

**Arts, Culture and Creative Industries:** Arts, culture and creative industries are important economic drivers for Hong Kong. They help to strengthen the economic development. They can be a powerhouse for future economic growth and have immense development potential. According to the latest statistics, Hong Kong has about 226 220 practitioners engaged in arts, culture and creative industries. In 2023, the value added of arts, culture and creative industries stood at about \$134.5 billion, representing around 4.6% of the Hong Kong's Gross Domestic Product.

**Cultural and Creative Industries Development Agency:** Cultural and Creative Industries Development Agency (CCIDA) (formerly known as Create Hong Kong) as an office dedicated to providing one-stop services and support to the cultural and creative industries with a mission to foster a conducive environment in Hong Kong to facilitate the development of arts, culture and creative sectors as industries, was set up in June 2024 under the Culture, Sports and Tourism Bureau.

CCIDA focuses on the following areas in driving the development of cultural and creative industries to implement Hong Kong's positioning as the East-meets-West centre for international cultural exchange under the National 14th Five-Year Plan –

- (a) nurturing talents and facilitating start-ups;
- (b) exploring markets;
- (c) promoting cross-sectoral and cross-genre collaboration;
- (d) promoting the development of arts, culture and creative sectors as industries under the industry-oriented principle; and
- (e) promoting Hong Kong as Asia's creative capital and fostering a creative atmosphere in the community.

CCIDA is responsible for the administration and management of funding schemes related to cultural and creative industries, overseeing the infrastructure for promoting design, i.e. the Hong Kong Design Centre, and providing funding support for the Design Incubation Programme and Fashion Incubation Programme. It is also providing one-stop service for location filming in Hong Kong, for both local and overseas films, and is responsible for the regulatory control of special effects materials for film shooting and theatrical performances.

**CreateSmart Initiative:** The CreateSmart Initiative (CSI) was established in June 2009 to provide financial support to projects with objectives that are in line with the strategic direction to drive the creative industries. Over the years, a total of \$6.4 billion has been injected into the CSI, in batches in 2009 (\$300 million), 2013 (\$300 million), 2016 (\$400 million), 2018 (\$1 billion), 2021 (\$1 billion), 2023 (\$500

million) and 2024 (\$2.9 billion). As at end of June 2025, a total of 1 532 CSI applications have been received. Among them, 823 projects have been approved involving around \$3.680 billion funding.

**Film Development Fund:** The \$300 million injected into Film Development Fund (FDF) in July 2007 provides financial support for projects conducive to the long-term and healthy development of the local film industry. It aims to encourage more commercial investment in film productions, create a larger mass of film activity and more employment opportunities, and assist the film industry in revitalising and developing further. In 2024, FDF received a one-off injection of around \$1.4 billion to support initiatives for boosting the development of our film industry in the next few years. This vision would be realised through measures under the four broad directions of (1) nurturing talent; (2) enhancing local production; (3) expanding markets; and (4) building audience. As at end of December 2024, a total of 462 projects have been approved, involving around \$1.33 billion funding.

**Hong Kong Design Centre:** The Hong Kong Design Centre (HKDC) has always been a close partner of the Government in promoting design and related creative industries since its establishment in 2001. Established by five designer associations in Hong Kong and supported by the Government, HKDC aims to promote design as a value-adding activity; raise design standards and foster design-related education; and raise the profile of Hong Kong as an innovation and creative hub. HKDC is also responsible for the operation of the Sham Shui Po Design and Fashion Base, which is branded as "DX design hub". Inaugurated in end 2024, DX Design Hub aims at nurturing young design talents and fashion designers, supporting design start-ups and helping boost the local economy.

HKDC's highlight each year is the organisation of the Business of Design Week which has become a prestigious and major design event in the region. Recent partners for organising the event include Germany, Denmark, Belgium, Sweden, Barcelona, Chicago, Italy, Melbourne, the Netherlands and France. Other major events include DFA Awards and Fashion Asia Hong Kong. These events help reinforce Hong Kong's status as a city of design excellence in Asia. To nurture new and emerging designers for the local design sector, HKDC also has run the Nurturing Programme of Hong Kong Young Design Talents since 2012, the Design Incubation Programme since 2012 and the Fashion Incubation Programme since 2016 as supported by the Government.

**Design Incubation Programme:** The Design Incubation Programme (DIP), administered by HKDC with funding support from the Government, offers financial assistance and incubation services to design start-ups over a two-year incubation period to help them build up business network, publicise products and conduct marketing promotions. It enhances the competitiveness of the design start-ups at their early stage of development through the provision of training programmes, consultancy service, mentorship and networking activities, etc. Since launch of the programme in 2006 till end of June 2025, 353 design incubatees have been admitted under the DIP.

**Fashion Incubation Programme:** The Fashion Incubation Programme (FIP) is a dedicated incubation programme for up-and-coming fashion designers launched in financial year 2016-17. It is funded by the Government and administered by HKDC. In the two-year programme, each incubatee will expand their creative potential and advance fashion entrepreneurship through projects and collaboration, and at the same time enhance their industry intelligence and resourcefulness through continuous learning and networking opportunities to meet the business opportunities ahead. As at the end of June 2025, 30 incubatees have been admitted to the FIP.