Economic Policy Analysis and Fiscal Sustainability Training Course

26 - 30 Oct 2026

Vienna

5800 € (Per Person)

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Course Introduction / Overview:

This comprehensive training course provides a deep dive into the critical principles of economic policy analysis and the management of fiscal sustainability. In today's volatile global economy, understanding the intricate connections between government spending, taxation, debt, and overall economic health is paramount for effective public sector management. This program is designed to equip participants with the analytical tools and practical knowledge needed to design, implement, and evaluate sound economic policies that promote stable growth and long-term fiscal solvency. Drawing on established frameworks and contemporary challenges, the course navigates the complexities of macroeconomic management. We will explore concepts discussed by leading economists like Olivier Blanchard and reference key literature such as "Fiscal Policy: Theory and Practice" to provide a robust theoretical foundation. At BIG BEN Training Center, we bridge theory with real-world application, ensuring delegates can confidently address the fiscal challenges facing their organizations and countries, from managing public debt to formulating responsive fiscal frameworks in the face of economic shocks. This course is an essential toolkit for professionals dedicated to fostering economic resilience and sustainable development through prudent and evidence-based policymaking.

Target Audience / This training course is suitable for:

- Government officials and policymakers.
- Economists and financial analysts in the public sector.
- Central bank staff involved in monetary and fiscal policy coordination.
- Budget officers and public finance managers.
- Analysts from international financial institutions and development agencies.
- Researchers and consultants specializing in public policy and economics.
- Managers in state-owned enterprises responsible for financial planning.
- Parliamentary staff involved in budget oversight and economic committees.

Target Sectors and Industries:

- Government ministries and federal agencies.
- Central banks and monetary authorities.
- International financial institutions (IFIs).
- Economic policy research institutes and think tanks.
- Public and private sector financial institutions.
- Credit rating agencies.
- Non-governmental organizations focused on economic governance.
- Management consulting firms with public sector clients.

Target Organizations Departments:

- Ministry of Finance or Treasury.
- Ministry of Economy and Planning.
- National Budget Office.
- Debt Management Office.
- Central Bank Research and Policy Departments.
- Economic Advisory Councils.
- Public Investment Management Units.
- Revenue and Tax Authorities.
- Audit and Oversight Bodies.

Course Offerings:

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

- Analyze the key components of fiscal policy and their impact on macroeconomic stability.
- Evaluate the sustainability of public debt using established analytical frameworks.
- Assess the effectiveness of different fiscal consolidation strategies.
- Understand the interaction between fiscal and monetary policies.
- Develop and interpret long-term fiscal projections and scenarios.
- Identify and manage fiscal risks stemming from various sources.
- Apply cost-benefit analysis to public investment projects.
- Formulate evidence-based economic policy recommendations.
- Critically assess national budgets for alignment with strategic economic goals.
- Utilize key economic indicators for real-time policy analysis.

Course Methodology:

The training methodology at BIG BEN Training Center is designed to foster a dynamic and interactive learning environment that moves beyond traditional lectures. This course emphasizes a participant-centered approach, combining expert-led presentations with a variety of engaging learning techniques. A cornerstone of our method is the extensive use of real-world case studies from diverse economies, allowing participants to analyze actual policy decisions and their outcomes. Interactive group discussions and debates are facilitated to encourage the sharing of different perspectives and experiences, enriching the learning process for all. Practical workshops and simulation exercises will be conducted, where participants will apply theoretical concepts to solve complex fiscal problems, such as conducting a debt sustainability analysis or designing a fiscal adjustment plan. Team-based projects will promote collaborative problem-solving and communication skills. Continuous feedback will be provided by the instructor to guide participants' development. This blended approach ensures that participants not only grasp the theoretical underpinnings of economic policy but also develop the practical skills required to apply this knowledge effectively in their professional roles.

Course Agenda (Course Units):

Unit One: Foundations of Economic Policy and Fiscal Frameworks

- Introduction to macroeconomic concepts and objectives.
- The role of government in the economy.
- Understanding fiscal policy and its instruments.
- The national budget process and its key stages.
- Introduction to fiscal sustainability and its importance.
- Fiscal rules and frameworks for promoting discipline.
- Key economic indicators for policy analysis.

Unit Two: Public Revenue and Expenditure Management

- Analysis of government revenue sources.
- Principles of taxation and tax policy design.
- Managing government expenditure effectively.
- Techniques for expenditure rationalization and efficiency.
- Public investment management and project appraisal.
- Cost-benefit analysis in the public sector.
- Social safety nets and their fiscal implications.

Unit Three: Public Debt and Sustainability Analysis

- Sources and types of public debt.
- The dynamics of public debt accumulation.
- Introduction to Debt Sustainability Analysis (DSA).
- Conducting a baseline DSA for a country.
- Stress testing and scenario analysis in DSA.
- Strategies for effective public debt management.
- Managing contingent liabilities and fiscal risks.

Unit Four: Monetary Policy and Macroeconomic Coordination

- The role and functions of a central bank.
- Instruments of monetary policy.
- Understanding the transmission mechanisms of monetary policy.
- The interaction and coordination of fiscal and monetary policy.
- Managing inflation and exchange rate regimes.
- Responding to macroeconomic shocks.
- Case studies on policy coordination successes and failures.

Unit Five: Advanced Policy Analysis and Formulation

- Long-term fiscal challenges such as demographics and climate change.
- Techniques for long-term fiscal projections.
- Evaluating the distributional impact of fiscal policies.
- Structural reforms to enhance economic growth.
- Developing a comprehensive macroeconomic policy framework.
- Communicating economic policy to stakeholders.
- Final project on formulating a policy response to a simulated economic crisis.

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:

In an era of increasing global shocks, how can a nation balance immediate fiscal stimulus need with the long-term imperative of fiscal sustainability?

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

This training course distinguishes itself by moving beyond purely theoretical discussions to offer a deeply practical and integrated perspective on economic policy. While many programs treat fiscal and monetary policy in isolation, this course emphasizes their critical interdependence, providing a holistic framework for macroeconomic management. A key differentiator is our reliance on a case-study methodology that examines a wide array of contemporary policy challenges from both developed and developing economies, ensuring the content is relevant and applicable across different institutional contexts. Participants will not just learn about Debt Sustainability Analysis; they will engage in hands-on exercises to conduct one. The curriculum is meticulously structured to build knowledge progressively, starting from foundational principles and advancing to complex policy formulation and crisis management simulations. Furthermore, the course content is dynamic, incorporating the latest research and debates on emerging fiscal challenges like climate change and demographic shifts. This focus on real-world application, policy integration, and forward-looking challenges equips participants with the robust, adaptable skills needed to navigate the complexities of modern economic governance effectively.