



Federal Government Commissioner
for Culture and the Media

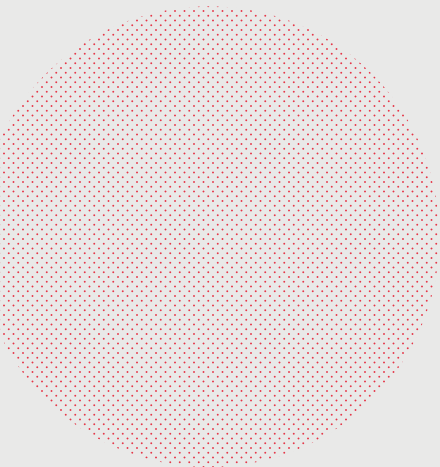
**SPOT
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N

FILM-FUNDING IN GERMANY

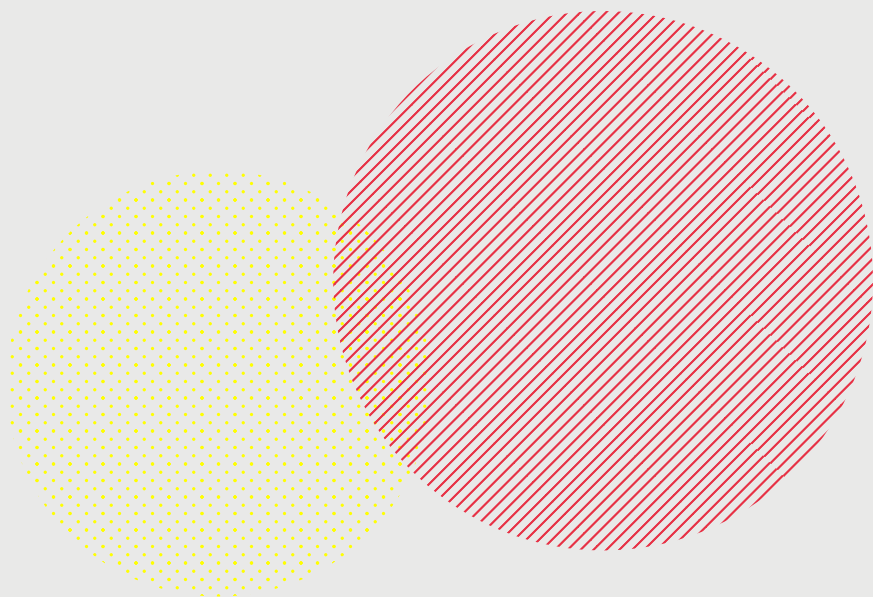
**FEATURE FILMS
ANIMATED FILMS
DOCUMENTARIES
HIGH-END SERIES**

**DFFF+GMPF
30%**



FIND OUT ABOUT GERMANY'S VARIETY OF ATTRACTIVE FUNDING PROGRAMMES

**This brochure offers key information
about a multitude of funding opportunities
for producers of national and international
films and high-end series.**



A MESSAGE FROM WOLFRAM WEIMER MINISTER OF STATE FOR CULTURE AND THE MEDIA



© Kay Herschelmann

Germany has long been a place where cinematic visions come to life. Filmmakers from around the world find a unique combination of artistic freedom, technical excellence, and an extraordinary variety of filming locations – from modern urban centers to historic landscapes. With state-of-the-art studios, internationally respected post-production and VFX companies, as well as highly skilled professionals across all departments, Germany offers a production infrastructure capable of supporting projects of any scale – from independent films to major international series.

To further strengthen Germany's dynamic film hub, the federal government has significantly increased the film funding budget for 2026 and the years beyond. This creates reliable conditions and attractive incentives for international productions.

I warmly invite you to discover Germany as a creative and economically attractive production destination. Experience the diversity, professionalism, and openness our country has to offer. We look forward to bringing your stories to life together.

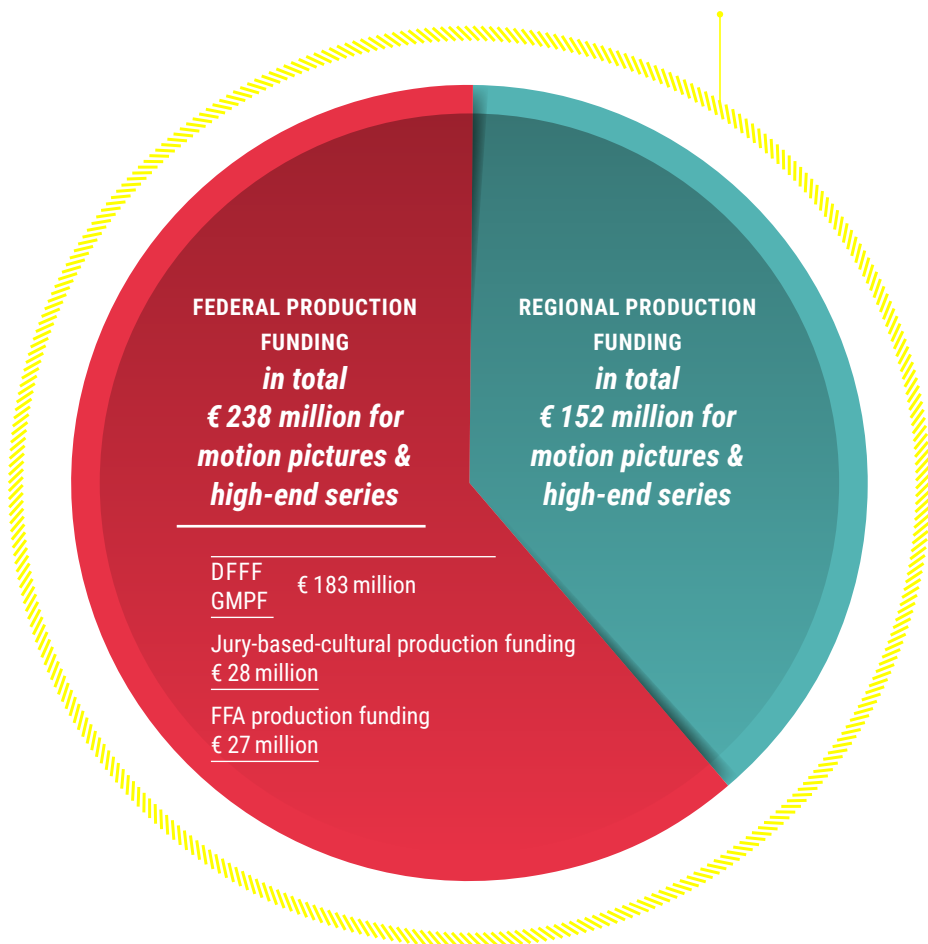
A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of two distinct parts: a cursive 'Wolfram' and a more angular 'Weimer'.

Wolfram Weimer
Minister of State for Culture and the Media

SUBSIDIES IN GERMANY

Germany offers a wide range of attractive opportunities through federal and regional film funding programmes which are also available for international co-productions. Many of these programmes are specially designed to support the production of theatrical motion pictures and high-end series. Germany is one of the top film and media locations in Europe. In 2025, around € 390 million in film subsidies were available to the film industry.

**Total funding budget
for film & high-end series
productions in 2025 → € 390
million**



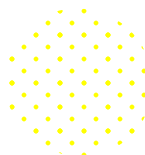
**→ FUNDING FROM NATIONAL
AND REGIONAL FILM FUNDS
CAN BE COMBINED**

figures for 2025

DFFF I, DFFF II & GMPF AT A GLANCE

The Federal Government Commissioner for Culture and the Media (BKM) has several programmes providing attractive funding opportunities for international co-productions. Both German Federal Film Fund (DFFF I+II) and the German Motion Picture Fund (GMPF) offer perfect conditions for producing films in Germany. Producers can count on funding of up to 30 % of the costs incurred in Germany for the production of films and series.

German Federal Film Fund for film productions for cinema release (DFFF I and II)



DFFF I

- For producers of small and medium-sized productions with total production costs of at least € 1 million for feature films, € 200,000 for documentary films and € 2 million for animated films
- A minimum of 25 % of total production costs usually spent in Germany
- Funding of up to 30 % of approved German production costs

Max. amount per film **€ 5 million**



DFFF II

- For production service providers hired to produce a film or film segment for projects with total production costs of € 20 million or more
- German production costs of at least € 8 million for feature films or at least € 2 million for animated films and films with virtually animated components
- Funding of up to 30 % of approved German production costs

Max. amount per film **€ 25 million**

German Motion Picture Fund for high-end series & TV/VOD films (GMPF)



GMPF

- For producers of series with total production costs of at least € 30,000 per minute for fictional series; € 9,000 per minute for documentary series
- For producers of films not for cinema release with total production costs of at least € 25 million per film
- Films: up to 30 % of approved German production costs, max. € 5 million; series: up to 30 % of the approved German production costs

Max. amount **€ 20 million**

THE ADVANTAGES IN A NUTSHELL

- Non-repayable grant
- Transparent, automatic support
- First disbursement from start of shooting

HOW TO APPLY FOR

GMPF FUNDING

You plan to produce a motion picture or TV/VOD film or high-end series

TV/VOD



TV/VOD film

TV/VOD series

Your **total production** costs must be at least **€ 25 million**

Your **total production** costs must be at least **€ 30,000** per minute for fictional series; **€ 9,000** per minute for documentary series

Your **German production** costs are at least **€ 24 million** and at least 70 points in the cultural test.

NO

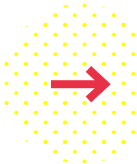
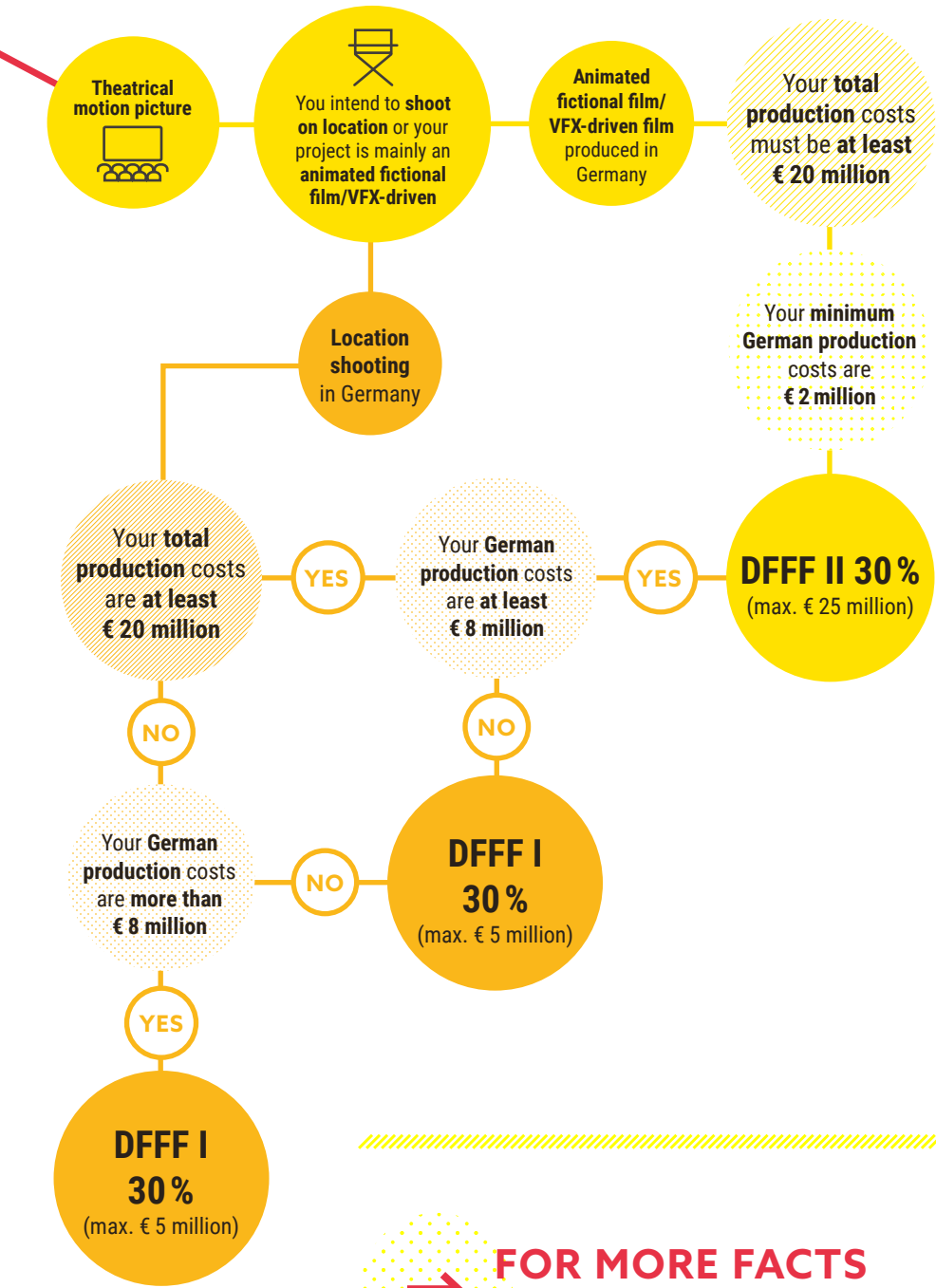
YES

GMPF 30 %
(max. € 5 million)

GMPF 30 %
(max. € 6 million)

GMPF 30 %
(max. € 20 million)

DFFF FUNDING



**FOR MORE FACTS
SEE NEXT PAGE**

WELCOME TO A MULTIFACETED LOCATION WITH EXCELLENT VFX-EXPERTISE

Germany's regions offer a wealth of opportunities for shooting at diverse locations. Here are a few examples of Germany's breathtaking locations, varied architecture and cultural spaces.

The films listed below are just some of the more than 2,100 projects which the DFFF and GMPF have funded in recent years.

DFFF II
€ 10,4 million +
€ 1.5 million
regional funding



THE PHOENICIAN SCHEME

- **Director:** Wes Anderson
- **Cast:** Benicio Del Toro, Willem Dafoe, Tom Hanks, Scarlett Johansson, Bill Murray, Benedict Cumberbatch

DFFF II
€ 25 million +
€ 1.4 million FFA +
€ 1.9 million
regional funding



THE HUNGER GAMES: SUNRISE ON THE REAPING

- **Director:** Francis Lawrence
- **Cast:** Joseph Zada, Jesse Plemons, Jennifer Lawrence, Elle Fanning, Ralph Fiennes, Glenn Close, Kieran Culkin

GMPF
€ 21.7 million +
€ 15.8 million
regional funding



BABYLON BERLIN SEASON 1-5

- **Directors:** Tom Tykwer, Achim von Borries, Henk Handloegten
- **Cast:** Volker Bruch, Liv Lisa Fries, Lars Eidinger, Matthias Brandt, Benno Fürmann

GMPF
€ 10 million +
€ 1.4 million
regional
funding



CONSTELLATION

- **Directors:** Oliver Hirschbiegel, Michelle MacLaren, Joseph Cedar
- **Cast:** Noomi Rapace, Jonathan Banks, James D'Arcy

DEAD OF WINTER

- **Director:** Brian Kirk
- **Cast:** Emma Thompson, Judy Greer, Marc Menchaca



DFFF I
€ 2.6 million +
€ 1 million
regional
funding

'SHOOTING IN GERMANY' A FANTASTIC EXPERIENCE

Actors like Cate Blanchett, George Clooney, Glenn Close, Benedict Cumberbatch, Matt Damon, Tom Hanks, Scarlett Johansson, Nicole Kidman, Diane Kruger, Jude Law, Jennifer Lawrence, Keanu Reeves and Kate Winslet have all enjoyed the warm welcome and benefitted from the motivated crews and excellent infrastructure in Germany.

- World-famous directors like Steven Spielberg, Paul Greengrass, Oliver Stone, Lana and Lilly Wachowski and Quentin Tarantino and many more have returned after convincing themselves of the benefits of filming in Germany
- Oscar-winning productions such as THE WHITE RIBBON, GRAND BUDAPEST HOTEL and BRIDGE OF SPIES were shot in Germany
- US blockbusters such as THE HUNGER GAMES: MOCKINGJAY – PART 2, THE BATMAN were made by German high-tech visual effects companies and were shot here
- Successful high-end series like BABYLON BERLIN, DARK, THE EMPRESS and MAXTON HALL come from Germany

Top-quality studio facilities (selection)

- 1 Bavaria Studios & Production Services, Munich
- 2 Studio Babelsberg, Potsdam
- 3 CCC Filmstudios, Berlin
- 4 MMC Studios, Cologne
- 5 Studio Hamburg, Hamburg/Berlin
- 6 Penzing Studios, Munich
- 7 VFX, CGI and 3D animations in many regions (e.g. Stuttgart, Munich, Berlin, Cologne, Hamburg, Leipzig)

THE EMPRESS SEASON 1–3

- **Directors:** Florian Cossen, Katrin Gebbe and others
- **Cast:** Devrim Lingnau, Philip Froissant, Melika Foroutan



GMPF
€ 8.6 million +
€ 1 million
regional funding



DFFF II
€ 5.8 million +
€ 1 million
regional funding

DFFF I
€ 1.4 million +
€ 2.3 million
FFA/BKM/regional
funding

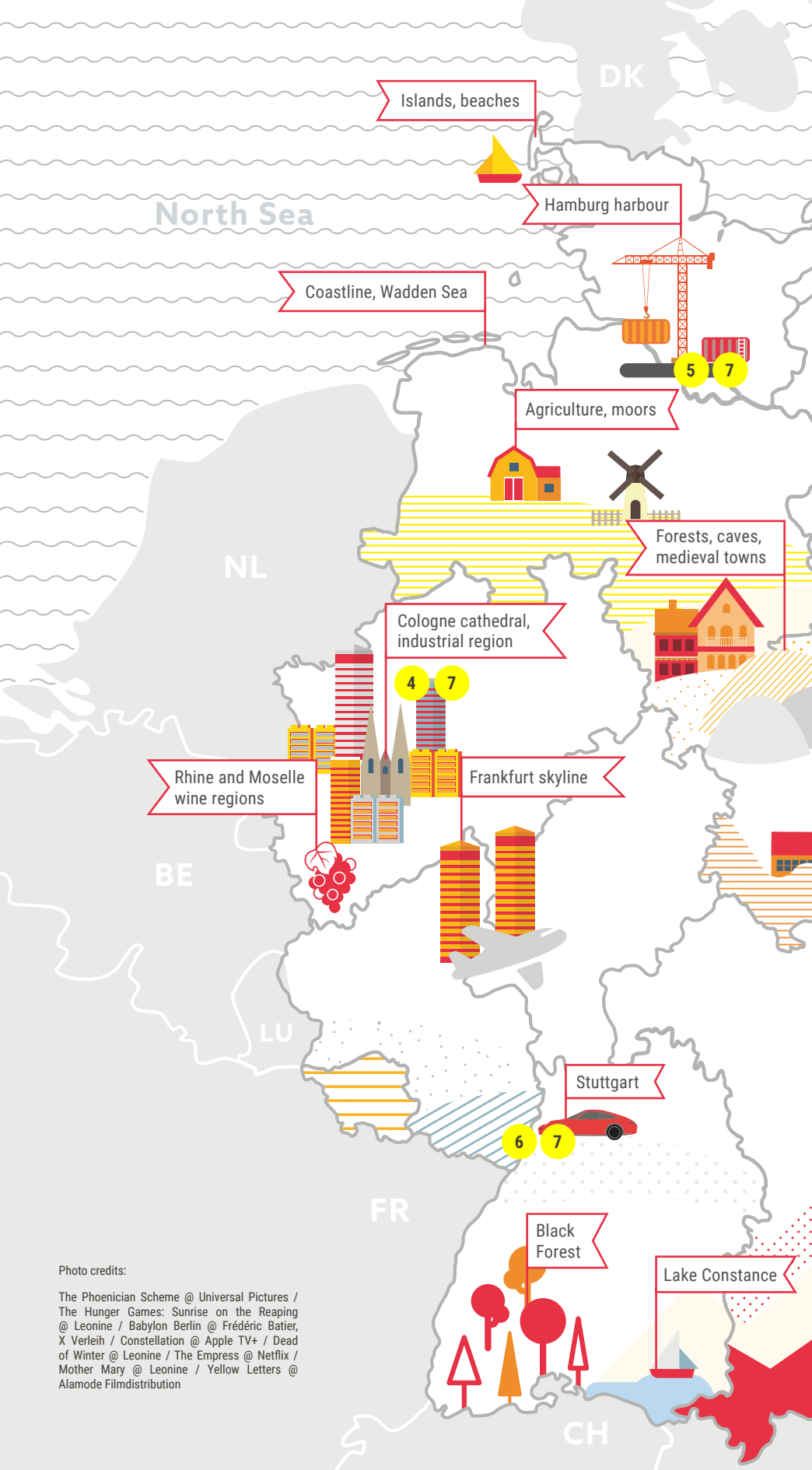


MOTHER MARY

- **Director:** David Lowery
- **Cast:** Anne Hathaway, Michaela Coel, Hunter Schafer

ROSE

- **Director:** Markus Schleiner
- **Cast:** Sandra Hüller, Caro Braun, Marisa Growaldt, Godehard Giese



DK

North Sea

Islands, beaches

Hamburg harbour

Coastline, Wadden Sea

Agriculture, moors

Forests, caves, medieval towns

Cologne cathedral, industrial region

Rhine and Moselle wine regions

Frankfurt skyline

Stuttgart

Black Forest

Lake Constance

NL

BE

LU

FR

CH

Photo credits:

The Phoenician Scheme @ Universal Pictures /
The Hunger Games: Sunrise on the Reaping
@ Leonine / Babylon Berlin @ Frédéric Batier,
X Verleih / Constellation @ Apple TV+ / Dead
of Winter @ Leonine / The Empress @ Netflix /
Mother Mary @ Leonine / Yellow Letters @
Alamode FilmDistribution

Baltic Sea

Islands, beaches, cliffs

Berlin,
Potsdam-Babelsberg

Lakes, natural
landscapes

Dresden

Leipzig

“Görliwood”

Monasteries

Neuschwanstein Castle

Munich, the Alps,
Bavarian villages, snow

BENEFITS OF FILMING IN GERMANY

- All regions welcome film productions and provide specialist assistance
- Unique locations
- Highest-quality studio facilities
- Outstanding animation and VFX specialists
- Excellent post-production services
- Experienced, multilingual crews
- Transparent and automatic grants from Federal Government film funds; additional funding available in the regions

FAQs



©Jakob Owens on Unsplash

DFFF I, DFFF II, GMPF

Are there any deadlines?

- The DFFF and GMPF have no application deadlines. Applications can be submitted at any time, but at least six weeks prior to the start of principal photography.
- The grant can be awarded once all eligibility criteria are met and 65% of the financing is secured.

Who can apply?

- Because the funding aims to ensure the competitiveness of film production in Germany and support the existing infrastructure, you will need a partner based in Germany. Applications can be submitted by a German-based co-producer (DFFF I & GMPF) or production service provider (DFFF II).
- The German financial contribution must be at least 20% of the total production costs (DFFF I and GMPF film projects only).

Is there a minimum spend in Germany?

- DFFF I: At least 25% of the total production costs must usually be spent in Germany.
- DFFF II: The German production costs must be at least € 8 million for feature films or at least € 2 million for animated films and films with virtually animated components.
- GMPF: The German production costs must usually be at least 40% of the total production costs.

Any other requirements?

- All projects need to pass a test of cultural characteristics.
- Projects receiving DFFF I or DFFF II funds must be commercially released in German cinemas.
- High-end series and films receiving GMPF funds must usually be shown on German TV and/or VoD platforms which are accessible in Germany.

EXAMPLES OF FINANCING

Feature Film



DFFF I

Approved German production costs^{*}

€ 16 million

- DFFF I **non-repayable** grant € 4.8 million
- Selective Regional Loan I of up to € 1 million
- Selective Regional Loan II of up to € 1 million

**You could receive
up to € 6.8 million!**



DFFF II

Approved German production costs^{*}

€ 80 million

- DFFF II **non-repayable** grant € 24 million
- Selective Regional Loan I of up to € 1 million
- Selective Regional Loan II of up to € 1 million

**You could receive
up to € 26 million!**

High-End Series



GMPF

Approved German production costs^{*}

€ 41 million

- GMPF **non-repayable** grant € 12.3 million
- Selective Regional Loan I of up to € 1 million
- Selective Regional Loan II of up to € 1 million

**You could receive
up to € 14.3 million!**

^{*} "Approved German production costs" means all German production costs except, for example, overheads, insurance fees and financing costs.

HOW TO GET IN TOUCH

If you would like more information on how to finance your next film, don't hesitate to contact the federal and regional film funding institutions.

Funding institutions on the federal level are:



**Federal Government Commissioner
for Culture and the Media (BKM)
and
the German Federal Film Board (FFA)**



For more information, go to

www.kulturstatsminister.de and www.ffa.de

Funding institutions on the regional level are:



Film- und Medienstiftung NRW
Cologne, North Rhine-Westphalia
www.filmstiftung.de



FilmFernsehFonds Bayern
Munich, Bavaria
www.fff-bayern.de



Medienboard Berlin-Brandenburg
Potsdam Babelsberg, Brandenburg
www.medienboard.de



Filmförderung Hamburg-Schleswig-Holstein
Hamburg, Schleswig-Holstein
www.ffhsh.de



MV Filmförderung GmbH
Schwerin, Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania
www.mv-filmfoerderung.de



Mitteldeutsche Medienförderung
Leipzig, Saxony, Saxony-Anhalt & Thuringia
www.mdm-online.de



MfG-Baden-Württemberg
Stuttgart, Baden-Württemberg
www.mfg.de



HessenFilm und Medien
Frankfurt/Main, Hessen
www.hessenfilm.de



Nordmedia
Hanover, Lower Saxony & Bremen
www.nordmedia.de

To qualify for regional funding you must also spend the money in the respective region.

Most of the regional institutions are represented by their umbrella organization
FOCUS GERMANY.

For more information, please visit

www.focusgermany.de

CONTACT

The German Federal Film Board (FFA) is responsible for administering the German Federal Film Fund (DFFF) and the German Motion Picture Fund (GMPF). The DFFF and GMPF team will be pleased to answer any questions and help you complete your application.

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

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German Federal Film Board
Große Präsidentenstraße 9
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DFFF



DFFF

Phone: +49 (0)30 - 27 577 - 0

Email: dfff@ffa.de

www.dfff-ffa.de

GMPF

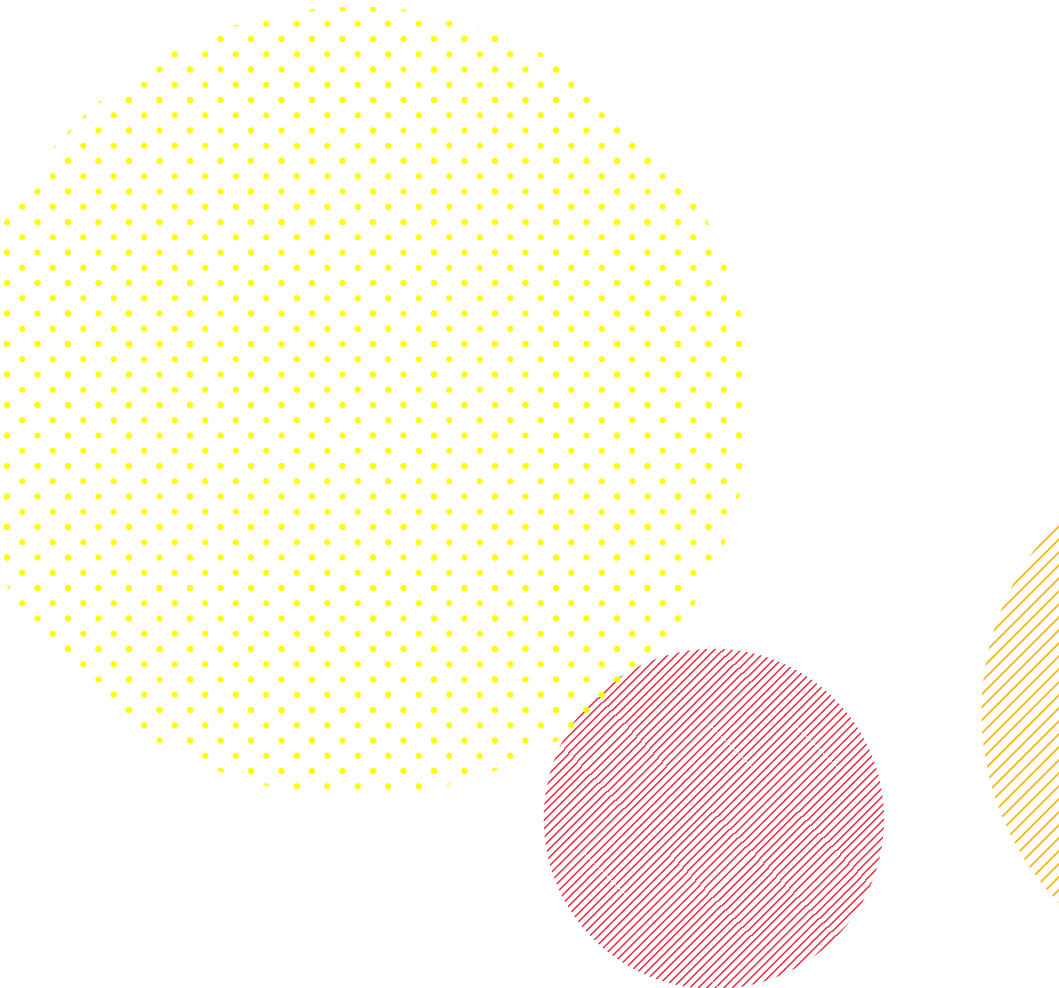


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