



Cooperation between Film Funds in Hessen and Baden-Württemberg

Greater scope for producers as a result of mutual recognition of “regional effects” across German state borders.

The receipt of film funding in the two German states of Hessen and Baden-Württemberg is dependent upon a specific percentage of such funding being spent in the respective state (100% in Hessen, 120% in Baden-Württemberg). This so-called “regional effect” is meant to strengthen the respective regional economy. Within the framework of the agreed cooperation, in future up to 25% of the funding provided can be spent in the respective partner state.

This regulation, which has been in effect since 4 September 2007, is intended to give producers in both states greater scope for realizing their projects: filmmakers can now alternately rely on service providers, locations or the pool of actors and other staff members in the respective partner state. It is also intended to improve capacity utilization in the two states.

Hessen Film Fund, HessenInvestFilm and MFG Film Funding Baden-Württemberg have frequently funded projects together in the past. Among others, examples include Angelina Maccarone’s feature film *Unveiled*, which won the Hessen Film Prize, and *If Not Us, Who* by Andres Veiel, who was honoured with the Alfred Bauer Prize and the Prize of the Guild of German Art House Cinemas at the 2011 Berlin International Film Festival.

Extract from the text of the agreement:

“The contracting partners agree that it is in the common interest of the media locations Baden-Württemberg and Hessen to mutually recognize the proportions of production costs for funded projects that are disbursed in both states and thereby give filmmakers greater scope for realizing their projects.

For this purpose, MFG and HFF as well as HessenInvestFilm agree on the mutual recognition of the regional effects that ensue for both states when a film project that receives funding in one state is also partially based on production work executed in the respective partner state. The regional effects that the producer must render according to the terms of the funding regulations can be realized in the respective partner state up to an amount equal to 25% of the funding sum. In the project accounts these effects shall be regarded as a state effect under the terms of the funding guidelines.”