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## Record number of applications for *Berlinale Talent Campus #2* as 3500 young filmmakers apply from 101 countries

Over 3500 young filmmakers from 101 countries around the world have applied for the *Berlinale Talent Campus 2004*, almost double the number who applied last year.

The *Berlinale Talent Campus*, the Berlinale's latest week long initiative for promoting up-and-coming talent runs from February 7-12, 2004 and is supported by international film talent from in-front and behind the camera.

“We are particularly proud of the fact that this year we received applications from countries where a film industry hardly exists – like Afghanistan, Ghana or Syria. Even in countries like Bangladesh, Benin or Mali there are young film makers keen to join us. Our international network which includes the German Foreign Office, the Goethe-Institutes, the foreign embassies in Berlin, film schools and cultural institutes is an immensely valuable tool for promoting the *Campus*‘ cause“, says project manager Christine Dorn. The largest group of applicants comes from Germany, followed closely by the UK, the USA, Canada, France and Spain.

The *Working Campus* projects that allow young talents to work in small teams during *Campus* week, are also proving to be hugely popular. For *Talent Movie of the Week* – digital short films – 151 people applied and for *Campus Making-Of* a total of 115 alumni (talents from 2003). The new *Berlinale Co-Production Market* will incorporate the *Talent Project Market*, for which 184 projects for international co-productions have already been submitted.

The four members of the selection committee presided over by Thomas Struck now have the task of scrutinising all the 1 minute application films. By the end of January 2004, the list naming the 500 talents chosen to participate in the *Campus* at Berlin's House of World Cultures from February 7 – 12, will be published.

An initiative of the Berlin International Film Festival, a business division of the Kulturveranstaltungen des Bundes in Berlin GmbH, in co-operation with MEDIA Training, Senate Department for Economics, Labour and Women's Issues Berlin, House of World Cultures and Volkswagen. Co-founding partners Filmboard Berlin-Brandenburg and the UK Film Council.