5

Avg carbon footprint by genre & budget bandwidth

	2023	2024	2025
Theatrical fiction films	84.5	74.3	69.5
< 100 000	67.8	60.6	54.8
100 kto 500 k	81.4	72.7	65.7
 Theatrical animation films	81.2	71.4	66.7
< 100 000	67.8	60.6	54.8
100 kto 500 k	81.4	72.7	65.7
	79.8	71.3	64.4
Total carbon footprint	77.7	69.1	63.1

... etc.

... as well as benchmark figures

Pan-European avg carbon footprint per Euro

Carbon footprint per 1000 Euros	2023	2024	2025
Theatrical fiction films	0.06785	0.06060	0.05479
Theatrical feature documentaries	0.08142	0.07272	0.06575
Theatrical animation films	0.09770	0.08726	0.07890
TV fiction films	0.11724	0.10472	0.09467
TV series episodes	0.14069	0.12566	0.11361
Total carbon footprint	0.10098	0.09019	0.08154

OR

- Avg carbon footprint per minute/hour
- Avg carbon footprint per shooting day
- Avg carbon footprint per department
- Etc.

Show breakdowns down by countries

	2023	2024	2025
Theatrical fiction films	0.06785	0.06060	0.05479
- AT	0.05428	0.04848	0.04383
- BA	0.04342	0.03878	0.03506
Theatrical animation films	0.14069	0.12566	0.11361
- AT	0.11255	0.10053	0.09089
- BA	0.09004	0.08042	0.07271

 Total carbon footprint
 0.10098
 0.09019
 0.08154

OR

- Budget bandwidth
- Run time
- Certification

Project Process

JOINT DEVELOPMENT PROCESS



Questions?

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