



Federal Government Commissioner  
for Culture and the Media

**GERMAN FEDERAL  
FILM FUND  
DFFF**

**GERMAN MOTION  
PICTURE FUND  
GMPF**

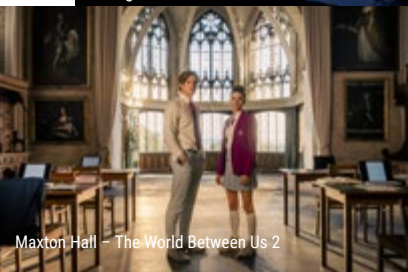
AT A GLANCE  
**2024**



The Light



September 5



Maxton Hall – The World Between Us 2



Megalopolis



The Empress 2

# FUNDING IN 2024

In 2024, the German Federal Film Fund (DFFF) and the German Motion Picture Fund (GMPF) together provided funding for a total of 142 national and international theatrical film productions and high-budget series. Federal funding totalling €123.9 million led to follow-on investment of more than €656 million in film production in Germany.

The DFFF I scheme provided more than €60.1 million in funding for a total of 115 films for theatrical release, including 55 feature films, 32 documentaries and 8 animated films.

German productions receiving funding included the coming-of-age drama *Amrum*, directed by Fatih Akin and starring Diane Kruger, which is set in the final weeks of the Second World War. Other German productions funded were the film version of Caroline Wahl's best-selling novel *22 Bahnen* (22 Laps), directed by Mia Maariel Meyer, and the fourth instalment in the successful children's film franchise *School of Magical Animals*, which received €3 million, the largest DFFF I grant awarded in 2024. Documentary films receiving funding included Rebecca Horn – *Das Gewicht der Welt* (Rebecca Horn – The Weight of the World), about the life and work of the German artist, who died in September 2024. One of the grant recipients in the category "Animation" was the lavishly produced film version of the children's book *Das Neinhorn*. A number of international co-productions also received DFFF I grants, including the science fiction drama *The Assessment*, with Elizabeth Olsen and Alicia Vikander, and the German–French drama *Cicadas*, starring Nina Hoss and Saskia Rosendahl, which will have its world premiere at the 75th Berlinale.

**DFFF II: The production of six projects generated follow-on investment of €136.1 million**

International star power for film production in Germany: grants were awarded to the new Wes Anderson project, *The Phoenixian Scheme*, starring Scarlett Johansson, Tom Hanks, Bill Murray and Benicio Del Toro, which was largely filmed at Studio Babelsberg; and to *Riddick: Furya*, the fourth film in the science fiction-action fran-

chise *The Chronicles of Riddick*, starring Vin Diesel and shot partly in Bavaria. Both projects received funding of more than €10 million. *Control*, the new action thriller directed by Robert Schwentke and starring Julianne Moore and James McAvoy, was filmed partly in Berlin with DFFF II funding. Grants for VFX and animation work were awarded to two U.S. productions, *The Lost Bus* and *Red One*, which included animation from German visual effects studios.

DFFF I and DFFF II funding generated follow-on investment by national and international production companies of approximately €467 million in Germany's film industry, five times the amount of the government's DFFF grants.

**The GMPF provided support for a total of 21 new high-quality and internationally marketable high-budget series.**

These include the fifth season of *Babylon Berlin* for ARD/Degeto, which received the most GMPF funding at €6.9 million; the prequel *Dinner for Five – Killer for One* for Amazon Prime; and the new spy thriller series *Bone Palace*, filmed in Berlin, for Netflix. The NDR/Arte history project *The Last Days of Kabul* and the ZDF production *The Wagner Brothers*, about two boys from Berlin who become basketball stars in the U.S., are two of the five documentary series that received funding in 2024. GMPF funding in 2024 led to follow-on investment of some €189 million, or six times the amount approved in grants.

# DFFF I

in figures\*

2024	Number	Total production costs	German production costs	Grant
Grants approved	115	€475,322,139	€331,247,654	€60,102,934
International co-productions	53	€260,274,443	€149,939,036	€27,507,476
German productions	62	€215,047,696	€181,308,618	€32,595,459
Feature films	75	€400,787,193	€290,120,518	€52,954,985
Documentary films	32	€19,507,728	€16,093,909	€2,498,755
Animated films	8	€55,027,218	€25,033,228	€4,649,194

\* Sums may not add up exactly due to rounding.

## More projects, greater follow-on investment

The number of projects approved in 2024 was significantly higher than in the previous year, which had been marked by difficult economic conditions and the screenwriters’ and actors’ strike in the U.S.

Grants for an additional 20 productions in the feature film sector alone increased follow-on investment by nearly €100 million.

## Strong demand for international co-productions, most of them with Austria

Nearly half of the funds awarded went to international co-productions. German production companies partnered most often with Austria, for a total of 18 co-productions. These included the historical drama *Rose*, starring Sandra Hüller, which was largely filmed in the federal state of Saxony-Anhalt.

## Premieres and success at major film festivals

Tom Tykwer’s film *The Light* will open the 2025 Berlinale, the latest of a number of DFFF-funded films to be screened at international film festivals. At the 2024 Venice International Film Festival, Andres Veiel’s documentary *Riefenstahl* was shown out of competition, while Tim Fehlbaum’s thriller *September 5* opened the section “Orizzonti Extra”. The visually stunning science fiction epic *Megalopolis*, directed by Francis Ford Coppola and supported with a DFFF II grant, celebrated its world premiere in competition at the Cannes Film Festival. And in early 2024, four productions were invited to compete at the 74th Berlinale, where the family drama *Dying* by Matthias Glasner won a Silver Bear for best screenplay.

# DFFF II

in figures

2024	Number	Total production costs, film segment	German production costs, film segment	Grant
Grants approved	6	€160,460,135	€136,088,859	€31,315,044

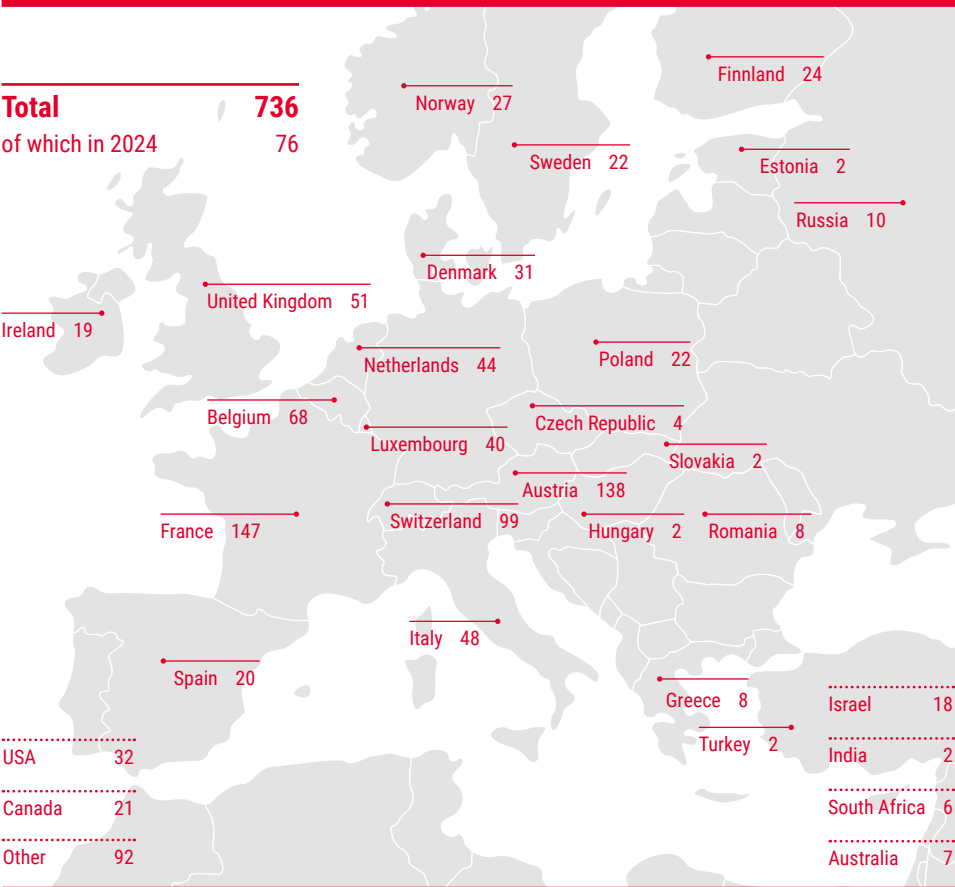
## More than €136 million spent on film production in Germany

Compared to the previous year, fewer projects received grants, but those that did were bigger-budget productions. The level of follow-on investment remained nearly the same.

# INTERNATIONAL CO-PRODUCTIONS

DFFF I 2007 – 2024

**Total** **736**  
of which in 2024 76



## DFFF I UND DFFF II

Overview 2007 – 2024



### PRODUCTIONS

1,930



### FUNDING DISBURSED

€1.21 BILLION



### INVESTMENT IN FILM PRODUCTION IN GERMANY

€6.82 BILLION

In the 18 years since it was established, the DFFF scheme has provided total funding of €1.21 billion for 1,930 film productions. Of the DFFF I projects, 1,211 were German productions and 713 were international co-productions. Since their introduction in 2017, the DFFF II grants have provided a total of €225 million for 44 productions. This funding from the Federal Government Commissioner for Culture and the Media has led to follow-on investment amounting to some €6.82 billion in Germany alone. In 2024, German film producers teamed up most often with Austria (18), followed by co-productions with France (11) and Switzerland (7).

# GMPF

in figures\*

2024	Number	Total production costs	German production costs	Grant
Grants approved	21	€246,805,502	€188,850,841	€32,483,908
International co-productions	5	€52,842,617	€29,448,900	€4,461,800
German productions	16	€193,962,885	€159,401,941	€28,022,108
Series	21	€246,805,502	€188,850,841	€32,483,908
of which documentary series	5	€9,847,428	€8,240,053	€1,400,906

\* Sums may not add up exactly due to rounding.

## Focus on German series

Challenges in the market for streaming platforms also affected the German Motion Picture Fund (GMPF) again in 2024: the number of projects submitted remained low in comparison with 2022, when 44 projects received funding. The 21 high-quality high-budget series marketed internationally that were granted funding included 17 German productions, among them the second season of the Amazon Prime series *Maxton Hall – The World Between Us*, which was sold in more than 120 countries. The number of documentary series receiving funding doubled in 2024.

2016 – 2024	Number	Total production costs	German production costs	Grant	Grant incl. additional appropriations*
Grants approved	155	€2,591,077,376	€1,879,320,634	€305,066,826	€305,647,977
Additional pandemic-related costs	3	€3,872,112	€4,592,398	€581,151	
International co-productions	41	€1,069,919,701	€579,989,342	€84,553,134	
German productions	114	€1,521,157,675	€1,299,331,292	€220,513,692	
Series	152	€2,415,789,665	€1,772,782,143	€299,066,826	
of which documentary series	13	€37,000,095	€30,178,238	€4,965,120	
Feature films	3	€175,287,710	€106,538,491	€6,000,000	

\* Sums may not add up exactly due to rounding.

## Nine years of funding, 155 high-budget series and feature films

Since it was established, the GMPF scheme has provided total funding of €305 million for 155 film productions, whose German production costs totalling €1.9 billion kept film studios and film production in Germany operating at full capacity. *Babylon Berlin* (seasons 1–5), *Dark* (seasons 1–3), *The Empress* (seasons 1 and 2) and many other nationally and internationally successful series, such as *The Queen’s Gambit*, *Dear Child* and *The Zweiflers*, could not have been made in Germany without GMPF funding.

# HOW TO APPLY

## At a glance

The DFFF and the GMPF are automatic funding schemes in which funding is awarded in the form of a grant. Applications may be submitted at any time, as long as they are received at least six weeks before shooting begins. Funding may be granted if the application documents are complete, the criteria set down in the test of cultural characteristics are fulfilled, and 65% of the film's financing has been secured. If these requirements are met, the application will be accepted on the condition that sufficient funds are available.



### DFFF I

Producers of feature, documentary and animated films are eligible to apply.

#### Grants:

Up to 30% of the approved German production costs, up to a maximum of €5 million.

#### Eligibility requirements:

- Total production costs for feature films of at least € 1 million, for documentary films € 200,000 and for animated films € 2 million.
- The film must be commercially released in German cinemas.
- At least 25 % of the total production costs must be spent in Germany; if total production costs are more than € 20 million, then at least 20 % must be spent in Germany.
- Generally, the German share of funding needs to amount to 20 % of total production costs.



### DFFF II

Production service providers hired to produce a film or film segment are eligible to apply.

#### Grants:

Films: up to 30% of the approved German production costs, up to a maximum of €25 million.

#### Eligibility requirements:

- Total production costs of at least € 20 million.
- German production costs of at least € 8 million; for animated films, German production costs of at least € 2 million.
- The film must be commercially released in German cinemas.



### GMPF

Producers of series and films that are not intended for first release in cinemas are eligible to apply.

#### Grants:

Series: up to 30% of the approved German production costs. The size of grants varies depending on the German production costs and the number of points in the test of cultural characteristics. The maximum amount is €20 million.

Films: up to 30% of the approved German production costs, up to a maximum of €5 million.

#### Eligibility requirements:

- Total production costs for fictional series of at least €30,000 per minute or at least €1.2 million per episode and at least €7.2 million per season.
- Total production costs for documentary series of at least €9,000 per minute or at least €360,000 per episode and at least €1.65 million per season.
- Total production costs of at least €25 million.
- At least 40% of the total production costs must be spent in Germany.
- Must be screened on German TV or be available via video-on-demand platforms accessible in Germany.

# CONTACT

The DFFF and the GMPF are administered by the German Federal Film Board (FFA) on behalf of the Federal Government Commissioner for Culture and the Media (BKM).

**German Federal Film Fund (DFFF)**  
**German Motion Picture Fund (GMPF)**

## Office address

c/o Filmförderungsanstalt (FFA)  
Friedrichstraße 153a, 10117 Berlin

## Mailing address

c/o Filmförderungsanstalt (FFA)  
Große Präsidentenstraße 9, 10178 Berlin

## DFFF

Phone: +49 (0)30 - 27 577 - 142  
Email: [dfff@ffa.de](mailto:dfff@ffa.de)

[www.dfff-ffa.de](http://www.dfff-ffa.de)



## GMPF

Phone: +49 (0)30 - 27 577 - 142  
Email: [gmpf@ffa.de](mailto:gmpf@ffa.de)

[www.gmpf-ffa.de](http://www.gmpf-ffa.de)



**Photo credits:** DFFF-funded films have been successful at the box office and at festivals; internationally acclaimed GMPF-funded high-budget series (selection):

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