1 - Who are we?

The Agence universitaire de la Francophonie (AUF), was created 60 years ago. Today, it is the world's leading university network with more than 1000 members: universities, grandes écoles, and research centers in nearly 120 countries.

Its central services are divided between Montreal and Paris and are assisted by ten regional departments including that of Asia-Pacific. Established in 70 countries, the AUF has a network of 180 local representations.

The AUF is also the direct and recognized operator of the Summit of Heads of State and Government of the Francophonie, in the field of higher education and research.

2 - What is our mission?

“To think globally Francophone higher education and to act regionally while respecting diversity”

International non-profit organization, the AUF is a label that carries a vision for a better development of education and university systems. Respecting the diversity of cultures and languages, the AUF acts for francophone universities engaged in the economic, social and cultural development of societies.
Building projects for a concrete improvement of higher education

The AUF favours the solidarity between institutions of higher education and research to implement projects which concretely transform the university system. It works with many partners: private companies and their foundations, states and governments, national development agencies, international organizations, non-governmental organizations and academic, scientific, and cultural associations. AUF teams provide, all around the world, advice for the design and implementation of projects. They also encourage the sharing of good practices, expertise, and innovations.

The AUF has built its strategy 2021-2025 on a broad worldwide consultation, by articulating it around

5 KEY AXES

1. Support digital transformation and university governance
2. Promote employability and entrepreneurship
3. Promote networking and international cooperation
4. Contribute to the training of trainers and support pedagogical innovation
5. Promote and enhance research in the French-speaking world
The AUF has had a permanent representation in Asia-Pacific since 1993. The AUF Asia-Pacific coordinates a network of 86 member institutions of higher education and research in the region spreading over 13 countries and French overseas collectivities: Cambodia, China, Fiji, French Polynesia, India, Laos, Mongolia, Myanmar, New Caledonia, South Korea, Thailand, Vanuatu and Vietnam.

The Regional Conference of Rectors in Asia-Pacific (C2R-AP)

The Regional Conference of Rectors of member institutions of the Agence universitaire de la Francophonie in Asia-Pacific is a forum for exchange and consultation between the heads of institutions from several countries in the region.

It plays a major role in identifying the potential of expertise within its members, as well as in the definition of strategic orientations in higher education and research. It annually holds its General Assembly.

Some of key actions in Asia - Pacific

The 2021-2025 international strategy is implemented in regions using a "standard-adapted" approach, in order to resonate perfectly with the specific challenges inherent to the Asia-Pacific. Thus, the projects carried out by the AUF contribute to three major objectives, illustrated by some flagship initiatives benefiting member universities:

1. Supporting Asian countries in their sectoral reforms and assisting higher education and research institutions (HEIs) in enhancing their capabilities
• Bringing together member institutions and partners around international projects with external funding: Vietnamica, PURSEA, Réseau Mékong Pharma, OHSEA, ...

• Funding regional calls for projects and partnership programs for university and scientific research aligned with the international development agenda:
  
  o Regular launch of regional calls for projects: Distance learning plan (EAD), Valorization Francophone scientific (VALORFRAS), Governance and Valorization of Research in Asia-Pacific (GOVARAP), ...
  
  o The "Nere Nahal" project aims to support universities as drivers of innovation for climate stabilization and biodiversity protection in the Pacific;
  
  o Development of a guide to familiarize with University Social Responsibility (USR) and a self-diagnostic quiz enabling institutions to assess their level of adoption in this regard.
Instilling a desire for French and Francophonie in Asia-Pacific & proposing a tailored service offering

- **Highlighting our network of members and its Francophone resources:** organizing conferences, debates, webinars, events, publications, activities around scientific Francophonie, celebration of the Francophonie Day, etc.;

- **Promotion of student initiatives:** animation of the network of 16 labeled Francophone Student Leader Clubs (CLEF) in Asia-Pacific and co-editors of the magazine "Polyphonies Estudiantines" organization of gatherings and thematic competitions (hackathons, debate contests, artistic creation contests, "Smart Campus Asia" innovation contests, French writing contests).

**Promotion of Francophone regional expertise and international networking events:**

- Representation at major annual international events: conference of Ministers responsible for education and research in French-speaking countries, International Conference on Scientific Francophonie, and Congress of Francophone Student Youth;
- Participation in regional consultative bodies (Regional Commission of Economic and Scientific Experts - CREEES) and international bodies (Board of Directors - CA, Scientific Council - CS, Economic and Social Council - CES, Network Council - CR).
In 2021, the AUF has launched the creation of new interconnected spaces dedicated to enhancing employability, professional integration and entrepreneurship among students and young graduates. In Asia-Pacific, 10 CEFs have already been deployed in 7 countries (Cambodia, China, Laos, Mongolia, Thailand, Vanuatu, Vietnam), with the intention of expanding the network.

These centers offer services based on 4 main areas: job counseling and tutoring, complementary training, professional certifications, and entrepreneurial pre-incubation.

The AUF proposes, at the same time, CEF in direct management, but also a system of CEF in franchise (CEF +): spaces conceived and realized by a member institution with the support of the AUF and based on a schedule of conditions.
### 1. Promote the scientific Francophonie

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<th>How?</th>
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<td>Join the world leading university network</td>
<td>Receive newsletters and updates on higher education and research (1000 institutions / 120 countries)</td>
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<td>Help promote Francophonie</td>
<td>Be part of regional conferences of francophone rectors</td>
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<td>Play your part in francophone scientific diplomacy</td>
<td>Manifesto, Directory, events, access to embassies...</td>
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<td>Members’ General Meeting - AG</td>
<td>Participate in the elaboration of the four-year strategy of the Francophonie Scientifique</td>
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<td>Board of Directors - CA</td>
<td>Participate in the election of university representatives to governing bodies</td>
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<td>scientific Advisory Board - CS</td>
<td>Participate in the definition of strategic scientific orientations for your region</td>
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<td>Board of networks - CR</td>
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<td>Economic and Social Council - CES</td>
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<td>Regional Commission of Economic and Scientific Experts - CREES</td>
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<td>Take advantage of international support</td>
<td>Internationalization of your institution, Cooperative links between universities North-South, South North and South-South</td>
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<td>Benefit from local support in 70 countries</td>
<td>180 locations in 70 countries</td>
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<tr>
<td>Participate in international events</td>
<td>Conferences, youth congresses, colloquia, round tables...</td>
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<td>Access to thematic networks</td>
<td>Disciplinary, multidisciplinary and advocacy networks</td>
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<td>Competitive funding</td>
<td>Be eligible for international initiatives and calls launched by the AUF</td>
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<td>Develop your online courses</td>
<td>FIC - Francophone Institut for Knowledge Engineering and Distance Learning</td>
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<td>Internationalize your degrees</td>
<td>ESFAM - Francophone High School for Administration and Management</td>
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<td>Access the worldwide database of francophone expert</td>
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<td>University residence for francophone students (MEF) Paris</td>
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</table>
5.1. Membership Criteria

The AUF's "associate members" are statutorily divided into **two categories**:

**The “full members”**

![Image of a ballot box with a vote symbol]

with deliberative voice and voting rights at the General Assembly.

**The "associate members"**

with consultative voice and without right to vote at the General Assembly. Associate members may attend AUF conferences and seminars and benefit from AUF services as decided by the Board of Directors.

Members can be admitted by resolution adopted by the Board of Directors. These members include administrative, educational, scientific, and research structures that have legal personality and are dedicated to or capable of developing partnership and international cooperation actions with AUF, including:

- Universities, university centers, and other higher education and research institutions that **are or are not Francophone**, engaged in developing scientific Francophonie, and offering education leading to recognized university-level degrees;
- **Networks**, which are not members of the AUF Network Council, academic, disciplinary, pedagogical, administrative, student life, etc., engaged in developing or promoting scientific Francophonie;
- Scholarly **associations** which are involved in the development or promotion of the scientific Francophonie;
- **Components** of a higher education institution (faculty, school, institute, department, etc.).

5.2. Membership Procedure

Universities, research centers, grandes écoles, higher education institutions, professional higher education institutions, components of a higher education institution, integrated laboratories, networks or scholarly associations wishing to become members of the AUF are invited to **apply for membership online**.

**For more information:** [https://www.auf.org/les_membres/devenir-membre/criteres-adhesion/](https://www.auf.org/les_membres/devenir-membre/criteres-adhesion/)
The membership application process is divided into

**10 main steps:**

1. The applicant **searches and consults the information** on the AUF institutional website

2. The applicant **completes the pre-application form** on the AUF institutional website

3. The applicant receives an **acknowledgement of receipt** of the pre-application. At the same time, the AUF regional office where the institution is located is notified of the receipt of a new pre-application in the process

4. The regional office **reviews the pre-application** and gives an opinion on its conformity

5. The applicant receives a **response to the pre-application** from the regional Directorate which may be either:
   - A **notice of refusal** with arguments or,
   - A **notice of acceptance** with a link to the membership application form and the 2 documents that must be attached to this form:
     - Membership Charter
     - Proposal letter

6. The applicant completes the **application form** and attaches the **Membership Charter** and **Proposal Letter** signed by the highest authority of the institution

7. The applicant receives an **acknowledgement of receipt** with the completed form attached

8. The AUF regional office where the institution is located is **notified** of the receipt of a new application in the process

9. The regional office carries out the **administrative admissibility**

10. The membership file is **transmitted to the AUF bodies for examination**. The applicant is then sent a letter formally notifying him or her of the Board of director.

Membership applications are reviewed **three times a year** according to the following schedule:

- **February:** Review of applications received by **January 20th**
- **May:** Review of applications received by **May 5th**
- **October:** Review of applications received by **September 15th**

*For more information: [https://www.auf.org/les_membres/devenir-membre/procedure-dadhesion/](https://www.auf.org/les_membres/devenir-membre/procedure-dadhesion/)

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