



Launched at Showcase 2001, an adaptation of Kingsley Amis's *Take a Girl Like You* has already sold to 14 territories



Starring Bob Hoskins and Peter Falk, *The Lost World* is a major new co-production with the US-based A&E network



The factual BBC/TLC co-production *The Human Face* featured John Cleese and Elizabeth Hurley

BBC Worldwide, Europe's largest TV distribution company, increased TV sales to £150m in 2000/01.

Export success

UK TV export figures released by the British Television Distributors' Association (BTDA) for 2000 showed a 5% increase in TV-related sales, whilst BBC Worldwide's comparable sales increased by 21%.

Key factors in its success have been: BBC Worldwide's extensive channel presence [see page 11]; BBC-branded blocks of programming, sold to more than 30 broadcasters; and a number of global hits.

Format Licensing and Production

In 1999 BBC Worldwide developed a strategy with BBC Entertainment to invest more than £300,000 a year into the production of game show pilots. This has resulted in successes in the UK and internationally with shows like *The Weakest Link*, *Friends Like These* and *Dog Eat Dog*.

The Weakest Link is one of the hottest TV programmes in the world. Enormous media interest was generated when America's NBC Network commissioned a US version of the series, casting the BBC show's presenter Anne Robinson as host. The Australian version holds the number one slot and local versions are also on-air in Germany and The Netherlands. BBC Worldwide is working with BBC Entertainment on plans for versions in 40 countries.

New game show, *Dog Eat Dog*, is now in development with NBC and in Australia and France, while classic formats like *Ready Steady Cook* and *Antiques Roadshow* remain firm favourites in many territories.

Best-sellers

BBC Worldwide's own programme sales event, BBC Showcase 2001, worth more than £40m annually, was the most successful in its 26-year history. Strong sellers included *Tweenies*, *Love in a Cold Climate*, *Walking with Beasts* and new drama, *The Lost World*.

Around the world

EMEIA (Europe, Middle East, India and Africa) region beat aggressive budget targets and grew the business by 13% year on year, with particularly strong growth of 82% in Russia and 48% in India. A major first was a commission to produce *Ji Mantriji*, a Hindi version of the *Yes Minister* series, made in India for broadcast on Star TV.

BBC Worldwide Americas saw a record year for both co-production and TV sales, including factual programming with partner DCI such as *How to Build a Human*, *The Ballad of Big Al* and *The Human Face*. Drama co-productions include *The Cazalets* and *Take a Girl Like You* with WGBH for PBS.

Asia-Pacific achieved a very strong programme sales performance, with 32% year on year growth in Asia and Japan. A new subsidiary company, BBC Worldwide Japan, was established.

BBC Films

Three BBC films carrying BBC Worldwide investment were completed or released. Paul Pawlikowski's *The Last Resort* won seven awards at Edinburgh. Roddy Doyle's *When Brendan Met Trudy* was released in Ireland. Agreements were reached with USA Films and *Downtown* for the US and UK releases of Julien Temple's *Pandaemonium*.