Decoding the Creator Economy Landscape

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Agenda

- * How Creators Capture, Compose and Publish Content across major Platforms
- How Creators Monetize their Content across UGC (User Generated Content) Platforms
- Quality and Monetization Issues with Short-form Videos
- **The Science of Swiping across Social-media Platforms and Dating Platforms**
- The Engagement Conundrum

Who are the Content Creators?

Anyone can be content creators, from vloggers to influencers to writers, to monetize themselves, their skills, or their creations

| | Social sharing | Amateur / hobbyist | Skilled / established | SMB / enterprise / branded | Studio /artist / "Hollywood" |
|---------------------------------------|--|---|--|---|---|
| Purpose | UGC for sharing with friends on social media | Individual creator / influencer that cr and market products and/or brands | reates content to attract audience | Company promoting brand and products | Long-form content for entertainment |
| Types of <u>audio</u> / video content | Mobile captured content for sharing Redistribution of media content created by others | Short-form movies/series, vlogs, tutorials, online classes, product reviews, livestreams Genres range from gaming, fashion, travel, lifestyle, comedy, celebrity, product reviews, etc. From mobile to professional cameras and other equipment (e.g., lighting, microphone, tripod etc.) | | Corporate videos Learning / how-to videos Digital ads Video series, trailers Interactive livestreams and e-commerce | Professionally created TV shows and movies delivered over-the-air, on OTT and in cinema |
| Monetization | None | Ad sharing Affiliate marketing | Ad sharing Affiliate marketing Sponsorship / brand deals Own brands / merchandise Subscription / tipping Courses Content creation services Events / meetups | Sale of products, services and content | Ad revenueSubscriptionTicket sales |
| Time / money / skill | Low | Medium | High | High | Very high |

Content Creation Workflow Today – Produced Videos



Long-form videos: Vlogs, lifestyle, travel, fashion etc.



- Equipment: camera, phone, drone, GoPro
- Other: tripod / gimbal; microphone; lighting
- Software: **Apple Final Cut Pro, Adobe Premiere Pro**, Wondershare
 Filmora, iMovies (amateur), InShot
 (mobile)
- Presets and plugins for text, color, filters and effects etc.
- Music: licensed music subscription (Epidemic Sound, MusicBed); noncopyrighted music (YouTube, SoundCloud)

- Direct upload from editing software
- Export and manual upload
- Analytics

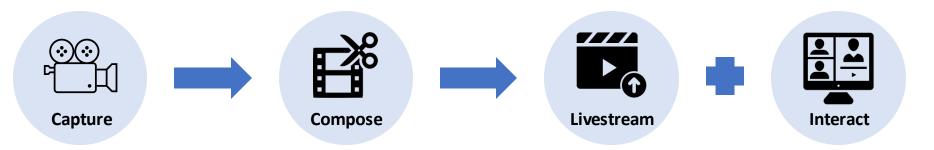
Short-form videos (<1 . min):
end-to-end



- Equipment: phone (can be captured in-app or natively on phone)
- Other: tripod / gimbal; microphone; lighting
- Software: in-app
 - Edit and trim videos
 - Add music (in-app), voice-overs, text, filters and effects
 - Add enhancements (e.g. "beauty mode", face filters and voice effects")

Publish directly

Content Creation Workflow Today – Livestreaming



Video and Game Livestreaming













- Equipment: phone, PC webcam, camera
- Capture via web browser / app or software
- For gaming: gaming device
- Other: Elgato Stream Deck, microphone

- Software: **OBS Studio**, Ecamm, Be.Live, StreamYard, Wirecast, Vmix, Streamlabs
 - Support multiple cameras, title / logo onscreen, filters and effects, green screen, screen share

- Broadcast on app
- Record, edit and repost as a video
- Audio / video conference
- Chat messages, reaction
- Gift / tip
- Engagement data

Social Audio







- Equipment: phone, microphone
- Capture via web browser / app or software

Deliver on app

- Audio / video conference
- · Chat messages, reaction
- Gift / tip
- Engagement data

The Value Chain of Social Media Platforms

Creators currently need to use a variety of platforms and tools to manage multiple workstreams and revenue sources

Content Production

- Hardware
- Capturing, editing and production tools
 - VSCO, Kapwing, Splice, Riverside.fm, Lowkey
- Music library

Content Delivery

- Media platforms
- YouTube, Twitch,Vimeo, Spotify
- Social media platforms
- Twitter, Instagram, TikTok
- Online courses
 - Masterclass, Kajabi and Skillshare



- Community management
 - Vibely, Laylo, Zebra
- Influencer marketing agencies



- Ad platforms connect creators with brands
 - CreatorIQ, Grin,
 RedCircle
- Subscription / membership
 - o Patreon, Substack
- Merchandise
 - Gumroad, Moteefe,Spring, and Printify
- Commission / tip jars
 - o Ko-fi
- Fan interaction
 - o Cameo, NewNew



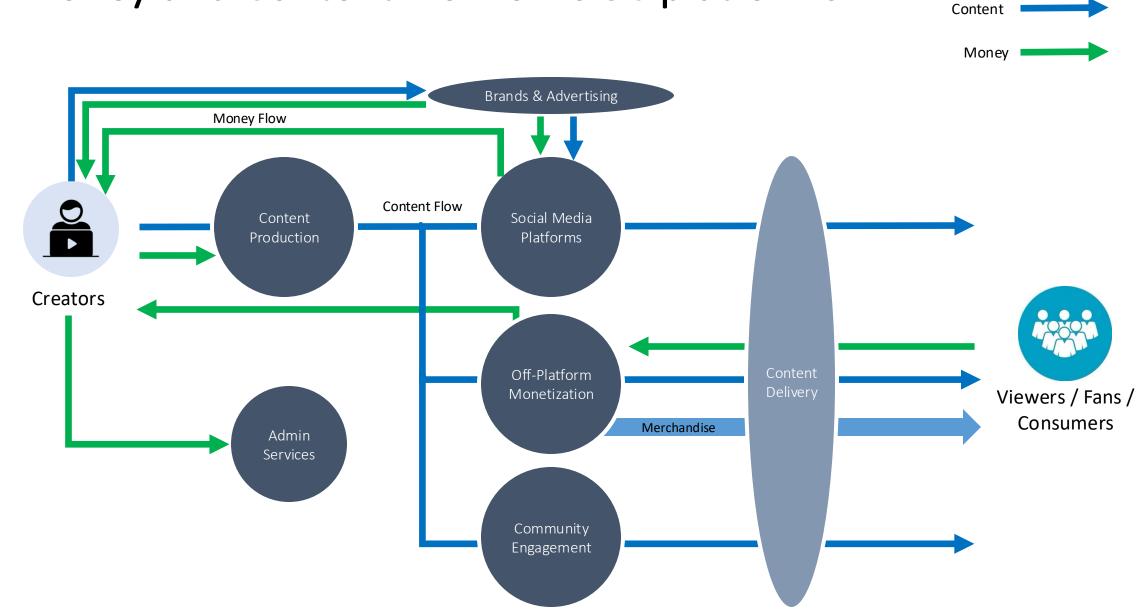
- Admin services
- Linktree, CloutJam
- Analytics
 - o Stir, VidIQ
- CRM tools
 - Tubular Labs,Moe Assist
- Financing
 - Karat, Creative Juice, HumanIPO



Tech giants are rolling out more production and monetization tools to keep creators and their respective fanbases engaged on their platforms



Money and Content Flow on UGC platforms



On-Platform Monetization and Pay-out for Creators

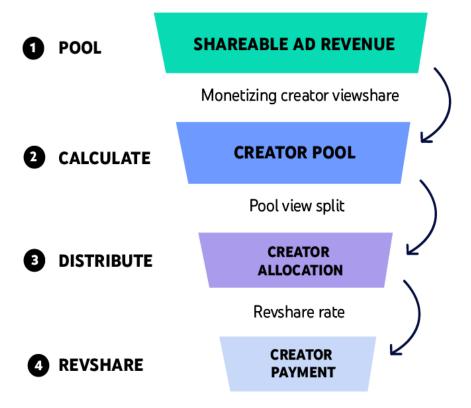
| Source of Revenue | YouTube | Instagram | Tiktok |
|-------------------|---------|-----------|---|
| Ad-Revenue | 55% | -NA- | 50% |
| Subscriptions | 70% | 100% | 70% |
| Tips | 70% | 100% | 50% |
| Creator Fund | 45% | -NA- | \$1bn for USA in next 3 years (from May 2023) |
| Shopping | 70% | 100% | 98% |
| Branded Content | -NA- | 100% | Not disclosed |

YouTube Partner Program

| Components | DESCRIPTION | MINIMUM ELIBILITY | |
|--|---|---|--|
| Channel membership | Members make recurring monthly payments in exchange for access to special perks | 500 subscribers3 public uploads in the last 90 days | |
| Shopping (creator's products) | Fans can browse and buy products from creator's store, | 3,000 public watch hours on long form videos in the last 365 days OR 3 million public Shorts views in the last 90 days | |
| Super chat and super stickers | Fans pay to get their messages or animated images highlighted in live chat streams. | last 30 days | |
| Super thanks | Fans pay to view a fun animation and get their message highlighted in your video or Short's comments section | | |
| Ad revenue | Earn revenue from Watch Page ads and Shorts Feed ads | 1,000 subscribers4,000 public watch hours on long | |
| YouTube premium review | Get part of a YouTube Premium subscriber's subscription fee when they watch creator's content | form videos in the last 365 days OR 10 million public Shorts views in the last 90 days | |
| Shopping (products from other brands) | Fans can browse and buy products creator tag from other brands through the YouTube shopping affiliate program | 20,000 subscribers 4,000 public watch hours on long form videos in the last 365 days OR 10 million public Shorts views in the last 90 days | |

YouTube Shorts Creator Fund

How Shorts ad revenue sharing works



<u>**POOL**</u> - Ads revenue within YouTube Shorts is aggregated into a pool

<u>CALCULATE</u> -The pool calculates shares based on views and music usage

DISTRIBUTE - Shares from the pool are distributed among eligible creators

REVSHARE - Monetizing creators will keep **45%** of their allocated Shorts revenue

Source: Youtube

Instagram Monetization

| Component | Description | Eligibility |
|--------------------|--|--|
| Branded Content | Creator marketplace connects brands and creators. Creators share the brands and products with followers and brands pay them for sharing that intel | 1k+ followers Content Monetization Policies Partner Monetization Policies Community Guidelines Reside in Eligible Countries |
| Badges | Creators go Live with badges and viewers can buy badges to support them and get extra recognition | <u>Partner Monetization Policies</u><u>Community Guidelines</u> |
| Gifts | Followers and non-followers can show their appreciation for creators by sending virtual gifts on their reels | 18+ age and 10k+ followers Reside in eligible countries |
| Shopping | Creator can sell merchandise and products | Commerce Eligibility Requirements Commerce Policies Commercial Terms Seller Agreement Platform Terms Reside in eligible countries 1k+ followers |
| Subscriptions | Creators earn recurring monthly income by offering exclusive content and experiences to your most engaged followers | based in the US 18+ age and 10k+ followers Partner Monetization Policies Content Monetization Policies |

Instagram Creator Marketplace

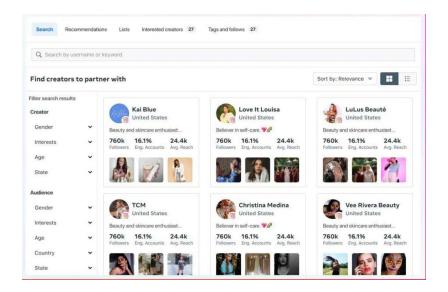
Brand Discovery: Brands identify suitable creators with desired reach and engagement

Creator Discovery: Creators find brands willing to collaborate, sharing their unique portfolios

Deal Negotiation: Both parties negotiate mutually beneficial deals

Payment Processing: Instagram manages payments for Creator Marketplace deals

Transparency: Sponsored content via the Creator Marketplace must be disclosed



portfolio in Instagram to share your unique story and position yourself for brand partnerships.

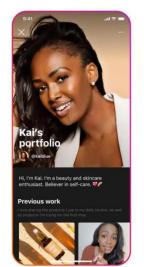
With a portfolio, you can:

Share an overview of who you are

Highlight previous content

Showcase your past brand partners

Now, you can set up a



TikTok Monetization

| Component | Description | Eligibility |
|---------------------------------------|--|---|
| Branded Content | Creator marketplace connects brands and creators. Creators share the brands and products with followers and brands pay them for sharing that intel | 10k+ followers Posted at least 3 videos within the last 28 days Garnered over 100k likes on their posts within the last 28 days 18+ age |
| Coins and Gifts | Creators go Live with coins and gifts and viewers can buy badges to support them and get extra recognition | 18+ age 1k + followers Community Guidelines |
| Shopping | Creator can sell merchandise and products | 18+ age 1k + followers Community Guidelines |
| Live Subscriptions | Creators earn recurring monthly income by offering exclusive content and experiences to their most engaged followers | 18+ age 1k + followers Community Guidelines |
| Creativity Program (Creator fund) | An invite-only program designed to help creators monetize their high quality content and pays out based on views (exact method is not public) | 18+ age 10k + followers. 100k+ valid video views in the last 30 days. Located in the U.S., France, or Brazil Video length >1 min Community Guidelines |
| Ad revenue sharing – Pulse Program | Brands will put ads on TikToks that are in the top 4% of performers on any given day. Creators receive a 50% split of ad revenue from TikTok | 100k+ followers 5 videos in last 30 days 18+ age |

What is "low quality content"?



<u>Lack of Originality</u>: Videos that are mere copies of other popular videos without adding any new perspective, creativity, or value



<u>Poor Production Values</u>: While not every video needs to be professionally produced, glaring issues like bad lighting, inaudible sound, shaky camera work, or poor editing can be considered indicators of low quality



<u>Misleading or Clickbait Titles</u>: Videos that promise something in the title or thumbnail but don't deliver in the actual content



<u>Spread of Misinformation</u>: Content that spreads false information, hoaxes, or misleading narratives, whether intentionally or due to lack of research

What is "low quality content"?



<u>Lack of Substance</u>: Videos that don't offer any meaningful information, entertainment value, or emotional resonance and feel like they were created just for the sake of posting something



<u>Irrelevant Hashtags or Descriptions</u>: Using popular but irrelevant hashtags or descriptions to game the platform's algorithm and gain visibility



<u>Over-Monetization</u>: Content that is overly promotional or feels insincere because it's primarily focused on selling a product, service, or idea without offering genuine value to the viewer



<u>Short-lived Trends</u>: While participating in trends can be fun and engaging, content that blindly follows every fleeting trend without adding value can sometimes be seen as low quality

Quality issues of Short-form content

Ease of Production: Short-form videos are simpler to create and disseminate as only a smartphone is required

<u>Entertainment Focus</u>: Viewers typically lean towards short-form platforms for casual entertainment, overshadowing the demand for informative or educational material

Quality Discrepancy: Compared to long-form platforms, short-form video channels experience a greater prevalence of low-quality content issues



Average Creator Pay-outs (Short vs Long form)

TikTok

- 2 4 cents / 1,000 views
- \$20-40 per 1mn views

YouTube (long

form)

- \$1-2 / 1,000 views
- \$1k-2k per 1mn views
- Sometimes high
 \$29.30 / 1000 views

<u>Factors that further affect YouTube earnings</u>:

<u>Ad format</u> - Different ad formats pay differently. For instance, skippable ads tend to pay more than non-skippable ads

<u>Video length</u> - Longer videos tend to earn more money than shorter videos since they have more ad space

<u>Audience demographics</u> - Advertisers may pay more to reach certain demographics

<u>Niche</u>- Finance and technology tend to earn more money than those related to gaming or entertainment

Engagement - Higher engagement rates can result in better ad performance and higher advertiser budgets

Creator monetization issues with Short-form platforms



CPM - Cost per mille or Cost per 1000 impressions- what advertisers pay for 1000 views

RPM - Revenue per Mille- creators earns for 1000 views after platform takes it cut

CTR – Click through rate - metric that measures the percentage of users who click on an ad after seeing it **Conversion rate** - the ratio of ads to sale conversion

CONCLUSION-

Short-form content earns less revenue due to fewer or shorter ads, leading to reduced ad revenue for creators. Viewers also resist long ads between short 15-60 second videos.

Short-form Platforms' Attempts to Address Monetization Issues

<u>TikTok Initiatives</u>: Launched a \$200 million Creator Fund in 2020, faced creator payout complaints, then introduced the 'Creativity Program' in 2023 with a \$1 billion commitment over three years, requiring high-quality videos over one minute for eligibility

<u>Instagram Strategy</u>: Extended no-commission policy until 2024; ended the Creator Fund and Reels bonuses in March 2023; testing feed-based ad revenue sharing for monetization of Reels and posts based on views and engagement

YouTube Shorts Evolution: Initiated a \$100 million Creator Fund for 2021-2022 for ad revenue sharing, then phased it out; in 2023, rolled out a new Creator Fund emphasizing a shared creator pool



Trends in Video Consumption Landscape

<u>Viewing Shift</u>: Videos under one minute jumped from 11% to 57% of YouTube's views by July 2022, highlighting a shift towards shortform content

<u>Format Preferences</u>: Short-form videos prefer a vertical (9:16) format, unlike long-form's horizontal (16:9) layout

<u>Engagement Patterns</u>: Long-form content requires active selection, while short-form uses algorithms to push recommendations, moving from active to passive engagement



The Science of Swiping

Science of Content Consumption, Doom-scrolling & Up-scrolling

<u>Slot Machine Dynamics</u>: Social media apps, like TikTok, use 'swipe down' refreshes akin to slot machines, creating a variable reward system through entertaining videos

<u>Intermittent Reinforcement</u>: 67.14% of users increasingly enjoy 'upswiping' due to irregular video rewards, perpetuating continuous app engagement and contributing to its success

<u>Viewing Patterns</u>: 59% of short-form videos retain viewers for 41-80% of their length, and 30% maintain over 81% viewership, indicating an 'addiction cycle' with alternating moderate and high-interest videos fueling up-swiping habits



The Science of Swiping

Why are right/left swipes successful on dating apps like Tinder & Bumble

<u>Cultural Cues</u>: Right/left swipes on dating apps align with ingrained associations—right for positive, left for negative—mirroring cultural norms like "right way" vs. "left behind"

<u>Spatial Metaphors</u>: Swiping right or forward signifies positivity and acceptance, while left or backward suggests negativity and rejection, reflecting common linguistic and cultural metaphors

<u>Cognitive Ease</u>: Right swipes for 'like' align with positive spatial metaphors, making them cognitively easier to process than contradictory actions, such as right swipes for 'dislike'

<u>Handedness Bias</u>: Right-handedness prevalence makes right swipes for 'like' feel more intuitive, enhancing the positive association of rightward swiping



Short-form Engagement Trap

Engagement Trap: Short-form platforms like Instagram and TikTok offer addictive engagement but often feature mindless, low-quality content

<u>Ad-Revenue Gap</u>: Their captivating nature doesn't translate into substantial ad revenue, resulting in minimal creator payouts

<u>Monetization Flux</u>: TikTok, Instagram, and YouTube continually adjust monetization policies, reflecting ongoing challenges in compensating creators fairly for short-form content



THANK YOU

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