



The world's best environmental cinema returns to inspire action for the planet. The 31st edition of SUNCINE begins—more than just cinema.

SUNCINE presents a new section on water scarcity and drought, along with major national and international premieres.

BBarcelona, October 9, 2024.— On November 1st, the 31st edition of SUNCINE will kick off. More than just an environmental film festival, SUNCINE has become a vital tool for raising awareness and inspiring action in response to the world's greatest socio-environmental challenges. This year, over 1,500 films from 138 countries were submitted, with only 100 selected to compete for one of the five coveted awards offered by SUNCINE. Attendees will also include renowned figures such as French filmmaker, writer, activist, and poet Cyril Dion. Eight international films and five Spanish films will contend for the prestigious Sol de Oro in the official competition. A major highlight of this edition is the creation of the "Panorama" section, which will address the critical issue of water scarcity and drought. SUNCINE 2024 is a multi-screen event, offering in-person screenings as well as online access via the SUNCINE APP and Play RENFE platforms, making all AVE and long-distance trains a part of the festival. Screenings will also be available through CaixaForum+, 3Cat, Xarxa+, and a special program on Betevé Television.

SUNCINE, the International Environmental Film Festival, the oldest of its kind, brings pressing global issues to audiences across Spain. This year, more than ever, it seeks to serve as a megaphone for raising awareness about urgent environmental topics while offering, through its broad in-person and online program, actionable solutions. Alongside in-person screenings of the official selection, the festival features a robust online platform and app, offering free access to a wide range of high-quality productions covering diverse environmental themes—an indispensable resource for citizens, as well as governments, businesses, and educational institutions.

SUNCINE is particularly impactful in the educational realm, offering an excellent environmental education program, "Each Classroom a Cinema," which is free and open to the entire educational system. This program provides valuable audiovisual content on current environmental issues, aimed at teachers and students throughout the country.

The 31st edition's finalists include 100 films, shorts, documentaries, and animations, divided into five categories. The festival will open on November 1st in Calafell and, over the course of a week, will also screen in cinemas in Barcelona and Viladecans, featuring eight international films and five Spanish films as part of the [official section](#). A Sol de Oro will be awarded in each category. All the films will also be available from November 1st on the SUNCINE APP and the Play RENFE, Xarxa+, and 3Cat platforms. From November 9th to 23rd, a special selection will be available on CaixaForum+. The ["Ñ Section,"](#) dedicated to highlighting Spanish environmental productions, includes eight documentaries—five in competition and three premieres. Other sections that complete the festival include "Views" which features documentaries offering a global look at the planet, and "Monarca" showcasing shorts and animations for children and adults.



This year, SUNCINE places special emphasis on the issue of drought and water management by launching a non-competitive section, "Panorama: We Are Water," focused on water scarcity, unsustainable water management, and drought. The film *Water for Life* will be the centerpiece, drawing attention to this urgent issue. The screening will be followed by a debate on Environmental Justice at the Faculty of Law at the University of Barcelona, featuring renowned experts. *Water For Life* tells the story of three extraordinary individuals: Berta Cáceres, a leader of the Lenca people in Honduras; Francisco Pineda, a subsistence farmer in El Salvador; and Alberto Curamil, a Mapuche indigenous leader in Chile. All three resisted industry-driven efforts—backed by governments and multinational corporations—to divert water for mining, hydroelectric projects, or large-scale agriculture. Despite assurances from corporations and authorities, they knew what awaited them: contaminated water, environmental devastation, and the destruction of their communities.

Festival Director Jaume Gil stated, "This year's SUNCINE will, for the second year in a row, feature a very special mobile venue: RENFE will screen some of the shorts and documentaries from this edition for all its passengers throughout the festival. Participants from 138 countries submitted films, with 43 countries represented in the final selection. Eighty percent of the festival's programming will be available through the SUNCINE website and APP." It is important to note that SUNCINE is not just a one-week festival; it is an international event that runs year-round, accessible to audiences everywhere, further solidifying its position as the world's foremost festival in its genre. For over 30 years, SUNCINE has been a platform and launchpad for the best in environmental cinema, with the mission of "entertaining while educating and raising awareness while inspiring action." Recognizing the environmental impact of film festivals, SUNCINE is committed to addressing this challenge and becoming a reference point for the entire audiovisual industry in sustainable practices. The festival's sustainability plan is continually evolving, aiming to reduce its environmental footprint while maintaining its educational and awareness-raising mission.

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SUNCINE, the International Environmental Film Festival, is the oldest festival of its kind in the world. Its primary objectives are to educate, raise awareness, and promote environmental consciousness through the use of new technologies and audiovisual media in all its formats. Organized by the non-profit cultural association ACCIONES 3E, SUNCINE has become a prominent event in both the cinematic and environmental spheres, known for its world, European, and national premieres. It serves as a vital meeting point for culture, environmental activism, the audiovisual industry, and the general public. This year, SUNCINE proudly celebrates its 31st edition.