# 2019

# Funding



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# FFA Funding 2019

Here are 2019's facts and figures hot off the presses from the Market Research & Statistics Department for the FFA's activities to support production, script, distribution, video and exhibition, with the FFA's work from the previous year presented in condensed form and graphs.

The FFA allocated 15.7 million Euros in production funding for 40 projects in 2019. This included 14 international co-productions – almost twice as many as in 2018. The FFA supported the development of 38 screenplays (incl. treatment and further development) with around 1.1 million Euros. The FFA awarded funding and media services totalling 12.4 million Euros for the distribution and world sales of 69 films.

Berlin, February 2020

# **Production**

In 2019, members of the FFA Committee for production and script funding deliberated in 7 funding sessions on 112 production applications, 11 more than in 2018. 40 projects – 22 feature films, 8 documentaries and 10 children's films - were supported. This funding quota of 36 per cent was at a similar level to the previous year.

The supported films included "Das perfekte Geheimnis", the most popular German film in 2019, "Undine", Berlinale 2020 Competition entry, and "Jim Button and the Wild 13", the sequel to the most successful German film in 2018. The FFA allocated a total of 15.7, million Euros for production funding – 1.3 million Euros more than in 2018.

#### Approvals by category

Compared to the previous year, the proportion of supported feature films fell by 7 percentage points to 55 per cent. The proportion of children's films and documentaries has correspondingly grown slightly.



### The "Outstanding Films for Children" Initiative

Since 2013, this initiative by public broadcasters, literary sources. In 2019, the Berlin Bollywood film film funds, the film industry and politicians has "Curry ist nichts für Schwächlinge" was supported been supporting the production of children's films by the initiative and backed by the FFA with which are not based on well-known brands or 500,000 Euros.

#### **Project film funding**



### FFA Funding 2019

14 international co-productions were supported almost twice as many as in 2018. While there weren't any animation films supported in 2018, 2019 then saw 3 receiving backing. 20 per cent (8 approvals) went to debut films.

# Production

#### Average production costs

The average production costs for the films supported in 2019 were above those of previous years at 5.30 million Euros.



### **Components of the financing for films receiving FFA funding**

On average, the FFA provided just under 10 per centpresales climbed by 7.2 percentage points to just underof the financing for the productions supported byone third, while foreign participation has fallenthe project funding programme in 2019. Takensomewhat to 7 per cent. The producers' own fundstogether with the funding programmes of the Bund,remain stable at 8.1 per cent. The share of the financingthe Länder and the EU, these funders' share of thecoming from broadcasters has now fallen from lastfinancing at 47.4 per cent was about the same asyear's 7.5 per cent to 5.0 per cent.

#### Production costs by category

While the average budget for a documentary has fallen, the average feature film budget increased slightly to 5.61 million Euros and the budget for a children's film by 1.68 million Euros to 8.24 million Euros.





### FFA Funding 2019

FFA
BKM   DFFF
Länder production funding
EU funding
TV
Presales
Foreign participation
Producers' own funds



8

### FFA Funding 2019

### **Success-Quotients**

receiving distribution funding 84 per cent of all the In total, 41 per cent of all German premieres received FFA funding in 2019. These films were responsible for 91 per cent of the admissions for German premieres.

# Script

The Script Committee supported 26 new screenplay projects in 2019 – 7 more than in the previous year – with a total of 645,000 Euros. This corresponds to a funding quota of 30 per cent for the 88 applications. A total of 60,000 Euros was allocated to support 6 projects – i.e. 12 per cent of the applications – in the funding category for screenplays at treatment stage. 23 applications were submitted to be funded for the further development of a screenplay, with 6 projects being supported. This corresponds to a funding quota of 26 per cent. The FFA allocated around a total of 1.1 million Euros for the development of screenplays in 2019.

### Script-funded projects released theatrically in 2019

Title	Screenwriter	Cinema release	Funding
ALFONS JITTERBIT – COUNTDOWN TO CHAOS	Mark Schlichter	11.04.2019	30,000€
ATLAS	David Nawrath and Paul Salisbury	25.04.2019	30,000€
ROADS	Sebastian Schipper and Oliver Ziegenbalg	30.05.2019	30,000€
ТККС	Peer Klehmet	06.06.2019	75,000€
I WAS AT HOME, BUT	Angela Schanelec	15.08.2019	25,000€
THE WHALE & THE RAVEN	Mirjam Leuze	05.09.2019	20,000€
SYSTEM CRASHER	Nora Fingscheidt	19.09.2019	10,000€
ZWISCHEN UNS DIE MAUER	Norbert Lechner and Susanne Fülscher	03.10.2019	20,000€
THE FORUM	David Bernet	06.11.2019	15,000 €

Speaking of festival success: the screenplays of<br/>the 2 Silver Bear winners at the 2019 Berlinale<br/>were developed with funding from the FFA.<br/>"System Crasher" (Silver Bear for a film which opens<br/>up new perspectives) by Nora Fingscheidt receivedtreatment funding, Angela Schanelec's "I Was<br/>At Home, But..." (Silver Bear for Best Direction)<br/>script funding.Were developed with funding from the FFA.<br/>"System Crasher" (Silver Bear for a film which opens<br/>up new perspectives) by Nora Fingscheidt receivedBoth films were also directed by their authors.



### FFA Funding 2019

# **Gender Distribution**

#### Production

The proportion of women producers involved in projects submitted for production funding during 2019 was around the same level – at 13 per cent – as in the previous year, while this fell by 10 and 7 percentage points respectively for women directors and screenwriters to 22 per cent. The proportion of women producers granted funding for their projects increased by 7 percentage points to 18 per cent, but this fell year-on-year by 18 percentage points for women directors and screenwriters to 25 and 23 per cent, respectively.

#### Script

Treatment

The proportion of female screenwriters in the funded projects for script and further script development compared to mixed writing teams and male screenwriters is roughly equal at 46 and 50 per cent, respectively; female screenwriters are in the majority for the treatment funding category;





Men

Mixed

Women



**Screenplay** 

#### FFA Funding 2019

the proportion of women there has increased year-on-year by 11 percentage points, and in the further script development category by 28 percentage points to 50 per cent.





# **International Co-Productions**

#### **German-French co-productions**

The German-French Funding Committee supported 11 out of a total of 27 applications – this corresponds to a funding quota of 41 per cent. 6 projects by up-andcoming producers received 95,000 Euros as part of the project development funding programme.



10 productions funded by the so-called Minitraité were released theatrically in Germany during 2019.

### German-Italian Co-Production Development Fund

The FFA and the Italian Ministry for Culture and Tourism (MiBACT) established the German-Italian Co-Production Development Fund to encourage closer collaboration between German and Italian filmmakers.



### Films with Minitraité funding released in Germany during 2019 (selection)

	Title	Applicant	Cinema release (DE)	Funding (DE)
1	HIGH LIFE	Pandora Filmproduktions GmbH	30.05.2019	160,000 €
2	ROADS	Missing Link Films GmbH	30.05.2019	250,000 €
3	I WAS, I AM, I WILL BE	if Productions e.K.	01.08.2019	130,000 €
4	THE OPERATIVE	Match Factory Productions GmbH	29.08.2019	180,000 €
5	SYNONYMS	Komplizen Film GmbH	05.09.2019	100,000 €

### **German-Polish Film Fund**

The FFA is a partner in the German-Polish Filmsupport project development. In 2019, the FFAFund together with the Polish Film Institute (PISF),supported the development of 2 projects withMitteldeutsche Medienförderung (MDM) and30,000 Euros apiece within the framework of theMedienboard Berlin-Brandenburg (MBB). TheGerman-Polish Film Fund: the new project by Juliaannual funding budget amounts to 500,000 Euros,von Heinz "Iron Box" and "Swimming Pool", a filmwith the FFA providing up to 100,000 Euros toby Filip Antoni Malinowski.

#### **Greater Region Co-Development Agreement**

The FFA, the CNC, the Film Fund Luxemburg,
Saarland Medien GmbH, the Ministry of the
German-Speaking Community in Belgium and
the Region Grand Est are partners in a project
development fund to secure and expand

### FFA Funding 2019

In 2019, the development of 2 projects – the documentary "Europeana" and the feature film "Con Spirito E Fuoco" – were supported with a total of 30,000 Euros by the German side. The Committee had a total volume of 100,000 Euros at its disposal.

collaboration across borders in the film sector. The fund has a total budget of 55,000 Euros, with the FFA making an annual contribution of 10,000 Euros.

# Distribution

In 2019, members of the FFA Committee for distribution, sales and video funding deliberated in 6 funding sessions on 80 applications, of which 41 were supported with a total of 6.8 million Euros. 71 per cent were feature films, 12 per cent for both children's films and documentaries, and 5 per cent animation films. Just under three quarters of the films supported in 2019 had a distribution budget of more than 300,000 Euros. The committee granted sales support of 20,000 Euros for 1 project as way of improving the visibility of German films abroad.

5.6 million Euros were approved for so-called media services, i.e. advertising slots to promote theatrical films on television and radio, which corresponds to a funding quota of 42 per cent. 75 per cent of the funded media services were for feature films, 13 per cent for animation films, 8 per cent for children's films and 4 per cent for documentaries. The Committee awarded a total of 12.4 million Euros in funding, 600,000 Euros less than in 2018.

#### **Components of financing** for films receiving distribution funding in 2019



#### **Distribution funding**





#### Precosts by budget category for the supported films<sup>\*</sup>

Precosts	2019	% share	2018	% share	2017	% share
0€-100,000€	3	8 %	2	5 %	2	4 %
100,001 € - 300,000 €	8	20 %	8	19 %	9	20 %
300,001€-1mn€	10	25 %	15	36 %	18	40 %
>1mn€	19	48 %	17	40 %	16	36 %

\*without world sales funding

#### FFA Funding 2019

The distribution companies provided 69.0 per cent via own funds in 2019, almost 5 percentage points above the previous year's total. On average, the FFA provided over one fifth of the financing. The share of the distribution funding programmes administered by the Länder and BKM fell by around 4 percentage points to 10.7 per cent. EU distribution dropped from 0.1 to 0.0 per cent.

# Video

The marketing and promotion of German theatrical films on DVD/Blu-Ray was supported by the FFA with 1.6 million Euros in 2019. In addition, just under 30,000 Euros were awarded to 1 joint promotional campaign by video stores. 39 of 57 applications were supported, which corresponds to a funding quota of 68 per cent. Around 63,000 Euros were paid out for the release of films on VoD, with a funding quota of 70 per cent. The possibility of making joint applications for video release and VoD funding was used for 21 applications. A total of 1.7 million Euros was awarded for video and VoD funding measures – 700,000 Euros less than in the previous year.

## Repayments

While there was a sharp rise in the repayments
by production, distribution and video companies in
2018 compared to 2017, the repayments in the field
of production and video fell again in 2019.
The repayments for video funding increased by
about 0.4 million Euros in 2019. Producers,
distributors and video companies repaid a total of
more than 4.3 million Euros to the FFA in 2019.

### Video funding\*



#### Video-on-Demand



Repayments	2019	2018	2017
Project film funding	1,233,421 €	2,255,564 €	938,068 €
Distribution funding	2,636,972 €	2,206,691€	1,312,881 €
Video funding	453,482 €	1,413,438 €	373,048 €



#### FFA Funding 2019

# **Exhibition (Cinema)**

Members of the FFA Committee for cinema funding deliberated in 4 funding sessions about 362 applications for modernisation, expansion and new construction measures - 84 fewer than in 2018. 333 projects were supported; the funding quota of 92 per cent was at the previous year's level. Projects for the creation of barrier-free access were supported with 102,325 Euros.

#### **Cinema funding**

Applications/Approvals



108 applications for using short films as supporting films and 49 applications for the funding of short film programmes were supported with just under 170.000 Euros, which corresponds to a funding quota of 98 per cent. The FFA allocated a total of 14.2 million Euros for the cinema funding programme in 2019 – 3.7 million Euros less than 2018.

#### Short films in the cinema

Short film programme funding Applications/Approvals Short films as supporting programmes Applications/Approvals



#### Approvals according to measures



### **The Funding Programme** for Film Heritage

The new funding programme for film heritage (FFE), financed equally by the BKM, the Länder and the FFA, was launched on 1 January, 2019, providing up to 10 million Euros each year for the digitisation of feature films for an initial period of 10 years.

#### Approvals according to genre



20

### FFA Funding 2019

105 projects were supported with 3.0 million Euros in the area of exploitation, 96 projects with 3.4 million Euros for curation, and 36 projects with 1.7 million Euros for conservational necessity. 237 of the 257 applications were approved, including 123 feature films.



# **Reference Funding**

The FFA awards retroactive funding, which can be invested in a new project without any committee decision, for box-office success, participation at festivals or important film awards. The FFA's reference funding benefits producers, distributors and exhibitors. A points system serves as the benchmark for calculating the varying amounts of funding awarded each year.

#### Short film

In 2019, 58 shorts reached 1,602.50 points, which were worth 570,000 Euros in total – around 356 Euros per point. The productions "Imperial Valley" and "Cat Days", shown, inter alia, in Berlinale Shorts and Generation Kplus at the 69th Berlinale, were particularly successful.

#### Production

In 2019, the FFA allocated a total of 11.2 million Euros in reference film funding to the producers of 75 commercially and/or cultural particularly successful films. 29.5 million admissions and festival points were generated. This resulted in funding of 38 Cents per sold cinema ticket and festival point. 32 per cent of the available funding budget went to the year's 3 most successful production companies: Constantin Film Produktion, Warner Bros. Film Produktion and Claussen+Putz Filmproduktion.

#### Distribution

Distributors received a total of around 2.9 million Euros in funding for 70 successful theatrical releases. Around 22.3 million admission points were generated. The funding per cinema ticket sold was set at 13 Cents. 50 per cent of the total was shared among the year's most successful distribution companies: Warner Bros. Entertainment, Sony Pictures Entertainment and Constantin Film Verleih.



Total number of points reached

#### Total number of points reached



### FFA Funding 2019

### Cinema

A total of 1.9 million Euros in reference cinema funding was allocated to cinema-owners in recognition of box-office success and winning cinema programming awards. Around 27.0 million admission were generated by 592 screens. The funding per admission point was set at 7 Cents. The grants are awarded for the modernisation, improvement and new construction of cinemas.



# **TOP 20 German Films**

#### The most popular German films in 2019

	Title	Cinema			FFA				M Project funding			duction fund				Admissions
		release	Production funding	Reference funding	Distribution funding	Reference funding	Media services	DFFF	incl. Film Award prize-money	FFF	Medienboard	Filmstiftung	FFHSH	MDM	others	(Tickets) in 2019**
1	DAS PERFEKTE GEHEIMNIS (Fea/Com)	31.10.2019	600,000	180,000	350,000	300,245	400,000	1,999,999		600,000	500,000					4,623,306
2	ALL ABOUT ME (Fea/Dra)	25.12.2018	520,000	203,600	500,000		300,000	1,056,000		300,000	350,000	1,040,400				3,064,823
3	LEBERKÄSJUNKIE (Fea/Com)	01.08.2019			100,000			514,560		500,000						1,242,681
4	THE COLLINI CASE (Fea/Dra)	18.04.2019	600,000	486,104	350,000	400,000	500,000	1,251,840		686,032	1,100,000					802,722
5	WINDSTORM 4 (Fea/Dra)	28.02.2019	495,000	387,877	200,000		200,000	884,000		600,000	160,000				600,000	760,676
6	THE GOLDFISH (Fea/Com)	21.03.2019	480,000		200,000		200,000	848,000	202,359	890,000	350,000					651,829
7	SYSTEM CRASHER (Fea/Dra)	19.09.2019	10,000		30,000		200,000	243,760	440,000		100,000		175,000		120,000	591,088
8	MIA AND THE WHITE LION (Chi/Adv)	31.01.2019			100,000							550,000				571,120
9	100 THINGS (Fea/Com)	06.12.2018	520,000	200,000	400,000		400,000	1,176,080		300,000	600,000			300.000		556,744
10	ICH WAR NOCH NIEMALS IN NEW YORK (Fea/Mus)	17.10.2019	700,000	1,216,229	500,000	206,146	300,000	2,310,889			700,000	1,475,000		125.000	50,000	545,118
11	IMMENHOF – THE ADVENTURE OF A SUMMER (Chi/Adv)	17.01.2019				4,557		650,000		500,000				400.000		508,858
12	RED BRACELETS: THE BEGINNING (Fea/Dra)	14.02.2019	335,000		200,000			535,200				1,000,000				446,595
13	CHECKER TOBI AND THE SECRET OF OUR PLANET (Chi/Doc)	31.01.2019	225,000	47,500	60,000			233,679	250,000	440,279						412,164
14	LOVE VIRTUALLY (Fea/Dra)	12.09.2019	500,000		250,000	25,000	200,000	892,658	47,641		300,000	751,453	200,000			411,357
15	THE THREE EXCLAMATION MARKS (Chi/Adv)	25.07.2019	500,000	300,000	200,000	153,000	200,000	864,000				900,000				396,555
16	BENJAMIN THE ELEPHANT (Chi/Adv)	01.08.2019		319,624	300,000	199,129	200,000	1,072,000	375,000	728,161		500,000				381,569
17	CLOSE TO THE HORIZON (Fea/Dra)	10.10.2019	300,000		350,000	100,000	400,000	840,000		450,000		800,000				332,318
18	GERMAN LESSON (Fea/Dra)	03.10.2019	500,000	87,779	200,000		200,000	836,000	7,094			750,000	500,000			310,260
19	WHEN HITLER STOLE PINK RABBIT (Fea/Dra)	25.12.2019	500,000	315,000	350,000		400,000	1,022,800	685,000	500,000	650,000				450,000	290,636
20	EINE GANZ HEISSE NUMMER 2.0 (Fea/Com)	03.10.2019		563,208	175,000			712.000	112,500	600,000						288,231
	TOTAL:		6,785,000	4,306,922	4,815,000	1,388,076	4,100,000	17,943,465	2,119,594	7,694,473	4,910,000	7,766,853	875,000	825.000	1,220,000	17,188,650
(D )D	umontary: (Chi)Childron's film: (Eac)Easture film /(Adu)Aduanture: (Dra)Drar	(0 )0   ()						*>	duction Funding () ä			000 ***	0 554 1			

(Doc)Documentary; (Chi)Children's film; (Fea)Feature film / (Adv)Adventure; (Dra)Drama; (Com)Comedy; (Mus)Music film

\*Production Funding (Länder): Source: DFFF – As of 05.02.2020 \*\*Admissions: Source: FFA - based on reports from distributers – As of 31.12.2019

# Festivals, Awards and Foreign Sales in 2019

#### Awards and applause for FFA-backed films – selection

#### CUNNINGHAM

Hamptons International Film Festival (Prize of the Jury for director Alla Kovgan); Chicago International Film Festival; New York International Film Festival; São Paulo International Film Festival: Toronto International Film Festival: Vancouver International Film Festival; Filmschau Baden-Württemberg (Documentary Award)

#### THE AUDITION

San Sebastián International Film Festival (Silver Shell - Best Actress: Nina Hoss); Stockholm International Film Festival (Best Actress: Nina Hoss): Toronto International Film Festival: Filmfest Hamburg (Douglas Sirk Award)

#### THE PERFECT CANDIDATE

Venice International Film Festival (Competition): London International Film Festival; Palm Springs International Film Festival; Toronto International Film Festival; International Hof Film Days

#### I WAS AT HOME. BUT...

Berlin International Film Festival (Silver Bear - Best Direction: Angela Schanelec): San Sebastián International Film Festival (Zabaltegi Tabakalera Award for Angela Schanelec); Hong Kong International Film Festival: New York International Film Festival: Moscow International Film Festival: Toronto International Film Festival

#### I ARA

Karlovy Vary International Film Festival (Crystal Globe – Best Lead Actress: Corinna Harfouch, Special Jury Prize, Prize of the Ecumenical Jury); Hamptons International Film Festival (Best Actress: Corinna Harfouch); Les Arcs Film Festival (Press Award); Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival; Zurich Internationales Film Festival: Filmfest München (FIPRESCI Prize, German Cinema New Talent Award. Best Direction: Jan-Ole Gerster)

#### **OF FATHERS AND SONS**

Nomination for the OSCAR<sup>™</sup> in the "Best Documentary" category; Dublin International Film Festival (Documentary Prize); Hong Kong International Film Festival; German Film Award (Best Documentary, Best Editing); German Film Peace Prize 2019 (Special Award)

#### **ROCCA CHANGES THE WORLD**

Riga International Film Festival (Children's Jury: Best Film); Vilnius International Children's and Youth Film Festival (Best Film); Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival; Giffoni International Film Festival: German Film Award (Best Children's Film)

#### **SYNONYMS**

Berlin International Film Festival (Golden Bear - Best Film. FIPRESCI Prize); Hong Kong International Film Festival; Mumbai International Film Festival; Sarajevo International Film Festival; Sydney International Film Festival; Toronto International Film Festival; Vienna International Film Festival

#### SYSTEM CRASHER

Berlin International Film Festival (Silver Bear) Giffoni International Film Festival: Istanbul International Film Festival: Jerusalem International Film Festival: Karlovy Vary International Film Festival: Rio de Janeiro International Film Festival: Shanghai International Film Festival; European Film Award (Best Film Score)

#### **NEVER LOOK AWAY**

Nomination for the OSCAR<sup>™</sup> in the "Best Foreign Language Film" category, "Best Cinematography"; Nomination for Golden Globe Awards "Best Foreign Language Film";

Göteborg International Film Festival; Hong Kong International Film Festival; Moscow International Film Festival; Sydney International Film Festival: Bavarian Film Award (Best Production)

#### **TOP TEN for films with FFA production funding on foreign release**





Cinema Release Germany Global Box Office in 2019 excluding Germany



2

3



#### **Cinema Release Germany** Global Box Office in 2019

#### Title

Cinema Release Germany Global Box Office in 2019 excluding Germany



Title

Cinema Release Germany Countries Global Box Office in 2019 excluding Germany

10.12.2015 2.8 mn €

Source: German Films/comScore - As of 31.12.2019

Title

18.04.2019 28 3.2 mn €

4

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NEVER LOOK AWAY	6 BALLOON
03.10.2018	27.09.2018
20	15
4.7 mn €	2.5 mn €
<b>DAS PERFEKTE GEHEIMNIS</b> 31.10.2019 1 4.4 mn €	<ul> <li>7 HIGH LIFE</li> <li>30.05.2019</li> <li>18</li> <li>2.2 mn €</li> </ul>
MANOU THE SWIFT 28.02.2019 40 3.4 mn €	8 LATTE AND THE MAGIC WATERSTONE 25.12.2019 2 1.6 mn €
MARNIE'S WORLD	<b>9 THE KEEPER</b>
18.04.2019	14.03.2019
28	5
3.2 mn €	1.4 mn €
HEIDI	10 IT MUST BE HEAVEN
10.12.2015	16.01.2020
1	5
2.8 mn €	1.3 mn €

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PUBLISHER: German Federal Film Board FFA EDITORIAL CONTENT: Sarah Duve-Schmid (Deputy Board Member/Head of Funding), Jens Steinbrenner, Ann-Malen Witt STATISTICS: Norina Lin-Hi, Michaela Hofmann

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