

ACQF Call for Partnerships

Developing Common (Multi-country) Occupational Profiles in Africa

About ACQF-II

The **Support to the implementation of the African Continental Qualifications Framework (ACQF-II)** is a €5 million initiative implemented by the European Training Foundation (ETF) in cooperation with the African Union Commission, supporting the **transparency, comparability and recognition of qualifications across Africa** (2023–2026).

The project contributes to:

- Referencing of National Qualifications Frameworks (NQFs) to the [ACQF](#)
- Development of the [ACQF Qualifications and Credentials Platform](#)
- Skills intelligence and labour market analysis: [Dashboard: Common Occupational Profiles — ACQF](#)
- Policy support on NQFs, RPL, micro-credentials and flexible pathways

ACQF-II is implemented through the **ACQF Network**, bringing together qualifications authorities from over 25 African countries and strengthening continental cooperation on qualifications.

What We Are Launching

ACQF-II is initiating a continental collaboration to develop **common (multi-country) occupational profiles and related qualifications**. These profiles will support AfCFTA labour mobility and skills recognition, align with Global Gateway priority sectors, be validated at continental level and published on the ACQF platform.

Priority Sectors – Call for Working Group Members

We are seeking experts and projects working in the following sectors:

- Renewable Energy & Energy Transition
- Green Hydrogen & Industrial Decarbonisation
- Sustainable Urban Mobility & Transport
- Agribusiness & Value Chains
- Cross-cutting Technical & Industrial Profiles: mechanical and electrical maintenance, instrumentation and control, supply chain and logistics
- Other sectors relevant to Global Gateway and AfCFTA priorities

Who We Are Looking For

We invite OP-VET and Global Gateway projects, industry and sectoral experts, VET providers and training institutions and qualifications authorities and regulators. Particularly those who:

- Are developing occupational profiles or curricula in 2026

- Can share existing materials
- Are interested in regional collaboration (with SADC, EAC, etc.)
- Aim to link profiles to formal qualifications or micro-credentials

What We Offer

Methodology & Expert Support

- ACQF methodology for multi-country occupational profiles
- Technical guidance from ACQF expert

Validation & Recognition

- Validation through the ACQF Network of qualifications authorities and Regional Economic Communities

Visibility & Dissemination

- Publication on the ACQF website with the acknowledgement of contributing partners, assuring continental-level visibility
- Presentation at regional communities' events and fora

Sustainability & Impact

- Scaling project outputs beyond national level
- Impact on qualifications development and micro-credentials in multiple countries
- Contribution to regional labour market integration

How the Collaboration Works

1. Identification of coordinating partners and sectors
2. Establishment of **sectoral, multi-country working groups**
3. Development and validation of methodological framework
4. Series of **online technical workshops**
5. Validation by the ACQF Network
6. Publication on the ACQF platform

Timeline: Spring – Autumn 2026

Expected Contribution from Partners:

- Participation of sectoral experts
 - Contribution to coordination of workshops and validation
 - Sharing of existing occupational profiles / curricula
- 👉 Estimated effort: **5–10 working days per expert**
- 👉 Participation **does not entail costs for partners**; ACQF-II will cover sitting fees for experts in line with ETF procedures.

Expert Profile (Summary)

We are looking for:

- a) **Sectoral Working Groups Coordinators**, and
- b) **Working Group Members**.

We invite industry and sectoral experts, VET providers and training institutions, qualifications authorities/ regulators and other experts in the field. Partners' Experts should have 5+ years sector or skills development experience, worked on occupational standards, curricula or qualifications, understand learning outcomes and NQF approaches, can contribute to multi-country collaboration and are available between spring and autumn 2026.

Why Join?

- ✓ Amplify your project's impact beyond national level
- ✓ Gain visibility and recognition
- ✓ Connect with regulators and peers across Africa
- ✓ Shape future qualifications and micro-credentials
- ✓ Contribute to continental skills and mobility agenda

Next Steps

We invite interested partners to express interest in participating in sectoral working groups **by filling out a short (one-minute) survey**.

[ACQF collaboration – expression of interest – Fill in form](#)

The poll will ask you to indicate your sector(s) of interest, what you could contribute (experts, materials, coordination) and your level of interest/ readiness to engage. **Deadline is set for 15 April**.

ACQF-II will organise short bilateral meetings with interested partners to discuss collaboration in more detail

Further, in collaboration with the ACQF Network, we will consolidate the working groups (by mid-May), and launch activities shortly after

Contact

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