AFP-CISO101

AFP-CISO101 Certification

CISO 101: Taking Up the CISO Role

AFP-CISO101 is the onboarding and support programme for CISOs taking up the role for the first time or moving to a new institution in the African financial sector. A format unique on the market: 5 days of intensive training covering the CISO's first 100 days, followed by 3 months of monthly individual coaching with an experienced CISO mentor from the ACRC community. The ACRC community plays a central role: volunteer mentors, shared lessons learned, access to a peer network. A single certification level, but a transformative experience.

2027 prices

IN PERSON IN DAKAR

FCFA 2,750,000 excl. tax

€4,192 excl. tax

2 sessions in 2027

Includes 3 months of coaching: three 1-hour individual sessions and one group session per month.

The price includes: the training, digital materials, the certification assessment, the digital certificate and badge, lunch for in-person sessions.

Discounts (cannot be combined): EARLY27 −15% · GROUPE3 −10% · ALUMNI-APSI −20% · INSTITUTION −20%

At a glance

PREREQUISITES

CISO appointment imminent or effective for less than 6 months

EXPERIENCE REQUIRED

3 years of IT or security experience recommended; CISO appointment imminent or taken up less than 6 months ago.

TOTAL DURATION

5 days (35 h) and coaching

VALIDITY

3 years

FORMAT AND HOURS

In person: full days from 8:30 to 17:00 at the ACRC centre in Dakar.

EXAM FORMAT

100-day plan (structured deliverable) + presentation before a panel of ACRC mentors

Who it is for

- New CISOs taking up their first role in an African bank, insurer or fintech
- Security managers promoted to CISO without a structured transition path
- Experienced CISOs changing sector or institution and wanting a quick grounding
- CIOs or deputy CIOs taking on the CISO function on an interim basis

Curriculum

1	Understanding your institution in 30 days: mapping stakeholders, risks and strategic stakes Structured workshop + onboarding audit template	4h
2	The first 10 weeks: priorities, quick wins and building legitimacy CISO lessons learned + group coaching	4h
3	Information security baseline: how to quickly audit what you inherit (ISMS, incidents, contracts, team) Hands-on workshop with audit grid	4h
4	Building your relationship with the CIO, the CEO and the board: positioning, first report, first board meeting Simulation + role play	4h
5	Managing the team and budget when taking up the role: what you inherit, what you negotiate, what you defend Budget + management workshop	4h
6	The BCEAO/BEAC regulatory framework for the new CISO: immediate obligations, reporting, deadlines Condensed course + Q&A with a regulatory expert	4h
7	Handling a first major incident early in the role: how not to fail your first crisis (crisis simulation room) Crisis simulation	5h
8	Building the 100-day plan: method, content, presentation Writing workshop + coaching	4h
9	Presenting the 100-day plan before a panel of ACRC mentors Final oral + mentor feedback	2h

Skills acquired

- Take up the CISO role methodically, securing the first 100 days
- Complete an onboarding audit in under 4 weeks
- Establish legitimacy and first trusted relationships with the CIO, the CEO and the board
- Handle a first major incident with confidence in the first months
- Benefit from a network of experienced African CISO mentors for post-training follow-up

Requirements for certification

1. Attend the 5 training days and at least 2 of the 3 coaching sessions.
2. Submit the first-100-days plan and present it to the mentor panel (at least 70%).
3. Prove the appointment (appointment letter or employer certificate).

Certificate, validity and renewal. Numbered certificate in the holder's name and a digital badge to share on LinkedIn. Valid for 3 years. Renewal: 60 hours of continuing education over 3 years (ACRC webinars count) and a maintenance fee, or a new exam.

2027 sessions

Session	Format	Dates	Hours	Exam	Register by
AFP27-19	In person in Dakar	26 Apr to 30 Apr 2027	8:30 to 17:00	30 Jul 2027	19 Apr 2027
AFP27-46	In person in Dakar	25 Oct to 29 Oct 2027	8:30 to 17:00	28 Jan 2028	18 Oct 2027

Discounts (cannot be combined)

EARLY27 −15% Registration and payment at least 30 days before the session starts; for the January sessions, at least until 20 December 2026.

GROUPE3 −10% 3 or more participants from the same institution on the same session, on a single invoice.

ALUMNI-APSI −20% AFP-certified members of the APSI-NE 2026 cohort, on any registration paid in 2027.

INSTITUTION −20% Institutional framework agreement: at least 10 places a year, paid on purchase order.

Pre-registration

Online, on the course page: https://cyber4africa.org/en/certifications/afp-ciso101
Contact: contact@cyber4africa.org

COMMERCIAL TERMS

- Payment by bank transfer or mobile money, no later than the registration deadline (7 days before the start). Institutions can pay on purchase order.
- Prices include the training, digital materials, the certification assessment, the personal certificate and the digital badge. Lunch is included for in-person sessions.
- Cancellation by the participant: full refund up to 15 days before the start, 50% from 14 to 7 days before, after that a free transfer to a later session (once).
- Session postponed by ACRC (minimum number of participants not reached 10 days before): transfer of the participant's choice or full refund.
- Discounts cannot be combined: the most favourable one applies.
- Prices in CFA francs (FCFA), excluding tax. Euro amounts are converted at the fixed parity of 655.957 FCFA to 1 euro.