





PAOs as Centres of Excellence to drive reform

November 2025

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Introduction

ACCA exists to be **a force for public good**, leading the global accountancy profession by:

-  **Creating opportunity**
for people around the world
-  **Opening up the profession**
to diverse talent
-  **Championing ethical standards**
and public interest
-  **Driving innovation**
in how accountancy serves society



Our hypothesis

Professional Accountancy Organisations

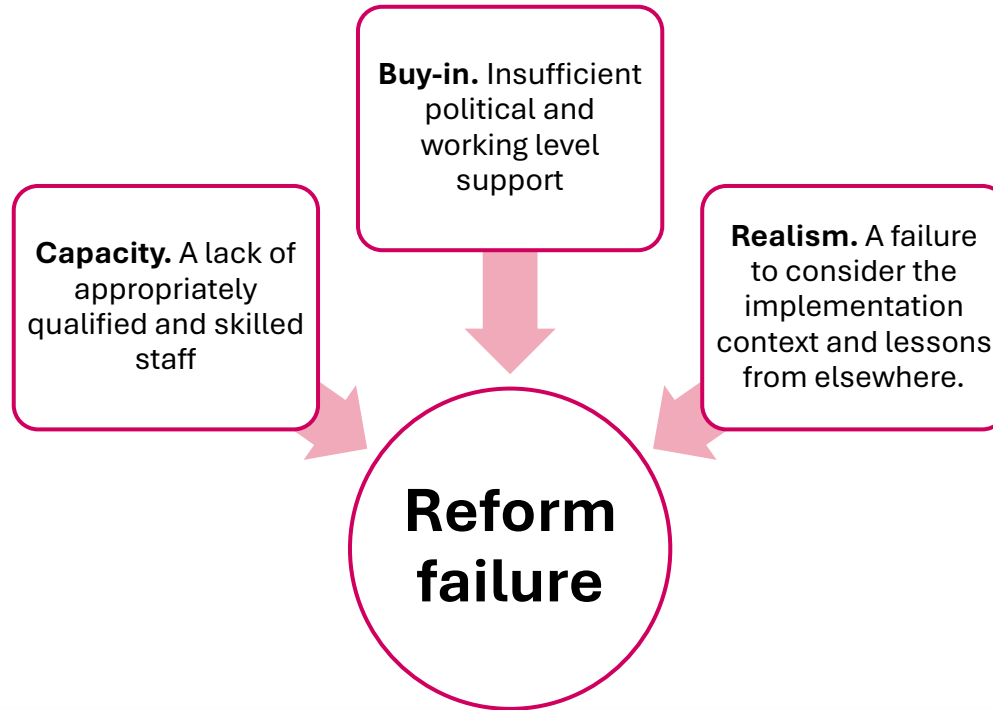
can support governments to deliver more effective

public finance systems

by becoming reform

centres of excellence

Public finance reforms too often fail to achieve traction and impact. Why?



Before they can contribute to addressing these challenges, PAOs need to master the fundamentals

- ✓ Do they have a meaningful organisational strategy and the structures to implement it?
- ✓ Do they have enough appropriately skilled staff to fulfil their mandate?
- ✓ Are they ensuring a sufficient flow of skilled accountants into the profession?

What would it mean for a national PAO to be a centre of excellence for public finance reform?

- ✓ Harnessing member insights
- ✓ Reform advocacy
- ✓ Skills development

Harnessing member insights

- ✓ Gather reflections from members
- ✓ Transform those reflections into actionable insights and recommendations for government
- ✓ Participate effectively in formal consultations
- ✓ Build the networks and reputation needed to ensure government chooses to come to them for advice

Reform advocacy

- ✓ Advocate for reform with government
- ✓ Explaining the benefits of reform to members

Skills development

- ✓ Qualifications that are fit-for-purpose
- ✓ CPD for members
- ✓ Training for non-members

How can organisations like ACCA help PAOs achieve the centres of excellence vision?

Advisory

- Strategic planning and delivery
- Organisational development
- Promoting the profession
- Ethics, sustainability, international standards, etc.

Qualification development

- Modernisation, syllabi unification, enhanced partnerships, etc.

Capacity building

- Training and mentoring to address skills gaps.

Super-connector

- Forging regional and global links
- Convening discussions with government and other stakeholders around reform goals
- Supporting PAOs to engage effectively.

Outcomes

- ✓ **Increased number of professional accountants** with higher standards of practice and ethical behaviour supporting more efficient, transparent, and accountable financial management leading to long-term improvement in governance and economic development
- ✓ **Better management of public resources** and enhanced fiscal responsibility supporting enhanced public trust in government institutions and financial management practices
- ✓ **Alignment and continual improvement** based on global best practice supporting sustainable and inclusive growth driven by effective financial management

Theory of Change

IF PAOs were strategically aligned to support reform goals;

AND had access to a peer group to learn from similar reforms around the world, exchange ideas, problems and solutions;

AND focused on professionalisation of the finance function to create more, highly skilled, ethical accountants;

THEN support toward more efficient, transparent, and accountable financial management will increase, leading to long-term improvement in governance and economic development



Questions & feedback

Thank you.