

Building Communities of Practice for Economic Development

Invitation to participate as an ACOEDI 2026 Ambassador or Support Person

ACOEDI 2026 is designed as more than a once-off conference. It is a mobilisation platform for people, institutions and sectors that can help strengthen economic development practice across Africa. The Ambassador Programme supports this purpose by helping ACOEDI reach the right delegates, organisations, sponsors, exhibitors, researchers, innovators and practitioners.

Through the programme, interested persons may help build communities of practice that continue beyond the conference and contribute to future knowledge platforms, including the ACOEDI Economic Development and Innovation Atlas.

Core purpose

To mobilise sector networks, strengthen participation in ACOEDI 2026, and build active communities of practice around economic development, innovation, enterprise growth, skills, investment, research, policy and implementation.

Who should consider becoming an ambassador?

The programme is suitable for people with credible networks in government, business, academia, chambers of commerce, development finance, SMMEs, innovation, skills development, consulting, research, civil society, traditional and local leadership, development agencies and sector bodies.

What ambassadors may do

- Promote ACOEDI 2026 through approved information.
- Refer paying delegates and presenting participants.
- Introduce potential sponsors and exhibitors.
- Mobilise organisations, institutions and sector networks.
- Help connect relevant people to conference opportunities.

Why this matters

Economic development does not move through conferences alone. It moves through networks that know their sectors, understand institutional realities, and can connect policy, research, enterprise, finance, skills and implementation. The objective is therefore not only to recruit attendees, but to grow a living network of contributors who can share experience, identify gaps, support sector learning, and contribute to future ACOEDI knowledge work, including the Atlas.

Working Arrangement and Compensation

Summary for ambassadors, support persons and referral partners

Ambassadors and support persons may assist ACOEDI 2026 by promoting the conference, referring paying delegates, identifying potential sponsors, introducing organisations, and assisting with sponsorship or exhibitor mobilisation.

Compensation will be based only on successful paid outcomes directly linked to the support person and verified by the ACOEDI organising team.

Commission structure

Category	Qualifying outcome	Commission
Delegate referrals	Paid delegate completes registration, names the referrer, and payment is received and confirmed.	1-5 delegates: 7.5% 6-15 delegates: 10% 16-30 delegates: 12.5% 31+ delegates: 15%
Sponsor or exhibitor lead	Valid new lead is submitted, accepted by ACOEDI, closed by ACOEDI, and payment is received.	5% of net amount received
Active sponsor or exhibitor support	Support person actively assists in securing and closing the commitment, subject to ACOEDI written confirmation.	10% of net amount received

Important conditions

Commission will be calculated on the net amount actually received by ACOEDI. Commission will not apply to unpaid registrations, complimentary attendees, invited guests, internal leads, refunded payments, accommodation, travel costs, in-kind sponsorships, barter arrangements, discounts, or any amount not actually received by ACOEDI.

Support persons are not authorised to promise discounts, speaking opportunities, sponsorship benefits, exhibition space, branding rights, accommodation, travel support, complimentary access or any special arrangement unless this has been formally approved in writing by the ACOEDI organising team.

Where more than one person claims the same delegate, sponsor, exhibitor or organisation, ACOEDI registration records, lead records and internal verification will be used to determine the recognised referral. Commission will only be processed after payment has been received, reconciled and verified.

Next step

Interested persons should reply to confirm acceptance of the working arrangement and their interest in participating. Once confirmed, ACOEDI will provide the approved conference information, sponsorship pack, promotional material and the correct process for submitting delegate, sponsorship and exhibitor leads.