



Federal Government Commissioner
for Culture and the Media

**SPOT
LIGHT**

IN

**FILM-FUNDING
IN GERMANY**

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

A MESSAGE FROM PROF. MONIKA GRÜTTERS, MINISTER OF STATE FOR CULTURE AND THE MEDIA



Good news from Germany for film-makers:

MORE FUNDING AVAILABLE!

This brochure offers key information
about attractive increases in funding
for films made in Germany.

"I love creating something no one has ever seen before",

Roland Emmerich once said about his cinematic ambitions. Anyone with that kind of creative power and passion for film will find that Germany provides ideal conditions for unleashing their creative potential and achieving economic success.

Germany as a place to make films not only has a wide variety of fantastic and multifaceted locations to offer. It is also home to top-class studios, internationally renowned VFX companies, and excellently trained and internationally experienced professionals. At a time when demand is rising, film producers need reliable partners and attractive incentives to be able to exploit their full potential.

That is why Germany has put together a comprehensive package of funding programmes to support world-class productions – from films destined for cinematic release to top-quality TV series. Germany is proud of the diversity of its creative industry and filmic tradition. Come and see for yourself. We look forward to welcoming you here.

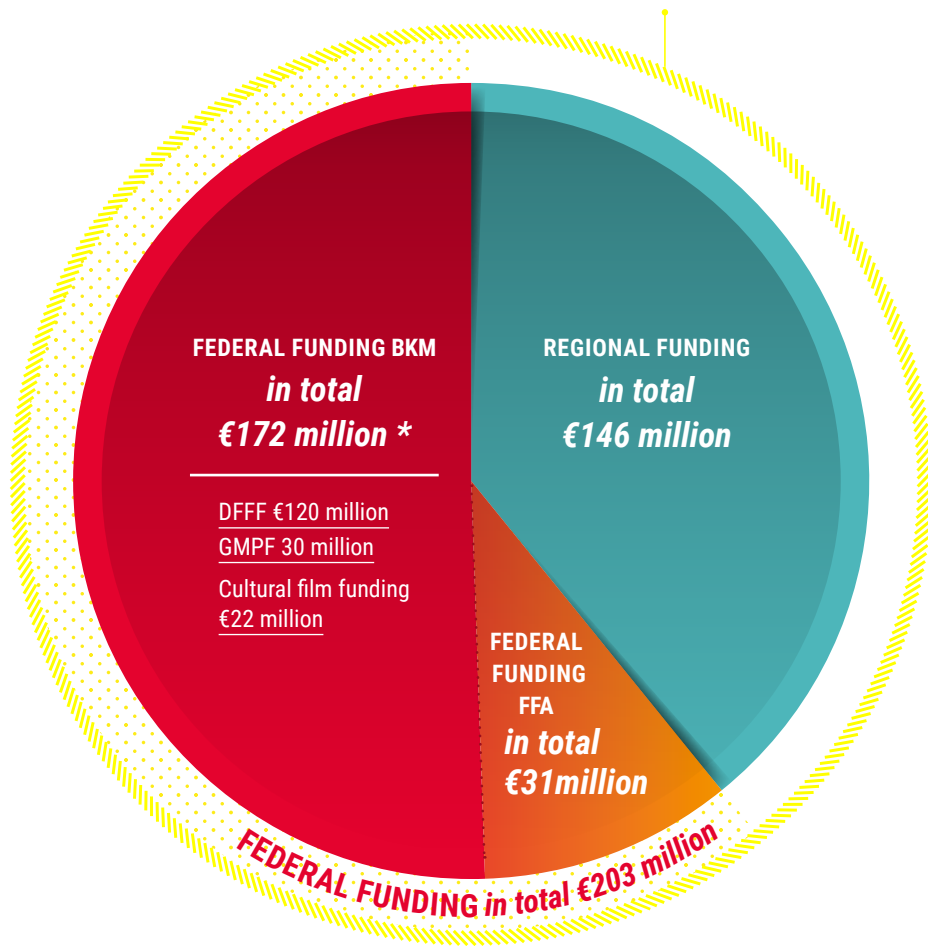
A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Monika Grütters'.

Monika Grütters

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 TV & series. Germany is one of the top film and media locations in Europe, and around €350 million a year in film subsidies is available to the film and TV industry.

Total annual film production funding → **around €350 million**



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

figures for 2020
*figures for 2021

EXAMPLES OF FINANCING

Feature Film



DFFF I

Approved German production costs*

€14 million

- DFFF I **non-repayable** grant €3.5 million
- Selective Regional Loan I of up to €1 million
- Selective Regional Loan II of up to €1 million

You could receive up to €5.5 million!



DFFF II

Approved German production costs*

€90 million

- DFFF II **non-repayable** grant €22.5 million
- Selective Regional Loan I of up to €1 million
- Selective Regional Loan II of up to €1 million

You could receive up to €24.5 million!

High-end TV series



GMPF

Approved German production costs*

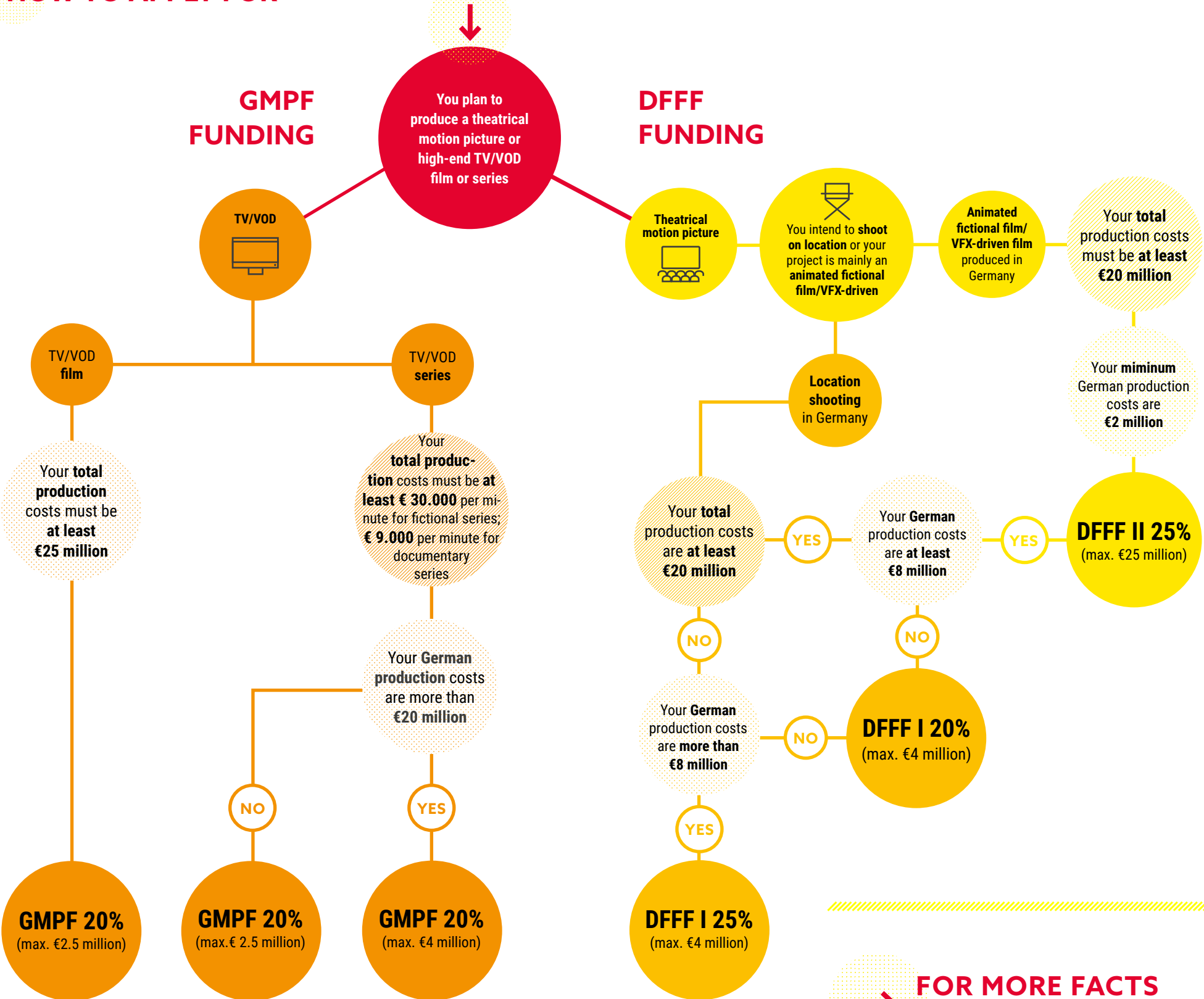
€21 million

- GMPF **non-repayable** grant €4 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 million!

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

HOW TO APPLY FOR



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 1,400 projects which the DFFF and GMPF have funded in recent years.

DFFF
€21,2 million +
€1,5 million regional
funding



UNCHARTED

- **Director:** Shawn Levy
- **Cast:** Tom Holland, Mark Wahlberg, Antonio Banderas

DFFF
€10,2 million +
€0,5 million regional
funding



CHARLIE'S ANGELS

- **Director:** Elizabeth Banks
- **Cast:** Kirsten Stewart, Naomi Scott, Ella Balinska

GMPF
€8,7 million +
€8,2 million regional
funding



BABYLON BERLIN SEASON 1-3

- **Directors:** Tom Tykwer, Achim von Borries, Henk Handloegten
- **Cast:** Volker Bruch, Liv Lisa Fries, Matthias Brandt, Peter Kurth

DFFF
€25 million



THE UNTITLED MATRIX PROJECT

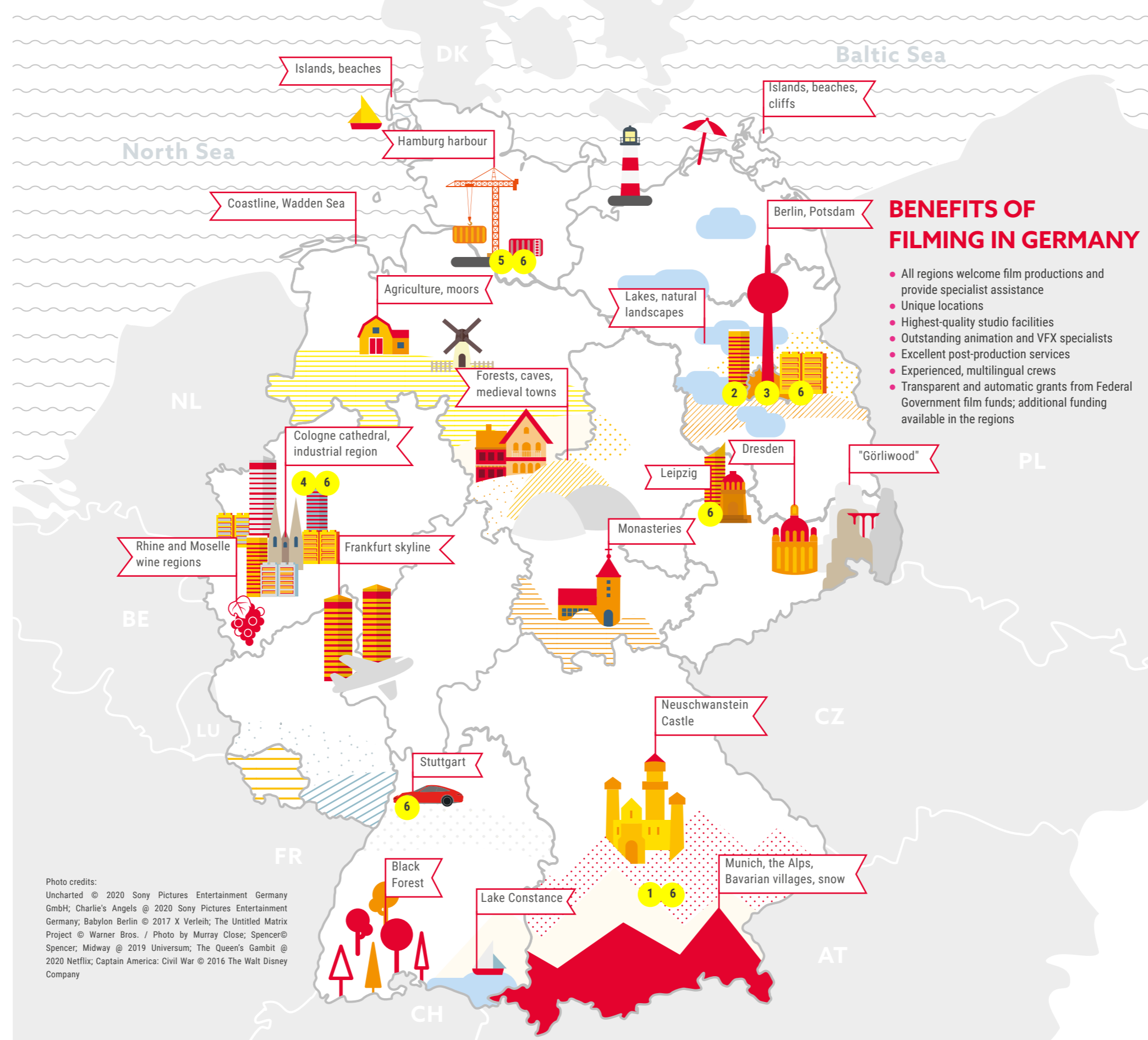
- **Director:** Lana Wachowski
- **Cast:** Keanu Reeves, Carrie-Anne Moss, Neil Patrick Harris

SPENCER

- **Director:** Pablo Larraín
- **Cast:** Kristen Stewart, Timothy Spall, Sally Hawkins



DFFF
€ 2,5 million +
€ 2,6 million
FFA / regional
funding



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

'SHOOTING IN GERMANY' A FANTASTIC EXPERIENCE

Actors like Cate Blanchett, George Clooney, Matt Damon, Keanu Reeves, Tom Hanks, Diane Kruger, Jude Law, Jennifer Lawrence, Nick Nolte 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, CAPTAIN AMERICA: CIVIL WAR were made by German high-tech visual effects companies and were shot here
- Successful high-end drama series like BABYLON BERLIN, DARK or THE QUEEN'S GAMBIT 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 VFX, CGI and 3D animations in many regions (e.g. Stuttgart, Munich, Berlin, Cologne, Hamburg, Leipzig)

THE QUEEN'S GAMBIT

- **Director:** Scott Frank
- **Cast:** Anya Taylor-Joy, Thomas Brodie-Sangster, Bill Camp



GMPF
€ 2,5 million



DFFF
€0,7 million (VFX)
+ €0,4 million
regional
funding

MIDWAY

- **Director:** Roland Emmerich
- **Cast:** Woody Harrelson, Ed Skrein, Patrick Wilson



DFFF
€4 million +
€0,5 million
regional
funding

CAPTAIN AMERICA: CIVIL WAR

- **Directors:** Anthony Russo, Joe Russo
- **Cast:** Chris Evans, Robert Downey Jr., Scarlett Johansson

Photo credits:
Uncharted © 2020 Sony Pictures Entertainment Germany GmbH; Charlie's Angels © 2020 Sony Pictures Entertainment Germany; Babylon Berlin © 2017 X Verleih; The Untitled Matrix Project © Warner Bros. / Photo by Murray Close; Spencer © Spencer; Midway © 2019 Universum; The Queen's Gambit © 2020 Netflix; Captain America: Civil War © 2016 The Walt Disney Company



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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 75% 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 German partner. 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 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 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 Germany.
- High-end TV series and TV/VoD films receiving GMPF funds must be shown on German TV and/or VoD platforms which are accessible in Germany.

MORE FUNDING AVAILABLE THAN EVER

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, €120 million) and the increased German Motion Picture Fund (GMPF, €30 million) offer perfect conditions for producing films in Germany. And above all: pandemic-related financial risks can be cushioned by BKM's Production Continuation Fund.

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 up to €20 million
- A minimum of 25% of total production costs must be spent in Germany
- Funding of up to 20% of approved German production costs; projects with German production costs of more than €8 million receive a grant of up to 25%

Max. amount per film

€4 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 25% of approved German production costs

Max. amount per film

€25 million

German Motion Picture Fund for high-end TV & series (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
- Funding of up to 20% of approved German production costs

Max. amount per film or season

€4 million

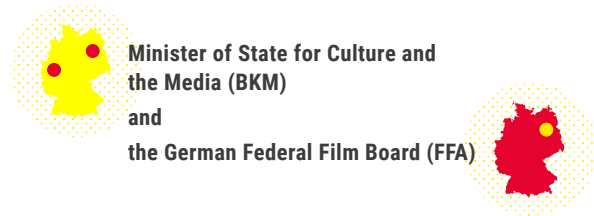
THE ADVANTAGES OF THE DFFF I, DFFF II & GMPF IN A NUTSHELL

- Non-repayable grant
- Transparent, automatic support
- First instalment paid by the start of physical production

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:



Minister of State for Culture and the Media (BKM)
and
the German Federal Film Board (FFA)

For more information, go to
www.filmfoerderung-bkm.de and www.ffa.de

Funding institutions on the regional level are:

- | | |
|---|---|
|  Film- und Medienstiftung NRW
Cologne, North Rhine-Westphalia
www.filmstiftung.de |  Mitteldeutsche Medienförderung
Leipzig, Saxony, Saxony-Anhalt & Thuringia
www.mdm-online.de |
|  FilmFernsehFonds Bayern
Munich, Bavaria
www.fff-bayern.de |  MfG-Baden-Württemberg
Stuttgart, Baden-Württemberg
www.mfg.de |
|  Medienboard Berlin-Brandenburg
Potsdam Babelsberg, Brandenburg
www.medienboard.de |  HessenFilm und Medien
Frankfurt/Main, Hesse
www.hessenfilm.de |
|  Filmförderung Hamburg-Schleswig-Holstein
Hamburg, Schleswig-Holstein
www.ffhsh.de |  Nordmedia
Hannover, Lower Saxony & Bremen
www.nordmedia.de |

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

All eight 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
10178 Berlin, Germany

DFFF

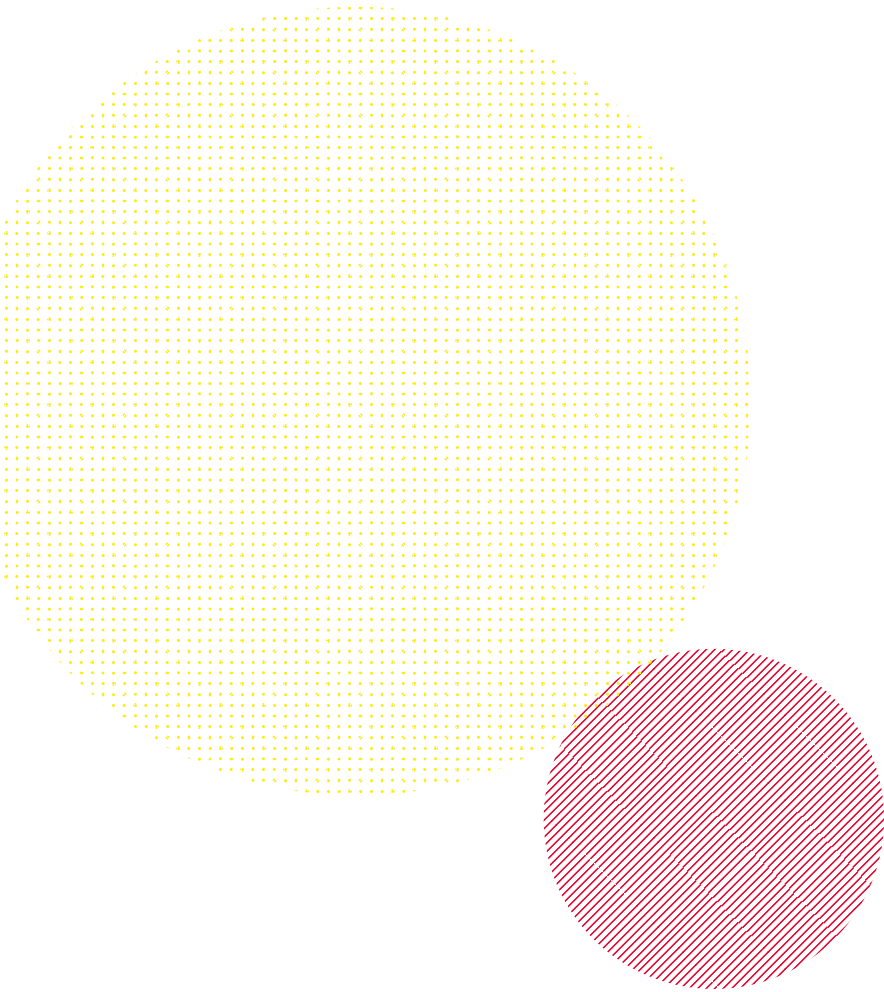


DFFF
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GMPF



GMPF
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