Advanced Sharia Governance and Audit Compliance Training Course



02 - 06 Nov 2026

Lisbon

4500 € (Per Person)

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Course Introduction / Overview:

The global Islamic finance industry is expanding at an unprecedented rate, creating a critical demand for professionals skilled in Sharia governance and audit. This intensive program is meticulously designed to provide a comprehensive understanding of the principles, frameworks, and practical applications of Sharia compliance and auditing within Islamic financial institutions. Moving beyond theoretical concepts, the course delves into the operational intricacies of ensuring that all financial products, transactions, and activities adhere strictly to Islamic principles. As discussed by prominent scholars like Dr. Abbas Mirakhor, robust governance is the bedrock of trust and stability in the Islamic financial system. Participants will explore the core tenets outlined in seminal works such as "Islamic Finance: Principles and Practice" by Hans Visser, gaining the expertise to navigate the complex regulatory landscape. BIG BEN Training Center has developed this curriculum to empower professionals to establish and assess effective Sharia governance frameworks, conduct rigorous Sharia audits, and mitigate the risks of non-compliance. This course is an essential stepping stone for anyone seeking to build a successful career in the dynamic and ethically-driven world of Islamic finance, providing the tools to ensure both compliance and competitive advantage.

Target Audience / This training course is suitable for:

- Sharia Auditors and Reviewers.
- Internal and External Auditors.
- Compliance Officers in Islamic Financial Institutions.
- Risk Management Professionals.
- Members of Sharia Supervisory Boards.
- Islamic Banking Professionals.
- Regulators and Supervisors of Financial Institutions.
- Legal Advisors and Consultants specializing in Islamic Finance.
- Accountants and Finance Managers.
- Product Development Managers in Islamic Banks.

Target Sectors and Industries:

- Islamic Banking and Finance.
- Takaful and Re-Takaful (Islamic Insurance).
- Islamic Asset Management and Investment Funds.
- Sukuk and Islamic Capital Markets.
- Islamic Microfinance Institutions.
- Governmental bodies, central banks, and regulatory agencies.
- Halal Industry and Certification Bodies.
- Financial Technology (Fintech) companies developing Sharia-compliant products.
- Professional services firms (Audit, Legal, and Consultancy).

Target Organizations Departments:

- Internal Audit Department.
- Sharia Compliance and Review Department.
- Risk Management Department.
- Legal and Corporate Governance Department.
- Finance and Accounting Department.
- Operations Department.
- Product Development and Innovation Department.
- Treasury Department.

Course Offerings:

By the end of this course, the participants will have able to:

- Master the core principles of Sharia and Fiqh al-Muamalat relevant to finance.
- Develop and implement a robust Sharia Governance Framework based on international standards.
- Conduct comprehensive Sharia audits from planning and fieldwork to reporting.
- Identify, assess, and mitigate Sharia non-compliance risks effectively.
- Analyze the roles and responsibilities of Sharia Supervisory Boards (SSB).
- Evaluate the compliance of complex Islamic financial instruments like Sukuk and Takaful.
- Apply AAOIFI governance and auditing standards in practical scenarios.
- Prepare and present clear and impactful Sharia audit reports to stakeholders.
- Navigate the emerging challenges of Sharia compliance in the digital finance era.

Course Methodology:

The training methodology at BIG BEN Training Center is designed to be highly interactive, practical, and engaging, ensuring that participants gain tangible skills they can apply immediately in their professional roles. We believe that adult learning is most effective when it moves beyond traditional lectures and embraces a participatory approach. The course will be facilitated by an industry expert with extensive experience in Sharia governance and audit. Sessions will incorporate a blend of detailed presentations, real-world case studies of Islamic financial institutions, and interactive group discussions that encourage peer-to-peer learning. Participants will engage in practical exercises, such as developing a Sharia audit plan, simulating a Sharia Supervisory Board meeting, and analyzing financial products for compliance. These hands-on activities are designed to reinforce theoretical concepts and build practical problem-solving abilities. Continuous feedback and Q&A sessions are integrated throughout the program to address specific queries and challenges faced by the participants in their own organizations, creating a tailored and highly relevant learning experience.

Course Agenda (Course Units):

Unit One: Foundations of Sharia Governance and Islamic Finance

- Introduction to Islamic Economics and Finance.
- Core Principles of Fiqh al-Muamalat (Islamic Commercial Jurisprudence).
- Sources of Sharia in Financial Transactions.
- Overview of Key Islamic Financial Instruments (Mudarabah, Musharakah, Murabaha, Ijarah).
- The Rationale and Importance of Sharia Governance.
- Key Differences Between Conventional and Islamic Finance.
- Global Landscape of the Islamic Finance Industry.

Unit Two: The Sharia Governance Framework

- Role and Responsibilities of the Sharia Supervisory Board (SSB).
- Key International Standards (AAOIFI, IFSB).
- Developing a Sharia Governance Policy and Charter.
- Internal Controls for Sharia Compliance.
- The Three Lines of Defense Model in an Islamic Context.
- Managing Conflicts of Interest within the Governance Structure.
- Case Studies on Effective and Ineffective Governance Models.

Unit Three: The Sharia Audit Process: Planning and Execution

- Distinguishing Between Sharia Audit, Internal Audit, and Financial Audit.
- The Sharia Audit Universe and Risk-Based Audit Planning.
- Developing the Annual Sharia Audit Plan.
- Audit Engagement Planning and Scoping.
- Fieldwork Techniques and Evidence Gathering for Sharia Compliance.
- Testing the Compliance of Financing and Investment Products.
- Assessing the Effectiveness of the Sharia Supervisory Board.

Unit Four: Sharia Audit Reporting and Follow-Up

- Analyzing and Synthesizing Audit Findings.
- Classifying and Rating Sharia Non-Compliance Issues.
- Writing a Clear, Concise, and Actionable Sharia Audit Report.
- Communicating Audit Results to Management and the Board.
- Presenting Findings to the Sharia Supervisory Board.
- Developing Effective Recommendations for Corrective Actions.
- The Process of Audit Follow-Up and Issue Tracking.

Unit Five: Advanced Topics and Contemporary Issues in Sharia Compliance

- Auditing Specialized Products: Sukuk and Takaful Operations.
- Governance and Audit of Zakat and Waqf Management.
- Challenges of Sharia Compliance in Islamic Fintech (iFintech).
- Managing Sharia Non-Compliance Risk and Purification of Tainted Income.
- Harmonization of Sharia Standards Across Different Jurisdictions.
- The Role of Technology in Enhancing Sharia Audit and Compliance.
- Future Trends and Outlook for Sharia Governance.

FAQ:

Qualifications required for registering to this course?

There are no requirements.

How long is each daily session, and what is the total number of training hours for the course?

This training course spans five days, with daily sessions ranging between 4 to 5 hours, including breaks and interactive activities, bringing the total duration to 20 - 25 training hours.

Something to think about:

As Islamic finance increasingly integrates with global financial systems, how can Sharia governance frameworks evolve to address the complexities of digital currencies and cross-border fintech solutions without compromising their core ethical principles?

What unique qualities does this course offer compared to other courses?

This course distinguishes itself by moving beyond theoretical knowledge to focus on the practical application of Sharia governance and audit principles in a real-world corporate environment. Unlike programs that offer a purely academic overview, our curriculum is built around actionable skills and contemporary challenges. Participants will not just learn about AAOIFI standards; they will learn how to implement and audit against them through immersive case studies drawn from actual compliance scenarios and institutional failures. The course places a strong emphasis on the decision-making process within a Sharia Supervisory Board and the practical steps of conducting a risk-based Sharia audit, from initial planning to final reporting. Furthermore, it directly addresses the most current and pressing issues in the industry, such as the governance implications of Islamic Fintech (iFintech) and the complexities of auditing sophisticated products like green Sukuk. The interactive methodology ensures that participants leave with not only a deeper understanding but also the confidence and competence to enhance the Sharia compliance framework within their own organizations, making a tangible impact on institutional integrity and stakeholder trust.