SUNCINE brings together 47 films that leave a lasting mark on the major environmental challenges of our time

Barcelona, 29 October 2026. — SUNCINE, the International Environmental Film Festival, returns with a programme of stories exploring some of the greatest challenges of our time: biodiversity loss, the climate crisis, pollution, production and consumption models, ecosystem protection, and the conflicts threatening those who defend the Earth. From 4 to 22 November, through in-person screenings in Barcelona and Calafell and its official online platform, CaixaForum+, SUNCINE will bring audiences stories that shed light on environmental challenges and the people working to address them.

But SUNCINE does more than screen moving stories. The festival has established itself as an essential tool for environmental awareness, education and change, bringing the planet's major challenges closer to audiences through stories that inform, move and inspire reflection. Film also offers a way to connect these stories with our own reality and turn awareness into concrete action.

The festival will raise the curtain at CaixaForum Barcelona with ***El silencio de la Tierra***, directed by Frank Gutiérrez, which examines the killings of environmental defenders in Latin America and the interests putting their territories at risk. The film links nature conservation with human rights and the defence of local communities. During the opening ceremony, SUNCINE will present its **Special Golden Sun Award** to José María Morales, founder and producer at Wanda Natura, who has more than 30 years of experience, has been a leading driving force behind nature documentaries in Spain, and has received three Oscar nominations.

In Calafell, the opening programme will feature a screening of ***Oxygène***, marking the launch of a public awareness campaign in Catalonia on single-use plastics, in partnership with the Agència de Residus de Catalunya and Ecoembes. **The festival will close with *The Lake***, a film that received an award at Sundance and counts Leonardo DiCaprio among its executive producers.

Eight films, eight lasting marks

The **SUNCINE Official Competition** brings together eight documentaries exploring some of today's most pressing environmental and social challenges from a range of perspectives and geographical contexts.

In ***Land of Canaan***, directed by Maggie Lemere, Palestinian farmers defend their ancient olive trees and land against violence and displacement. The film will provide an opportunity to explore connections with our own local context, with the participation of associations and organisations involved in olive growing and olive oil production in our region.

SUNCINE's world premiere, ***Tasting the Forest***, directed by Carol Quintanilha, offers an insight into the gastronomy and natural produce of the Amazon. This experience will be brought closer to home through a culinary event featuring locally sourced ingredients and short supply chains.

Meanwhile, ***We Have to Survive***, directed by Tomáš Krupa, portrays communities already facing the consequences of the climate crisis, from droughts to the transformation of their ecosystems.

The energy transition and its contradictions take centre stage in ***Materia Prima***, directed by Jens Schanze, which travels to the Bolivian Andes to examine lithium extraction and its impact on local communities.

In ***Trade Secret***, Abraham Joffe follows the international polar bear trade over six years, questioning the mechanisms through which regulatory frameworks intended to protect these animals may also facilitate their commercial exploitation.

The relationship between science and ethics lies at the heart of ***Sentient***, directed by Tony Jones. The film follows primatologist Lisa Jones-Engel as she critically reassesses decades of work with chimpanzees and monkeys in animal experimentation.

From a different perspective, ***Nuisance Bear***, directed by Gabriela Osio Vanden and Jack Weisman, explores coexistence between humans and polar bears in Churchill, Canada, where the animals' migration brings them into conflict with everyday life in the local community.

Completing the selection is ***Snow Leopard Sisters***, co-directed by Sonam Choekyi Lama, Ben Ayers and Andrew Lynch. The film follows two women on their quest to find the snow leopard in the Himalayas. The conservation of this threatened species intertwines with friendship, women's empowerment and resistance to forced marriage.

Four sections offering new perspectives

Alongside the Official Competition, **SUNCINE expands its commitment to diverse voices and formats through three additional sections**: **Oficial Ñ**, which champions and showcases Spanish film production; **Miradas**, offering a global perspective on the planet; and **Monarca**, featuring short films and animation for both younger and adult audiences.

A festival connecting cinemas, communities and screens

SUNCINE 33 will take place from 4 to 22 November 2026, with in-person screenings in Barcelona and Calafell and an online programme extending the festival's reach. CaixaForum Barcelona will host the opening ceremony on 4 November, along with various festival screenings. Calafell will once again become a meeting point for environmental cinema, with screenings, premieres, family activities and opportunities to meet filmmakers, professionals and the people featured in the films. The closing ceremony will also take place there on 14 November.

CaixaForum+ is SUNCINE's official online platform, bringing a selection of environmental documentaries and animated films to audiences beyond the cinema. Almost 70% of the entire programme will be available throughout Spain on this cultural and scientific platform promoted by the "la Caixa" Foundation. This will give audiences more opportunities to discover new stories, encounter different realities and take part in the conversation about today's ecological challenges.

Cinema that leaves a lasting mark, beyond the screen

Founded in 1993, SUNCINE is the world's longest-running environmental film festival. For its 33rd edition, under the tagline **"Cinema that leaves a lasting mark"**, SUNCINE offers an experience that goes beyond the screen: discovering, being moved, questioning our assumptions, opening up conversations about the future we want to build and inspiring action.

For further information, please contact:

Miguel A. Valladares
comunicacion@suncinefest.com
Tel. +34 690 762 387

Press resources:

SUNCINE promotional video (Spanish and Catalan)
https://we.tl/t-5jRcmk5RMvKFf603

SUNCINE poster and films
https://we.tl/t-Z6fj5kv0F6tLPAb7

Trailers: International Official Competition and Monarca Section (animation and documentary)
https://we.tl/t-8kdaKPo57UF9a147

Oficial Ñ Section trailers
https://we.tl/t-sBWbzhHKOCfsc7zq

Miradas Section trailers
https://we.tl/t-OT6W1emub5WKU3vT

Full programme available at:
https://www.suncinefest.com/es