

## BASIC INFORMATION FOR INTERNATIONAL CO-PRODUCTIONS FILMING IN VÄSTRA GÖTALAND, SWEDEN

### A STANDARD FEATURE FILM

The size and budget of a Swedish feature film can have a total budget of everything from a really low budget with 2-3 M SEK up to e.g. epic dramas with 50-60 M SEK. Around 15-20 M SEK is a more average budget level on a national feature film, supported by Swedish Film Institute (SFI), Swedish Television (SVT), regional film funds, sales agents, distributors and private investors.

### AVERAGE

How many minutes of filming per shooting day depends on budget, here is an average.

Shooting days	Length of the film	Minutes per day (average)
30 days	90 minutes	3 min
35 days	90 minutes	2,6 min
40 days	90 minutes	2,25 min

### BUDGET EXAMPLE

Here is a budget example of a 20 M SEK Swedish feature film (1 SEK = 0,111€):

#	DESCRIPTION/ACCOUNT	€	SEK
1	SCRIPT AND RIGHTS	98 235	885 000
2	PRE-PRODUCTION	96 015	865 000
	PRE-PROD TOTAL	194 250	1 750 000
3	DIRECTOR & PRODUCER	202 020	1 820 000
4	CAST	222 000	2 000 000
5	CREW	654 900	5 900 000
6	RAW STOCK & TAPE	44 400	400 000
7	EQUIPMENT	133 200	1 200 000
8	DECORATION & PROPS	27 750	250 000
9	WARDROBE & MAKE-UP	13 320	120 000
10	STUDIO	61 050	550 000
11	LOCATION	22 200	200 000
12	TRANSPORT & TRAVELLING	111 000	1 000 000
13	PRODUCTION OFFICE	22 200	200 000
14	ACCOMMODATION & CATERING	72 150	650 000
15	ADMINISTRATION	66 600	600 000
	SHOOTING TOTAL	1 652 790	14 890 000
16	POST PRODUCTION	247 530	2 230 000
17	MUSIC	55 500	500 000
	POST PROD TOTAL	303 030	2 730 000
18	INSURANCE	16 650	150 000
19	TV LICENSE	11 100	100 000
20	PR & TRAILERS	14 430	130 000
21	ADDITIONAL	27 750	250 000

	DIV TOTAL	69 930	630 000
	TOTAL ABOVE THE LINE	194 250	1 750 000
	TOTAL BELOW THE LINE	2 025 750	18 250 000
	TOTAL ABOVE AND BELOW THE LINE	2 220 000	20 000 000
	<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>€ 2 220 000</b>	<b>20 000 000 SEK</b>

### **UNION REGULATIONS**

The Swedish union *Teaterförbundet för scen och film* (<http://www.teaterforbundet.se>) have the regulations for actors and film workers about schedules, salaries, and working overtime and on inconvenient hours.

Many Swedish feature films have a filming period of +/- 8 weeks (+/- 40 shooting days) where a normal working week is based on 40 hours (=8 hours per day), you can schedule shorter or longer days (minimum 5 hrs, maximum 12 hrs per day). Lunch break is 1 hour (excluded from the 8 hours) and after 5 hours of work there needs to be at least 30 min break. The day starts and ends at the production office, travel to set is included in the scheduled working hours. The crew always need to get informed about working hours and shooting schedule 2 weeks ahead during the production.

The crew get paid on a monthly basis (based on 21 working days/month) – the 25 each month (if nothing else is agreed).
40 hours/week (5 days + 2 days weekend)
8 hours each day (excl 1 hr lunch break) - scheduled a minimum of 5 hours/day, maximum 12 hours/day
For the actual total cost of an employee - multiply with 1,57 (based on the numbers of 2011: 31,42% social cost, 5,3% insurance and 13% holiday pay

### **REGULATIONS ABOUT WORKING OVERTIME, AT INCONVENIENT HOURS AND TRAVEL TIME**

If an employee has a deal where he or she get paid for overtime, this is the rule: After more than 8 hours of work per day you will get paid for overtime. When ordered working overtime (often by the First AD on set), compensation per hour is given as follows:

Non-holiday Mondays-Fridays between 07.00 – 21.00	1/106 of the monthly salary
Other times	1/82 of the monthly salary
Special overtime, informed less than 2 hours in advance	1/75 of the monthly salary
<i>Overtime may be based on individual agreement replaced with 2 hours off for each overtime hour.</i>	

For working at inconvenient hours compensation is given by:

Saturdays between 7:00- 21:00	32,00 SEK/hour
Monday-Saturday between 21.00-24.00	51,50 SEK/hour
Monday to Saturday between 00:00-07:00	103,00 SEK/hour

Sundays Public holidays New Years Eve, Easter, Whitsun Eve, Midsummer's Eve and Christmas Eve	
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**Travel time** is the time used for travel to or from the location if the time is without normal working hours and if you travel as a passenger. Non-filming days used for company travel may not count as a weekly rest. Travel time is compensated with 87,72 SEK/hour.

Before first day of principal photography the crew will have a crew meeting where they have to choose 1) one representative for union issues and 2) one representative for security issues on set.

### **CASTING, ACTORS & EXTRAS**

When you are searching for actors or extras for your production, you will usually go either for a casting company or hire a freelance casting director.

In the 20 M SEK budget sample CASTING is budgeted with:

Casting Director	45.000 SEK x 2 months
Assistant for auditions and test filming	18.000 SEK x 1 month
Additional costs: digital camera, casting room for auditions, stationary and stamps	10.000 SEK
Ads	5.000-15.000 SEK

Minimum guarantee per day for an actor according to the union:

Day 1	minimum 4 226 SEK
Day 2	minimum 3 885 SEK
Day 3 and cont'd	minimum 2 574 SEK

- ⇒ If you hire an actor for more than 75 days you can make a deal about monthly payment instead of on daily basis = minimum 24 854 SEK/month.
- ⇒ Appearance without stage involvement, post synchronization, repetition and audio recording for playback = 1 981 SEK.
- ⇒ Costume test, make-up test and photo shoot for pictures in the film = 970 SEK.
- ⇒ Leading actors normally use agents for the deals and may have flat deals.
- ⇒ Well-known, experienced actors usually have the same daily rate no difference how many shooting days they have but every deal is individual.

In the 20 M SEK budget sample ACTORS is budgeted with:

Actors (a total of 180 days)	1,8 M SEK 5.100 SEK – 18.000 SEK/shooting day (depending on experience and shooting days)
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There are many different ways of what you pay for extras, everything from a marketing t-shirt for the film, free lunch or cinema tickets up to payments of 350 SEK/day including free lunch. There are some organizations for extras (used by casting agencies):

<http://www.statistforeningen.se/>

[www.statist.se](http://www.statist.se)

[www.filmcafe.se](http://www.filmcafe.se)

Every person hired as an extra fill in a form with his/hers personal data (social security number + bank account), for the payrolls. It is recommended to as well sign an agreement about rights etc before filming.

In Västra Götaland there is no professional company focusing only on just extras, but several freelance persons have their own registers filled with contact details for all kind of extras and some of the casting companies also have archives of extras that they use on new productions.

In the 20 M SEK budget sample EXTRAS is budgeted with:

Extras (1-day)	350 SEK x 133 days
Background actors	700 - 999 SEK x 40 days *

\* If you as employer just pay one person less than 999 SEK/year you don't have to pay social fees.

## **LOCATION SCOUTING & LOCATIONS**

There are several freelance location scouts in the region. When it is time to do the location budget, use the figure of a total of 10.000 SEK per location and shooting day (including rentals, permits and misc costs). The location cost depends on the popularity and how easy the access might be. The location scout/ location manager makes all the deals with the locations, takes care of and organizes the technical location recce when locations are visited and checked against each department's needs and applies for special permissions.

You don't need permits for filming in public areas as long as you don't block the roads. If you need road blocking you need to apply at the police department ([www.polisen.se](http://www.polisen.se)) and if you need special parking permits you apply at *Trafikkontoret* ([www.goteborg.se](http://www.goteborg.se)).

In the 20 M SEK budget sample LOCATION SCOUTING & LOCATIONS is budgeted with:

Location scouting	30.000 SEK
Travel & cars & gas	10.000 SEK
Location rental	>1000 SEK
Parking permits	>500 SEK
Blocking roads (made by the municipality/the police authorities)	>2000 SEK

Hired night guards/road blockers	<999 SEK/person*
Locations	120.000 SEK
Permits	40.000 SEK
Misc location costs	40.000 SEK

*\* If you as employer just pay one person less than 999 SEK/year you don't have to pay social fees.*

### **CREW**

The number of people employed on a Swedish feature film varies depending on the size and scale of the film being produced. On several feature films with a budget of approx 20 M SEK (= 2,2 M €) there is a common way to set up the different departments but every project is unique. The union *Teaterförbundet för scen och film* (<http://www.teaterforbundet.se>) have required minimum guarantee salaries for freelance film workers, and for well-experienced freelance film workers the salaries are much higher. Sometimes an agreement of a flat rate including overtime and compensation for working evenings and weekends is made.

For the actual total cost of an employee: multiply the salary with 1,57
Based on the numbers of 2011: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 31,42% social cost</li><li>• 5,3% insurance</li><li>• 13% holiday pay</li></ul>

## **Who is doing what in the crew?**

### **PRODUCTION**

Line producer - Production manager - Production coordinator - Production assistant - Production trainee – Runner - Accountant.

It depends on the size of the production if you have both LP's and PM's, on smaller projects you might only hire a production manager.

One or two prod coordinators; one responsible for actors/travel/hotels and one responsible for cars/technical rentals/office. They prepare and draw up the call sheet, under the supervision of the First AD.

The average is at least one runner for the production office.

The accountant manages budgets, payrolls, taxes, insurance claims, bookkeeping and at the end of the production, closes the film down financially (one or two persons).

### **DIRECTION**

First Assistant Director - Second Assistant Director - Extras casting coordinator - Continuity/Script supervisor - Casting director - Production assistant on set ("Inspelningsassistent") - Runner.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> AD ensures that the principal actors are in make-up, in wardrobe, or standing by on the set at the correct times, and may also be responsible for finding and looking after background artists/extras, assist the FAD in liaising between the set or location and the production office, updating key personnel on the timings and progress of the shoot.

The production assistant is the one taking care of the coffee table and also responsible for ordering the food for lunch from the caterer and sometimes also work as set runner.

The runner works close to the production coordinator for the planning of transport on the daily basis.

### **ART DEPARTMENT**

Production designer ("Scenograf") - Props - Props assistant - Stand by props/props on set - Constructor - Painters - Carpenters - Location scout - Location manager - Loc manager assistant.

The production designer usually also works as Art Director.

At least 2 props are hired and they work both as props buyer and set dressers.

Standby Props work on set during the filming of a scene, overseeing the use of props, and monitoring their continuity.

The constructor usually hires the carpenters and painters needed.

The location scout might be the same person as the location manager.

The location manager is first and last on set every day but sometimes works with an assistant so the location manager can be a head in the planning of next shooting day.

### **CAMERA/GRIP/GAFFER/ SOUND DEPARTMENT**

Focus puller - Clapper/loader - Video monitor assistant operator - Gaffer - Electrician/Best Boy - Grip - Sound recorder/Sound mixer - Boom Operator.

The camera crew is sometimes called A-photographer (D.O.P.), B-photographer (focus puller) and C-photographer (clapper/loader/video monitor assistant). It depends on the size of the production and the format if there are more than 3 persons at the camera department. Sometimes a Data Image Technician (DIT) is hired or it might be the clapper/loader taking care of the memory cards/discs.

The gaffer is in charge of all the electrical work on a production, leading the team of electricians who install the lighting equipment and arrange the power supply in order to create the designed lighting effects. Assisted by one, two or more electricians and electrician assistants (depending on the size of the production and locations). The electricians operate the generators and cherry pickers on set.

The key grip may also work as technical assistant to camera dept/light dept. The responsibility of the grip is to build, maintain and operate all the equipment that supports the camera, such as tripods, dollies, tracks, jibs, cranes, and static rigs.

When there are a lot of actors on the set the sound department may need a helping hand (a extra boomer). You usually try to use someone available in the crew. The sound department sometimes have need for a helping hand (a extra boomer) when there is a lot of actors on set, first you try to use someone available in the crew.

## **COSTUME/ MAKE-UP/ HAIR DEPARTMENT**

Costume designer - Costume assistant - Make-up & hair Designer - Makeup & hair assistant.

On low budget productions with less actors and extras, Costume and Makeup/Hair department have less people hired, it might be combined functions. On bigger productions there can be several costume assistants + seamstress and additional hairdressers for actors and extras.

The Make-up & Hair Designer is responsible for the overall design and execution of the Make-up & Hair on feature films. They work closely with Costume Designers to ensure that each artist's overall "look" complements every aspect of the script.

## **POST PRODUCTION**

Post production manager - Editor - Editors assistant - Sound Designer - Post Production Sound Department

If it is a smaller production the Production Manager may as well work as Post Production Manger.

The Editor Assistant may also be the person doing the logging. As the rushes are delivered to the cutting room, the Editor Assistant syncs them up so that the Editor can begin work on selected sequences. Average numbers of editing weeks are 14 weeks, but it is individual for every single project.

The Sound Designer on set may as well be one of the Sound Editors. The average numbers of sound editing weeks are 14 weeks, but it is individual for every single project.

In the 20 M SEK budget sample CREW is budgeted with:

OCCUPATION	PAYMENT/MONTH*	COMMENTS
Prod manager	45.000 SEK	Flat fee incl overtime
Prod coordinator	30.000 SEK	Flat fee incl overtime
Prod ass	22.000 SEK	+ OT: 40 days x 3 hrs
Driver	17.000 SEK	+ OT: 40 days x 3 hrs
Accountant	150.000 SEK	Flat fee for project (1% of the budget)

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1 <sup>st</sup> AD	35.000 SEK	+ OT: 40 days x 2 hrs
2 <sup>nd</sup> AD	25.000 SEK	+ OT: 40 days x 2 hrs
Continuity	33.000 SEK	+ OT: 40 days x 1,5 hrs
Location manager	30.000 SEK	+ OT: 40 days x 3 hrs
Assistant to loc manager	22.000 SEK	+ OT: 40 days x 3 hrs
DOP	480.000 SEK	12.000 SEK/shooting day
Camera assistant ("B-foto")	35.000 SEK	+ OT: 40 days x 2 hrs
Clapper/loader ("C-foto")	26.000 SEK	+ OT: 40 days x 1,5 hrs
Video monitor assistant	18.000 SEK	+ OT: 40 days x 1,5 hrs
Steadicam	10.000 SEK/day	INVOICED
Stunt coordinator	5.000 SEK/day	INVOICED
Gaffer	33.000 SEK	+ OT: 40 days x 2 hrs
Electrician 1	27.000 SEK	+ OT: 40 days x 2,5 hrs
Electrician 2	27.000 SEK	+ OT: 40 days x 2,5 hrs
Grip	33.000 SEK	+ OT: 40 days x 1,5 hrs
Sound recordist	33.000 SEK	+ OT: 40 days x 1,5 hrs
Boomer	33.000 SEK	+ OT: 40 days x 1 hrs
Production designer	45.000 SEK	Flat fee incl overtime
Art director/assistant prod des	32.000 SEK	+ OT: 40 days x 1,5 hrs
Props	32.000 SEK	+ OT: 40 days x 1,5 hrs
Props assistant	18.000 SEK	+ OT: 40 days x 1,5 hrs
Stand by props/on set	32.000 SEK	+ OT: 40 days x 1 hrs
Constructor	120.000 SEK	Flat fee for project - INVOICED
Carpenter	250-400 SEK/hrs	INVOICED
Painter	280-330 SEK/hrs	INVOICED
Costume designer	45.000 SEK	Flat fee incl overtime
Costume assistant	28.000 SEK	+ OT: 40 days x 2,5 hrs
Make-up & hair designer	38.000 SEK	Flat fee (OT included)
Make-up assistant	25.000 SEK	Flat fee (OT included)
Additional crew	999-2.000 SEK/ day	<i>* If you as employer just pay one person less than 999 SEK/year you don't have to pay social fees.</i>
Editor	9500 SEK / week	
Logger	500 SEK / day	

*\*For the actual total cost of an employee multiply the salary with 1,57 (based on the numbers of 2011: 31,42% social cost, 5,3% insurance, 13% holiday pay).*

### **EQUIPMENT, RAW STOCK & TAPES**

There are a some technical suppliers in the region for camera, crane, grip, light and sound but for co-productions the technical equipment may be a part of the work split and shipped from another country.

In the 20 M SEK budget sample EQUIPMENT is budgeted with:

Camera (35 mm), zoom, crane, walkie-talkies, filters, cherry pickers etc.	500.000 SEK
Grip equipment	130.000 SEK
Light equipment	400.000 SEK
Electricity	30.000 SEK
Sound equipment (inclusive hard drives for post)	140.000 SEK

In the 20 M SEK budget sample RAW STOCK & TAPES is budgeted with:

Raw stock	345.000 SEK (based on 10 SEK/meter for 35 mm)
Tapes	55.000 SEK

### **WARDROBE & MAKE-UP**

In the 20 M SEK budget sample WARDROBE & COSTUMES is budgeted with:

Costume	80.000 SEK
Make-up	40.000 SEK

### **STUDIO AND CONSTRUCTION**

In Västra Götaland there are two sound stage studios; Gothenburg Film Studios and the studio of Film i Väst. They have a weekly rental prize for the studios and then additional cost for e.g. green room, electricity, telephone, and administration, parking and cleaning.

After the drawings and budget for the studio construction is made, the constructor hires the construction crew: painters and carpenters. They together with the production designer and props construct and decorate the studio set.

In the 20 M SEK budget sample STUDIO is budgeted with:

Studio rental	45.000/week + additional costs (e.g. electricity, cleaning)
Construction material	180.000 SEK

### **PRODUCTION OFFICE**

When you are filming on location you have to find available production office facilities nearby. Due to the regulations of working hours and travel time the working days start and ends at the office. Additional costs: hiring furniture for the office, setting up a landline/telephone, installation of Internet and hiring a Xerox-machine + the installation and support of it during production.

There are production office facilities to rent if you are filming in the studio and with almost the same additional cost: hiring furniture for the office, setting up a landline/telephone, hiring a Xerox-machine + the installation and support of it during production.

Depending of the size of the production you will need to hire storage for props and costume, preferable close to the production office, with easily accessible parking.

In the 20 M SEK budget sample PRODUCTION OFFICE is budgeted with:

Production office	15.000 SEK/month
Storage for props + costumes	10.000 SEK/month
Facilities for rehearsals	5.000 SEK
Cleaning	15.000 SEK
Telephone, copies, computers, stationery	100.000 SEK

### **TRANSPORT & TRAVELLING**

A number of 15-20 cars/vans is the average need of a feature film and of course depends of how many people there are in the crew. Station wagons and minivans are popular in the crew while the lighting and grip department often drive trucks. For all cars, except vans and trucks, the actual cost for the project is the rental price +12,5% VAT (you can only withdraw half of the 25% VAT).

Gas & mileage rate: The production company normally set up an account at a gas station company so you can both fill up gas there and use the credit card for parking. If you drive your own car at work you will be compensated with 1,85 SEK/kilometre as travelling expense (<http://www.skatteverket.se/privat/skatter/belopp procent>).

In the 20 M SEK budget sample TRANSPORT & TRAVELLING is budgeted with:

Cars	250.000 SEK
Gas & parking & mileage	105.000 SEK
Taxi & travels & courier	645.000 SEK

### **ACCOMMODATION & CATERING**

For lunch catering on set you can choose between ordering from a catering company for 85-150 SEK/person inclusive delivery costs, alternatively you hire a chef for the production, rent a fully equipped kitchen and the chef will have a daily budget per person whatever you recommend (from 15-30 SEK/person). The chef brings the lunch on set and the production runner ("inspelningsassistent") helps with coordination.

There is a coffee table set all day and a production runner takes care of it. It is common to serve coffee and sandwiches from the morning and during the first working hours, then after lunch break maybe some fruit, nuts and cookies. If you are working for more than 5 hours after lunch break there need to be a new break, and then it is recommended to serve the crew some simple ready-to-go food (hot dogs, sandwich, soup, pizza slice...).

In the 20 M SEK budget sample ACCOMMODATION & CATERING is budgeted with:

Hotels & apartments	360.000 SEK
Cleaning	10.000 SEK
Per diems	20.000 SEK
Representation & kick-off/wrap party	40.000 SEK
Coffee on set	500-600 SEK/day
Catering crew + extras	125.000 SEK

*Per diems* are tax free payment from the employer to the employee and the money is supposed to cover additional costs while travelling. The employee has to stay overnight, more than 50 kilometres from home and from the production office to get the tax free per diems. For one day you will pay 210 SEK and if the journey starts after 12 o'clock it is a half per diem for that day (105 SEK). Same rules for travelling home, if you arrive home before 19 o'clock it is a half day (105 SEK). If the employer pays for the meals there will be a reduction of the per diems, breakfast -42 SEK, lunch/dinner -74 SEK.

[www.skatteverket.se/](http://www.skatteverket.se/)

### **POST PRODUCTION, LAB COSTS, EDITING AND SOUND**

There is no laboratory in Västra Götaland, the development has to be done in e.g. Stockholm, Oslo, and Copenhagen or wherever the production company gets a good deal (sometimes an important part of the work split in co-productions). For the transport of the dailies you can choose between hiring a courier driving all way or send it by a shipping company (DHL, JetPak, Posten...).

14 weeks is the average numbers of editing weeks, but it is individual for every single project.

14 weeks is also the average numbers of sound editing weeks, but it is individual for every single project.

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The pre-mix and the final mix is usually 2 weeks each.

In the 20 M SEK budget sample POST PROD/LAB COST/EDITING is budgeted with:

Post production	1.000.000 SEK
Delivery	15.000 SEK
Sound design	700.000 SEK
Editor	210.000 SEK
Avid + facilities	160.000 SEK
Title + end credits	100.000 SEK

**ADDITIONAL**

In the 20 M SEK budget sample ADDITIONAL is budgeted with:

Legal	150.000 SEK
Producers Union (flat fee)	0,25% of the full budget, maximum 75.000 SEK
TROMB (Teaterförbundets Rättighetsbolag)	5,5% of the screening rights by Swedish Television  (union fees, compensation rights for actors, DOP's, production designers, costume designers, directors)