Environmental Due Diligence in M&A Transactions Training Course



21 - 25 Dec 2026

Geneva

5900 € (Per Person)

Ref: #ENV4390_101208

Course Introduction / Overview:

In the high-stakes world of corporate mergers and acquisitions, unidentified environmental liabilities can transform a promising deal into a significant financial and reputational disaster. This course provides a comprehensive A-to-Z guide on Environmental Due Diligence (EDD), a critical component for safeguarding investments and ensuring regulatory compliance during corporate transactions. Participants will delve into the systematic process of identifying, quantifying, and mitigating environmental risks associated with a target company's assets and operations. Drawing upon established frameworks, such as those discussed by experts like Lawrence B. Cahill in works like "Environmental Health and Safety Audits," this program moves beyond theoretical concepts to offer practical, actionable insights. BIG BEN Training Center has designed this training to equip professionals with the skills to navigate complex environmental regulations, conduct thorough site assessments, and strategically integrate EDD findings into deal negotiations and post-acquisition management. This course is essential for anyone involved in the M&A lifecycle, providing the tools needed to make informed decisions, protect value, and manage environmental liabilities effectively.

Target Audience / This training course is suitable for:

- Mergers and Acquisitions (M&A) Analysts and Managers.
- Corporate Lawyers and In-house Counsel.
- Environmental Consultants and Engineers.
- Private Equity and Venture Capital Professionals.
- Investment Bankers and Financial Analysts.
- Corporate Development and Strategy Officers.
- Environmental, Health, and Safety (EHS) Managers.
- Risk Management and Compliance Officers.
- Real Estate Transaction Professionals.
- Corporate Finance Directors.

Target Sectors and Industries:

- Manufacturing and Industrial Production.
- Chemical and Pharmaceutical Industries.
- Energy, including Oil and Gas and Renewables.
- Mining and Natural Resources.
- Real Estate Development and Investment.
- Waste Management and Environmental Services.
- Private Equity and Financial Institutions.
- Infrastructure and Construction.
- Governmental agencies and regulatory bodies.
- Transportation and Logistics.

Target Organizations Departments:

- Legal and Corporate Counsel.
- Mergers and Acquisitions (M&A).
- Corporate Development and Strategy.
- Environmental, Health, and Safety (EHS).
- Risk Management and Compliance.
- Finance and Investment.
- Real Estate and Asset Management.
- Operations and Engineering.
- Procurement and Supply Chain Management.

Course Offerings:

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

- Master the core principles and objectives of Environmental Due Diligence in the M&A context.
- Conduct and interpret Phase I Environmental Site Assessments according to ASTM E1527 standards.
- Determine the scope and necessity for Phase II intrusive investigations.
- Identify and quantify potential environmental liabilities and remediation costs.
- Analyze complex environmental regulations and their impact on corporate transactions.
- Develop effective risk mitigation and management strategies for identified issues.
- Structure key environmental provisions in transaction agreements, such as indemnities and warranties.
- Effectively communicate EDD findings to key stakeholders, including legal and financial teams.
- Integrate environmental considerations into post-acquisition integration and compliance plans.
- Evaluate emerging trends like ESG and climate change risk within the due diligence process.

Course Methodology:

The training methodology at BIG BEN Training Center is designed to be immersive, practical, and highly interactive, ensuring participants can immediately apply their learning to real-world M&A scenarios. We move beyond traditional lectures to foster a dynamic learning environment built on a foundation of expert-led instruction and collaborative engagement. A central feature of the course is the extensive use of detailed case studies derived from actual M&A transactions, allowing participants to analyze challenges, debate strategies, and understand the consequences of EDD decisions. Interactive sessions, group workshops, and team-based exercises will challenge participants to conduct mock risk assessments, negotiate environmental liability terms, and present their findings. This hands-on approach reinforces theoretical concepts and builds practical skills. Continuous feedback from the instructor and peers is integrated throughout the program, promoting a deeper understanding of the material and fostering professional growth. The methodology emphasizes critical thinking and strategic problem-solving, preparing participants to confidently manage the environmental aspects of any corporate transaction.

Course Agenda (Course Units):

Unit One: Foundations of Environmental Due Diligence in M&A

- Introduction to Environmental Due Diligence (EDD).
- The strategic importance of EDD in corporate transactions.
- Legal and regulatory drivers for EDD.
- Key terminology and concepts in environmental risk.
- The typical EDD process and its integration into the M&A timeline.
- Roles and responsibilities of the M&A team, legal counsel, and consultants.
- Understanding the scope of EDD for different transaction types.

Unit Two: The Phase I Environmental Site Assessment (ESA)

- Deep dive into the ASTM E1527-21 standard.
- Components of a Phase I ESA.
- Conducting effective historical records reviews.
- Techniques for site reconnaissance and physical inspections.
- The art of interviewing site personnel and stakeholders.
- Identifying Recognized Environmental Conditions (RECs).
- Writing and interpreting a Phase I ESA report.

Unit Three: Advanced Site Investigations and Contamination Issues

- Scoping and implementing a Phase II Environmental Site Assessment.
- Common soil, groundwater, and vapor sampling techniques.
- Understanding and interpreting laboratory analytical data.
- Introduction to human health and ecological risk assessment.
- Overview of common contaminants and their characteristics.
- Fundamentals of site remediation technologies and cost estimation.
- Assessing liabilities beyond soil and groundwater.

Unit Four: Quantifying Risk and Managing Liability in Transactions

- Financial quantification of environmental liabilities.
- Techniques for estimating remediation costs and operational compliance expenses.
- The role of environmental insurance in M&a deals.
- Negotiating and drafting environmental representations and warranties.
- Structuring effective environmental indemnities and escrow agreements.
- Disclosure requirements and their impact on deal value.
- Strategies for allocating environmental risk between buyer and seller.

Unit Five: Integration, Reporting, and Emerging Trends

- Effectively communicating EDD findings to non-technical stakeholders.
- Integrating EDD results into financial models and valuation.
- Post-acquisition integration of environmental management systems.
- Managing ongoing compliance and legacy environmental issues.
- The growing influence of Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) factors in M&A.
- Assessing climate change risks and opportunities in due diligence.
- Future outlook and best practices in Environmental Due Diligence.

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:

How might the increasing focus on ESG and climate change risk fundamentally reshape the traditional scope and methodology of Environmental Due Diligence in future M&A transactions?

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

This course distinguishes itself through its rigorous, transaction-centric focus, moving far beyond standard environmental compliance training to address the specific, high-stakes context of mergers and acquisitions. While other programs may cover the technical aspects of site assessments, our curriculum is uniquely structured around the M&A lifecycle, emphasizing the strategic integration of environmental findings into deal negotiation, valuation, and risk allocation. We prioritize the practical application of knowledge through complex, real-world case studies that challenge participants to quantify financial liabilities and structure contractual protections, a skill set rarely developed in theoretical courses. Furthermore, the program is forward-looking, dedicating significant attention to emerging trends that are reshaping the investment landscape, such as the profound impact of Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) criteria and climate change risk on due diligence. This ensures participants are not only proficient in current best practices, as defined by ASTM standards, but are also prepared to navigate the future of transactional environmental risk management, making them invaluable assets in any corporate finance or legal team.