Strategic Innovation Governance and Risk Management Training Course



21 - 25 Dec 2026

Vienna

5800 € (Per Person)

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Course Introduction / Overview:

In today's hyper-competitive landscape, the ability to innovate is not just an advantage but a necessity for survival and growth. However, with great innovation comes significant risk. This course addresses the critical challenge of balancing the drive for creative disruption with the need for robust governance and prudent risk management. It moves beyond theoretical concepts to provide a practical, integrated framework for embedding risk management into the very fabric of the innovation lifecycle. Drawing on principles discussed by thought leaders like Clayton M. Christensen in his seminal work "The Innovator's Dilemma," this program explores how established organizations can manage the risks of both incremental and disruptive innovation. Participants will learn to design and implement governance structures that empower creative teams while ensuring alignment with strategic objectives and risk appetite. BIG BEN Training Center has developed this course to equip leaders with the tools to build resilient innovation ecosystems, turning potential threats into strategic opportunities and ensuring that innovation efforts deliver sustainable value without exposing the organization to unacceptable perils. This comprehensive training provides a roadmap for navigating the complexities of modern innovation with confidence and control.

Target Audience / This training course is suitable for:

- Chief Innovation Officers and Heads of Innovation.
- Risk Managers and Chief Risk Officers.
- Compliance Officers and Legal Counsel.
- Internal and External Auditors.
- Members of the Board of Directors and Senior Executives.
- Research and Development (R&D) Managers.
- Product Development and Project Managers.
- Strategy and Corporate Development Professionals.
- IT and Technology Leaders.
- Entrepreneurs and Business Unit Leaders.

Target Sectors and Industries:

- Financial Services, Banking, and Insurance.
- Technology and Telecommunications.
- Pharmaceuticals, Healthcare, and Life Sciences.
- Energy, Utilities, and Natural Resources.
- Manufacturing and Engineering.
- Consulting and Professional Services.
- Government Agencies and Public Sector Organizations.
- Retail and Consumer Goods.
- Aerospace and Defense.

Target Organizations Departments:

- Risk Management and Compliance.
- Innovation and Research & Development (R&D).
- Strategy and Corporate Planning.
- Internal Audit.
- Product Management and Development.
- Legal and Corporate Governance.
- Information Technology and Cybersecurity.
- Finance and Treasury.
- Operations Management.

Course Offerings:

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

- Develop a robust innovation governance framework aligned with strategic goals.
- Implement international risk management standards like ISO 31000 within innovation processes.
- Define and communicate the organization's risk appetite for innovation initiatives.
- Establish clear roles and responsibilities using models like the Three Lines of Defense.
- Identify, assess, and mitigate risks throughout the entire innovation lifecycle.
- Create effective Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) and Key Risk Indicators (KRIs) for innovation.
- Manage an innovation portfolio based on risk and strategic value.
- Foster a culture that encourages responsible risk-taking and continuous improvement.
- Prepare and present comprehensive innovation risk reports to senior management and the board.
- Evaluate the governance challenges posed by disruptive technologies like AI and blockchain.

Course Methodology:

The training methodology at BIG BEN Training Center is designed to be highly interactive, experiential, and directly applicable to the participant's professional context. This course rejects a purely lecture-based format in favor of a blended learning approach that combines expert-led instruction with practical application. Participants will engage in a series of in-depth case studies, analyzing real-world examples of both successful and failed innovation governance from various industries. A significant portion of the course is dedicated to hands-on workshops and group exercises where attendees will collaborate to design risk assessment matrices, draft governance policies, and simulate board-level reporting scenarios. Interactive sessions, facilitated discussions, and peer-to-peer learning are central to the experience, allowing participants to share challenges and benchmark their practices. The methodology emphasizes a continuous feedback loop, where our expert facilitators provide constructive guidance on the frameworks and solutions developed during the sessions. This immersive approach ensures that participants leave not just with theoretical knowledge, but with the practical skills and confidence to implement effective innovation governance and risk management systems within their own organizations.

Course Agenda (Course Units):

Unit One: Foundations of Innovation Governance and Risk

- The dual nature of innovation as an opportunity and a risk.
- Defining innovation governance and its strategic importance.
- Introduction to key standards: ISO 56000 series for innovation management.
- Overview of risk management principles from ISO 31000 and the COSO framework.
- The relationship between corporate strategy, innovation, and risk appetite.
- Identifying key stakeholders in the innovation ecosystem.
- Common pitfalls in managing innovation risk.

Unit Two: Designing the Innovation Governance Framework

- Establishing a formal innovation governance structure.
- Defining roles and responsibilities: committees, sponsors, and teams.
- Implementing the Three Lines of Defense model for innovation.
- Developing and articulating a clear innovation risk appetite statement.
- Creating policies and procedures for the innovation lifecycle.
- Aligning the governance framework with organizational culture and values.
- Integrating innovation governance with overall corporate governance.

Unit Three: Practical Risk Management in the Innovation Lifecycle

- Risk identification techniques for ideation and concept development stages.
- Assessing market, technology, operational, and compliance risks.
- Quantitative and qualitative risk analysis methods.
- Developing risk mitigation and contingency plans for innovation projects.
- Managing intellectual property (IP) risks.
- Addressing ethical considerations and reputational risks.
- Risk management for open innovation and external partnerships.

Unit Four: Measuring, Monitoring, and Reporting

- Developing Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) for innovation success.
- Establishing Key Risk Indicators (KRIs) to provide early warnings.
- Techniques for effective innovation portfolio management and balancing risk.
- Designing effective risk and performance dashboards.
- The role of internal audit in providing assurance over innovation processes.
- Crafting compelling reports for senior management and the board of directors.
- Continuous improvement and learning from innovation successes and failures.

Unit Five: Advanced Topics and Future Trends in Innovation Governance

- Governing disruptive technologies: AI, Blockchain, and IoT.
- Agile governance principles for fast-paced innovation environments.
- Cultivating a healthy risk culture that supports experimentation.
- Navigating the regulatory landscape and future compliance challenges.
- Scenario planning and stress testing for innovation strategies.
- The future of innovation risk management.
- Capstone Project: Developing a tailored innovation governance roadmap.

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 can an organization balance the need for stringent risk controls with the creative freedom required to foster breakthrough innovation?

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

This course distinguishes itself by offering a truly integrated and holistic perspective on innovation, treating governance and risk management not as separate disciplines, but as two sides of the same coin essential for sustainable growth. While many programs focus either on fostering creativity or on implementing risk controls, this training course bridges that critical gap. It provides a unified framework that enables organizations to pursue ambitious innovation agendas with confidence and discipline. The curriculum is deeply rooted in practical application, moving beyond abstract theories to focus on actionable strategies and tools that can be implemented immediately. Through a heavy emphasis on real-world case studies, interactive workshops, and peer-based problem-solving, participants gain a profound understanding of how to tailor governance structures to their specific organizational context and risk appetite. Furthermore, the course is forward-looking, dedicating significant attention to the governance of emerging disruptive technologies and the adoption of agile principles. This ensures that the skills and knowledge acquired are not only relevant for today's challenges but are also robust enough to navigate the uncertain landscapes of tomorrow.