



ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM 2025

Unleashing the Power of the Creative Industries



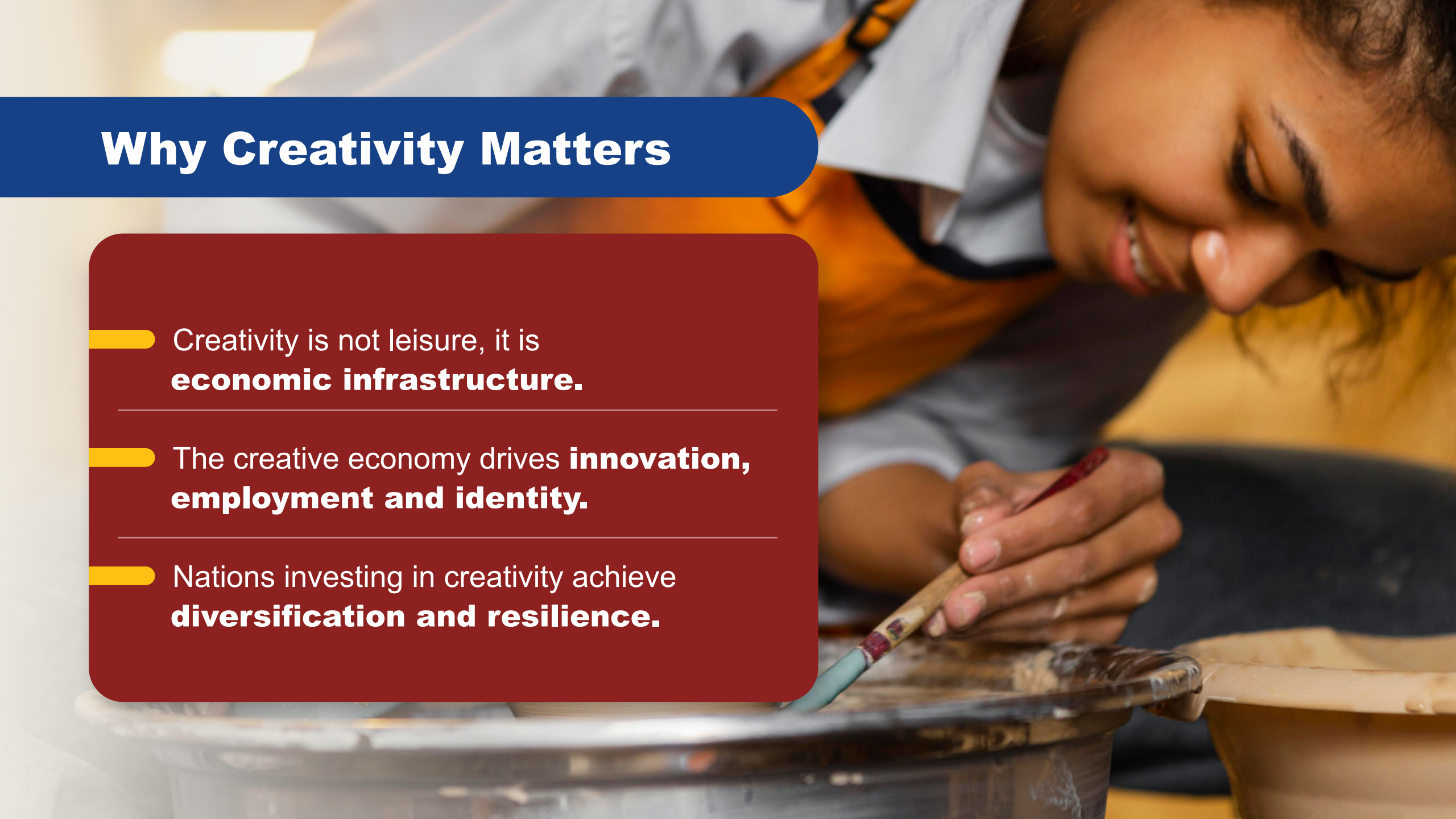
A Catalyst for Economic Development in Namibia

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**Namibia's greatest
wealth lies not in
its mines, oil, gas,
or sea, but in its
people, specifically,
in the vibrant and
dynamic realm of our
creatives.**



A young girl with dark hair, wearing a white school shirt and an orange vest, is focused on painting a pot on a pottery wheel. She is holding a paintbrush with a red handle and is applying paint to the surface of the pot. The background is slightly blurred, showing a workshop or classroom setting.

Why Creativity Matters

- Creativity is not leisure, it is **economic infrastructure.**
- The creative economy drives **innovation, employment and identity.**
- Nations investing in creativity achieve **diversification and resilience.**



Namibia Public-Private Forum

Theme: "Public-Private Dialogue to Drive Decent and Sustainable Job Creation: Enhancing Namibia's Competitiveness"

by:

sponsors:



Secondly, we meet at a time when the Bank of Namibia is deliberately amplifying the Government's efforts to lead the country toward shared prosperity.

Namibia's Creative Landscape



Active and diverse: music, design, film, crafts, digital art



Contributes ~1.5% to GDP
(undervalued due to informality)



Young population
= strategic advantage, not a challenge

70% under 35 → massive creative potential

The Challenge



We must
confront the
challenges that
have hindered
our progress.



Absence of financing



**Disorganisation
within the sector**



Dearth of opportunities



National Leadership

National goal:
500,000
jobs in 5 years

Creative
industries
identified as
strategic pillar
under new
government
priorities

Call for bold,
results-driven
governance

The Bank's Role

Modernising Namibia's Financial Architecture

Instant Payment Platform (IPP)

- Launching 2026: fast, low-cost, interoperable payments
- Empowers freelancers, small creative businesses



Access to Finance

- Rethinking collateral for intangible assets
- Promoting IP-based lending frameworks



Regulatory Coordination

- Namibia Regulators Forum, innovation-friendly policy alignment



Building Future Skills



STEAM Bootcamp



720+ learners trained
in coding, robotics,
3D printing



**Building a digital and
creative workforce**

Partnership & Ecosystem

Above all,
collaboration
remains central
to our approach.

Collaboration
needed
across:

Government

Academia

Financial
sector

Creative
communities

The Call to Action



Develop national policy frameworks for the creative industries



Improve organisation and coordination, both within Government and across the creative community



Confront the issue of financing head-on

The Future is Open.

The Opportunity is Here.

Let's step into it boldly – together.



Thank you