

The CIIF LIST

a compendium of Caribbean Culture

Volume 1

TRINIDAD & TOBAGO



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1. OVERVIEW



Sub-sectors

1.1

How is the Cultural and Creative Sector organised in Trinidad and Tobago?

Festival Arts

Including but not limited to:

- Carnival
- Hosay
- Ramleela

Visual and Performing Arts

Including but not limited to:

- Music
- Visual Arts
- Dance
- Media Arts
- Theatre

Heritage, Memory, and Legacy

Tangible and intangible cultural heritage

Wide Cultural Industries

Including but not limited to:

- Literature and Publishing
- TV and Broadcasting
- Fashion
- Film



Most Recent focus of cultural policy and interventions 1.2

Much effort has been put on developing the wider cultural industries as there has been marked investment put into developing film, fashion, and music.

According to Trinidad and Tobago's last Quadriennial Periodic Report to UNESCO, its Government's recent focus has been finalising the Draft National Policy on Culture and the Arts (DNCPA) 2019-2025. The Ministry of Community Development, Culture and the Arts facilitated and/or conducted the following:

- A series of consultations across Trinidad and Tobago under the themes: Visual and Performing Arts, Heritage Memory and Legacy and Cultural Industries.
- Key Informant Interviews with culture experts and practitioners
- Research:

A Policy Framework for Trinidad and Tobago Carnival and Transforming Governance in Trinidad's Carnival Ecology 2016 by Dr. Suzanne Burke ,PhD

Mapping Exercise of Trinidad and Tobago's Arts & Cultural Industry Sector by Dr. Suzanne Burke, PhD

Barriers to the growth of Creative and Cultural Industries 1.3

Trinidad and Tobago's Draft National Cultural Policy outlines a number of key barriers to growth and development of Creative and Cultural Industries.

The lack of consensus among diverse groups of stakeholders on the fundamental philosophies, ideals, symbols, and forms of cultural expressions that constitute the cultural identity of Trinidad and Tobago

The lack of value and appreciation for indigenous cultural products

The quality and design of some products do not meet the local market and export standards

The deficiency in the sales platforms for creatives in the craft sector

The continuous intertwining of culture and politics which has challenged the ability to develop a formal cultural policy

Lack of coordination among various actors and institutions in the cultural sector

Insufficient agencies to manage cultural practitioners to enable the creation of their best products and facilitate global reach

The lack of easily accessible and up-to-date statistics on the cultural sector due to insufficient continuous data gathering systems in the area of culture

Prices of craft products and services restrict market penetration

Insufficient purpose-built facilities for specific artistic disciplines e.g. dance, carnival arts

Insufficient understanding of the role of culture in national development

The poor marketing and commercialisation effort in relation to culture and cultural products both locally and abroad

The lack of regulation of service providers, the absence of quality standards in relation to cultural products and the absence of standards and guidelines to fairly compensate cultural practitioners



2. CULTURAL HERITAGE

Cultural Forms and Expressions

2.1

- Carnival
- Calypso
- Soca
- Parang
- Chutney
- ChutneySoca
- Rhapso
- Pichakaree
- Kalinda
- Limbo
- Shango
- Bélé
- Tobago Reel
- Canboulay
- Tobago Jig
- Tambrin
- Moriah Wedding
- Speech Bands
- Extempo
- Tassa
- Steelband
- Traditional Mas Characters





Cultural events, festivals, celebrations 2.2

Event	Month of the Year
Tobago Harvest Festival - Pembroke, Parlatuvier, Spring Garden & Mount Pleasant	January
Carnival	February
International Soca Monarch Festival	February
National Calypso Monarch	February
Dimanche Gras	February
Tobago Harvest Festival - Hope, Adelphi, Buccoo and Bon Accord	February
Phagwa	March
Spiritual Shouter Baptist Liberation Day	March
Tobago Harvest Festival - Mt St George, Mason Hall & Roxborough	March
Trinidad and Tobago Music Festival	March
New Fire Festival	April
Buccoo Goat and Crab Race festival	April
Tobago Jazz Experience	April
Bocas Lit Fest	April
Point Fortin Borough Day	April
Pan in the 21st Century	April
Tobago Harvest Festival - Goodwood	April
Eid Ul Fitr	May
La Divina Pastora	May
Rapsofest	May
Indian Arrival Day	May
Maypole Festival	May
Tobago Harvest Festival - Whim, Delaford, Belle Garden & Mason Hall	May
Ganga Dhaaraa	May-June
Yoruba Village Drum Festival	June
St. Peter's Day fishing festivals	June
Charlotteville Fisherman's Fest	June
WeBeat Festival	June
Best Village Food & Folk Fair	June
Tobago Harvest Festival - Lambeau and Bloody Bay	June
Tobago Heritage Festival	July
Mango Festival	July
Tobago Harvest Festival - Castara and Black Rock	July
Hosay	August

Emancipation Day	August
Santa Rosa Carib Festival	August
Oshun River Festival	August
Moruga (Amerindian, Columbus and Emancipation) Heritage Day Festival	August
Castara Fisherman's Fete	August
Arima Borough Day	August
Tobago Fest	September
Parang Festivals	September
T&T Film Festival	September
Ramleela	October
Divali	October
Animae Caribe's Animation and Digital Media Festival	October
Tobago Blue Food Festival	October
COCO Dance Festival	October
Santa Rosa First People's Heritage Week	October
Steelman & Jazz Festival	October
Chinese Arrival Dragon Boat Festival	October
Green Screen: The Environmental Film Festival	November
Tobago Harvest Festival - Plymouth, Black Rock, Les Couteaux, Moriah, Scarborough, Montgomery	November
Panorama	December
Paramin Parang Festival	- January December










UNESCO World Heritage 2.3

UNESCO World Heritage Sites	Tentative Sites	Local Heritage Sites
	Banwari Trace Archaeological Site	Temple in the Sea
	La Brea Pitch Lake	St Joseph RC Church
	Tobago Main Ridge Forest Reserve	Lopinot Estate
		Hanuman Murti
		Fort George
		Carib Centre
		Mystery Tombstone
		Knolly's Tunnel
		Fort King George
		The Magnificent Seven
		Water Wheel



3. VENUES & INSTITUTIONS

Main Performance Spaces 3.1

NAME	CAPACITY	MAP
The Lord Kitchener Auditorium – National Academy for the Performing Arts	1,200	
The Sundar Popo Theatre – Southern Academy for the Performing Arts	770	
Queen's Hall	782	
Naparima Bowl : Ampitheatre	2,500	
Naparima Bowl : Auditorium	500	
Little Carib Theatre	220	
Central Bank Auditorium	411	
Trinidad Theatre Workshop	40	
Big Black Box		
Shawpark Cultural Complex: Performing Area	208	
Shawpark Cultural Complex: Theatre Room	155	

Main Museums & Galleries 3.2

NAME	MAP
Chaguaramas Military Museum	
Indian Caribbean Museum	
Central Bank Museum	
Tobago Museum	
National Museum and Art Gallery	
Studio 66	
Art Society of Trinidad and Tobago	
Horizons	
Medulla Art Gallery	
Y Gallery	
Alice Yard	
The Art Gallery	

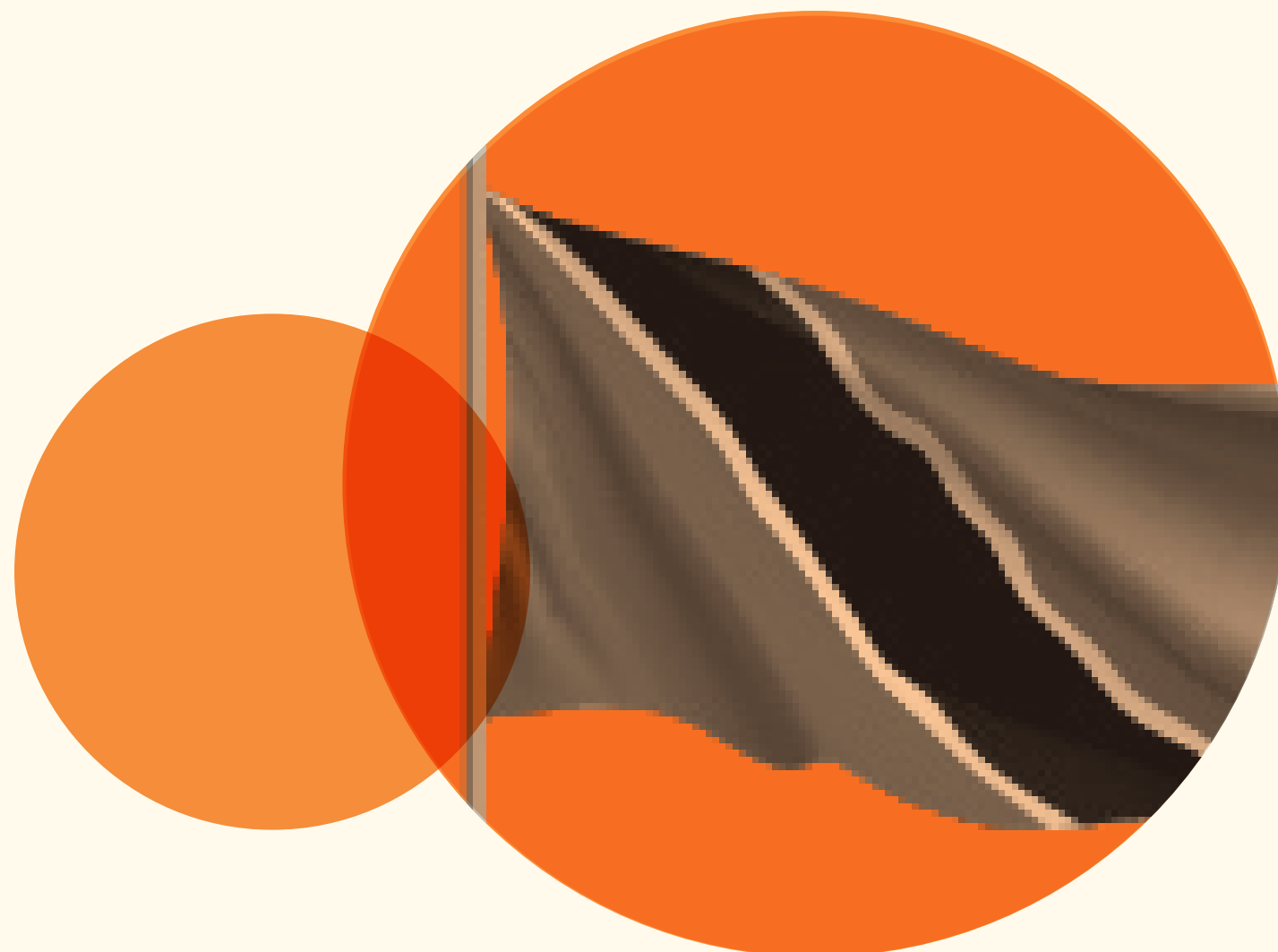
UNESCO Creative Cities 3.3

Port of Spain, Music





4. POLICY & GOVERNANCE



Main State Entities responsible for the Creative and Cultural Sector

4.1

Ministry of Community Development, Culture, and the Arts

Office of the Prime Minister, Sports and Culture Fund

The Carnival Institute

National Carnival Commission

National Museum and Art Gallery

National Association of Village and Community Councils

Trinidad and Tobago Creative Industries Company Limited (CreativeTT)

Trinidad and Tobago Fashion Company (Fashion TT)

Trinidad & Tobago Film Company Limited (FilmTT)

Division of Tourism, Culture and Transportation, Tobago House of Assembly

Main State Entities that Collaborate with the Creative and Cultural Sector

4.2

Ministry of Trade and Industry (Management of Creative Industries Ltd.)

InvestTT (Attract and retain investments in Creative Industries)

Ministry of Communications (National Archives)

Ministry of Public Administration (National Library, National archives)

Ministry of Education (Arts and Cultural Education)

Ministry of Planning and Development (National Trust - Built Heritage)

Ministry of Tourism (Marketing of major festivals and cultural events)

National Export Facilitation Organisation (Creative exports)

Ministry of Foreign and CARICOM Affairs (Cultural exchange and cooperation)

Ministry of Legal Affairs (Intellectual Property)

Ministry of Works and Infrastructure (Maintenance of heritage buildings)



Main policies and acts that form the legal framework for the Creative and Cultural Sectors

Policies 4.3

[Draft National Cultural Policy 2008](#)
[National Policy on Culture and the Arts, Green Paper. 2020](#)
[National Cultural Recognition Policy, Draft. 2020](#)
[The National Trust of Trinidad and Tobago Act](#)
[National Carnival Commission of Trinidad and Tobago Act. 1991](#)
[Pan Trinbago Act \(Act No. 5 of 1986\)](#)
[National Museum and Art Gallery Act](#)
[National Library and Information System Act](#)
[Sport and Culture Fund Act](#)
[National Dance Association of Trinidad and Tobago \(Incorporation\) Act](#)
[The National Protected Areas Policy](#)

Copyright Protections 4.4

Supreme Court of Judicature Act (Chapter 4:01)	Patents, Designs, Copyright and Trade Marks (Emergency) Act, Cap. 82:84
Copyright (Amendment) Act No. 5 of 2008	Protection of New Plant Varieties Act, Cap. 82:75
Copyright Act, Cap. 82:80	Geographical Indications Act, 1996
Industrial Designs Act, Cap. 82:77	Intellectual Property (Miscellaneous Amendments) Act
Layout-Designs (Topographies) of Integrated Circuits Act, Cap. 82:79	Patents Act, 1996
Patents and Designs Act, Cap. 82:83	Trade Marks (Amendment) Act 1997
	Publications (Legal Deposit) Act, Cap. 82:74

International Fund for Cultural Diversity 4.5

	YEAR	AMOUNT	PROJECT
CONTRIBUTIONS	NA	\$0	NA
RECEIPTS	2019-2021	USD100,000	Implementing a network for the development and dissemination of Caribbean art with Haiti, Barbados, Cuba and Jamaica



Improving the status of artists



Key policies that improve the professional, social, and economic status of artists

4.6

TAX Concessions

FOR LOCAL FILM PRODUCERS

35% cash back on qualifying expenses for budgets USD15,000 - USD8,000,000, plus 20% for hiring local labour

Duty-free concessions for film makers on machinery, equipment and materials for the production of motion pictures in T&T

FOR LOCAL PRODUCTION COMPANIES

Allowance of 150% actual expenses incurred in audio, visual or video production up to TTD3 million

National Cultural Recognition Policy

Draft legislation for a National Cultural Recognition Programme that contributes to a **Draft National Policy on Culture and the Arts** goal of supporting artists, entrepreneurs and industry associations in the production of high quality output. The policy aims to reward and encourage excellence in culture and the arts, nurture talent, and to encourage financial support for the development of culture and the arts.



Cultural Cooperation and/or Contribution Agreements

Global 4.7

BILATERAL	MULTILATERAL
Argentina Austria Brazil Canada Chile China Colombia Costa Rica El Salvador England France Germany Ghana India Iran	Italy Japan Korea Malaysia Mexico Nigeria Portugal Singapore South Africa Spain St.Croix Uganda USA Zambia <u>Economic Partnership Agreement between the EU and the Caribbean</u> <u>Economic Partnership Agreement between the CARIFORUM States and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland</u> <u>Cotonou Agreement</u>

Regional 4.8

Antigua Aruba Barbados Belize Cuba Dominica Dominican Republic Ecuador Grenada Guadeloupe Haiti Jamaica Martinique	Montserrat Peru St. Kitts & Nevis St. Lucia St. Vincent & The Grenadines Suriname The Bahamas The Us Virgin Islands Venezuela
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Export Strategies for Creative Goods 4.9

The Ministry of Trade and Industry incorporated the Trinidad and Tobago Creative Industries Company on the 18th of July 2013 with a mandate to stimulate and facilitate the business and export development of the Creative Industry in Trinidad and Tobago. Initiatives for export growth include:

- Waiver of Customs Duty and VAT on imported production equipment
- Film Production Expenditure Rebate Programme
- Corporate Tax Deduction for Philanthropy and Investment in the Audio Visual Sector

Trade/Investment Agreements 4.1.O

BILATERAL	MULTILATERAL
<u>Republic of India</u> <u>the People's Republic of China</u> <u>the Republic of Korea</u> <u>United States of America</u> <u>Canada</u> <u>United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland</u> <u>Republic of France</u> <u>Republic of Guatemala</u> <u>Mexico</u>	<u>Trade and Investment Framework Agreement between the Government of the United States of America and the Caribbean Community</u> <u>Free Trade Agreement between CARICOM and Costa Rica</u> <u>Free Trade Agreement Between CARICOM and the Dominican Republic</u> <u>Trade and Investment Agreement between CARICOM and Venezuela</u> <u>World Trade Organization - Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (1994)</u> <u>Agreement on the Importation of Educational, Scientific and Cultural Materials (August 31, 1962)</u>



5. FINANCING



Total public expenditure for culture 5.1

Trinidad and Tobago self-reported USD64 million in public expenditure for Culture. In its UNESCO Quadrennial Report it notes that various government agencies have allocations for Culture, such as The Tobago House of Assembly, Regional Cooperations, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Planning and Development, Ministry of Public Administration.

AMOUNT	YEAR
USD 64,023,000	2018

Sources of funding and support for cultural practitioners 5.2

FUNDING SOURCE	TYPE
Office of the Prime Minister, Sports and Culture Fund	Grant
Steelpan Manufacturing Grant Fund Facility	Grant
Grant Fund Facility, Creative Enterprises	Grant
Ministry of Community Development, Culture and the Arts	Grant
The Prime Minister's Best Village Trophy Competition	Grant, technical assistance
National Enterprise Development Company	Loan
Film Company of Trinidad and Tobago	Grant, technical assistance



Private Sector Support

5.3

Outside of ticket sales, cultural practitioners rely on sponsorships and grants from private companies for revenue. Private entities fund several big-ticket cultural events and continue to finance individual steel bands. However, few companies (if any) have a formal application process for funding. Practitioners therefore often submit adhoc proposals and rely on personal relationships. The following are some of the companies that have demonstrated support for the Creative and Cultural Sector.

- WITCO
- National Gas Company
- Digicel Trinidad
- BPTT
- Carib Brewery
- Angostura Co Ltd
- KFC
- Republic Bank of Trinidad and Tobago
- Flow
- Blue Waters Ltd
- Royal Bank Ltd
- Atlantic LNG

Tax Incentives

5.4

Tax Deductions & Allowances

Allowance of 150% actual expenses incurred for Sponsorship of Audio, Visual or Video Production, or promoting the fashion industry (up to max TTD3 million for fashion).

Tax deduction of actual amount spent on acquisition of artistic works

Customs Duty Exemption

Allowance equal to covenanted donation to a charity

Production Expenditure Rebate Programme

FOR INTERNATIONAL FILM PRODUCTIONS

FILM BUDGET	% CASH BACK	PURPOSE
USD100,000 - 499,999	12.5	Qualifying expenses
USD500,000-999,999	20	Qualifying expenses
USD1,000,000-8,000,000	35	Qualifying expenses
USD100,000-8,000,000	20	Hiring local labor



6. ECONOMICS & TRADE

Principal Creative Enterprises and Firms 6.1

National Steel Symphony Orchestra

National Philharmonic Orchestra

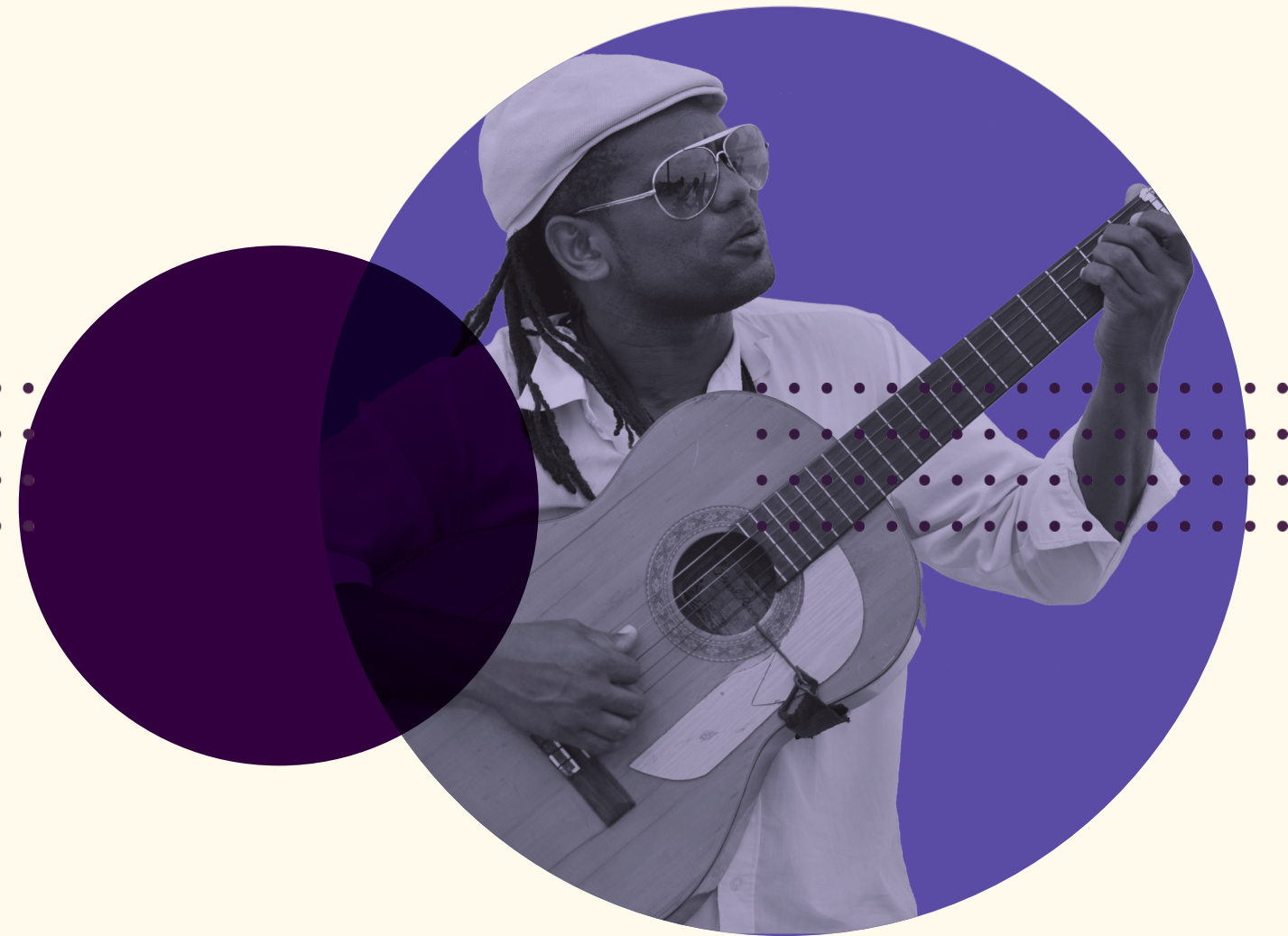
National Theatre Arts Company

Trinidad and Tobago Creative Industries Company Limited

Trinidad and Tobago Film Company Limited

Trinidad and Tobago Music Company Limited

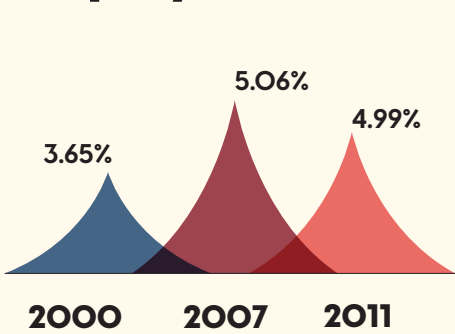
Trinidad and Tobago Fashion Company Limited



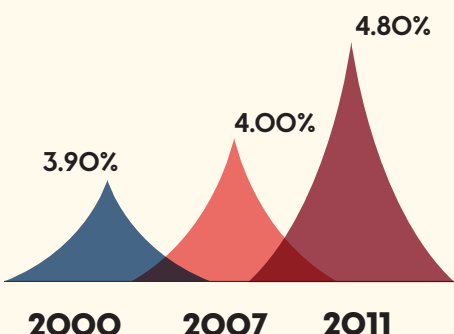


Contribution of Copyright-Based Industries 6.2

Employment



GDP



Sub-sector Snapshot

Music

A 2004 Ministry of Trade, Industry, Investment and Communications study estimates that the Music Industry **generates TT\$169,000,000.00** and employs **5,600** persons



Film

During the period 2005-2019, Trinidad and Tobago **earned revenues of approximately TT\$117,048,498** from 453 productions shot on location

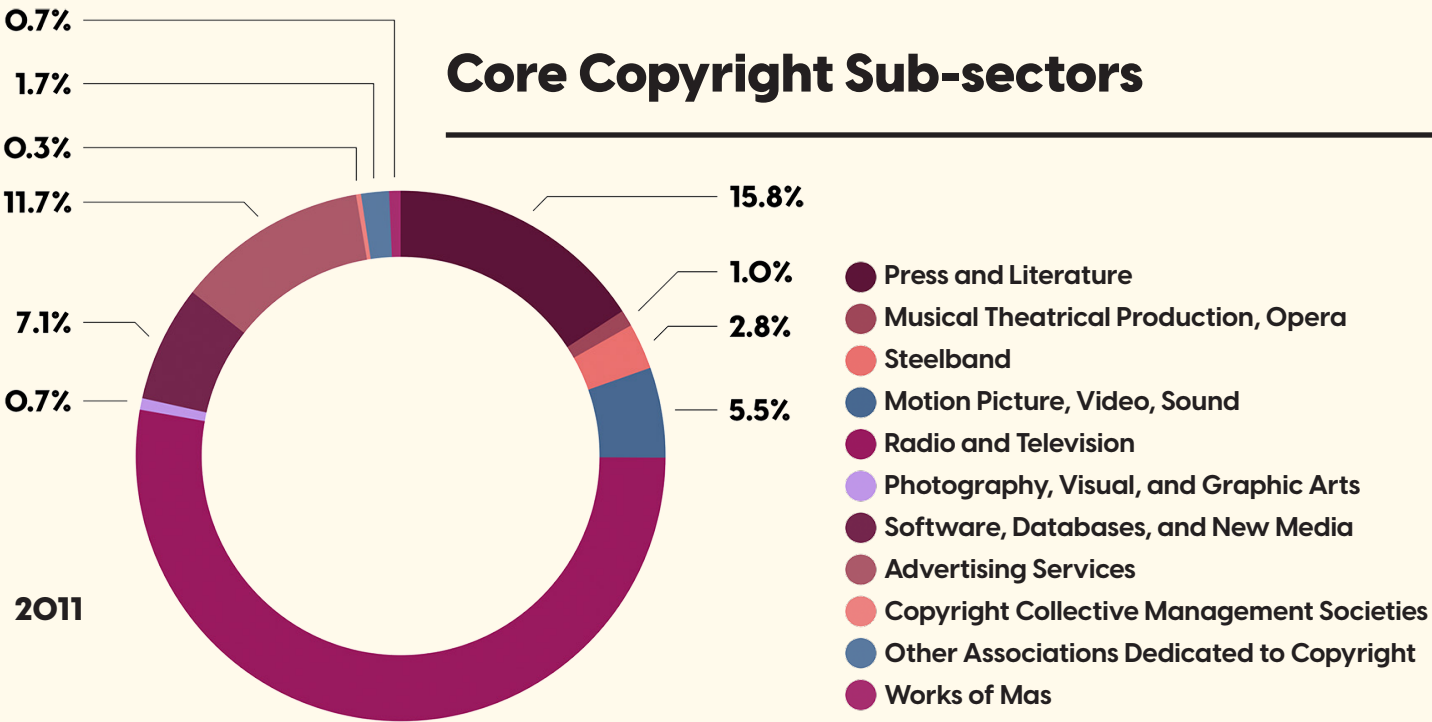


Fashion

In 2014 the local Fashion Industry consisted of 210 companies which **employed over 1,465 persons** and **generated in excess of TT\$266,350,000**



Core Copyright Sub-sectors



Value Added of Core Copyright Sub-sectors, TTD Million

Core Copyright Sub-sector	2000	2007	2011
Press and Literature	241.76	576.86	199.16
Musical Theatrical Production, Opera	24.71	10.22	13.11
Steelband	25.19	19.09	35.58
Motion Picture, Video, Sound	101.18	57.38	69.01
Radio and Television	212.07	624.63	666.10
Photography, Visual, and Graphic Arts	18.46	16.12	9.40
Software, Databases, and New Media	41.37	114.93	90.27
Advertising Services	128.74	221.80	147.56
Copyright Collective Management Societies	4.63	13.07	3.67
Other Associations Dedicated to Copyright	13.26	13.44	21.52
Works of Mas	16.47	6.81	8.74
TOTAL	827.83	1,674.34	1,265.13



Creative Goods Trade

6.3

Global

Values (USD Millions)	2008	2009	2010
Exports	17.64	17.39	9.64
Imports	118.91	91.32	88.01
Trade Balance	-101.27	-73.93	-78.37

Regional

Values (USD Millions)	2008	2009	2010
Exports	13.34	9.78	6.80
Imports	0.74	1.24	1.28
Trade Balance	12.60	8.54	5.52

European Union

Values (USD Millions)	2008	2009	2010
Exports	0.52	1.63	0.55
Imports	14.27	11.85	10.10
Trade Balance	-13.75	-10.21	-9.55

Trade Performance by Product

Global Exports

Values (USD Millions)	2008	2009	2010
Art crafts	0.39	1.24	0.36
Audiovisuals	0.07	0.01	0.06
Design	5.89	3.65	3.15
New media	0.02	0.04	0.01
Performing arts	0.71	0.63	0.27
Publishing	10.44	8.39	5.40
Visual arts	0.13	3.43	0.39

Global Imports

Values (USD Millions)	2008	2009	2010
Art crafts	9.13	7.54	6.28
Audiovisuals	6.13	4.91	4.63
Design	51.40	40.94	40.21
New media	3.51	3.05	3.35
Performing arts	0.99	1.63	1.35
Publishing	45.34	31.78	30.34
Visual arts	2.41	1.47	1.84



7. EDUCATION & TRAINING

Education and Training Programmes

7.1

COURSE	LEVEL	INSTITUTION
Dressmaking & Design	Vocational	YTEPP Limited
Graphic Design	Vocational	YTEPP Limited
Graphic Design / Desktop Publishing	Vocational	YTEPP Limited
Television and Video Production	Vocational	YTEPP Limited
Music Production	Vocational	YTEPP Limited
Live Sound Engineering	Vocational	YTEPP Limited
Dance and Dance Education	Certificate	UWI, St. Augustine
Music	Certificate	UWI, St. Augustine
Theatre Arts	Certificate	UWI, St. Augustine
Drama/Theatre-in-Education	Certificate	UWI, St. Augustine
Technical Theatre Production	Certificate	UWI, St. Augustine
Visual Arts	Certificate	UWI, St. Augustine
Carnival Studies	Bachelors Degree	UWI, St. Augustine
Musical Arts	Bachelors Degree	UWI, St. Augustine
Theatre Arts	Bachelors Degree	UWI, St. Augustine
Visual Arts	Bachelors Degree	UWI, St. Augustine
Dance	Bachelors Degree	UWI, St. Augustine
Arts and Cultural Enterprise Management	Postgraduate Diploma	UWI, St. Augustine
Visual & Performing Arts Education	Postgraduate Diploma	UWI, St. Augustine
Creative Design Entrepreneurship	Master of Arts	UWI, St. Augustine



Education and Training Programmes (cont'd)

COURSE	LEVEL	INSTITUTION/ ORGANIZATION
Carnival Arts	Master of Arts	University of Trinidad and Tobago
Music	Bachelor of Fine Arts	University of Trinidad and Tobago
Dance	Bachelor of Fine Arts	University of Trinidad and Tobago
Theatre Design and Production	Bachelor of Fine Arts	University of Trinidad and Tobago
Acting	Bachelor of Fine Arts	University of Trinidad and Tobago
Multidisciplinary Studies	Bachelor of Fine Arts	University of Trinidad and Tobago
Digital Media Arts	Bachelor of Fine Arts	University of Trinidad and Tobago
Fashion Design	Diploma	University of Trinidad and Tobago
Fashion Design	Bachelor of Fine Arts	University of Trinidad and Tobago
Fashion	Master of Philosophy	University of Trinidad and Tobago
Fashion	Doctor of Philosophy	University of Trinidad and Tobago
Innovative Design and Entrepreneurship	Master of Science	University of Trinidad and Tobago
Visual Communications Design	Diploma	University of Trinidad and Tobago

COURSE	LEVEL	INSTITUTION/ ORGANIZATION
Mechanical Engineering Technology with Steelpan Manufacturing	Vocational	MIC Institute of Technology
Film and Video Production	Bachelor of Arts	College of Science, Technology, and Applied Arts of Trinidad and Tobago
Film and Video Production	Associate Degree	College of Science, Technology, and Applied Arts of Trinidad and Tobago
Film and Video Production	Diploma	College of Science, Technology, and Applied Arts of Trinidad and Tobago
Film and Video Production	Certificate	College of Science, Technology, and Applied Arts of Trinidad and Tobago
Graphic Design	Bachelor of Arts	College of Science, Technology, and Applied Arts of Trinidad and Tobago
Graphic Design	Associate Degree	College of Science, Technology, and Applied Arts of Trinidad and Tobago
Music Education	Bachelor of Music	College of Science, Technology, and Applied Arts of Trinidad and Tobago



8. CULTURAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Main Agencies

8.1

- [Ministry of Labour, Small and Micro Enterprise](#)
- [Ministry of Trade and Industry](#)
- [Ministry of Planning and Development](#)
- [Youth Business Trinidad and Tobago \(YBTT\)](#)
- [National Entrepreneurship Development Company Limited \(NEDCO\)](#)
- [Trinidad and Tobago Chamber of Industry and Commerce \(TTCIC\)](#)
- [ExporTT](#)
- [Invest TT](#)

Cultural Entrepreneurship Initiatives

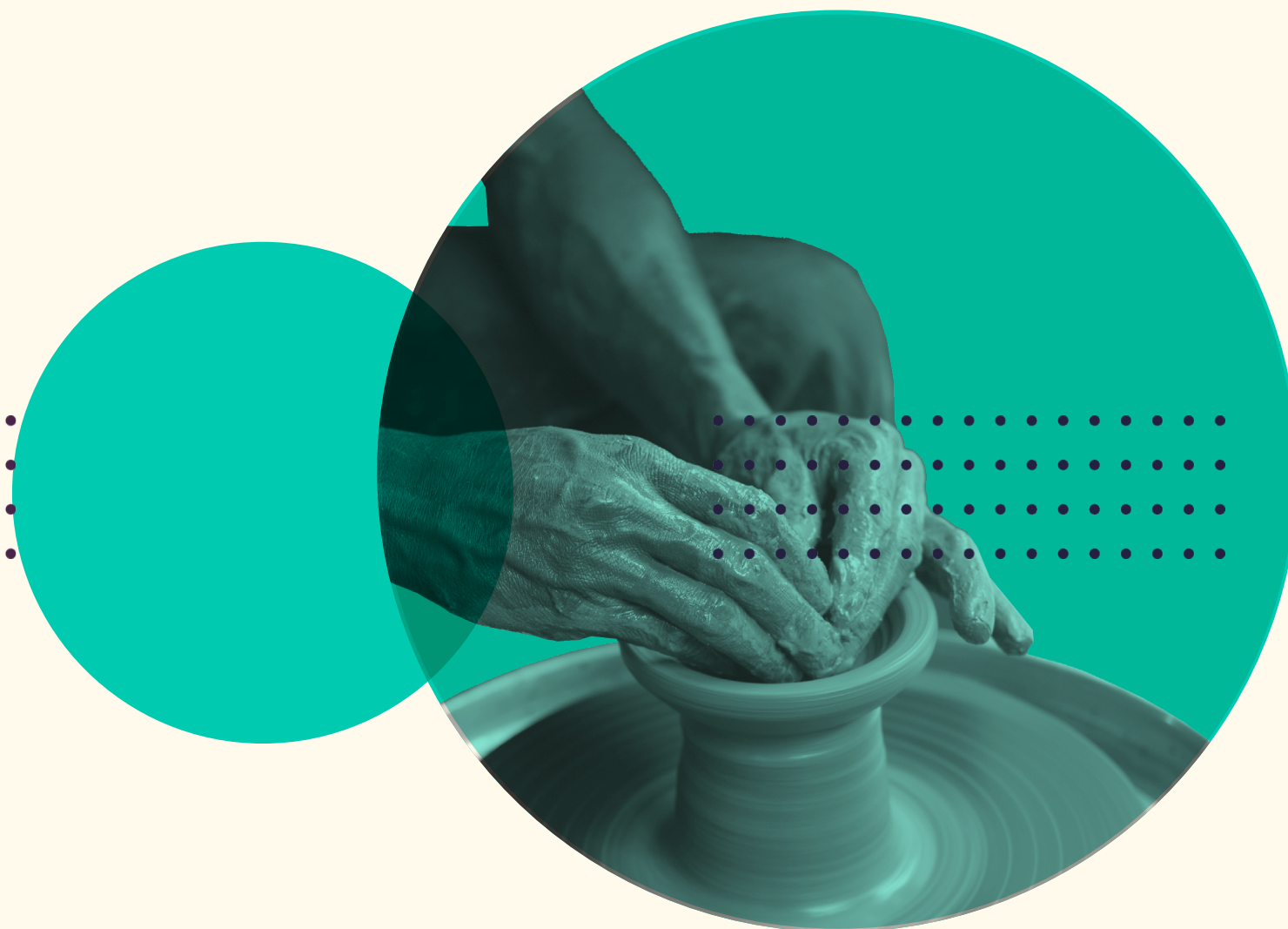
8.2

- [Technical Camps](#)
- [Mentoring by the Masters](#)
- [UTT UStart Business Accelerator Programme](#)
- [Arthur LokJack GSB BizBooster](#)
- [\(Fashion\) Value Chain Investment Programme](#)

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

8.3

- [Craft Training Programme for Women](#)





9. ADVOCACY

Cultural & Artistic Societies, Associations, Unions

- Copyright Organization of Trinidad and Tobago
- Pan Trinbago
- Trinbago United Calypsonians Organization (T.U.C.O.)
- National Carnival Bands Association (N.C.B.A.)
- National Drama Association
- National Dance Association
- National Council for Indian Culture (N.C.I.C.)
- Fashion Entrepreneurs of Trinidad and Tobago
- The Fashion Association of Trinidad and Tobago
- The Women In Art Organisation of Trinidad and Tobago
- The Trinidad and Tobago Music Festival Association
- Tobago Visual Arts Association
- Trinidad & Tobago Photographic Society
- The Art Society of Trinidad and Tobago
- Artists' Coalition of Trinidad and Tobago
- The Chutney Foundation
- The Tassa Association of Trinidad and Tobago
- National Carnival Development Foundation
- The Parang Association of Trinidad and Tobago
- Trinidad and Tobago Teachers of Visual Arts
- The Jazz Alliance of Trinidad and Tobago
- Trinidad and Tobago Artisan Foundation
- The Recording Industry Association of Trinidad and Tobago
- Trinidad and Tobago Archivists
- The Writers Union
- The Traditional Carnival Artists 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.