



Federal Government Commissioner  
for Culture and the Media

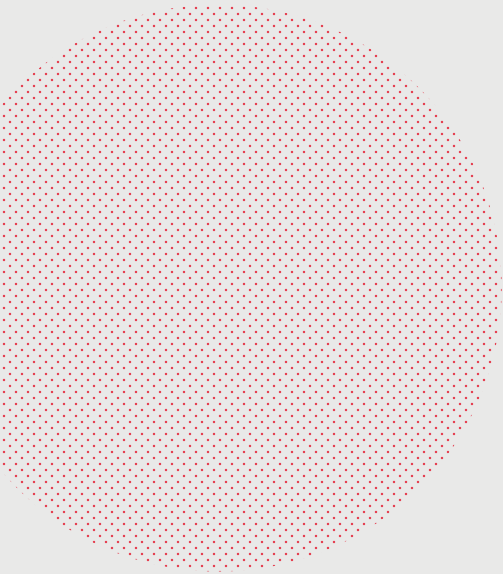
**SPOT  
LIGHT**

**IN**

**FILM-FUNDING  
IN GERMANY**

**DFFF+GMPF  
30%**

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



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



# FIND OUT ABOUT GERMANY'S VARIETY OF ATTRACTIVE FUNDING PROGRAMMES

**Germany offers filmmakers from all over the world excellent conditions that enable the creative realization of ideas using state-of-the-art technology and a highly professional filming infrastructure.**

International filmmakers have been choosing Germany as the place to make their films for many years. For good reason: the country not only provides a variety of different locations but also features modern film studios equipped with innovative and cutting-edge technology, creating impressive backdrops for all genres of films and series.

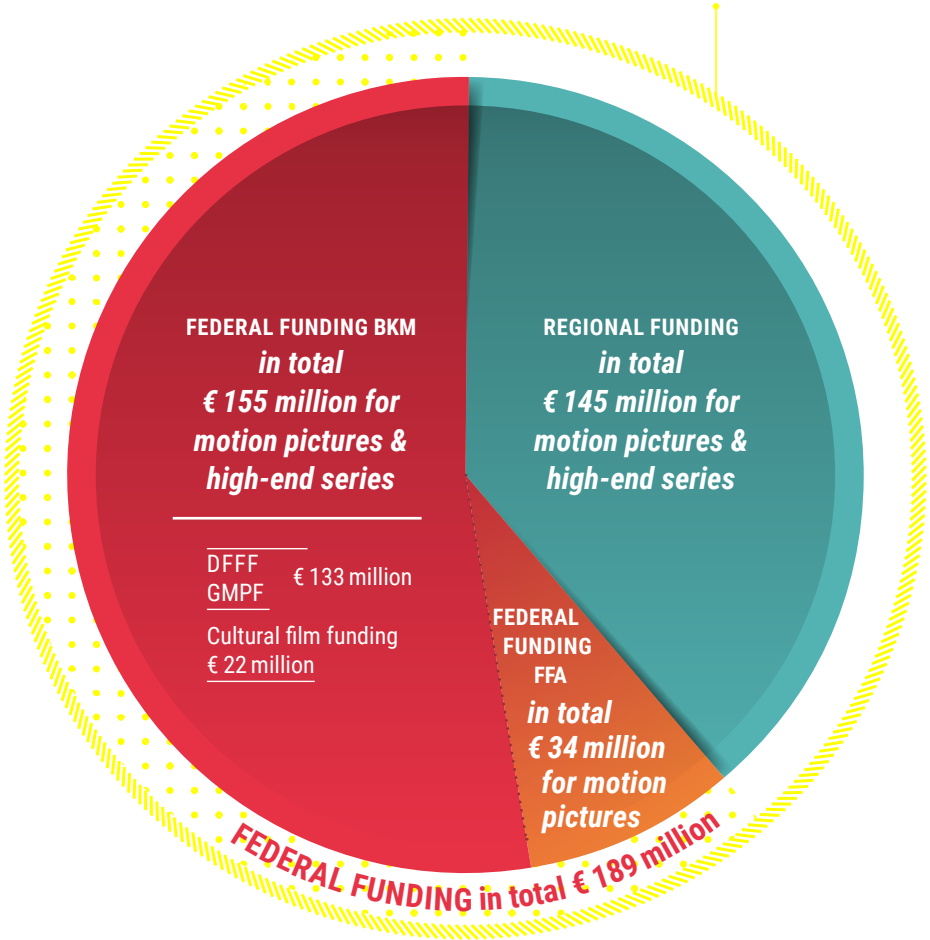
Additionally, Germany also has a broad spectrum of highly trained and experienced talents in front of and behind the camera, which makes the country attractive to producers of high-quality audiovisual productions. Another contributing factor is the many-faceted film funding system in Germany. There are numerous funding schemes for feature films, animated films, short films and children's films as well as for high-end series. On top of this, the subsidy of the national film funding programmes German Federal Film Fund (DFFF) and the German Motion Picture Fund (GMPF) has been increased to up to 30 % of the approved production costs spent in Germany.

International filmmakers are cordially invited to discover the magic of Germany, to bring their ideas and productions to life, and to explore the country's diversity as a vibrant place for filmmaking.

# 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 2024, around € 334 million in film subsidies were available to the film industry.

**Total funding budget for film & high-end series productions in 2024 → around € 334 million**

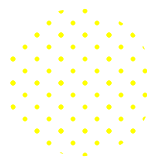


**FUNDING FROM NATIONAL AND REGIONAL FILM FUNDS CAN BE COMBINED**

# 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

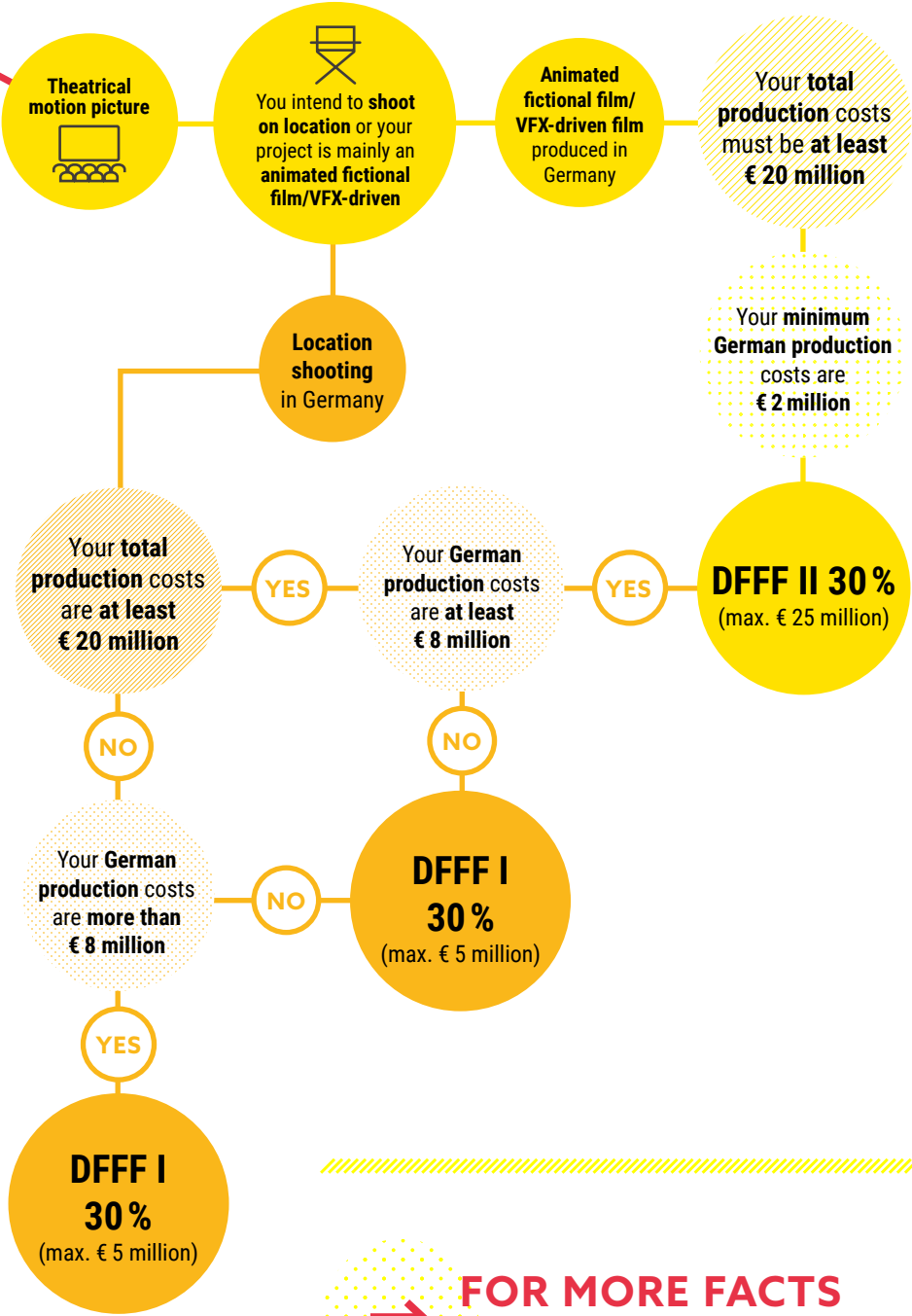
YES

**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 2,000 projects which the DFFF and GMPF have funded in recent years.

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



**DFFF II**  
€ 19.1 million +  
€ 1.6 million  
regional funding



## THE PHOENICIAN SCHEME

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

## THE HUNGER GAMES: THE BALLAD OF SONGBIRDS AND SNAKES

- **Director:** Francis Lawrence
- **Cast:** Rachel Zegler, Tom Blyth, Jason Schwartzman

**GMPF**  
€ 21.7 million +  
€ 15.8 million  
regional funding



**GMPF**  
€ 10 million +  
€ 1.4 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

## CONSTELLATION

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

## THE ASSESSMENT

- **Director:** Fleur Fortuné
- **Cast:** Elizabeth Olsen, Alicia Vikander



**DFFF I**  
€ 2.4 million +  
€ 1 million  
regional  
funding



# 'SHOOTING IN GERMANY' A FANTASTIC EXPERIENCE

**Actors like Cate Blanchett, George Clooney, 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, 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 QUEEN'S GAMBIT or THE EMPRESS 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 + 2

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



**GMPF**  
€ 5.5 million +  
€ 0.7 million  
regional funding



**DFFF II**  
€9.8 million

## CLIFFHANGER 2

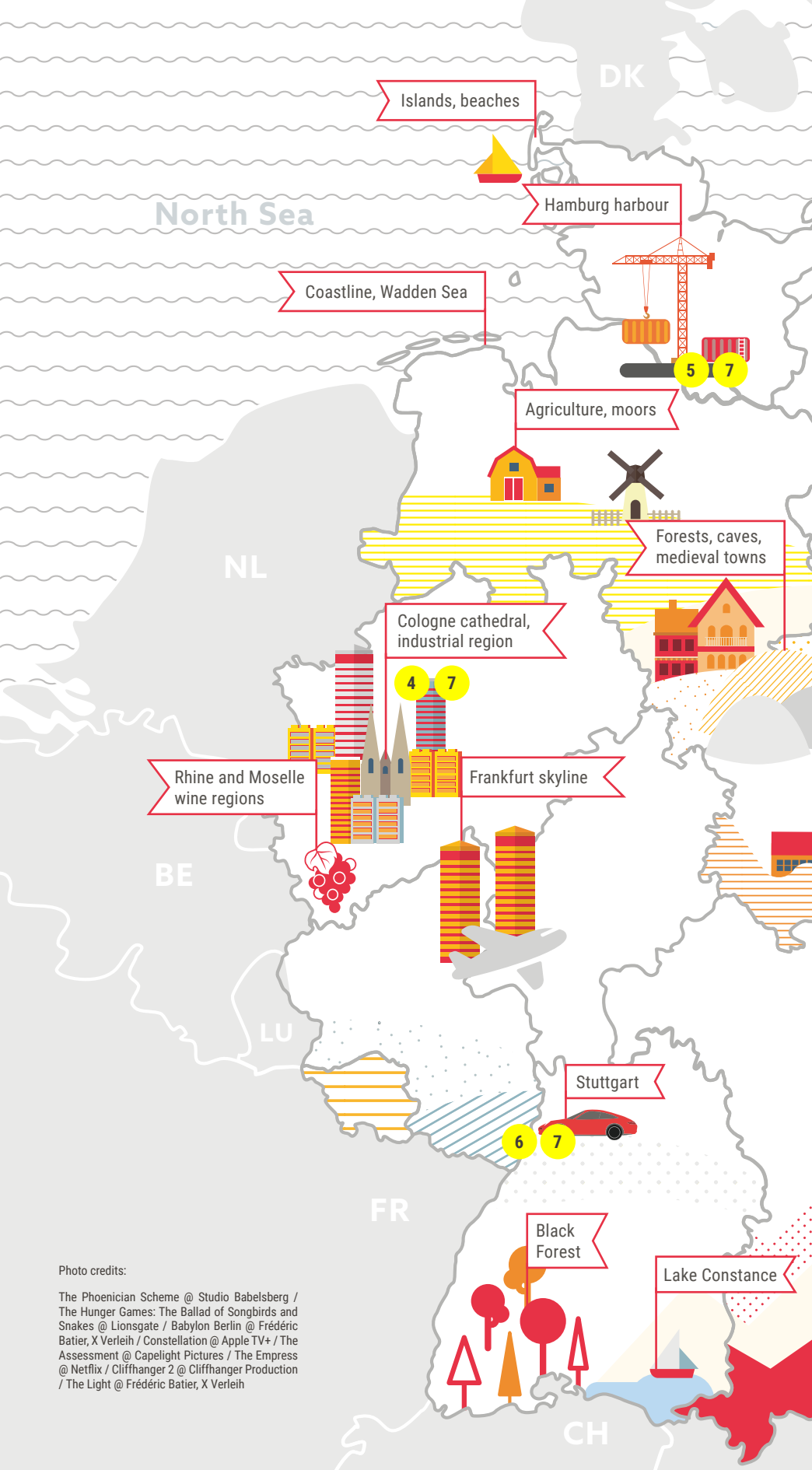
- **Director:** Jaume Collet-Serra
- **Cast:** Pierce Brosnan, Lily James, Franz Rogowski



**DFFF I**  
€ 2.8 million +  
€ 2.2 million  
regional funding

## THE LIGHT

- **Director:** Tom Tykwer
- **Cast:** Lars Eidinger, Nicolette Krebitz, Tala Al-Deen



Islands, beaches

DK

North Sea

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 @ Studio Babelsberg /  
The Hunger Games: The Ballad of Songbirds and Snakes @ Lionsgate / Babylon Berlin @ Frédéric Batier, X Verleih / Constellation @ Apple TV+ / The Assessment @ Capelight Pictures / The Empress @ Netflix / Cliffhanger 2 @ Cliffhanger Production / The Light @ Frédéric Batier, X Verleih

Baltic Sea

Islands, beaches,  
cliffs

Berlin,  
Potsdam-Babelsberg

Lakes, natural  
landscapes

## 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

Dresden

“Görlwood”

Leipzig

Monasteries

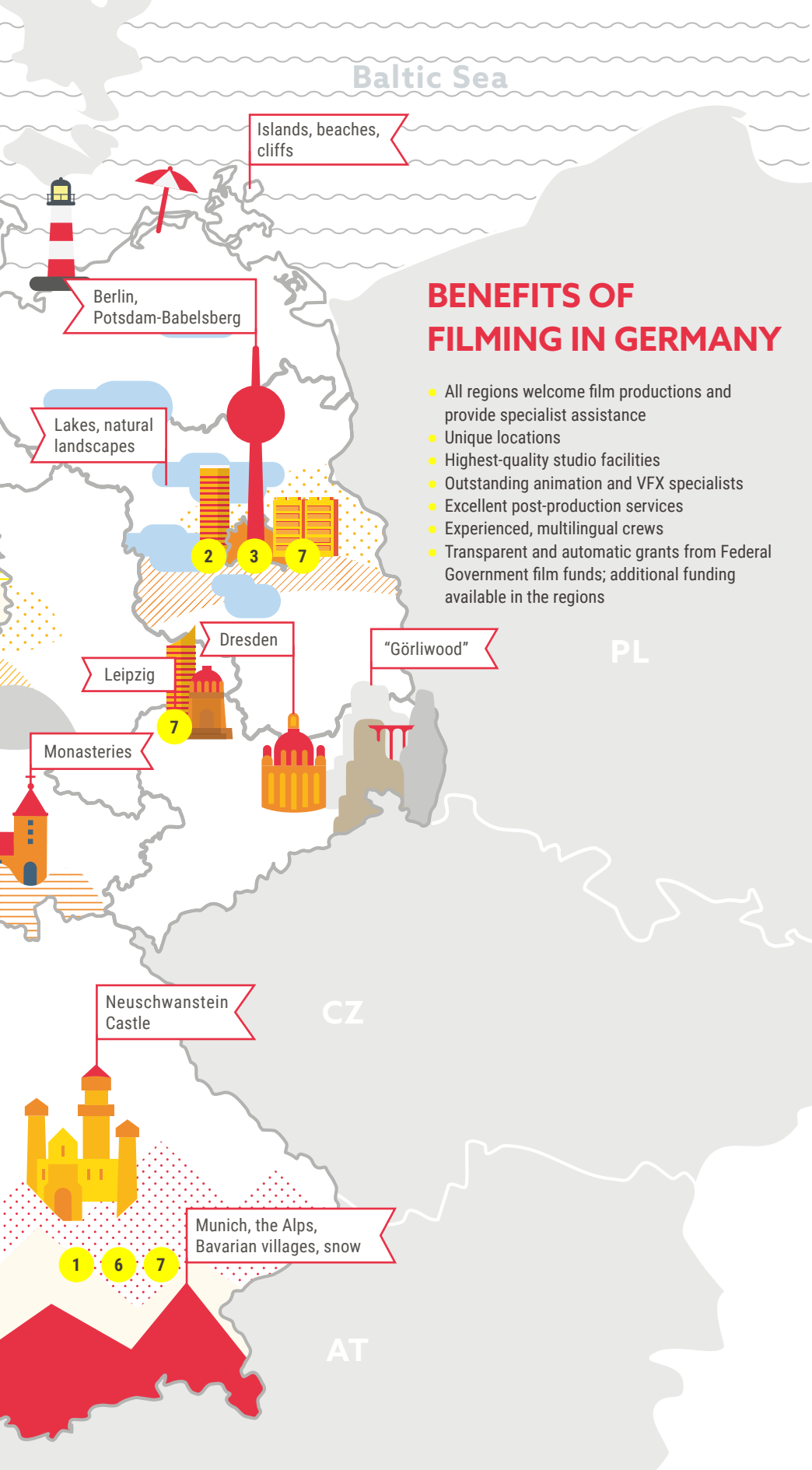
Neuschwanstein  
Castle

Munich, the Alps,  
Bavarian villages, snow

PL

CZ

AT





## 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).

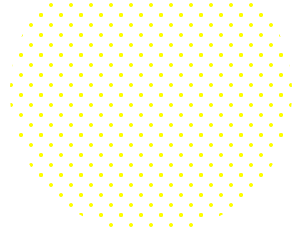
### Is there a minimum spend in Germany?

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

Funding institutions on the regional level are:



**Film- und Medienstiftung NRW**  
Cologne, North Rhine-Westphalia  
[www.filmstiftung.de](http://www.filmstiftung.de)



**Mitteldeutsche Medienförderung**  
Leipzig, Saxony, Saxony-Anhalt & Thuringia  
[www.mdm-online.de](http://www.mdm-online.de)



**FilmFernsehFonds Bayern**  
Munich, Bavaria  
[www.fff-bayern.de](http://www.fff-bayern.de)



**MfG-Baden-Württemberg**  
Stuttgart, Baden-Württemberg  
[www.mfg.de](http://www.mfg.de)



**Medienboard Berlin-Brandenburg**  
Postdam Babelsberg, Brandenburg  
[www.medienboard.de](http://www.medienboard.de)



**HessenFilm und Medien**  
Frankfurt/Main, Hesse  
[www.hessenfilm.de](http://www.hessenfilm.de)



**Filmförderung Hamburg-Schleswig-Holstein**  
Hamburg, Schleswig-Holstein  
[www.ffhsh.de](http://www.ffhsh.de)



**Nordmedia**  
Hanover, Lower Saxony & Bremen  
[www.nordmedia.de](http://www.nordmedia.de)



**MV Filmförderung GmbH**  
Schwerin, Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania  
[www.mv-filmfoerderung.de](http://www.mv-filmfoerderung.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](http://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)

**Office address:**

c/o Filmförderungsanstalt (FFA)  
German Federal Film Board  
Friedrichstraße 153a  
10117 Berlin, Germany

**Mailing address:**

c/o Filmförderungsanstalt (FFA)  
German Federal Film Board  
Große Präsidentenstraße 9  
10178 Berlin, Germany

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## DFFF



**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)

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## GMPF

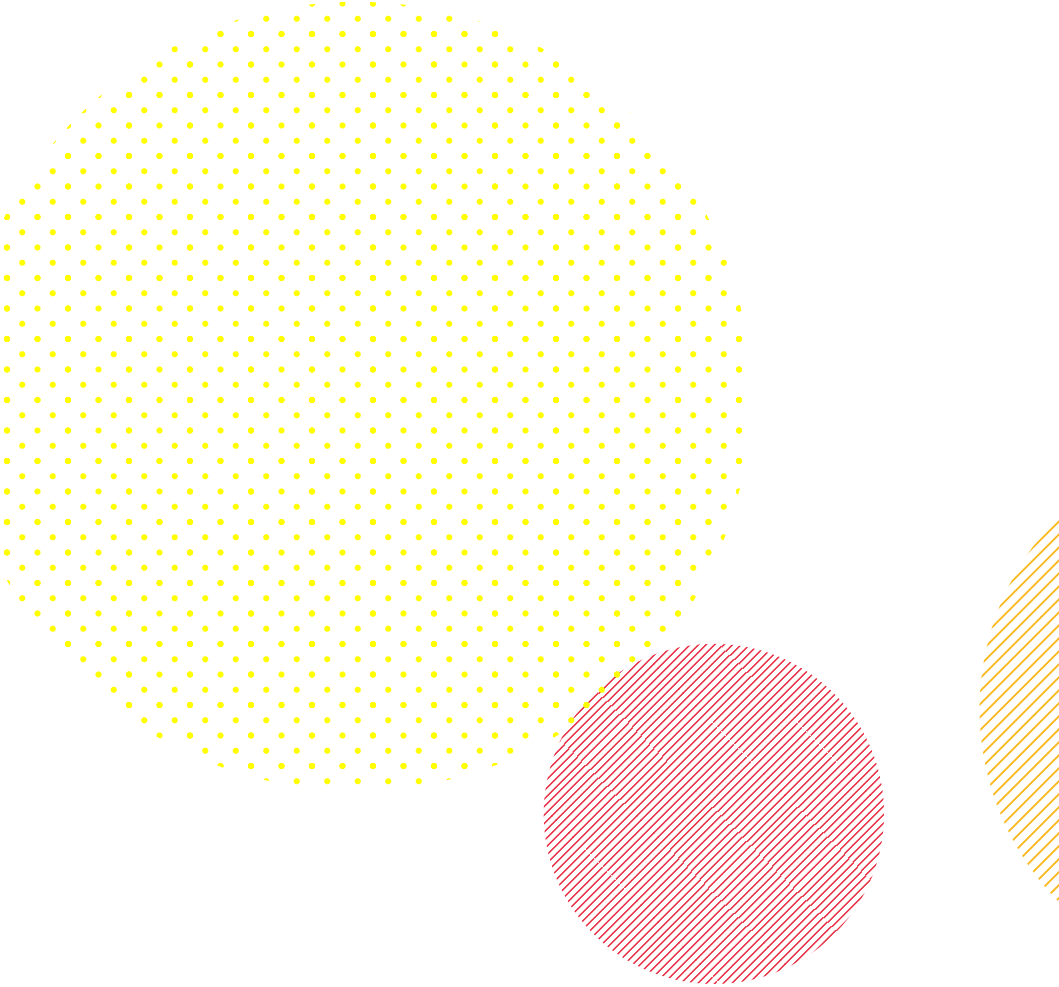


**GMPF**

Phone: +49 (0)30 - 27 577 - 142

Email: [gmpf@ffa.de](mailto:gmpf@ffa.de)

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



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