Advanced Project and Portfolio Leadership Training Course

02 - 06 Nov 2026

Cape town

4600 € (Per Person)

Ref: #LE2879_287002

Course Introduction / Overview:

This course provides a comprehensive framework for mastering the dual disciplines of project leadership and portfolio management. In today's dynamic business environment, simply managing projects on time and within budget is insufficient. True success lies in strategic execution, ensuring that every project contributes directly to overarching organizational goals. This training moves beyond traditional project management methodologies to cultivate the strategic foresight and leadership acumen required to guide complex initiatives and optimize entire project portfolios for maximum value. Drawing upon principles articulated by thought leaders like Dr. Harold Kerzner in his seminal work, "Project Management: A Systems Approach to Planning, Scheduling, and Controlling," participants will learn to bridge the gap between strategy and execution. This program, offered by BIG BEN Training Center, is meticulously designed to equip professionals with the skills to implement robust governance frameworks, master portfolio balancing, and lead teams with influence and vision. It focuses on benefits realization management and strategic alignment, transforming participants from project managers into strategic business partners who drive sustainable growth and competitive advantage.

Target Audience / This training course is suitable for:

- Project Managers and Senior Project Managers.
- Program Managers and Directors.
- Portfolio Managers and Analysts.
- PMO Directors, Managers, and Staff.
- Heads of Departments and Business Unit Leaders.
- Senior Executives and C-Level Leaders involved in strategic planning.
- Consultants specializing in project and portfolio management.
- Anyone aspiring to a leadership role within a project-based organization.

Target Sectors and Industries:

- Information Technology and Telecommunications.
- Engineering and Construction.
- Banking, Finance, and Insurance.
- Healthcare and Pharmaceuticals.
- Manufacturing and Industrial Goods.
- Energy, Oil, and Gas.
- Government Agencies and Public Sector Organizations.
- Consulting and Professional Services.

Target Organizations Departments:

- Project Management Office (PMO).
- Information Technology (IT).
- Strategy and Business Planning.
- Research and Development (R&D).
- Operations and Production.
- Finance and Accounting.
- Product Development and Management.
- Engineering Departments.

Course Offerings:

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

- Develop advanced leadership skills to inspire and guide high-performing project teams.
- Master portfolio management techniques to align project selection with strategic business goals.
- Implement robust governance frameworks for effective portfolio oversight and control.
- Utilize sophisticated project prioritization models and resource optimization techniques.
- Conduct comprehensive portfolio-level risk assessment and mitigation planning.
- Establish key performance indicators (KPIs) to measure portfolio health and value delivery.
- Lead organizational change initiatives stemming from strategic portfolio decisions.
- Enhance stakeholder engagement and communication to ensure buy-in and support.
- Drive benefits realization to ensure projects deliver their intended strategic value.
- Create compelling portfolio reports and dashboards for executive decision-making.

Course Methodology:

The training methodology at BIG BEN Training Center is designed to be immersive, interactive, and highly practical. We believe that adult learning is most effective when it combines theoretical knowledge with hands-on application. This course moves beyond traditional lectures, employing a blended learning approach that includes expert-led presentations, in-depth case study analyses of real-world portfolio challenges, and collaborative group workshops. Participants will engage in practical exercises, such as developing a portfolio charter, creating a benefits realization plan, and using scoring models for project prioritization. Interactive sessions, facilitated discussions, and peer-to-peer feedback are central to the learning experience, allowing attendees to share insights and solve problems collectively. Role-playing scenarios will be used to hone leadership, negotiation, and stakeholder communication skills in a controlled environment. Our expert instructors provide continuous guidance and personalized feedback, ensuring that participants can confidently apply the learned concepts, frameworks, and strategic decision-making skills directly to their professional roles upon completion of the course.

Course Agenda (Course Units):

Unit One The Strategic Project Leader

- The evolution from project manager to strategic leader.
- Exploring leadership styles for different project environments.
- Developing emotional intelligence and influence.
- Strategic thinking and aligning projects with corporate vision.
- Communicating the strategic value of projects to stakeholders.
- Fostering a culture of innovation and accountability within teams.
- Ethical considerations and professional responsibility in leadership.

Unit Two Fundamentals of Portfolio Management

- Defining the scope and charter of a project portfolio.
- Distinguishing between project, program, and portfolio management.
- The portfolio management lifecycle and key process groups.
- Categorizing and classifying portfolio components.
- Developing a strategic roadmap for the portfolio.
- Linking portfolio management to organizational strategy and objectives.
- Establishing the role and responsibilities of the portfolio manager.

Unit Three Portfolio Governance and Prioritization

- Designing and implementing a portfolio governance framework.
- Establishing a portfolio review board and decision-making authority.
- Developing criteria for project selection and prioritization.
- Utilizing scoring models, financial metrics, and analytical tools.
- Techniques for portfolio balancing and optimization.
- Managing resource capacity and demand across the portfolio.
- The role of the Enterprise Project Management Office (EPMO).

Unit Four Portfolio Risk and Performance Management

- Identifying, assessing, and managing portfolio-level risks.
- Developing a portfolio risk response strategy.
- Defining key performance indicators (KPIs) for portfolio success.
- Creating portfolio dashboards and executive reporting.
- Tracking progress against the strategic plan.
- Conducting portfolio health checks and periodic reviews.
- Mastering benefits realization management and value tracking.

Unit Five Leading Change and Stakeholder Engagement

- Advanced stakeholder analysis and engagement strategies.
- Managing resistance and driving adoption of portfolio decisions.
- Communicating portfolio status and strategic shifts effectively.
- Leading organizational change resulting from portfolio initiatives.
- Negotiation and conflict resolution skills for portfolio leaders.
- Cultivating business agility through lean and agile portfolio management.
- Developing a personal action plan for applying course concepts.

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 constant disruption, how can portfolio management transition from a rigid control mechanism to an enabler of organizational agility and strategic adaptation?

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

This course distinguishes itself by holistically integrating the often-siloed disciplines of leadership psychology and technical portfolio management. While many programs focus exclusively on the processes and tools of portfolio management, such as risk registers and prioritization matrices, this training delves deeper into the human element of strategic execution. It is built on the premise that a perfectly designed portfolio can fail without effective leadership to champion it, navigate organizational politics, and inspire teams to deliver. We emphasize the development of influence, strategic communication, and change management capabilities, which are critical for senior roles. The curriculum moves beyond mere project selection to focus intensely on benefits realization management, ensuring that participants learn not just how to pick the right projects, but how to guarantee they deliver tangible, strategic value. By blending rigorous analytical frameworks with advanced leadership competencies, the course prepares participants to be true strategic partners who can translate executive vision into a successful portfolio of initiatives that drives sustainable competitive advantage.