

GENERAL INFORMATION

Role Title	Chief Programme Officer
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2. WORK OUTPUT DESCRIPTION / PURPOSE STATEMENT OF THE JOB

To strategically lead the Automotive Industry Transformation Fund's (AITF) mandate as the execution custodian including secretariat function of the South African Automotive Masterplan (SAAM) 2035 through the SAAM Delivery Office (SDO). This role is accountable for driving holistic delivery across all SAAM strategic pillars, including localization, market optimization, regional integration, skills development, infrastructure enablement, NEV readiness, transformation, research & development, and rigorous monitoring & evaluation. The CPO ensures the operationalization of the Executive Oversight Committee (EOC) mandate through structured programme management, performance tracking, transparent reporting, policy influence, and facilitation of industry-wide projects and partnerships that collectively secure the sector's global competitiveness, inclusive growth, and long-term sustainability.

3. CORE WORK OUPUTS

KEY PERFORMANCE AREAS / AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY	OUTCOMES / DELIVERABLES / MEASUREMENT CRITERIA
STRATEGIC LEADERSHIP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Integrate SAAM 2035 execution into AITF's strategic agenda, aligning delivery across all programme pillars. Drive policy thought leadership by preparing white papers and sector position papers to influence the automotive policy environment and future-proof industrial objectives.
STAKEHOLDER MANAGEMENT & ECOSYSTEM INFLUENCE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engage directly with Government (National & Provincial), OEMs, NAAMSA, NAACAM, ITAC, RMI, labour, and other bodies to secure alignment and resolve delivery bottlenecks. Oversee demand aggregation initiatives and facilitate cross-sector projects to build local scale and unlock localization opportunities and other strategic projects enhancing SA sector competitiveness. Serve as a key voice on industry forums to shape national automotive competitiveness and regional trade integration.
PROGRAMME & OPERATIONAL DELIVERY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop and oversee a multi-year portfolio of high-impact projects across localisation, transformation, NEV, aftermarket, skills and infrastructure pillars.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lead development of business cases in collaboration with the Chief Investment to attract sector investments and Foreign Development Investments in high-impact projects. • Establish and manage a comprehensive SAAM KPI Dashboard integrating APDP, dtic, SARS, NAAMSA and NAACAM data and other key stakeholders. • Drive execution of flagship programmes, ensuring delivery is on time, within scope and aligned to Masterplan milestones. • Collaborate with AITF investment Unit on pipeline development, incubation support, and capital enablement.
RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT LEADERSHIP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Champion industry-aligned R&D initiatives that support localisation of advanced automotive technologies, materials beneficiation, NEV ecosystem components and smart manufacturing. This includes, Aftermarket component manufacturing, and Policy inclined policy positioning.
MONITORING, EVALUATION & REPORTING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop and operationalise a comprehensive M&E framework to assess progress across all SAAM pillars, ensuring data-driven course corrections. • Produce structured reports to the EOC & TTT, EXCO, dtic, funders and industry stakeholders, enhancing transparency and strategic decision-making
GOVERNANCE, RISK & COMPLIANCE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lead governance interface with the EOC & TTT, ensuring rigorous project reporting, programme reviews, and structured risk management. • Ensure compliance with APDP, EEIP, B-BBEE and other sector regulatory frameworks, embedding transparency in all delivery pipelines.
PEOPLE LEADERSHIP & CULTURE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build and lead a high-performance team within the SDO, managing Strategic Project Leads and Analysts across two organisational levels. • Embed a performance-driven culture with clear accountability, milestone management, and talent development aligned to the strategic transformation of the sector

4. JOB SPECIFICATIONS

Educational Level / Qualifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Master's in Engineering, Economics, Development Finance, Public Policy or related field or equivalent, Bsc degree will be considered with exceptional experience
Advantageous (Educational Level / Qualifications)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Execution education in strategy execution, public sector governance, or automotive industrialisation.
Previous Work Experience (...to perform the job)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 -10 years in executive roles within the public or private sector, ideally in: • Automotive manufacturing, supply chain or localisation; • Sector development, industrial policy implementation, or large-scale transformation; and • Managed multi-stakeholder sector programmes at national or regional level. • Track record in developing and executing strategic projects aligned to complex policy frameworks.
Legal requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clean criminal & credit records. No history of insolvency or being declared delinquent directors.
Competencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic systems thinking and disciplined execution. • Expertise in automotive value chains, localization and industrial policy mechanisms. • Financial acumen to evaluate industrial project viability. • Advanced M&E capability to translate complex project data into actionable insights. • Stakeholder influence from Boardrooms to regulatory and factory floors. • Ability to produce white papers, drive R&D alignment, and guide policy-aligned sector transformation. • Accountable for influencing spend tied to sector

	transformation and industrial outcomes <ul style="list-style-type: none">
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5. REPORTING RELATIONSHIPS

Position title of direct manager / supervisor?	CEO
Total number of positions reporting to this position?	5