

# THE CIIF LIST

a compendium of Caribbean Culture

Volume 1

## BELIZE



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# 1. OVERVIEW



## Primary Cultural and Creative Sectors

1.1

- Audio-visuals - film and video
- Culinary Arts
- Design - Interior, graphic arts, fashion, jewelry
- Digital Arts - Software and computer games
- Heritage Festivals and Fairs
- Performing Arts - Music, dance theatre
- Sound Recording
- Book Publishing and Printed Media
- Visual Arts - Painting, drawing, sculpture

*From Cultural Policy*



## Most recent focus in Government's cultural policy/interventions

1.2

The Government of Belize has committed to the creation of an enabling environment for cultural promotion and social transformation within communities in order to strengthen national identity and to nurture social cohesion. In this regard, the Government of Belize plans to ensure that culture and the arts form an integral part of the Belize 2030 Plan, the Tourism Master Plan and the NICH Strategic Plan and shall ratify and adhere to international conventions, protocols and agreements in the field of culture in the best interests of Belize's people. The cultural policy proposes the Belize Culture Model which is a democratic and decentralised model for culture in Belize.

### Priority Areas

1.2.1

1. Cultural Heritage Safeguarding
2. Intangible Cultural Heritage
3. Ethnicity
4. Languages and oral traditions
5. Music
6. Traditional skills in handicrafts
7. Health and Alternative (Traditional) Medicine
8. Family and Religion
9. National Days, National Heroes and National Symbols
10. Research, Archiving and Safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage present in Belize
11. Tangible Cultural Heritage
12. Archaeological and historical antiquities and monuments
13. Underwater Archaeological Heritage
14. Historic Sites and Landmarks

*From Cultural Policy*

## Barriers to Creative and Cultural Industries growth and development

1.3

Data not available for this Borrowing Member Country at time of research. Readers who may be able to provide relevant data are invited to contact the Fund at [ciif@caribank.org](mailto:ciif@caribank.org).



# 2. CULTURAL HERITAGE



## Cultural Forms and Expressions

2.1

- Brukdown
- Punta Rock
- Marimba
- Jankunu
- Charikanari

## Cultural events, festivals, celebrations,

2.2

Event	Month of the Year
Fiesta de Carnaval	February
San Pedro Carnival	February
San Jose Succotz Fiesta	April
Cayo Expo: San Ignacio	May
Coconut Festival Caye Caulker	May
Toledo Festival of Arts and Chocolate	June
Dia de San Pedro	June
Benque Viejo del Carmen Fiesta Local fair	July
Belize International Film Festival	July
Deer Dance Festival	August
<a href="#">International Costa Maya Festival</a>	August
September Celebrations	September
Garifuna Settlement Day	November



## UNESCO World Heritage

2.3

UNESCO World Heritage Sites	Tentative Sites	Local Heritage Sites
<a href="#">Belize Barrier Reef Reserve System</a>		<a href="#">17 Mayan Archaeological sites have special reserve status by the Institute of Archaeology</a>

### Intangible Cultural Heritage

[Language, dance, and music of the Garifuna](#)



# 3. VENUES & INSTITUTIONS

## Main Performance Spaces 3.1

NAME	CAPACITY	MAP
<a href="#">Bliss Center for Performing Arts</a>		

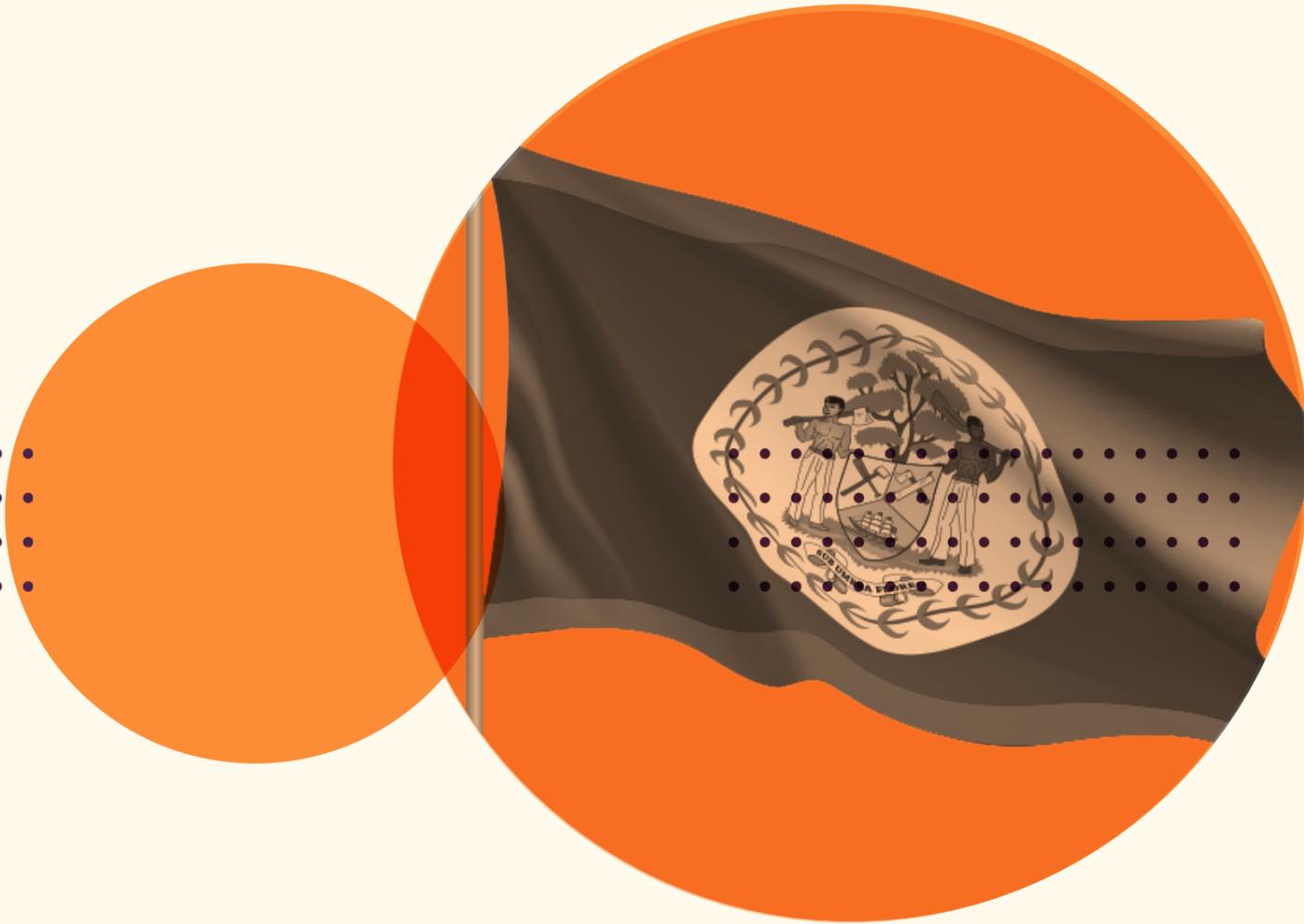
## Main Museums & Galleries 3.2

NAME	CAPACITY	MAP
<a href="#">Ambergris Museum</a>		
<a href="#">Museum of Belize and Houses of Culture</a>		
<a href="#">Belize Creole Museum and Gallery</a>		
<a href="#">Belizean Arts</a>		
<a href="#">The Gallery of San Pedro</a>		
<a href="#">Luba Garifuna Museum</a>		
<a href="#">The Windows of Belize Museum</a>		
<a href="#">Government House Colonial Mansion and Historical Museum</a>		





# 4. POLICY & GOVERNANCE



## Global 4.1

### Cooperation and/or contribution agreements 4.1.1

1. [Economic Partnership Agreement between the CARIFORUM States and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland](#)
2. [Economic Partnership Agreement between the EU and the Caribbean](#)
3. [Cotonou Agreement](#)
4. Caribbean-Canada Trade Agreement (CARIBCAN)

### Multilateral or bilateral trade/investment agreements 4.1.2

1. [Agreement on Encouragement and Reciprocal Protection of Investments between the Kingdom of the Netherlands and Belize \(October 1, 2004\)](#)
2. [Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Austria and the Government of Belize for the Promotion and Protection of Investments \(February 1, 2002\)](#)
3. [Agreement between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of Belize for the Promotion and Protection of Investments \(April 30, 1982\)](#)
4. Agreement between the Government of Barbados and the Republic of Cuba for the Promotion and Protection of Investments (August 13, 1998)
5. [Agreement between the Government of Barbados and the Republic of El Salvador for the Promotion and Protection of Investments \(December 4, 2001\)](#)
6. [Agreement between the Government of The Bahamas and The Government of the People's Republic of China on the Protection and Reciprocal Protection of Investments](#)
7. [World Trade Organization \(WTO\) - Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights \(TRIPS Agreement\) \(1994\) \(January 1, 1995\)](#)
8. [Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property \(April 26, 1990\)](#)
9. [Trade and Investment Framework Agreement between the Government of the United States of America and the Caribbean Community](#)



### Collaborations with international, intergovernmental, and/or multilateral organizations or institutions 4.1.3

1. Caribbean Development Bank
2. Inter-American Development Bank
3. Global Heritage Fund
4. United States International Development Agency
5. International Council on Archives/Caribbean Branch
6. Global Environment Facility
7. Japan International Cooperation Agency
8. The European Union
9. The World Bank

## Regional 4.2

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### Action plans, work plans, strategies 4.2.1

1. [Revised Treaty of Chaguaramas Establishing the Caribbean Community Including the Caricom Single Market and Economy \(February 4, 2002\)](#)
2. [CARICOM - USA Trade and Investment Framework Agreement](#)
3. [CARICOM Costa Rica Free Trade Agreement](#)
4. [CARICOM – Cuba Trade and Economic Cooperation](#)
5. [CARICOM – Dominican Republic Free Trade](#)
6. [CARICOM – Colombia Trade, Economic and Technical Cooperation Agreement](#)
7. [CARICOM - Venezuela Free Trade Agreement](#)

### Cooperation and/or contribution agreements 4.2.2

Data not available for this Borrowing Member Country at time of research. Readers who may be able to provide relevant data are invited to contact the Fund at [ciif@caribank.org](mailto:ciif@caribank.org).

## National 4.3

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### Governing Bodies 4.3.1

1. Ministry of Culture
2. [The National Institute of Culture and History](#)
3. Ministry of Natural Resources
4. The Belize Archives and Records Service
5. [Belize Trade and Investment Development Service \(BELTRAIDE\)](#)
6. National Library Services and Information System  
Barbados Film Commission



## Interministerial Cooperation

4.3.2

1. Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports
2. Ministry of Labour, Local Government and Rural Development
3. Ministry of Local Government
4. Ministry of Economic Development, Investment, Trade and
5. Ministry of Health
6. Ministry of Finance
7. Ministry of Human Development, Social Transformation and Poverty Alleviation ·Ministry of Agriculture
8. Ministry of the Environment, Forestry and Sustainable Development ·Statistical Institute of Belize
9. Belize Trade and Investment Development Services
10. National Library Services and Information System
11. Belize Archives Records and Services
12. Bureau of Standards

## Policies, plans, strategies, programs

4.3.3

1. [National Cultural Policy 2016-2026](#)
2. [National Institute of Culture and History Act](#)
3. National Sustainability Tourism Master Plan (identifies Culture as one of 6 key areas for investment and growth)
4. [National Tourism Policy Sec 5.1 - Cultural Tourism](#)
5. Belize Broadcasting and Television Act
6. Protected Areas Conservation Act
7. Entertainment Tax Act
8. Environmental Protection Act
9. Wildlife Protection Act
10. Fisheries Act
11. Education Act
12. Income and Business Tax act
13. Abandoned Wreck Act

## IFCD Contributions

4.3.4

Data not available for this Borrowing Member Country at time of research. Readers who may be able to provide relevant data are invited to contact the Fund at [ciif@caribank.org](mailto:ciif@caribank.org).

## IFCD Receipts

4.3.5

Data not available for this Borrowing Member Country at time of research. Readers who may be able to provide relevant data are invited to contact the Fund at [ciif@caribank.org](mailto:ciif@caribank.org).

## Policies for protection/improvement of status of artists

4.3.6

Data not available for this Borrowing Member Country at time of research. Readers who may be able to provide relevant data are invited to contact the Fund at [ciif@caribank.org](mailto:ciif@caribank.org).

## Export strategies to promote distribution of cultural goods/services

4.3.7

Data not available for this Borrowing Member Country at time of research. Readers who may be able to provide relevant data are invited to contact the Fund at [ciif@caribank.org](mailto:ciif@caribank.org).



## Improving the status of artists



## Copyright provisions and intellectual property protections 4.4

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1. [Patents \(Amendment\) Act, No. 40 of 2005 \(2005\)](#)
2. [Ancient Monuments and Antiquities Act - Cap. 330 \(2000\)](#)
3. [Broadcasting and Television Act - Cap. 227 \(2000\)](#)
4. [Business Names Act - Cap. 247 \(2000\)](#)
5. [Cinematographs Act - Cap. 241 \(2000\)](#)
6. [Copyright Act \(Cap. 252, Revised Edition 2000\) \(2000\)](#)
7. [Industrial Designs Act - Cap. 254 \(2000\)](#)
8. [Protection of Layout-Designs \(Topographies\) of Integrated Circuits Act - Cap. 256 \(2000\)](#)
9. [Protection of New Plant Varieties Act \(Cap. 255, Revised Edition 2000\) \(2000\)](#)

## Statistical offices, platforms and sources for cultural data 4.5

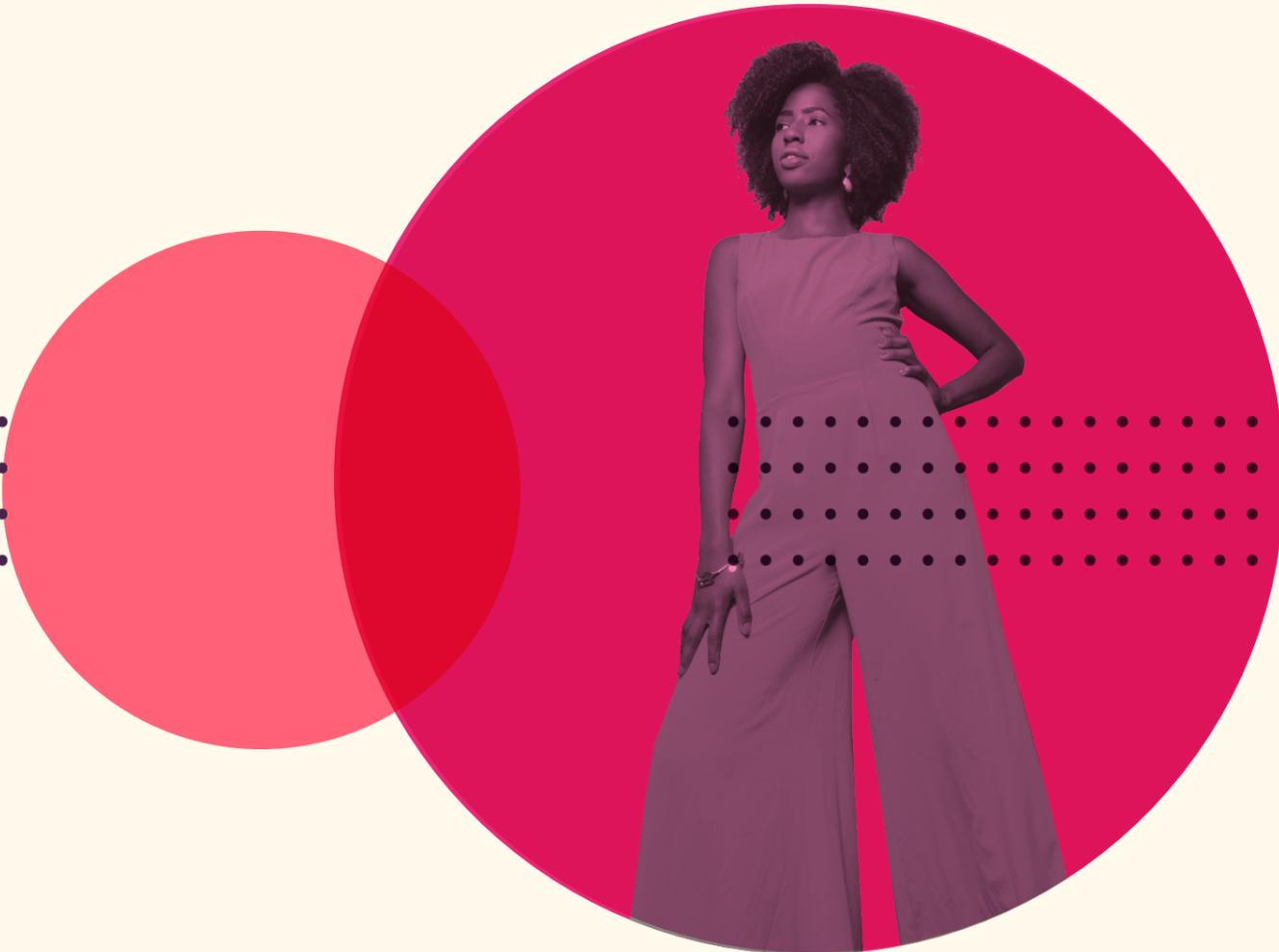
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Cultural data is consolidated into tourism data and the national census. Dialog has started between the Statistical Institute of Belize and the Central Bank.

*From UNESCO Questionnaire*



# 5. FINANCING



## Total public expenditure for culture 5.1

AMOUNT	YEAR
USD1,500,000	2017

(Self-reported from UNESCO Questionnaire)

## Sources of funding and support for cultural practitioners 5.2

FUNDING SOURCE	PURPOSE	TYPE
<a href="#">Culture Development Fund</a>		Technical Assistance, Grant
<a href="#">The Protected Areas Conservation Trust</a>		Grant

## Private Sector Support 5.3

Data not available for this Borrowing Member Country at time of research. Readers who may be able to provide relevant data are invited to contact the Fund at [ciif@caribank.org](mailto:ciif@caribank.org).

## Tax Incentives 5.4

[Customs Duty and Revenue Replacement Duty exemptions for investments in Culture under the Fiscal Incentive Program Tourism & Leisure Activity](#)



# 6. ECONOMICS & TRADE

## Principal enterprises, institutions, products, firms, etc.

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6.1

[National Youth Orchestra and Choir of Belize](#)

[Belize Academy of the Performing Arts](#)

[The National Institute of Culture and History](#)

[Institute of Archaeology](#)

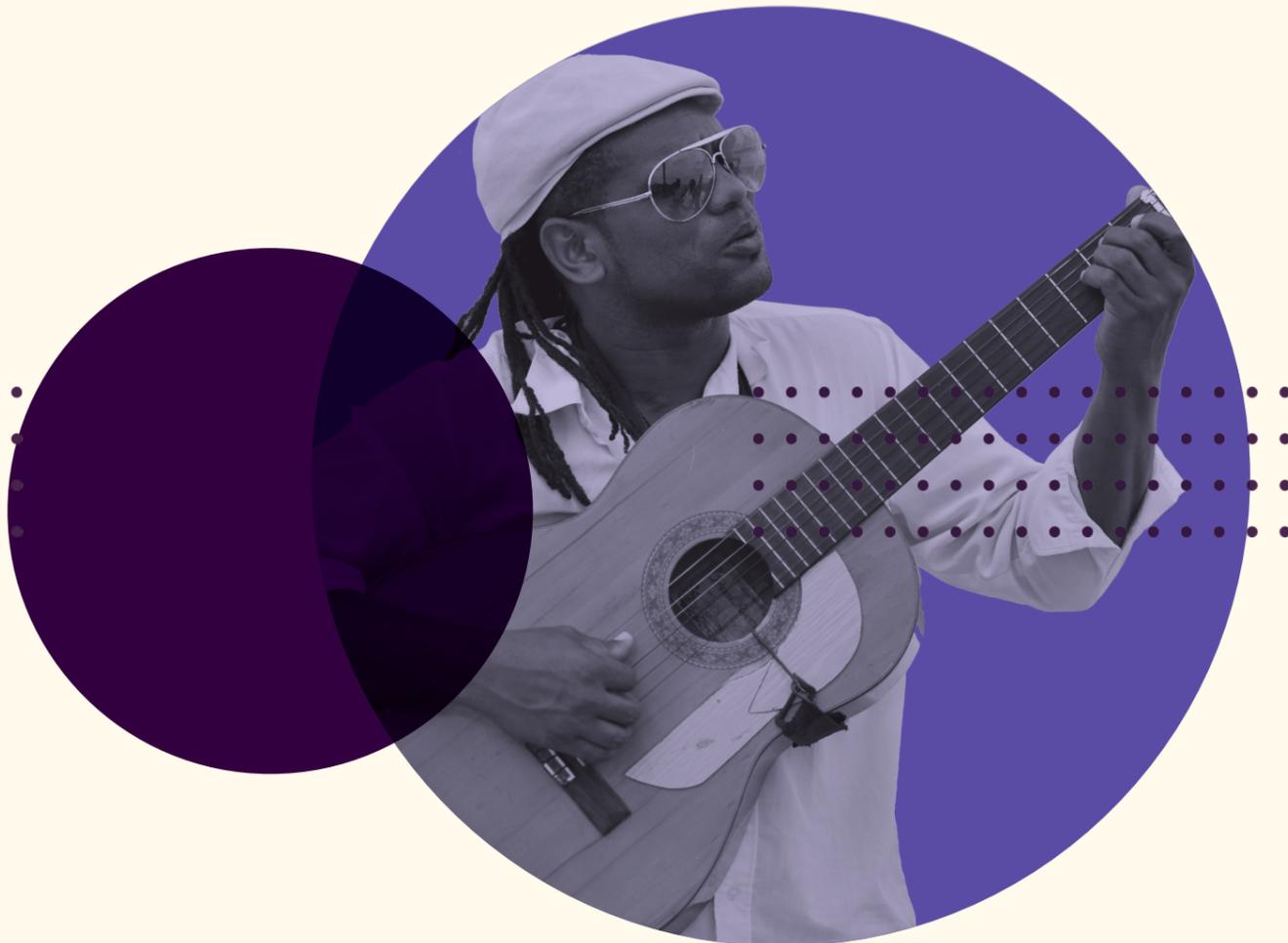
[Institute of Creative Arts](#)

[The Institute for Social and Cultural Research](#)

[Belize Film Commission](#)

[Museum of Belize and Houses of Culture](#)

[Belize National Dance Company](#)





## Contribution of Copyright-Based Industries to employment 6.2

Data not available for this Borrowing Member Country at time of research. Readers who may be able to provide relevant data are invited to contact the Fund at [ciif@caribank.org](mailto:ciif@caribank.org).

## Contribution of Copyright-Based Industries to GDP 6.3

Data not available for this Borrowing Member Country at time of research. Readers who may be able to provide relevant data are invited to contact the Fund at [ciif@caribank.org](mailto:ciif@caribank.org).

## Share of importation and exportation of creative goods, globally, regionally and with the European Union 6.4

### Creative Goods Trade with the World

Values (Millions)	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Exports	0.06	0.08	0.11	1.69	0.08	1.31	3.57	
Imports	13.12	16.01	24.53	14.60	12.26	18.78	42.11	
Trade Balance	-13.06	-15.93	-24.42	-12.91	-12.18	-17.47	-38.54	

### Creative Goods Trade within the Caribbean

Values (Millions)	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Exports	0.001	0.047	0.001	0.000	0.003	0.026	0.004	
Imports	0.48	0.52	0.59	0.29	0.38	0.44	0.63	
Trade Balance	-0.48	-0.47	-0.58	-0.29	-0.38	-0.41	-0.62	0.00

### Creative Goods Trade with the EU

Values (Millions)	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Exports	0.00	..	0.00	0.03	0.03	0.00	0.01	
Imports	1.81	1.67	0.80	0.99	1.10	0.65	3.49	
Trade Balance	-1.81	..	-0.80	-0.96	-1.07	-0.65	-3.49	

### Trade Performance by Product

#### Exports, Global

Values (Millions)	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Art crafts	0.000	0.005	0.001	0.004	0.000	0.002	0.048	
Audiovisuals	0.000	0.000	..	..	..	..	..	
Design	0.048	0.064	0.083	1.656	0.046	0.072	3.075	
New media	0.004	0.002	..	0.001	..	1.221	0.432	
Performing arts	..	..	..	0.013	..	0.011	0.001	
Publishing	0.002	0.003	0.004	0.010	0.025	0.004	0.006	
Visual arts	0.003	0.006	0.022	0.003	0.006	0.003	0.009	

#### Imports, Global

Values (Millions)	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Art crafts	0.51	0.74	0.80	0.72	0.73	0.71	1.06	
Audiovisuals	0.04	0.02	0.88	0.30	0.33	0.21	0.15	
Design	8.41	10.01	17.42	8.47	6.08	12.53	31.10	
New media	0.21	0.46	1.03	0.55	0.49	0.74	4.65	
Performing arts	0.09	0.13	0.13	0.18	0.23	0.25	0.24	
Publishing	3.66	4.46	4.03	4.07	4.20	4.03	4.56	
Visual arts	0.20	0.19	0.23	0.30	0.19	0.30	0.36	

## Studies on the economic impact of creative/cultural industries 6.4

Data not available for this Borrowing Member Country at time of research. Readers who may be able to provide relevant data are invited to contact the Fund at [ciif@caribank.org](mailto:ciif@caribank.org).



# 7. EDUCATION & TRAINING



## Education and Training Programmes

7.1

PROGRAM NAME	PROGRAM LEVEL	DURATION	INSTITUTION
<a href="#">Commercial Graphic Design</a>	Associate Degree	2 years	St. John's College
<a href="#">Fine Arts</a>	Associate Degree	2 years	St. John's College
<a href="#">Music</a>	Associate Degree	2 years	St. John's College
<a href="#">Fine Arts &amp; Music</a>	Associate Degree	2 years	St. John's College
<a href="#">Music</a>	Associate Degree	2 years	Independence Community College
<a href="#">Theatre</a>	Associate Degree	2 years	Independence Community College
<a href="#">Visual Art</a>	Associate Degree	2 years	Independence Community College

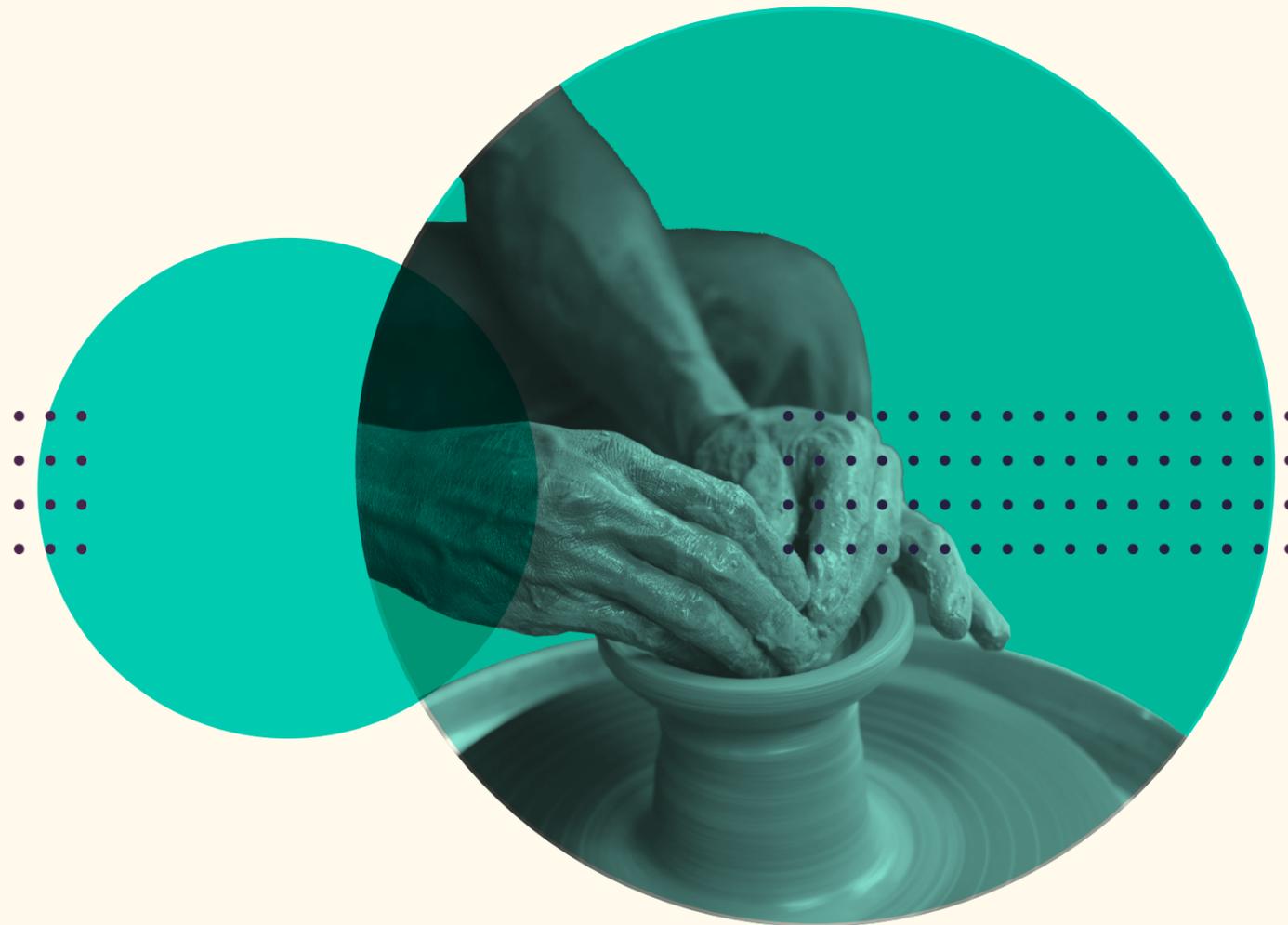
## Scholarship Programmes

7.2

Data not available for this Borrowing Member Country at time of research. Readers who may be able to provide relevant data are invited to contact the Fund at [ciif@caribank.org](mailto:ciif@caribank.org).



# 8. CULTURAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP



## Cultural Entrepreneurship Initiatives 8.1

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Cultural Entrepreneurship Summer Camp

[Belize Cultural & Entrepreneurship Foundation](#)

## Programmes to support job creation in CCI 8.2

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Data not available for this Borrowing Member Country at time of research. Readers who may be able to provide relevant data are invited to contact the Fund at [ciif@caribank.org](mailto:ciif@caribank.org).

## Agencies 8.3

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1. [Department of Youth Services](#)
2. Belize Cultural & Entrepreneurship Foundation
3. Beltraide
4. [Small Business Development Centre Belize](#)

## Programmes for youth employment or women's empowerment in the Cultural and Creative Sectors 8.4

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1. [Business Development for the Indian Creek Mayan Arts Women's Group](#)



# 9. ADVOCACY

## 9.1

### Societies, associations, unions etc.

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Music Industry Association of Belize

Belize Tourism Industry Association



## Sources

Information for these profiles was sourced from publicly available documents and data sets including the UNESCO Quadrennial Report, national budgets, national cultural policy plans, local media sources and others. Additional information was obtained via surveys of regional cultural industry practitioners and stakeholders, which were conducted for this project. Further information was sourced from 'Research conducted for the CARICOM Secretariat in relation to the Consultancy to prepare the Regional Strategic Plan for Cultural and Entertainment Services/Cultural Industries in CARIFORUM States (2016-2018), with financing from the European Union 10th European Development Fund, provided courtesy of CARICOM.