

STRENGTHENING PROFESSIONALISM IN THE B-BBEE INDUSTRY:

The Role of ABP as a SAQA- Registered Professional Body

Author: Yolandi Venter, ABP Chairperson



Association of B-BBEE Professionals

Credible • Professional • Consistent •



In a dynamic and highly regulated environment such as Broad-Based Black Economic Empowerment (B-BBEE), the need for credibility, technical competence, and ethical conduct in the provision of consulting and verification services has never been more critical. The Association of B-BBEE Professionals (ABP) stands as the only SAQA-registered professional body dedicated to the B-BBEE sector, having successfully registered a professional designation for B-BBEE consulting and verification professionals. This is a significant milestone for the industry and plays an instrumental role in underscoring the professional status of individuals operating in this highly specialised field.

Formal Recognition of B-BBEE Professionals

The registration of the B-BBEE Professional designation with the South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA) provides formal recognition to those operating within the B-BBEE space — positioning them alongside other respected professions in South Africa.

Ensuring Credibility and Accountability

This recognition is crucial for several reasons:

- Ensures minimum standards of technical knowledge and ethical conduct.
- Provides assurance to both the public and corporate sectors that B-BBEE Professionals are credible, accountable, and technically equipped.
- Promotes continuous professional development to keep pace with evolving legislation, practices, and interpretations.

"This recognition is crucial for several reasons: It ensures that practitioners meet minimum standards of technical knowledge and ethical conduct."

Eliminating Unqualified Practitioners

ABP has long been at the forefront of promoting professionalism within the B-BBEE industry. Through its SAQA-recognised designation, ABP seeks to eliminate the presence of unqualified, unregulated, and often unethical "fly-by-night" consultants and verification professionals whose actions have, in many instances, caused reputational damage to legitimate practitioners and the industry at large.

Partnering for Industry Integrity

ABP recognises that the integrity and success of the B-BBEE framework depends not only on sound policy but also on the consistent and correct application of that policy across the industry. For this reason, ABP works closely with key regulatory stakeholders, including the Department of Trade, Industry and Competition (the dtic) and the South African National Accreditation System (SANAS). These partnerships are essential in ensuring that the objectives of the B-BBEE Act are realised through aligned interpretations, clarity of technical positions, and the promotion of sound verification and consulting practices.



A Commitment to Building a Respected Profession

The registration of the B-BBEE Professional designation is more than just a formality — it is a commitment to building a sustainable, credible, and respected profession that can contribute meaningfully to South Africa's transformation objectives.

ABP remains dedicated to supporting its members through:

1. Technical guidance and support
2. Access to resources and thought leadership
3. Continuous Professional Development (CPD) opportunities
4. Advocacy and representation at industry and regulatory level

Become a Recognised B-BBEE Professional

If you are a B-BBEE Consultant, Verification Analyst, or operate in the B-BBEE environment and you have not yet registered as a B-BBEE Professional with ABP, now is the time.

REGISTER TODAY AT

www.abp.org.za

or contact ABP for more information on how to become a recognised B-BBEE Professional.