




up to **50%**
refund on Swiss
expenses

Co-producing with Switzerland

swiss made



Mein Freund Barry

by Markus Welter
Atlantis Pictures (CH)
CH (62%), DE (38%)
Budget: CHF 7.4 Mio

Front: **The Palm Line**
series by Fulvio Bernasconi
hugofilm features (CH)
Budget: CHF 8.58 Mio



Switzerland – The essence of European diversity

Within just four hours, productions can move across Switzerland from snowy Alpine landscapes through dense forests, rolling valleys and medieval towns, along clear rivers to palm-lined lakeshores. Switzerland's rare geographic concentration and uniquely dense network of highways and railway allow productions to capitalise on a wealth of visual diversity while maintaining logistical control and efficiency. Cutting-edge urban architecture, technological centres and scientific campuses like CERN and the EPFL/ETH universities are to be found in the cities of Geneva, Lausanne and Zurich while the UNESCO World Heritage city of Bern offers a neatly preserved historic panorama. The countryside can easily double for any Northern, Western or South European landscapes.

Profitable working regulations and infrastructure

Highly qualified and multilingual workers, film studios, state-of-the-art postproduction facilities and equipment rental companies are key to the country's appeal. Labour costs in Switzerland are similar to those in neighbouring countries, but you can benefit from lower social costs and tighter production schedules. Switzerland also has moderate levels of taxation. International airports are located in all regions: Zurich, Geneva, Basel, Bern and from Milan Malpensa you can reach the southern part of Switzerland in less than an hour.

Funding

This brochure details the main funding opportunities, ranging from national to regional, including cash rebate, co-production incentives, investment obligations and film commissions.

Facts and figures Switzerland 2025

General data

+ 9.1 Mio inhabitants

+ 8.1% VAT

+ 1 € = 0.91 CHF
February 2026

Film industry

+ 603 screens

+ 9.4 Mio cinema admissions

+ 1.0 admissions per person per year

+ 153 Mio CHF box office

Feature films produced

+ 89 in total

48 national productions

19 majority co-productions

22 minority co-productions

+ 54 Documentaries

+ 34 Fictions

+ 1 Animation

Market share

+ 10.3% Swiss Film market share

+ 55.7% US market share

29.6% EU market share

Love Roulette by Chris Niemeyer

tellfilm (CH)

CH 90%, AT 10%

Budget: CHF 2.7 Mio.

Co-production treaties and co-production partners

Treaty & minimum participation

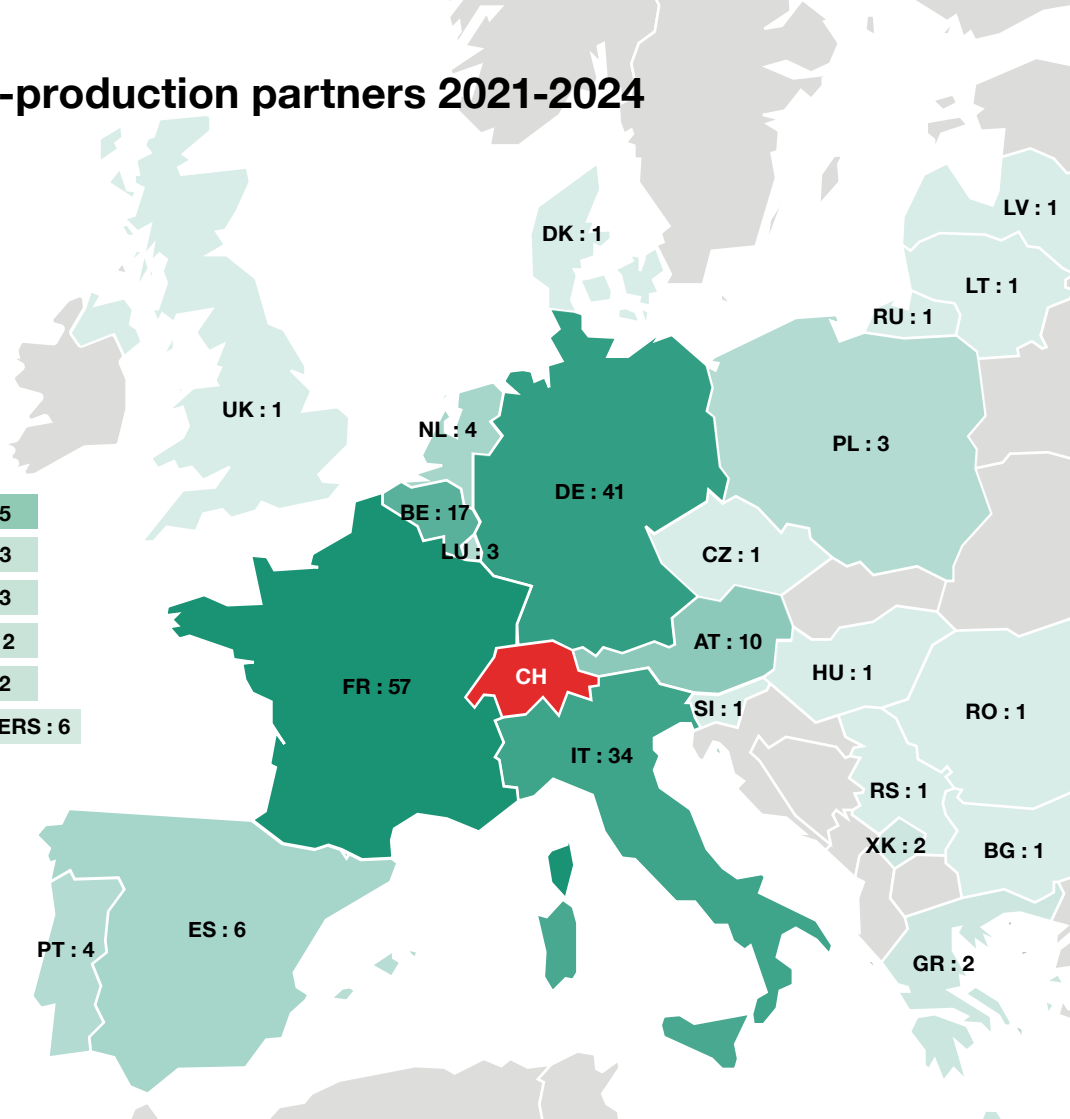
Austria & Germany	10%
Canada	20%
France	10%
French Community of Belgium	10%
Italy	10%
Luxemburg	20%
Mexico	20%
European Convention (1992)	20% bilateral 10% multilateral
Revised European Convention (2017): AL, AM, AT, BA, BE, BG, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GE, GR, HR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MD, ME, MK, MT, NL, NO, PL, PT, RO, RS, SE, SI, SK, UA, UK	10% bilateral 5% multilateral
European Convention on the Co-production of Audiovisual Works in the form of Series	10% bilateral 5% multilateral (ready to be signed)





Co-production partners 2021-2024

CA : 5
AR : 3
GE : 3
MX : 2
US : 2
OTHERS : 6



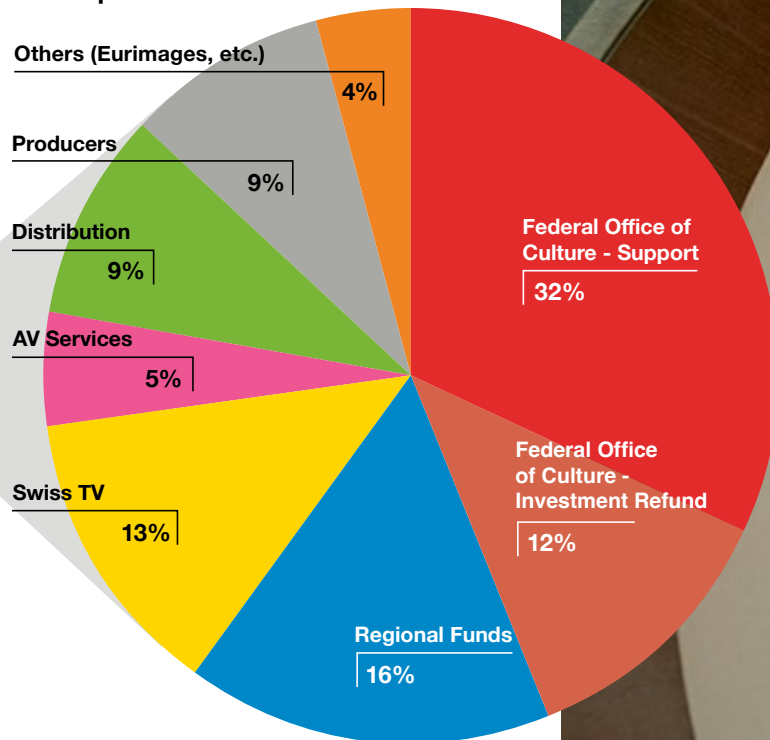
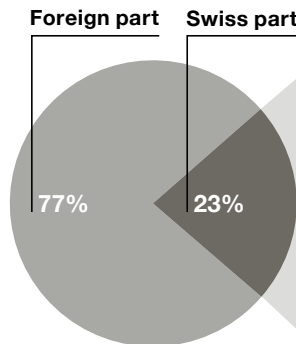
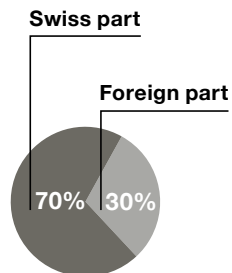
Interdit aux chiens et aux Italiens by Alain Ughetto
Nadasdy Film (CH)
FR (56%), CH (10%),
IT (10%), BE (14%)
Budget: CHF 4.13 Mio

Co-productions: Average financing

Majority Swiss

Minority Swiss

Swiss part





Swiss producers can obtain up to CHF 950'000 in subsidies for a minority co-production with foreign director.

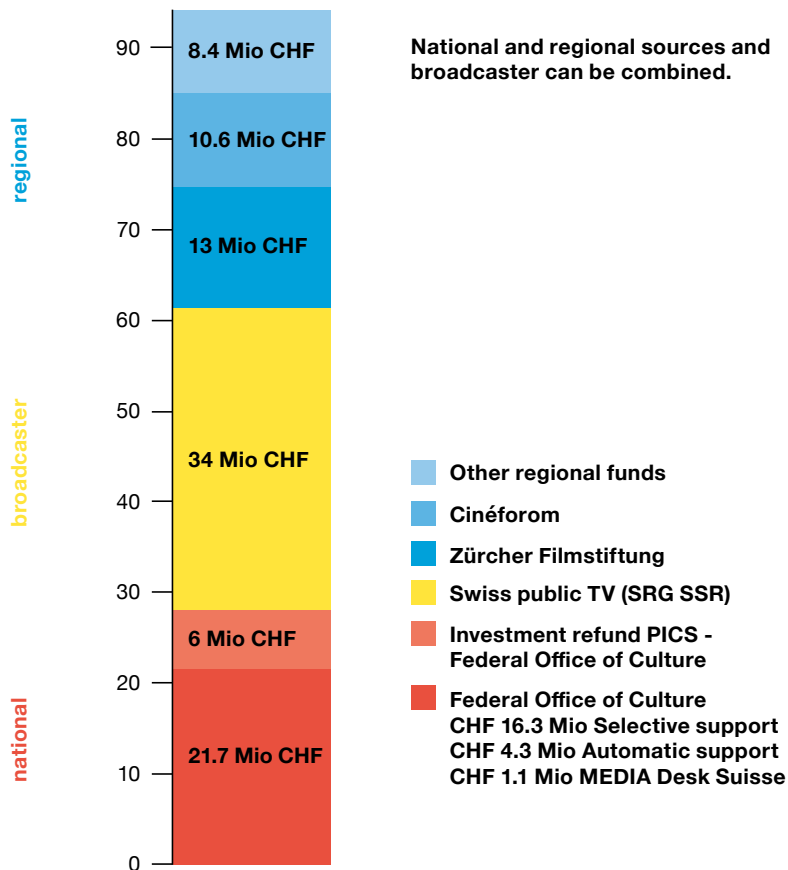
Stiller by Stefan Haupt
C-FILMS (CH)
CH (50 %), DE (50 %)
Budget: CHF 7.1 Mio



Hotel Sinestra by Michiel ten Horn
Zodiac Pictures (CH)
NL 68%, CH 32%
Budget: CHF 3.6 Mio



Total public funding available: CHF 93.7 Mio



Federal Office of Culture (FOC) - Film production support

Introduction of the fund

The Federal Office of Culture FOC supports projects that contribute to the diversity of Swiss film culture. The support is a non-recoupable funding based on selective criteria evaluated by an independent commission. Support is also granted by an automatic scheme (succès cinéma).

Who can apply?

An independent Swiss production company.

To what production stage does it apply to? What types of projects are eligible?

Funding is allocated to the development phase for any type of feature-length film and to the production phase for both feature and short films. The projects must aim at theatrical release, festivals or digital platforms. Development funding is available to projects with a Swiss author only.

How much can be granted?

Maximum amount (for production): Up to CHF 1 Mio for films with Swiss director and CHF 300'000 for films with foreign director.

The sum of federal funding cannot exceed 70% of the total costs. About 40 feature film projects supported every year.

Do you fund minority co-productions?

Yes, with a dedicated budget (CHF 2 Mio). Chances of attribution can be easily calculated on the basis of a point system.

What are the spending obligations?

Co-productions must spend the Swiss financing part for Swiss elements.

What are the evaluation criteria?

Artistic quality / Artistic and technical coherence / Potential for distribution / Development status / Contribution to diversity.

When to apply?

Applications may be submitted 4 times per year, decisions within 2 months.

bak.admin.ch/film



Federal Office of Culture - Swiss film investment refund (Cash rebate)

Introduction of the funding programme

Film Investment Refund Switzerland (PICS) is a programme focused on Swiss-international co-productions. PICS refunds 20% to 50% of eligible film production expenses generated in Switzerland.

Who can apply?

An independent Swiss production company.

To what production stage does it apply to? What types of projects are eligible?

Funding is allocated only for the production phase. Projects can be feature-length films made for theatrical release, for festivals or for digital platforms.

How much can be granted?

Total amount: CHF 6 Mio per year.

About 30 projects supported every year.

Maximum amount: up to CHF 600'000.

The sum of federal funding cannot exceed 70% of the total costs.

Do you fund minority co-productions?

Yes, at a single rate. PICS refunds 40% for all eligible film production expenses of minority co-productions.

What are the spending obligations?

Fiction films: At least CHF 1.2 Mio for majority and CHF 300'000 for minority co-productions. Fiction films need also 5 days of shooting in Switzerland or spend additional CHF 150'000 in Switzerland. Documentaries: At least CHF 250'000 for majority and CHF 150'000 for minority co-productions.

What are the criteria?

75% of the financing must be guaranteed.

20%-40% of the artistic and logistical expenses are refunded.

40%-50% of the technical expenses are refunded.

When to apply?

No special deadlines. Applications can be submitted anytime.

bak.admin.ch/pics



Investment obligation and quota for audiovisual services

Introduction of the new Film Act

Since 2024, all audiovisual services offering films (television services and on-demand services) must invest in script writing, production or promotion of Swiss films or co-productions. The investment obligation amounts to 4% of their annual gross income generated in Switzerland.

What types of projects are eligible for investment?

Eligible works include fiction films, documentaries, and animated films of any duration. Eligible films must be either Swiss films (certificate of origin) or official co-productions.

Are investments in audiovisual series also eligible?

Yes. Theatrical release is not required. However, as of now, only the Canadian, Mexican, and Belgian co-production agreements include series. The new European Convention on the Co-production of Series is about to be signed.

Are commissioned films eligible?

Yes, but these projects are not eligible for public funding.

Which producers are eligible?

The Swiss producer must be an independent

Swiss production company which is neither owned, influenced by nor has economic ties to an audiovisual service.

What types of investment are eligible?

Audiovisual services may acquire licenses for their own use with a maximal duration of 5 years or co-produce independently produced films which may include a transfer of exploitation rights to a maximal duration of 7 years. In both cases, extension options up to 15 years are eligible. The rights remaining with the production company must enable it to exploit the film outside the audiovisual services.

Where to apply?

There is no application for funding. Audiovisual services negotiate and contract directly with the independent Swiss production company. To secure the eligibility of the investment, they can apply at the FOC for a provisional certificate as Swiss film or a provisional recognition as international co-production.

Where can we ask further questions?

To clarify questions about eligibility and procedure write to fqiv@bak.admin.ch.

bak.admin.ch/filmgesetz





The Deal series by Jean-Stéphane Bron
Bande à part Films (CH)
CH (49%), FR (31%), LU (17%), BE (3%)
Budget: CHF 11.3 Mio

MEDIA Desk Suisse

Introduction of the fund

The Federal Office of Culture (FOC) offers a support scheme to foster international co-development at an early stage. The fund compensates for the fact that Switzerland is not member of the Creative Europe MEDIA Programme. Projects are evaluated by independent experts based on selective criteria similar to those used by the MEDIA Programme.

Who can apply?

An independent Swiss production company.

To what production stage does it apply to?

What types of projects are eligible?

Funding is allocated only to the development phase (until the first day of principal photography). Projects can be feature films (fiction, documentary, animation), series, or narrative immersive projects made for theatrical release, TV or for digital platforms. Projects with foreign authors are eligible.

How much can be granted?

- Total amount: CHF 1.1 Mio per year,
- Up to CHF 60'000 (majority Swiss projects) & up to CHF 50'000 (minority Swiss).
- The sum of federal funding cannot exceed 70% of the Swiss costs.

Do you fund minority co-productions?

Yes, there exists a funding scheme for the co-development of Swiss minority projects. Eligible projects must have secured 50% of the development financing in the majority country by application date. Bonus points are given to projects with Swiss (co-)authors.

What are the spending obligations?

The grant must be spent for Swiss elements.

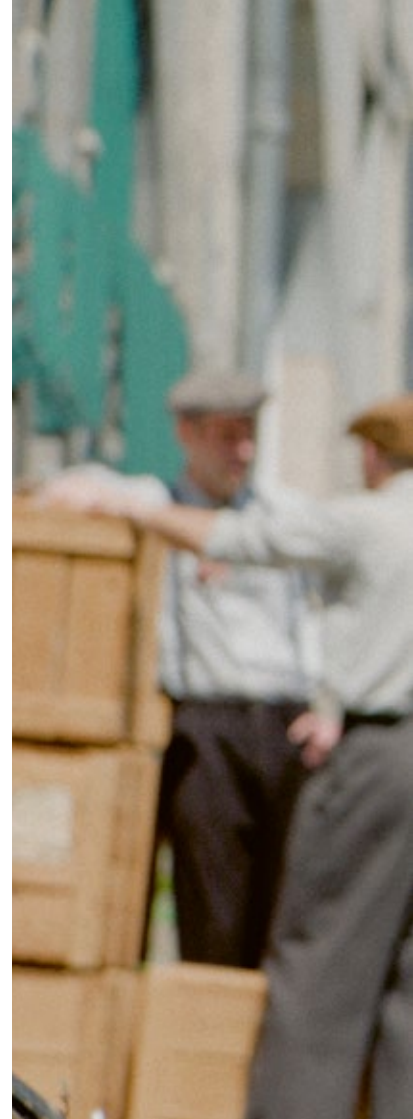
What are the evaluation criteria?

- Potential for European and international distribution,
 - Artistic quality,
 - Relevance of the (co-)development strategy.
- Extra points for:
- European co-production, children's films & animation projects.

When to apply?

March and October for majority and minority projects, June for slates (3 to 5 projects). Decisions are taken within two months.

mediadesk.ch





À bras-le-corps by Marie-Elsa Sgualdo
Box Productions (CH)
CH (70 %), BE (16 %), FR (14 %)
Budget: CHF 3.5 Mio

Regional funds – Cinéforom

Introduction of the fund

Cinéforom in Geneva is the film fund for the whole French-speaking part of Switzerland, offering soft money grants, both selective and automatic (bonification based on the highest grant from FOC or SRG-SSR television).

Who can apply?

An independent Swiss production company. For films with a non-Swiss director, it must be established in the French-speaking part.

To what production stage does it apply to? What types of projects are eligible?

All kinds of films (fictions, documentaries, animation) across all medias (cinema, television, web) may apply for development and/or production grants. Digital experiences can also be supported for development, prototyping and production.

Do you fund minority co-production?

Yes.

How much can be granted?

For minority co-productions, there is no selective support. Automatic support is 30% of the highest grant from FOC or SRG-SSR.

What are the spending obligations?

150% of the grant must be spent within the French-speaking part.

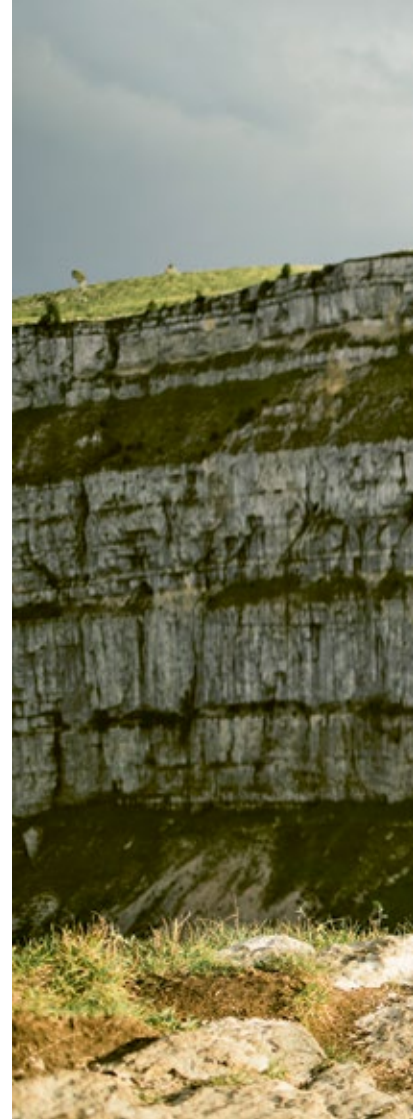
What are the evaluation criteria?

There is no artistic evaluation as it is only automatic support. The eligibility criteria set out in our guidelines must be met.

When to apply?

The Swiss Producers may apply for support when they receive selective support from the FOC or SSR-SRG.

cineforom.ch





With the Wind by Bettina Oberli
RITA Productions (CH)
CH 74%, FR 26%
Budget: CHF 4.7 Mio

Regional funds – Zürcher Filmstiftung

Introduction of the fund

As one of the two main regional funds in Switzerland, Zürcher Filmstiftung is committed to supporting the audio visual and film industry in the Canton of Zurich and particularly its capital, which is the leading film hub in Switzerland.

Who can apply?

An independent Swiss production company. If the film's director is not based in the region of Zurich, the production company must be established in the Canton of Zurich.

To what production stage does it apply to? What types of projects are eligible?

Funding is provided for all formats of audio-visual works:

- Story and project development on three levels
- Production
- Marketing and distribution

How much can be granted?

- Development: max. 50% of budget or CHF 100'000
- Production: max. 50% of budget or CHF 1 Mio
- Distribution/Marketing: max. 50% of budget or CHF 100'000

Every support is granted as a soft loan and must be repaid if the film is economically successful.

Funding for digital culture

New interactive formats and forms of presentation such as computer games, extended reality, and other narrative formats for interactive reception can be supported with up to CHF 150'000.

Do you fund minority co-production?

Yes, if the project and content have a significant cultural and artistic relation to the region. The recoupment must correspond to the financing shares.

What are the spending obligations?

150% of the loan amount granted should be spent in the region. For minority projects it can be higher. The fund demands no rights in the film and is not defined as co-producer.

What are the evaluation criteria?

- Artistic quality
- Distribution potential
- Cultural and economic impact on the region

When to apply?

Applications may be submitted 4 times per year. The committees take the decisions within 2 months.

filmstiftung.ch





**Wolkenbruch's Wondrous Journey into
the Arms of a Shiksa** by Michael Steiner

Turnus Film (CH)

CH 88%, DE 12%,

Budget: CHF 3.9 Mio

More regional funds

With yearly budget over CHF 1 Mio.
The prerequisite for funding is normally
the project's connection to the region.



Berner Filmförderung
supports:

- Development
- Production
- Distribution

Film Commission Bern

bernfuerdenfilm.ch/film-commission-bern/



**Förderung Film und
Medienkunst Region Basel**
supports:

- Development
- Production
- Distribution



**Ticino Fondo Cinema
and FilmPlus**
supports:

- Development
- Production
- Distribution



**Zentralschweizer
Filmförderung**
supports:

- Development
- Production
- Postproduction
- Distribution

Film commissions and studios

German speaking

French speaking

Italian speaking

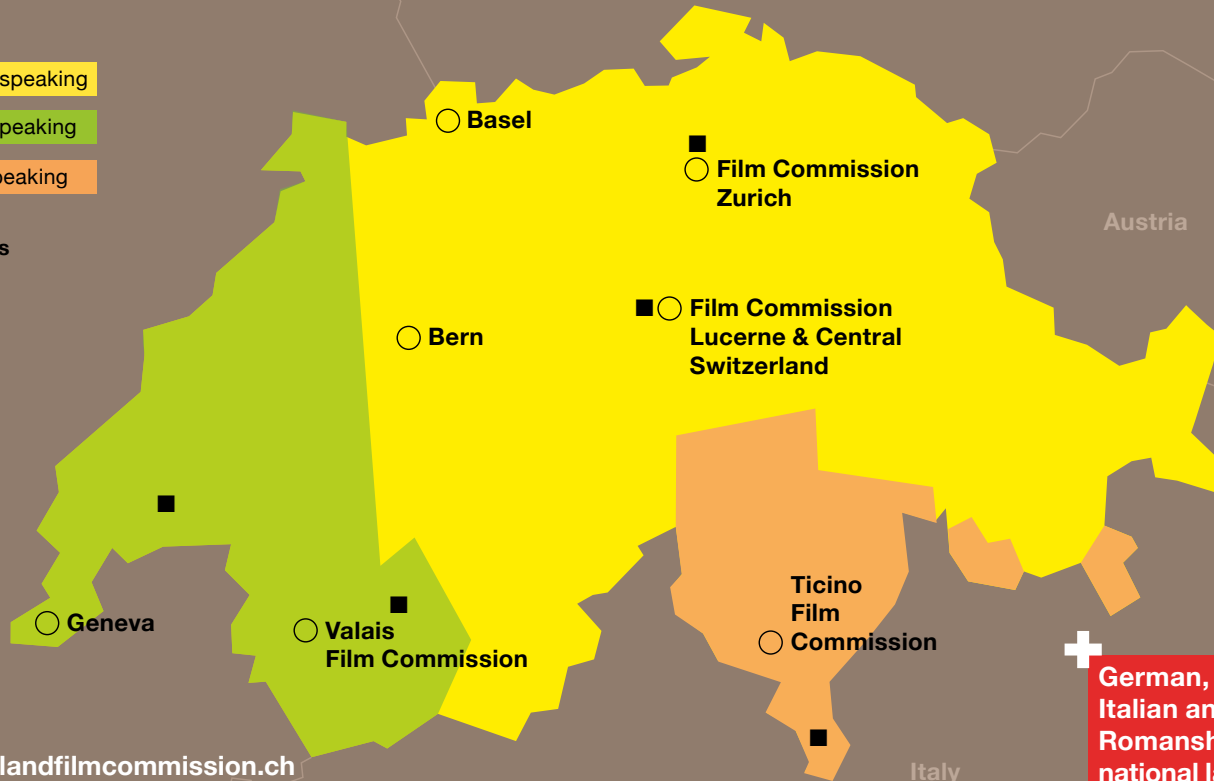
■ studios

France

Germany

Austria

Italy



switzerlandfilmcommission.ch



As an umbrella organization, the Switzerland Film Commission works to create attractive conditions for international film productions in Switzerland.

German, French, Italian and Romansh are national languages in Switzerland – English is widely spoken.

Film Commission Lucerne & Central Switzerland

Which services do you offer?

The Film Commission Lucerne & Central Switzerland operates in the heart of Switzerland in the cantons Lucerne, Obwalden, Nidwalden, Schwyz, Uri and Zug. A wide range of locations from alpine to urban can be found in that area. It is a hub for all aspects of filmmaking in the region and offers a one-stop service for all phases and needs of film production: from location scouting to negotiating with authorities and locals, obtaining filming permits and finding local personnel.

Which conditions apply?

There are currently no fixed financial incentives as the type of support is determined on an individual basis.

filmcommission-centralswitzerland.ch

Lili Kaelin, Film Commissioner, +41 79 419 72 68

Ticino Film Commission

Which services do you offer?


The Ticino Film Commission offers financial incentives and free services for all productions shooting in the Italian speaking part of Switzerland. It accompanies and counsels at all stages and helps keep smooth relationships with institutional and private partners as well as with the press.

Which conditions apply?

All production companies can freely apply to the services and incentives. Financial incentives of up to CHF 20'000 can be granted. Additional support is available for shootings that take place in selected regions, in the form of cash rebates of up to 40%. There are no specific spending obligations.

ticinofilmcommission.ch

Lisa Barzaghi, Director, +41 91 751 19 75



Tschugger – The Last Fall by David Constantin,
Johannes Bachmann, Jelena Vujović
Shining Nice (CH)
Budget: CHF 3.2 Mio

Valais Film Commission

Which services do you offer?

The Valais Film Commission offers a global service from the start to the end of a project including scouting, location inventory, incentives and cash rebates, facilitation and awareness with locals and local authorities and local skills research.

Which conditions apply?

All productions wishing to shoot in Valais can benefit from the services. 15% to 35% cash rebate can be granted, depending on the type of production and the criteria met. The current maximum is CHF 100'000 per production. Expenses taken into consideration are those incurred only within Valais. This applies to accommodation, work-force, equipment rental, travel and even coffee.

valaisfilmcommission.ch

Tristan Albrecht, Director, +41 77 447 07 20

Film Commission Zurich

Which services do you offer?

Zurich is Switzerland's leading hub for audiovisual production. We provide free services, production guidance, access to financial incentives, and coordination between authorities, businesses, and industry partners to support successful productions in the Canton of Zurich.

Which conditions apply?

Productions with at least CHF 500'000 in eligible expenditure in the Canton of Zurich may apply for a Production Incentive of up to CHF 30'000. Projects with a measurable impact on Zurich may receive a grant of up to CHF 6'000 for location scouting. Productions are encouraged to contact us at an early stage to discuss additional financing opportunities and tailored support options.

filmzurich.ch

Dino Malacarne, Managing Director, +41 43 555 80 81



SRG SSR Swiss public broadcasting

The partnership between the Swiss film industry and SRG is being governed by an agreement known as the Pacte de l'audiovisuel. The Pacte sets out the terms and conditions that apply to SRG co-productions with independent filmmakers.

For the period 2024-2027 SRG's commitment to Swiss film is CHF 34 Mio annually.

The Pacte supports both made-for-TV and general-release films: CHF 19.5 Mio is available annually for television productions, including series productions, and CHF 10 Mio per year for cinema

projects. A share of CHF 2 Mio has been set aside of the TV and cinema budget for animated films. Multimedia projects are supported with CHF 500'000. Support of CHF 4 Mio is also granted by an automatic scheme (Succès passage antenne).

SRG SSR has implemented amendments in distribution rights that reflect changes in media use. It has established a streaming platform which offers its films and series in all national languages: playsuisse.ch

srgssr.ch



Las corrientes by Milagros Mumenthaler
Alina film (CH)
CH (90%), AR (10%)
Budget: CHF 2.15 Mio

International promotion and training

SWISS FILMS

SWISS FILMS is the national agency for the promotion of films made in Switzerland.

SWISS FILMS provides Swiss filmmakers with support in promoting and marketing their works and helps them to build an international network. Among their support measures they offer distribution support for Swiss films worldwide, provided to foreign theatrical and online distributors.

SWISS FILMS is supported by the Federal Office of Culture.

swissfilms.ch

FOCAL

FOCAL organises continuous training for Swiss film professionals. Its offer covers around 100 different professions. Through active partnerships with many European programmes, FOCAL strives to deliver the finest learning opportunities for professionals in Switzerland and abroad.

Among the 60 courses per year is the international «MEDICI» programme, an exchange forum exclusively tailored for decision-makers in pan-European film funding bodies.

FOCAL is supported by the Federal Office of Culture.

focal.ch



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra


Swiss Confederation

Federal Department of Home Affairs FDHA
Federal Office of Culture FOC

MEDIADESK
SUISSE

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SRF, Bern Tourismus and swisstopo.
Data sources: FOC, FSO, ProCinema
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Imprint:
MEDIA Desk Suisse
Neugasse 10, CH-8005 Zürich



Count on prompt
and dependable
funding support,
as reliable as a
Swiss watch.

swiss made



mediadesk.ch/a-propos-co-producing-en

Unrest by Cyril Schäublin
Seeland Filmproduktion GmbH (CH)
Budget: CHF 2.2 Mio