

# SIFA'S PRIVATE SECTOR ENGAGEMENT FRAMEWORK

The Skills Initiative for Africa (SIFA) is a programme under the African Union Commission (AUC) and the African Union Development Agency (AUDA-NEPAD) with support from the German Government and the European Union. Its aim is to strengthen the TVET and skills development ecosystems in the five African Union regional clusters. Cooperation with the private sector is one element of this work. SIFA supports private sector initiatives on skills development in a number of ways, guided by its Private Sector Engagement Framework.

This Framework is based on principles of cooperation, collaboration and the sharing of information and practices. Activities are carried out at three levels: macro, meso and micro levels.

**MACRO:**  
Public policy engagement (government departments, business, labour and civil society structures)

**MESO:**  
Stakeholder engagement (industry and trade associations, professional bodies, informal sector and youth associations, NPOs)

**MICRO:**  
Local sector and workforce planning (local associations, individual businesses, community organisations, NPOs)

Workstream	Activity Examples	Resource Examples
<b>Regional Coordination</b>  <b>MACRO</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Appoint regional coordinators with common Terms of Reference and Action Plans</li> <li>Identify regional conduits through which coordinators work</li> <li>Develop a common language and set of resources for PSE across regions and countries</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PS category mapping templates</li> <li>Partnership templates</li> <li>Action Plan templates</li> <li>Guidelines for providing technical assistance</li> <li>Facilitation guidelines (e.g. for enabling partnerships of supporting events)</li> </ul>
<b>Facilitation and Technical Assistance</b>  <b>MACRO</b> <b>MESO</b> <b>MICRO</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Influence policy for employment-oriented skills development through evidence-based good practices</li> <li>Harness technical advice from TVET experts to develop strategies and technical guidelines</li> <li>Foster the continental voice of the private sector in AU Ministerial and other high level forums</li> <li>Coordinate different skills initiatives on national, regional and continental level</li> <li>Facilitate partnerships between the private sector and the education sector (mainly the TVET sector)</li> <li>Work with the ILO to develop a skills development supply &amp; demand modelling tool</li> <li>Work with the AUC to establish an African Continental Qualification Framework</li> <li>Scale up good practice approaches</li> <li>Facilitate continental knowledge exchange and dissemination through dialogue platforms and other events</li> <li>Convene and facilitate communities of practice (CoPs)</li> </ul>	
<b>Knowledge Management through ASPYEE Portal</b>  <b>MACRO</b> <b>MESO</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gather knowledge &amp; research with private sector partners and agencies such as ILO</li> <li>Develop knowledge products</li> <li>Distil, share and disseminate information</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regional and national stakeholder mapping</li> <li>Country profiles of PSE partnerships</li> <li>Country profiles of TVET &amp; skills development legislation &amp; structures</li> <li>Macroeconomic studies</li> <li>Sub-sector deep dives</li> <li>Event reports</li> <li>Good practice examples and case studies</li> <li>Guidelines and resources</li> </ul>